

CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE LINK

Volume MMXXII, Issue 10 - October 25, 2023



I recently returned from a silent retreat. I joined nineteen other individuals for this adventure. We stopped speaking on Sunday evening at 7:30 and didn't speak again until 11:00 am on Wednesday.

Some people (me included) had doubts that I could go that long without talking. However, it was much easier than I had anticipated. We sat together for our meals and yet, we did not speak a word. You could hear the clink of silverware on the plate, and we would share smiles, but no words.

My days were filled with group contemplative prayer four times a day. I walked hiking trails, sat in the swing, read, prayed, napped, and enjoyed spending some much needed time alone with God. I realized that we have many voices that influence our lives. Friends, family, enemies, social media, and so many other voices that distract and discourage us. Not all our friends and family try to discourage us, but their voices can sometimes be louder than the voice of God.

One day I was walking on one of the trails and a deer jumped out in front of me. I immediately thought of the words of Psalm 42: "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?"

I didn't realize how thirsty my soul was until I was intentional about getting away with no spoken words. I experienced God in a way that refreshed my soul and renewed my strength.

May I ask you: "How is it with your soul?" I will offer you a challenge: take a day or a least a couple of hours to walk away from your phone, the tv, and any other noisy distractions. Listen to the birds, talk to God. I promise you will be refreshed.

I want to say thank you for the many ways you offered me expressions of appreciation during October. I love all of you dearly and I consider it a joy and incredible pleasure to serve as your pastor.

In His Service,

Diane



Rev. Diane Everette, Pastor

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Ministries/Organist

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**Frances Turner, Dir. of Children's
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Jennifer Smyly, Secretary

jennifer@churchstreetumcsema.org

Vera Hardy, Housekeeper

Michael Steele, Custodian

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Friday

8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Music Ministry Notes From Gordon

Fall is here! It is hard to believe that we are quickly moving toward the Thanksgiving and Christmas season!

Our Young Musicians rang, recited, and sang so well during our Children's Sabbath emphasis on Sunday morning, October 22. Thank you, thank you children for blessing our hearts with your worship participation!! And thank you parents for having your child/children attend our music time each Sunday before they head to Sunday School. The Young Musicians will once again sing and ring for Morning Worship Sunday, December 10th - the second Sunday of Advent. Parents are reminded to remain faithful in having their child/children attend our Sunday morning music time.

Please note these important music events for 2023 -

- Sunday, December 10 – Young Musicians sing/ring during Morning Worship*
 - Sunday, December 17– Chancel Choir presents Nativity Suites during Morning Worship*
- There are many music opportunities at Church Street during the final weeks of 2023!*

Gordon



Thanksgiving Day Prayer

By Mary Fairchild

*Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day
We bow our hearts to You and pray.
We give You thanks for all You've done
Especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see
For joy and health, friends and family,
For daily provision, Your mercy and care
These are the blessings You graciously share.
So today we offer this response of praise
With a promise to follow You all of our days.*

Leika's November Link

Leika's celebrates THANKSGIVING ALL MONTH!

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good." Psalm 107:1

November is one of our favorite months at Leika's because we are all preparing for our annual Thanksgiving program. It is so fun to learn about the Pilgrims and Indians, and discuss all of the things for which we are thankful!

Our Kindergarten class has been working very hard to memorize Psalm 100, and they will recite it at our Thanksgiving Program on Friday, November 17th at 9:00am in the sanctuary.

Leika's invites everyone to join us for this special worship service!

Leika's will be closed on Monday, November 6th.

Leika's will be closed for Thanksgiving November 20th -24th.



Children's Ministry Message



It's ALWAYS the right time to be THANKFUL!

We would like to give a special THANK YOU to our children and their parents for their participation in the Children's Sunday Worship service! If your schedule didn't allow your child to participate this go around, we surely hope you will be able to Sing and Jingle the next time we share in our Sunday worship which will be December 10th (please mark your calendars)! As always, thank you Gordon, Dawn, Cora, Callen, Katie H., Katie N., and the many others who volunteer in our Children's Ministry!

