

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT

For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

April 17-April 23, 2016

Love is a Choice

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Recently, my friend and former classmate, Liza, and her husband, Gabe, celebrated their anniversary. Liza shared the following words about love lived out in the context of human relationships. God is using these words to speak volumes to my heart. May they speak to each of your hearts, as well.

"The truth is that the more intimately you know someone, the more clearly you'll see their flaws. That's just the way it is. This is why marriages fail, why children are abandoned and why friendships don't last. You might think you love someone until you see the way they act when they're out of money, or under pressure or hungry, for goodness' sake. Love is something different. Love is choosing to serve someone in spite of that one's filthy heart. Love is patient and kind. Love is deliberate. Love is hard. Love is pain and sacrifice. Love is seeing the darkness in another person and defying the impulse to jump ship."

These heartfelt words serve as a powerful reminder that authentic love is not based on one's emotions and feelings, which can change when circumstances change. Rather, authentic love is constant, in spite of changing circumstances. Love is an action. Love is a choice.

In Romans 8, the apostle Paul proclaims, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." This beautiful proclamation reminds us that God loved us when we were unlovely and continues to do so. God's love for us is unconditional. There is nothing we can do or refrain from doing that will cause God to love us any more or any less. Thanks be to God!

Following his example and through the power of his Holy Spirit, may we see others with God's loving eyes and love others with God's loving heart. I acknowledge the fact that this task is not always easy. I am confident that each of us has at least one person in our lives, and likely more than one, who is difficult to love. My friend, Esther, says these individuals are "extra grace required." However, I am equally confident that those individuals who are the most unlovely and unlovable are the same individuals who most need to experience authentic love from God and others. As Christians, we are called to love God and love one another. With the love of God shed abroad in our hearts, may we be chosen to love, may others be blessed and may God be glorified!

Choosing to love,

Carolyn

HOPE HEALS BOOK LAUNCH

"40 days on life support. 2 years in brain rehab. A severely disabled body.

A marriage challenged to survive. 1 story told by 2 voices."

Katherine and Jay Wolf launch their book, *Hope Heals: A True Story of Overwhelming Loss and Overcoming Love*

Sunday, April 17, 2016, ~ 6:00 p.m.

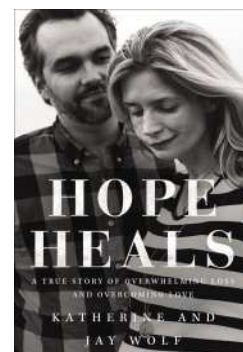
First Baptist Church

305 South Perry Street

Montgomery, AL 36104

334-834-6310

www.montgomeryfbc.org



"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Hebrews 6:19

Rummage Sale Thank You

Dear Whitfield Family,
Thank you for your wonderful support of our annual rummage sale. Thank you to each person who worked before, during and after the sale. Thank you to each person who donated items and encouraged others to do so. Thank you to each person who purchased items and encouraged others to do so. Thank you to each person who prepared and shared food with workers. Thank you for each smile, kind word and helping hand offered to both shoppers and workers. Please know that your dedication and hard work are greatly appreciated. You have helped to make this event a great success, with the proceeds of this year's sale exceeding \$6000. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
With gratitude,
Carolyn

Youth Car Wash Thank You

Dear Whitfield Family,
Thank you for your great support of our annual youth car wash. Thank you to each person who had your car washed, made a donation and encouraged others to do so. Thank you to Beverly and the youth for providing quality car washes to each supporter. You have helped to make this event a great success, with proceeds of this year's wash exceeding \$800. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
With gratitude,
Carolyn

UMW District Day Mission Study April 30

Upcoming Programs

- 4/20 - Tepleys**
- 4/27 - D.S. Rev. John Brooks**
- 5/11 - Michael Briddell - Mayor's Office**
- 5/18 - Mandy & Jeff Moody**

Attendance April 10, 2016

Sunday School 72 Morning Worship 117

Wednesday Night Dinner April 20

Menu: Baked Chicken, Potatoes Au Gratin,
Turnip Greens, Roll & Dessert.
Program: Tepley Testimony

A Praise!

