

Ministers
Every Church Member
John Verciglio,
Senior Pastor
Phone: 205-317-1096
jvercig@hueytownfirst.com

John Simmons,
Pastoral Care

Kevin James,
THRIVE Worship Director

Catherine Verciglio
Student/Youth Ministries Director

Lacie Oden
Children's Director

Joel Henson,
Music Director

Patti S. Wright,
Pianist

Cody Lawyer,
Organist

Lisa Edmonson
Office Administrator
ledmonson@hueytownfirst.com

Laurie McCombs,
Receptionist, Secretary
info@hueytownfirst.com

Stephanie Darabaris
Child Care Director
Phone: 491-1729

CHURCH OFFICE:
491-3421

Prayer Line:
491-3424

OFFICE E-MAIL:
HFUMC@bellsouth.net

Website:
www.hueytownfirst.com

OFFICE HOURS:
MON., TUES., THUR. 9-4
WED. 9-2
FRIDAY: Closed

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021

10:00 am Traditional Service with streaming,

11:11 am Thrive Service from the Heritage Sanctuary will be streamed through our church Facebook page.

6:00 pm Bible Study (Facebook)

Monday, Feb. 1, 2021

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021

Wednesday Feb 3, 2021

6:30 pm Bible Study (Facebook)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday Feb 4, 2021

8:00 am Food Delivery

6:00 pm Painting Class

Friday, Feb 5, 2021

Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021

8:00 am Bible Study

Sermon: "Is it a new teaching...or one we had forgotten?"

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

First United Methodist Church
110 Sunset Drive
Hueytown, AL
(Return Service Requested)

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U.S. Postage Pd.
Hueytown, Alabama
Permit No. 205



HUEYTOWN FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



John's Journal

NEWSLETTER

January 25, 2021

Hello Friends of the Living God! In just a few short weeks we will be entering a most Holy time in the season of a Christian, the Lenten Season! Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, and continues through April 3, 2021, for forty days (excluding the Sunday's when counting). Easter 2021 is on April 4 th .

What exactly is Lent? The forty days of Lent are a season of days in a Christ Followers life that are filled with personal spiritual reflection, as well as corporate spiritual reflection as the church. Over forty days Christ Followers "intentionally; without reserve; genuinely; and authentically" open their whole lives to renewal, restoration, and rebirth to the calling of God in their lives, and so does the ministry life of the church.

The Lenten Season is usually marked by "giving up" something, in order to "take up" something so that our lives move closer to God, deeper in our relationship with Jesus Christ, and markedly different in how we "live out" God's call in our lives. In Lent, we divest ourselves of "self" and allow God to live wonderfully and powerfully through us for His honor and glory.

One of the callings we are hearing from God as Hueytown F.U.M.C. is to "take up" a new Sunday morning time schedule that offers us more oneness and unity as a church body. AS a further way to help explain the recent announced time changes on Sunday morning, I offer you the following: Our current Sunday morning schedule doesn't give us the chance to reach our younger folks because of the lack of both Children's and Youth Sunday morning gathering times. Our current schedule says that if you want to attend Modern Worship but you still want your children to experience a Sunday School/Small Group...they would have to attend 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and wait until 11:11 a.m. for worship. The current schedule also offers that if a person/family wants to attend Traditional Worship but be yoked to others in their age group that like Modern Worship...they will pass each other like two ships in the night on a Sunday morning because there are no connection classes (Adult, Children or Youth) in between the current time schedule.

I believe that the Young Adults with children and youth in our church want to be involved. I believe the Young Adults with children and youth want to be leaders in their church. I believe that we as church members want this for our Young Adults with children and youth. Believing this to be true, the leadership, as already communicated, remind us all that beginning Sunday, February 21, 2021, our new Sunday morning schedule will be as follows:

Traditional Worship

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School/Small Groups/Youth/Children Groups

10:10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m

Modern Worship

11:11 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

What we know at this time is that all people are being "very discerning" in returning to in-person worship. Young Adults...please know your church family hears you and sees you! We hope and pray that you are seeing and hearing us! Be reminded as I wrote each of you recently...you are important to the fabric of Spiritual Life in your church and in your community.

