



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
TUSCALOOSA

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FUMCT
FALL CONNECTING POINT
2019

SOCIAL MEDIA



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CONNECTING POINT INFORMATION

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~~SOMEONE ELSE~~
REV. JESSE TOSTEN



The greatest lie of all time, I'm tempted to say, can be bound up in two words: *someone else*.

We fall into this trap of thinking that the good life, (a life filled with purpose, passion, love and joy), is for *someone else*. We know our life. We believe our life isn't filled with these wonderful benefits, at least not in the same way as *someone else*. In our world today, we are always looking at *someone else's* life. Take social media, for example: We scroll through Instagram and Facebook looking at the life of *someone else*. We get to see their adventures; their trips overseas; their joys and laughter. We think to ourselves, "hey, good for them!" Of course, the truth is that their real life isn't as pretty as their social media wants you to believe, but that isn't the point. Here is the point: Jesus wants you to have the good life, and to live it to the fullest! Jesus told those who followed him, "I came that you may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). And that life, my friends, is not just for *someone else*, it's for you and me.

Join us in the Bridge starting **September 1** as we take three weeks to explore how the abundant life Jesus offers is for all of us. Not just for ~~someone else~~.

Greetings First Church family,



As you can imagine, Gloria and I are still unpacking boxes. Though laborious and tedious, we'd have to admit it has been enjoyable and strength-giving because of your warm reception and great hospitality. You have aided greatly in making our transition a smooth one. We are slowly navigating our way around Tuscaloosa and the surrounding area. So far so good. Though we've only been living here for about a month, we already feel at home.

Gloria and I are indeed blessed to serve with each of you at Tuscaloosa First. If the first month is any indication, we're (all of us) in for an exciting ministry journey. Working with this knowledgeable staff is a delight. The worship services have been spiritually heartwarming. The music has been inspiring, the altar has been beautifully adorned, and I hope in some small way the sermons have challenged us to begin to think about the exciting ministry opportunities before us.

I look forward to building relationships and providing pastoral leadership to this fine congregation. At the forefront of my list is to get to know you and enjoy ministry with you. To help Gloria and me remember your names, please feel free to repeat them to us for the next several weeks. This reinforcement will help us to remember you. We truly want to be able to call you by name.

Please continue to pray for our transition and our church. Let us all embrace God's promise for our ministry found in Isaiah 43:19 (NLT)... "For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"

Blessings,

DR. CLINTON HUBBARD, JR.
Senior Pastor
First United Methodist Church Tuscaloosa

"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"
—Isaiah 43:19 (NLT)



WNA ALIVE

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS



NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ALIVE BEGIN **SEPTEMBER 11.**
DINNER 4:45-6:00 PM | CLASSES AT 6:00 PM
REGISTER ONLINE AT FUMCT.ORG/MINISTRIES/WEDNESDAY-NIGHTS-ALIVE.

1. TOPIC: JOURNEY OF TRANSITION
– For Parents of Pre-teen & Teenage Children

Leader: Carol and Geoff Plott
Description: This series is designed to give parents a hands-on approach to help teens through their adolescent years. Including: practical wisdom for parenting; nuggets of Biblical counsel; and relevant strategies for applying these new principles for your family.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: Lee Classroom (110)

2. TOPIC: MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE
– a Study for Men and Women of All Ages

Leader: Sandy Felkins
Description: *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton is a study about what the Bible is and is not. We will get a deeper understanding of its creation and wrestle with some thorny passages. Hamilton says he intended this book to be like a conversation with a friend on the back porch with a glass of lemonade. So grab your Bible and a lemonade and journey with us.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: Stabler Conference Room

3. TOPIC: THE ART OF MARRIAGE—
Getting to the Heart of God's Design

Leader: Shane and Danielle Turrisi
Description: Every marriage is unique, expressed by the colorful personalities of each spouse and textured by the circumstances at play in their lives. Blending these to make marriage work is a divinely inspired art form - challenging to master but definitely worth the effort.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: 213

