

ONLINE NEWSLETTER

# THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

TRUSSVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
120 NORTH CHALKVILLE RD.  
TRUSSVILLE, AL. 35173  
205-655-3259  
FUMCTRUSSVILLE.COM



# 2023

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Sermon Series

Announcements

Youth Ministry

Handbell Ministry

Celebrate Recovery

Kids First Day School

Financial Report

Memorials / Honoraria

Stephen Ministry

Your Staff



### \*\* ATTENTION \*\*

The Discernment team has decided to postpone the use of the Nehemiah 2:28 study groups at this time. We will move forward with the 'Lunch and Learn' studies as scheduled, with the first 'Lunch and Learn' on January 22nd.

# JANUARY / FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES

## YESTERDAY IS VAPOR AND TOMORROW IS A QUEST

8:30 & 11:00 AM Traditional  
11:00 AM Grace Vision  
Dr. Steve Strange

As we embark on 2023, this New year will definitely bring about change. The truth is that no one likes change, but with every New Year, we think about what we need to change. That presents the question, do we go into this year amid fear? Or do we go into this year with the resolve that we will take each day for what it is worth?

Every day is a gift, so the objective is to win every day. Do not just make a resolution or two this year; make it your mission to win every day. How do we do that? We do it by establishing daily habits that help us accomplish that goal. Join us for this sermon series - seven habits that will help you learn how to "win the day".

continued on page 3



# SERMON SERIES

January 8, 2023

Habit #1 Flip the Script | Title: Flip It and Grip it

Scripture: Genesis 43:28; 50:20

Lesson: Joseph has to learn to win the day even when things were stacked against him.

January 15, 2023

Habit #2 Kiss the Wave | Title: Grand Gestures

Scripture: Exodus 14:13-22

Lesson: We all face obstacles throughout our lives, and many times we allow those obstacles to overtake us. However, if we use these obstacles - these bad things that have happened to us - to our advantage, they can become leverage rather than a downfall.

January 22, 2023

Habit #3 Eat the Frog | Title: Eat the Frog First Thing in the Morning

Scripture: Colossians 3:9-10;

Proverbs 28:13

Lesson: Mark Twain is purported to have said, if you ever have to eat a live frog, it's best done first thing in the morning. Why? Because you can go through the rest of the day knowing that the hardest thing is behind you.

January 29, 2023

Habit #4 Fly the Kite | Title: How You Do That, Is How You Do Everything

Scripture: Colossians 3:22-24

Lesson: Being faithful in the little things as though they are big things, will influence God to do big things in your life as though they are little things.

February 5, 2023

Habit #5 Cut the Rope | Title: Find the Time

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Lesson: Playing it safe is not safe! In order to really accomplish the dreams God has for you, there will need to be some calculated risks taken.

February 12, 2023

Habit #6: Wind the Clock | Title: Every Minute Counts

Scripture: Ephesians 5:15-17

Lesson: It is not only important to manage your time properly, it is also important to fill your time wisely

February 19, 2023

Habit 7: Seed the Clouds | Title: Producing Future Results

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Lesson: Creating good habits is a cause-and-effect system. What you do now will produce results for the future.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS

## Ciudad Medical Mission

The Annual Medical Mission to Ciudad Victoria, Mexico with Mega Missions is scheduled for February 15-22, 2023. The cost will be around \$650. We already have four commitments from our church, If you have an interest in going on this trip, please contact Dan Shirah or Johnny Evans (205) 446-0658 as soon as possible.



## Kids First Needs Volunteers

Kids First Day School is in need of volunteers who can assist teachers during the lunch period. If you can volunteer any day of the week from 11:00 am - 1 pm, please email Amy Gullledge at [amy@fumctrussville.com](mailto:amy@fumctrussville.com) or call Kids First at 205-655-0583. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

