

The Hallelujah

Here's the good news!

May 2021



*Mark your
calendar*

May 2-23

21 Days of Prayer

May 8

Community Lunch

11:00 a.m. until it's gone
Drive thru boxed lunches

May 9

Galilean Service Resumes

May 9

Graduate Recognition

9:30 a.m. in The Well

May 12, 16, 17

Vision Celebrations

May 12 at 6 p.m.

May 16 at 4 p.m.

May 17 at 10 a.m.

May 23

Pentecost Sunday

Sanctuary Offering

Starting Point

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

COME MEET PASTOR BILL, SEE THE SANCTUARY, AND HEAR WHERE GOD IS LEADING

Foley UMC is emerging from a five-year season of renewal and revitalization and is on the cusp of beginning a wonderful new chapter. In the month of May, we will gather as a church family to celebrate God's vision, meet our new lead pastor, and finalize the last step of our revitalization season. We will host three identical Vision Celebration events on Wednesday, May 12 at 6 p.m., Sunday, May 16 at 4 p.m., and Monday, May 17 at 10 a.m., in the almost completely renovated sanctuary. We'll celebrate what God has done over the last few years and fix our focus on where he is leading us as a church in this next season. Our newly appointed lead pastor, the Rev. Bill Curtin, pictured below with our Foley UMC staff, will be present at all three gatherings. We'll finish the time by sharing the updates on the sanctuary, sharing the pieces that are left to be done before we can move back into the room, and praying for God's desire to reach our community.

These three events will all be socially-distanced, and every person who calls Foley UMC home or is curious about all that is happening in the midst of finishing our season of revitalization and moving into the next season is welcome to come and join the celebration!



SHOW SOME FOLEY HOSPITALITY TO REV. BILL CURTIN!

This July, Bill Curtin will become the lead pastor of Foley UMC. Bill has had an effective career in ministry, serving all types and sizes of churches. He currently is the pastor of the Monroeville First UMC. Bill loves serving in the community and is a perfect fit to help Foley step into the new vision that we have discerned over the last few years. Bill is married to Stephanie, and they have four grown kids and seven grandkids.

We want to begin letting Stephanie and Bill know how excited we are to have them come to Foley, that we are praying for them, and we can't wait to see what God has in store. This month, will you drop Bill a note with a word of encouragement for his season of transition? Their current address is at right. Help them feel welcome as they begin this exciting new season.

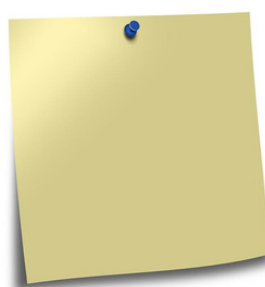


Bill and Stephanie Curtin
67 Mims Street
Monroeville, AL 36460

PODCAST RECOMMENDATION FROM PASTOR NOLAN

Have you ever wished you could have a word of encouragement or a reminder about how to follow Jesus during the week? The Simple Reminder is a short podcast by businessman and writer Patrick Lencioni. He proudly claims that he isn't a pastor or a theologian just an ordinary guy who wants to do his best in the most important aspect of his life (following Jesus). Each week, he and his guests share helpful reminders and encouraging words to guide you on your faith journey. You can find the podcast on your favorite podcast app: search "The Simple Reminder with Patrick Lencioni."

the simple reminder



A podcast for
people who get
distracted in
their pursuit of
Jesus

with Patrick Lencioni

CHURCH WILL PRAY AND MAKE SANCTUARY OFFERING ON PENTECOST SUNDAY (MAY 23)

Wear red on Pentecost Sunday!

With the bishop announcing that Nolan Donald will move to a new church this summer and Bill Curtin will come to Foley as the new lead pastor, it is increasingly clear that the last five years have been a season of revitalization and renewal in preparation for the next season that will begin this summer. Over this season of renewal, we have seen the church's finances, the staff, the ministry focus, and the facilities all renewed. We have restarted contemporary worship and have a wonderful, revitalized children's ministry. The final piece of this season is the completion of the sanctuary renovation project. Rather than let this project linger and become burden in the new season of the church, we want to finish this project before Nolan moves and have this season of revitalization complete.

