

Vital Signs

2010 Budgeted Giving	\$280,860.15
Weekly Requirement	\$5,401.16
Collected Week 29	\$3,988.00
Collected YTD(29wks)	\$155,759.34
Weekly Average	\$5,371.01
YTD Budgeted Giving	\$155,759.34
Over/(under) Budget YTD	\$538.86
Cash Balance on 7/18/10	\$38,119.27

Building Loan Bal. \$1,518,570.49

Worship Attendance July 18th:
9:00 Service - 98
11:00 Service - 61
Vespers Service - 19

YOUTH MEAL AND COMMUNITY CHANGERS REPORT WEDNESDAY, JULY 28TH 5:30 PM

Reservation cards are available in the pews. Please fill out and place in the collection plate **OR** make your reservation online - go to www.fordschapel.org and follow the link under Wednesday Night Dinner. Please make online reservations by noon on Tuesday.

Church Information

Church Office
721-0639
Fax 721-0292

email: fcumchurch@bellsouth.net

Pastor Webster
Home: 859-5802 Cell: 656-6071

Website
www.fordschapel.org

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY: 7/25/10

Contemporary Service.....	9:00 AM
Sunday School.....	10:00 AM
Traditional Service.....	11:00 AM
Youth Picnic @ Dublin Park.....	4:00 PM
Vespers Service.....	6:00 PM

MONDAY: 7/26/10

Boy Scouts.....	7:00 PM
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TUESDAY: 7/27/10

Administrative Council Meeting.....	6:00 PM
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WEDNESDAY: 7/28/10

Youth Dinner & Community Changers Report.....	5:30 PM
Youth Worship.....	6:00 PM
Comfort Crafters.....	6:00 PM
Choir.....	6:00 PM
Band.....	7:00 PM

SATURDAY: 7/31/64

Angel Food Distribution.....	8:00-9:30 AM
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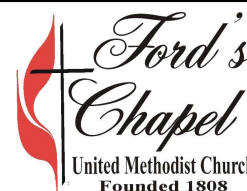
SUNDAY: 8/1/10

Contemporary Service.....	9:00 AM
Sunday School.....	10:00 AM
Traditional Service.....	11:00 AM
Vespers Service.....	6:00 PM

DO YOU LIKE TO COOK?

Ford's Chapel is currently seeking someone who would be willing to coordinate/cook the meals on Wednesday evenings. For further information, please contact the church office (256-721-0639).

The Weekly Connection - July 25, 2010



How Stuff Works

answers "How are we doing in terms of attendance and financial health?" and "How is that measured?"

A couple of years ago, the Annual Conference began a weekly "benchmark report" for churches to complete each week online. Many of you deal with benchmark reporting at work, and know that it can give a relatively up-to-date assessment *in numbers* of the health of an organization. The numbers we report each week are: attendance at primary services of worship*, membership changes (new members joining and those whose names are removed from the roll**), baptisms and professions of faith***. Numbers for "apportionments paid"—our offering that is sent to the Annual Conference to cover our "fair share" of joint ministries and mission expenses—are added by the Conference. If you would like to see where we stand to date, you can log on to northalabamaumc.org, click on "Church Stats," then "Conference Dashboard." There you will see a "dashboard" look, where you can scroll down on "Filter by District" to the Northeast District. On the next screen you can further "Filter by Church" by scrolling down to Ford's Chapel.

So how are we doing? Summer vacations have hit us pretty hard, but up until then, our attendance numbers have shown a steadily increasing trend that began last summer. Our membership numbers have gone up slightly. Our apportionment numbers are up from last year. We have had no increase in baptisms or professions of faith since the first of the year. All of the numbers reported are objective except for two: participation in outreach ministries, and those served through outreach. Those two numbers are currently estimated, but we are working to make them more objective.

Al Renz keeps an "in house" graph going of income as compared with last year, and as compared with budget needs. (A "short-form" chart of this information is listed on the back of each *Weekly Connection*.) To date we are just slightly ahead of budgetary needs for 2010, and we are ahead of 2009 giving trends by a little over 9%.

