Altar Flowers
If you would like to place flowers on the altar in honor or in memory of loved ones, please call the church office, 256-764-5072, to reserve one of the following Sundays:

- June 4, 11, 18, 25
- July 2, 9, 16, 30

Help Center Needs Volunteers!
If you are interested in volunteering at the Help Center, their hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. They are located at 621 South Court Street, Florence, 256-766-7663.

Sunday Flowers
The flowers on the altar will be in memory of Don & Betty Holt on what would have been their 55th Wedding Anniversary by Ralph, Brantley, Champ, Betty & Acker Holt and Kenda, John, Leigh & Jack Rusevlyan

Video Taping
We are in need of volunteers to video tape the 11:00 o’clock worship service on Sundays. If you would be available to do this service so that the homebound are able to enjoy our worship service, please call the church office 256-764-5072.

Schedule of Activities

**Sunday, May 28**
- Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- Nursery for ages birth to 2 yrs., N123 8:30 a.m.
- Children’s Worship, begins in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.
- All Children (3 yrs.-6th Grades)
  - Children begin worship in service and are picked up in The Dock
  - Communion in the Chapel 9:30 a.m.
  - Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
  - Adult Choir rehearsal 10:30 a.m.
  - Children’s Worship, begins in Sanctuary 11:00 a.m.
  - Preschool (3 yrs.-K), N206 11:00 a.m.
  - Elementary (1st-6th grades), N210 11:00 a.m.
- Children begin worship in services and are picked up in The Dock
- Shepherd’s Table Worship & Meal, McDowell Hall 11:30 a.m.

**Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day!**
- Office closed

**Tuesday, May 30**
- Men’s Prayer Group, Chapel 12:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 31**
- Loving Hands Prayer Shawl, Perritt Rm 10:00 a.m.
- VBS Decoration Workshop, 2R 5:00 p.m.
- Childcare available for VBS workers 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 31 continued**
- Youth, 3rd Floor 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Adult Choir practice 6:00 p.m.
- Boy Scouts, 3rd floor 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, June 1**
- Shepherd’s Table Worship & Meal, McDowell Hall 11:30 a.m.

**Video Taping**

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**Vacation Bible School**

**Maker Fun Factory: Created by God. Built for a purpose.**

Dates: June 4 - 7
Join us **Sunday, June 4** from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for a fun filled evening learning how God created us and built us for a purpose.

Here is the link for VBS registration: https://florencefumc.typeform.com/to/oOMz1l

If you are interested in helping with VBS please contact Rebekah Alexander for more information, 256-764-5072.

**Summer Time Change for Sundays**

**Starting Sunday, June 4, 2017**

- Worship in Sanctuary - 8:30 a.m.
- Communion in Chapel - 9:35 a.m.
- Sunday School - 9:40 a.m.
- Worship in Shepherd’s Table - 11:30 a.m.

**VBS Decorations Work Nights…**

…every Wednesday in May from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Childcare will be available for those who are helping with the VBS work night.

**First United Methodist Church**

**Vacation Bible School**

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First United Methodist Church
Florence, Alabama
Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry (with 10:00 a.m. meetings every Wednesday in the Perritt Conference Room), will be taking a summer break. Our last meeting will be Wednesday, June 7. Completed knitted/crocheted items should be turned in at that time. We will resume on Wednesday, September 6. All who would like to participate are encouraged to attend in the fall. Did you know that this Prayer Shawl Ministry has touched approx. 130 folks in CRISIS across the States, from Seattle, Houston, Tampa and New York as well as locally? We are presently completing a commitment to provide approximately 100 knitted military caps to our local National Guard unit, which will deploy in July. Your monetary support, (to supply yarn and equipment), your prayers and your talents all help make this outreach ministry very effective. Additional information about this small, but serving group will be announced in a later bulletin.

Memorials and Honorariums
Gifts to Building Fund
To the glory of God and in memory of John & Don Aldred by Libby Aldred
In memory of Ginny Gamble by Judy Gullett; Bill & Karen Gullett, Will & Sarah; Rob & Kimberly Gullett; Ann & Ken Storie, Michael, Bryce and Catherine.
In memory of Kathleen Spickard by Roger & Wanda Spickard
Gifts to the Honduras Mission Fund
In honor of Wayne Hicks by the Covenant Class
Gifts to the General Fund
In memory of Ginny Gamble by Jack & Dawn Clement
Gifts to Rebecca’s Table
In memory of Ginny Gamble by Tim & Donna McAlpin

Prayer Request
If anyone is interested in receiving the Prayer Requests from First United Methodist Church, please email Bryan Miller at bmc35663@comcast.net.

Times and Vision

We are adjusting the worship service and Sunday School times slightly, beginning June 4.

The 8:30 a.m. Blended service will not be changed. Sunday School will start five minutes earlier and hopefully begin more on time, at 9:40 a.m. Traditional worship will begin at 10:45 a.m. So, the new schedule is as follows:

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship

Communion in the Chapel will still be about 9:35 a.m., and Shepherd’s Table will still begin at about the same time—11:45 a.m. All this begins, not this Sunday, but June 4.

I hope this small adjustment will “freshen up” our Sunday morning time together. Sometimes I have observed people getting out of the first worship service a little early and, having a long time before their Sunday School actually starts, deciding to go home. Sunday School classes have begun starting anywhere from a few minutes early to 15 minutes late. I have also observed a drop in enthusiasm and attention about ten minutes before the end of the traditional service—undoubtedly because of hunger (instead of the beautiful and inspiring sermon).

This time change is a small thing which could make a difference. Our goal is to have an alive, vital and growing congregation—fulfilling our mission which God gives us. The mission begins with getting the church healthy and making sure all the programs are great. And then it all leads to worship— alive and inspiring worship which connects people with God and re-ignites our passion for Jesus.

None of these time changes will automatically achieve our mission, but God can work through small things for big results. Hope to see you this time around, and then June 4 for our new schedule. I continue to pray for you all, and the church, for our mission from God!

Coffee Talk With Robert

Record of Attendance

Mayo Clinic 345
Sunday School 150
05/24/2017

June Birthdays

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, succinctly described the plan of discipleship in what he called The General Rules. As Christians, we are to (1) do no harm by avoiding evil of every kind; (2) do good to all people; and (3) attend upon all the ordinances of God like participating in worship, taking Communion, reading the Bible, praying, and more.

Unfortunately most of us do not always follow or live with this in mind. Wesley’s concept of small groups as a place for accountability and spiritual growth have been proven to be very relevant to us today. We find that a Small group that comes together to study, socialize, share and meal together also form a bond that brings our spirits and lives together in the time of need, that we all find ourselves going through. With this in mind we will be working to bring small groups together for study and social times.

This fall we will start a church wide study “The Miracle of Mercy”. The number one characteristic of God in the Bible is mercy. This study will help us to see God as merciful and to understand how to show God’s mercy for others. If mercy is God’s number one characteristic then it is most important that we learn about His merciful ways. Beginning in August we will spend 4 weeks in study groups, from Sunday School classes, newly formed home and church small groups. More information and a time to sign up to be part of a small group in your neighborhood or at church.