During the month of May, the church will commit to a unified 21-day season of prayer (beginning May 2). In addition to praying for the church and the transition we are in, we are inviting everyone to ask God to provide the remaining funds for the sanctuary project and to ask God to guide them in their offering. On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, we are asking everyone who calls Foley UMC home to make an offering to the sanctuary project. While every household can't give the same amount, we want the whole church to give to God as a way of celebrating the season we are finishing and with anticipation of what God is about to do in and through Foley UMC.

Pentecost is the day that the Holy Spirit was given to the believers and movement of God began through the church. On this Pentecost, we are praying "Come, Holy Spirit!" as we offer ourselves together in unity for what God is doing and longs yet to do through this wonderful church!



Shown here: Progress! Volunteers are busy putting down new carpet in the sanctuary on a Saturday morning.

THE TABLE MISSIONAL COMMUNITY

Feeding People & Building Relationships with a Joyful Spirit

The Table Missional Community is excited to share three important things with each of you. The first is that The Table is partnering with the UMW to give away food to the community of Foley on May 8th. The **food give away** will start at 11:00 am and will run until the food runs out. The UMW will be preparing the food and The Table will be handing the food out and will have a prayer tent set up. The Table would like to invite everyone that calls Foley UMC home to come and help out. We are asking for people that are willing to direct traffic, smile and wave, pray with people, or just be present and serve where needed. This is an excellent opportunity to begin to serve our community of Foley. If you are interested please contact Pastor John at 251-228-2063 or jsimonson@foleyumc.org.

1

The second is another opportunity to serve the community of Foley through a **snack drive**. The entire month of May, The Table will be collecting snacks of any kind in order to prepare for a "Snack Bag" give away that will happen in June and possibly July if enough snacks are donated. We recognize that one of our church's strong suits is in serving through food. We also recognize there is a need during the summer months for kids that do not have much to eat and rely on snacks from the school during the school year. The Table is hoping to help meet that need by providing Snack Bags in the summer months to families with kids. The first step is to build a snack pantry in May so that we can put together the Snack Bag drive for June.

2

Finally, we would like to make sure that everyone knows what **the mission** of The Table is. Our five year goal is to help the church become a place that is known for serving regular meals and building relationships that overcome societal expectations with a joyful spirit so that people are inspired to worship and praise God. We know the Table is one of the most powerful places on earth and we hope to create places where everyone in our community can join together and meet Jesus. If you have an event involving food, or an idea for an event that will help build relationships in our community we would love to hear about it and partner with you in figuring out how The Table can help. The Table is surrounded by the following people:

3

John Simonson
Polly Pack
Tom Seimers
Darrel and Gail Edmonson
Donna Schoen

If you want more information about The Table, please reach out to any of us and we would love to share with you. We also want to encourage everyone to attend one of the upcoming Vision Gatherings that will be taking place this month as well. You will hear more about all of the Missional Communities there.



KIDS MISSIONAL COMMUNITY INVITATION TO YOU!

Hello Foley UMC friends,

I hope everyone is having a blessed day. I am part of FUMC's Kids Missional Community, along with my hard working buddies - Michelle Stracener, Jenni Simonson, Pam Yaeger, and Lyn Bayne. We are in the process of putting together a 3 day Vacation Bible School (June 22, 23, and 24, 2021 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm) for the children of Foley. It will be held at Heritage Park in Foley.

We will be holding an informational meeting in the Spirit Center of the church on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 9:30 AM. We would like you to be a part of our planning event. There will be many ways you can contribute. We need help in the following areas: Bible Story, Crafts, Recreation, Snacks, Opening/Assembly, Music, Publicity, Set-up/Clean-up, Decorations, Mission and Reflection (prayer) Times. If one of these areas interest you, please come and hear more about it. Please bring a friend and/or invite anyone who may want to join us in serving God's children. If you choose not to volunteer that is okay. You can help us by spreading the word to others and donating juice boxes and/or snacks for one of the three days. All help is appreciated!

