

# THE WHITFIELD



## SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

August 13–August 19, 2017

### *Speak the Name*

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. On February 8, 2017, my friend and former seminary classmate, Reverend Brent Arn, passed away at the age of forty-six after suffering a brain aneurism. Four months after the loss of her beloved husband, Laura Arn shared the following words.

*I know some of you don't know what to say or talk about when you see me, so let me help you help me. My loss of Brent may seem unspeakable, and yet I want to speak of him often—to somehow keep him alive. Of course he'll always be alive in my memories and in my heart. And every time I express my feelings, share my grief, or speak Brent's name, a layer of pain is peeled away. So, talk to me about Brent. Tell me stories of your time with him. Ask me about Brent. Share a favorite memory with me. It might make me cry, it might make me smile, or even both. Don't be afraid of my tears; I always have tissues with me!*

Laura's words, which are beautiful and heartfelt, connect with the following poem, "Speak the Name."

*Someone I love has gone away and life is not the same. The greatest gift that you can give is just to speak the name. I need to hear the stories and the tales of days gone past. I need for you to understand these memories must last. We cannot make more memories since my loved one is no longer here. So when you speak of him (her) to me, it is music to my ears.*

Human nature can cause us to seek situations that are comfortable and avoid situations that are uncomfortable. Subsequently, we can shy away from grieving individuals and justify our doing so by claiming that we do not know what to say or do and, therefore, do not want to upset them by saying or doing the wrong thing. In reality, more often than not, we do not want to upset ourselves. As Laura shared, it is healing for grieving individuals when we "speak the name" of their loved ones who have passed. Oppositely, it is hurtful when we fail to do so because of our own insecurities. Just because we are unsure of the exact words to be spoken or actions to be taken in every situation, we must not fall in to the easy but wrong practice of saying or doing nothing. Often, I say to individuals, "I do not know exactly how you feel, as I have never stood in your shoes, but I do care about you and your feelings." Also, may we remember the power of the ministry of presence, or simply being physically present with individuals who are grieving. Most importantly, as we walk alongside grieving individuals, may we seek, trust and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit to direct our words and actions. May we freely share stories and other memories and patiently listen as we allow grieving loved ones to do the same. May we remind those grieving of the eternal life and legacy of their loved ones who have passed. May we take the time and make the effort to demonstrate ongoing care and remembrance to them through timely visits, calls, cards, letters and other tangible expressions of support, especially on days such as their loved one's birthday, homegoing anniversary and holidays. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, may we find meaningful ways to "speak the name." To God be all glory, honor and praise!

Speaking the Name,  
Carolyn

"A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." Proverbs 22:1

"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." Romans 12:15

**Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer:** Please pray for open eyes, ears and hearts to see, hear and respond to those grieving in our midst with loving, tangible expressions of care.

### One Day Event

Saturday, September 16, 2017

The Conference Older Adult Ministries is sponsoring a One Day Event on September 16, 2017 at Ozark First UMC. The event will be from 10:00 am - 2:30 pm with registration at 9:30 am. The keynote speaker for the day is Bishop David Graves. There will be special music and also break-out sessions. The cost is \$20.00 (includes lunch).

Please make your check out to Whitfield UMC and note that it is for the **One Day Event**. Checks must be in by **Tuesday, August 29** since we have to send one check for all registrants by September 1. We will travel in private cars and the time of departure will be announced later.

### Montgomery-Prattville District Learning Opportunity

Saturday, August 12

**"What Shoe Are You?"** (based on the book by Lori Randall and loosely on Florence Littauer's book "Personality Plus"). Presented by Ms. Cami Hacker.

**Who Should Attend:** Lay Leaders, District C.O.R.E. Team Members and anyone interested in learning helpful skills that direct us to work more harmoniously with each other.

**Registration:** 8:30 a.m. **Session:** 9:00-Noon

**Where:** Fellowship Hall of River City Church, 301 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery

Please RSVP by calling [Cathy Givan](tel:334-354-0879), District Lay Leader at 334-354-0879 or email [cathy3163@hotmail.com](mailto:cathy3163@hotmail.com).

Light snacks and lunch will be provided.

### Are you interested in learning to play the UKULELE?

WUMC will begin a Ukulele class in September. This group will learn to play lots of great tunes for worship and special occasions. We hope to eventually start a Ukulele Ministry, going to nursing homes, hospitals, etc. to bring smiles to folks, four strings at a time.

