



# Tidings of Joy

The Newsletter of the First United Methodist Church of Decatur, Alabama

January 27, 2016

## “Serving God Through Your Passion” A Note From Our Pastor

Occasionally I will place an order through an online bookstore. Before I pay for it an ad will pop up showing another book on the same topic or by the same author. That may be good marketing but until recently I never bought the second book the bookstore promoted. Then I read a book by an author whose writing about farm and rural life was so compelling to me I began to buy or check out from the library every book of his and every book on the topic I could find.

Some men are like me and go in and out of the grocery store or mall like you were rescuing your pet from a burning house. And yet, we can spend hours walking at a Bass Pro Shop, an Edwin Watts Golf Store, or Academy Sports and Outdoors. I remember keeping a \$100 bill in my pocket for several weeks until I got to a Tractor Supply store. I went in, browsed the merchandise, and came out an hour later with two western hats and pocket change. I sometimes go to a used farm equipment auction in Carrollton, GA. The first time I went just to be in the atmosphere of farm equipment connoisseurs. I went away with a riding lawn mower and garden tiller. I went once with instructions from my brother that if I saw a particular model vintage John Deere that was a good buy and could be restored, I was to buy it and he would repay me. I bid on and bought one although it was a long way from restoration.

If I have ever stereotyped women as casual, slow or careless shoppers and men as intentional, fast, and careful shoppers, I repent. Everyone, regardless of gender, will invest significant money and time seeking items and experiences to satisfy his or her passion. Whether it's cooking, home decorating, lawn and garden, golf, camping, or farming, we will take time and invest money to feed our passion.

I believe we discover our passion when we pay attention to the void, the emptiness within us, and begin exploring ways to fill it. In 1995, I had a great awakening in which I knew that my 20 year separation from farming had left a hole in my life. Over the next 12 years, I started redeveloping our family farm in Lineville as a form of recreation or pastime, a get-away from the pressures of pastoral ministry. I enjoyed it so much I secretly feared my healthy diversion would become an unhealthy distraction from my pastoral calling. Through conversation with a trusted counselor who recommended articles and books by people who saw the connections between farming and ministry, I had a second great awakening. It dawned on me that my passion in ministry is reconnecting God's people to God's land. My interest in farming was not taking me away from the church but refining the focus of my ministry within the church, using the gifts with which God has uniquely equipped me to play a role in bringing God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

If you think your passion, your burning interest, has nothing to do with God, think again. I have a missionary friend in Medellin, Colombia who has used his passion for soccer to develop a Christian soccer league for boys. He started an organization that built practice fields and a stadium for games. Their coaches are godly influences who counter the offers these boys face on the streets to join gangs and sell drugs for the Medellin Cartel. When God not only blesses our true passions but desires to use them to accomplish His greater purpose, our spiritual life and worship become less of an add-on and more of an integral and energizing part of our lives. We love the activity we are passionate about and being in God's house to worship Him and prepare to serve Him in the world.

In Christ, *Hughey*

## Sympathy

Sharing sympathy with **Judson** and **Marian Davis** on the recent death of their son **Jed**. This family remains in our prayers.

Sharing sympathy with **Paul** and **Mary Ann Scott** on the recent death of his brother **Maurice Scott** of South Carolina. This family remains in our prayers.

## New Member

**Bert Phippen** goes from being an associate member of Decatur First (Courtland Presbyterian) to a full member of Decatur First. Welcome!



## UMW General Meeting

The General Meeting of United Methodist Women will be held Monday, February 1st in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch. Hostesses will be members of the Bernice Tidwell Circle. **Debbie Heard**, a member of our church and CEO of Hospice of the Valley, will be the speaker. All members are encouraged to attend. Women of the church who are interested in becoming a part of UMW are welcome to join us for the program and lunch.



Officers and Circle Leaders will meet in the Bride's Room at 9:15 a.m. for an Executive meeting.

The UMW Tidwell Circle will meet on Monday, February 8 at 10:00am at the Riverside Assisted Living Activity Room. The UMW Lydia Circle will meet on February 9 at 10:00am at Jane Ann Ford's house. If you are not a part of a UMW circle, you are encouraged to attend one of these meetings and see what this group is all about!

