

Making lifetime followers of Jesus Christ



COMMITMENT SUNDAY - OCTOBER 28

CONTAGIOUS GENEROSITY

The truth is that God doesn't need our money, but He knows that our orientation toward money reflects our obedience to the Lordship of Christ and how well we grasp that he is the source of all we have. As followers of Christ, our goal in life is not gaining power, possession, or prestige for ourselves. We exist, along with the entire body of Christ, to fulfill the Great Commission until Christ's return. Generosity offers one of the most powerful ways for us to leverage the blessings of God for the advancement of the Kingdom. Best of all, when the church acts with generosity to serve others, it is a clear picture of Christ, who generously gave his life and all He had on the cross that we might find life forever.

Generosity is at its core a lifestyle—a lifestyle in which we share all that we have, are, or will ever become as a demonstration of God's love and a response to God's grace. It is not enough for the church to talk about generosity, nor is it enough for individual Christians to simply commit to being generous. What makes generosity a real and powerful witness to God's love is our actions.

Generosity flows from an understanding that all we have, are, or will ever become is not ours to possess and it results in practically sharing what we've been given with others for the advancement of the kingdom and the glory of God.

Generosity embraces a Biblical understanding of stewardship. That is: (1) God is the owner of everything; (2) What we have has been given to us by God; (3) The resources we possess are assets to be invested in the Kingdom.

Before we can be generous, we must understand what it means to be a steward, recognizing that what we have is not ours to own and confessing that "Jesus is Lord" over our money, possessions, positions of authority and talents. You can't be generous without an appropriate discipline of biblical stewardship, and biblical stewardship demands generosity. The free gift of the grace of God shapes our faith and leads to the conviction that all that we have—our time, talent, treasure, and testimony—is something that we have been given for a purpose. We cannot separate our acceptance of God's grace from the practice of generosity. We are generous because God was first generous with us, freely giving his life for our sake. As followers of Christ, we seek to imitate the one who gave himself for us (1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2:14).

Stewardship is more than an obligation. It's an opportunity—to witness to the reckless nature of God who gives the free gift of salvation by grace to all who will receive it. Generosity is the fullest expression of the life of a steward, one who has been given a gift, a gift that must be used wisely and for a purpose, bringing glory to God.

Excerpted from "Contagious Generosity" by Jim Sheppard & Chris Willard, Zondervan, 2012.

Servants in Christ Sunday School Stew Fundraiser

**All proceeds go to FUMC Opelika Ministries
Pick up Sunday, November 18, between 8:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Tickets are available from class members or in the church office.**

**\$9.00 a pint
\$32.00 a gallon**



FUMC Fall Festival

Sunday, November 4th

2:30-5:30

Opelika Monkey Park

700 5th Ave Opelika

**Fun for all ages!
Everyone is welcome!
Bring a friend!**

**Train, Inflatables for Children and Youth,
Bingo, Cake Walk, Ms. Story's hot dogs
and more!**



Cakes, Cookies and Brownies are needed for Cake Walk Prizes. Please bring them to the table in the hallway near the portico entrance on Sunday, Nov. 4th, or bring them to the Fall Festival. They may be bought or homemade.



We will not meet on October 31st!!!
NO Supper!
NO Children's Choir!
NO Classes!



United Methodist Women's Evening Unit Bake Sale

THIS Sunday, Oct. 28
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.

L.A.F.F. (Living A-new Finding Fun/Fellowship)

Our group will travel to Auburn University Raptor Center for the "Football Fans & Feathers" demonstration on Friday, November 2. It includes information on the conservation and rehabilitation of injured birds of prey and a flight demonstration, including Spirit's War Eagle flight.

We will leave the church @ 2:40 as gate opens @ 3 with the hour long program beginning @ 4. The cost is \$5 plus bus transportation. Seating is on concrete benches with no protection from the sun - hats, sun glasses, comfortable shoes and jackets are recommended!

Concessions include \$1 water bottles and popcorn. There are "real" bathrooms near-by.

Don't miss this amazing show that is scheduled only on home game football Fridays or private

tours. Make your reservation by contacting Rose Anne Hurd: 334-444-6500 or email

rahurd@myops.net

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 28th

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

Fall Cookout @ the Hilyer Farm from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.



Men's Breakfast
Sunday, November 4
7:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

SECURITY TEAM MINISTRY



If you are interested in serving in a ministry designed to provide a safe environment for our congregation to worship this fall, there will be a meeting on Sunday, October 28, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss the responsibilities and duties for this new ministry. If you have any questions, you may contact Mike McKee at mckeedragons@gmail.com.