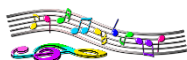


Please mark your December Calendar for the following CHILDREN's ACTIVITIES. On Saturday, December 2nd the CHILDREN are invited to Breakfast with SANTA CLAUS in Windham Hall! We will have muffins, donuts, crafts, and SANTA CLAUS! Please bring a friend and join us at 9:30am in Windham Hall. This will be an hour of Christmas Cheer and fun!!! Then, on Sunday, the 10th, the children will be singing and jingling in our Worship service.

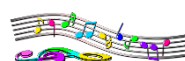
Hope to see you in Sunday school and church 😊

Happy Thanksgiving,

Frances



Give thanks with a grateful heart



I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... PRAYERS

Current: Pat Deavor, Dorris Sherrer, Caroline Thomas, Bill Sellier, Jerry Shelby, Mary Nell Mayo, Brenda Glover, Wayne & Elaine Stewart, Linda Spivey, Peter Bradsell, Dot Lovelady, Wanda Calame, Fred McCormick, Julie Drinkard, Rhett Thomas, Mike Sexton, Buddy Swift, Ashely Moore Norris, Coralie Frazer, Ray Delp

Ongoing: Buc and Gwen Shaw, Blake Flanagan, Robert Revel, Jimbo Barrett, Gloria Adams, Lee Calame III, Cassandra Steele, Peggy Cross, Sonny Nelson, Bob Simpson, Linda and Jesse Harris, Danny Jordan, Shelby Breedlove, David Saylor, Jim Kennedy, Amy and Jim Sims, Kathryn Hardy, Bill Livingston, Clark Schatz, Shannon Miller Cook, Bert Beers, Mark Rogers, Will Bennett

Homebound: Eloise Trammel, Jean Walker, Edna Wiechers, Anita Waldrop



Blessing of the Saddlebags will be October 29th, as the riders take to the trails.



Thank you to our trail bosses, who help the riders move efficiently from post to post.

Thank you to all who will prepare food for our celebration supper on Sunday, November 12th, and to all who will deliver saddlebags.

Please plan to come to the Celebration Supper!

Look for an update from Beau Boyd and Andrea Livingston.

I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... PRESENCE

We hope to see each of you each week for our regular Sunday Schedule with Breakfast at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., and Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Average attendance in October

Sunday School: 55

Worship Service: 110

I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... GIFTS



November Communion Offering

**The Communion Offering on Sunday,
November 5th, will be given to
Food Bank.**



MEMORIALS

Dr. Dub Deavor

By: Bruce & Ann Adams

Paul Andrew Hull

By: Judy Moore

By: Claude & Caroline Anderson

By: Sharon hardy

Mary Ann Hornsby

By: Bruce & Ann Adams



Join us for a time of
Thanksgiving

Community Thanksgiving
Service

Sunday, November 19th
@ 5:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal
Church

210 Lauderdale Street

Selma, Alabama

I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... SERVICE

Teams Serving in November

Ushers: Robert Beers, Matt Oaks, Buddy Perkins, Mike Bruner, Joe Moore, Randall Beers

Security: Bart Adams, Buc Shaw, Judy Moore

Worship Stewards: Polly Sellier & Em Moore

Collection Counters: Gail Lovelady & Linda Haskell

**If you are unable to be present, please
find a replacement and contact your
captain.**

November Meetings

Trustees

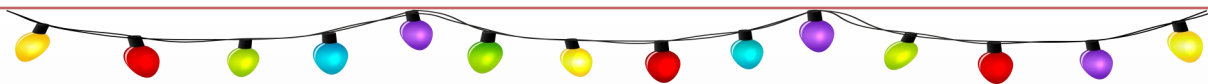
Tuesday, November 14th at 5:00 pm,
in Grist Library

Finance

Thursday, November 30th at 5:00 pm,
in Grist Library

Church Council

Thursday, November 30th at 5:45 pm
in Grist Library



HELP IS NEEDED

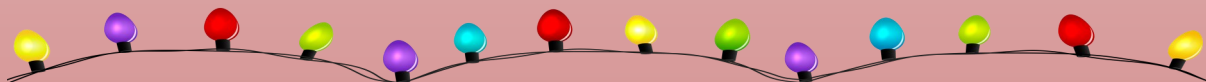
Christmas is coming and it's coming FAST! There's much that goes on behind the scenes to get Church Street adorned for this exciting and Holy time. If you would like to help plump up garlands, ruffle up ribbons, and fluff up bows, it would be appreciated!

