

Jesus in the Wild

In Luke chapter 4, we read the story of Jesus experiencing temptation in the wilderness. Jesus had to have been the one to pass on this story to his disciples. After all, no one else was with Jesus in the desert to record it. Jesus shared this experience with his disciples to equip them for the challenges they would face.

Jesus' ministry begins when he is baptized by John in the Jordan, and he hears the voice of his Heavenly Father confirm his identity, his belovedness, and his purpose: "the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'" (Luke 3:22)

Immediately following this, "Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil." (Luke 4:1-2a) What were the temptations? A series of questions that began with "if". "If you are the Son of God...are you actually beloved by God? Are you actually chosen for this task? Is God really with you?" Jesus resists every temptation and every lie by rooting himself in the truth of the Scriptures. But then ominously we are told, "When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time." (Luke 4:13)

I wonder if Jesus revealed this experience because we experience the same thing in our own lives. We experience the life-changing grace of our Heavenly Father, and He calls us by name, and confirms that we are His children, and that we are beloved by Him, and that He has called us to a purpose that will bring peace, reconciliation, and joy to those around us.

But then, as soon as God's love floods our souls and we say yes to the identity that God give us, there is an evil presence lurking in the background, waiting for an "opportune time" to woo us away. Those times may be protracted seasons of suffering, despair over our situations, afflictions with a chronic illness, times when we become susceptible to the same whisper that Jesus heard in the wilderness: "If you are precious to God, then why is this happening to you?"

These are seasons of testing, and as we handle those tests by the presence and power of our Savior, our faith is revealed as genuine (1 Peter 1:7) and we experience that God's presence and work is real. God uses the challenge to show us that we are truly living according to what we believe.

During the season of Lent we will journey with Jesus through his season of testing, so that like Jesus we can be equipped to fulfill our own callings.

In Christ,
Clint



CHURCH CONFERENCE ON
WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 1 AT 6 PM

All members of First United Methodist in Tallassee are invited to a Church Conference at **6 PM on Wednesday, February 1 in our sanctuary**. At this Church Conference, members will vote on a resolution to disaffiliate from the United Methodist denomination and pending the outcome to then vote on a resolution to join the Global Methodist denomination.

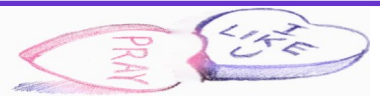
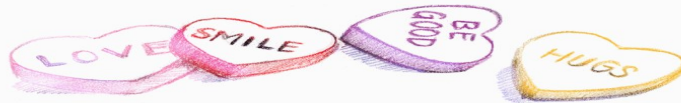
The Church Conference will be held in the sanctuary and will begin promptly at 6 PM. When you enter, there will be a check-in table where members of FUMC will receive two ballots: one for the disaffiliation resolution and one for the GMC resolution. It is **very important that you arrive early** so that you will be able to receive your ballot and vote. Only members of FUMC who have been checked in and have received their ballots by the beginning of the proceeding will be able to vote.

24 HOURS OF PRAYER AND FASTING

We will have a 24 hour vigil of prayer and fasting starting at 6 PM on Tuesday, January 31 and ending at 6 PM on Wednesday, February 1. Please pray for God's wisdom, discernment, and guidance as we move into our Church Conference.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

- February 22nd - Ash Wednesday
 - April 2nd - Palm Sunday
 - April 6th - Maundy Thursday
- April 7th - Tenebrae Service - Good Friday
 - April 9th - Easter Sunday



Youth/Children

Youth

Over the last month we have been studying about forgiveness and God's grace. We have taken a trip to the movies, and enjoyed each other in fellowship on Sunday and Wednesday nights. If anyone would like to volunteer to help teach youth Sunday school, please let Hillary know!

LAMP

In LAMP we have been studying the book of Matthew. We meet on Wednesday nights in the LAMP room. Several of our LAMP students will soon be going through confirmation. Please be in prayer for them as they begin this journey!

Children

The children (3-6 grade) will be taking a trip Blue Lake Winter Retreat on February 3-5. Please be in prayer for them as they fellowship together and grow in their relationship with God!

Sunday Nights - 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Meal Provided

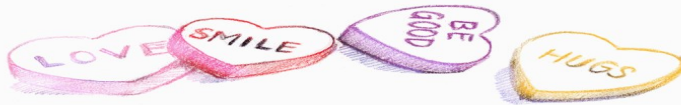
Wednesday Nights - 6:30 - 7:15 pm

Don't forget about our Children & Youth Facebook Groups:

"FUMC Tallassee Children's Ministries"

"FUMC Tallassee Youth Parents"

• Info about kids & youth activities • post your questions, get answers • photos!



Please help Alan Milam in need of a transplant



My name is Alan Milam and I am in need of a kidney transplant. I am on the transplant list however the average wait for a kidney for my blood type is 5-10 years. Ideally I need a kidney from a living donor and due to medical reasons my family is unable to donate a kidney to me. My wife is currently battling stage 4 colon cancer and receiving a kidney now would allow me to continue to take care of my wife. I also have 2 grandsons that I want to spend more time with. I know that the Lord has a kidney for me and it's in His time. If you would be interested in donating a kidney to me please follow this link to find out more information and to find out how to be tested.

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www.nkr.org/HNM548 I will not know that you are involved unless you tell me. Thank you.



Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding
in steadfast love...

Joel 2:13, NRSV



TALLASSEE MISSION HOUSE

During this past year of uncertainty, God's love and commands have remained clear – LOVE GOD AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER. One way we love God is by loving one another. "...Whatever you did for one of the of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40. The mission house ministry provides an opportunity for us to love God and love one another, and what a blessing it has been. Happy one year anniversary for our Tallassee Mission House!

New winter hours for the Mission House are Wednesdays 9 – 6 and Saturdays 9 – 12. All church members are invited to spread the word to those in need and to volunteer to work in the house. An FUMC Mission House Facebook group provides updates. Check it out. Thanks to all for the prayers and support of this ministry.



Men's Pancake Breakfast



February 18th
7:00 am - 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall

\$5.00 all you can eat pancakes,
bacon or sausage.

Buy tickets at the door or see one of the
Men in the Men's club

Restuarant Supper Club

- February 07 - Charles Anthony's (Pub) Montgomery
Must RSVP by February 05
- March 07 - Bonefish in Montgomery
Must RSVP by March 06
- April 04 - Venditori's Italian Restaurant - Auburn
Must RSVP by April 01

We have to give number counts ahead to get reservations. It is very important if we want to continue getting us in together. Call Ida 334-728-1008 or Karen. Thank you.

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 01—Sherril Bird
- 02—Karl Ames
- 06—Mike Battles, II
John Foshee
Meredith Milstead
- 08—Leah Cullars
- 10—Matthew Hall
- 11—Heather Johnson
- 13—Stuart Smith
- 16—Terry Henning
- 18—Nolen Shipman
- 20—Anna Stuedeman
- 22—Trista Armstrong
- 27—Dylan Turner

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

- 03—Henry & Trista Armstrong
- 04—Sterling & Beth Turner
- 08—Jay & Jill Manning
- 21—Jonathan & Leah Cullars

Stewardship Summary - January 2023 (to 1/25)

	Actual
Monthly Contributions	\$25,873
Monthly Total Income	\$25,873
Year to Date Income	\$25,873
Monthly Expenses	\$15,760
Year to Date Expenses	\$15,760

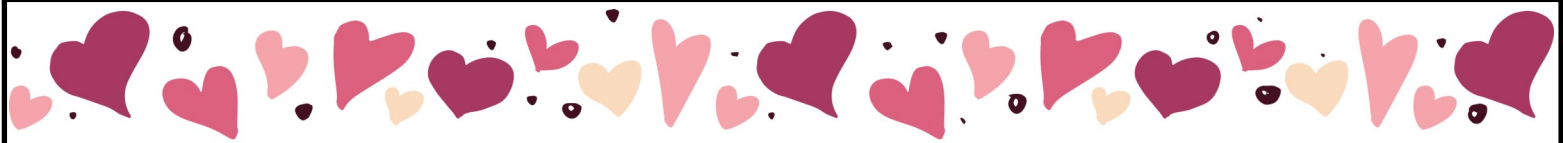
Avg. total worship attendance per Sunday: 125

Stewardship Summary - Final 2022 Numbers

2022 Income	Budgeted—\$432,247	Actual—\$426,362
2022 Expenses	Budgeted—\$440,284	Actual—\$426,362

*note: Whereas "Contributions" includes any money given by members to our General Fund, "Total Income" includes contributions plus any miscellaneous income, such as Endowment dividends, facility us fees, CD interest, etc.

Budget numbers will be unavailable until a 2023 Budget is passed by Church Council.



F E B R U A R Y

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Church Conference 6:00 PM	2	3	4
5	6 Woman's Circle 10:00 am, <i>F. Hall</i> Crafty Christians, 1-2:30 pm, <i>F. Hall</i> Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm, <i>F. Hall</i>	7 Allen Cowan SS Luncheon, 11:30 am, <i>F. Hall</i> Chrismon Class 9-11 am, <i>F. Hall</i> Restaurant Supper Club - 5:30 pm	8 Wednesday Night Fellowship - 6 pm Meal provided by Men's Class	9	10	11
12 Men's Breakfast 7:00 am, <i>F. Hall</i>	13	14  Chrismon Class 9-11 am, <i>F. Hall</i>	15 Wednesday Night Fellowship - 6 pm Meal provided by Allen Cowan	16 Home Supper Club 6:00 pm	17	18 Men's Pancake Breakfast 7-10 am
19	20	21 Chrismon Class 9-11 am, <i>F. Hall</i>	22 Ash Wednesday Wednesday Night Fellowship - 6 pm Meal provided by Choir	23	24	25
26	27	28 Chrismon Class 9-11 am, <i>F. Hall</i>				

February Altar Flowers

- 05 - none
- 12 - Herb Mason Family
- 19 - OPEN
- 26 - Don & Ann Bryant





First United Methodist Church, Tallassee

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pastor: Rev. Clint McBroom
fumctallassee.com • 334-283-2195

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

8:50 am - contemporary worship
10 am - Sunday School, **all ages**
11 am - traditional worship

KIDS & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sundays - 5 to 6:30 pm
Wednesdays - 6 to 7:15 pm



Facebook.com/FUMCTallassee

The service for the preceding week is broadcast each Sunday at **11 am**. Listen to Clint's daily devotions at **7:15 am** each weekday morning.

