

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church
March 26-April 1, 2017

Ordinary Becomes Extraordinary

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas, former president of Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, handed me my diploma when I completed the Master of Divinity program in 2008. I love Dr. Kalas and am blessed by his writing. In his book *The Pleasure of God: Finding Grace in the Ordinary*, he poses the question, "How can anything be ordinary if we find the glory of God there?" Additionally, he declares, "Lunchtime with a friend or loved one becomes a holy sacrament...a walk at sunset feels like Eden before we destroyed it...Find God in the average day at work, the hours of reorganizing our files or the implements in our garage, or the all-too-routine conversation, and think that in such common territory as these we might evoke a divine smile." Kalas' question and subsequent words remind me of the following poem I recently read. May God use its message to speak to you as He uses it to speak to me.

The Best Things by: Robert Lewis Stevenson

The best things are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of right just before you. Then do not grasp at the stars, but do God's plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things in life.

The beautiful words of Kalas and Stevenson serve as a powerful reminder that, with God, seemingly ordinary moments in our daily lives can become divine, extraordinary moments. Last weekend, I was blessed by a brief encounter with a friend who was driving through town. While we were only together for an hour at Starbucks, the conversation and prayer we shared were life-giving to me. Through the gift and power of the Holy Spirit, may God open our eyes, ears and hearts to recognize the divine, extraordinary elements in the seemingly ordinary events and tasks of our daily lives. Thanks be to God for simple blessings that delight the heart!

Journeying with you,

Carolyn

"The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy." Psalm 126:3

"Every good and perfect gift is from above." James 1:17

Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer: Please pray for the unspoken prayer needs within our Whitfield family.

UMCOR SUNDAY

MARCH 26

UMCOR programs help restore lives. Reaching people in more than 80 countries, including the United States, UMCOR provides humanitarian relief in the event of war, conflict or natural disaster. Gifts to UMCOR Sunday underwrite UMCOR's costs of serving local churches in times of disaster.

Your contribution on UMCOR Sunday ensures UMCOR's ability to respond in times of crisis and offer help to restore and rebuild lives in the United States and around the world.



United
Methodist
Women

**Montgomery-Prattville District
Mission Study: Climate Justice**
Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017
Place: Metropolitan UMC
Registration at 8:30 a.m.
Program 9:00 until Noon

United Methodist Women's national office has made climate justice one of its four social justice priorities. United Methodist Women calls for sound stewardship of the earth and environmentally friendly lifestyles that preserve creation for the benefit of present and future generations.

Lenten/Easter Calendar:

- Wed., 3/29 - Spiritual Formation Session 5
- Wed., 4/5 - Spiritual Formation Session 6
- Sunday, 4/9 - Palm Sunday
- Thurs., 4/13 - Holy Thursday Communion Service, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, 4/14 - Good Friday Service, Noon
- Sunday, 4/16 - Easter Sunday
- Wed., 4/19 - Resurrection Celebration
- Wed., 4/26 - Al Smith, Renascence
- Sunday, 4/30 - Confirmation Sunday, 10:00 AM (Lunch follows)
- Wed, 5/3 - Sara Dubose, Storyteller
- Wed., 5/10 - Zara Grace Centennial Celebration

A Time for Prayer

Have you thought about being in a prayer group? Groups are meeting at 7:30 on Tuesday mornings, and at 2:30 and 4:30 on Wednesday afternoons.

If these times are not good for you, we'll work with you to find a time. If you have questions, call us or email us. We hope you'll join us to pray for our Whitfield family, our church, our city and our world.

Jim and Pollyanna Judd
834-3917

Attendance March 19, 2017

Sunday School 59 Morning Worship 100

**Wednesday Night Dinner
March 29**

MENU: Spaghetti, Green Beans, Side Salad, Garlic Toast & Dessert.
PROGRAM: Spiritual Formation, Session 5

**Tuskegee Airmen's Historic Site
Thursday, April 6, 2017**

Leave Whitfield at 8:30 am to travel in private cars. Tour the Airmen's Historic site, followed by lunch at the Kellogg Center. We will then tour "The Oaks", home of Booker T. Washington. Return home by 4:00 pm. Please sign up in the church office no later than Thursday, March 30. No cost for the trip except for lunch. Trip sponsored by the A+ Council. You can google Tuskegee Airmen's Historic Site and find out more information.



**It's Family Promise Time!
Sunday, April 2-Sunday
April 9**

As usual, we depend on our Volunteers! We need:

1. **Meals:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday
2. **Evening Hosts:** 5:30-8:30 p.m.
3. **Overnight Hosts:** 8:30 p.m.—7:00 a.m.
4. **Set-up Sunday,** 11:00 a.m.
5. **Clean Up Sunday,** 7:00 a.m.
6. **Wash linens - Daily** (Especially Sunday, 4/9/17)

Please call Nancy (281-5975) or Elaine (272-2799) to volunteer.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers for March 26 are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of my Whitfield church family by Patty Macready.



WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday, March 26

Worship Service	8:15 a.m.
Sunday School	9:15 a.m.
Morning Social	10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.
Handbell Practice	4:00 p.m.
UMYF	5:00 p.m.

Monday, March 27

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
Supper Clubs	6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 28

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
OA Game Day	10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 29

Prayer Group	2:30 p.m.
PoP Prayer Group	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Supper Program	5:30 p.m.
Children's Activities	6:15 p.m.
Youth Engage	6:15 p.m.
Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 30

Romans Study (Library)	10:00 a.m.
Romans Study (Library)	5:30 p.m.
Gladlane HOA Meeting	6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 31

Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.
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Saturday, April 1

No Events Currently Scheduled

RESTAURANT SUPPER CLUB

The Restaurant Supper Club will meet Monday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m. at Ming's Garden.

Please call Kay or Jim Solomon at 262-4805 to RSVP .

In Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to Edna Kohn upon the death of her sister Ann Lyda on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 in Birmingham, Alabama.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Canned Veggies and Canned Fruit, Cereals and Dried Milk

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES

**April 2 & 23
May 14, 21 & 28**

You Are In Our Prayers!!

Whitfield Members

Vivian Rogers, Kirk Wood, Peggy Brown, Martha Parker, Henrietta Cusick, Alma Reynolds, Jo Moody, Peter Brambir, Joan Rodgers, John Woodson, Dottie Suber, Charlotte Brambir, Mildred Jones, Betty Fuller, Bill Fischer, Kay Littlepage, Brownie Brown, Lib Cain, Tom Burns, Caryll Carrick, Elmer Stelk, Eloise Parsons, Jim Solomon, Edna Kohn, Helon Haack, Susan Richardson, Jay Byrd, Telsie Davis, Betty Woodson, Louise Forrester, Elmer Rogers, Aston Mashburn, Thursa Brown

Home Bound Members (in-town)

Lois Payne, Nealie Pruitt, Emmett Turner, Teresa Chavers, Rubye Solomon, Margaret Deacy, Wayne Read, Delores Dodson, Mitzi Warren, Libby Richardson

Home Bound Members (out of town)

Elaine McBride, Martha Payne, Juanita Pritchett, Katie Hopper

Friends of Whitfield

Wayne Russell, Verna Stevens, Bill Miller, Jeff Varner, Sharon Brugh, *Margaret Ann Batley*, Emma Hope Shaw, *Joy Lushington, Doug Estes, Kate Lindsey*, Myrtle Knight, Mona Pirsig, Mary Ellen Millis, Paul Lanier, Myles Wright, Ashley Dunwoody, Beverly Cornwell, Jean Cantey, Mac Macready, Darlene Fox, JoAnne Westery, Wayne Merritt, Bailey Casteel, Molly Nelson Brantley, Susannah Jones Cleveland, Jack Behm, Philip Landry, Janice Tepley, Julia Bradshaw

Peace for the nations and protection for all those who live and serve in harm's way.

Note: Please submit any names you would like added to the church via telephone (281-2467) or e-mail (whitumc@bellsouth.net) All names submitted are kept on the prayer list for **four weeks** unless otherwise notified. *Those names in Italics are in need of long term prayers.*

Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church
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Phone: 334.281.2467 Fax: 334.281.2698

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHITFIELD STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor

Reverend Carolyn Nelson
cnelson@whitfieldumc.org

Music Director

Angie Mitchell
amitchell@whitfieldumc.org

Young Adult Director

Beverly Brown
bbrown@whitfieldumc.org

Financial Assistant

Kristi Milano
kmilano@whitfieldumc.org

Nursery Director

Daisy Stelk

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Andrews
whitumc@bellsouth.net

Program Director

Patty Macready
pmacready@whitfieldumc.org

Organist

Telsie Davis
tdavis@whitfieldumc.org

Kindergarten Director

Jane Ruud
jruud@whitfieldumc.org

Nursery Co-Director

Mary Stone

Custodian

Larry London

Phone: 334-281-2467; **Fax:** 334-281-2698

E-mail: whitumc@bellsouth.net

Church Office Hours:

8:15-12:30 and 1:30-4:15, M-Th

8:15-12:30 p.m. Friday

Sunday Services: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Worship Assistants - March 26 (4th Sunday)

Ushers: (8:15) Mark Willis
(10:30) Youth

Counters: Martha Pippin, Ida McCain

Van Driver: Pam Merritt

Soundboard: (8:15) Harry Brantley
(10:30) Jeannie Anderson

Readers: (8:15) Margaret Feld
(10:30) Jeannie Anderson

Children's Worship: Patty Macready