That's this week's thumbnail sketch. I will be happy to answer more specific questions on this or other topics. Feel free to give me your questions on Sunday morning, or email your questions to me at dawebster@fordschapel.org.

Grace and peace,
Dorothy Ann

*We include the 9:00 and the 11:00 services.

**Names are removed from the roll only by a person's request, by their joining another church, or by charge conference action.

***Professions of faith are by youth and adults, and are usually accompanied by baptism and joining the church. Infant baptisms are not included in the number reported for baptisms.

WHERE DO YOU THINK THE CHURCH IS BEING CALLED TO GO IN THE COMING YEAR?

This is one of the topics that will be discussed at the Admin Council meeting on Tuesday, July 27th at 6 p.m. in the old sanctuary. Also on the agenda are an update from the Annual Conference and planning for the 2011 budget. Everyone is encouraged to come and participate in the discussions. For further information contact Lisa Wolfe, 256-721-9285.

Invitation to Revival Services at St. Paul-Triana UMC

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 620 Sixth Street, Triana, AL, cordially invites you to be a part of its annual Revival Services , kicking off on Sunday, August 1st, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. and every Wednesday Night during the month of August at 6:30 p.m. The minister of this occasion will be our new Pastor, Dr. Emmanuel Kanunu. Please come out and help us lift up the name of Jesus. For further information, please feel free to call (256)508-8121.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Missions Team is sponsoring a school supply drive to help provide necessary items to Harvest area students as they head back into the classrooms. The drive will be short - **August 1st - 15th**, so don't miss out on the opportunity to take part in it! School supply lists can be found in area stores or will be available on the information table in the foyer. Besides school supplies, you can also donate personal hygiene items, such as deodorant, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc. to help keep students looking (and smelling ☺) their best! For more information, contact Alan Hicks (balanhicks@gmail.com or 325-6405).

YOUNG WORSHIPERS & NURSERY SCHEDULES

Young Worshipers:

July 25th: Tammy Sledge & Nikki East

Aug 1st: Angie Wilbanks & Mike Carstensen

Nursery:

July 25th: Nancy McMillan, _____, _____ (volunteers needed)

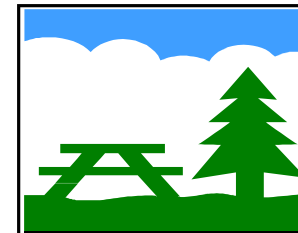
Aug 1st: Nancy McMillan, Christy Crenshaw, Erika Pietrzak

MISSIONS MINUTE: YOUTH ON MISSION

Over the course of this year the youth have been active in mission projects locally here in Madison county. The biggest of these projects took place in June, when 9 youth and 5 adults partnered with Bethlehem Baptist Church in Hazel Green to do Community Changers. During that week 60 plus people helped complete 13 projects across Madison County. Projects such as roofing, painting, carpentry, and siding were completed for widows and the disabled. This **Wednesday July 28th**, the youth who participated in Community Changers will be hosting a dinner in the Family Life Center at 5:30pm and they will be sharing about their experiences from that week. There will be a slideshow and a short video showing the different kinds of ministry that took place that week. Dinner will include **BBQ pork, baked beans, chips, and dessert**. Please make reservation by signing up on the reservation slips in the pews or go on-line to fordschapel.org and make a Wednesday night dinner reservation there.

HAP FOOD DRIVE EXTENDED

The drive to collect food and other necessities (see list on the information table in the foyer) for HAP North has been extended to go through the month of July. Donations (if non-perishable) may be placed in the box in the hallway outside the Family Life Center.



YOUTH PICNIC

The youth will be having a picnic on Sunday July 25th at 4pm at Dublin Park in Madison. It's going to be a great time of fun, fellowship, and food! For more information contact Jonathan (jonathan@fordschapel.org or 256-542-8127).

NEWSLETTER FROM THE FUNK FAMILY

A newsletter was received in the church office this week from the Funk family (missionaries that Ford's Chapel helps to support). Look for this newsletter on the Missions bulletin board in the hallway outside the Family Life Center.