4. TOPIC: PRAYER

Leader: Randy Allen
Description: Our lives are hectic. We seek a time to slow down and commune with God. We know that prayer helps us grow in Christ and shrinks the barriers separating us from the Holy and Divine. Each week we will briefly discuss Biblical principles of prayer and then we will enter into sacred conversations with God, together.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: Sanctuary

5. TOPIC: FUMCT MEN

Leader: Mike Greene
Description: Welcome to FUMCT MEN! Are you looking for a way to connect with other men at First Church? Are you looking for a place to immerse yourself in the Bible and discuss scripture with other men? If you are looking for a place of community and service, please plan on checking us out. Men of all ages are welcome.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: 204

6. TOPIC: SEAMLESS

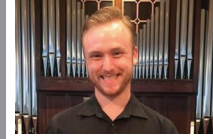
– a Bible Study for Women of All Ages
Leader: Zoe Winston
Description: Seamless covers the people, places and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Experience the Bible as one complete story as you gain clarity and confidence in your understanding of Scripture.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: 221

7. TOPIC: GRIEFSHARE

Leader: Jackie Greene
Description: GriefShare is a support group for people grieving the death of a family member, loved one or friend. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent.
Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20
Room: 219

NEW MEMBERS:

- Jack Skeeon



- Alyson and Josh Lamb with the baptism of Adelyn Jayne Lamb



- Elaine Carr



BAPTISMS:

- Suzanne Josephine Creel



- Walker Layne Warren, son of Taylor and Jordan Warren



DEATHS:

- Sympathy to Georgia (Louis) Buettner on the death of her sister, Helen Young on April 5, 2019.
- Sympathy to Jerrod Newell on the death of his mother, Kay Lynn Creekmore Newell of Red Bay, Alabama on May 7, 2019.
- Sympathy to Pat (Bill) Jessup on the death of her brother, John Proctor of Birmingham, Alabama on May 22, 2019. Sympathy also to John (Kim) Jessup and Caroline, Katherine and Andrew Jessup.
- In thanksgiving of his life, Oliver Charles "Chum" Baker, III of Tuscaloosa, Alabama who died on May 27, 2019. Sympathy to his wife Marilou Baker and children Oliver Charles "Charlie" Baker, IV and Walden Redding Baker.
- In thanksgiving of his life, John Frank Kendrick of Tuscaloosa, Alabama who died on June 3, 2019. Sympathy to his wife, Carol Kendrick.
- Sympathy to Carol (Larry) Wilkin on the death of her mother, Katherine Sims Hargrove of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on May 25, 2019.
- In thanksgiving of her life, Wilma DeFord, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama who died on June 26, 2019. Sympathy to her husband, Jim DeFord.
- Sympathy to Allison and Todd Arendale on the death of their granddaughter, Charlotte Phillips Hocutt of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on June 26, 2019. Sympathy also to her parents, Westley Hunter and Mary Shannon Hocutt, as well as her uncle, Miller Arendale and aunt, Julianna Arendale.
- In thanksgiving of her life, Emma Lee Senna of Tuscaloosa, Alabama who died on July 15, 2019.
- Sympathy to Linda (Joe Brown) Duckworth on the death of her sister, Sandra Pride Partlow of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on July 23, 2019.
- Sympathy to Jan (Susan) Kizziah on the death of his aunt, Alice Kizziah of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on July 15, 2019.
- Sympathy to Marcia (Chip) Burke on the death of her uncle, Bobby Charles Wood of Venice, Florida on June 3, 2019.
- Sympathy to Marilyn (Rick) Stephens on the death of her father, Lowell Maxwell of Childersburg, Alabama on August 1, 2019.
- Sympathy to Linda (Bud) Dunn on the death of her mother, Elizabeth Vance of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on August 2, 2019.
- Sympathy to Kim (Jack) Moorehead on the death of her mother, Nancy Schaub of Madison, Mississippi on July 20, 2019.
- Sympathy to Kathy Gascoigne Mason on the death of her husband, Lyman Mason of Tuscaloosa, Alabama on August 9, 2019.

BIRTHS:

- Congratulations to Linda and Kirk Sparkman on the birth of their grandson, Bowen Marler who was born on June 7, 2019 in Houston, Texas.
- Congratulations to Katie and Josh Kidd on the birth of their son, Cooper Daniel Kidd on June 10, 2019.
- Congratulations to Nicole and Josh Burkhalter on the birth of their daughter, Jemma Ru Burkhalter born Thursday, June 13, 2019.
- Congratulations to Danielle and Kee Spree on the birth of their son, Burke McKee "Lee" Spree, Jr. on July 2, 2019. Congratulations also to big brother, Royce Spree.
- Congratulations to Jenny Benefield on the birth of her grandson, Benjamin John Craig on July 17, 2019 in Chicago, Illinois. Congratulations also to Jane Israel on the birth of her great grandson.
- Congratulations to Kennedy and Alberto Ramos on the birth of their daughter, Rose Adrian Ramos of Washington, D.C. on July 21. Congratulations to great grandmother, Harriet Cabell Walker, grandfather, Ben Cabell and great uncle, Bishop Will Willimon.
- Congratulations to Danielle and John Masingill on the birth of their son, John Henry Masingill, V in Orlando, Florida on July 25, 2019. Congratulations to grandparents, Sally and Jay Masingill.

BUDGET

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF 06/30/19
ANTICIPATED INCOME (YTD): \$1,141,920
ACTUAL INCOME (YTD): \$1,042,878
ORGAN DEBT: \$311,700

ATTENDANCE

JUNE:
WORSHIP-2,930
SUNDAY SCHOOL- 968

JULY:
WORSHIP-2,845
SUNDAY SCHOOL- 825

THIS IS A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TUSCALOOSA.
Broadcast & Contact Information
The Sunday 11:00 AM Traditions Worship Service is broadcast on WACT 1420 AM, 96.9 FM and online.
Listen to and watch sermons on our website at fumct.org/welcome/listen-to-a-sermon.



FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE | SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 |
10:30- 11:30 a.m. in Parker Fireside Room

CELEBRATION CIRCLE | SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 | 4:30- 7:30 p.m. in Stabler Conference Room

CELEBRATION CIRCLE | OCTOBER 14, 2019 | 4:30- 7:30 p.m. in Stabler Conference Room

COLLEGE MINISTRY COLLEGE GIRLS' BIBLE STUDY

Leader: Laurie Copeland

Description: All college girls welcome! Topics will change on a weekly basis.

Length: Tuesday nights starting September 10th from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: Pi Beta Phi house on UA campus (847 Magnolia Drive). Contact

laurimich68@yahoo.com for more information.



8. TOPIC: A GUIDED TOUR THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

Leader: Don Crump

Description: Explore the history, culture, and politics of New Testament times and their influence on biblical writers and their writings. Gain new insights about New Testament passages, stories and parables.

Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20

Room: Artos (220)

9. TOPIC: SINGLES TOGETHER

Leader: Dennis Harkey

Description: Singles Together is an ongoing group of like-minded singles who are looking for community, learning and socialization in a healthy environment. Whether you were never married, divorced or widowed, Singles Together is for you.

Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20

Room: Parker Fireside Room

10. TOPIC: EFFECTIVE PARENTING IN A DEFECTIVE WORLD

Leader: Lisa Hembree

Description: Raising children is a challenge in today's world. They are bombarded with pressures of drugs, sex, violence and more. God has a plan for raising your children and you can learn it.

Length: Sept. 11 – Nov. 20

Room: 222

11. Cultivate women's ministry

Cultivate Women's Ministry will be offering three courses during WNA. (see page 4 for a detailed description)

TOPIC: Cultivate Class: Prayer Journaling for New and Experienced Journalers with Janice Stewart

TOPIC: Cultivate Class (Esther) with Kara Creel

TOPIC: The Middle Matters by Lisa-Jo Baker with Julie Salter

12. TOPIC: IN THE BEGINNING: A THERAPIST AND MINISTER'S TAKE ON GENESIS

Leaders: Bob Montgomery and Jesse Tosten

Description: The first book of the Bible, Genesis, is literally packed with life lessons for today. As we explore the first pages of God's Word, we'll wrestle with questions such as:

- *Is Genesis God's first science textbook or is God beginning an attempt to tell you something about life?*
- *Is the garden about prohibition or provision?*

Come learn how to develop a framework for living today in light of how it all started in the beginning.

Length: Oct. 2 – Nov. 20

Room: Chapel

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ALIVE (WNA) QUICK REMINDERS

- Begins **Wednesday, September 11.**
- Dinner in Chitwood from 4:45-6:00 p.m.: **\$4-Children/\$7-Adults/ \$20-Family Max**
- Most classes are from 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Register at fumct.org/ministries/wednesdays.

WEDNESDAYS FOR KIDS

- K-8th Grade Choir: 5:45-6:15 p.m. (optional)
- K-3rd Grade: Bible study: 6:00-6:15 p.m. ; CAC: 6:15-6:45 p.m.
- Souled Out (4th & 5th Grade): CAC from 6:00-6:30 p.m.; Bible study: 6:30-7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS FOR YOUTH

- Dinner at 5:30 p.m. and pick up at 7:00 p.m.



**FUMCT MEN'S
BREAKFAST
AUGUST 24, 2019
7:00 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.
CHITWOOD HALL, \$5**

**ALL MEN ARE
INVITED AND
ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND.**

DISCERNING THE VOICE OF GOD by Priscilla Shirer

During this seven-session study, discover the root to clear and daily communication with God - humble obedience. Learn how surrender unlocks his many blessings intended for us, centers us in his will, and helps us discern his voice in everyday life. LED BY: Beverly May
 WHEN: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. – noon. The class will begin on **Monday, September 9th** at FUMCT in room 212. Contact Beverly at bevbmay@icloud.com to register.

WOMEN'S PRAYER Journaling LED BY Janice Stewart
 Keeping a prayer journal helps us connect with God in a consistent, authentic, creative and tangible way. The group will practice talking and listening to God through many journaling formats and methods. Contact Janice at jcs-alabama@att.net to register for either class described below:

Beginning Prayer Journaling
 WHEN: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. -11:45 a.m. in room 214 at FUMCT. The class will begin on **Monday, September 16th.**

Prayer Journaling for New and Experienced
 WHEN: Journalers will meet during WNA at FUMCT in room 214 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. beginning **September 11th.**

ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING: FINDING CALM IN A CHAOTIC WORLD by Max Lucado

Do you feel weighted down with worry? Does the uncertainty and chaos of life keep you up at night? While anxiety is a part of life, it doesn't have to dominate your life. With God as your helper and his promises at your side, you can sleep better tonight and smile more tomorrow.
 LED BY: Terri Boman
 WHEN: Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Laura Duke, 730 Chickamauga Circle, Tuscaloosa, beginning on **Tuesday, September 10th.** Contact Terri at terricbomanphd@gmail.com to register.

ESTHER: IT'S TOUGH BEING A WOMAN by Beth Moore

The Old Testament story of Esther is a profile in courage and contains many modern parallels for today's overloaded and stressed woman. Women will learn strong lessons of faith, providence and hope to equip them to live courageously for such a time as this.
 LED BY: Kara Creel
 WHEN: During WNA at FUMCT in room 212 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning **September 11th.** Contact Kara at kara.creel@ua.edu to register.

LEADING A JOY-FILLED LIFE - A JESUS ALWAYS BIBLE STUDY Series book by Sarah Young

Participants will be guided through eight sessions of study that explore what the Bible has to say about expressing gratitude to God in all situations, finding joy even in the mundane aspects of life, and adopting a mindset focused on the eternal blessings that God has promised for those who serve him.
 LED BY: Susan Kizziah
 WHEN: Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at her home at 1873 Gaineswood Drive, Tuscaloosa, beginning **September 19th.** Contact Susan at susankizziah@gmail.com to register. Class size is limited to 16.

