



The Messenger

January 3, 2019

Upcoming Events



Shine On...

Long, Jane Cockrell, Alana Rutledge and the Adult chancel choir for the beautiful music they provided during this Christmas season.

Mandy



Ladies, are you feeling rushed and overwhelmed?

Maybe your life could use some Breathing Room. We have two events coming up to talk about ways to make some room in different areas of our lives.

On Friday, January 11th at 6:30 p.m., we will have a one night event in the Christian Life Center for a Ladies' Night Out. We will have dinner, fun with your friends, and hear a message about finding Breathing Room in our fast paced lives.



On Friday and Saturday, February 1st and 2nd, we will go more in depth at an overnight retreat at Palmer Creek Campground. During the retreat, there will be time to share, time to ask questions, time to listen, and time to pray. You can spend the night at the retreat location or drive back home for the night, if that's more comfortable for you.

If you can't come to both events, that's ok! Just come to the one that works best for you. There is no cost for the Ladies' Night Out event, and there is a \$35 retreat fee for the

February event to cover expenses.

If these opportunities sound good to you, look for the sign up sheets in the lobby of the sanctuary and the Well. Or you can call or text Lori Cripple at 228-324-3622 to sign up.

Starting Point Luncheon and Class



We are glad that you have come to consider First United Methodist Church your home. Whether you worship at the Well or at the Main Campus, you have become part of a church that has a sense of God's calling to offer God's love to our community and to be part of God's work of transforming the world.

We want to invite you to find out more about our mission, our vision and opportunities to grow deeper as a follower of Jesus at our Starting Point luncheon which will be this Sunday, January 6th at 12:30 at the Christian Life Center at the Main Campus. Please let us know how many places you will need for lunch by calling the church office at 228-863-9619. During this 45 minute meeting we will offer an overview of our church community, how the church is part of God's purpose in restoring and redeeming the world, and how we have a part in that purpose of blessing the world, particularly in our community on the gulf coast.

You will also be invited to be part of the next step of Starting Point which is a series of three weekly sessions. These will be held at 9:45 am on the following Sunday mornings at the Main Campus. In those sessions you will find out more about following Jesus in the context of our church. We look forward to seeing you and to share more about what God is doing through our church to share the love of Jesus in our community and our lives together.

Nursery Worker Needed

We are currently looking to fill the position of a paid nursery worker for our Well service. Please contact the church office at 228-863-9619 if you know someone who is interested.



Giving Tree

We will have a giving tree placed in the lobby of the Main campus and The Well to meet the needs of our children all year. This tree will hold tags with smaller needs for children and families in our school district. Please take a tag and return the item under the tree after it has been purchased.



Youth Schedule

Heart & Soul will resume Wednesday, January 9th

UMYF will resume Sunday, January 13th

Online Giving

Just a reminder, you can go to our website at fumclb.org and click on the Online Giving tab to make giving quick and easy.

[Online Giving](#)

Weekly Updates and Events



PC & Dee Havens, James & Pat Holifield, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Randal Guthrie, Barbara Ballanco, Kathy Reynolds, Lois Jones, Patrick Kirkland, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Pat Newcomb, Shayla Hosey, Dawn McGinn, Shorty Haulk, Wayne Eason, Martha Hart, Jo Holyfield, Tina Botte, Cathy Yates, Mary Kerg, Marie Ward, Wanda Stevens, Rick Bullock, Joyce McCauley, Mark Powell, Tommy Gillen, Blakely Hammons, John French, Larry Burk, Cindy Burk, Wanda Lee Corley, Joe Trammell, Chuck Cruthirds, Bill and Kathy Wynne, Anne Ladner, Mindy & George Barker, Nona Murphy, Porter Wescovich, Dale Johnson, and Patricia Badeaux



We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to Tommy & Jamie Carroll and family at the death of Jamie's mother, Diane Saul.



A donation was given in honor of Ollie Farmer by Jerry & Charlene Bowlin.