Speaking for my Kids' Community members, we would be very grateful for any kind of support. Please pray for us! We welcome you to shine God's Love to the children of Foley! Thanks so much for reading this email and considering to volunteer for VBS. Hope to see all of you on May 1, 2021 at 9:30 am in the Spirit Center.

Thanks again! God's peace to you,

Mary J. Medbery

**MEETING
MAY 1
9:30 A.M.**

**VBS
JUNE 20-24
5:30-7:30 P.M.
@HERITAGE PARK**

MISSIONAL COMMUNITY LOVING KIDS

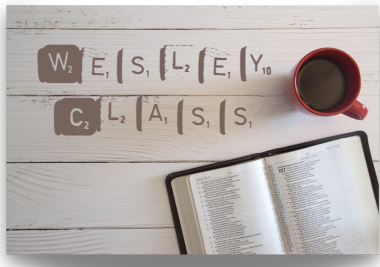


Kids Missional Community. Thank you to everyone who helped with our uniform drive! Between money donated and uniforms received, we presented 249 pairs of socks, 149 pairs of underwear, 102 masks, 38 pairs of shorts, 36 pairs of pants and 59 shirts to the Mathis and Foley Elementary schools!

MEETING REAL LIFE NEEDS

In April, Foley UMC had the pleasure of hosting Bill Beebe's United Methodist Mission Team from Wyalusing, PA. Hurricane Sally recovery continues with this group of 9 men and 2 women who worked for a week repairing 3 homes in the Foley area plus some work at our church facility.





The Wesley Sunday School class will resume meeting in person on campus upstairs in the Spirit Center in SC 204. Anyone is welcome to attend. This class welcomes singles, couples, retirees, working people, volunteers, and more and includes all ages. If you like discussion with your Sunday lesson, this is the right place for you!



Our Real Life Needs Missional Community is hosting Family Promise again this year. We are looking for an updated list of those who have prepared dinners and have slept over in the past and are interested in helping in May or in the future. If you have questions or are interested in helping, we would love to hear from you! It takes a minimum of 14 to 16 folks willing to spend the night as hosts for the week.

Thank you to all who have already responded! At this time, we just need people to help on Thursday, May 27. Call Ann Johnson at 530-635-4530 or 965-2106 or email her at fosandnsea@gmail.com.



The Chancel Choir will practice on Monday, May 10 and Monday, May 24 at 6:00 p.m.



After a pandemic sized break, Starting Point will return on May 23. Starting Point is the place to start if you are looking to find more information about Foley UMC, want to get more involved than the worship services, or are ready to join the church. Over the course of the pandemic, we have seen numerous guests and friends connect to the church. If you are ready to investigate your connection to Foley more or to formally join the church, Starting Point is the place for you.

Starting Point will meet 12-2 p.m. in The Well on Sunday, May 23. We will serve a light lunch. If you need childcare, please contact the church office before Thursday, May 20.



The church office will return to regular operating hours beginning Monday, May 3. The office will be open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please note that the office will be closed from 12-1 p.m. for lunch and will be closed on Fridays.

The office will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



05/01 Rachel Parker
05/02 Susanna Donald
05/03 Ian Mykah Hantz
05/03 Gary Underwood
05/04 Melissa Davis
05/05 Jackie Rankin
05/09 Debbie McBride
05/09 Charles Nelson
05/11 Montie Clark
05/13 Sloan Norris

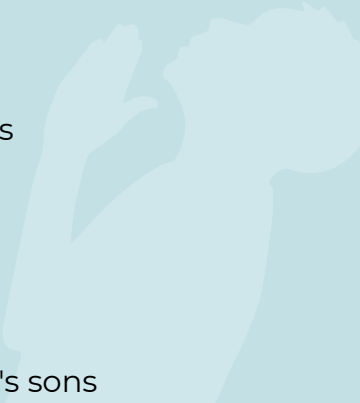


05/13 John Ward
05/13 Brooke Ward
05/16 Russ Belcher
05/18 Mary Lou Berg
05/18 Polly Pack
05/19 Nancy Refling
05/22 Beverly Glisson
05/22 Mary Medbery
05/22 Michelle Stanley
05/22 Kaila Dalton

