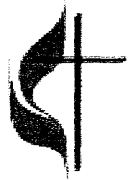


# THE CROSS AND TOWER

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"  
FEBRUARY - 2012



**Mission Statement:** To make disciples for Jesus Christ through our witness, worship, and work.

**Our Vision:** To become a vigorous, flourishing congregation for Jesus Christ.

**Our Plan:**

1. To become an inviting and welcoming church.
2. To become a church for all of God's children.
3. To find new ways of reaching out for Jesus Christ in our community.
4. To become a mission-minded church by becoming actively involved in missions, disaster work teams, and hands-on mission projects.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. This is the holiest of the seasons of the church year as we remember our Lord's last days here on earth before he suffered and died on the cross for our sins. It is a time of spiritual growth, self-denial, and sacrifice.

I have been sharing with you about the new program in the United Methodist Church called "Vital Congregations". As a church, we want to focus on five areas: Worship attendance, new members, small groups, mission work, and stewardship. Our first goal is to increase our worship attendance. What a great opportunity we have this Lenten Season to be present each Sunday in worship and to invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to worship with us. What an opportunity to discipline ourselves to put Christ first as He put us first, and to make worship a top Lenten priority.

I hope you have a most Holy Lent. I hope to see you each Sunday of Lent with a guest in worship.

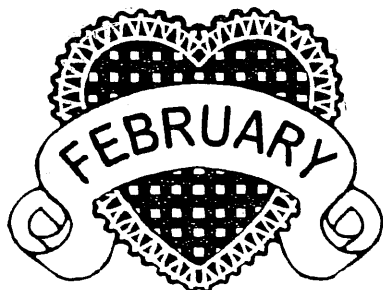
Also, Happy Valentine's Day.

In Christ,

Bro. Stanley

## FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

- Feb. 1: Wednesday Night Activities  
 Supper and Youth 5:30 p.m.  
 Bible Study and Super Kids 6:00 p.m.  
 Choir 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 2: Bro. Stanley at Bishop's Finance Seminar in  
 Montgomery.
- Feb. 5: Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Holy Communion 10:00 a.m.  
 Playground Comm. Meeting 4:00 p.m.  
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 8: Wednesday Night Activities
- Feb. 12: Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 14: Valentine's Day - Chamber Event  
 (Time to be announced)
- Feb. 15: Wednesday Night Activities
- Feb. 19: Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 20: UMW 7:00 p.m.  
 Church Office Closed-President's Day
- Feb. 21: Fat Tuesday - Pancake Supper 5:30-7:00 p.  
 Fellowship Hall
- Feb. 22: Beginning of Lent  
 Supper 5:15 p.m.  
 Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Special Persons 11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 26: Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 28: SonShine Soup Kitchen 6:00 p.m.  
 (Clothes Closet Open)
- Feb. 29: Wednesday Night Activities



## PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Nancy Carter Lynda Biddle  
 Kathy Smith Jane Moseley  
 Candice Vaughan Pastor

## FLOWER CALENDAR

Feb. 5: Communion  
 Feb. 12: Becky Morrow  
 Feb. 19: Need Volunteer  
 Feb. 26: Need Volunteer



## GREETERS

Feb. 5: Anna Bowers  
 Feb. 12: Laura Lassiter &  
 Patricia Nicholson  
 Feb. 19: Joe & Martha Guerrero  
 Feb. 26: Fred Smith

## UMYF

UMYF meets on Wednesday night at  
 5:30 p.m.

## SCRIPTURE READERS

Feb. 5: Carol Jackson  
 Feb. 12: Janice Phillips  
 Feb. 19: Kathy Smith  
 Feb. 26: Sara Smith

