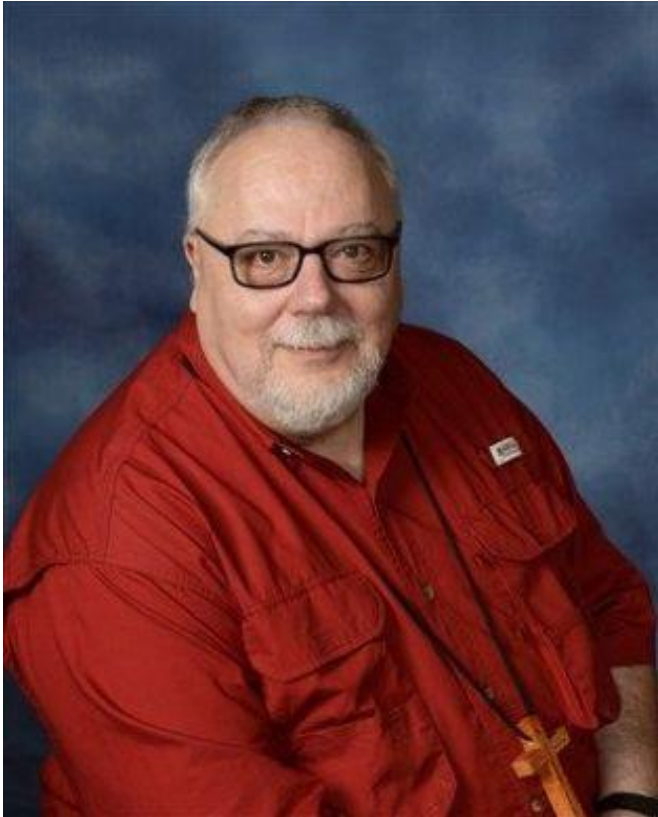


Welcome! Thank you for visiting our church's website.



I'm proud to say that I am the pastor of St. John United Methodist Church in Florence, Alabama. My wife Cindy and I have lived in Alabama for nearly 20 years. We are excited to be servant leaders among the people of our church.

I come to you with experience in ministry with different age groups and strong faith in Christ as my Savior. I believe scriptures are my guide to living my faith out above anything else. The world is our parish and where the Holy Spirit leads us and the ability to love the Lord with our hearts, souls, and minds and our neighbor as ourselves is where my vision and ministry is lived out.

I look forward to seeing you as you join us for worship this Sunday.

Have a nice day!
Bro. Mike Samuels, Pastor

You're Invited!

If you've been looking for a church where you feel at home and loved, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to you to be our guest and know you will be welcomed anytime.

When We Meet

Sunday

Sunday School	9:00 am
Worship Service	10:00 am
(Nursery provided)	

Wednesday

Bible Study (All Ages)	6:00 pm
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Online Worship

Anytime on Sundays www.sjf.church

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9:00am to 1:00pm

****All Times Are Subject To Change****

**Worship Services May Be Impacted
Due To COVID-19. Please Visit Our Website
For The Most Up-To-Date Information.**

Outreach & Ministries

Van Ministry

This provides a ride to & from all in-person worship services on our church van. If you would like to use this ministry, contact the church office.

The Giving Place, St. John's Food Pantry

We give out items once per person per month to those in need. *The Giving Place* is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Please contact the church office for additional information.

Help Center

St. John supports the Help Center (in downtown Florence, Alabama) with monetary donations and in areas of need.

UMW

The United Methodist Women meet on the second Tuesday of every month. They have a program and designated mission each month to provide supplies to organizations in our community.

UMM

The United Methodist Men meet every Wednesday morning at Jack's for breakfast and fellowship. They work within the church and our community seeking to serve others.

Meals On Wheels of the Shoals

St. John assists the Meals On Wheels program in delivering nutritious meals to home-bound senior citizens throughout the Shoals community.

Come Worship With Us



St. John

United Methodist Church

457 County Road 7; Florence, AL 35633

Phone: (256) 764-3972

Visit Our Website:

www.sjf.church

Why St. John UMC?

Below are just a few of the things that make our church family a special place to be:

- **Caring:** God's love fills our hearts and we strive to demonstrate His love in our lives. From the youngest child to the oldest adult, everybody is somebody at St. John.
- **Sharing:** Our family is committed to sharing the message of salvation through Jesus Christ with everyone because everyone is someone for whom Christ died.
- **Fellowship:** We are a place where people can come and build lasting friendships with other believers. Our family provides a place of encouragement, support, and fellowship that is so vital to the Christian life.
- **Growing:** Our goal is to help every believer grow in their understanding of God's Word so that each one can experience the victory and joy of life in Jesus Christ.

What To Expect On Sunday Mornings

We've answered a few Frequently Asked Questions below.

Where do I go when I arrive?

If you are arriving for Sunday School (9:00am), please enter our Christian Life Center building. If you are arriving for Morning Worship, which begins at 10:00am, please enter at the front of the Sanctuary.

Where do I park? Please park in the parking area in front of the Christian Life Center. There are "Visitor Parking" spaces available for visitors.

What do you do for children?

We have Sunday School classes for all ages. During Morning Worship, children may join the worship service. We also have a nursery available for Morning Worship.

How long does Morning Worship last?

Approximately one hour.

What should I wear? We're not fancy here at St. John. Come dressed as comfortably as you are.

We are following public health guidance to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Everyone entering our church is required to wear a face mask and follow social distancing guidelines.

Our purpose is to be a fellowship of disciples who love God and show His love to the lost, to each other and to the world. We do this through worshipping God, celebrating His gifts, calling and educating disciples and providing sustenance for their spiritual growth, serving the community by individual and corporate involvement assisting people in their daily living.