## Hilltoppers

The Hilltoppers will travel to Florence, AL on Thursday, February 11, to tour the WC Handy home (\$2 each) and the Rosenbaum Home, a Frank Lloyd Wright creation (\$5 each). We'll eat lunch at Ricatoni's, an Italian restaurant on Court Street (on your own). A donation for fuel will be collected. We will be leaving the church at 9:00am and returning around 3:00pm.



*If you have not received the new 2016 Hilltoppers brochure, they are located in the Welcome Center or you can see Beth.*

## Columbarium

Our Columbarium is available to the members and immediate families of Decatur First United Methodist Church. We have available niches in the additional cabinet that was installed last year. We invite you to come by the church to look at the columbarium. For additional information, please contact Church Committee Chairman Tom Earley at (256) 353-2082.

## Ash Wednesday Service

- **Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 PM**

Ash Wednesday is the start of the Lenten season. Please join us in the sanctuary for this special service at 6:00 on Feb. 10, right after the First Fellowship meal.



## Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will have their monthly breakfast on February 14 at 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall. This will be in conjunction with the Global Impact Celebration, as the missionaries will be giving the morning presentation. UMM and their spouse or guest will be charged the normal breakfast price-\$5. Make plans to attend this breakfast with the UMM!



## Soup for Souls

**7th Annual "Soup for Souls" Fundraiser**  
benefits **The Neighborhood Christian Center's**  
**Children & Youth Programs**

Location: Sykes Place on Bank 726 Bank Street

Date & Time: Thursday, March 3rd, 5:30-7:30 PM

Silent Auction for a variety of art items painted by local artists

Tickets for the Soup for Souls event are \$30. Tickets purchased in advance (by February 26th) are guaranteed a hand painted soup bowl at the event. Those who buy their ticket at the door will receive a hand painted soup bowl on a first come first serve basis. If they would like to paint their own bowl for the event, they can come to the Neighborhood Christian Center to paint a bowl (by Feb. 26th) that they will use at the event. Please call or email the Neighborhood Christian Center for more information 256-351-7633 or 256-616-3144 or email [decaturncc1994@gmail.com](mailto:decaturncc1994@gmail.com)



## Sunday School Field Trip Opportunity

The C.L.A.S.S. would like to invite all of the Adult Sunday School Classes to join them in a 'field trip' to the Carnegie Visual Arts Center to view the Gee's Bend Quilt Exhibit on Jan. 31st during the normally scheduled Sunday School hour - There will be no cost for this event. Please contact Courtney Tomberlin ([courtneytomberlin@gmail.com](mailto:courtneytomberlin@gmail.com)) with any questions.



## 2015 Finance Report to Decatur FUMC Members and Friends

Faithful support by friends and members and close attention to spending by lay leadership, the pastor, and other staff, and the Grace of God led First Church to a good 2015 financially.

**2015 Budget Operations:** Your church reduced Ministry Budget spending from over \$1 million, with a large deficit, in 2010 to just under \$800,000 last year with no deficit for the fourth year in a row. Spending is less because of reduced Conference Apportionments, reduced personnel costs, carefully crafted budgets which do not exceed expected giving, and close attention to spending. Your church received **\$809,218** in Ministry Budget offerings last year. With last year's experience and a good fall stewardship campaign, your Finance Committee recommended and the Administrative Board approved an **\$807,103** budget for 2016. *Meeting Ministry Budget obligations without a deficit is your church's number one financial goal. Thank you for all pledged and unpledged offerings to the work of the Lord through First Church's budget.*

**Building/Capital Fund Operations--Debt Reduction:** Your church has a large debt remaining from the \$4.4 million 2006-2009 building/renovation program. Aided by members and friends who gave to the building fund last year, your church reduced debt in the first thirteen months of the three year "Answering God's Challenge" campaign by **\$276,000**. Your Finance Committee hoped to pay down debt to under \$1.5 million by year's end but met that target three months ahead of schedule. Your church's debt now stands at **\$1,390,091**. Since 2012 all building/capital fund offerings flow to a separate bank account and are faithfully used only to pay interest, service the debt, and pay down principal with every dime contributed. A \$50,000 reserve is maintained to ensure bank obligations. *Paying down and eliminating our debt is our church's second most important financial goal. Thank you for all support to this long term priority.*