Friends of Jesus...I look forward to what God continues to do through our great church in 2021 as we answer our calling from God, **A Charge to Keep I (we) Have...**it will take all of us...this generation to serve!
In Service to Christ, Bro. John V.

Attendance & Contributions

Jan. 24, 2021

Traditional	33
Online	228
Thrive	8
Online	160

Received 1/24/21 \$ 3165.00

Total as of 1/24/21 \$ 23,918.17

- Sarah Grace Oden
- Susan Rheuby
- Tommy Hudson
- Craig Postovit
- Jack Moon
- Sandra Bracknell
- Joan Verchot
- Beverly Seale
- Mary Frances Bell

Special Prayer Request

Memorial & Honorariums

- RED BIRD**– In Memory of Wanda Pitts by Cheryl Finch.
- RED BIRD**– In Memory of Elizabeth Nichols and Linn Oden.
- FOOD PANTRY**– In Honor of Phillip Oden & Family by Terry & Peggy Horne.
- FOOD PANTRY**— In Memory of Bernie Finneran, love, Mrs. Bobbi Thompson, Ronee & Bobby Nelson.
- BUDGET**– In Memory of Bernie Fineran, Wanda Pitts, Linn Oden, Tony Yardley, Elizabeth Nichols. In Honor of Mary Frances Bell by Alan & Marilyn Brown.
- FOOD PANTRY**– In Memory of Janet McCrorie by Stuart McCrorie.
- RED BIRD**– In Memory of Annette Waters by Cheryl Finch.
- BUDGET**– In Memory of Esther Towers, love, Gary & Gail Novak
- BUDGET**– In Memory of Annette Waters by The Chancel Choir.



Reading Through the Bible 2021

The last couple of years has been fantastic reading through God's Holy Word together. In 2021, we are adding a different component to our study through the bible. Throughout 2021's Reading Through the Bible, we want to have a "recapping" of our weekly reading. What does that mean? On Wednesday nights through 2021, a Livestream recap of the previous week's readings will take place at 6:30 p.m., on the "Hueytown First UMC" Livestream Facebook page.

How it will work: For instance, we start reading on Friday, January 1, 2021. We will read January 1-January 6, 2021, and on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 we will recap Genesis chapters 1-21. On Thursday, January 7, 2020 read January 7-13, 2021, and on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, we will recap Genesis chapters 22-40. As you receive the reading schedule for 2021, you will understand the schedule more clearly.

I look forward to this new opportunity for 2021.

NEW OFFERING ENVELOPS

Please call the office and let us know where you would like to pick up your new offering envelopes. We can place them in the Church Office, Disciple Room or right outside the Sanctuary.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

We need volunteers one or two days per month. The second and fourth week of each month on Wednesday or Thursday, 9am – 12am to help hand out food. Please contact Peggy Horne 205-491-6967.

The 2021 "Flower sign up poster" is located on the bulletin board just outside the church office for your convenience .



Thursday Night Painting Class will be painting this "Love birds". RSVP your spot by calling the church office.

Please bring to the office any old Christmas cards with a nativity scene. Bro Al Geise is needing them for a project.