As Christians in the United Methodist Church, we believe that God's grace and love is extended to all people in all places around the world. In John 3:16-17, Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." **We believe that salvation is a gift from God through faith in Jesus' birth, death, burial and resurrection.** Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God".

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson.

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Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus His only Son our Lord:
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
the third day He arose from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.*

-John Wesley

**We would consider it an honor for
you to join our Church Family if the
Holy Spirit is leading you to do so.**

*It is important for you to understand
that church membership will not give
you eternal life. A personal
relationship with Jesus Christ is the
only way to Heaven. You can receive
this free gift at any time you wish to
accept it.*

*If you would like more information on
how to accept Jesus Christ as your
personal Savior, or if you wish to join
our church family through one of the
ways described here, please contact
the pastor of our church. He will be
happy to assist you and answer any
questions that you may have.*



**There are three ways to unite with the
United Methodist Church**

Joining by transfer from another Methodist church
If you are a member of another United Methodist Church and wish to join St. John, you may do so by simply making your intent to transfer your membership.

Joining by transfer from another denomination
If you come from another Protestant congregation, you will be asked one question: As a member of Christ's church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries, and will you then be loyal to St. John and uphold the ministry and outreach of this congregation with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness? *Your baptism is accepted- if you have been a member of another church and have been baptized, either as an infant, youth or as an adult, by traditional modes-sprinkling, pouring, or immersing then you do not have to rebaptize. If you have not been baptized, you may do so when you join.*

Joining by Profession of Faith

A person who begins the Christian life does so through baptism, which is a symbol of God's grace through Jesus Christ. If you have never joined a church, you profess your faith for the first time by proclaiming Christ as your personal savior and choosing to join the family of God at St. John. All who join the church affirm a common profession of belief:

- **Accept** that you are a sinner and like everyone it has separated you from God.
- **Believe** that God loves you and He sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to die for your sins.
- **Confess** in your heart that Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the dead so that you may have eternal life.

Salvation

The following Scripture passages explain our need for salvation, and God's answer to that problem, through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

(All Scripture Passages are from the New King James Version.)

ALL ARE SINNERS

Romans 3:23:

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

GOD'S REMEDY FOR SIN

Romans 6:23:

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 3:3:

³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 14:6:

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

HOW TO RECEIVE

Romans 10:9-11:

⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."

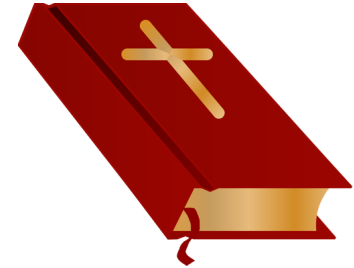
2 Corinthians 5:15:

¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

ALL MAY BE SAVED NOW

Revelation 3:20:

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.



If you would like to read additional Scripture passages, an online resource that is available at no cost is www.biblegateway.com.

You may type in any topic that you wish to read about and click Search.

History Of Our Congregation

March 31, 1958

A survey was conducted in the Underwood-Petersville area by Rev. James E. Harris and the Wesley Foundation and Florence State College. Nine families indicated an interest in starting a new Methodist church in the community.

April 1958

Organizational meetings of this new church were held in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Van Irons, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stevens. Rev. H.C. (Jack) Hendricks was appointed minister of this new church. The name chosen for this new Methodist church was **St. John**.

June 1, 1958

Our first worship service was held in a rented garage across from Underwood School. 43 people were in attendance.

January 1959

St. John completed the first of three educational buildings. Worship and Sunday School classes were held here.

1960

The second educational building was completed in January 1960, and worship services were moved to this building. In the fall, the third educational building was completed.

1965 – 1966

On February 14, 1965, an open house was held for the new sanctuary. Over 400 people were in attendance. In the Spring and Summer of 1965, the construction of our parsonage began, and it was completed in June of 1966.

1968

The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged to form The United Methodist Church. As such, the new name for St. John Methodist Church was St. John United Methodist Church.

1990

In June 1990, the church parking lot paving was completed by our "Unsung Heroes".

In the afternoon of Sunday, December 30, 1990, our church sustained over \$20,000 in damage from a tornado.

1993 – 1994

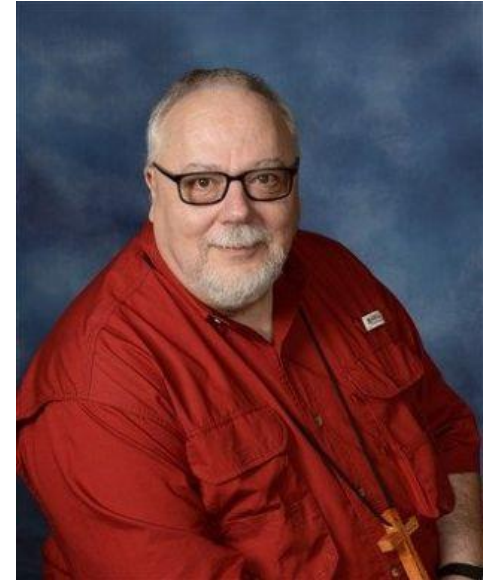
On August 1, 1993, a Groundbreaking Ceremony was held for our Christian Life Center. A dedication service for our Christian Life Center was held on October 9, 1994.

Present

We are a spiritually growing community of faith; believing and practicing Christ's Words, "Love One Another", in order to bring glory to God.

Contact Our Pastor

If the Holy Spirit has led you to join the St. John UMC church family, please contact our pastor using the contact information shown below.



Bro. Mike Samuels

Email: mike.samuels@umcna.org

OR Call Our Church Office at
(256) 764-3972

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.