

## ***Volunteer Reminders***

### **GREETERS & USHERS**

Jan. 1 Janice Hutton  
Jan. 8 Carole & Donnie Barron  
Jan. 15 Betty Kiep  
Jan. 22 Anita Raby  
Jan. 29 Emily Johnson  
Feb. 5 Brenda Gilmore

### **CONTACT VISITORS**

Jan. 1 Mae Todd  
Jan. 8 Betty Kiep  
Jan. 15 Jean Moore  
Jan. 22 Carole Barron  
Jan. 29 Steve & Paulette Turner  
Feb. 5 Mae Todd

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**

Jan. 1 Stan Crockett  
Jan. 8 Carole Barron  
Jan. 15 Anita Raby  
Jan. 22 Sandra McDonald  
Jan. 29 Brenda Gilmore  
Feb. 5 Stan Crockett

## ***Volunteer Reminders***

### **TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Jan. 1 Tom Lewis  
Jan. 8 Tom Lewis  
Jan. 15 Tom Lewis  
Jan. 22 Tom Lewis  
Jan. 29 Tom Lewis  
Feb. 5 Tom Lewis

### **Prayer for Blessings in the Year Ahead**

Father, Thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favor has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us as with a shield. We ask that we would walk in your blessing and goodness today. That your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones, that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfillment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong by your huge favor and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# **The Copeland Chimes**

*Seeking, Serving, Sharing Christ*  
January 2023

Copeland Presbyterian Church  
27085 Copeland Rd.  
Athens, AL 35613

### **FROM TOM'S DESK**

For all of us life is a crapshoot. Like Forrest Gump says, "Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get." I've had some good years and some bad. I'm closing out a couple of tough years. In the past two years I have watched as a pandemic shut the world down (including this church), I had to undergo a major remodeling of my house (due to water damage, my mother-in-law moved in (after dodging a nearly fatal medical problem at the assisted living facility where she resided), and the loss of my brother-in-law. It would be easy for me to get down.

Yet, I'm optimistic for several reasons. First, and this may be wishful thinking, I'm due. I'm due a good year, so that's what I anticipate having. Secondly, I have a different attitude, and attitude can make a difference. But, perhaps the most important thing, is that good or bad, Jesus Christ is in charge.

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The Apostle Paul says in II Corinthians 12, that he had a thorn in the flesh. We don't know what that was, but it was something he prayed that God would take it from him. The answer that he got was "my grace is sufficient for you". So, that's what I try to keep in mind. I need to let the grace of Jesus Christ be sufficient for me. May God bless you in the coming year!

Tom

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you can't worship with us in person, you can view Pastor Tom's sermon on the website at [cpc-Athens.com](http://cpc-Athens.com).

Session Budget Meeting January 7, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Annual Congregational Meeting and Corporate Meeting on Sunday, January 22, 2023 after worship.

### **MISSIONS**

#### **Limestone County Churches Involved - LCCI**

The demand for food distribution at LCCI is great this Christmas season and will continue into the New Year, so please continue to donate as you can, whether it be food items or monetary, everything is welcome. And remember the homeless with individual size food items that have pop tops.

Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate and designated to go to LCCI.

If you have questions about LCCI, please see Carol Barts.

#### **Backpack Project**

We are still collecting individual sized items for weekend backpacks for children at Johnson and money for Spring Break gift cards. This congregation has been so generous in giving to our Missions projects. Praise God!

### **Children's Corner**

#### **New Year Prayer for Children**

Dear God, Thank you for all the exciting things this New Year will bring.

Thank you for the chance to make changes and set goals. Please help me to make realistic resolutions, and remind me to keep trying even when I fail. Thank you that you give me a fresh start every day. I know you are beside me to cheer me on. It's good to share resolutions and encourage each other. Thank you for this New Year.

Amen.

[www.prayerscapes.com](http://www.prayerscapes.com)

**Pastor**

Rev. Tom Lewis

**Session**

**Class of 2023**

Susanne Slaten  
Ed Taylor

**Class of 2024**

Anita Raby  
Sandra McDonald

**Class of 2025**

Carol Barts  
Bill Johnson  
Clerk of Session

**Ministry Team/  
Committee Leaders**

**Building and Grounds**

Ed Taylor

**Children's Mission**

Susanne Slaten

**Christian Education**

Sandra McDonald

**Missions**

Carol Barts

**Outreach/Fellowship**

Anita Raby, Susanne Slaten/  
Mae Todd

**Presbyterian Women**

Susanne Slaten

**Scholarship**

Susanne Slaten

**Security Team**

Steve Turner/Bill Johnson

**Stephen Ministry**

Cindy Saseen & Mae Todd

**Worship**

Susanne Slaten/Anita Raby

**Birthdays**



- Jan. 9 Edith Howgate
- Jan. 10 Sabrina Taylor
- Jan. 14 Mason Lee
- Jan. 17 Nicolle Fuzane
- Jan. 18 Tim Collier
- Jan. 19 Matthew Fagan
- Jan. 22 David Gilmore
- Jan. 23 Griff Redmill
- Jan. 26 Russell Todd

**Anniversaries**



**None this month.**

**STEPHEN MINISTERS**

**LONG-DISTANCE REFERRALS**

What do you do when you have a good friend who just lost his wife, but he lives in Colorado and you live in North Carolina? How do you offer care when your sister loses her job but she lives across the country from you? How do you find a Stephen Minister for someone you love 3,000 miles away when you don't know any Stephen Ministry churches in that area?

Stephen Ministries can help you find a Stephen Minister for your friend or loved one. This is one of the benefits of enrollment—a way in which Stephen Ministry Congregations around the world work together to provide Christ's care to those in need.

Leaders: *Mae Todd or Cindy Saseen*