

INSIDE FIRST METHODIST

Welcome. Win. Equip. Serve



HELPING YOU CONNECT WITH US

fmclanton.org

What vision and glory Isaiah saw! God told the prophet, “I am doing a new thing!” Isaiah invited Israel to take a look with him at what God wants to do!

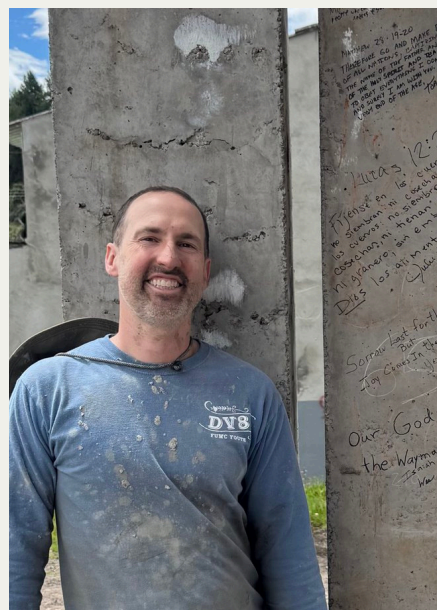
Our brand new Fall 2025 FMC Catalog is just our way of calling out like Isaiah! See the new thing the Lord is doing! This catalog is our way of inviting our church and all of Chilton County to see the new things the Lord is doing in us and through us by the Holy Spirit.

A Place for Everybody

I love our church family with all my heart. My passion is for us to make one more disciple who comes to know the boundless grace of Jesus. That's the Good News we share every day. Open this catalog and see the ways we put this Good News into action!

Wes

***"SEE, I AM DOING
A NEW THING!"***
ISAIAH 43:19



FMC Clanton Summer 2025
Mission Trip with SIFAT to
Cutuqlaqua, Ecuador

SERVICES

Hydrate Service 9:00 am

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in the Helen Parrish Activity Center for Hydrate with worship lead by Elevate and hear the message from Pastor Wes Kelley

San Juan Service 10:00 am

San Juan is the Spanish speaking service for First Methodist. Come and be blessed with a message from Pastor German Gomez.

Traditional Service 11:15 am

Sunday mornings at 11:15 am is our Traditional service. Join us for hymns, fellowship and a message from Pastor Wes Kelley!



Upcoming Sermon Series

"Making Room" - Continues September 7th

The church ought to be the friendliest place in the world! How do we make room for acquaintances to become friends? And where do you fit into our church's small group ministry? We are tackling all these questions and more in this series.

"Keeping It Real with the Prophet Micah" - Starts Sept. 21st

7 chapters. 7 Sundays. You don't want to miss it! Micah the prophet does not mince words. And he's coming for you! When we dive under the hood of the book of Micah, we will know how deeply our God desires us to be real, not fake, and to be really all in for God.

"The Rewards of Grace" - Starts Nov. 9th

Have you ever felt guilty for wanting more from God? In this year's stewardship series, we remember a shocking biblical truth—God's wants you to be motivated by heavenly rewards! We will look at the rewards of grace promised to us in God's Word.

"Your Christmas List" - Starts Nov. 30th

We stay organized by the lists we make. Our list reveals what is really matters. Does your list include names, gifts, dates, get-togethers, recipes? Let's read the Bible together in the Advent season and find out must-haves God wants to see on your family's Christmas list.

streaming online at fmclanton.org and Facebook

COMING UP

FALL ON THE FARM

Our Fall on the farm will be October 19th at Mountain View Orchard Farms from 4 to 6. There will be pumpkin painting, so be sure to bring a pumpkin and we will bring the paint.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready for a fun night of fellowship and food!



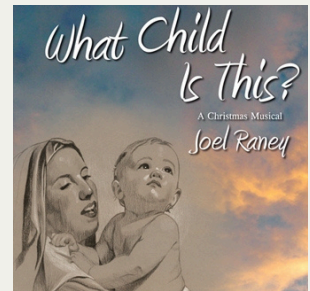
CHRISTMAS, CHILI & CINEMA

Join us on December 14th at 5:30 pm for the church family Christmas, Chili and Cinema. We will watch a Christmas movie and have a chili cookoff in fellowship with one another.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready for a fun night of fellowship and food!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

This year's cantata, "What Child is This" will be performed by the Chancel Choir on Sunday morning December 14th in the Traditional service in the Sanctuary. Join us for a wonderful service of special music.



FMC PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

Join us on December 7th at 9:00 am in the Hydrate Service for the Christmas musical performance of the FMC Preschool children. Come celebrate the children and the music they'll be sharing!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Join us for our Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24th. We will have services that day at 4pm (Hydrate) & 5:30pm (Traditional). This is always a highlight of the Christmas season. Join us as we celebrate together through worship and a special Christmas message of love, hope and peace.



