

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

**Oct. 14 - 19** Meals on Wheels

**Oct. 20** Children's Sabbath

**Oct. 26** Children's Pumpkin Party @ Mountainview Orchards, 5-7

**Nov. 5** Soup Day

**Nov. 11** Veteran's Day/Office Closed

**Nov. 17** New Member Sunday, Pledge Sunday, and Charge Conference (12 noon).

**Nov. 20** Last BTW/AWANA

**Nov. 28** Thanksgiving Lunch

**Nov. 27-29** Office closed for Thanksgiving

**Dec. 1** Hanging of the Greens service @ 5PM, followed by a pancake supper.

**Dec. 2 - 6** Meals on Wheels

**Dec. 15** Christmas Cantata @ 3:00

**Dec. 24** Office closes at 12 noon.

Candlelight Services:

Traditional 4:00

Hydrate 5:30

**Dec. 25-26** Office closed.

**Dec 27** Office open 8-12

**Dec. 31** Office open all day. End of year contributions must be received or postmarked on this date to be included in 2019 statements.

**Jan 1 -2** Office closed.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Baptism marks the beginning of our lifelong journey as disciples of Jesus Christ. Through baptism, we are joined with the Triune God, the whole of Christ's church, and our local congregation.

- The water and the work of the Holy Spirit in baptism convey God's saving grace, the forgiveness of our sins, and new life in Jesus Christ.
- Persons of any age may be baptized—infants, children, youth, and adults.
- United Methodists baptize in a variety of ways—immersion, pouring, or sprinkling.

A person receives the sacrament of baptism only once in his or her life. This is because baptism is a covenant initiated by God, just as when Jesus was baptized.



*We celebrate the baptismal renewal of Miss Whitney Wyatt on July 28!*

*We celebrate the baptism of Miss Evie Gray on September 15!*

**MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: After completing the necessary requirements and training, Bishop Graves has credentialed Jill Lowman as a Certified Lay Minister!**

*In this role, with her nursing experience and training she will promote the integration of body, mind, and spirit by identifying and responding to the health-related needs of members of our local faith community. Check out her health corner below!*

### HEALTH CORNER: STRESSED?

*Stress can steal from our lives and consume us. Here are a few tips to prevent being worn down by the stress in our lives.:*

\*Write down things that are ratcheting up your stress level. Next, figure out what you can control. Even small changes can help you feel as if you can handle the rest.

\*When something is bothering you, rate the situation on a scale of 1-10. Then judge your reaction. If you are having an 8 reaction to a 2 situation, it's not worth working yourself into a tizzy. Another way is to ask yourself if in a few hours you're even going to remember what has gotten you so angry.

\*Breathe. Taking slow, deep breaths immediately eliminates anxiety. Breathe in for a count of 5, hold for 2, and out for 5. This mimics the breathing while you're asleep.



## Quarterly Messenger October 2019

## Co-Pastors' Message

Dear FUMC Family,

At the core, a church is a body of Christian believers on the mission together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We are not the church only when we gather on Sunday. We are not the church only when we go to the church buildings. We are God's holy people, we are the evidence of the Holy Spirit's movement.

The Apostle Peter encourages us, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." (1 Peter 4:10, NRSV). The way that we serve sets us apart from the world. Through our *prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness*, we care for each other. Whenever we share freely of our resources, whether time or financial, God honors that gift and ignites Kingdom growth!

As we serve one another as a church, the Spirit compels us to share the goodness of Christ with the world. In the Pentecost moment of Acts 2, the first Christians "devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). As they did so, they shared what they had with their neighbors, and the gospel broke loose! People became Christ-followers!—"...day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47).

This new quarterly format of the *Methodist Messenger* will celebrate the many ways that our Clanton FUMC family is in mission to our neighbors across the street and around the world. There are always too many powerful testimonies to share in just a few pages, so we hope to present you with some highlights. Inside you will see what your church family is doing for the sake of the gospel. Because of your acts of service, your presence in worship, and your financial gifts, the Holy Spirit makes this happen! From the core of our being, we thank God for each of you!