New Member

We are excited to have received Lila Jo Edwards into our FUMC Opelika membership.



FLU SHOTS

Wednesday, November 7th

4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall Foyer

Bring your insurance cards!

MEMORIALS

Edgar Edwards: The Girls @ A.P. Pearson; Earle & Kenny Wilkes

Meg Rainey: Mr. & Mrs. Jim Levins

Bill Samford: Lillian & Jim Lawrence

Bo Torbert: Lillian & Jim Lawrence



IT'S HERE!!!

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

LAITY MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Greeters

8:30 a.m.

Gary & Laura Fuller

11:00 a.m.

Eric & Ellen Canada
Macy & Emily Finck

Gathering Music

Charles Bonner

Crucifer

Julia Bush

Acolytes

8:30 a.m.

Barrett & Hudson Galimore

11:00 a.m.

Sarah Bush & Hannah Halverson

Welcome Letters

Pat Brown

Sound & Video

8:30 a.m.

Nathan Goff

11:00 a.m.

Will Levins & Peter Elliott

Ushers

8:30 a.m.

Blake Epperson (Captain),
Jake Thompson (Co-Captain),
Allen Bush, Paul Bush,
Jonathan Patterson,
& John Wilson

11:00 a.m.

Bob Boothe (Captain),
Jason Halverson (Co-Captain),
Norris Alsobrook, Jack Brown,
Bill Levins, Richard Moreman, &
Billy Ogletree

Nurturing Notes

Carole Smith - November

Tuesday Office Volunteer

Jo Lovell

Flower Ministry

Nell Samford, Sara Raley,
Colleen Alsobrook

Hospital Visitation Ministry

October 29

Jo Lovell

October 30

Ginger Perkins

October 31

Mary Carol Hitchcock

November 1

Joanne Woodall

November 2

Danielle Fornea

Jail Ministry

Boody Brown, Nann Ogletree,
Ginger McKee,
Margaret Rogers, Danielle Fornea

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Attendance

Sunday School: 208

Worship: 354

MIDWEEK: 162

Giving

Weekly Offering: \$16,738

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, October 28

8:30 a.m. - Worship

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

9:45 a.m. - Safety & Security Training

11:00 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - One Accord Youth Ensemble

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Youth Fall Cookout

Monday, October 29

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Sonshine Preschool

Tuesday, October 30

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Sonshine Preschool

6:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Wednesday, October 31

7:00 a.m. - Men's Devo

NO MIDWEEK

Thursday, November 1

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Sonshine Preschool

5:15 p.m. - L.A.F.F.F.

Friday, November 2

2:30 p.m. - L.A.F.F.F. (AU Raptor Center)

Prayer Concerns

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

EAMC:

Mike Bass (*Michael Bass' father*)

EAMC (Lanier): Buddy Lane (*friend of Tonya & Starr Hollis*)

Home:

David Alexander (*Marcia Alexander's husband*)

Carol Askew

Lori Botta

Caroline Bugg

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*)

Trey Gafford

Anne Grady (*Camellia Place*)

Jim Grady

Barbara Hartley (*Marrell Hartley's mother*)

Earl Hartsfield (*friend of Laura Fuller*)

Monique Jenkins

Tom Krehling

Donna McCard (*Becky Bailey's sister*)

Jane & Phillip Moon

(*Joyce Windsor's cousins*)

Dana Morgan (*friend of Pam Hope*)

Donna Moreman

Dot Norrell

Allen Samford

(*Nell Samford's son*)

Fran Smith

Theron Sorrell (*Jake Thompson's grandfather*)

Quinton & Merle Walton

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*)

Beth Briele (*daughter of Charles & Elizabeth Mason & Lane Seller's sister*)

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*)

Kinsley Green

(*Kyle & Sydney Bugg's niece*)

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 father*)

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 Stanley 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*)

Steve Smith

(*friend of Eric Canada*)

Sutton Smith (*grandson of Teresa & Ogie Ogletree*)

Jackie Spann (*Terri Knight's sister*)

Rethia & Jimmy Spence (*Joyce Windsor's cousins*)

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*)

Christian Sympathy. . .

. . .is extended to Rylen & Jamie Crews, John Will & Jonah Rice and all of the family upon the death of their great grandmother, Ruth Boulware.