Following surgery and chemotherapy treatment, our beloved organist, Telsie Davis, completed her final radiation treatment on Monday, April 11. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

The UMW Martha – Martha Mary Prim Circle will meet on

April 28, 2016, at 7:00 PM
At the home of Nancy Allen.....3016 Merrimac.

TOGETHER, WE DO MORE.
"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world."
- Romans 1:8, NRSV

THANK YOU
For giving faithfully 100% to the apportionment covenant in 2015

Bishop Paul Leeland
Alabama-West Florida Conference

Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church
Montgomery, AL

A. Moses Rathian Kumar
A. Moses Rathian Kumar
General Secretary and Treasurer
General Council on Finance and Administration

Michael Coyner
Bishop Michael Coyner
President, General Council on Finance and Administration

240147

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for April 17 are offered to the Glory of God and in memory of her parents by
Norma Prater.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Youth News....

Sunday, April 17

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.
UMYF	11:30 a.m.
Jack Pippin Ringers Practice	4:00 p.m.

Thanks to all who supported the Youth Car Wash. We raised \$853 towards our goal of \$2000 for the winter mission/praise trip!

Praise the Lord!

Beverly



Monday, April 18

Walking Group (M-F) 7:15 a.m.

Tuesday, April 19

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study	2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20

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

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Cereal, Tooth paste and Rice

Thursday, April 21

No events currently scheduled

Friday, April 22

Sew n sews 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 23

No events currently scheduled

Psalm 86:6-8

⁶Hear my prayer, LORD;
listen to my cry for mercy.

⁷When I am in distress, I call to you,
because you answer me.

⁸Among the gods there is none like
you, Lord;
no deeds can compare with yours.

You Are In Our Prayers!!

Whitfield Members

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

Home Bound Members (in-town)

Lois Payne, Johnnie Smith, Nealie Pruitt, Emmett Turner, Teresa Chavers, Ruby Solomon, Helen Lawrence, Margaret Deacy, Wayne Read, Delores Dodson, Mitzi Warren, Hazel Askew, Maxene Fischer

Home Bound Members (out of town)

Elaine McBride, Martha Payne, Juanita Pritchett, Katie Hopper

Friends of Whitfield

Robert Hoyt, Wayne Russell, Verna Stevens, Ann Gilliland, Mary Mellott, Trisha Dunn, Bill Miller, Jeff Varner, Leon Shirley, Doug Dennis, Mary Ellen Millis, Sharon Brugh, Margaret Ann Batley, Gwinn Corley, Emma Hope Shaw, Joy Lushington, Marty Trawick, Charles Pointer, Doug Estes, Dan & Kate Lindsey, Myrtle Knight, Mona Pirsig, Kenneth Means, Larry London, Nathan Hamilton, Mary Ellen Millis, Lea Jackson, Frank Ruud, Jerry Huie, Rev. David Stuart, Paul Lanier, Logan Hazen, Myles Wright

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
2673 Fisk Road, Montgomery, AL 36111
Phone: 334.281.2467 Fax: 334.281.2698
www.whitfieldumc.org

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MONTGOMERY, AL
PERMIT #157

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHITFIELD STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor

Reverend Carolyn Nelson
cnelson@whitfieldumc.org

Music Director

Angie Mitchell
amitchell@whitfieldumc.org

Youth 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 - April 17
(3rd Sunday)**

Ushers: (8:15) Carol Ann Free,
Mary Thomason

(10:30) Steve & Neet Duffee,
TJ Tepley, Vic Bradsher

Counters: Jim Judd, Mary Thomason

Van Driver: Ron Capel

Soundboard: (8:15) Harry Brantley
(10:30) Jimmy Lee

Readers: (8:15) Lib Cain
(10:30) Barbara Reed

Children's Worship:
Patty Macready