Ministers **Every Church Member**

John Verciglio, Senior Pastor

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

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Alan Brooks - Music Director Patti S. Wright - Pianist

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

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





Upcoming Dates

Sunday March 9, 2025 1st SUNDAY OF LENT 8:45 am IGNITERS FELLOWSHIP 9:00 am PARLOR FELLOWSHIP 9:00 am ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 am WORSHIP 11:10 am THE BRIDGE **FELLOWSHIP** 11:10 am CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 5:00 pm YOUTH

Monday March 10, 2025 8:00 am SACK GROCFRIES 9:30 am KOINONIA 9:00 am T.O.P.S. 3:00 am ALPHA

Wednesday March 12, 2025 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 5:30 pm WEAC

Thursday March 13, 2025 9:00am FOOD PANTRY 9:00 am NIFTY/FIFTY

Friday March 14, 2025 OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday March 15, 2025 9:00am to 11:00am PANCAKE BREAKFAST, BOY SCOUTS 8:00am MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



5:30 pm

March 5th.

March 12 th. March 19 th. March 26 th, April 2 nd, and April 9 th.

Mark you calendars for the beginning of the Spring WEAC season. Look for the WEAC registration cards in your Weekly Worship Bulletin.

Adults- \$8.00, Child (4-11)-\$4.00, <3-free

2025 LEADERSHIP MEETING DATES

Finance (6:30 pm-2nd

SPRC (4:00 pm-2nd Sun.)

January 14, 2025 April 8, 2025 July 8, 2025 October 14, 2025

January 12, 2025

April 13, 2025

July 13, 2025 October 12, 2025 Administrative Board(On/or close to the 3rd Sun. -4:00 pm)

January 19, 2025 April 27, 2025 July 20, 2025 October 19, 2025

Childcare Board (6-7pm)

Feb. 6 May 8 Aug. 7 Nov. 6 Trustees (6:30 pm-1st Tues.)

January 7, 2025 March 4, 2025 May 6, 2025 July 15, 2025 September 2, 2025 November 4, 2025





THE LENTEN SEASON-2025 The Lenten/Easter Season's theme is "His Holiness and His Love..." Here's the upcoming weeks of Worship, starting with the Ash Wednesday Service:

March 5 , 2025 – Ash Wed.	Joel 2:12-17	Give "Lent" a Chance
March 9, 2025-1st Sun of Lent	Mt. 3:1-3; Mk. 1:9-15	S & G
March 16 , 2025-2nd Sun of		
Lent	Ecc. 12:1-8; Mk.8:31-38	Not in the Hands of Fate
March 23 , 2025-3rd Sun of		
Lent	Ecc. 6:6-10; Jn.2:13-22	Limits & Boundaries
March 30, 2025-4th Sun of		
Lent	Phil.2:5-8; Jn.3:14-21	The Shorts
Lent April 6, 2025-5th Sun of Lent	Phil.2:5-8; Jn.3:14-21 Mt. 4:1-11; Jn. 12:20-33	The Shorts Thin Veils



The 2025 Lenten Season begins with the Ash Wednesday Service on March 5, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., in the Main Sanctuary. There will also be an Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday morning, **March 5**, **2025**, **from 7:00** a.m. to **8:00** a.m. in the North Parking Lot (the Big Lot)!

Attendance & Contributions

March 2, 2025

Sunday Worship Attendance.	110
Online Attendance	502
Budget Contributions	\$9,995.00
Budget YTD Contributions	\$68,623.00

Special Prayer Request

Jan Towers Tammy Moody Sammy Harless Nancy Goodwin Wanda Towers

Terry Horne Shirley Jones Harold Caine Beverly Lawley

WELCOME Jordan Austin

The SPRC and I are excited to welcome and introduce our new Children's Director, Jordan Austin. We look forward to Jordan joining us on Sunday, March 9th, as an official part of our Church Staff. We are in the process of completing some background things, and Jordan herself felt that Sunday, March 9 th would be a great day to start her journey with us here at First Methodist Church. I hope you will swing by the Children's Ministry room on Sunday to offer your support, service and welcome to Jordan. Please keep Jordan in your prayers during this transition.

CHURCH PICNIC NEWS

Let's have fun at the Church Picnic! The Church Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2025, at Oak Mountain State Park. We will gather at the "Fishing Center" Pavilion. On that day we will have to pay park entrance fee, which is minimal. If you would be a part of the planning for a fun day, would you please contact Tab Blair at your earliest convenience. I anticipate a great day with food, fun, fellowship and laughter. Oh, by the

> an Easter Egg Hunt and Vendor Trucks in the park. It will be a great day for all!

way...on this day, Oak Mountain is having



March 3, 2025

Hey Friends! On Wednesday, March 5 th, we begin the 40 Days of the Lenten Season. Over these next forty days, we as Christ Followers intentionally give ourselves to a spiritual time of reflection and renewal. I am hopeful that we as a congregation of Christ Followers are eagerly seeking to embrace the next forty days as a time to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

As we begin the season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday imposition of Ashes service, I am titling the sermon for that night, Give Lent A Chance.... I have been in prayer that we as individuals and as a corporate congregation are intent on doing just that, Giving Lent a Chance.

