



Word & Deed

September 2017

Weaver First United Methodist Church

www.weaverfirstumc.org

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father... encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." (2 Thess. 2:16-17 NIV)

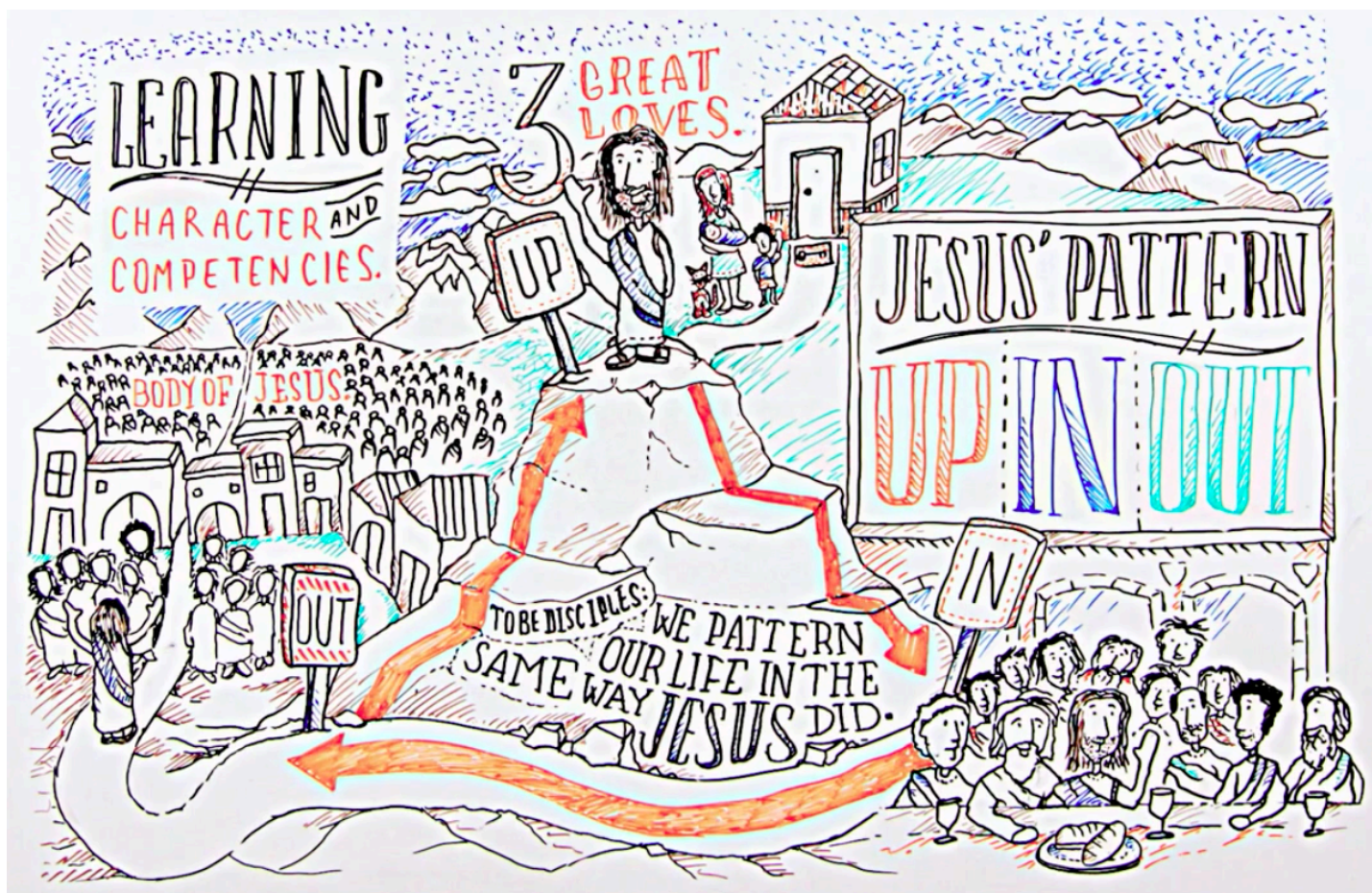


Image via [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...), by Doug Paul of Summit Church

Growing God's Garden: UP, IN & OUT.

