

THE MESSENGER

First United Methodist Church
210 Hickory Street SE
Hartselle, AL 35640
www.fumchartselle.org
(256) 773-6952

February 28, 2010

WEDNESDAY NIGHT *ALIVE* DINNER

March 3, 2010 • 5:30 p.m. • Ministry Center

COVERED DISH

If your last name begins with the letter:

A—F Please bring a **Meat**

G—M Please bring a **Dessert
and Bread**

N—Z Please bring a **Vegetable**

NEW BIBLE STUDY

24 Hours That Changed the World

by Adam Hamilton

Wednesday Nights

6:30 p.m.

Room 208

Nancy Carlisle will lead the study. Books are \$13.00 or get the book and Devotional Guide together for \$20.00. Please contact Anne Burleson at 773-6952 or Nancy Carlisle at 502-9702 for more information and so that we can have enough books and/or guides available.

BLESSING OF THE BEARS

February 28, 2010

MISSING!

The church is missing one round plastic table, two new white 120" round table clothes and several 6' rectangle tables. If you have any of these items or know where they may be located, please return them or contact the church office.

THANK YOU

Dear Reverend Sparkman
and our new church family,

We just wanted to express our gratitude for everything you have done for our family. We were so glad we were able to join your church before Samantha's arrival and have had such an outpouring of kindness. We know that we have found our home. Thank you so much for coming to the hospital to pray with us after Samantha's birth, and for the beautiful prayer shawl. We feel so blessed to have you and FUMCH in our lives.

Thank you and God Bless,
Stephanie, Patrick and Samantha Jeff

HANDICAPPED PARKING

Please be respectful of others and do not park in a designated handicapped parking place at any time during the week unless you have a handicapped tag. Thank you for your cooperation!

GOOD SAMARITAN

Good Samaritan is asking for one or two items a month to help meet the needs of families seeking help. These items are not donated to Good Sam on a regular basis.

Item for **FEBRUARY: Dishwashing Liquid**

VISITORS

Pam, Halie, Allie and Isaac Nicholson, Joy, Marty, Hannah and Sarah Hand, Sarah Laritz, Callie Burks, Jordan Hartsell, Jim & Lanetta Crow, Nathan Fobes, Jeff Hyche, Joseph & Tracie McPhillips, Emma Pettey & Nick Plemons, Breanna Riley, Leah Robinson, Karen Payne, Stephen Crouch, Yvonne Fetner, Audrey Simpson, Charles Hall, Tyler Reynolds-Rothstein, Rodney Sr., Rose & Rodney Jr., Stansberry, Bert & Joan Derryberry, Mike & Erin Helmick, Lisa Bullerjahn, Mark & Beth Damron, Susan Baker

| STEWARDSHIP REPORT | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| ATTENDANCE | |
| Worship total..... | 564 |
| Sunday School..... | 364 |
| Children..... | 82 |
| Youth..... | 34 |
| Adults..... | 248 |
| FINANCES | |
| BUDGET | |
| Budget for 2010..... | \$823,880.00 |
| Rec'd 02-21..... | \$13,085.05 |
| Total received..... | \$122,086.68 |
| CAPITAL FUND | |
| Rec'd 02-21..... | \$2,475.00 |
| Total received..... | \$29,090.53 |
| OTHER FUNDS | |
| Rec'd 02-21..... | \$1,185.00 |
| Total received..... | \$15,392.97 |

“...We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.” Romans 8:26-27

Prayer Concerns for Our Church Family
 J P Cain, Alice Roberts, Barbara Turner, Steve Turney, Annette Hall, Ralph Norris

Prayer Concerns for Family and Friends
 Joan Kearse //// (Friend of Joann Welch), Wilda Kelley /// (Sister of Nora Kilpatrick), Rosalie Shipp // (Cousin of Ann Sims and Nancy Stoner), Percy Jackson // (Friend of Jack Betterton), Judy Moore / (Neighbor of Vicky Oehmen), Roylean Lewis / (Mother of Mickey Swanner), Eddie Willingham / (Father of High School teacher, Dennis Willingham), Mr. Morrow / (Father of Nannette Miller)

If you would like to add a name to **“Prayer Concerns for Family and Friends”**, please call the church office — 773-6952. Each name will be listed on a monthly basis.