I cannot underscore the importance in these days and times of society and culture of how an outside world to Christianity is watching how we insiders are practicing our faith. In short order, outsiders to the faith life find evidence in observing if insiders truly believe. Again, I am hopeful that each of us, and we as a congregation, will seek to **Give Lent a Chance** in our lives these next forty days, as we grow in Jesus.

As I write this week, I'll be brief on the new information and ask for your consideration to remain informed about the shrubbery and plant project that is immediately before us as a congregation.

New Information: On Wednesday, March 5, 2025, we enter the Lenten Season. Please make sure to pick up one of the Lenten Devotions title, Daily Reflections for Lent: Not by Bread Alone 2025. I believe we all will find the daily devotional time so important to embracing our Lenten theme, His Holiness and His Love. You can find them in the Narthex, West Entrance and the Church office.

Also new...DON'T FORGET TO SPRING AHEAD THIS WEEK TO DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

TIME.

7

Thirk About

Reminder Information: Beginning almost immediately, work will begin on implementing new shrubbery and plants around our beautiful facility. The first work is to install a water source for proper watering of the new greenery. A new water line will soon be added to the front of our building that will be an add-on from plumbing supply in the Men's Restroom located right outside of the Main Sanctuary. Please be aware that this water work will be taking place within the next week or so. With regard to the new shrubbery and plants, the work will be located from the corner of our building closest to the Food Pantry entrance (Sunset Drive), proceeding across the front of our church to the North Parking Lot on High School Road. There has also been included in the new work, an agreement to include clean-up and attention to the back patio and lower garden patio to compliment the work on the front of the church. Many thanks to the Alpha Ladies Group for spearheading the project. The work will bring renewed beauty to our facility and to the life of ministry at First Methodist.

The approximated cost of the Shrubbery and Plants will be \$20,000. At this time, approximately \$16,000 of this cost has been committed by groups and individuals from our church. At this time, we need to fulfill the remaining commitment of \$4,000 through our church general budget. The Alpha Ladies Group, Trustees and the Finance Team are asking the congregation to consider making Gifts, Honorariums and Memorials to the Greenery Project. If you would like to be a part of this special project, you are asked as a group or as individuals to make a donation to: CHURCH GREENERY PROJECT. All these gifts will go to the Shrubbery and Plants for our church. Any donations beyond the cost of the project will go toward the upkeep of shrubbery, plants, and courtyard area outside of the Choir Room.

Friends and Members...let's make this a reality for church as we celebrate the work to be completed in time for Easter Sunday. How beautiful it will be to not only have new shrubbery and plants for our church, but what a beautiful backdrop for our Easter Flowering Cross.

In Service to Christ, Bro. John Verciglio

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUM

BUDGET– In Memory of Marilyn Brown. In Memory of Ronnie Duncan. By Alan & Peggy Brooks.

BUDGET- In Memory of Ronnie Duncan. By Louis & Beverly Lindsey.

Reception Honoring Robyn & Cheryl Ingels March 16, 2025 after church In the church parlor.



Thank you to my church family for the many expressions of sympathy expressed during the illness and passing of Ronnie. The prayers, cards, flowers, memorials and the meal after the ser-

vice were all so appreciated. Thank you to John Verciglio and John Simmons for being there for us. I love my church family.

Ellie Duncan Robbie, Carlyn, Ella Harper and Tripp Halen Duncan

LOOKING AHEAD CHURCH EVENTS THE NEXT 6 MONTHS!

Mar. 5 Ash Wednesday Service

March 5,12,19,26, Apr. 2, 9 W.E.A.C. Meals March 9, 16,23,30, Apr. 6,13, Sunday's of Lent

Mar. 9, Daylight Savings Time Mar. 15, Scout's Pancake Breakfast

Apr. 4-7, F.M.C. Camping at Oak Mountain State Park Apr. 5. F.M.C. Church Picnic, Oak Mountain State Park

Apr. 14-18 Holy Week 2025

Apr. 19 Church Easter Egg Hunt

Apr. 20 Easter Sunday

May 11 Mother's Day

May 18 Graduation Sunday - Youth

June 8 Pentecost Sunday

Jun. 12-14 North Alabama GMC **Annual Conference**

Jun. 15 Father's Day

Sunday Message: "S & G"

Scripture: Matthew 3:1 .Mark 1:9-15