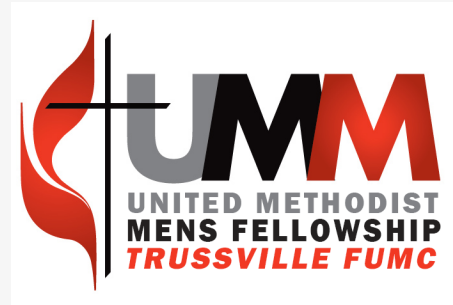
## Confirmation Information

Confirmation classes will begin on January 22nd! They will take place in the Sunday school hour from 9:45-10:45 in the confirmation room. Parents are more than welcome to attend the first few lessons if that will help ease their student into the process. Parents of students going through confirmation will receive weekly emails with all of the material we will be covering, as well as questions. If parents have any questions or have not received any information on confirmation, then please feel free to reach out to Phillip McEvoy ([phillip@fumctrussville.com](mailto:phillip@fumctrussville.com)) so he can get all of that to you!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS

### **UMM Monthly Meeting**

The United Methodist Men will conduct their next monthly meeting on Sunday, January 8, 2023. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the meeting. This month's guest speaker is Phillip McEvoy, TFUMC Youth Minister. Breakfast will be provided by the Seek & Discover SS Class.



### **Nehemiah 2:28 Study Groups**

The Discernment team has decided to postpone the use of the Nehemiah 2:28 study groups at this time. We will move forward with the 'Lunch and Learn' studies as scheduled, with the first 'Lunch and Learn' on January 22nd.

### **Naomi Girl's Special Luncheon and Program**

Friday, January 13, 2023 at 12 o'clock in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by Monday, January 8, 2023 by contacting Linda Shaddix.

### **Community Food Bank**

The Community Food Bank volunteers will meet on Thursday, January 19, 2023, from 9:00 - 11:30 AM. If you would like to volunteer please email Charlene Sharp at [csharp@bellsouth.net](mailto:csharp@bellsouth.net) or call (205) 835-2691.





# YOUTH MINISTRY

With this new month comes a new year, and this year will bring a lot of new things to the Student Ministry here at First United Methodist Church Trussville! We will have several packets of information being sent out over the next few weeks that we want to make sure every student has a chance to get in on the fun! If you are not in our weekly parent emails or GroupMe message, then please feel free to contact Phillip McEvoy via email at [phillip@fumctrussville.com](mailto:phillip@fumctrussville.com). You can also follow our Instagram and Facebook to keep up with events and what we have been doing within the church and community.

The Student Ministry wants to take this time to thank everyone who has come and fellowshiped with us, cooked dinners for us, volunteered with us, and donated towards our ministry. We are gearing up for multiple mission trips this summer as well as a retreat and none of that would be able without your continued support! Thank you!



# HANDBELL MINISTRY

The Trussville FUMC Handbell Ministry spread lots of tidings of great joy this Advent Season. Many thanks to all everyone who helped with all the details to make our ringing happen. Like to join handbells? We are always looking for ringers! Contact Kelley Clegg Neal for info.



Jubilant Ringers rang for the staff & visitors at St. Vincent's East on Dec. 15. Many thanks to Sybil Watson for joining us.

Joe Faughender, Donna Landrum, Liza Peterson, Judy Spain & Kelley Clegg Neal had a great time ringing for the residents of Fair Haven on December 15.



Children's Melody Bells & Children's Handchimes rang for the 8:30/11:00 Traditional Services on December 18. Sam Cook, Mary Saxon Hatcher, Abby Cooke, Kate Dennison, Cadence Matthews, Caroline Smith, Emma Kate Cook, & Sarah Cooke rang the Prelude.

Cherub Choir & the Children's Choir sang the Anthem for the 8:30/11:00 Traditional Services on December 18. Mary Saxon Hatcher, Sam Cook, Everleigh Strange, Emma Kate Cook, Caroline Smith, Cadence Matthews, Sarah Cooke, Abby Cooke & Kate Dennison also sang the Choral Benediction in the 8:30 Service.



It was fun to have Adam Smith home from college to ring with us for Live Nativity on December 19!





# CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery at Trussville First has hit several milestones! What milestones do you ask?

We have embraced new faces each Tuesday for the past three years. This is a major milestone because many CR programs only last a year or two before they stop holding meetings. This program requires a dedicated leadership team of volunteers who are constantly reaching out to those who might not realize they need such a program.