Continue to Pray for
 Billy Ruwe, David Johnston, Linnell Orr, Mary Paul Hendry, Flora Weeks, Linda Hodgen, Alvin Abercrombie

NURSERY WORKERS GREETERS, USHERS & SOUND

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 Worship Nursery | Haley Hickman, Kathy Howard |
| 11:00 Worship Nursery | Nursery Worker |
| 8:45 Greeter & Coffee Time: | Ike Groover |
| 9:00 Greeters: | Anita Bennett, Nancy and Kerry Hill |
| 9:00 Set-up: | Mark Yeager, Jr, Chris Bennett, Tyler Bennett, Chuck Brechtel, Shannon Parker |
| 11:00 February Ushers | Ray Russell (Chair), Bob Speake (Co-chair), Larry Murphree, Billy Hardin |
| 11:00 Greeters | Frank and Virginia Ann Stewart |
| 11:00 Sound | David Robinson |

Spiritual Highs, Physical Lows, Cold Fronts, a Cloud Enveloping the Disciples, and an Upper Level Disturbance

Strange how emotions change with the weather. I will start getting a little down when another cloud front with promised rain, possible drizzle or 30% chance of heavy downpours is predicted. Then you are waiting to see when and if it comes, and whether that chance of snow and sleet affects driving. I am tired of this bad weather. I think everyone has had a bad winter—the worst I can remember. Start with the swine flu, include all the colds and stomach viruses, count the times snow was threatened and did not materialize, go to the times it was predicted and we had a dusting, and end with all the cloudy and cold days you can enumerate. It has been a tough winter.

Weather and physical sickness can affect your emotions and, surprisingly, our spiritual lives. When we feel yucky we have a tendency to lose the sense of God's presence that strengthens and gives joy.

You know that excitable weather man on TV, the one who takes the worst case scenario on all "weather events"? As a matter of fact, he makes all weather into "weather events"—and he loves to report frozen precipitation weather events. Once he is reported to have said, "Of all the eleven prediction models, this is the worst case scenario", and then proceeded to talk about that. That affects our attendance on Sunday morning! That guy owes me some worship—when is he going to show up and start singing?

Spiritually, the best example is still the log in the fireplace. You are at the fireplace in bad weather. You take a burning log out and place it on the hearth just 8 inches from the fire. It will get colder, start smoking instead of burning, and finally grow cold and dark. It will go out. Our spiritual lives are like that: we tend to hunker down in bad weather, staying warm physically, but spiritually we are not getting the warmth and fellowship we need to stay burning and bright.

The worst weather event of all is the prediction of snow, and then it starts lightning somewhere. My dog will start whining and pawing at the windows, and we look at the weather channel and see thunderstorms in Selma, GOING EAST! The dog is smart enough to know thunderstorms and too dumb to know directions and distances. Then it doesn't snow and you are stuck with all that bread and milk—and a fretful dog. For a while every time it snowed in Arab I would buy a different little fancy treat to go with the milk and bread. That can of smoked oysters stayed in the cupboard until we moved to Helena. I finally ate it in the heat of June just to make a point, and the can of smoked oysters made a big point to me.

It is interesting that on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus was transfigured and "his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning." Peter then began to talk and say the wrong things, and, "While he was speaking a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'this is my Son...listen to him.'" (Luke 9:29,34) So, the brightness of God was compared to lightning, and then God spoke to the disciples out of a cloud.

My grandmother could tell when a low front was coming in by her arthritis. I can tell sometimes by a little feeling in my sinuses. Those things can affect your spiritual lives and your emotions for the worse. Don't let them! Stir up the spirit within you, and reach out to the Spirit all around us. He, the one who created us, can be shown through the lightning, and speak in the cloud!

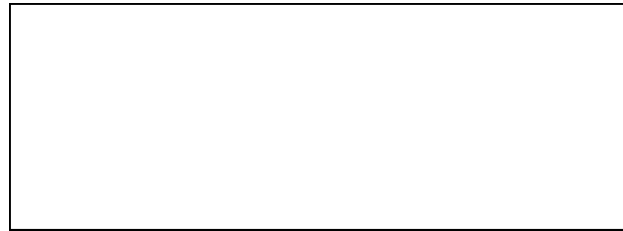
It is a sunny day today, anyway, and it feels great! See you at church on Sunday, where I am going to preach about the spiritual presence, and how we find it. The next few weeks will be about finding the spiritual presence of God.

Robert

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MEMORIALS

GOOD SAMARITAN

In honor of Barbara Turner by Dorothy Biles.

In honor of Robert and Gail Peck's
50th Anniversary by Joe and Joy Groover.

In memory of Bill Camp by Sarah J. Garner.

In memory of Bill Camp by Frances Orr.

In memory of Fred Bennett
by Mrs. Charles Stewart and
Betty & Paul Prince.

In memory of Bill Camp
by Joe and Ann Tucker and Michelle.

FAITH HOUSE

In honor of Ike and Nancy Groover's
50th Anniversary by Bill and Jane Padgett.

