

October 12, 2018

702 Avenue A • Opelika, AL 36801 • (334) 745-7604

Making lifetime followers of Jesus Christ



*The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty comes only to want. (Proverbs 21:5)*

*Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise,
but the fool devours it. (Proverbs 21:20)*

From Jesus' description in Luke 15:11-16, we see that the prodigal son had the habits of squandering and spending. The word prodigal does not mean someone who wanders away or is lost. It literally means "one who wastes money." Many of us struggle with that habit. We're not worried about tomorrow; we want it today. The problem with that kind of thinking is that, for most of us, the "famine" eventually comes. It comes when we have spent everything we have and even a little bit of next year's income. So we use the credit card and charge it, and we go a little further into debt. Finally, we come to a place where we have nothing left, not even credit, and we can't figure out how we are we going to get by.

It seems that the more financially secure we become, the less we worry about spending money here and there. We waste a dollar on this or that, and we forget where it went. Money just seems to flow through our fingers. We do not exist simply to consume as much as we can and get as much pleasure as we can while we are here on this earth. We have a higher purpose. We need to know and understand our life purpose—our vision or mission or calling—and then spend our money in ways that are consistent with this purpose or calling.

Our society tells us that our life purpose is to consume—to make as much money as possible and then to spend it. The Bible tells us that we were created to care for God's creation. We were created to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We were created to care for our families and those in need. We were created to glorify God, to seek justice, and to do mercy. Our money and possessions should be devoted to helping us fulfill this calling. We are to use our resources to help care for our families and others—to serve Christ and the world through the church, missions, and everyday opportunities. We have a life purpose that is greater than our own self-interest, and how we spend our God-given resources reflects our understanding and commitment to this life purpose or mission.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, over the next 3 weeks, our stewardship theme will remind us that Now is the time to use our gifts to build up the people of God. Now is the time to choose God's pleasure over our own. Now is the time to plant seeds that will grow our youth and children into lifetime followers of Jesus Christ. For truly, if we believe that we are the people of God, gifted and called to share God's love with this world, it is time to invest in the mission and ministries of our church. What a joy-filled privilege it is to know that we have been called to this place and this time to give glory to our God!

Let us learn together to be good stewards of God's good gifts.



Wednesday, October 17th
Make plans to join us for MIDWEEK!
5 p.m. – 6 p.m. – Supper
6 p.m. – 7 p.m. – Classes

Menu: Italian Meat Sauce over Angel Hair Pasta, Salad Bar, French Bread & Dessert

Supper Reservations due by Monday @ 10 a.m.

Please register in one of the following ways:

- Call the Church (334-745-7604)
- Online: www.fumcopelika.org
- Email: lauraboggs@fumcopelika.org
- Fill out the Blue Pew Card

ADULT CLASSES for this term

Please register for the class you will be attending by calling the church 334-745-7604 or register on our website.

ASK: FAITH QUESTIONS IN A SKEPTICAL AGE

Teacher: Patrick Hitchman-Craig

We live in a skeptical age. Many people express doubts about the Christian faith. This study addresses the hard questions that all of us face when considering faith, religion and the church.

SHE'S GOT ISSUES: SERIOUSLY GOOD NEWS FOR STRESSED-OUT, SECRETLY SCARED, CONTROL FREAKS LIKE US

Teacher: Charmoin Tatum

We've all got our issues. We deal with our issues every day in one form or another; the problem is, after a while, they start to feel...normal. Unchanging. Just part of who we are. We forget that we have access to the power of Christ -- a power that can transform our everyday weaknesses into our greatest strengths and gifts.

CREED: WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND WHY

Teacher: Rebecca Sanderson

How do we discover and examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to life? Some powerful answers are contained in the Apostles' Creed. This study explores not only what Christians believe, but also why they believe it and why it matters.

MADE FOR A MIRACLE: FROM YOUR ORDINARY TO GOD'S EXTRAORDINARY

Teacher: Laura Hartley

There are two components to every miracle: divine action and human responsibility. In this study you'll discover how to take whatever gifts, talents, and abilities you have and direct them toward God's work in the world.

All Children's Choirs and Classes will remain the same.

All Youth Activities will remain the same.

THE FIVE

a modern expression of a historic faith

This Sunday, October 14, @ 5pm
in the Sanctuary



United Methodist Women's Evening Unit Bake Sale

Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018

8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

First Floor at back entrance

A variety of cakes, bars, breads, rolls, pies, & cookies will be available.

ALL PROCEEDS will be passed on to local missions in December.



