



FIRST NEWS



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Volume 45 Issue 2

February 2023

A Word From Pastor John

James 2:18b (NLT) “Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

A man was bragging to some friends, “I was hunting last week and shot a buck with a forty-eight inch rack”. An older man sitting some distance away replied, “Last week I was out fishing and dropped my lantern overboard. Yesterday when I was out in the same spot, I hooked my lantern and when I reeled it in, the lamp was still burning!” The first man squinted an eye and said, “Old Timer, I find that hard to believe”. The older man replied, “Tell you what. You shave 12 inches off that buck’s rack and I’ll blow out the light in my lantern!”

Almost everyone knows somebody who “spins a good yarn”. As a matter of fact, some folks just like to talk and having truth in their words isn’t important as long as they can have an audience. For this reason, I have learned over the years to learn about people by what they do rather than what they say. Jesus knows what is in someone’s heart but it isn’t always easy for us to tell from a human standpoint. But we can watch! There is no truer test of what is in a person’s heart than one’s actions. In the Letter of James quoted above, we are encouraged to let our actions reflect the faith we claim to have. In other words, living a life where faith is demonstrated in your life is evidence that faith is alive and well inside you.

We have so many opportunities to demonstrate our faith by working in the church, the community or both. I invite everyone to be involved in some ministry for the Lord so that your joy may be full and your faith would be evident to all. It is time to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance to see where you can put your faith into action. When you say, “I believe”, you are simply making a claim. Living your faith in obedience, however, is beautiful in the eyes of God. Seek your ministry and enjoy the fulfillment of service as part of your church experience. This is where the true joy is to be found!

YTD Giving Received: \$38,435.64

YTD Giving Needed: \$39,688.00



Children & Youth



Keep up to date on upcoming events on our website, Instagram and Facebook pages!

Sunday Night Schedule:

February 5 Youth 5-6:30 Special Event (children don't meet)

February 12 Children Valentines activities/Youth 5-6:30

February 19 Youth and Children don't meet

February 26 Children 5-6, Youth 5-6:30

Youth Prayer Breakfast meets:
February 1,8,15 and 22 at 6:45
in Norman Barnett.

Youth meet on Wednesday
from 4:15-5:15 each week.

Third – Fifth Grade: Children will attend Winter Children’s Retreat at Blue Lake February 3-5. Special thanks to counselors: Micheal Ard, Belinda Dorrance, and Mike Stoops for accompanying our children on this weekend of worship, missions, and activities.

Youth will attend Ski retreat in Mars Hill North Carolina February 17-20, please be in prayer for the youth and chaperones taking this chilly trip.

Preschool and elementary children are invited to represent First U.M.C. as part of Monroeville’s Second Line Mardi Gras Parade on the square Saturday February 4th at noon, contact Melody Bradley if your child can participate.



Valentines Fun Time -

Preschoolers and elementary aged children are invited to gather at 4:00 on Sunday Feb 12 in Norman Barnett Hall for activities, snacks and fun.



*Ladies Bible Studies:
meet on Wednesday at
10:00 AM and 5:15 PM*

Thanks to all who brought and bought casseroles to the youth casserole sale, proceeds help offset costs of our ski retreat.

Notes from Nancy



Looking ahead:

Ash Wednesday is February 22.

We will have Ash Wednesday
Worship Service at 6:00 pm in
the Sanctuary.

First Sunday of Lent is February 26

February Worship Services

February	5	Chancel Choir
February	12	Chancel Choir
February	19	Chancel Choir
February	22	Chancel Choir (Ash Wednesday)
February	26	Chancel Choir (First Sunday of Lent)

As we prepare for the Season of Lent and Easter the Chancel and Handbell Choirs will be preparing music for use in Worship during this time

Chancel Choir will continue rehearsals at 5:30 on Mondays.

Chancel Bells will continue rehearsals 4:30 on Wednesdays.

Both choirs would welcome new members.

An opportunity for Youth to sing is scheduled for Wednesdays at 5:15.

2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

The Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board outside Norman Barnett Hall Kitchen. Check to see where there are available Sundays on the Calendar so that you can go ahead and sign up to grace our Sanctuary with Altar Flowers during the coming year.

The Worship Committee is looking for folks interested in helping with Altar Guild, Ushers Ministries, and generally we would welcome those who would be interested in helping to prepare for Sunday Worship!!

Please be in touch with Nancy if you have questions or have an interest in volunteering.

Email: fastnotes2nancy@yahoo.com

Phone: (251) 564-4512

Thank You!

Sometimes words are inadequate to describe feelings. Church friends, you will never know how much your prayers, cards, food and well wishes have meant to me during these very trying months. I don't know how people survive without an active faith and support from prayer warriors. The men in the Wednesday Men's club have gone above and beyond in loving and caring for Ben. Bravo FUMC family for stepping up to the plate. I love and appreciate you all.

Fondly, Rosemary Johnston



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Kathryn Wiggins'

BRIDAL SHOWER

(BRIDE-ELECT OF CULLEN HORTON)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023
1:30 - 3:00 P.M.

MONROEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WESLEY HALL | 324 PINEVILLE ROAD
MONROEVILLE, AL

Given by the Ladies of the Church

REGISTRY: AMAZON, COBBWEBS, EMMETT'S HOUSE,
TARGET, AND THE BIRD'S NEST

February Birthdays

- 2 Debra Morgan
- 5 Betti Tate
- 8 Scott Daniels; Forester Long
- 9 Erin Rhea; Ellen Wiggins
- 11 Bryan Jones
- 15 Ron Wiggins
- 16 Elise Wiggins
- 17 Patsy Black
- 21 Chris Ard; Carol Cobb; Jean Whatley
- 22 Judy O'Gwynn; Donna Craig
- 23 Randall James
- 26 Joy Whetstone
- 28 Dan Brewton; Pat Booker

In Memoriam

Janice A. Kane

January 20, 2023

In Memoriam

Stevens Kennedy

January 25, 2023

FUMC CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Woodrow	Senior Pastor
Rev. Pam Barnhardt	Minister of Education
Nancy Carleton	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Caroline Hardin	Church Business Manager
Christi Dunn	Nurse Director

Regular Church Service

Sunday:

9:00 am Sunday School
10:10 am Morning Worship
11:00 am Church After Church
5:00 pm Children/UMYF
6:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday:

6:45 am Youth Prayer Breakfast
9:00 am Wednesday Men
10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
4:15 pm Youth Bible Study
4:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
5:15 pm Ladies Bible Study

Monday:

1:00 pm Ladies Sewing Group
5:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

First United Methodist Church services are broadcast by radio every Sunday at 10:00 am by WMFC-FM Monroeville 99.3 Livestream each Sunday at 10:00 am Monroeville Fumc-Youth

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