THE MIDDLE MATTERS by Lisa-Jo Baker

In these intimate reflections on midlife, Baker invites us to get a good look at our middles and gives us permission to embrace them—beyond what the media, the mirror, or the magazines say. Through gutsy, beautiful storytelling, she admits what most of us are thinking about marriage, parenting and the bathroom scale. She's wants to make sure you actually see each day for all its wildly ordinary glory.
 Led by: Julie Salter
 WHEN: Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. beginning September 11 through November 20 in Room 215. Contact Julie at juliezsalter@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

Pop-Up Shops
Saturday, October 5th in Chitwood Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. I Plan to spend the morning enjoying shopping with family and friends. The event features local and regional boutiques owned by Christian women and also features female Christian artists. Our vendors offer products from clothing and jewelry to home decor, homemade jellies and amazing works of art. **Each vendor will donate a 10% tithe of their profits to be used toward a mission project - the purchase of Christmas gifts for children at the United Methodist's Children's Home.**



TAKE THE NEXT STEPS

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GROWING IN YOUR FAITH AND WANT SOME PRACTICAL TOOLS?

DO YOU WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR CHURCH, BUT AREN'T SURE HOW TO PLUG IN?

ARE YOU TIRED OF DOING LIFE ALONE AND WANT TO GET CONNECTED WITH OTHERS?

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT YOUR NEXT STEPS IN FAITH SHOULD BE?

To help YOU take your next step in your faith journey, First Church will be offering weekly Next Step gatherings starting **Sunday, September 1st at 10:00 a.m. in Stabler Conference Room.** Next Steps will guide you to discover your purpose and the live the life God created for you. Next Steps is made up of four steps that equip you to: **1) Connect to the Church; 2) Embrace Community; 3) Discover Purpose; and 4) Lead through Service.** Next Steps happens every month in four consecutive Sundays, starting with Step One on the first Sunday of the month. We invite you to jump in at any time.

1 STEP ONE: DISCOVER FIRST CHURCH
 Explore the purpose, vision and ministries of First United Methodist Church and find out how to connect with our church. Step One takes place the first Sunday of every month.

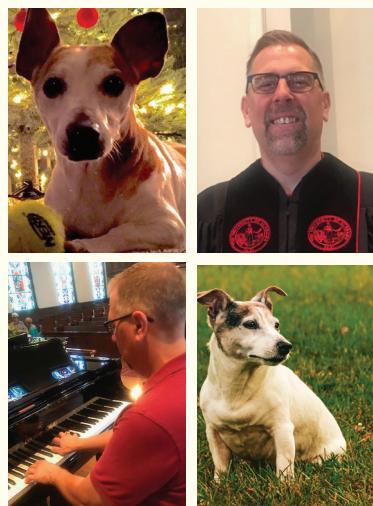
3 STEP THREE: DISCOVER PURPOSE
 Explore the details of your personality, discover your gifts, and see how your God-given design reveals your purpose in life and ministry. Step Three takes place the third Sunday of every month.

2 STEP TWO: EMBRACE COMMUNITY
 Explore the countless ways to grow in your faith with other people who are also following Jesus. Learn about the ways to plug into the various small group and class communities in our church. Step Two takes place the second Sunday of every month.

4 STEP FOUR: LEAD THROUGH SERVICE
 Explore the opportunities available at First Church to live out your purpose and lead through service by using your God-given gifts. Step Four takes place the fourth Sunday of every month.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact the Director of Christian Education, Amy Thigpen at amy@fumct.org or (205) 345-7261, ext. 108.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHURCH FAMILY



NICE TO MEET YOU, CHRIS O'REAR

He's the sound coming from the far right corner of the choir loft. He directs the choir while John Ratledge is in Italy. He teaches. He drives Uber and Lyft. He's performed at the White House five times. He's working to overcome his fear of playing piano in public! He cares for two precious but aging rescue Jack Russell Terriers, Butch and Missy.