FUMC - Opelika Charge Conference

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday Morning Youth: Every Sunday morning on the 4th floor in the Cross Cafe from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Milk and cereal and God's Word!

Sunday Night Youth on October 14th

One Accord Youth Choir from 4 - 5 p.m.

Jr Hi from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Sr Hi from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

THE FIVE @ 5 p.m.

Youth Supper @ 6 p.m.!

Wednesday Night Youth on October 17th & 24th

5 - 6p.m. is MATT

6 - 7 p.m. are J Groups

Sunday Night Youth on October 2st

One Accord Youth Choir from 4 - 5 p.m.

Jr Hi from 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Sr Hi from 6 - 7:30 p.m.



IT'S FINALLY HERE!!!

Our FUMC Pictorial Directory is ready for you to pick up.
You may come by the church office to get your copy.

JOY Fellowship

You are invited to join us on Thursday, October 18th @ 11:00 a.m.
for lunch and a movie on the 4th floor!

Jail Ministry - October 9, 2018

Volunteers: Laura Fuller, Fay Burns, Rebecca Sanderson, Margaret Rogers

Inmates Ministered To: 47 men

Message: "Fighters & Conflicts" - Danielle Fornea

Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 13:11, 14:20; Matthew 18:1-3

MY JERUSALEM

Last Saturday, approximately 30 people were involved with the project at Ms. Felton's home. I saw people working in the yard, working on a porch, repairing a ceiling, replacing a floor, providing lunch, providing

cookies, visiting with Ms. Felton and her family, and doing a number of other tasks. I saw people talking together, laughing together, eating together, praying together, working together, and having fun together. Many of you met one of Ms. Felton's family members. When I met her on Thursday and then again early Saturday morning, she was frowning with a very stern look on her face. By the end of the day, she gave me the biggest hug and the best smile.

So.....what happened and why did she do that? Was it because of a porch and a floor? Heck, we could have paid a contractor to do that.

It's not about the stuff. It's about her seeing all of you work hard, laugh, and seeing you talk with her. Seeing you talk with her young son, Marcus. Seeing you care about them. She saw Jesus in you and He touched her heart.

1 Cor 3:6-9 says *"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are coworkers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."*

You did a great job of planting and watering on Saturday. Thank you for working so hard and for shining your light so bright!!!

Eric Canada

LAITY MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Greeters

8:30 a.m.

Aaron & Shirley Harrington
Charles & Glenda Bush

11:00 a.m.

Joe & Lynn Harrington
Bill & Mandy Levins

Gathering Music

Jim Warman

Sound & Video

8:30 a.m.

Nathan Goff

11:00 a.m.

Will Levins & Peter Elliott

Ushers

8:30 a.m.

Aaron Waller (Captain),
Michael Vance (Co-Captain),
Blake Epperson, Andy Jordan,
Jon Tate, & Buddy Young

11:00 a.m.

George Walker (Captain),
Mike McKee (Co-Captain),
Michael Guy, Chris Harrison,
David Kastner, Bill Levins,
Jason McKay & Jeff Suhling

Welcome Letters

Margaret Walker

Nurturing Notes

Mary Jessica Perry

Tuesday Office Volunteer

Rose Anne Hurd

Flower Ministry

Nell Samford, Jean Heath,
Colleen Alsobrook

Hospital Visitation Ministry

October 15

Jo Lovell

October 16

Barbara Patton

October 17

Chona Lane

October 18

Sherry Freeman

October 19

Arden Snyder

Jail Ministry

Sara Nan Levins, Charlotte Ward,
Edna Caldwell, Margaret Rogers,
Danielle Fornea

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

October 7, 2018

Attendance

Sunday School: 207
Worship: 360

Giving

Weekly Offering: \$45,023

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, October 14

8:30 a.m. - Worship
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
4:00 p.m. - One Accord Youth Ensemble
4:30 p.m. - 6:30p.m. - JR Hi Youth
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Sr Hi Youth
5:00 p.m. - The FIVE

Monday, October 15

Sonshine Preschool Closed

Tuesday, October 16

Sonshine Preschool Closed
10:30 a.m. - UMW (Morning Unit)
5:00 p.m. - E Teen
5:15 p.m. - Wesley Ringers

Wednesday, October 17

7:00 a.m. - Men's Devo
MIDWEEK
5:00 p.m. - Supper
5:15 p.m. - Children's Choir
6:00 p.m. - Classes
7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 18

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Sonshine Preschool
11:00 a.m. - JOY Fellowship
5:15 p.m. - L.A.F.F.