SUPERBOWL SUBS

PREPARED BY HUEYTOWN FUMC YOUTH

FEB 7, 2021

DRIVE THROUGH PICK UP 4:00-5:00PM
(KITCHEN DOOR)

\$10.00/MEAL

INCLUDES: SANDWICH, CHIPS, COOKIE, DRINK

PLACE YOUR ORDER BY FEB. 4TH.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TITHE

2021

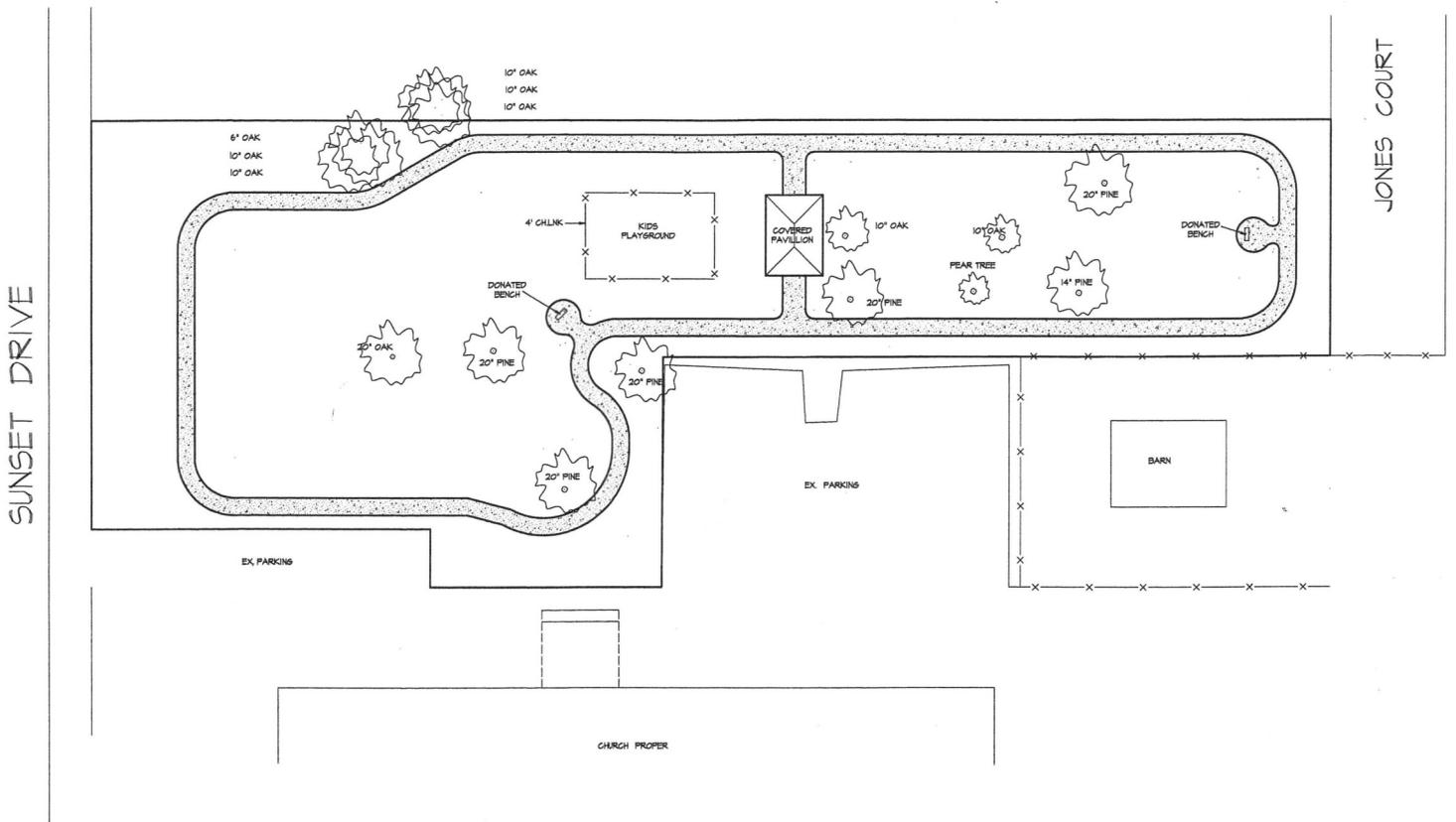
FEBRUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>9am - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11:11am - THRIVE SERVICE (in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>01</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p>	<p>04</p> <p>8am - FOOD DELIVERY 6:00pm - PAINTING CLASS (limited in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>05</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>06</p> <p>8am - Men's Bible Study - outdoors (Under the pecan trees)</p>
<p>07</p> <p>9am - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11:11am - THRIVE SERVICE (in-person & live streamed) 6pm - BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>08</p> <p>8am - SACK PANTRY FOOD 9:30am - KOINONIA 6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS</p>	<p>09</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am - FOOD PANTRY 6:30pm - BIBLE READING REVIEW (live streamed)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9am - FOOD PANTRY 6:00pm - PAINTING CLASS (limited in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8am - Men's Bible Study - outdoors (Under the pecan trees)</p>
<p>14</p> <p>6:30am - Inigtors @ First Light 9am - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11:11am - THRIVE SERVICE (in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS 7:30pm - ALPHA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:30am - FAITH JOY 6:30pm - DISCOVERY</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30pm - BIBLE READING REVIEW (live streamed)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00pm - PAINTING CLASS (limited in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8am - Men's Bible Study - outdoors (Under the pecan trees)</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9am - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 10:10am - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:11am - THRIVE SERVICE (in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8am - SACK PANTRY FOOD 6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - FOOD PANTRY 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - BIBLE READING REVIEW (live streamed) 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9am - FOOD PANTRY 6:00pm - PAINTING CLASS (limited in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8am - Men's Bible Study - outdoors (Under the pecan trees)</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9am - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 10:10am - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:11am - THRIVE SERVICE (in-person & live streamed) 6pm - BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>01</p> <p>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p> <p>6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - BIBLE READING REVIEW (live streamed) 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR</p>	<p>04</p> <p>6:00pm - PAINTING CLASS (limited in-person & live streamed)</p>	<p>05</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>06</p> <p>8am - Men's Bible Study - outdoors (Under the pecan trees)</p>

