Ministers Every Church Member

John Verciglio, Senior Pastor 205-317-1096 jvercig@hueytownfirst.com

<u>Catherine Verciglio</u> Student/Youth Ministries Director catherineverciglio@gmail.com

Cheryl Ingels
Children's Director
Fmch.kids@gmail.com

<u>Joel Henson</u>, - Music Director Patti S. Wright - Pianist

Floyd Barrett - Organist

<u>Lisa Edmonson</u> Office Administrator ledmonson@hueytownfirst.com

<u>Laurie McCombs,</u> Receptionist, Secretary info@hueytownfirst.com

Candi Boissel
Child Care Director
hfumcchildcare@gmail.com
205-491-1729

CHURCH OFFICE: 205-491-3421

PRAYER LINE 205-491-3424

OFFICE E-MAIL: HFUMC@bellsouth.net

#### Website:

www.hueytownfirst.com

OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THUR. 9-2 FRIDAY: Closed

#### **UPCOMING DATES**



#### Sunday February 4, 2024

8:45 am IGNITERS FELLOWSHIP 9:00 am PARLOR FELLOWSHIP 9:00 am ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 am WORSHIP 11:00 am EMMAUS LUNCH 11:10 am THE BRIDGE FELLOWSHIP

11:10 am CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:10 am YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Monday February 5, 2024 5:30 pm SISTERS BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday February 6, 2024 6:30 pm FINANCE COM. MEET Wed. February 7, 2024

6:00 pm YOUTH
6:00 pm HAND BELL PRACTICE
7:00 pm CHOIR PRICTICE

Thursday February 8, 2024

9:00 am NIFTY/FIFTY 6:00 pm PAINT CLASS

Friday February 9, 2024

Saturday February 10, 2024 8:00 am MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

ADMINISTRATION BOARD MEETING......FEBRUARY 11, 2024......4:00pm
FINANCE COMMETTE MEETING.....FEBRUARY 6, 2024.......6:30 pm

When one Rejoices, We all Rejoice...When one Suffers, We all Suffer

1 Corinthians 12:25-27

First Methodist Church of Hueytown

110 Sunset Drive Hueytown, AL 35023 (Return Service Requested) Non-Profit U.S. Postage Pd. Hueytown, Alabama Permit No. 205





# MOVING FORWARD 218 & THE MOVING FORWARD TEAM

It has been a few weeks since I've offered information about the work of the MOVING FORWARD TEAM under the Church-Wide program MOVING FORWARD 218. In January 2023, we as a congregation embarked on a year-long program (Approved by the Administrative Board) under the guidance of Rev. Lana Johnson. In short, our congregation took a self diagnostic look at ourselves as God's people and God's church. Through Bible Study, we challenged ourselves to investigate...to investigate our history, our foundations, our strengths, our weaknesses, our regrets, all our ministries, the pastor, our staff, our leadership, our community's needs, what we do well, what we don't do so well... you get the point.

Again, in short, a team (THE MOVING FORWARD TEAM) was made up of folks from all cross sections of our congregation...older, younger, married, single, involved, no-so involved, nominated leaders, laity, with children, with no children, with grandchildren, with no grandchildren...again, you get the point.

The task? Take the input from the Church-Wide Bible Study and condense it into an action plan of integration from the congregation's response through study, for the church's greatest chance for transformation toward God's calling for First Methodist Church. Friends, that is what YOUR MOVING FORWARD TEAM's work has been over the last year, on a weekly Tuesday night basis.

You've been kept abreast through Newsletter writings telling you what the team was doing. It has not been a walk-in-park effort by any means. It has been challenging, gut wrenching at times, discussion over-load, prayer, research, unsettling, change provoking, eye-opening...but Holy Spirit led. You get the point.

In the last weeks, as your pastor, I have heard some disappointing comments about the MOVING FORWARD TEAM. When comments I've heard are made, based on scripture I understand those making such comments as criticizing your fellow church members, you are criticizing your church laity leadership, and most troubling, you are speaking against a work God has initiated.

If you have concerns about the work of the MOVING FORWARD 218 PROGRAM, or the work of the MOVING FORWARD TEAM, please feel free to give me a shout, a visit, a call, one of these or a combination of these. I will be more than happy to sit down and let you ask what you'd like to ask, vent about what you think you don't know and should know, and I will be glad to help you understand the process the team has been operating under over the last year. But by all means, please don't continue to offer ANY condescending statements or rumors about a work that has been a Spiritual Investment for growth of God's Kingdom as God uses First Methodist Church for His Honor and Glory. I am hopeful to hear from some of you soon!

Blessings, Bro. John V.