05/23 Gene Williamson
05/24 Chris McCormick
05/25 Carolyn Quinney
05/28 Logan Hants
05/28 Ian Hantz
05/29 Jane Libbey
05/30 Chris Staple
05/30 Charles Weber
05/31 Judy Jackson

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Lynn Ainsworth
Barbara Beam
Mary Lou Berg
Jack Brasher
Maranie Adams
TJ Brooks
David Burch
Martha Curtis
Sterling Hill
Sharon Hill
Brenda Holtoff's sons



Ed Holtoff
John Homan
James and Judy Jackson
Debbie Johnson
Margie Kennedy
Liz Kinsey
Emery Martini
Linda Radcliffe
Vicki Roberson
Sheila Schoen
Dave Schwartz



Flame and Cross pins were presented to UMW members Charlene Anderson, Donna Higgenbotham, and Lore Ballow by Polly Pack (above) and to Mary Fields by Alva Shroeder (right). These pins are preented in appreciation for service in the church.



HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS REACH A MILESTONE



We want to recognize our graduating seniors during our 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship service on Sunday, May 9th. Please contact Kate Norris so she can be sure you are on our list. Kate can be reached at 251-550-8624 or knorris@foleyumc.org.

To all of the Foley family: Mark your calendar as we recognize our graduating seniors during our 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship service on Sunday, May 9, 2021. We hope you will join us for worship that day either in person or online to help us celebrate them! Help us make our graduating seniors feel special and know Foley UMC loves them!



KIDSQUEST IS BACK AT 9:30! JOIN US IN MAY!



Toddlers: Some choices are easy—wearing the red shirt or eating the apple instead of the banana. Then, there are the not so easy decisions. What do we do when the decision is hard and we are struggling to know which way to go? We believe the first step to making wise choices is trusting that God's way is perfect. Our prayer is that we can help make many of the 35,000 choices a day our preschoolers will be making one day a whole lot easier. They will know to jump, jump and go God's way, because God's way is perfect!

Elementary: Growing in faith is not something that happens by merely cramming more information about the Bible into a child's brain. All of that knowledge in their head means nothing if we don't help kids experience what that knowledge can do in their hearts. To fully experience faith, we want kids to practice their faith. And that takes commitment.

COVID TEAM MAKES CHANGES TO PROTOCOL EFFECTIVE MAY 1

Beginning May 1, masks will be required when entering and exiting buildings and in common spaces on Sunday mornings, but once people are in their seats in worship, masks may be removed. For groups that are meeting on campus, masks are required as people enter and exit the facility and are in common spaces, but individual groups can determine whether masks are worn during their time together.

The exception to the above changes will be at our 8:00 a.m. service that will begin in the Spirit Center on May 2 (following the end of the park service on April 25). *The 8:00 a.m. service will be a mask mandatory service.* Anyone who is hesitant regarding the lowered requirements on mask wearing is encouraged to attend this service where all attendees will wear masks the entire service.

We will continue to ask people to utilize the hand sanitizer located throughout the campus, and we will continue to practice social distancing in all seating. Groups meeting on campus are asked to practice social distancing while in the facility. We will also continue tracking attendance at all events for contact tracing purposes. Please record attendance at all events and leave attendance sheets in the church office.