It takes about ONE WEEK just to prepare our Christmas decorations. If you are willing to help (individuals or groups), we will be plumping, ruffling, and fluffing on Wednesday and Thursday, November 8th and 9th, and the following week on Wednesday and Thursday, November 15th and 16th. This will take place in the upstairs Sunday School room above the Grist Library. You can come and go at your leisure anytime from 9:00am until 3:00pm. Soft drinks, coffee, and munchies will be served!!

If these dates and times aren't convenient for you, please let me know and I will accommodate YOUR schedule. Whether you come by yourself, or in a group, this will be a relaxing, effortless time of "work," and you're sure to get into the Christmas spirit while you serve your Church family!

Thank you!!

Frances



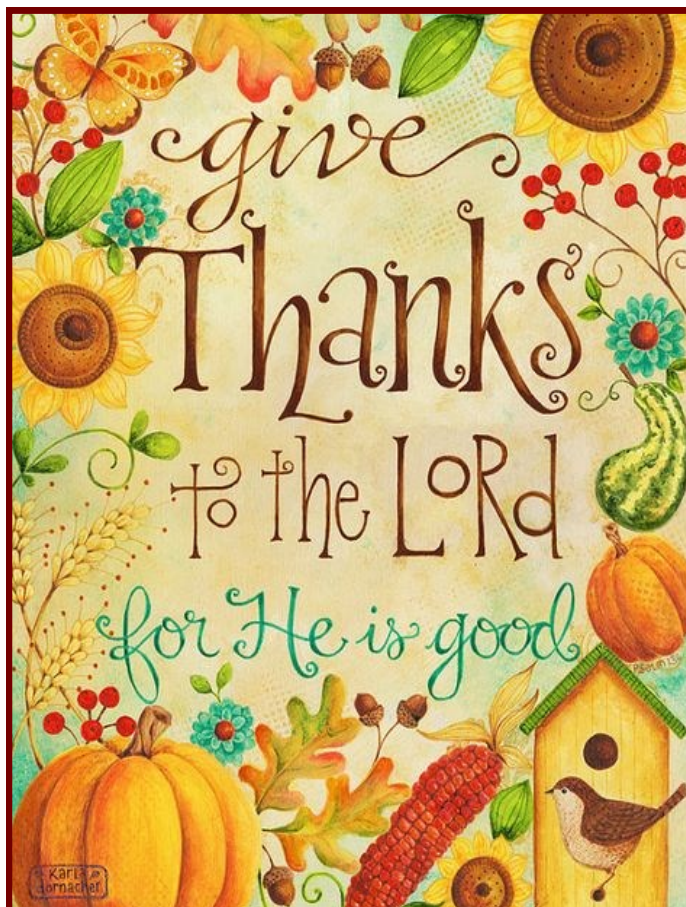
**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
WITNESS**

Living Treasures

***Mark your calendar for
Living Treasures on
November 16th @ Noon***

**Leika's will present
A Thanksgiving Program**

This group of senior adults (60 and above) meets the third Thursday of each month for a catered lunch at 12:00 noon and the program ends at 1:00 pm. The cost is \$8.00 per person and reservations are not required. If you would like to be a part of this group and receive notifications of meeting dates, please Contact Gale Bedgood or call the Church Office.



Veterans Day is November 11th.

**The Church Office, Leika's and Leika's
Lambs will be closed on Monday,
November 6th in observance.**



Leika's Thanksgiving Program will be at 9:30 am Friday, November 17th. They will then be closed through November 26th.

Leika's Lambs will be closed November 22nd - 26th.

The Church Office will close at noon on November 22nd, and be closed November 23rd - 24th.

Circle Meetings

Catherine Revel Circle

will meet Monday, November 6th, at
3:00 pm, in Windham Hall.

Roberta Sample Circle

will meet Monday, November 13th, at
11:00 am, in Windham Hall.



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