Prayer Concerns

EAMC:

Jim Grady
Zachary St. George
(Charles Bonner's cousin)
Allen Samford
(Nell Samford's son)

Le Bonheur (Memphis)

Sutton Smith (grandson of
Teresa & Ogie Ogletree)

Home:

David Alexander (Marcia
Alexander's husband)
Carol Askew
Lori Botta
Mable Collins (Arbor Springs)
Al Cook
Bette Corley (Nann Ogletree's
mother)
Betty & Hal Cummings
Courtney & James Daniel
Catherine Davis
Joyce DeLamar (Stacey Lucas'
mother)
C J Dodd (Arvle & Esther
Marshall's grandson)
Nancy Einglett (Becky Bailey's
sister-in-law)
Anne Grady (Camellia Place)
Trey Gafford
Barbara Hartley (Marrell
Hartley's mother)
Monique Jenkins
Johnny Johnson (Judy Smith's
brother)
Donna McCard (Becky Bailey's
sister)
Jane & Phillip Moon
(Joyce Windsor's cousins)
Donna Moreman
Dana Morgan (friend of Pam
Hope)
Dot Norrell
Oscar Penn
Fran Smith
Theron Sorrell (Jake
Thompson's grandfather)
Earl Sumners
Jody Wilkerson (Deborah
Mitchell's brother)

Out of Town:

Evan Ashby (Macy Finck's
cousin)
Mildred Beals (Hoover)
Scott Boggs (brother of
Kenneth Boggs)
Hartley Brabner (Tina Roberts'
infant great niece)
Shirley Brown (Ginger Perkins'
sister-in-law)
Ruth Chen (friend of Wei Beach)
Shannon Cook (friend of Earle &
Kenny Wilkes)
Greg Greaves (friend of Sherri
Rowton)
Traci Hart (Pam Hope's sister-in-
law)
Madeline & Sam Hayes, Jr.
(grandchildren of Sharon & Ron
Rooks)
Carolyn Hicks (Lisa
Abercrombie's mother)
Howard Hoch (Sue Bentley's fa-
ther)
Glynda Holliman (Sam Bailey's
niece)
Graham Lane (friend of Sherry &
Richard Freeman)
Allen Liu (Wei Beach's nephew)
Buddy Loyd (Laura Boggs'
father)
Lexi Melton (great niece of Stan-
ley Melton, III)
Bob Miller (Sam Bailey's
brother-in-law)
Cathy Prescott (friend of Jamie
Crews)
June Pyle (Ken Woolley's sister)
Ed Reynolds (Kim Epperson's
father)
Dot Rice (Pat Mayfield & Debbi
Thornton's sister)
Evelyn Roebuck (Don
Lawrence's sister)
Marian Rogers (Emily Finck's
grandmother)
Carolyn Sell (Jo Vaughan's
daughter)
Gladys Shackelford (Richard
Shackelford's mother)
Jackie Spann (Terri Knight's
sister)
Rethia & Jimmy Spence (Joyce
Windsor's cousins)
Hilt Tatum, III (Corinne Hurst's

brother)

Leigh Ann Thompson (Mike
Gaston's sister)
Greg Wheelus (Ginny
Gaberlavage's father)
Bobby Woodruff (Caroline Bush's
uncle)
Natalie Woods (Valerie Smith's
sister)

Military:

Steven Alvarado
Beau Carroll (friend of the
Perkins)
Tyler Carter (son of Tommy &
Lynn Carter)
Michael Fischer, & T J Fischer
(friends of Phyllis & Jim
Mayfield)
Robert Groszmann (Bob
Ingram's nephew)
Garrett Guess (Becky Bailey's
nephew)
Paul Leonard (Fay Burns' cousin)
Will McKee (son of Mike &
Ginger McKee)
Chandler Norris (cousin of Mary
Virginia Norris & Louisa Wood)
Alex Pendergraph (Janet
Taylor's grandson)
Jacob Ramus (Phyllis & Jim
Mayfield's son-in-law)
Kennard R. Smith (friend of Anne
& Sheldon Whittelsey)
Ronnie Snyder (grandson of
Arden Snyder)
Bubba Sumrall (son of Leslie
Sumrall)

Missions:

First Baptist Church of
Opelika's Mission Team to
Uganda

Christian Sympathy. . .

. . . is extended to Ben Yates and
all of the family upon the death
of his grandfather, Olin Anglin.

We offer our prayers for all
those affected by
Hurricane Michael.