#### **Attendance & Contributions**

#### January 28, 2024

| Worship               | 111        |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Online                |            |
| Budget 1/28/2024      | \$1,620.00 |
| Total as of 1/28/2024 | 490,489.00 |

#### **Special Prayer Request**

Connie Woodward Karen M. Parsons Bobby Glass Jack Moon Raymond Widener Mary Frances Bell Danny Karr Jan Towers
Jean Jordan
Hugh Hudson
Kim Hooks
Glenn Hooks
Tom Foust
Paul Thrasher



# THURSDAY NIGHT PAINT CLASS

1/25/24 we will be painting this "Valentine Tulips". All supplies are included for \$18.00. We meet at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to come. Call the church office to reserve your spot. Or Call Laurie @ 205-401-3124

#### **MEMORIALS & HONORARIUM**

**BUDGET**– In Honor of Fary Frances Bell, Paul Thasher, Bobby Glass and in Memory of Marie McFall. By Scott & Lisa Edmonson

**SONRISE**—In Honor of SonRise. By Joyce Williamson.

**BUDGET**– In Honor of Babby Glass. By Adult Sunday School Class.

**BUDGET**– In Memory of Marie McFall. By Bill & Jayne Hornsby & the old Berthel Waid Sunday School Class.

**RED BIRD**— In memory of Marie McFall. By Cheryl Finch.

**RED BIRD**– In Memory of Becky Booth. By Cheryl Finch.

**CAPITAL FUND**— In Memory of Marie McFall. By Jeri & Jimmy Harris.



January 29, 2024

Blessings today Members and Friends of First Methodist Church! On Sunday, January 28, 2024, we worshipped with a great ending to our first month in 2024. Worship attendance in January 2024 was increased by an approximate 40 persons per week. That number is based on the year ending number for 2023. A great start to the year friends! Let's keep it up, and continue our outreach not only to folks we've been missing as a part of the church family, but especially to those who don't have a church to call home; those who don't know the love of Jesus; and those who may be skeptical. Our calling is to invite, then let God use us as He grows His love in others. Amen!

We are a short two and half weeks away from the beginning of the Lenten Season 2024. Lent will begin on Wednesday, February 14th with the Ash Wednesday Service, and continue through Easter on Sunday, March 31, 2024. The forty (40) days of the Lenten Season offers Christ Followers and the Church, a time of spiritual reflection and intentional efforts in growing closer to God personally, and corporately as the church.

Why forty (40) days? Forty is a powerfully Spiritual number biblically, as it often offers us learning around testing, trials, and deeper relationships to God. The Israelites wandered in the desert forty years; Genesis teachers us that it rained forty days and forty nights in Noah's testing; Moses was in Egypt forty years, in Midian forty years, and served God forty years; Moses was on Mt. Sinai forty days receiving the Ten Commandments, and Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after His baptism for forty days and forty nights.

As we enter the Lenten/Easter Season on February 14, 2024, the Lenten/Easter Theme will be The Heart Matters.... The point is that it takes an investment of your heart, my heart, our hearts...to let God into lives. The heart is a very protected area for us...if it's too vulnerable, we risk getting hurt; if it's too closed off, we risk not experiencing connection with God and others. I am prayerful that each of us will find the courage to Open our Hearts to God and His calling for our lives in the Lenten Season. In the next days, you will find our Lenten Calendar Flyer in the Narthex, West Entrance, and Church Office. Please take one, and please take others to share.

Friends, I want to keep ever before us what our Mission is as the First Methodist Church. This week, instead of my telling you what it is, I want to offer you part of the statement, and allow you to fill in the missing parts. If you haven't learned it yet, this will give us all some practice in making it a part of who we are. It reads: To be \_\_\_\_\_\_Ambassadors of God's \_\_\_\_\_\_love by

Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with \_\_\_\_\_\_. Here's a hint, the following words fulfill the statement, but God wants to use YOU to make it a reality. (Everyone / Boldly / Passionate / Extravagant).

How are you coming along as a growing disciple of Jesus? Be a strong spiritual disciple by Celebrating His Holy Name in Worship; Cultivating our relationship with Jesus through Study; Contributing to the work of making disciples by our time/talents/gifts/skills/abilities; and Connecting not only to each other in the Body of Christ, but leading those who don't know God's love into His presence.

From A.W. Tozer, "You can be as close to God as you want to be," do you want to be close to God, and how close do you want to be? It's your decision ...

Blessings,

Bro. John Verciglio

# SUPER BOWL SUBS Feb. 11th at 4:00pm \$15.00 Includes sub, chips & cookie/

brownie

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF HUEYTOWN YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

| CHEESE | TOMATO | LETTUCE | TURKEY | HAM |
|--------|--------|---------|--------|-----|
|        |        |         |        |     |
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PHONE NUMBER\_

#### THE SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME - 10:00 A.M.

Sunday looks like this each week:

8:45 a.m.—Igniters Sunday School (Scott Edmonson)

9:00 a.m.—Adult Sunday School

(Bro. John Simmons)

9:00 a.m.—Parlor Fellowship/Prayer with Scottie Blair

10:00 a.m.—Worship (Main Sanctuary)

11:10 a.m.—The Bridge Sunday School

(Andy/Kristy Nolen)

11:10 a.m.—Children's Sunday School

(Cheryl Ingels)

11:10 a.m.—Youth Sunday School

(Catherine Verciglio)

for all the cards, texts, & calls during my mom's illness & death. She brought me up in this church & I am thankful for that. The cross at her funeral was beautiful & the service was meaningful & uplifting. The meal was delicious as always. Thanks to everyone that had a part in the service.