**GIC/Faith Promise Operations:** Historically First Church had a strong mission outreach posture. In more recent years that emphasis faded. For several years before 2014 our Ministry Budget included only \$6,000 for missions, not including

Conference Apportionments dedicated to outreach. With Faith Promise, our church has returned to its mission roots. With a \$92,000 budget separate from the Ministry Budget, First Church now supports numerous local, area, national, and global mission efforts, all selected with input from the congregation during the annual GIC event. This year First Church will devote \$7,000 from our Ministry Budget, \$25,869 through conference benevolences, and \$92,000 through Faith Promise for **\$124,800 in mission support**. First Church has returned to its historic interest in missions and is now a leading North Alabama Conference church in mission emphasis. Frequent appeals to this or that cause have been eliminated and replaced by the one annual Faith Promise asking.

**First Grace:** Two years ago our child center had declining enrollment and serious financial difficulties. Some feared it would close. The First Grace board made difficult decisions on leadership and expenses. With new leadership and board attention the center has seen enrollment soar and finances improve dramatically. The Kathryn King Memorial Scholarship Fund supports attendance by some children who would otherwise not be able to take advantage of our fine, faith based child center program.

**Integrity:** Among many accounting, transparency, and communication changes, for the 2012 church year and continuing First Church returned to the long used but abandoned annual, professional, external review by a CPA. That compilation (a.k.a. "audit") meets requirements in *The Discipline of the United Methodist Church* as well as North Alabama Conference guidelines for financial integrity.

Thanks be to God for all members and friends who support our beloved church with pledged or unpledged Ministry Budget offerings, with offerings to reduce our debt, and with offerings to reach out to others through Faith Promise. Your prayers, presence, witness, and financial support have returned First Church to a stronger financial position.

*See you in church Sunday.*

Respectfully,

Your Finance Committee

*John Pylant* Chair

## Global Impact Celebration Schedule



### Wednesday, February 17

- 5:00 PM – First Fellowship – Visit the Mission Displays
- 6:15 PM – Kick-Off Worship Celebration / The Rev. Lewis Archer preaching

### Thursday, February 18

- 10:00 AM – Missionary Worship & Lunch with Staff
- 5:00 PM – Global Home Briefings (Sunday School Classes to host)

### Friday, February 19

- 11:30 AM – Church Family luncheon with Missionaries
- 5:00 PM – International Banquet

### Saturday, February 20

- 9:30 AM – Community Service Day
- 11:30 AM – Lunch and Celebration

### Sunday, February 21

- 7:30 AM – Men's Breakfast
- 8:45 AM – Worship – The Rev. Eric Swanson preaching
- 10:00 AM – Missionaries in Sunday School Classes
- 11:00 AM – Worship – The Rev. Eric Swanson preaching
- 12:15 PM – Send Off Luncheon

Be on the lookout in your Sunday School rooms for sign-up sheets for our GIC Prayer Vigil. Sign-up for a time that is convenient for you to pray for our guests and their ministries as well as the GIC Team and Mission Committee who are hosting GIC. A sign-up board will also be placed in a central location Sunday, February 7 and 14, for your convenience.

## GIC...To Infinity and Beyond

As our Global Impact Celebration approaches, my thoughts have turned toward our mission as followers of Christ. Acts 1:8, the theme verse for GIC, shows us Jesus broadening the scope of the vision his followers had. "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, even to the end of the earth."

One of my family's favorite movies is *Toy Story*. I see a parable in its narrative for us. In *Toy Story* the toys are pushed from a happy life in the home of one child out into the world, as Buzz Lightyear puts it, "To infinity and beyond." Jesus calls us to minister locally, nationally, and abroad. He challenged His disciples to share with the local people of Jerusalem and to those marginalized by society locally, but then he sends them even farther...to the ends of the earth. Don't miss the fact that "the ends of the earth" included parts of the world that were yet to be discovered. Yes, Buzz Lightyear's catchphrase is sounding more like our own.

