

Volunteer Reminders

GREETERS & USHERS

Feb. 5 Brenda Gilmore
Feb. 12 Sandra McDonald
Feb. 19 Paulette Turner
Feb. 26 Mae Todd
March 5 Janice Hutton

CONTACT VISITORS

Feb. 5 Mae Todd
Feb. 12 Betty Kiep
Feb. 19 Jean Moore
Feb. 26 Carole Barron
March 5 Steve & Paulette Turner

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Feb. 5 Stan Crockett
Feb. 12 Carole Barron
Feb. 19 Anita Raby
Feb. 26 Sandra McDonald
March 5 Brenda Gilmore

Volunteer Reminders

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Feb. 5 Tom Lewis
Feb. 12 Tom Lewis
Feb. 19 Tom Lewis
Feb. 26 Tom Lewis
March 5 Tom Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you can't worship with us in person, you can view Pastor Tom's sermon on the website at cpc-Athens.com.

Session Meeting February 12th.

Fellowship luncheons to return soon. If you have any suggestions for activities for please let Brenda or Suzanne know.

The Copeland Chimes

Seeking, Serving, Sharing Christ
February 2023

Copeland Presbyterian Church
27085 Copeland Rd.
Athens, AL 35613

FROM TOM'S DESK

I don't know how many of you have made New Year's resolutions. I stopped making them over a decade ago. The list usually looks like a wasteland of unfulfilled hopes (at least, in my case). That said I do think it's a good thing to make plans for the future.

I have a suggestion for all of you. As you're sitting there making plans for the New Year, don't neglect your walk with the Lord. What goals do you have for your spiritual growth this year? What do you plan to do to serve the Kingdom of God this year? What are you going to do to develop your spiritual gifts this year? What are you going to do to show your love for your neighbor this year?

All of these questions are important. As your pastor, I am only able to do so much to help you in your walk with the Lord. Just a gym trainer, I can show you what to do; it's up to you to do the work. Growing closer to God is work. It requires both attention and devotion, but the rewards are worth the sacrifice. I pray that your New Year will be both happy and prosperous!

Tom

A Prayer to Keep God
First This New Year

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good and the hard things that have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, strength, and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the enemy's evil intent; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways. Amen. - Debbie McDaniel

MISSIONS

**Limestone County Churches
Involved - LCCI**

The demand for food distribution at LCCI is great, 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 continue to collect individual sized food items for the weekend backpacks. Please place this food in the Fellowship Hall closet. Spring Break is coming up for Limestone County Schools next month, and we plan to give food gift cards to all of our families who participate in the Backpack Program. If you'd like to donate to this, please indicate the amount on your check and Stan will take care of it. Thanks to all who have and continue to give. See Carole Barron or Mae Todd.

Children's Corner

**BEDTIME PRAYER FOR
CHILDREN**

Dear God, it's me just here to pray, and talk to you about my day. To thank you for the fantastic things that made me smile and laugh. To let you know the bad things, that made me sad, that I found hard. To tell you about the boring things, that made me cross or grumpy, and share with you my worries, which made me quiet and sulky. I know, no matter how I feel, you love me still the same. So, help me sleep and have good dreams, ready for another day. Amen.

(a prayer for children from
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

Susanne Slaten/

Presbyterian Women

Susanne Slaten

Scholarship

Susanne Slaten

Security Team

Bill Johnson

Stephen Ministry

Cindy Saseen

Worship

Anita Raby

Birthdays



- Feb 10 Stan Crockett**
- Feb 11 Diane Powers**
- Feb 24 Joyce Richardson**
- Feb 26 Leah Powers**
- Feb 27 Kevin Lee**

Anniversaries



- Feb 10 Cathey & Don Kyker**

STEPHEN MINISTERS

**WHEN AND HOW OFTEN SHOULD
WE FORGIVE?**

Jesus made it quite clear. He said to forgive seventy times seven (Matthew 18:22). Of course, the number is not meant to be literal. Hebrews considered the number seven to symbolize fullness or completion. Our Lord is telling us to forgive constantly, to forgive someone over and over or to forgive as many people who have hurt us. We need to do so often as God forgives us. Forgiving can bring healing to our hearts. So the answer is simple, we should forgive as soon as possible and always.

Leaders: *Mae Todd or Cindy Saseen*