CONGRATULATIONS

...to Mark and Kelly Haraway in the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Kathryn, February 18, 2010. Mattie Kate weighed 8 lbs. 7 ozs. and was 19 inches long. Mattie Kate's brothers are Mac and Logan Haraway, and Mitchell and Aidan Poole. Grandparents are Mike and Jan Morgan.

SYMPATHY

The minister staff and membership of FUMC wish to extend sincere Christian sympathy to Jimmy and Mary Yarbrough in the death of Mary's brother, James Whitten, February 19, 2010.

The minister, staff and membership of FUMC wish to extend sincere Christian sympathy to Charles and Jean Hardy in the death of Charles' sister, Ella Jones Hardy, February 20, 2010.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY:

8:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

MONDAY:

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
7:55 a.m.
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
9:30 a.m.
1:45 p.m.

4:45 p.m.—5:15 p.m.
5:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY:

6:30 a.m.
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
7:55 a.m.
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
9:45 a.m.

February 28

Recreational Ministry Center Closed
Early Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Contemporary Worship Service (Gym)
Sunday School
Confirmation (Fellowship Hall)
Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Confirmation (F. Hall)
ANA—Jr. High Small Groups
(2nd & 3rd floor)
Instrumental Ensemble (Sanctuary)

March 1

Walking Track Hours
Firm Up Exercise (208)
Preschool
Staff Meeting (Library)
Haverim Bible Study
(At the home of Mary Frances McCall)
Youth Band Practice (F. Hall)
Youth Share Sale (Church Office)

Baseball (Gym)
Baseball Meeting (F. Hall)
Quartet Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Girl Scouts, 1st & 3rd Monday (306)

March 2

Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast (113)
Walking Track Hours
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library)
Preschool
Heritage Choir (Sanctuary)
Good Vibrations (Handbell room)
Handbell Quartet (Handbell room)
Youth Share Sale (Church Office)
Carillon Choir (Handbell room)
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library)
Boy Scout Pack Meeting (F. Hall)
Boy Scouts (3rd floor)

March 3

Walking Track Hours
Firm Up Exercise (208)
Preschool
Falkville Healthcare Sing-A-Long

5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
6:15 p.m.—6:50 p.m.
6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.—7:40 p.m.
6:30 p.m.

6:50 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
6:50 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
7:45 p.m.—8:45 p.m.

THURSDAY:

6:30 a.m.
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
8:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY:

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
7:55 a.m.
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY:

7:30 a.m.—8:30 a.m.
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Notations (Handbell room)
Wednesday Night Alive Dinner (Gym)
Children's Interest Classes (3rd floor)
The Jesus I Never Knew by Phillip Yancey
Leader: Robert Sparkman (211)

24 Hours That Changed the World (208)
Leader: Nancy Carlisle

Jr. High PowerHouse (F. Hall)
The Patriarches by Beth Moore
Women's Bible Study (209)

Young Women's Bible Study (202)
God Built: Forged by God by Steve Farrar
Men's Bible Study (205)

Copper Clappers (Handbell room)
Choir Practice (Choir room)

Children's Choir (308)
Children's Bible Study (302)
Sr. High PowerHouse (F. Hall)

March 4

Youth Lenten Breakfast (113)
Walking Track Hours
Women's Bible Study (209)
Praying God's Will for Your Life
Preschool
Youth Share Sale (Church Office)

March 5

Walking Track Hours
Firm Up Exercise
Preschool
Newly Revised *Breaking Free* by Beth Moore
Women's Bible Study (207)
Singles Group Planning Meeting (113/Kitchen)

March 6

Men's Reunion Group (Faith House)
Bridal Shower (Welcome Center)
Birthday Party (Gym)

CARING HANDS PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Caring Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume Tuesday night meetings on March 2nd, 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. in the Library in addition to the am meeting for the convenience of members and guests who are unable to attend the Tuesday morning meetings. We will continue our mission to create prayer shawls, Linus blankets, newborn blankets, etc. Those of you who would like to learn to know or crochet, we will happily teach you.

Ruby Norman

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE RECYCLING

It is the end of the quarter and time again to recycle your Christian literature. There are bins available in the Welcome Center, second floor by the elevator and in the Ministry Center hallway leading to the Education wing. Your recycled literature will be distributed to the mission field thru Edwin Hodges Ministries. Acceptable materials include Bibles, Sunday School materials, VBC materials, training materials/workbooks, Upper Room, Guide Posts, etc.

Last quarter FUMC recycled 110 lbs. of Christian literature to be sent to the mission field. We hope to send more this quarter! Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

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