Love, Pam Blair

WEAC RETURING—The WEAC season returns beginning Wednesday, February 14, 2024. The Wednesday's of WEAC are as follows: February 14, 2024; March 6, 2024; February 21, 2024; March 13, 2024; February 28, 2024; March 20, 2024 The serving time for the Spring Session will be 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you arrive prior to the 5:30 p.m. serve time, please come into the Fellowship Hall and enjoy some fellowship time with each other, as you catch up on how the week has progressed thus far. In the Spring, there will again be Bible Study for those who wish to participate. The Bible Study will start at 6:30 p.m., and it will be geared to the 40 Days of the Lenten Season.

#### **BOY SCOUTS CHILI FUNDRAISER**

February 11th, 2024, Sunday. In the fellowship hall right after worship service.



## **INSPIRE WOMENS CONFRENCE**

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Plans are underway for our 6th annual

#### **INSPIRE CONFERENCE**

More information will be provided in the coming weeks.



### With deepest sympathy

Our Christian Love and sympathy are extended to the Marie McFall family at her recent passing. Her visitation and service are Tuesday 1/30/24 at 10:00 and 11:00 respectively here at First Methodist.

#### **CLOTHES CLOSET HAS A NEED**

The Clothes Closet is in need of a couple of sturdy clothes racks. If you have one that you are not using, please consider donating to the clothes closet. Call Ellie at 205-529-7954 or Penny at 205-915-8056 if you have any questions.



#### A NEW EAGLE SCOUT



# Rider Ingels

Congratulations to our very own young Christian man.
We are very proud of you and all your hard work,

# 2024 FEBRUARY



|  |  |                                       |  | _, .  |               | nouist congregation           |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday                               | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday        | Saturday                      |
| 8:45am - Igniters Sunday School 9am - Adult Sunday School 10am - WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11am - Young Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School   | 9am - T.O.P.S.<br>5:30pm - SISTERS STUDY GROUP<br>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS  | 30                                    | 31 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - YOUTH ACTIVITIES 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR   | 8:00am - FOOD DELIVERY<br>9am - NIFITY OVER FIFTY<br>6pm - PAINTING CLASS           | OFFICE CLOSED | 03<br>8am - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY |
| 8:45am - Igniters Sunday School 9am - Adult Sunday School 10am - WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11am - Young Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School 11:00am - EMMAUS LUNCH  | 9am - T.O.P.S.<br>5:30pm - SISTERS STUDY GROUP<br>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS  | 06 6:30pm - FINANCE MEETING           | 07 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - YOUTH ACTIVITIES 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR   | 08 9am - NIFITY OVER FIFTY 6pm - PAINTING CLASS                                     | OFFICE CLOSED | 10<br>8am - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY |
| 6:30am - Igniters @ First Light 8:45am - Igniters Sunday School 9am - Adult Sunday School 10am - WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11am - Young Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School 11am - Boy Scout Chili Lunch Fundraiser 4pm - ADMIN BOARD MEETING | 8:00am - SACK PANTRY FOOD<br>9am - T.O.P.S.<br>9:30am - KOINONIA<br>3pm - ALPHA<br>5:30pm - SISTERS STUDY GROUP<br>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS | 5pm - EMMAUS CLUSTER MEETING          | ASH WEDNESDAY  9am - FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHS CLOSET 5:30pm - WEAC 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - YOUTH ACTIVITIES 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR | 9am - FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHS CLOSET 9am - NIFITY OVER FIFTY 6pm - PAINTING CLASS      | OFFICE CLOSED | 8am - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY       |
| 8:45am - Igniters Sunday School 9am - Adult Sunday School 10am - WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11am - Young Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School   | 9am - T.O.P.S.<br>5:30pm - SISTERS STUDY GROUP<br>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS<br>6:30pm - DISCOVERY  | 20<br>6:30pm - MOVING FORWARD<br>TEAM | 21 5:30pm - WEAC 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - YOUTH ACTIVITIES 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR   | 9am - NIFITY OVER FIFTY<br>6pm - CHURCH STAFF DINNER                                | OFFICE CLOSED | 24<br>8am - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY |
| 8:45am - Igniters Sunday School 9am - Adult Sunday School 10am - WORSHIP (in-person & live streamed) 11am - Young Adult, Youth, & Children's Sunday School   | 26<br>8:00am - SACK PANTRY FOOD<br>9am - T.O.P.S.<br>5:30pm - SISTERS STUDY GROUP<br>6:30pm - BOY SCOUTS                               | 27                                    | 9am - FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHS CLOSET 5:00pm - WEAC 6pm - HANDBELLS 6:30pm - YOUTH ACTIVITIES 7pm - CHANCEL CHOIR                | 9am - FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHS CLOSET 9am - NIFITY OVER FIFTY 6pm - CHURCH STAFF DINNER | OFFICE CLOSED | 02<br>8am - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY |