

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY 3-JANUARY 9, 2016

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:00 a.m. Previous Sunday Service aired on WFRZ-TV
 8:45 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Children, Youth, and Adults
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 12:00 p.m. Youth Leadership Team
 1:00 p.m. Sweet Potato Drop

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sweet Potato Drop
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Clothes Bank (2911 Zelda Road)
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Respite Ministry
 5:30 p.m. First School Board Meeting
 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00 a.m. Young Men's Bible Study (J. Blount, WH 207)
 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (L. Bryan, WH 201)
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sweet Potato Drop
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Respite Ministry
 12:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
 4:30 p.m. 50 and Over Exercise Group
 5:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

8:00 a.m. Heritage Club
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Clothes Bank (2911 Zelda Road)
 9:30 a.m. Pray-er Prayer Team
 9:45 a.m. Children's Chapel
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Respite Ministry
 10:30 a.m. Dr. Bryan's Bible Study and Lunch
 11:30 a.m. Joseph Ministry Luncheon
 4:30 p.m. Open Altar Prayer Time (Sanctuary)
 4:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper
 5:30 p.m. Chapel Service and Holy Communion (Duffey Chapel)
 5:45 p.m. Children's Choirs
 6:00 p.m. Work Area and Age Level Council Meetings
 6:00 p.m. Previous Sunday Service aired on WFRZ-TV
 6:15 p.m. Summit Kids Xtreme
 6:30 p.m. Combined Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Respite Ministry
 4:30 p.m. 50 & Over Exercise Group
 5:30 p.m. Ladies Exercise

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

4:00 p.m. Joy for Johnny

Chancel Flowers

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone with flowers in the sanctuary on a Sunday, please complete this form, and return it to the church office to the attention of Laura Selby. You may contact Laura at 334-834-8990 or lselby@fumcmontgomery.org.

Name _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 Month preferred: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____
 If a certain date is important please indicate: _____

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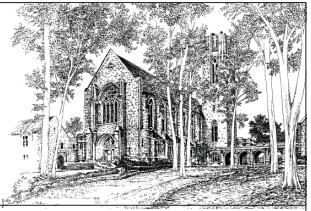
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All Tower Chimes mailings are lovingly handled by volunteers!

Minister-On-Call
 WEEKENDS
 334-318-8708

Sunday, January 6, 2015
 Your Life's Journey
 It's YOUR Journey
 Matthew 2:1-12
 Dr. R. Lawson Bryan

Wednesday, January 6, 2015
 Chapel Service and Holy Communion
 5:30p.m. Duffey Chapel
 Rev. Gillian L. Walters
 Minister of Discipleship



TOWER CHIMES

JANUARY 3, 2016

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 1

At The Gate Of A New Year

“The Gate of the Year” is the popular name given to a poem written in 1908 by Minnie Louise Haskings. The title given to it by the author was “God Knows.” Her poem was such an inspiration to the British Empire during World War II that it is engraved on brass plaques at the entrance to the chapel at Windsor Castle. As we stand at the gate of a new year, I invite us to reflect upon these lines from that poem.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
 “Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”
 And he replied:
 “Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.
 That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”

Pledge cards for the 2016 budget continue to be received. Pledges may be made by calling, texting, or emailing the church office. For more information please call 834-8990. Thanks for turning in your pledge card as soon as possible.

As we celebrate Epiphany this Sunday let us recall that Epiphany means revelation and refers to the way God reveals Jesus to the world. An example of that revelation is the way God used a star to guide the Wise Men to Christ. Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Wise Men and challenges us to make 2016 a journey of faithfulness to Christ. Our Epiphany sermon series starts this Sunday and is entitled “Your Life’s Journey.” Here is the schedule:

January 03	<i>It's YOUR Journey</i>	Matthew 2:1-12
January 10	<i>You Have A Covenant</i>	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
January 17	<i>You Have A Miracle</i>	John 2:1-11
January 24	Youth Sunday	
January 31	<i>You Have A Book</i>	Luke 4:14-21
February 07	The Festival of the Transfiguration	

As the new year begins I want to thank the members of the Master Plan Study Committee for their work in evaluating our current and future space needs. This will help the Trustees and Administrative Board plan for the exciting years ahead. Members of the Study Committee are: George Goodwyn, chair; Eddie Adair, Alexia Borden, Katie Bradshaw, John Bullard, Sr., John H. Foshee, Genie Lindsey, John Sease, John Searcy, George Thompson, Ken Upchurch, and Courtney Williams.

See you Sunday,

Update on Pledges for 2016 Budget

To date we have received pledges totaling \$ 4,050,406 or 89.3% of our 2016 budget. This is a great start! Together we can reach our goal. Please turn in your pledge card as soon as possible.

First United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation.

Around the Congregation

Sympathy

The ministers and congregation wish to express their sympathy to **Scott and Joyce Haven** upon the death of Joyce's mother, *Peggy Reavis Elliott*.

Our Known Hospitalized

Baptist South Roger Condon
Baptist East Betty Copeland
UAB Glen Daniel

In Memory Of

Jeff Davis
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Mary Davis

Jane Dunlap
Memorial Fund: *Jackie Holmes*

Kathryn Wright Frasier
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Tom and Pam Sexton

Linda Gill
Linda Gill Cathedral Pipe Organ Fund:
Donald and Pat Chambless

Dot Hardin
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Jule Perry

Mays Jemison
Memorial Fund: *Billy and Ann McQueen*
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Tom and Pam Sexton

Robert Jolly
Memorial Fund: *Billy and Ann McQueen*

Jacquelyn Laurie
Memorial Fund: *John and Leigh Cleary;*
Sandra Boston Dockery; Robert Segall

Judge Rodney Steele
Respite Ministry: *Tom and Joyce Blake*

In Honor Of

Jan Bigham and Wayne Gill
Honor Fund: *given in honor of their wedding by Lucie Lee and Joe Lanoux*

Lawson and Sherrill Bryan
Cathedral Builders: *FUMC Staff* Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation: *Tom and Pam Sexton*

Camp Hughes
UMCH White Christmas: *Barnes Trott*

Joe and Ann Reese
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Danny Reese

Waldo and Dot Reese
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Danny Reese

Dr. James Seay
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Tom and Pam Sexton

Joe and Junera Stone
Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation:
Danny Reese

Wednesday, January 6 Dinner

Adults: \$6 Youth: \$5 Children: \$3
Family Maximum: \$17

Shrimp and Conecuh Sausage Alfredo
Broccoli Sweet Corn Rolls Salad Bar
Grilled Chicken Baked Potatoes
Spinach and Blackberry Salad Dessert

AMEN Support Group

A Meaningful Empty Nest (AMEN) Support Group will meet January 27 at 6:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall Room 204. Our speaker will be Elizabeth Manderville, licensed professional counselor. We hope to see you there!

Collections for Education

Our church collects various items for different groups in our community and region.

- Box Tops for Education for T. S. Morris Elementary School.- Visit boxtops4education.com for a complete list of participating products.
- Campbell's Labels for Education for Red Bird Missionary Conference- Visit labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of participating products. Please include the bar code portion of the label along with the Labels for Education Logo intact.
- Laser, Ink Jet, and Toner Cartridges for T. S. Morris Elementary School- all used cartridges are accepted

Our collection boxes for these items are located by the elevator on the main floor of the Fellowship Building.

& Music NEWS

Anthem for Sunday, January 3

Away in a Manger
arr. Mack Wilberg
Cathedral Choir

A New Year of Music and Worship

Thank you to everyone from Adult, Youth, and Children's Choirs, to Handbell Choirs and Organ and Orchestra and all who made this Advent and Christmas season so meaningful! We are truly blessed with an abundance of talented people who are willing to serve! In fact, this Sunday some of our college students who are majoring in music will be singing during Communion. What a wonderful gift they give us before heading back off to school!

And with a New Year turning, we are all offered an excellent opportunity to get involved in ministry. The Cathedral Adult Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m., and childcare is provided. The Youth Choir rehearses on Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m.. Contact James Seay at jseay@fumcmontgomery.org for more information about Adult and Youth Choirs. Children's Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings starting at 5:45 p.m. Contact Kate Gates at kgates@fumcmontgomery.org for more information. Handbell Choirs rehearse on Tuesday at noon and 5:30 p.m. Contact Josh Bullock at jbullock@fumcmontgomery.org for more information. If you are interested in serving in any area of our Music Ministry, now is the time! Let me encourage you to contact us to see how you can get involved.

United Methodist Women's Spiritual Growth Retreat

Saturday, January 30 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Speaker: Jo Hancock, His Vessel Ministries
Removing the Unnecessary
Cost is \$25 and includes lunch.

To register, please contact Nancy Belser at 334-834-8990 or nbelser@fumcmontgomery.org or contact Anne Bloom at bloom.annec@gmail.com. Please register by January 20.

50 *forward* MINISTRIES First United Methodist Church

Stimulate Your Brain Day
We will take a break for the holiday season and will resume after the first of the year.

No Terrific Tuesday on January 5. Happy New Year!

HERITAGE CLUB
Wednesdays 8:00 a.m.

FIX-IT SHOP
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m.

An Invitation from the Heritage Club

The Heritage Club, an association of retired men and women of the church, invites retirees to meet with them for coffee, snacks, fellowship and an interesting program each Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. in the Adult Lounge in the basement of Fellowship Hall. Currently we are watching and discussing the history of the United States with an excellent and interesting series of video lectures, followed by group discussion. For further information, please call John Bullard at 652-4996.

Latté with Lawson

Sunday, January 24 10:00 a.m.
Bay Area of the Fellowship Hall

If you are visiting our church, thinking about church membership, a new resident in our area, or interested in the life of FUMC, we hope you will join us for coffee and a conversation with our senior minister, Dr. Lawson Bryan.

New Year, New Bible Study

Are you making a New Year's resolution to study the Bible more? Need a Bible study to hold you over until Lent? All these and more are great reasons to sign up for this five week study on the Covenants of the Old Testament! We'll start January 4 and run through February 1 every Monday night from 5:30-6:30 p.m. This study is written and will be taught by Rev. Jack Allen. To sign up please contact Jack at jallen@fumcmontgomery.org.

CHILDREN'S

10 WEEKS OF SUMMIT KIDS XTREME!
Every Wednesday, January 6 through March 9!
Kindergarten – Grade 5
5:45 - Children's Choirs – all invited!
6:30 – God's Word, worship, fun, music, and prayer!
7:00 – Gym Free Play (parents pick up between 7:00 – 7:15)

PCD CALENDARS

"Prayer, Chore, Deed" 2016 calendars are located on tables in the children's education building. Please pick one up for your family.

RECOGNITION OF BABIES BORN IN 2015

Mark your calendar for a special day!
New Baby Recognition Sunday, January 10, 2016, 11:00 worship service

BRING YOUR BIBLE TO CHURCH

During the month of January, children are encouraged to bring their favorite Bible to Sunday School each week. The class with the highest percentage of Bibles brought to church will win a class party! We hope to promote a good habit through this friendly competition.

Thought for the Week:

"Faith is not having to know what is going to happen next."

FUMC YOUTH

SUNDAY

9:45 a.m. Youth Fellowship
Youth Lounge
9:55 a.m. Sunday School Classes

Sunday Night Youth will resume January 10 with our Spring Kickoff.

Tuesday morning Chick Fil A Breakfast and Devotion will resume January 12.

Wednesday Night Refuel will resume January 13.

Looking Ahead in 2016

Confirmand/Mentor Lunch
January 24
12:00 p.m.

Senior Gathering
February 20, 2016
at the Cousins' farm

30 Hour Famine
February 26-27
Info to come

Winter Retreat 2016 is fast approaching.

January 15-18, 2016
Speaker: Woods Lisenby Music Leader: DP3
Camp Hargis Cost: \$150
Invite friends!

Sweet Potato Drop for Society of St. Andrew

January 3, 4, and 5

We need your help! This Sunday afternoon 40,000 pounds of sweet potatoes will be delivered to our parking lot. We will bag them for the Society of St. Andrew which is a faith-based, hunger relief nonprofit organization. The fun will start at 1:00 p.m. and will continue to work on Monday and Tuesday until they are all packaged. This hands-on mission project is a great way for children, youth, and adults to participate together. Please join us this Sunday afternoon in the North parking lot. Please contact Claire Smith at 334-834-8990 or missions@fumcmontgomery.org with questions or for more information.

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