

THE MESSENGER

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

February 14, 2010

WEDNESDAY NIGHT *ALIVE* DINNER

February 17, 2010

5:30 p.m. • Ministry Center

Menu: Corn Salad, Chili, Grilled Cheese,
White Chocolate Bread Pudding

Cost: Adults \$5.00, Children \$3.00, Families
\$16.00 max, Take Out \$5.00

Alternate Meal: Hot Dogs, Chips and Cookie

Our reservation list will be starting over for 2010. We will take reservations on a weekly basis or you may sign up for standing reservations. **Please make or cancel your reservation each Wednesday by noon by calling the church office 773-6952.**

NEW BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Morning Bible Study

“In Depth Bible Study”

Sundays • 10:00 a.m. • Room 115

Led by Rob Lamb with reference—
God Sightings, The One Year Bible

Thursday Night Men’s Bible Study

“The Book of Revelation”

Beginning, Feb 18th • 7:00 p.m. • Room 207

Led by Ray Russell (773-2606)

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

February 12-14, 2010

Please **PRAY** that Discovery will transform the lives of the participants and leaders as well as the life of the church. **Pray** for our youth and the youth of our community daily!

UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL

March—April

The Upper Room Daily Devotional is now available in the Narthex and Bobby Martin Welcome Center.

MEN’S CONFERENCE

Theme: The Call of God

February 19—20, 2010

Ministry Center

Hosted by No Compromise Ministries,
Rob Cain, Founder

Go to www.NoCompMinistries.com for more information

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 17, 2010 • 7:45 p.m. • Sanctuary

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

Joyce & G W Faulkenberry, Lindsey & Taylor Easterling, Cesar Romero, Dean Hogue, Scott & Megan Burton, Kelly & Eddie Ellis, Stoney, Holly, Hanna, Madison and Macie Anderson, Larry & Judy Barnes, Emme Long, Taylor Lybarger, Lora Vest, Ashlyn Ward, Abby Arias, Deanna, Haley, and Wesley Summerford, Ron Puckett

STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
ATTENDANCE	
Worship total.....	570
Sunday School.....	401
Children.....	73
Youth.....	41
Adults.....	287
FINANCES	
BUDGET	
Budget for 2010.....	\$823,880.00
Rec'd 02-07.....	\$22,793.23
Total received.....	\$96,907.63
CAPITAL FUND	
Rec'd 02-07.....	\$3,764.00
Total received.....	\$19,981.34
OTHER FUNDS	
Rec'd 02-07.....	\$1,805.00
Total received.....	\$13,642.97

NURSERY WORKERS GREETERS, USHERS & SOUND

“...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, Jane Johnston

Prayer Concerns for Family and Friends

Sharri Millican /// (Brenda Stout’s friend), Bobby Webber /// (Friend of the Halbrooks), Helen Pratt /// (Mother of Peggy Finch), Roylean Lewis /// (Mother of Mickey Swanner), Joan Kearse // (Friend of Joann Welch), Wilda Kelley / (Sister of Nora Kilpatrick)

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

9:00 Worship Nursery	Jan Brewer, Nursery Worker
11:00 Worship Nursery	Nursery Worker
8:45 Greeter & Coffee Time:	Marie LeMay
9:00 Greeters:	Dawn Green, Jan Cross
9:00 Set-up:	Discovery Students will set up for 9:00 Service
11:00 February Ushers	Ray Russell (Chair), Bob Speake (Co-chair), Larry Murphree, Billy Hardin
11:00 Greeters	Charles and Mary Nell Smith
11:00 Sound	David Robinson

Spiritual Blessing, Earthly Blessing?

I cannot get rid of this idea of being a blessing to other people. That is, I keep going back to this idea of simply being a blessing to someone, which is the best witness. My challenge last Sunday was: *“Find three people this week and be a blessing to them.”*

I was inspired when I heard that several people tried to be a blessing to someone last week. This morning another person told me they took my challenge, asking a family member, “How can I be a blessing to you today?”

Now, there have been plenty of people who have been a blessing to others because they were Christian. People might go and be a nurse or a teacher or a social worker because they want to help people. They might share with them a cup of water or a loaf of bread, they might cloth the naked and feed the hungry and visit in prison, and it is a job or a service. To go the next step, the phrase comes to me is, “A cup of water in my name.” I believe that we are not only to be a blessing but to bless in the name of Jesus. I believe that *it adds to our service to do it in the name of Jesus*—give a cup of water and the Living Water at the same time; a loaf of bread and break the Bread of Life as the same time. Jesus said “I am the Bread of Life”; he told the woman at the well, “I would give you living water”.

