



# THE CROSS AND TOWER

“OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS”

JULY – 2018



**Mission Statement:** To make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world through our witness, worship, and work.

**Our Vision:** To become a faithful and fruitful church for our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Our Plan:**

1. To become an inviting and welcoming church.
2. To find new ways of reaching out for Jesus Christ in our community
3. To become a mission-minded church by reaching God's people in our community and the world.

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## Meet Our New Pastor

Rev. Steve Reneau is a native of Wetumpka, Alabama, and grew up at First United Methodist Church of Wetumpka. He received his bachelor's degree in both Religion and Philosophy from Birmingham-Southern College in 2008. While at BSC, he served on staff at Yielding Chapel, was Chaplain and President of Sigma Nu Fraternity, travelled to the British Isles to study the history of the Methodist Movement, travelled Turkey, Greece, and Italy to study the life and writes of the Apostle Paul, and worked on staff at Trussville United Methodist Church and Bluff Park United Methodist Church with the youth ministries as an intern and Junior High Youth Director respectively.

He received his Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 2011. At Candler, Steve worked in the Office of Worship of Canon Chapel at Emory University, at the Poverty Rights Office in Peoplestown, and on staff at Epworth United Methodist Church at Candler Park. Additionally, working to publish his thesis titled “Drinking from the Byzantine Tradition” arguing the connection between Methodist and Eastern Orthodox Theology. Most importantly, while a student at Candler, Steve met his wife, Rev. Olivia Poole.

He is an ordained Elder in Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Serving first Verbena United Methodist Church from 2011 - 2014 focusing on church vision and outreach to children in the community. Prior to assignment at Elba, Steve was the Pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Phenix City, Alabama, where he also served as the President of the Lee-Russell Ministerial Association. At Trinity United Methodist Church, Steve focused on launching a new Wednesday Discipleship program for children, youth, and young adults, constructing a playground, repairing historic buildings, helping to develop a youth ministry, and connecting the church better to its surrounding community.

He serves the Annual Conference as a member of the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, the Montgomery-Opelika District Committee on Ministry, Vice-President of the Emory Alumni Conference Club, and as a member of the Board of Directors of Birmingham-Southern College. Steve is married to Olivia Poole, who is a graduate of Auburn University and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. She is also an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, and serves as the Pastor of St. Luke United Methodist Church in Enterprise, AL. Olivia is currently finishing her Doctors of Ministry at Duke University. Steve and Olivia have a one-year-old son named Grantham Lawrence Poole Reneau. Steve's hobbies include exercising, cooking, movies, and SEC Football.

## JULY ACTIVITIES

July 8:	Sunday School Morning Worship Evening Service	9:00 a.m. 10:00 6:00 p.m.
July 9 - 12:	Vacation Bible School	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
July 10:	SPRC Meeting	5:30 p.m.
July 11:	No Bible Study due to VBS Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
July 15:	Men's Breakfast Sunday School Morning Worship Evening Service	8:00 a.m. 9:00 10:00 6:00 p.m.
July 18	Light Meal Bible Study Choir Practice	5:30 p.m. 6:00 7:00
July 22:	Sunday School Morning Worship Trustee's Meeting Evening Service	9:00 a.m. 10:00 4:30 p.m. 6:00
July 24:	Clothes Closet SonShine Kitchen	5:30 p.m. 6:00
July 25:	Light Meal Bible Study Choir Practice	5:30 p.m. 6:00 7:00
July 29:	Sunday School Morning Worship Evening Service	9:00 a.m. 10:00 6:00 p.m.