I am often overwhelmed by the needs in our world. They are certainly great. I am also, however, challenged and inspired as I read of the ministries that our church supports. Our church does not simply support ministries. There are deep connections between ministries and members of our congregation. Whether it is a family member of a missionary or a board member serving a local or stateside ministry, our congregation is making an impact on the globe.

As many of you know, I am new to GIC. I am anxious to meet our friends who are feeding the hungry, caring for the orphans, and sharing God's love in so many creative ways...to infinity and beyond.

*Shannon Booth* Director of Outreach FUMC

### Don't Miss This!

Reservation forms will be included in the bulletin for the next two Sundays. You will be able to reserve meals and childcare for all events at GIC.

If you have questions about any events, please email Shannon Booth at: [shannon@decaturfumc.org](mailto:shannon@decaturfumc.org)





# Children's Ministry

**Alexia Claborn**  
Director of Children's Ministries  
aclaborn@decaturfumc.org  
Office: 256-355-0277; Cell: 256-606-8646

## Acolyte Schedule - Jan. and Feb. 2016

Date	8:45 Service	11:00 Service
Jan. 31	Bristol Rayne Teal	Aiden Garriss, Mattie Fite
Feb. 7	Bristol Rayne Teal, Susan Floyd	Lydia Mathews, Hunter Claborn, Crucifer- John Benton Claborn
Feb. 14	Bristol Rayne Teal	Miller Roberts, Mary Bibb Pylant, Crucifer - Davis Roberts
Feb. 21	Bristol Rayne Teal	Mary Emma Harper, LuLu Underwood
Feb. 28	Bristol Rayne Teal, Susan Floyd	John Benton Claborn, Mattie Fite

### Sunday Morning Volunteers

**Volunteers for Sunday, Jan. 31**

#### Sunday School

Pre-school - Leigh Ann Blankenship / Jessica Mitchell

K-2nd Grade - Jami Buckner / Assistant-Jane Ann Ford

3rd-5th Grade - Ginny Pylant

#### Children's Church

8:45 Teacher- Alexia Claborn / Assistant- TBA

11:00 Teacher- Alexia Claborn / Assistant- Lydia Matthews

**Volunteers for Sunday, Feb. 7**

#### Sunday School

Pre-school - Leigh Ann Blankenship / Jessica Mitchell

K-2nd Grade - Lindsey Faulkner / Assistant-TBA

3rd-5th Grade - Ginny Pylant

#### Children's Church

8:45 Teacher- Alexia Claborn / Assistant- TBA

11:00 Service Teacher- Leigh Ann Blankenship  
Assistant- Davia Newman

*Thank you for sharing God's word and his love with our children!*

### Our 3rd Annual Birthday Bag Celebration Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm

To benefit families through  
Committee on Church Cooperation (CCC)  
Neighborhood Christian Center (NCC)

Church families are asked to help make other's lives a little happier by collecting and assembling birthday bags for distribution through CCC and NCC.

**We are inviting each family or individual to select and bring a bag with the following items (one of each item):**

**Cake mix**

**Can of frosting**

**Candles**

**Party napkins (a package with a minimum of 8)**

**Party cake plates (a package with a minimum of 8)**

**Party table cloth**

**Party Cups (8)**

**(Bags will be available for pick up at First Fellowship on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

**Please bring your bags to the Birthday Lunch on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Our goal is to make 50 bags to provide an instant birthday celebration for children/youth/adults who sometimes don't know where their next meal will come. You may wish to theme your bag such as Dora, Batman, princess, trains etc... Ages can vary; you may wish to do one for a teenager or an adult.



### Volunteers Needed

- Children's Church teachers and assistants
- Teachers to rotate once a month for the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School Class.