But how do we do that? How do we bless *in the name of Jesus* in an appropriate and friendly way? At some point I started saying to people, “Bless you”, or “Well, God bless you!” I said that to a Catholic lady one time, and she said, “Thank you for the blessing! I haven’t received a blessing in a long time!” She took it seriously, and I was glad. How do you bless in the name of Jesus?

Now this is even more complicated by the different values Christ taught. They are different than our values. When Jesus said blessed are the poor in spirit, those who are persecuted, those who hunger and thirst, those who mourn., he was saying there are a lot of people who are blessed, or will be blessed, and it is not apparent right now. We do not realize all God’s ways, and we do not know all about people. In the Dominican Republic my mission team encountered very poor, uneducated people who were living very hard lives, and appeared to be happier than my team. Most assuredly they were *getting more joy from their religion than we were—blessed are the poor, but they were not poor in spirit*—and it was an enlightening time.

So, don’t assume someone needs a special blessing from you because they are driving a worse car, or waiting on tables, or because they are not Americans. But, anyone can take a blessing. I need all the blessings I can get. I really do not think you can go wrong offering a blessing or a prayer *in a humble and loving spirit*.

Figuring all this out is easier for me, I am a pastor. I can say, “God bless you, Have a blessed day, I will pray for you”, or just give them a card with the words, “Call if you need to talk”. A church member suggested that we have cards for the church—maybe a small folded card with a little info., a little verse, an invitation—that people could give out. If you were a blessing to someone, also give the name of Christ with it.

Well, as you can see, I am still worrying this idea like a little dull—toothed lap dog with a big chew toy. How about helping me with it? How do you do it?

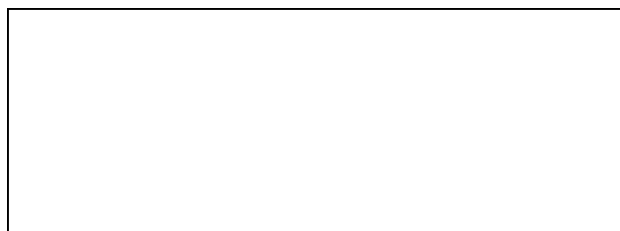
I still think Jesus has it in his mind for you to be a blessing to someone this week—in the name of our Savior.

Robert

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



39 PLUS FELLOWSHIP

February 16, 2010

11:15 a.m.

Ministry Center

Program: Dr. Pat Edwards from Madison UMC will share with us her trip to Kiev, Ukraine. She went there to help with a Bible School at an orphanage. They worked with a wonderful group of children from ages 7 to 16. Make your plans to be with us and enjoy this wonderful program. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy the fellowship.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

SonSeekers Circle

Thursday, February 18, 2010 • 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Pam Asmann.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

February 4, 2010

Houston Lawrence

By UMC Transfer

February 7, 2010

Patrick Jeff

By UMC Transfer

Stephanie Jeff

By Other Transfer

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

North West District

Spiritual Enrichment Brunch and Program

April 17, 2010 • 8:30 a.m.—Noon

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY:

12:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
8:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.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.
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.
11:15 a.m.
3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.—7:00 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.
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.

February 14

Recreational Ministry Center Closed
Discovery Weekend
Early Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Contemporary Worship Service (Gym)
Sunday School
NO Confirmation (Fellowship Hall)
Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
NO ANA—Jr. High Small Groups
(2nd & 3rd floor)
Instrumental Ensemble (Sanctuary)

February 15

Walking Track Hours
Firm Up Exercise (208)
NO Preschool
Staff Meeting (Library)
Haverim Bible Study
(At the home of Mary Frances McCall)
Youth Band Practice (F. Hall)
Quartet Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Girl Scouts, 1st & 3rd Monday (306)

February 16

Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast (113)
Walking Track Hours
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library)
NO Preschool
Heritage Choir (Sanctuary)
39 Plus Fellowship (Gym)
NO Good Vibrations (Handbell room)
Handbell Quartet (Handbell room)
Carillon Choir (Handbell room)
Boy Scouts (3rd floor)

February 17—Ash Wednesday

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

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.

7:45 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.