DV8 STUDENTS

Welcome to DV8 Students! We're all about creating a space where students can belong, grow in their faith, and live out the love of Jesus together. Whether it's through worship, small groups, service, or retreats, DV8 is a place to connect and go deeper.

Weekly Gatherings

📍 Wednesdays at 6:30PM – Gibson Youth Center

Our biggest gathering of the week! Come hang out, worship, and dive into God's Word with friends.

📍 Sunday Groups at 10:15AM – Gibson Youth Center

Join us for Sunday School as we grow in faith and understanding together.

📍 2nd Sunday Small Groups

Once a month, we gather in homes for fun, food, and deeper conversations about faith and life.

Big Events You Don't Want to Miss

Friendsgiving Retreat (Nov 22–25, 2025) – A joint youth retreat at Shocco Springs with West End Baptist and First Baptist. Four days of worship, community, and unforgettable memories!

Strength to Stand Conference (Jan 17–19, 2026) – A powerful weekend in Pigeon Forge, TN with amazing speakers and worship leaders.

Costume Party & Potluck (Oct 29, 2025) – Dress up, bring a dish, and celebrate with friends.

DV8 Christmas Party (Dec 17, 2025) – Food, games, and holiday fun as we celebrate the birth of Christ together!

DV8 Students is more than just a program – it's a family. We can't wait to see you on Wednesdays, Sundays, and at these big moments throughout the year. Bring a friend and let's grow together!



Ian Velasquez, Student Pastor
Email: ian@fmclanton.org
Cell: 205-294-0609



The fall season in Children's ministry at FMC is upon us! We welcome all kids to take part in our regular programming and events. FMC children's ministry wants to equip families with what they need to grow in love, service, and discipleship that is rooted in Jesus.

Weekly Programming

📍 **Better Together Wednesdays at 5:30PM** – Activity Center (Gym)
BTW is a time that we cultivate spiritual growth through music and fellowship. All kids ages 4 to 6th grade are invited!

📍 **Sunday School at 10:15AM** – Activity Center Hallway

Join us for Sunday School as we dive deeper into Bible stories and discuss what we can learn from God through Scripture.

📍 **Small Blessings Time** – Activity Center Hallway: Room 3

Kindergarten and under are invited to attend "Small Blessings Time." The kids will sing a song and do an activity or two. Be sure to stay for a Bible Story during Sunday School!

Big Events You Don't Want to Miss

Children's Sunday (October 19th) – All kids are invited to help lead the congregation in worship Traditional Service at 11:15.

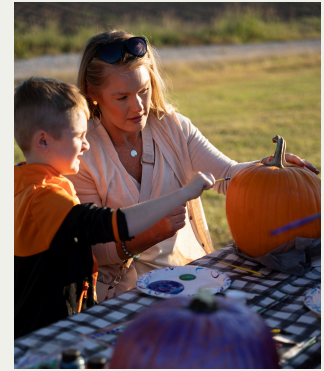
Fall on the Farm (October 19th) – Join us at Mountain View Orchards from 4 to 6 p.m. There will be pumpkin painting, so be sure to bring a pumpkin and we will bring the paint.

Family Advent Wreath Workshop (November 19th) – All Families are invited to come make Christmas memories centered in Christ by creating your family Advent wreath.

Christmas Chili & Cinema (December 14th) – As a Church family, we will enjoy a Christmas movie while we eat chili and fellowship with one another.

Winter Retreat (Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 2026) – All 3rd - 6th graders are invited to an overnight retreat to Shocco Springs. We will worship, play, and grow with God.

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen." - 2 Peter 3:18



Laura Percy, Children's Minister
Email: laura@fmclanton.org
Cell: 251-423-2327



GROWTH

Navigate • A Small Group for Newcomers

New to First Methodist? We love new guests! This is our small group we offer every fall, in which we look into the beliefs, teachings, and values of our church family. We will also give you a look under the hood at how our church operates. Most importantly, we will work with you to help you figure out what your spiritual gift is, and where you can use that gift in our church. This small group is also required for those who want to join the official membership roll of First Methodist. Open to Men & Women

2 Sessions

Session 1

Sun., Oct. 5th
12:15pm
Crossroads Cafe

Session 2

Sun., Nov. 9th
2:30pm
Wes & Meghan's House

Save the Date

New Member Covenant Day
Sun., Nov. 23rd
in Hydrate and Traditional



GROUPS

Sunday Morning Small Groups (all times 10:15am)