### First Grace Child Development Center News

- **Yard Sale April 22-23** - Please start bringing your items to the First Grace 2nd Floor. The room is marked for Yard Sale items. This event will take place in the Fellowship Hall on April 22-23.
- First Grace is giving back to the church! These statistics are from the 2015 end of the year financials:
  - \$2,500 - Goes to Worship
  - \$1,000 - Goes to Children's Ministry
  - \$1,000 - Goes to Youth Ministry
  - \$500 - Goes to the General Fund to help with trash bags and toilet paper purchases.
  - \$5,000 - Total

**Laura Vines**  
Director of First Grace  
firstgrace@decaturfumc.org  
Office: 256-355-5555; Cell: 256-302-6114



# Church & Community

**The Congregational Care Team met this week to organize for the coming year.** We want to highlight some of the ministries of the Team and ask for your help and support:

**Share A Dish:** This ministry provides meals to members of our congregation during times of both joy and sadness - when a new baby is born, when a death occurs, or on other occasions where a home cooked meal would be appreciated. We need people willing to make casseroles and to make phone calls to families to coordinate the delivery of the meals. Please contact **Dell Ward** at [dmw7272003@yahoo.com](mailto:dmw7272003@yahoo.com) or (256) 350-4832 if you would be willing to help.

**Threads of Love: Faye Hovey** knits prayer shawls and cross pocket squares for our shut ins and our members in nursing homes or assisted living facilities. She can provide you with the patterns and instructions if you are a knitter and would like to help. Please call Faye at (256) 308-1478 if you would like to help.

**Homebound Visitation: Jane Boozer and JoAnn Christopher** will be coordinating our Homebound Visitation with Patrick. They need your help in two ways: by keeping them informed of those who need to be visited and/or need support. They also welcome anyone who would like to be a part of the visitation teams. You may email Patrick McCormick at [patrick@decaturfumc.org](mailto:patrick@decaturfumc.org) or contact Jane at [asajaneb@bellsouth.net](mailto:asajaneb@bellsouth.net) or (256) 353-4881 or contact JoAnn (256) 355-7400.

**Home Repair:** If you are FUMC member or know of members who have home repair needs, please contact Patrick - [patrick@decaturfumc.org](mailto:patrick@decaturfumc.org). He will work with our team to see if we have volunteers who can take care of the repairs, and if not, we will contact local agencies who provide this help.

## Manna and Mercy Retreat

The Conference is hosting a Manna and Mercy Retreat April 15-17 at Camp Sumatanga. The cost is \$169 per participant.

*Using Daniel Erlander's book Manna and Mercy, South African pastor Alan Storey developed a retreat as a journey from Genesis to Revelation over the course of two days, with sensitivity to the contexts in which the scriptures were written and of our present day.*

*The Bible is meant to be an instrument of God to enable abundant life for God's creation. Sadly, through the ages it has been read and interpreted in such a way that it has been used as an instrument of human domination and death—to cheer on the crusades, support slavery, advocate Apartheid, glorify genocide, sanction sexism, bless war and worship prosperity in the face of the poor, just to name just a few horrors of our human history. During the Manna and Mercy retreat, we will take a fresh look at scripture through the interpretive lens of Jesus' life, death and resurrection and God's overall call for each one of us to partner with God in mending this fractured world. The hope is that after we have done so, our interpretations and use of the scriptures will be truly liberating and life-enabling.*

See more at: <http://www.umcna.org/eventdetail/122670?month=4&year=2016&day=1&display=m#sthash.t8viSXta.dpuf>

## Find Us On Social Media

“Like” us on Facebook to get up to date information about our church, meetings, changes, prayer requests, photos and more! [www.facebook.com/DecaturFirstUMC](http://www.facebook.com/DecaturFirstUMC)

## Medical Training

The Church trustees are trying to identify any members of our congregation who have medical training, i.e., physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, LPNs, EMT techs and those individuals who have had CPR training.

If you have any of the above training, please call Alyson in the church office or email her at [aquinn@decaturfumc.org](mailto:aquinn@decaturfumc.org) and let her know this information. Thank you!