This summer my family made our most earnest attempt yet at growing a vegetable garden in our backyard. Our kids helped plant seeds, and I even started a compost pile from our kitchen scraps. We had an ambitious vision of beautiful tomatoes, squash, peppers, berries and melons growing in abundance to feed our family. While this did happen, we also struggled to overcome stubborn weeds, bugs and fungus that decimated our hard work. Thankfully, we will have another year to learn from our mistakes and plan to improve upon our efforts.

As a church, we have been focusing on our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. We have envisioned this work as **growing a garden**. During several Sundays of worship last Fall we took our first look as a congregation at our vision: a garden where disciples of Jesus are grown by planting, tending and harvesting. This fall, we will take another look at our “garden” vision from three different perspectives, or dimensions: UP, IN & OUT.

UP: Transformational Worship. Life with God begins with acknowledging, honoring and glorifying God as our creator. God provides the sunshine, the rain, and even the dirt to grow food and sustain all life. As Jesus often looked up to give thanks when he broke bread with his disciples, we look up to God, recognizing our dependence upon him for our daily bread (John 6:51).

IN: Radical Hospitality. It takes hard work to grow a garden and reap a harvest: tilling, fertilizing, planting, watering, pulling up weeds, etc. So, too, is the work of growing the church and God’s kingdom, which is rooted in obeying God’s command to love (Mark 12:28-31).

OUT: Extravagant Service. Gardens aren’t just beautiful to look at—they also feed us. We recognize that God has called us to feed people with his life-Giving Word: the good news of Jesus. We strive to give as extravagantly as God did when he sent his only Son, Jesus, so that everyone might have life (John 3:16).

Just as my family’s garden will never be perfect, we will never perfectly fulfill our vision until Jesus comes to fulfill his kingdom. But we must continue seeking his kingdom, joining him in his work of restoring and renewing creation (see Rev. 22:1-5).

Our worship series: Growing God’s Garden: UP, IN & OUT, will take place during weeks of September 10-October 8. I’m looking forward to exploring God’s vision for our church from these perspectives with you.

Your fellow servant in Christ,
Matt Headley

Worship Schedule

Read more about our current worship series: <http://www.weaverfirstumc.org/worship>

September 3	Matthew’s Gospel	Matthew 16:21-28	
September 10	Growing a Garden: UP, IN & OUT	Luke 6:12-19	The Jesus-Shaped Church
September 17	Growing a Garden: UP, IN & OUT	Romans 12:1-2	UP: Transformational Worship
September 24	Growing a Garden: UP, IN & OUT	John 15:5-12; Luke 14:12-14	IN: Radical Hospitality
October 1	Growing a Garden: UP, IN & OUT	Matthew 28:18-20	OUT: Extravagant Service
October 8	Growing a Garden: UP, IN & OUT		Church Without Walls Sunday

Raising the Roof: a 20/20 Vision

Penny Cooper, with the Finance Committee & Trustees

Thank You So Much! We have now raised \$17,735.00 for this ministry expansion with pledges still coming in.. God is with us and wants our ministries to grow. Our goal is to raise a total of \$20,000 and we are almost there.. Keep this ministry expansion in your prayers.

For more information, please read our [Q&A and Purpose Statement online](#) or get one of our flyers on Sunday.

Finance Committee

We are working very hard on our 2018 Budget to get it finalized for Charge Conference on October 8, from 2-4 pm at Anniston First UMC. We will be presenting our 2018 Budget to the Church council the end of Aug. We have had to make some cuts in the budget due to a decrease in our giving, but we will still keep our Ministries funded. The Ministries are important to the church as our outreach to the community, and keeping them funded is important for us to grow more disciples for Christ and help our church to grow. Penny Cooper, Finance Chair.

New Leadership Opportunities

The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC) is actively recruiting individuals for ministries of discipleship and servant leadership in our church. If you are interested in serving the Lord through our church in a new way, please contact Pastor Matt Headley, NLDC chair, or any of the NLDC team members: Steve Kilgore (Lay Leader), Paul Sefcik, Cindy Kilgore and Jennifer Johnson. New opportunities for leadership include, but are not limited to the following roles:

- Discipleship Groups & Sunday School Coordinator
- Website & Communications Director
- Audio/Visual Ministry Director
- Church Historian
- Church Librarian
- Meals on Wheels Coordinator
- Nominations and Leadership Development Committee Member, class of 2020.