Get to know Chris O'Rear! Chris grew up in the Baptist church, the son of the long time choir director in Taylors, SC, near Greenville. He earned an undergraduate degree from Winthrop University and a master's degree in music and choral conducting from Samford University. He served 12 years in Baptist churches until he decided to teach voice at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama. He also

had a private voice studio with 14-16 high school students studying with him. He met John Ratledge at the University of Alabama School of Music where Chris received his doctorate.

"It was John who persuaded me to get back into choral directing," Chris said. "Music feeds my soul and it gives me life. It may sound corny but I hope my music does that for others, too." Chris's latest self-challenge is to play the piano proficiently. "It will make me a better teacher for my students if I can pick up and play the piano," he said. Until he played on June 28th in Traditions, he had not played in public since he was 18 years old.

His mother, father and younger sister are in the Greenville area and he has a brother in Birmingham. This fall he will be teaching voice and vocal pedagogy at the University of Montevallo in their renowned music department.

Chris just returned from Italy where he worked with singers and conductors in the symposium that John organizes each year. "Music can take you places," he said. That was a gem of wisdom that was passed onto him, encouraging him in his early career. From South Carolina, to the White House, to Montgomery, to Tuscaloosa, music has taken Chris to some wonderful places. We hope he calls this place, First United Methodist Church of Tuscaloosa, home!



Merry Methodists
SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

MERRY METHODISTS ARE OFF TO A GREAT START! If you have not returned your information sheet you received in the mail please do so as soon as possible. You can mail it to the church or bring it to the church office. If you did not get a Merry Methodists letter and your age is 50+ come by the church office to get information or call the church office (205-345-7261) and we can mail you the letter. We need the information forms returned in order to put you on our communication list. Thirty Merry Methodists went to *Grease* and had a great time. Tentative future plans include: Barber Motorsports in Birmingham in September and lunch at Rusty's BBQ; tour the American Village in Montevallo and lunch at The Tavern on Main in October; tour the old Bryce Hospital property location of the UA Performing Arts Center; lunch and tour Arlington Historic Home in Birmingham; tour some sites in Greensboro, AL with lunch at Square Root in Eutaw, AL; lunch at the church in October with Drew Baker telling stories from Kathryn Windham Tucker books, and attend Theatre Tuscaloosa productions throughout the year. We are open to all suggestions! Contact Nini Jobson at nini@fumct.org.



A COMMUNITY-WIDE SERIES HOSTED BY 10 AREA CHURCHES

Wonderful speakers with programming for children, youth and adults!

ON WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 11, 18 & 25

DINNER & MUSIC: 5:00-6:00 PM | PROGRAM: 6:00-7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019:

Recognizing & Understanding Substance Use Disorder (at Christ Episcopal Church)

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019:

Caring for People with Disabilities and Their Families (at First United Methodist Church)

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019:

Cops & Stops: Encountering a Badge (at First Presbyterian Church)

FIND MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER AT [FACEBOOK.COM/WHENLIFEHAPPENSTUSCALOOSA](https://www.facebook.com/whenlifehappensTUSCALOOSA). CAPACITY LIMITED TO 300 SO SIGN UP SOON! EMAIL LIFEHAPPENSINFO1@GMAIL.COM.

SERIES HOSTED BY:

Brown Memorial Presbyterian, Canterbury Episcopal, Christ Episcopal, First African Baptist, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Grace Presbyterian, Hunter Chapel AME, New Covenant Baptist and St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

TUSCA200OSA BICENTENNIAL

FOR THE GOOD OF OUR CITY: A COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP EVENT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 7:30-11:00 A.M.

The Tuscaloosa Ministerial Alliance will sponsor a **community clean-up** as part of the **Tuscaloosa 200 Bicentennial**. The clean-up will be held on **Saturday, September 14**. All churches/places of faith are invited to join in this community event to show support "For the Good of Our City."

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- Check-in at Government Plaza at 7:30 a.m.
- Pick up safety gear and free event T-shirt
- Opening prayers, music, free food and beverages
- Disperse to work areas at 8:15 a.m.
- Work from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
- Return gear and collected trash to District drop-off site
- Pat yourself on the back and enjoy the rest of the day!