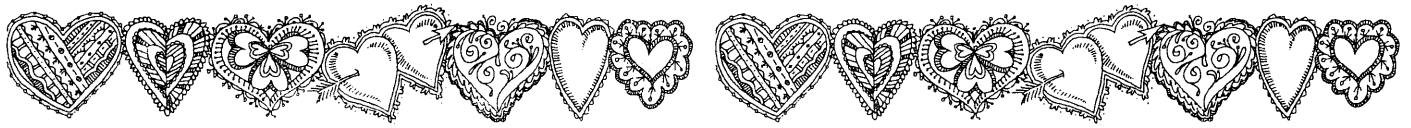


## NURSERY WORKERS

Feb. 5: Jenny Allen  
 Feb. 12: Heddy Cox  
 Feb. 19: Nadine Scarbrough  
 Feb. 26: Jana Kelley

## USHERS

Buddy Shivley - Head Usher  
 Bob Howard  
 Bill Cowart  
 Charles Pearce  
 Ronnie Vaughan



**CHILDREN'S NEWS**

Travis has bought some new music, and we will be having fun learning these new songs. Also, don't forget the Valentine's Party on Sunday, February 12, from 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Please bring Valentines for ten children, and you may invite a friend to come with you to the party. Don't forget Super Kids meets on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sarah Paige Mosley was born January 2, 2012, to the proud parents Mark and Connie Moseley, and big brother Alex Moseley. Grandparents are Dale and Gloria Moseley, and the late grandparents are Andrew Jackson Marshall and Barbara Gene Marshall.

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

The Coffee County Relay for Life will be Friday, April 27th. We are, of course, having a team, and invite you to participate. Even though the church is one team, the American Cancer Society requires at least 15 registered members. This year, this must be done via the computer at ([www.relayforlife.org/coffeal](http://www.relayforlife.org/coffeal)). Even though our computer doesn't like me, and I haven't yet had success, I'm very hopeful that I'll have registered our team by our meeting after morning worship on February 5th. You'll then be able to quickly and easily register as a member. Cancer touches all our lives. Participation in Relay is an opportunity to celebrate the lives of survivors (a growing number), a chance to remember those we've lost and still miss very much, and a chance to fight back! We'll have our hamburger and dessert luncheon in March. We'll sell luminaries (we'll take cash or check), and we ask for your encouragement and prayers also. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this family of God, the Elba United Methodists. In Christ, *Janice*

**OPEN HOUSE**

Mr. Christopher Noland, Chief Executive Officer, invites you to open house of the Patient Care area at Elba General Hospital. This area houses the new administrative offices and 20 patient suites. The Open House will be Sunday, February 5, from 1:30 until 3:00 p.m. Please enter through the new west entrance facing Highland Drive with parking located across the street.

On Tuesday Night, February 21 (Fat Tuesday), we will have a pancake supper from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. The pancake supper is free, and we hope you will come and invite a friend. Fat Tuesday also known as Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras is the day before Ash Wednesday, and the season Lent starts. It is a custom to get rid of all fatty foods for Lent, and so everybody made pancakes. It is an opportunity to prepare for the holy season of Lent.

**UMW**

We are exploring the idea of forming a UMW circle that meets in the afternoon. This will be a new group. If interested, please call Laura Lassiter, UMW President at 897-3679.

**DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Budget Needs to Date	\$ 198,866.35	November Balance	\$ 23,631.56
Budget Receipts to Date	\$ 243,877.96	December Receipts	\$ 43,277.26
Disbursements to Date	\$ 228,207.41	Disbursements	\$ 22,719.73
Budget Surplus to Date	\$ 45,011.61	Bank Balance	\$ 44,189.09
Interest Year to Date	\$ 28.98	Interest	\$ -

Elba United Methodist Church  
503 W. Davis St.  
Elba, AL 36323

Non-Profit Organization  
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Enterprise, Alabama

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Jim and Nell Gilmer  
1564 Highland Drive  
Elba, AL 36323

<b>Minister</b> Rev. Stanley Carter	<b>Youth Coordinator</b> Lisa Johnson	<b>Chancel Choir</b> Travis Adams	<b>Pianist</b> Nancy Brunson	<b>Hostess</b>	<b>Youth &amp; Children's Choir</b> Travis Adams
<b>Secretary</b> DeBitha Harrelson	<b>Children</b> Nancy Carter & Lynda Biddle	<b>Church Accountant</b> Bill Dean	<b>Organist</b> Pam Baker	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Custodian</b>