The Spirit of God has uniquely gifted you! What ways will you be in mission with Clanton FUMC for the sake of the gospel?

In Christ,

Meghan & Wes

### Office Hours

**Monday-Thursday**

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

**Friday**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### Office Phone

(205) 755-0490

### Fax

(205) 755-0840

### Worship Services

8:30 AM Traditional

9:30 AM Hydrate

11:00 AM Traditional

11:30 AM Hispanic service at San Juan

### Address

207 8th St. North

Clanton, AL 35045

**Coming Summer  
2020: Mission trip  
to Ecuador!**



Stay tuned  
for more info.

## SERVANTS IN FAITH AND TECHNOLOGY (SIFAT)

*SIFAT seeks to share God's love through service, education, and personal involvement with a needy world.*

Many thanks to Clanton FUMC from John and Martha Partor, SIFAT missionary partners serving with Frontline Indigenous Ministries (FIM) in Liberia. Just a few of the ways Clanton FUMC has supported FIM:

- Financial gifts offered to assist in the ebola outbreak
- Packed and sent barrels of clothing and supplies

**To honor Ms. Annella Smith and her commitment to missions, FIM hopes to open a new wing in their school in her name.**

If you would like to support this academic expansion in Liberia, please designate your gift "Liberia school."



### **Long term partnership between the UMC of the Alabama-West FL Conference and the UMC in Tanzania!**

Clanton FUMC is very proud of our own Linda O'rear (in photo above) for traveling to Tanzania with a mission team to support this partnership. While there, she dispersed Days for Girls products made here by our dedicated UMW.

For more info check out: [www.awfumc.org/tanzania](http://www.awfumc.org/tanzania)

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20*

## September boasted the 4 Year Anniversary of Celebrate Recovery at Clanton FUMC!

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, 12 step recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, pain or addiction of any kind.



Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling our life.

**Thanks for your support  
of this vital ministry!**

## IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL WITH ST. ANDREW UMC, PANAMA CITY, FL

Hurricane Michael ravaged the shores of the Alabama-West Florida Conference on October 10, 2018.

**Clanton FUMC has given over \$10,000 towards recovery efforts!**

We celebrate our two mission teams that have already served our partner church, St. Andrew UMC in Panama City, FL. We continue to receive notes from our brothers and sisters at St. Andrew expressing their deep gratitude and appreciation for our partnership.



Hurricane Michael destruction to the sanctuary of St. Andrew UMC

*We are in this partnership  
for the long haul with St.  
Andrew UMC.*

Stay tuned for Spring and/  
or Summer opportunities to  
serve in 2020.



A total of 31 went away for the summer beach retreat, "Anchored in Christ." One youth committed their life to the saving grace of Jesus Christ!

*"We have this hope as anchor for the soul" Hebrews 6:19*



**Thank you for your prayers & financial faithfulness!  
They are changing lives!**

*Budget receipts needed as of Sept. 30, 2019: \$640,464.75  
Budget receipts received as of Sept. 30, 2019: \$606,244.68  
Debt Retirement Balance as of Sept. 30, 2019: \$479,702.26*

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY!

**This summer boasted  
record numbers in  
participation!**

VBS: 130 kids  
40 volunteers

God's World: 55 kids  
12 volunteers

Worship Arts Camp:  
40 kids  
9 volunteers

**With gratitude, we  
remember  
Mr. Carl McDowell,  
who volunteered  
faithfully with our  
AWANA program  
each week.**



Continue his legacy!  
Sign up to serve for 30  
minutes once a month  
or just once a year with  
AWANA. We need  
handbook listeners  
and recreation leaders.

For more info contact  
Christi Mitchell:  
[children@clantonfumc.org](mailto:children@clantonfumc.org)