We are also discerning nominations for our new 2018 Council, which will combine the former Council, Staff-Parish Relations, Trustee and Finance committees (read more on this in the [July](#) and [June](#) newsletter articles). Members will include the Council Chair & Lay Leader, Staff-Parish Relations & Vice Council Chair, Secretary, Finance Chair, Property Chair, Lay Member to A.C., Worship Ministries Coordinator (UP), Hospitality Ministries Coordinator (IN), Service Ministries Coordinator (OUT), and the Pastor. If you are interested in serving in any of the above roles or have questions about servant leadership in our church, contact Pastor Matt.

Church Calendar: August 2017

Find the more details and updated information about church activities and events online:

<http://www.weaverfirstumc.org/calendar>

Weekly Events:

Mondays: 5:30 pm Music Practice, 6:00 pm Girl Scouts, 6:30 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesdays: 5:30 - 7:00 pm Kids for Christ will begin again for the fall session on Sept. 6.

Thursdays: 6:30-7:30 pm Boy Scouts

Sundays: 9-9:45 Sunday school, 10-11 United Worship

Upcoming Events

September 05, Nurture Team meeting at 10 am in the office.

September 06, Fall session of Kids for Christ starts 5:30-7 pm.

September 07, Trustee Meeting 6:45 pm in the office.

September 17, Serving Breakfast at New Life UMC in Anniston.

September 20, Prime Timers meeting and potluck lunch at 10:30 am in Family Life Center.

September 26, Primary Runoff Election 7 am-7 pm in the Family Life Center.

Ministry Team Schedules

Our church shares many ministries of service. Below are the schedules of the various teams that are in place to make our church community possible. Please thank the people who serve on these teams. If you are interested in serving on a team, please talk with one of our leaders.

Nursery Schedule

Below is the nursery schedule for this month. If you cannot be in the nursery on your scheduled Sunday, please call someone on the list to exchange weeks. Nisa Besta will be in the Nursery every Sunday, but we still need our volunteers to maintain the "two Person" rule in your nursery. (Which we have not been doing for several years.) A huge THANK YOU to all of our present volunteers, and to all of the new ones that have graciously agreed to volunteer. If I have not contacted you about being a volunteer please contact me (Joan DiMartino) at 256-820-1149 or 256-225-6297 (Cell).

September 3, Evelyn Thompson

September 10, Mary Lou McKinney

September 17, John DiMartino

September 24, Betty Arnett

Kids for Christ Food Team Schedule:

September 6, Team 1: Emily Carpenter

September 13, Team 2: Ann & E.B. Haskew

September 20, Team 3: Evelyn Thompson

September 27, Team 4: Gail Kilgore

Cleaning Teams:

August 27-September 2, Team 5: Evelyn Thompson, Ellen Cannon, Rebecca & Brian Howell
September 3-9, Team 1: Roy & Dana Bearden, Krystal & Corey Railey
September 10-16, Team 2: Ann & E. B. Haskew, John & Joan DiMartino
September 17-23, Team 3: John & Emily Carpenter, Keith & Cindy Kilgore, Wayne Ginn
September 24-30, Team 4: Steve & Gail Kilgore, Candy Sefcik, John Miller

Grounds-Keeping Schedule:

September 2, Team 1, Adam Johnson & Roy Bearden
September 9, Steve Kilgore & John Carpenter
September 16, James Markham & Paul Sefcik
September 26, The Haskew's & The DiMartino's

Newsletter and Bulletin Submissions

If you would like to place an announcement in the church bulletin please email it to weaverfirstumc@gmail.com before Wednesday of the week before, The Bulletin is printed on Thursday morning. If you have an article for next month's newsletter, please send it by **Sunday, September 17..**

Birthdays this Month

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following people in the month of September.. Please let them know that you are thinking of them on their special day.

August 31, Donnita Cobb

September 6, June Stringfellow

September 8, Hannah Headley

September 10, Wayne Ginn

September 15, Harold Spivey

September 20, Gerold Cobb

August 31, Barbara Margan

September 7, Codi Besta

September 8, Stephanie McNair

September 12 Noah Headley

September 15, John Austin Carpenter

Find more up-to-date information, visit www.weaverfirstumc.org or like us on Facebook at [weaverfirstumc](https://www.facebook.com/weaverfirstumc).