The second milestone is that Trussville CR has become known as a safe place to find healing from life's battles! Most people think of a recovery program only dealing with drugs or alcohol issues but at CR we also help with issues such as depression, anxiety, grief, eating disorders, abuse, neglect, abandonment, and many other such issues that hinder us from living an abundant life of joy.

The third milestone is that we average between 50 and 60 in attendance each week. Many new CR programs never reach this number in attendance. Many only have an attendance of 10 or less each week. Your CR program is a place where healed people are helping people in many ways.

The fourth milestone is that a new CR program was launched off of this one in January 2022 and they have become an anchor for recovery in their community also! Congrats to the Celebrate Recovery team at Faith UMC on having such a successful first year! We are so proud of y'all! We are praying over you and your program constantly! We look forward to having many decades of recovery ministry with your group and launching new CR programs together in other communities!

On January 3rd, 2023, we will celebrate these milestones and give God glory for the things He has done, is doing and will do through this program in the future! We have an amazing leadership team who speaks life into the lives that attend this program each week!

Happy Birthday CR!!!





# KIDS FIRST DAYSCHOOL



Kids First Day School's 3K, 4K, and School Age Program performed a beautiful Christmas Program on Thursday, December 8, 2022. The Children enjoyed learning about the birth of Jesus, a visit from Santa, the Grinch Day, watching a 4K play about Mary and Joseph, and doing good deeds to earn a piece of hay to add to our "Good Deeds Manger".

We are looking forward to begin the new year with lots of Winter themes and activities.

# NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Through November 2022, the church received contributions (income) of \$899,000 or \$16,000 (1.7%) below budget. Contributions of the Uganda widow's homes and the new organ (and other designated contributions) are recorded separately and not reflected in contributions. Expenses were \$1,047,000 or \$133,000 (14.5%) higher than budgeted. See the table below for details. To summarize the year so far, the church has spent just under \$149,000 more than it received.

Each year, the Trustees plan maintenance and replacement expenses as part of their annual budget. Unfortunately, unexpected repairs and replacements continue to outpace planned updates. Through November 2022, the Trustees have invested \$365,000 in repairs and upgrades to our physical plant or \$190,000 more than budget. Staff expenses are under budget by \$26,000 and all other expense categories are under budget by \$31,000. In December, approximately \$15,000 of this underrun in other expense categories will become due and payable.

By the time the newsletter is distributed, all 2022 contributions will have been received and expenses paid. The February financial update will provide a summary of the year's contributions and expenses. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of the mission and ministry of FUMC-Trussville. Please remain faithful in your financial support as 2023 begins.

If there are any questions, please see any member of the committee.

The Finance Committee

## FUMC-Trussville November YTD 2022

	Nov YTD 2022	Nov YTD 2021	Change vs. 2021	Nov YTD 2022	Nov YTD Budget	Difference vs. Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$ 898,815	\$ 909,246	\$ (10,431)	\$ 898,815	\$ 914,580	\$ (15,765)
<b>Expenses</b>	954,056	888,393	65,663	1,047,333	914,580	132,753
<b>Difference</b>	\$ (55,241)	\$ 20,853	\$ (76,094)	\$ (148,518)	\$ -	\$ (148,518)

# MEMORIALS & HONORARIA



<b>Honorarium For:</b>	<b>By:</b>	<b>Fund:</b>
Rev. David Teel	Candy Strickland The Hawkins Family	EMBRACE General Fund
Dr. Rev. Steve Strange	Candy Strickland	EMBRACE
Louise Jensen	Linda Shaddix The Hawkins Family	Sympathy Fund Sympathy Fund
Jim McKinney	The Hawkins Family	Organ Fund
Betty Boatwright	Lynda Payne	Choir
Bill & Carol Alverson	Sue Meeks	Organ Fund
<b>Memorial For:</b>		
Jim Morton	Lee Roy & Doreen Lee	Organ Fund
Gene Glenn	Lee Roy & Doreen Lee	Organ Fund
Doris Murphree	Bill & Pat Smith	TEAM
Doris Woods	Judy Dawson M. L. & Kiki Smitherman Phyllis Jordan	Organ Fund Organ Fund Organ Fund
Herman Jordan	Phyllis Jordan	Organ Fund
Harriett Simonetti	Steve & Emily Brooks	Organ Fund
Watson Gaither	Clint & Bobbi Wells	General Fund
Marja Leena Viikinsalo	Hal & Joy Riddle	Organ Fund
Lillian Judith Barnard	Hal & Joy Riddle	Organ Fund
Holland Hawkins	Hal & Joy Riddle	Organ Fund
Glenda Curtis	Hal & Joy Riddle	Organ Fund
MeiLing Shackleton	Hal & Joy Riddle	Organ Fund
Judy Bennett	Friendship Class	Organ Fund