## Option Available for E-Newsletter

Please consider signing up to receive your *Tidings of Joy* newsletter via e-mail versus postal mail! **We have over 100 subscribers so far!**

**Rest assured we will continue to mail the print edition to those that do not choose this new e-mail option.** Also, if you sign up and then decide it's not for you, just let us know and you will be switched back to the postal mail version. If you have an interest in this option or if you have any questions, please call the church office at 355-0277 or email [aquinn@decaturfumc.org](mailto:aquinn@decaturfumc.org).

## Sunday Flower Dedications

We have several dates available for Sunday Flower Dedications. Please contact the church office or send an email to [aquinn@decaturfumc.org](mailto:aquinn@decaturfumc.org) for more information.

## Youth Dates

### Sunday, January 31

10:00 Sunday School  
6:00 Brown Bag Supper  
6:30-7:30 UMYF Game Night



### Monday, February 1

All Boston Butt orders and money are due to Beth

### Wednesday, February 3

5:00 First Fellowship  
6:00 Bible Study  
7:00 Youth Team Meeting

### Thursday, February 4

7:30am Sr High prayer breakfast at Chick Fil A

### Friday, February 5

DHS Winter Sports Breakfast; 6:15 Cooks arrive;  
7:15 greeters and servers arrive; 7:45 clean up

### Saturday, February 6

3:00 Boston Butts in the kitchen

### Sunday, February 7

Boston Butt Sunday  
5:30 Super Bowl Party at the home of the Earleys

### Monday, February 8-

7:45am Jr High Prayer Breakfast at Bojangles' (rides provided to OPMS)

### Wednesday, February 10

5:00 First Fellowship  
6:00 Ash Wednesday service

**Thursday, February 11-** 7:30am Sr High prayer breakfast at Chick Fil A

## UMYF

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) occurs on Sunday nights. If school is out on a Monday, we will not have UMYF the Sunday night before. We meet on the youth floor (third floor, enter the building on the ally side) at 6:00. Bring your own dinner (fast food or from home) and eat with the group until 6:30 when we'll start our programming. We'll rotate between different activities that may include games, outings, worship, programs and missions! We typically end at 7:30.

- Jan. 31- Game Night
- Feb. 7- Super Bowl Party at the home of the Earleys
- Feb. 14- No UMYF
- Feb. 21- Destination Unknown
- Feb. 28- Discovery Follow Up Night

## Decatur High School Winter Breakfast

This winter we'll host the DHS winter sports (Basketball, Wrestling and Cheerleading) for breakfast on Friday, February 5. If you are interested in serving in some capacity, please contact Beth ([beth@decaturfumc.org](mailto:beth@decaturfumc.org)). If your company or business is interested in financially sponsoring the breakfast it will cost \$250 and your company will receive recognition at the breakfast. Thank you for your continued help in making this ministry a success!

Volunteer schedule:

6:15 a.m. cooks arrive  
7:15 a.m. greeters and servers arrive  
7:30 a.m. serve the students  
7:45 a.m. clean up teams arrive

## It's Time for Boston Butts!

The youth are selling Boston Butts for Super Bowl Sunday (February 7)! Each order is \$40 and will come with one Boston Butt (8-10 lbs.), eight buns and one bottle of Gibson's red sauce. The money raised will help cut back on costs for the Youth Mission trip to Orlando, July 17-24. Please see any youth for orders.

*Return this portion to the youth*

Quantity: _____ (\$40 each)	_____	_____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cell #: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Order will be picked up by: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sold by (Youth) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

## Customer's Receipt

### Youth Boston Butt Sale

*Sunday, February 7, 2016*

Pickup (By Noon)    Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

**\$40 each due at time of order  
ALL ORDERS DUE on or before  
February 1, 2016.**

355-0277  
**First United  
Methodist**

**Beth Green,  
Youth Minister**

### Upcoming Events

1/31, Sunday School hour, The CLASS invite all Adult Sunday School Classes to join them to the Carnegie Visual Arts Center to view the Gee's Bend Quilts

1/31, 6:00 Brown Bag Supper; 6:30-7:30 UMYF Game Night

2/1, All Boston Butt orders and money are due

2/1, 9:15 a.m., UMW Executive meeting, Bride's Room

2/1, 10:00, UMW General Meeting in the Fellowship Hall

2/1, GIC Meeting, 5:00, Minister's Conf. Rm

2/1, Worship Team Practice, 6:00 p.m.

