

Volunteer Reminders

GREETERS

January 7 Janice Hutton
January 14 Mae Todd
January 21 Gelia & Jack Redmill
January 28 Steve Turner
February 4 Emily Johnson

CONTACT VISITORS

January 7 Steve & Paulette Turner
January 14 Betty Kiep
January 21 Jean Moore
January 28 Mae Todd
February 4 Steve & Paulette Turner

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

January 7 Stan Crockett
January 14 Anita Raby
January 21 Sandra McDonald
January 28 Stan Crockett
February 4 Anita Raby

Volunteer Reminders

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

January 7 Tom Lewis
January 14 Sandra McDonald
January 21 Betty Kiep
January 28 Anita Raby
February 4 Tom Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session budget meeting will be January 13, 2024 at 10:00 am.

The Bake Sale/Auction was a great success. We raised \$1,500 for the youth to go to Maranatha or for Missions to be determined by the Session. Thanks to everyone who brought auction items and to those who purchased them.

If you want to watch our services you should go to YouTube and search for the following address:
@copelandchurch5413.

Copeland website is cpc-Athens.com

The Copeland Chimes

Seeking, Serving, Sharing Christ
January 2024

Copeland Presbyterian Church
27085 Copeland Rd.
Athens, AL 35613

FROM TOM'S DESK

At the beginning of last year, I had a bit of a health scare. I was told that I was on the verge of developing diabetes. I was told I needed to go on medication, lose some weight, and get more exercise.

Most of you don't know this, but my family health history is not that great. There is a history of cancer, heart problems, and diabetes in my family. I watched my own mother struggle with these things. I didn't know for sure what I was going to do, but I knew one thing for sure. I was going to do everything in my power to avoid those things.

So, I changed the way I ate, and started exercising with vengeance. The results are remarkable. I've lost about 50 pounds, and I'm exercising roughly 4 times per week. I am as strong as I have been since I was in my 20's. In some ways, I'm even stronger.

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(continued from Tom's page)

At the same time as I have been getting stronger, my mother-in-law has been getting weaker. It has reached the stage where I am actually having to lift and move her. A year ago, I wouldn't have been able to do that. Today, I can.

I've come to realize that God knows my needs. God often doesn't give me what I want. God gives me what I need. Is it possible God knew that I needed to get stronger for this time. Maybe it's just a huge coincidence, but I choose to believe that God is providing me what I need to overcome the difficulties in front of me. I choose to believe that God will do that for you as well.

I don't know what the future holds for any of us. However, I believe that God will give us what we need to bear it. May your New Year be filled with love, hope, and happiness.

Tom

A NEW YEAR'S POEM FOR CHRISTIANS

Instead of making a New Year's resolution
Consider committing to a biblical solution

Your promises are easily broken
Empty words, though earnestly spoken
But God's Word transforms the soul
By His Holy Spirit making you whole
As you spend time alone with Him
He will change you from within

-- Mary Fairchild

MISSIONS

Limestone County Churches Involved - LCCI

Please continue to donate as you can, whether it be food items or monetary, everything is welcome. Each week these items are given out, canned fruit & vegetables, canned chicken & tuna, cereal, diapers, dried beans, instant potatoes & rice, mac & cheese, pancake mix & syrup, peanut butter & jelly, powdered milk, shampoo and bath soap, soups, beef stew & chili, spaghetti & sauce, and tuna helper.

Also small size personal hygiene products for the homeless, small size food items with pop tops for the homeless. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate and designated to go to LCCI. See Carol Barts for questions.

BACKPACK PROJECT

Thank you to all who have participated in our Backpack Mission this past year. We continue to send food home on weekends for children who receive free lunches and breakfast during the week at school. At the end of Christmas Break, there was 21 families with 57 children participating in the program. We were able to give gift cards to a local grocery store to 18 families to use to help feed their family while school is out. They are most appreciative of this gift and our church family is blessed to be able to do this.

Please continue to bring individual sized items for the weekend backpacks and place them in the closet in the Fellowship Hall closet. Any donation to the gift cards should be placed in the offering plate with a designated amount. Again, thanks so much for the bless.

YOUNG DISCIPLIES

GOD, MY FRIEND

God, my friend, it is time for bed.
Time to rest my sleepy head.
I pray to you before I do.
Please guide me down the path that's true.

God, my friend, please bless my mother,
All your children—sisters, brothers.
Oh! And then there's daddy, too—
He says I am his gift from you.

God, my friend, it is time to sleep.
I thank you for a soul unique,
And thank you for another day,
To run and jump and laugh and play!

God, my friend, it is time to go,
But before I do I hope you know, I
am thankful for my blessing, too,
And God, my friend, I love you.

— *Michael J. Edger III MS*

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



- January 10 Sabrina Taylor
- January 14 Mason Lee
- January 18 Tim Collier
- January 18 Jon Lewis Kiep
- January 19 Matthew Fagan
- January 22 David Gilmore
- January 23 Griff Redmill
- January 26 Russell Todd

Anniversaries



None this month.

STEPHEN MINISTERS

What Christian caregivers do is prepare the ground for the great Curegiver. It is God who provides emotional, mental, physical and spiritual growth according to his will.

“God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others.”

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Leaders: *Mae Todd, Cindy Saseen, and Susanne Slaten*