A donation was given in memory of James Hancock by Wayne & Floss Roberts.

A donation was given in memory of Joyce Viehmann by Hank Viehmann.

A donation was given in memory of Dick & Mary Kinser by Greg & Susan Taylor.

A donation was given in honor of Betsy Bullard & the Women's Exercise Class by Carolyn D'Aquilla.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 6th

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium

12:30 p.m. Starting Point Luncheon in the Christian Life Center (CLC)

3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries in Moore Hall (MH)

Monday, January 7th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the Christian Life Center (CLC)

7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting in the Library

Tuesday, January 8th

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC

7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Wednesday, January 9th

5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in choir room

Thursday, January 10th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the CLC

Friday, January 11th

6:30 p.m. Ladies Night Out "Breathing Room" in the CLC

Sunday, January 13th

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Starting Point Class in the CLC

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium

3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall (MH)

5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Monday, January 14th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in CLC
6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting in the CLC
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting in the CLC

Tuesday, January 15th

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC
7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Wednesday, January 16th

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in choir room

Thursday, January 17th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the CLC

Sunday Sermons and Scriptures

Main Campus Sanctuary
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher

January 6th

"The Good Shepherd: A New Direction for your Life"
Matthew 2:1-12

January 13th

"The Good Shepherd: Jesus Meets you Where you Are"
Luke 3:3-16

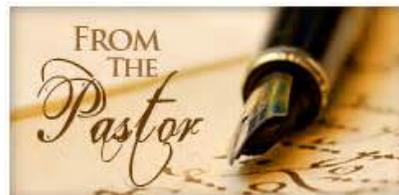
The Well USM Fleming Auditorium
Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

January 6th

"Starting Over: 3 Myths"
Romans 8:28

January 13th

"Starting Over: Own It"
Matthew 5:8



Directions. We just returned from a trip to North Carolina to spend some time with Ann's mother during the Christmas holidays. It's an annual tradition - a trek that involves loading the minivan with baggage, a few dirty santa gifts, and some snacks for the road. It's an 11 hour drive along what has become familiar roads, but as we approached Atlanta, we discovered a need for directions.

We needed directions because we were traveling the day after Christmas and we would be passing heavy shopping areas and other congested areas. So we turned to a couple of Apps - Google maps and Wayz that offer real-time traveling advice. As we approached Atlanta, we discovered that I-85 through Atlanta was backed up and that I-75 south in Atlanta was virtually stopped (probably, we reasoned, everyone from the north on their way to Disney) so we were directed to take the loop around Atlanta. We were also directed to leave the loop before we got back on I-85 to avoid backed up traffic at a shopping mall exit.

So even though we knew the way, seeking directions helped us to avoid obstacles and to save driving time. Seeking directions helped to guide us through uncertainty and helped us to see clear next steps to our journey.

I know some of us are stubborn about seeking directions (I can be that way myself) but seeking directions is a necessary part of life. When we get lost, anxious, or confused, directions become our clear next steps for the road ahead.

That is why I am encouraging all of us to seek direction from the voice of Jesus. Often known as the "Good Shepherd," Jesus has a passion to guide and to protect us. He calls to us with his voice when we become distracted, bogged down, lonely, afraid, or lost. There are a number of "voices" in the world that will attempt to influence us but I want us to focus on the voice of Jesus who will guide us through all things into good pastures. So as we begin this new year, join me in seeking to hear the One voice of the Good Shepherd who will guide us. All we need to do is to ask for directions.

Happy New Year and love to all of you in the name of Jesus , Jon

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Church email: fumclb@cableone.net

Church Website
www.fumclb.org

The Well Website
www.thewelllongbeach.org

Rev. Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor
662-279-4993
Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow, Associate Pastor
228-806-2787
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Our Mission

Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

To be a church that makes disciples that Live Like Jesus, Love Like Jesus, and Serve Like Jesus.