

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT

For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

May 1-May 7, 2016

Responding to Life's Storms: The Choice is Ours

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Ten years ago, on January 29, 2006, ABC's World News Tonight co-anchor, Bob Woodruff, and his cameraman, Doug Vogt, were hit by an improvised explosive device and seriously injured in Iraq. Bob suffered a traumatic brain injury that nearly ended his life. Bob and his wife, Lee, shared their story in the book *In An Instant: A Family's Journey of Love and Healing*. On January 29, 2016, Lee shared the following words in "A Letter to My Husband on Your Alive Day." God is using these words to speak to me. May they speak to you, as well.

"None of us can prevent the bad things from happening. That's simply part of the rhythm of life. But the key is how we respond...whether you choose to get bitter or get better. And it is a choice. So I want to thank you, ten years out from the worst day of our lives, for taking something awful and building something to do good."

While the exact dates and circumstances vary, each of us will experience life-changing events that bring us to our knees and shake us to the very core of our being. Life is fragile and, as the title of the Woodruffs' book reminds us, can change "in an instant." The question is not *if*, but rather, *when* these events will occur. Furthermore, as Lee suggests, the question is how we will respond when "bad things happen to good people." When the storms of life rage around us, will we choose to be better or bitter? Will we choose to be a victor or victim? As Lee reminds us, the choice is ours. It is my hope and prayer that we will not allow ourselves to be defined or limited by the challenging events of our lives. Rather, in spite of life's storms, may we choose to be a better victor rather than a bitter victim. May we allow God to take the broken pieces of our lives and bring beauty from the ashes. May we allow our God of redemption and restoration to make all things beautiful in his time. Through it all, may God be glorified!

Choosing Victory,

Carolyn

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33b

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

P.S. To read "A Letter to My Husband on Your Alive Day" in its entirety, access the book *In An Instant: A Family's Journey of Love and Healing* and learn about the Bob Woodruff Foundation, etc., please visit www.leewoodruff.com.



The Whitfield Preschool
"No Bake - Bake Sale"
Through May 15



Please don't forget the "No Bake Bake Sale". We need to raise enough money to buy three new wooden rockers for the infant and toddler rooms. Please help out teachers 'rocking' our little ones. We will have decorated boxes in the Sheppard Center and the narthex until **May 15** or you can place donations in the offering plate. Please place cash in an envelope marked for Preschool and indicate Preschool on checks. Preschool Board members will also be happy to take your donations.

Dear Whitfield Family,

Our own Jacob Allen is serving with the U.S. Air Force in Japan for one year. Jacob's new mailing address is as follows. Receiving prayers, cards, letters, scriptures and other expressions of support and encouragement meant so much to Jacob when he trained in Texas at Lackland Air Force Base. Please continue to lift Jacob and his family to God in prayer. Please continue to communicate with Jacob as he serves our country overseas. Cards and letters can be sent to APO mailing addresses using regular first-class postage. Thank you in advance for blessing Jacob in meaningful ways.

In Him,

Carolyn

Jacob Allen

PSC 80 Box 10063

APO, AP 96367

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Rice, Dried Beans, Tooth brushes & paste, Jelly,
 Large cans of fruit & veggies.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Registration at 8:30 A.M. Breakfast Served
 The program ends after Lunch.

Please join us for an interesting program, great fellowship and delicious food.

All ladies are invited to attend, you do not have to be a member of UMW.

Attendance April 24, 2016

Sunday School 73

Morning Worship 112

Wednesday Night Dinner

May 4

Menu: Spaghetti, Green beans, Salad, Garlic Toast & Dessert.

Program: TJ Tepley Testimony

Congratulations to Angie Mitchell!!!

Each year the VFW recognizes exceptional teachers for their outstanding commitment to teach Americanism and instill patriotism in their students. Angie's essay about the importance of teaching flag etiquette in her classroom made her one of the 2016 winners of the VFW Teacher of the Year Award.

Angie Mitchell teaches at East Memorial Christian Academy.

THE MAY MEETINGS OF THE UMW

Whitfield United Methodist Church

The May Morning Meeting will be held on May 11, 2016. The Sarah Circle will meet at 10:00 AM.

The Martha Mary Prim Circle will meet on the 4th Thursday, May 26, 2016.

Meeting to be held at 7:00 PM @ the home of Nancy Allen.

You are invited to join us for any meeting; you do not have to be a member.

PRIMETIMERS

Day & Time: Thursday, May 12 at 11:30 a.m.

Location: Cracker Barrel / Eastchase

Hosts: Gail Gilmore & Sharon Whatley

RSVP to Gail: 396-3358 or

e-mail: ggilmore3358@att.net

By: May 9

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for May 1 are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of their 29th wedding anniversary by Lewis & Karen Mashburn.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday, May 1

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.

Monday, May 2

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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Tuesday, May 3

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
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Wednesday, May 4

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.

Thursday, May 5

No events currently scheduled

Friday, May 6

Personnel Testing	7:00 a.m.
Sew n sews	10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 7

No events currently scheduled

Youth News....

The month of April the Youth are studying the book of Joshua. We will be reading through each chapter and learning about what happened after Moses and all the awesome things Joshua did with God's help!

This Sunday, we will take our lesson to the park, and will enjoy a picnic and some fun and games.

All Youth encouraged to join us for Sunday school at 9:30 and Worship service at 10:30 and Picnic at the Park at 11:30!

Praise the Lord!

Beverly

Eleanor Carmichael's

Estate Sale

May 9 & 10, 2016

2616 Gladlane Dr.

Montgomery, AL 36111

Monday, 5/9 from 8:30 until 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 5/10 from 8:30 until Noon

Presented by: Linda Shogen Antiques

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, Caryl 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, 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 - May 1
(Communion)**

Ushers: (8:15) Mary Thomason
(10:30) Carl Stevenson, Brownie
Brown, Ron Capel, Amanda Senn

Counters: Jan Heath,
Gene Holsenbeck

Van Driver: Ron Capel

Soundboard: (8:15) Harry Brantley
(10:30) Steve Duffee

Readers: (8:15) Mark Willis
(10:30) Earl Heath

Children's Worship: Communion