

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Jan. 19 Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Jason Borders

Jan. 18-20 Dv8 youth winter retreat

Feb. 8 Pancake Day

Feb. 9 Guest preacher: Rev. Ashely Davis

Feb. 16 End of 40 days of prayer

Feb. 23 Guest preacher: Tom Corson, SIFAT executive director

Spaghetti dinner and fundraiser for Ecuador mission trip

Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday family friendly service in Sanctuary

March 25 No BTW (Spring break)

April 5 Palm Sunday

April 5-11 Holy Week

April 9 Maundy Thursday

April 10 Good Friday

April 12 Easter

April 19 Confirmation



DID YOU KNOW?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: Many thanks to James and Debra Darnell for serving in our Kitchen Ministry!

Together, the Darnells are an important part of our kitchen ministry. Not only do they help prepare our Wednesday meals, but they also help to manage and order all kitchen supplies. Because of their dependability and commitment, we never wonder if we will have plates or napkins when we break bread together.

HEALTH CORNER: STAY HEALTHY - WASH YOUR HANDS

Clean hands are your best defense this winter against spreading germs and viruses.

Wash with soap and water or with sanitizer for at least 20 seconds.

Soap & Water:

1. Wet hands without soap
2. Apply soap, cover surfaces
3. Rub hands, palm to palm and palm to back
4. Rub fingers, thumbs, interlocking, backs of fingers to palm and tips to palms
5. Rinse, leave water on
6. Dry, turn off water with paper towel

Hand Sanitizer:

1. Apply sanitizer, cover surfaces
2. Rub hands, palm to palm, palm to back
3. Rub fingers, thumbs, interlocking, backs of fingers to palms, tips to palms
4. Air dry completely



Quarterly Messenger January, 2020

Co-Pastors' Message



Dear FUMC Family,

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." -2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

In 959 B.C., King Solomon completed the monumental 7-year task of constructing the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. On the very night the Temple was completed, God appeared to Solomon, calling the Israelites to surrender their hearts to God in a love relationship of prayer.

We notice in this call to prayer that when God's people answer the heavenly call to pray humbly, God promises to hear, God promises to forgive, and God promises to heal. What a wonderful promise! Just think of what a witness our church can be to our community as we surrender to God's call to live in a constant state of passionate, repentant, humble prayer.

As we begin this new decade with the year 2020, what better way can we recommit ourselves to the Christ-formed path of discipleship, than to seek God with fervor in our prayer lives? That's why we are setting out on a journey called "40," a prayer discipline lasting 40 days, in which we intercede for each other as the Body of Christ.

Time spent in prayer is never wasted. We are looking forward to the fresh wind of the Holy Spirit that we know in faith will come upon our church.

During Sunday worship in January, you will have the opportunity to draw the names of households in our church. You'll get a prayer guide that will help shape your prayer discipline for these households.

We believe that prayer not only reaches the heart of God, but through prayer God's heart reaches us. We look forward to the new work that God's Spirit will do when we answer God's call to be in prayer-communication as one Body.

In Christ,
Meghan & Wes Kelley

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

Celebrating Significant Renovations of 2019:

Community Thanksgiving Meal 2019



- 130 meals served
- 223 meals delivered

Many thanks to all who gave, served, delivered, and shared their hearts on Thanksgiving Day!

- New roof in our Main Building, which houses our offices, preschool, nursery, Crossroads Café, and Sanctuary
 - 2 of 4 phases of elevator renovation
 - 3 A/C units replaced or majorly repaired
- New carpet, paint, and furniture in the Upper Room
 - New carpet in the Education wing
 - New pea gravel on playground
- Cleaned out the area behind Gibson Center and storage building
- New wood shed and disc golf course (Eagle Scout project!)
 - Re-stripped the paved parking lots
 - Re-sealed the roof of the Education wing
- New curtains and blinds in upstairs classrooms of Education wing

We give thanks for the hard work and dedication of our Trustees!

Welcome to the FUMC family!

On Nov. 17th, 2019, we received
17 new adult members
with a combined total of
7 children in their families!



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY!

AWANA children learn to serve and care for others by sharing what they have each month:

- Over 50 lbs of food and supplies donated to the Chilton County Humane Society
- Over 75 pairs of socks donated to the Chilton County Assistance Center (this is the #1 requested item for those experiencing homelessness)

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

SERVANTS IN FAITH AND TECHNOLOGY (SIFAT)

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

Together, with our UMW, we have supported SIFAT mission partner, Frontline Indigenous Ministries (FIM) in Liberia, in the following ways:

- Sent 3 industrial barrels of backpacks and other supplies.
- Contributed to a \$20,000 donation towards the new Annella Trobaugh Smith wing of their school in Liberia. This wing will offer vocational training such as sewing, cosmetology, and carpentry.



Special guest preacher (in all services) Sunday, February 23:
Tom Corson
SIFAT Executive Director



Tom Cuthbert (mission committee chair), along with Annella Smith, presenting the \$20,000 gift to Martha Partor of FIM.



“MOUNTAIN MOVER”

Winter retreat

Jan. 18-20, 2020

Pray that God would move mountains in and through our youth!

Our youth are serving others by raking leaves in yards. If you would like to receive this service or know someone who would, please contact the office.



TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY he should go AND WHEN HE IS OLD HE WILL NOT depart from it.
PROVERBS 22:6

Finance Update for 2019:

Total amount received for the budget in 2019: \$822,156.14

Debt Retirement Balance as of Dec. 31, 2019: \$400,882.57

Celebrating Debt Retirement for 2019:

*Amount already given toward the matching grant challenge: \$62,447.50 (*some have pledged to give in 2020)*

The total amount paid on the debt in 2019 (including matching grant): \$128,609.22

Searching for a renewed FAITH and more JOY?

Sign up to teach 4-6th graders on a rotating basis. Curriculum and materials provided.

For more info contact
Christi Mitchell:
children@clantonfumc.org