Beginning May 1, we will no longer require registration for the 9:30 service in the Well, and we will now allow meals to be served in the church facilities if tables set up for eating are restricted to one family or no more than five people and tables are spread out to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

As we continue to watch the state of the pandemic and the virus numbers for our area, we plan to allow these new protocols to be in effect provided the 14-day Percent Positive number for Baldwin County reported on [Bamatracker.com](https://bamatracker.com) stays below 6.5% (bamatracker.com/county/Baldwin). If the 14-day Percent Positive number rises above 6.5%, we will reinstate our previous protocol requiring masks and stricter attention to social distancing and hand sanitizer usage. (The 14-day Percent Positive Number on Thursday will be used to determine any necessary changes for the following Sunday.) In addition, if there is a confirmed case of Covid on Foley UMC's campus, all activities at the church will be suspended for a minimum of ten days to allow for quarantining. While we celebrate the steps forward, the vaccine, and the reemergence of a more "normal" life, we know that we still have months to go and urge great caution. Out of an abundance of caution and a continued desire to serve the most vulnerable among us, the Covid Task Force still strongly encourages people to wear masks at all times.

The Covid Team is grateful to the church for the incredible ways the church has embraced the protocol that has been in place since we began to gather in person. To our knowledge, we have had no cases of transmission on the Foley UMC campus. As we move forward, we ask for continued diligence and caution to create safe environments for people to gather.

MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES LISTS

Add to your grocery list!

FOR MAY:



The Table Missional Community will be collecting snacks of any kind in order to prepare for a "Snack Bag" give away in June. We recognize that one of our church's strengths is in serving through food. We also recognize there is a need during the summer months for kids that do not have much to eat and rely on snacks from the school during the school year. The Table is hoping to help meet that need by providing Snack Bags in the summer months to families with kids. The first step is to build a snack pantry so that we can put together the Snack Bag drive for June.

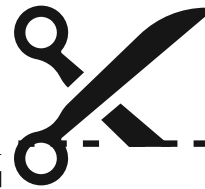
Drop suggested items (at right) off to the church office or to the bins behind the Spirit Center. Bins are checked regularly.

FOR JUNE:



The Real Life Needs Missional Community is asking the congregation to assist in beginning an ongoing contribution program just as the congregation has for food items. Beginning June 1 and going forward, the items collected will be distributed among a few organizations the team has chosen to support such as The Baldwin County Sheriff's Boys Ranch, The LightHouse, and Ecumenical Ministries. All of these organizations are in need of any type of cleaning supplies with the Boy's Ranch in need of many additional and varied items. At right is a list from the Boy's Ranch in which many of the same items can also be distributed to The LightHouse and Ecumenical Ministries.

Please bring any donated items to the church library.



Snack Needs:

Any individually wrapped snacks such as cheese crackers, fruit gummies, snack size Pringles or other chips, cookies, granola bars, rice crispy treats, etc.

Sam's and Costco sell snacks in bulk and Amazon sells a snack "care pack".

Organizations' Needs:

Brooms, mops, toilet bowl cleaner, all purpose cleaner, dish soap/dish scrubs, Ziploc bags of all sizes, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent, Lysol, hand soap, oven cleaner, cleaning wipes, 14 gallon trash bags, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins

Boys Needs:

socks, boxer brief underwear, lotion, combs

Boys Ranch Wish List:

Vacuum cleaner, shower curtains, AA & AAA batteries, printer paper, clothes hamper

Additional Items Needed:

toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, feminine products, Clorox, hot pads, toilet brush, various sized totes.



Foley United Methodist Church

Reaching Up. Reaching In. Reaching Out.

915 N. Pine Street
Foley, AL 36535
251-943-4393

Don't miss info on
Vision Celebrations
coming in May!



Sponsored by The Table Missional Community and the United Methodist Women of Foley UMC

Free Lunch Giveaway

Saturday, May 8
Beginning at 11:00 a.m.

DRIVE THROUGH • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



Foley United Methodist Church
915 North Pine St.
Foley, AL 36535

Worship Opportunities

Summer 2021 Schedule beginning May 9

The Galilean Service
7:30 a.m. Sundays at the Gulf State Park

Traditional Worship on campus
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sundays in person

Contemporary Worship in The Well
9:30 a.m. Sundays online and in person
KidsQuest available for those attending in person