6:30 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.—10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY:

7:30 a.m.—8:30 a.m.
8:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m.

The Life You've Always Wanted

by John Ortberg Leader: Anne Burleson (208)

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)

Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

February 18

Youth Lenten Breakfast (113)

Walking Track Hours

Women's Bible Study (209)

Praying God's Will for Your Life

Preschool

Sister's of Faith (114)

February 19

Walking Track Hours

Firm Up Exercise

Preschool

Newly Revised *Breaking Free* by Beth Moore

Women's Bible Study (207)

“No Compromise” Men's Conference (Gym)

February 20

Men's Reunion Group (Faith House)

“No Compromise” Men's Conference (Gym)

MEMORIALS

GOOD SAMARITAN

In memory of Bill Camp by Charles and Jean Hardy.

In memory of Dewayne Smith by Dot Biles.

In memory of Bill Camp and Joyce Pruitt
by Hal & Barbara Moore.

In honor of Mission Garden Volunteers by Ruby Norman.

In memory of Bill Camp by Cindie Sherrill.

In memory of Bill Camp and Jim McKelvy
by Bob and Daphne Sittason.

In memory of Bill Camp by David and Jennifer Sittason.

In memory of Bill Camp and Fred Bennett by Franklin Turney.

In honor of Past and Present Musicians at FUMC.

In memory of Bill Camp by Gene and Pat Watson

FAITH HOUSE

In memory of Bill Camp by Mary Frances McCall.

MURPHREE MISSIONS

A gift has been given by Pairs and Spares SS Class.

“PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY”

BULLETIN BOARD

We are updating our Active Duty “Pray for Our Military” bulletin board. We will be mounting our military board on the wall in the Ministry Center across from the elevator. If you have a loved one on active duty, please bring a picture and provide their name, rank, branch of service and where they are stationed. If you wish to add their e-mail address and/or PTO, we will include that on the board. Thank you for helping us to pray for those who protect and serve out country!



IT'S TEDDY BEAR TIME AGAIN!

To my BEARY best friends,

Between now and February 28th we will be collecting bears as well as baby supplies for Morgan County Department of Children and Families. Place NEW bears or other stuffed animals and baby supplies in the **boxes** provided in the boxes provided. Remember if you are busy or just forget, you can make a cash donation and items will be purchased for you. Just mark “bears” in the memo line on you check.

**The “Blessing of the Bears” will be
February 28th this year.**

NEED A RIDE?

If you would enjoy taking part in Wednesday Night Alive dinner and classes, but either cannot or will not drive at night, please call the church office. We already have one person interested and are hoping there are more who would enjoy the food, fellowship and small group experience.

We will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Dinner begins at 5:30 and classes follow at 6:30. On February 17th, there is an Ash Wednesday service in the Sanctuary at 7:45 for those who wish to stay.

NEW STUDY STARTING FEBRUARY 24TH

24 Hours That Changes the World by Adam Hamilton, will begin at 6:15 on Wednesday, February 17th in room 208. This first meeting will be short—just to get your book and the first reading assignment. 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.



GARDEN REPORT... 2009 MISSION GARDEN

2009 was not a very good gardening year. Our mission garden did suffer some disappointments. The successes far outweighed the failure though. Corn was a total failure, but green beans passed all expectations. Lima beans bloomed their hearts out then dropped their blossoms. Beautiful plants, hardly a dozen limas. But the peas, oh my, beyond anything we dared hoped for. Okra did not come up, but squash, tomatoes and greens more than made up for the lack. What a blessing to be able, with the help of great volunteers, to gather it all, turn it over to Good Samaritan for distribution to hungry folks who needed it.

I want to take this opportunity to thank those volunteers who made it all possible: Ray Crump, Harry Houston, Jim and Tucky Carlisle, Dick and June Douglas, Pat Putman, Ed Huggins, Rebecca Norman, Julie McLean, Laura Aymett, Ryan Aymett (a future great gardener or I lose my bet), Gloria Daniel. A special thank you to our spiritual advisor who blessed our efforts then stayed on to clear brush and weed eat weeds, Rev. Harold Thompson. A million thanks to all you wonderful people. Your names will remain on the volunteer list unless you ask to be removed. We welcome anyone else who wishes to join us. Another season awaits. I can't wait to get started!

The Garden looks pitiful right now, but we know it is just waiting to do its thing all over again come spring.

Ruby Norman