



First Methodist Church

Long Beach

208 Pine Street

Corner of Church Ave. &  
Pine St.

(228) 863-9619

firstmclb@gmail.com

Rev. Ben Barlow

228-806-2787

Email address:

benbarlow@mac.com

### The Vision

Our vision is our intended destination or goal. The vision of First Methodist Church Long Beach is to know Jesus and make Jesus known.

### The Mission

Our mission is the roadmap for achieving our vision. The mission of First Methodist Church Long Beach is to engage, equip, and empower people to know Jesus and make Jesus known.

# The Messenger

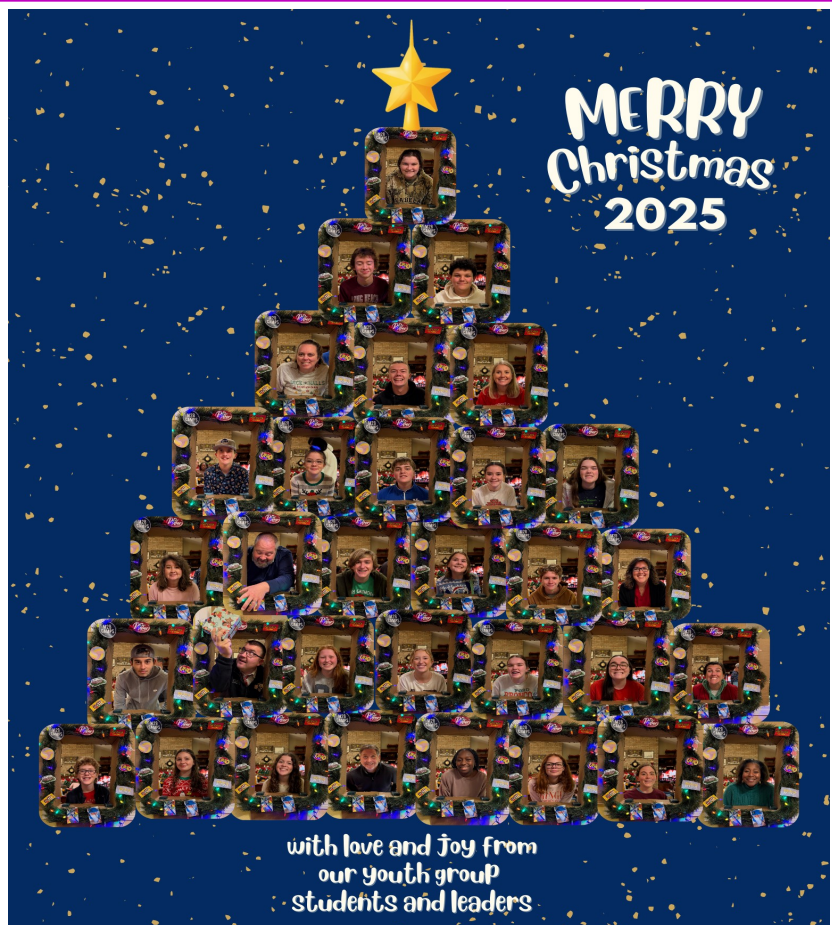
December 18, 2025



*Merry Christmas from the Church Staff and the Side By Side Respite Ministry.*

*Ben Barlow  
Emily Barlow  
Mandy Long  
Jason Ross  
LaKisha LaCour  
Allyson Tilley*

*Lori Cripple  
Alice Lonthair  
Kris McKenzie  
Perri Haley  
Tammy Clinkscales  
Amber Johnson*



Calendar

Sunday, December 21st  
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses  
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online

Monday, December 22nd  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Tuesday, December 23rd  
Office Closed

Wednesday, December 24th  
Office Closed  
11:00 a.m. Community Christmas Eve Luncheon  
4:00 p.m. Communion Candlelight Service @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium  
6:00 p.m. Communion Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary @ main campus

Thursday, December 25th  
Office Closed

Friday, December 26th  
Office Closed

Sunday, December 28th  
10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service  
2:00 p.m. Food Prep in the CLC Kitchen for Seashore Mission

Monday, December 29th  
10:30 a.m. Depart church for Lunch Service @ Seashore Mission.

Wednesday, December 31st  
Office closes @ noon

Thursday, January 1st  
Office Closed

Sunday, January 4th  
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses  
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online  
5:00 p.m. Youth in the Youth hall  
5:00 p.m. In-Betweens in Side by Side room

Office Closes @ Noon January 5-16

Monday, January 5th  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Tuesday, January 6th  
9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Side by Side rm.  
1:00 p.m. Blood Drive in the CLC

Wednesday, January 7th  
10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.  
5:30 p.m. Dinner & Discipleship in the CLC  
6:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Squad in Seekers  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in the Choir rm.  
7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in Youth Hall

Thursday, January 8th  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC  
4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bride's Parlor

Sunday, January 11th  
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses  
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online  
5:00 p.m. Youth in the Youth hall  
5:00 p.m. In-Betweens in Side by Side room

Monday, January 12th  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC  
5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Mtg. Side by Side rm.  
7:00 p.m. Church Council Mtg. CLC

Tuesday, January 13th  
9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Respite Room

Wednesday, January 14th  
10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.  
5:30 p.m. Discipleship & Dinner in the CLC  
6:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Squad in Seekers Class  
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in Youth Hall

Thursday, January 15th  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC  
4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bridal Parlor

Sunday, January 18th  
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses  
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online  
2:30 p.m. Mini VBS in the CLC  
5:00 p.m. Youth in the Youth hall


Monday, January 19th  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC  
6:00 p.m. Methodist Women in the CLC

Tuesday, January 20th  
9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Respite Room


Wednesday, January 21st  
10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.  
5:30 p.m. Discipleship & Dinner in the CLC  
6:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Squad in Seekers Class  
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in Youth Hall


Thursday, January 22nd  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC  
4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bridal Parlor

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 We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to Brian & Lena Beth Chancey and family at the death of Brian's brother, Al Chancey.

