

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

First Methodist Church of Trussville
120 North Chalkville Rd. Trussville, Al. 35173
205-655-3259 | trussvillefirst.com



NEW YOUNG ADULT CLASS

Starting in January

Shortly after I arrived here 6 years ago, we started a New Sunday School for young adults. We knew that we were an aging church and to grow and stay alive, we needed to invest in our young adults. So, we started a young adult class and the Lord blessed it. That Sunday school class - Cornerstone - has seen tremendous growth. In 2024, many in that class now have children, some even have more than one. Paul Asbury has done a great job leading this class. Just like many of our other adult classes that have been together for decades, I'm confident that Cornerstone will continue to forge friendships and prayer partners that last a lifetime.

But now it is time to repeat the process and start another young Sunday school class. During the discernment process, we brought in many young people because they wanted a vote and wanted a place to call home. Most of these young people are college students or young professionals. Many are single, some are engaged or married. So, starting on January 21, 2024, we will kick off a new Sunday school class (as of now, unnamed) for young adults. Look for location information coming soon. Hope to see you there!
- Dr. Steve Strange

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

We are doing things a little different this year. We are asking for donations for each meal. These donations will be going to projects and missions in and around our church and community!

Each month we will highlight a project or a mission. Once the cost of the food is deducted, the funds will be used for improvement projects or specific missions. If the menu says "fundraiser", the funds will go to the specific groups or ministries listed. These meals will be provided at the expense of the group and the funds will be collected by the specific group.

This is the current menu for January and February of 2024. Please email Shan if you would like to have a fundraiser meal for a special occasion and it will be added to the calendar. Her email is shan@trussvillefirst.com or pastor.shankay@gmail.com.

January 3 NO MEAL

January 10 Fundraiser | Chicken & Rice with Rolls | Celebrate Recovery

January 17 Church Provided | Burgers & Chips | Scholarship for Mission Trips

January 24 Church Provided | Spaghetti with Rolls | Scholarship for Mission Trips

January 31 Church Provided | BBQ Chicken Sandwiches | Scholarship for Mission Trips

February 7 Fundraiser | Red Beans & Rice | New Beginnings SS

February 14 Church Provided | Pizza Casserole | Children's Ministry

February 21 Church Provided | Stuffed Bell Peppers | Children's Ministry

February 28 Fundraiser | Taco Bar | Celebrate Recovery

Missions / Projects for January & February:

January - (Mission) Scholarships for Mission Trips during 2024

February - (Project) Children's Ministry to aid their program

If we are truly going to be a mission minded church then we must start with our hearts and reach out to our community!

JANUARY SERMON SERIES

Winning The Battle of the Mind

Dr. Steve Strange

I had a friend who used to say all the time, 'do not speak that into existence.' She would say that our words had the power to lift up or destroy. I love that statement, and it made me think - where do those thoughts that we speak originate? I realized that they come from our own mind.

The truth is that our thoughts are powerful. Our thoughts motivate our decisions, they influence our habits and virtually shape who we are. We have just entered a new year. So, what we are going to do is to begin to think about how we can make this the best year ever. Where does that start? It starts in the mind. If we are going to change anything in 2024, we are going to have to stop our "stinking thinking." In other words, we are going to have to win the war that is being waged in our thoughts.

So for the next 4 weeks, we are going to learn how to go to battle and to take our thoughts captive and win the war of our minds.

Date: January 7, 2024

Title: Let the Battle Begin

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Romans 12:2

Date: January 14, 2024

Title: Taking Back Your Sanity

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9

Date: January 21, 2024

Title: Defeating Your Negative Thoughts

Scripture: I Peter 5:5-10

Date: January 28, 2024

Title: Calming the Anxious Mind

Scripture: Romans 8: 5-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rick Sharp will begin a new Bible study, "**The Book of Acts**" on Wednesday, January 31 at 4:00 pm in the Women's Study Room. Bring your Bible, no other book is required. This will be a verse-by-verse study directly from the Bible. Text or call Rick at 205-835-2690 for more information or to sign up.

- **Naomi Girls Luncheon** - Friday, January 19, 2024 at 11:30 am at the Cracker Barrel in Trussville. We will have a guest speaker, Candy Strickland, to share with the group about our new project for the year, Hope Lodge. Hope Lodge specializes in helping cancer patients have a place to stay during treatments. If you are a widow attending First Methodist Trussville and would like to become a part of the group, or if you plan to attend the luncheon, please contact Linda Shaddix 205-853-3092.

- Have you completed the **member information update**, either online or hard copy? This is very important and much appreciated! Forms are still available in the Transept, Welcome Center and church office, as well as online. Thank you.

- We need a few more members to help with our **Homebound List**. We currently have 21 Homebound Friends. We have 13 members who have volunteered to call, send cards and possibly visit these friends. If you would like to make this a personal ministry, please feel free to call Susan Marlow at 864.380.3132. She will give you all the information you will need.

The Missions Team volunteers this month at the **Community Food Bank of Central Alabama** from 9:00 to 11:30 am on Thursday, January 18, 2024. We welcome ALL who wish to help! If you would like to join the team, please call Charlene Sharp at 205-835-2691 or email at csharp@bellsouth.net to register.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Technical support needed. If you enjoy working with computers, camera or sound systems, please contact Dan Shirah. We are in need of volunteers to help on Sundays (and sometimes special functions) with the technical support of the services. Your time investment would involve approximately one Sunday per month at this time after training.

You are invited to come and join our **HANDBELL CHOIR**. If you are not an experienced ringer, we can teach you. Everyone can learn and you will enjoy playing. We rehearse on Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm in the Handbell Room. Please see Joe Faughender for more information.