You will need your own Ukulele, which can be found at local music shops, online at Amazon or other sites. (\$30-\$50) Instruction materials and music will be provided. Sign up now - class day and time will be announced soon. C'mon, UKE can do it!!



### Wednesday Night Dinner WILL RESUME SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

### A+ Council Meeting

Library

Wednesday, August 16

4:00 p.m.

### Susie Peach Foster Class Speaker Jenny Hersman Dodson

Please join us for Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. August 13th as we welcome Jenny Dodson and hear the testimony of her Christian journey.

### Ice Cream Social

The new Supper Clubs will be forming at the Ice Cream Social on Monday, August 28th at 6:30 pm in the Sheppard Center.



If you plan to join a supper club (Home or Restaurant), please let us know. Call 279-9589 or e-mail [cjvice@charter.net](mailto:cjvice@charter.net). If you would like to join the Restaurant Supper Club, contact Jack Reed. It is a great opportunity for fellowship & fun! Please remember to bring your favorite ice cream, cake or cookies!

See you August 28th at 6:30pm in the Sheppard Center!



### Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 20

Students, bring your backpacks, book bags, etc. for blessings.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for August 13 are offered to the Glory of God and in memory Fred & Gwen Hanby by Margaret Feld & Helen Hanby.

### Attendance August 6, 2017

Sunday School 62 Morning Worship 92

**WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS**

**Sunday, August 13**

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.
YAF	11:30 a.m.
UMYF	5:00 p.m.

**Monday, August 14**

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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**Tuesday, August 15**

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
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**Wednesday, August 16**

**SUPPERS AND PROGRAMS  
RESUME SEPTEMBER 6, 2017**

A+ Council Meeting	4:00 p.m.
Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, August 17**

Whitfield / FUMC Meeting in Sheppard Center	Noon
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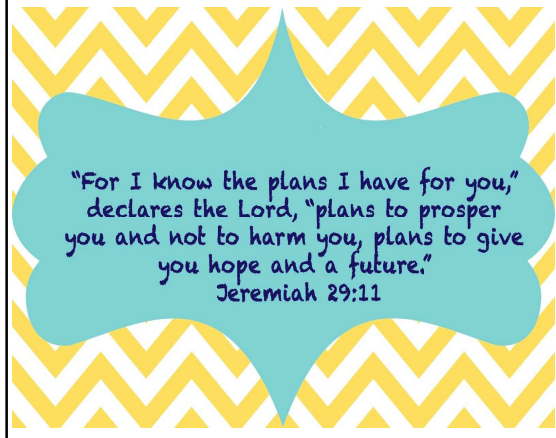
**Friday, August 18**

Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.
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**Saturday, August 19**

No Event Currently Scheduled

**From the Youth....  
BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSINGS!!!**



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:**

CEREAL, DRIED MILK, JELLY, CANS OF FRUIT, CANS OF VEGETABLES, AND DRIED BEANS.



**You Are In Our Prayers!!**

**Whitfield Members**

Vivian Rogers, Kirk Wood, Martha Parker, Alma Reynolds, Jo Moody, Peter Brambir, Joan Rodgers, Dottie Suber, Charlotte Brambir, Mildred Jones, Betty Fuller, Bill Fischer, Kay Littlepage, Brownie Brown, Lib Cain, Tom Burns, Elmer Stelk, Eloise Parsons, Edna Kohn, Helon Haack, Telsie Davis, Ashton Mashburn, Thursa Brown, Jay Byrd, Daisy Stelk, Ann Cheney, Caryl Carrick, Alice Henley, Lynn Norsworthy

**Home Bound Members (in-town)**

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

**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, 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, Aaron Turner, Dessie Varner, Douglas Nelson*

**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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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 - August 13 (2nd Sunday)**

**Ushers:** (8:15) Gene Holsenbeck  
(10:30) Ken Carrick, Jim Solomon,  
Jeannie Anderson

**Counters:** Carl Stevenson,  
Steve Duffee

**Van Driver:** Pam Merritt

**Soundboard:** (8:15) Harry Brantley  
(10:30) Vic Bradsher

**Readers:** (8:15) Tommi Holsenbeck  
(10:30) Emma Duffee

**Children's Worship:** Briana Hazen,  
Patty Macready