

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT

For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

July 17-July 23, 2016

Choosing Praise and Joy

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. For years, I have been blessed by the songs of faith shared by Casting Crowns. The song “Who Am I?” was helpful to me as I discerned my call to vocational ministry years ago. Recently, I was reintroduced to the song “Praise You in this Storm.” God is using these words to encourage and strengthen me. It is my hope and prayer that they will speak to your hearts, as well.

Verse one is as follows:

*I was sure by now
God, You would have reached down
And wiped our tears away
Stepped in and saved the day
But once again, I say "Amen" and it's still raining
As the thunder rolls
I barely hear Your whisper through the rain
"I'm with you"
And as Your mercy falls
I raise my hands and praise the God who gives
And takes away*

The chorus is as follows:

*And I'll praise You in this storm
And I will lift my hands
For You are who You are
No matter where I am
And every tear I've cried
You hold in Your hand
You never left my side
And though my heart is torn
I will praise You in this storm*

The powerful message of this song reminds me of the following words of truth shared by Kay Warren, wife of Pastor Rick Warren of Saddleback Church. “Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and *the determined choice to praise God in all things.*” In the midst of change and uncertainty, God is our constant—the same yesterday, today and forever. He loves us with an everlasting love and promises never to leave or forsake us. Our good, loving and faithful God holds each of us, securely and eternally, in the palm of his almighty hand. In the midst of life’s inevitable storms, God is our anchor and our calmer. He knit us together and knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows our needs and struggles. He sees and records our silent tears. While our emotions can and often do change along with our circumstances, we can have abiding joy in the Lord. The joy of the Lord is our strength, moment by moment and day by day. Thanks be to God!

My friend and our brother in Christ, Dr. Jeff Greenway of Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church, shares the following words of truth. “Life is tough. That *is* normal. But, Jesus is Lord. I will rejoice!” May you and I make “the determined choice to praise God in all things.” May we chose to abide in him and, subsequently, be filled with his abiding joy which is our source of strength regardless of our circumstances. To God be all glory, honor and praise!

Choosing Praise and Joy,

Carolyn

“Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” Nehemiah 8:10

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.” Psalm 28:7

“Record my lament; list my tears on your scroll—are they not in your record?” Psalm 56:8

Flat Wesleys—Headed for a Revival

John and Charles Wesley started a revival in the Anglican Church, which began with Holy Clubs at Oxford University, and caught fire after the brothers' heartwarming experiences on Aldersgate Street. Followers of that movement became known as Methodists, and they took seriously the task of spreading the Gospel message to the disenfranchised, lonely, and forgotten. John Wesley's epitaph at Epworth reads, "Lord let me not live to be useless." The Wesleys made themselves useful by spreading the Good News everywhere they went.

Well, the Wesleys are at it again. John and Charles are, once again, going out into the world, reminding people of God's love and grace. You can help them by "adopting" a Flat John and Charles for a week or two and taking them with you on your everyday travels. Each Sunday, the Children's Ministries will have Flat Wesleys ready to pick up and go... into the world, making disciples.

The Flat Wesleys are already making the rounds - at Blue Lake Camp, Longhorn, Shakespeare Festival, at church, of course.

Where will your Flat Wesleys go?



Attendance July 10, 2016

Sunday School 69

Morning Worship 103

Wednesday Night Dinner
and Programs
Will resume in September

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Sunday, July 17 - 5:30 p.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
Sunday, July 17 - 6:00 p.m.
KEYSTONE CLASS

Worships Arts Campers Return

We had an awesome week at Worship Arts Camp. A big part of that was due to the support Whitfield UMC gave through your prayers, camp scholarships, cards and letters. We can't wait to tell you all about our adventures in September.

Love, Amber, Emma, Gracie, Sarah,
Trey & Miss Patty



SAVE THE DATE

July 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

All supper clubs (and anyone else who wishes to come) are invited to supper at the *Catfish House* in Millbrook. Please sign up in the Sheppard Center or let Jim or Carolyn Vice know.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for July 17 are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of their 33rd wedding anniversary by Ron & Pearl Capel.

<u>SCHEDULED EVENTS</u>	<i>Youth News</i>
<p>Sunday, July 17</p> <p>Worship Service 8:15 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School 9:15 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Social 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>UMYF 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Monday, July 18</p> <p>Walking Group (M-F) 7:15 a.m.</p> <p>Tuesday, July 19</p> <p>Prayer Group 7:15 a.m.</p> <p>Supper Clubs at the Catfish House 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday, July 20—Suppers Resume in September</p> <p>Thursday, July 21</p> <p>Kindergarten in Sheppard Center</p> <p>Friday, July 22</p> <p>Sew n sews 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Saturday, July 23</p> <p>No events currently scheduled</p>	<p>This Sunday, the youth will be displaying some new Whitfield UMC t-shirts they designed to sell as a fundraiser for their winter trip.</p> <p>The cost is only 20.00 and is tax deductible.</p> <p>Please see any of the youth or myself to get your custom made shirt!</p> <p>Praise The Lord! Beverly</p> <hr/> <p>Lamentations 3:21-23</p> <p>21But this I call to mind, and therefore I have no hope:</p> <p>22The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end.</p> <p>23they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.</p>

You Are In Our Prayers!!

Whitfield Members

Vivian Rogers, Kirk Wood, Jay Byrd, Louise Gargus, 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, 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, Bill Fischer, Allison East

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

Wayne Russell, Verna Stevens, Ann Gilliland, Mary Mellott, Trisha Dunn, Bill Miller, Jeff Varner, Doug Dennis, Sharon Brugh, Margaret Ann Batley, Gwinn Corley, Emma Hope Shaw, Joy Lushington, Marty Trawick, Doug Estes, Dan & Kate Lindsey, Myrtle Knight, Mona Pirsig, Kenneth Means, Nathan Hamilton, Mary Ellen Millis, Paul Lanier, Myles Wright, Ashley Dunwoody, Beverly Cornwell, Walter Albritton

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.*

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www.whitfieldumc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHITFIELD STAFF MEMBERS

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Angie Mitchell
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Youth Director

Beverly Brown
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Financial Assistant

Kristi Milano
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Nursery Director

Daisy Stelk

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Jennifer Andrews
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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 - July 17
(3rd Sunday)**

Ushers: (8:15) Carol Ann Free
(10:30) Steve Duffee, Neet Duffee,
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