“

I would like to thank the good people of Trussville Methodist Church for their cards, prayers and calls during my recent medical issue.

- Jerry Marlow

- The Trussville Methodist Men will conduct their next monthly meeting on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the meeting. Our guest speaker will be Trussville's Mayor Buddy Choat. Please remember that wives and children are welcome at the breakfast. Notify Allen Hatcher by phone or text at (205) 773-9591 if you will be attending the meeting.



CELEBRATE RECOVERY

As Celebrate Recovery wraps up our 4th year of ministry, it's a time of overflowing gratitude as we reflect on the lives changed by this ministry. In a single year, we serve between 2100 to 2400 hot meals free of charge. We do this because we understand that for some it's one of the only hot meals they receive in a week. We have seen many babies born to mom's and dad's who are working hard to get their lives together in order to give their children a better life that hopefully will not require any level of recovery from trauma or addiction. As those babies grow, they greet us each week with a smile and hug because we have become a safe place for them and their parents. They have truly become part of our family. We have laughed, cried, supported through funerals, and celebrated two baptized on the first Tuesday of 2023 in the freezing cold weather of the back parking lot.

As we begin our 5th year in 2024, we have great expectations of witnessing God move in our lives and the lives of those around us. We stand on the Word of God and we believe for it! Join us each Tuesday at 6pm for food and fellowship to meet the congregation of Celebrate Recovery. Our worship service begins at 6:30 and concludes by 7:20 pm. You can also join us online by watching on our Facebook page at **CELEBRATE RECOVERY TRUSSVILLE FIRST**. It's a worship experience that will change your life!

Much Agape ev'body!
Rev. Shan Odom



WOMEN'S MINISTRY



WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

"Better Together"

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024 FROM 9 AM TO 2 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL AT FIRST METHODIST TRUSSVILLE**

- **MORNING REFRESHMENTS WITH COFFEE FROM MAPLE AVENUE COFFEE HOUSE**
- **LUNCH PROVIDED BY TRUSSVILLE METHODIST MEN**
- **DOOR PRIZES, MUSIC AND A SPECIAL GIFT FOR ATTENDEES**
- **CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED**



Guest speaker

LAURA JOSEPH

**COST IS \$25. SIGN UP FORMS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
MORE INFO, CONTACT TFMWOMEN@GMAIL.COM**

KIDS FIRST DAY SCHOOL

- Kids First Day School Parents and Visitors enjoyed the children's Christmas Program, A Marvelous Plan in Bethlehem, on December 7, 2023.

- December lesson plans included learning about the travels of Mary and Joseph and the birth of baby Jesus, Christmas crafts, making gifts for our parents, Reindeer games, Christmas sensory play, and doing "good deeds" throughout the day to earn a piece of straw to lay in the manger.



MEMORIALS & HONORARIA

Honorarium For:**By:****Fund:**

Steve Strange

Lee Roy & Doreen Lee

General Fund

Shan Odom

Lee Roy & Doreen Lee

General Fund

M. L. & Kiki Smitherman

Lee Roy & Doreen Lee

General Fund

Friendship SS Class

Dottie Drennon

Hymnal Fund

Carrie Garrett

Jelly Lepper

Hymnal Fund

Memorials For:**By:****Fund:**

Terry Thurmond

Ameber Wallace,

Lynn Wallace & Tim Smith

Celebrate Recovery

Mark & Susan Peterson

Celebrate Recovery

Randy & Susan Day

Celebrate Recovery

Elizabeth Taylor

Celebrate Recovery

Craig & Stephanie Fulton

Celebrate Recovery

Karen Dorsett

Celebrate Recovery



He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

- Psalm 147:3

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Believe

by: **Garey Morrison**



I know that “life” can get in the way of our divine purpose. Christmas and the Advent season provided a perfect reminder for us to refocus then a year starts! It is easy to lose our focus.

During a LONG business trip I checked into a Residence Inn. A lamp in my room had a unique lampshade. I saw the word “Believe” and a bunch of gobbledygook. (technical term.) Curiosity prompted my call to the front desk. The clerk explained all the words were positive words in different languages.

acreditar. 相信 smatrati věřit tro geloven. voor waar aannemen.

Our Heavenly Father carefully selected each and every one of us. Everyone has a purpose on earth, a divine purpose. BELIEVE. If you are just OK, let us know. Your Stephen Ministers can provide support during trying times. Your Stephen Minister can walk with you for as long as you need. Everything that is discussed with a Stephen Minister is completely confidential. Always.

You are part of a family called First Methodist Church Trussville. When a life event affects you or someone you love please let us know. You are not alone.

Blessings to you.

Garey Morrison

First Methodist Trussville Stephen Ministers

Stuart Garner

Linda Hester

Bob Murray

Martha Cusimano

Curtis Garner

Teri Freeman

Garey Morrison

Betty Frankl

Kim Cooper



FIRST METHODIST TRUSSVILLE

The Neighborhood Watch
January 2024

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Subscribe to our MailChimp Email List. With MailChimp, you will receive information through your inbox, including prayer lists, upcoming events and reminders. If you would like to subscribe, use the scan code below, select SUBSCRIBE and complete the online form.



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YOUR STAFF

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Steve Strange
Senior Minister

Rev. Shan Odom
Executive & Recovery Minister

MINISTRY STAFF

Amy Gulledge
Kids First Minister

Jeff Coe
Modern Worship Minister

Megan McEvoy
Children's Minister

Ben Cook
Music Minister

Phillip McEvoy
Youth Minister

Michael King
Pianist

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Candy Strickland
Office Administration Minister

Matthew Smith
Assistant Custodial Minister

Bob Murray
Finance Minister

Brett Fulton
Doorkeeper

Melissa Smith
Communications



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