F.U.M.C. WALKING TRACK

Members and Friends, several of you from the church have committed talents, skills, abilities and services toward the project of our Walking Track Project. If you too would like to be a part of supporting the phased project completion with such items as benches, picnic tables, a built-in grill, play area for children, a possible volleyball area, lighting around the track, fans for the pavilion, pavilion amenities, and the like...memorial gifts and honorariums have already begun. All you have to do is make a gift designated to: WALKING TRACK.



**PROPOSED WALKING TRACK
HUEYTOWN METHODIST**

SCALE: 1" = 20.0'



First United Methodist Church

110 Sunset Drive
Hueytown, Alabama 35023
(205) 491-3421

From the desk of Rev. John Verciglio, Senior Pastor, Hueytown First United Methodist Church

January 25, 2021

To: The Membership and Friends of Hueytown First United Methodist Church
Re: Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation of the Denomination
called The United Methodist Church

Grace to you, Hueytown Church Family! I write you hoping that my letter finds you and your families staying safe during a continued time of Pandemic, and a time of great concern in our world and nation. Please be assured that you, our world, our nation, our state, our city and our community remain in my prayers daily. I am confident, and I have complete confidence, that God is moving and bringing spiritual transformation during these difficult times. He is with you!

I trust that the news of the United Methodist Church as a denomination that is separating is not new news to you. As your Pastor, I can either shield you from the reality of our denominational crossroad, or I can be completely open with you and help you prepare for our denomination's crossroad at the General, Annual and Local Church levels. I am choosing the latter.

As I have openly shared with our congregation for well over two years now, the United Methodist Church is in both a constitutional and theological crisis. Constitutionally, there has been blatant disobedience by Bishops and ministers alike to the vows of ordination in upholding **The United Methodist Book of Discipline**. Theologically, the news media, appointed and retired bishops and ministers, as well as laity alike, would have the United Methodist Church believe that the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation of the Denomination called **The United Methodist Church** is a divide only about the theological view of the body and human sexuality. This is simply and plainly not true!