If you or your group is interested, please email contact@fumct.org.

FIRST KIDS Upcoming Events



AUGUST 16TH | Back to School Pizza and Pool Party and Softball Celebration from 6:15-8:15 p.m. | Join us at the UA Rec Center outdoor pool for fellowship, pizza and swimming as we kick off the new school year. We will also be celebrating our church league softball players at this party!

FIRST KIDS IN THE SON CONTINUES THROUGH LABOR DAY | Now Through September 1st

SEPTEMBER 8TH | First Kids Rotation Stations resume at 11:00 a.m. | Children K-3rd grade rotate weekly among learning stations such as: art, cooking, games, missions, science and storytelling. Experiencing the Bible story in a different way each week is fun and appeals to various learning styles!

SEPTEMBER 11TH | First Kids on Wednesday Nights Begins

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW MUSIC PROGRAM FOR K-8TH GRADERS — AMPLIFIED! | Amplified! Provides students K-8th grade with an opportunity to participate in music and enhance their talents through worship. Amplified! will meet every Wednesday night in room 206 from 5:45-6:15 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., K-5 th graders will transition to age specific programming, and 6th-8th graders will attend the youth group activities.

Students who participate this semester will be preparing for an amazing Christmas program. They may also have the opportunity to share their music in The Bridge or Traditions throughout the semester (performance details TBA.)

6:00-6:15 p.m. | K-3rd grade not participating in Amplified! will meet for devotion and Bible study in room 210.

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. | K-3rd will have games and activities in the CAC and/or playground. Students will return to 206 for pick up.

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. | 4th & 5th graders will meet in the CAC.

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. | 4th & 5th will have a time of devotion and Bible study in 203 where they will remain for pickup.

ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER TRAINING

Acolyte training for new and current acolytes will be during the Sunday school hour (10 a.m.) on Sunday, August 25th. Parents and children are invited to attend. We will be discussing what it means to be an acolyte and crucifer as well as some new responsibilities for the acolytes and crucifers. Children 3rd grade and up are eligible to be an acolyte and a crucifer. The Sunday school hour is a short time to do the training so Donna O'Connor and Nini Jobson will be available to meet with anyone who would like another session in order to feel more comfortable. We are looking forward to a new year with new acolytes and crucifers. The congregation would like to see acolytes every Sunday so spread the word to friends to join us! Contact Nini Jobson, Acolyte Coordinator at jodynini@bellsouth.net.

ROAR! Vacation Bible School 2019



FOOMACK WEDNESDAYS | Youth Wednesday nights are back! FOOMACK services begin on Wednesday, August 14th. This year we have made a few changes. FOOMACK will begin with dinner every week at 5:30 p.m. Services will start at 6:00 p.m., and car pool will be at 7:00 p.m. Don't miss out on our weekly gatherings as we continue our Discovery theme this year, "Permanentmaking a mark that can't be erased."

BIGSTUF 2019 | Big Stuff 2019 is in the books!!! This year we had over 75 attendees. Our studies at BigStuf were based on the topic "Well Known." Small groups were a huge part of our trip this year as we had opportunity to connect with each individual student about letting Christ be *Well Known*. Thank you so much to all the chaperones for making this trip possible.

BigStuf is more than a camp; it's a new way of life for students. Success for BigStuf isn't what happens while students are in Panama City Beach for camp. Success is what happens after their camp experience. - Reggie Joyner, founder of BigStuf

Discovery 2019 has begun. Yes, that is correct, it has begun. Discovery is more than a weekend, it is a challenge throughout the school year to make a mark that can't be erased. As we continue to write our story this year let each of us live our lives in a way that our marks are PERMANENT.

PERMANENT

In John 20:27 Jesus shows Thomas the nail marks in his hand. It was a mark that could never be erased. It was a mark that changed the history of mankind. It was a mark where love laid down its life. It was a mark where God's grace could be applied to each of our lives.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17



Permanent
Discovery AUGUST 9TH-11TH