- Aldersgate Class for Senior Adults: Room 202, 2nd Floor, Education Building
- Koinonia - Children's Parents: Fellowship Hall of the Activity Center
- Rooted - Youth Parents: Gibson Center Worship Room
- In-Betweeners - Living between raising kids and caring for parents: Rocking Chair Room, 3rd Floor, Education Building
- Journey Class for Senior Adults: Crossroads Cafe
- Forge for Young Adults - For anyone stepping into adulthood: Room 203, 2nd Floor, Education Building

Man Church

- Monday Morning: 9am - 10am in the Fellowship Hall of the Activity Center
- Monday Night: 6:30pm - 7:30 pm in the Crossroads Cafe
- Wednesday Night: 6:00pm at the Back Forty
- Wednesday Night: 6:30pm at Tommy Lenoir's home

Women's Groups

Women of Grace is a ladies small group that meets on Monday evenings at 6pm at the Starbucks in Clanton. We are hodgepodge of ladies from all walks and stages of life coming together to study God's word and encourage each other as we walk this kingdom life together.

Celebrate Recovery

Our Celebrate Recovery step studies for men and women are currently full for 2025. For interest in 2026 step studies contact our Ministry Leader Lawrence Bamberg (205) 842-6696.

For more information about small groups, please reach out to the church office at (205) 755-0490, or email Lynn Best at Lynn@fmclanton.org

SERVE

As a church, our purpose is to help people connect with God and others. Check out some of the ways you can put your spiritual gift to work in our ministries.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Administration/Office
- Bread of Life Food Pantry
- Celebrate Recovery
- Children's Ministries (Better Together Wednesdays, Children's Music, Vacation Bible School, God's World, Nursery, Teaching)
- Young Adult
- Congregational Care
- Homebound Visits
- Fellowship Activities
- Cooking Activities
- Disaster Relief
- Guest Follow-up
- Information Technology
- Maintenance & Grounds
- Man Church Leadership
- International Missions
- Music (Elevate Worship Band, Chancel Choir & Handbells)
- Prayer Ministry
- River Church
- San Juan Congregation (Spanish language)
- Senior Adults
- Boy Scouts
- Small Groups
- Thanksgiving Community Meal
- Women's Ministries
- Youth (Small Groups, Host Snacks & Meals, Trip Chaperone)
- Jail Ministry - CR Inside



For more information about opportunities to serve, please reach out to the church office at (205) 755-0490, or email Lynn Best at Lynn@fmclanton.org

fmclanton.org



Our church is committed to making disciples of Jesus throughout the world. Get involved with the local and international missions of our church. You will see the Holy Spirit moving!

UPCOMING TRIPS



SIFAT

We have been invited to a fall festival at SIFAT with worship. Oct 4th.

Saturday, October 25th Around the World Tour with Lunch at SIFAT. This is open churchwide for all ages. Please contact Julie Hayes (334) 657-0910 or j.hayes2790@yahoo.com to reserve your spot. This will give us a tour of different simulated homes from around the world and give us the information on world hunger. Depart from church at 7am. Return at 4pm.

MEXICO

July 10-25, 2026

ECUADOR

June 6-13, 2026

LOCAL MISSIONS

The Bread of Life Food Pantry meets Thursday afternoons. Located behind Clanton Church of Christ. To get involved, contact Greg & Terri Nobles (205) 389-2141



Our Church Values

WORSHIP

We believe in Spirit-filled worship. We offer God our best in worship.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

Our church is guided by the Bible from first to last under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

WESLEYAN ROOTS

Our roots are in the Methodist revival movement. Our doctrine is Wesleyan, based on the preaching and teaching of the brothers John and Charles Wesley. Our ministries and church governance are Methodist in nature. We believe these roots are biblically faithful.

SERVICE

We show the world we are Christians by serving in love—across the street and around the world.

A PLACE FOR EVERYBODY

We believe every person is important, and every part has a purpose in the Body of Christ. We want every person to come to experience the life-change that Christ can bring, regardless of what's in the past.

We are a Global Methodist church. For more on our beliefs and church governance, visit:

<https://www.globalmethodist.org/our-beliefs---governance>



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

FIRST METHODIST'S MISSION

Welcome

We exist to WELCOME everyone—to extend Christian hospitality to all people, because everyone matters to God and Jesus Christ died for all people.

Win

We exist to WIN people to a personal relationship with Christ—to share the good news of Jesus Christ, His love, and His transforming grace through teaching the Bible.

Equip

We exist to EQUIP believers to follow Christ daily by making the Bible our authority for living and by becoming a part of the life of our church. As we accept, love, and forgive one another in committed relationships, the Holy Spirit makes us more like Jesus.

Serve

We exist to SERVE Christ's mission here in Chilton County and around the world—that lives may be changed for now and eternity as we proclaim through word and deed that Jesus Christ is Lord.