Dr. Timothy Tennent, President of Asbury Theological Seminary writes about the divide in The United Methodist Church, "*The true fracturing point between Mainline and Evangelical churches is over the authority and interpretation of scripture. The debate over LGBT issues is a consequence of the underlying dispute, not its primary cause...there is a strain of Protestant Christianity that views the Bible as valuable but not infallible or inerrant. Evangelical Christians, by contrast, strongly dissent from that view.*"

What does a Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation and these denominational issues mean for the North Alabama Conference and for my local congregation? THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE...In the next 12 to 24 months the United Methodist Church will be engaging in the process of birthing anywhere from two to three new Methodist denominations. This activity has taken place on a national and global level through delegate representation. Moving forward, this matter will soon become local, both at an Annual Conference (North Alabama Conference) and a Local Church (Hueytown FUMC) level. As a result of global and national conferencing...

A Reminder point: An Annual Conference could vote to disaffiliate with the expression of Methodism that wishes to redefine Christian marriage as being between two men and two women; and could then vote to affiliate with a new traditional, orthodox, Methodist denomination. A vote of 20% percent or more at an Annual Conference session would be needed to have the disaffiliation vote, and a disaffiliation vote would have to pass by 57%.

MY LOCAL CONGREGATION... If our Annual Conference votes to disaffiliate with the present expression of United Methodism, and then decides to join the new traditionally orthodox Methodist denomination, we are not required to have a vote. Hueytown FUMC would be a part of the new Methodist denomination by virtue of the vote of the majority of the Annual Conference. Again, as a result of global and national conferencing... **A Reminder point:** If our Annual Conference did not vote to join the new Methodist denomination, then our Administrative Board at Hueytown FUMC would determine a threshold of a simple majority or two-thirds for the vote of the membership on whether to separate and join the new Methodist expression. A local church affiliating with another Methodist denomination "pursuant to the protocol" would keep its assets and liabilities.

Reminder point continued: Local churches which desire a different affiliation than its Annual Conference may conduct an affiliation vote to consider a different affiliation. If such a vote were to occur, the Administrative Board shall determine a voting threshold of either a simple majority or two-thirds to those present and voting at a duly called church conference in order for the motion to opt for a different affiliation to be adopted. The church conference must

be held in consultation with the District Superintendent who shall authorize such a church conference to be conducted. If a local church does not vote, it remains a part of the Methodist denomination selected by its Annual Conferences voted upon results.

Where are we today (at the time of this writing) in the North Alabama Conference and my local church (Hueytown FUMC)? The upcoming meeting of the General Conference that was originally to be in 2020, delayed because of COVID-19, is scheduled for August 29-September 7, 2021. This is to be a General Conference Meeting of Global Delegates (elected by their respective Annual Conferences) to address /vote upon the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation of the Denomination called The United Methodist Church. The action voted upon would then return to all Annual Conferences for action.

While we are in somewhat of a hold-pattern for the actual discussion and voting work of the General Conference, there is much to be informed about and much to do. Two of the most valuable connections with regard to being informed, but discerning about what you hear and read is to connect to the resources available at: www.wesleycovenant.org and www.newmethodistmovement.org. As you take it upon yourselves to be informed, please take time to familiarize yourself under the “www.newmethodistmovement.org” website of information...especially, find articles under ‘Doctrines and Disciplines’; ‘Blog Posts’; and ‘Weekly Podcast.’ Be familiar with an article titled, “What Stay UMC is Not Telling You.”

In the hopes of remaining open to you, I have chosen as a matter of spiritual leadership, spiritual conscience, my vows of ordination, and my belief in Holy Scripture to sign my name to the petition located on the ‘newmethodistmovement’ website. I am in support of the new global, traditionally orthodox Methodist denomination of the future. If you are supportive of such, please visit www.newmethodistmovement.org and sign the petition.

As always, please know that I am available to you for any and all questions you might have regarding the matter at hand. I will honor you to find answers you need to stay informed as a member of our great church!

Blessings,

Bro. John V.