### USHERS

Robbie Curran (Head Usher)  
Ferrin Cox  
Eddie Vaughan  
Greg Spence  
Mark Vaughan (alternate)

### FLOWERS

July 1:  
July 8: Holy Communion  
July 15: Judie Brunson  
July 22: Tina Thomas  
July 29: Need Volunteer

### GREETERS

July 1: Jean Helms  
July 8: Tim & Lisa Johnson  
July 15: Laura Lassiter &  
Patricia Nicholson  
July 22: Debbie & Merrill Curran  
July 29: Charlotte Hobson

### SCRIPTURE READERS

July 1: Guest Speaker  
July 8: Sara Smith  
July 15: Kathy Smith  
July 22: Eddie Vaughan  
July 29: Mark Vaughan

### NURSERY HELPERS

July 1: Heddy Cox  
July 8: Julie Holley  
July 15: Conni Moseley  
July 22: Becky Morrow  
July 29: Sara Smith

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Vacation Bible School is July 9 - 12 (9:00 - 11:30 a.m.) at Elba United Methodist Church Educational Building. The theme for Vacation Bible School is "Rolling River Rampage!" Please let me know if you would like to help in some way with your time and awesome talents! Your assistance would be greatly appreciated! You can contact me at: (334) 235-3617 or 897-2013. *Karen Davis*

**THANK YOU**

We have been deeply touched by your out pouring of love and concern during Tim's recent sickness and continuing recovery. Thank you for the visits, calls, text, food, words of encouragement; and most of all for holding us up in your prayers. It is a tremendous blessing to be part of this church family.

Again, Thank You!

*Tim and Lisa Johnson*

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - SHOEBOX MINISTRY**

Items to donate in July for child 10-14 years old: Flip flops, socks, bandana, sweat pants, T-shirts (youth XL or adult medium)

**Summary of General Fund - Budget, Receipts & Expenditures  
May - 2018**

	<b>May Budget</b>	<b>May Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>YTD 2018</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 14,406.80</b>	<b>\$13,850.78</b>	<b>\$172,881.53</b>	<b>\$72,034.00</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>- 18,444.56</b>	<b>- 17,584.28</b>	<b>220,411.30</b>	<b>92,745.66</b>
	<b>- \$ 4,037.76</b>	<b>- \$ 3,733.50</b>	<b>\$- 47,529.77</b>	<b>\$-\$20,711.66</b>

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Syble Adkinson  
 Meagan Anderson Danley  
 Carol Arnette  
 Howard Barton, Sr.  
 Sue Boggan  
 Jerry Basford  
 Lamar Brooks  
 Bentley Bryant  
 Kayden Bufield  
 Trevor Clark  
 Ricky Cooper  
 Minnie Ruth Crook  
 Lane Crume  
 Blake Crumpler  
 Janna Westbrook Curtis  
 Mary Frances Daniels  
 Neil Davis  
 Susan Deloney  
 Donald Eagerton  
 Stephanie Collier Fleming  
 Elizabeth Flint  
 Liberty Fountain  
 Terry Galberaith  
 Larry Goodson  
 Jo Greer

Joe Guerrero  
 June Hamm  
 Lavon Ham  
 Rob Hickman  
 Juston High  
 Joe Johnson  
 Joe Nelson  
 Cameron Jordon  
 Chris Kirkland  
 Clyde Laney  
 Royce Crews  
 Doug Martin  
 Elaine Martin  
 Dave Melton  
 Nancy Morrow  
 Jessica Mullinax  
 Boyd Murphree  
 Jan Murry  
 Holly Vaughan Newton  
 Brad Pence  
 Aaron Roberts  
 Scott Robinson  
 Cindy Shuck  
 Marie Frances Smith  
 Randy Grimes

Carolyn Stokes  
 Gearline Tharp  
 Mary Ann Turner  
 Glen Vaughan  
 Eddie Vaughan  
 Timothy Walden  
 Hal Waller  
 Hope Warren  
 Military Personnel  
 Police Officers/Fire Fighters

**Elba Nursing Home**  
 Patsy Lee

**Enterprise Nursing Home**  
 Annie Helms

**Taylor Mill Oaks**  
 Mary Alice Lee  
 Perrie Prescott

<b>MINISTER</b>	<b>CHURCH/ FINANCIAL SECRETARY</b>	<b>MUSIC DIRECTOR</b>	<b>ORGANIST</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR</b>	<b>YOUTH LEADER</b>
Rev. Steve Reneau	DeBitha Harrelson	Erin Smith	Pam Baker	Karen Davis	