# YARDWORK AND GRACE

BY: WILL NORTHERN

When I was growing up, I would do yard work for extra money. I had several neighbors who would pay me \$10 to \$15 to cut grass in the summer and rake leaves in the fall. I did NOT like raking leaves. Unlike cutting grass, it took me all day to rake a yard and bag the leaves.

One of my neighbors (Mr. Q) would pay me \$10 to rake his yard or cut his grass. His yard was not very big but his trees were Pin Oaks, which dropped these tiny sliver-like leaves which were particularly difficult for me to rake. Whether I spent an entire Saturday raking (we did not have a leaf blower) or cutting the grass, I got \$10. To my frustration, when I was finished, Mr. Q was never at home. I hardly ever got paid when I was done. I almost always had to go back and knock on the door to receive my pay. On one particular day, I was finally finished and very tired. I noticed Mr. Q's truck was there so I assumed he must be home. I was eager to collect. I repeatedly knocked on the door, and rang the doorbell - no answer. I knew he was there. I did not give up. I was determined that he was going to have to pay up on the spot this time.

Finally, the door opened but it was not Mr. Q but Mrs. Q. I had never met or seen her before this moment. She was riddled with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), a crippling disease. She could barely stand. Despite the pain she must have felt in getting up and coming to the door, she said very sweetly "What can I do for you honey?" I felt horrible, then and now. With kind patience, she explained that Mr. Q was running errands with his son and would be back later. I thanked her, said I was sorry about 20 times, and couldn't get out of there quick enough. To this day, anyone with RA has a soft spot in my heart. I fully expected Mr. Q to be upset with me for disturbing his wife, but he wasn't.

continued on next page



# YARDWORK AND GRACE

BY: WILL NORTHERN

Mr. and Mrs. Q showed incredible grace. I cannot tell you how many times, I am reminded of this whenever I fail to show forgiveness and grace to others. As Christians, we are in the business of forgiveness. If you are struggling with the concept of forgiveness - either receiving grace or showing grace, you are not alone. Your Stephen Ministers are here for you. You don't have to keep knocking, just let us know.

Your Stephen Minister team will be with you as long as you need, as you seek to find what it is that God wants you to see. We are confidential, trained, lay-pastoral care. You are not alone.

Will Northern



## Trussville First UMC Stephen Ministers

Stuart Garner

Martha Cusimano

Garey Morrison

Linda Hester

Curtis Garner

Rebecca Best

Will Northern

Teri Freeman



# TRUSSVILLE FIRST UMC

The Neighborhood Watch  
January 2023

## Want the latest and up-to-date information from TFUMC?

Subscribe to our MailChimp Email List. With MailChimp, you will receive information through your inbox, including weekly announcements and upcoming events/reminders. If you would like to subscribe, use the scan code below and fill out the online form.



## CONTACT US AT:

Telephone: 205-655-3259  
Email: [info@fumctrussville.com](mailto:info@fumctrussville.com)  
120 N. Chalkville Rd. Trussville AL. 35173  
[fumctrussville.com](http://fumctrussville.com)

# TFUMC STAFF

## PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Steve Strange  
Senior Minister

Rev. David Teel  
Executive Minister

## MINISTRY STAFF

Amy Gulledge  
Kids First Minister

Jeff Coe  
Modern Worship Minister

Phillip McEvoy  
Youth Minister

Ben Cook  
Music Minister

Rev. Shan Odom  
Celebrate Recovery Minister

Michael King  
Pianist

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Candy Strickland  
Office Administration Minister

Matthew Smith  
Assistant Custodial Minister

Bob Murray  
Accounting Minister

Brett Fulton  
Doorkeeper

Melissa Smith  
Communications