2/2, Women's Bible Study at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall

2/2, Finance Meeting, 5:00 p.m. in the Minister's Conf. Room

2/3, 10:00 a.m., Trowler's Garden Club, Fellowship Hall

2/3, 4:30, First Grace Board meeting, Courtyard Conf. Room

2/3, 5:00 First Fellowship; 6:00 Bible Study; 6:30 Chancel Choir, 7:00 Youth Team Meeting

2/4, 6:30 a.m., UMM Bible Study, Minister's Conf. Room; 7:30, UMM Breakfast, City Café

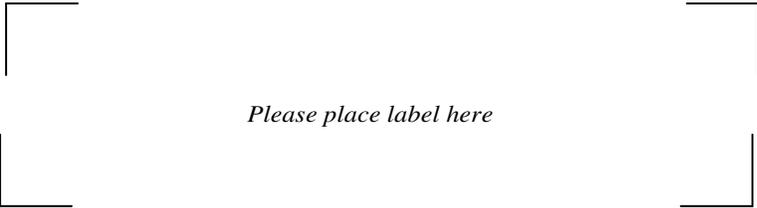
2/4, 7:30, Sr High prayer breakfast at Chick Fil A

2/5- DHS Winter Sports Breakfast 6:15 Cooks arrive; 7:15 greeters and servers arrive; 7:45 clean up arrive



805 CANAL STREET N.E.  
DECATUR, AL 35601  
PHONE (256) 355-0277  
FAX (256) 355-2241  
www.decaturfumc.org

U.S. Postage Paid  
Non-Profit Org.  
Decatur, AL  
35601  
Permit No. 226



Please place label here

Dr. Hughey Reynolds, Senior Minister, hreynolds@decaturfumc.org  
Patrick McCormick, Director of Worship, patrick@decaturfumc.org  
Beth C. Green, Minister of Discipleship, beth@decaturfumc.org  
Cindy McCulloch, Finance Secretary, cmcculloch@decaturfumc.org  
Alyson Quinn, Church Secretary, aquinn@decaturfumc.org  
Alexia Claborn, Director of Children's Ministry, aclaborn@decaturfumc.org  
Shannon Booth, Director of Outreach, shannon@decaturfumc.org  
Charlie Elliott, Custodian  
Melissa Wiley, Housekeeper  
Sandy Callahan, Food Manager  
Wayne Keller, Accompanist  
Laura Vines, First Grace Director, firstgrace@decaturfumc.org  
Ruth Moyers, Organist

### Upcoming Worship Services

(8:45 & 11:00 AM)

#### VISION STATEMENT:

Growing in Christ, Sharing God's Love through...  
Inspiring Worship, Empowering Ministries  
Equipping Persons for Ministry  
Promoting Well-Being

Sunday, Jan. 31, Rev. Hughey Reynolds, preaching 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

"Purpose and Pretense" Luke 4: 21-30

Sunday, Feb. 7, Rev. Hughey Reynolds, preaching 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

"Bring Light to the Darkness" Luke 9: 28-43

Wednesday, Feb. 10, Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Hughey Reynolds, preaching

"Where There Are Ashes, Fire" Matthew 6: 1-21

### Scheduled To Serve Jan. 31

#### Acolytes:

8:45 a.m. - Bristol Rayne Teal

11:00 a.m. - Aiden Garriss, Mattie Fite

#### Ushers:

8:45 a.m. - Ronnie Dukes, Keith Earwood, Mike Boozer and Jimmy Sykes

11:00 a.m. - Tom Earley, Jim Gregory, Charles Adams, John Black

### First Fellowship Feb. 3

Find an opportunity to grow in discipleship through great groups and classes. **First Fellowship classes will begin at 6:00 p.m., following the meal at 5:00.**

The menu for Feb. 3 will be Brunswick Stew, BBQ Sandwiches, Potato Chip Assortment, Salad Bar, Peanut Butter and Jelly and Cheese Sandwiches, and Orange Dream Cake. **No Reservations are required!**