We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to Terry Rowell and family at the death of his mother, Peggy Rowell.

 A donation was given in memory of Imogene Hoffmann by Betsy Bullard.

 Thank you to Mandy and all the participants in Sunday's Cantata. The singers, speakers, and music was perfect for bringing in the third Sunday of Advent, Joy. This was your best yet, and we appreciate all the time and hard work that you all did to help us celebrate this most wonderful season. Thank you all!  
Charlotte Bailey





PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Marie Ward, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Spencer Humphrey, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Dawn McGinn, John Bull, Joyce St. John, Harry Brax, Pete Seyfarth, Charles & Lisa Oliver, Johnny Kersnac, Linda Robison, Ricky Bullock, Tyna Youngblood, Mark Ernst, Gary Smith, Jerry Bowlin, Joanne Jenkins, John Miller, Jay Reagan, Genia Humphrey, Emily Romano, Cindy Tredway, Steve Burton, Pam Serrato, Ryan Serrato, David Serrato, David Berry, Leiland Humphrey, Kathy Hogan, Mildred Dilley, Jesse Draime, Maddy Devlin, Patricia Badeaux, Linda Bass, Bob Bullard, Anne Ladner, Paul Hicks, Jim Collins, Nan Nabor, Kendra Reed, Glenda Hull, Natalie Schmidt, Nancy Ruff, Dawn Rhoades, John Fales, Becky Collins, Richard Gingles, Mandy Reinike, Lauren Sullivan, and Leo LaCour.



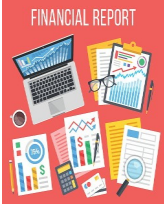
Give the gift of Life. The church is hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the CLC. If you would like to schedule an appointment you may do so @ [redcross.org](https://redcross.org).



**Community Christmas Eve Luncheon**  
**11:00 - 1:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center**

We are still in need of donations of side dishes, Dressing, Sweet Potatoes, and Mac & Cheese. If you can donate any of these side dishes, please let us know @ the church office @ 228-863-9619 or [firstmclb@gmail.com](mailto:firstmclb@gmail.com)

2025 YTD Budget  
Receipts + LIG \$846,790  
2025 YTD Budgeted  
Expenses \$769,592



**O.A.K.S. Luncheon**

Please join The O.A.K.S. for a luncheon in the Christian Life Center on Wednesday, January 28th at 11:30 a.m. All are invited and please bring a dish to share.



**“Practicing the Way”**

We will begin a new Dinner & Discipleship class on Wednesday, January 7th through March 4th from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center @ the main campus. We hope to see you in the New Year!

**Upcoming Sermons**

**December 21st**  
“Brought to the Light: Love”  
Luke 2:8-20

**December 24th**  
Christmas Eve  
John 1:1-14, Luke 2:1-7

**December 28th**  
“Brought to the Light: Wise Men”  
Lori Cripple

**January 4, 2026**  
“The Old is Gone, The New has Come”  
2 Corinthians 5:11-21

**January 11, 2026**  
“Becoming: To Know Jesus and Make Him Known”  
John 17:1-26

**January 18, 2026**  
Becoming: Humbly Surrendered”  
Philippians 2:1-11

# Winter RETREAT

Who: 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders  
When: February 13-16, 2026  
Where: Hargis Christian Camp  
(928 CR 461, Chelsea, AL 35043)  
Cost: \$150 per student

questions?  
Emily Barlow: 502-867-8601  
or emilyharrisonbarlow@gmail.com

## Mini-VBS



**January 18**

**2:30-4:30**

For kids - preK through 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Christian Life Center at First  
Methodist Church Long Beach

We'll also reveal the  
theme for VBS  
Summer 2026!



First Methodist Church  
208 Pine Street  
P.O. Box 375  
Long Beach, MS 39560  
[www.fmclb.church](http://www.fmclb.church)

## Youth Group

7th-12th Graders

**Dec 21 & 28** - No Youth, Winter Break!

**Jan 4** - Youth Group

**Jan 11** - Youth Group

**Jan 18** - Volunteer for Mini VBS 2:30 -4:30;  
Game Night 5-7 PM

**Jan 25** - Youth Group

**Feb 1** - Youth Group

**Feb 8** - Super Bowl Party

**Feb 15** - Winter Retreat



Above events begin at 5 PM in Heritage Hall.  
Youth will participate in Wednesday night  
dinners during January and February. Register  
now for Winter Retreat, February 13-16!



4th-6th Graders  
5-7 PM on Sundays

**Dec 21 & 28** - No In-Betweens, Winter Break!

**Jan 4** - In-Betweens

**Jan 11** - In-Betweens

**Jan 18 - Mini VBS 2:30 -4:30**

**Jan 25** - In-Betweens

**Feb 1** - In-Betweens

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In-Betweens meets in the Side-by-Side room  
in Moore Hall at 208 Pine Street. Enter on the  
side facing the park! In-Betweens will  
participate in Wednesday night dinners during  
January and February.