

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT

For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

August 21 - August 27, 2016

The Task of Faithful Relationship-Building

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. On Monday, August 22, my parents, Doug and Pat Nelson, will celebrate their 62nd wedding anniversary. They met at a school prayer gathering during their junior year of high school and the rest is history. I am blessed by and thankful for the committed, self-sacrificing love they have taught and modeled for others and me. I have witnessed my parents lovingly care for one another throughout my life and throughout the various seasons and day-to-day activities of their lives. I have witnessed my father attentively care for my mother during her recent hospitalization and ongoing season of recovery and heard him say, "I have enjoyed taking care of her." Likewise, I have witnessed by mother attentively care for my father during his times of illness and healing. It is still touching for me to witness my father opening the door for my mother, see them walking hand-in-hand on a sidewalk or a flight of stairs or holding hands while watching television. They enjoy the simplest of activities because they are experiencing them together. After all these years, my parents are extremely in-tune with one another. When they look at each other, one knows what the other is thinking and feeling and how the other will respond verbally or otherwise in various situations. Their strong relationship is the result of many years of sharing life, love and the "task of faithful relationship-building."

One of my favorite authors is Dr. John R. Claypool. In his book *The Saga of Life: Living Gracefully through All of the Stages*, the following words are shared. These words speak to my heart. May they speak to your hearts, as well.

It takes genuine effort and persistence to establish an authentic intimate relationship with anyone. Neither good marriages nor, for that matter, even deep friendships are made in heaven. They may be designed there, but the work of constructing them is done on earth. Only those who are willing to stay with the long-range task of faithful relationship-building will avoid the loneliness that was recognized long ago as not good for any human being.

Recently, a friend and mentor told me that the most valuable thing you can give to another person is your time. Due to the many demands and responsibilities of life, our time is limited. However, in the busyness of life, we must take the time and make the effort to participate in the long-range task of faithful relationship-building. We must invest in and nurture our positive, life-giving relationships and not take them for granted. We must thank God for family and friends who know and love us for who we are rather than what we do or what we can do for them. In relationships such as these, we know each other's strengths and love each other in spite of shortcomings and quirks. We have seen each other at our best and worst and been there for each other in good times and bad. We have celebrated with each other during joyous times and mourned with each other during sad times. We have shared the journey of life together.

Years ago, a wise elderly man told me, "If you love people, then tell them; show them." Through words and actions, including participation in the task of faithful relationship-building, may we demonstrate committed, self-sacrificing love to family and dear friends, who are our chosen family. The loving relationships we share with God and others are precious and priceless gifts. Thanks be to God for these life-giving relationships with which he has blessed us!

Committed to the Task,

Carolyn

"The Lord God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" **Genesis 2:18**

"A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." **Proverbs 18:24**

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails....And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." **1 Corinthians 4-8, 13**

Ladies' Tuesday Bible Study

September 20 @ 2:00 PM

The Best of J. Ellsworth Kallas

Pick up your books from Patty BEFORE the first class.

August Speakers for Susie Peach Class

August 21 - Allison Woodson,

Answered Prayers Ministry

August 28 - Randy Allen, Wesley Gardens

Ice Cream Social



The new Supper Clubs Ice Cream Social is Monday, 8/22, at 6:30 pm. If you are interested, please let us know. Call 279-9589 or

email The Vices at cjvice@charter.net. Restaurant Supper Club contact is Jack Reed. This Ice Cream Social is a great opportunity for fellowship & fun! Please bring your favorite ice cream, cake or cookies!

August 22 at 6:30pm, Sheppard Center!

Food Pantry Needs: Cereal, canned fruits/veggies, dry milk



Join a Prayer Group

If you are interested in participating in a weekly prayer group, please come to the organizational meeting on Monday, August 29, at 1:15 p.m., in the Library. If you are interested, but cannot attend this meeting, please let us know the time each week that would be good for you.

Thank you, Pollyanna and Jim Judd

Attendance August 14, 2016

Sunday School 70

Morning Worship 99

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs resume September 7 @ 5:30 PM.

WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER!

For our **September 7** program, we will build a Whitfield scrapbook about our summer activities. Please bring photos & mementos from your vacation, camp or VBS, swimming at the lake, sunsets at the beach, or even chasing Pokémon!

We will provide scrapbook pages and all the tools. You provide the content! We'll keep this scrapbook in the church library and add to it throughout the year. Come add your personal flair to our WUMC history!



Remembrance Sunday, 9/11/16

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on our nation.

Our worship will incorporate special patriotic music and prayers. Please join us for this service of remembrance.

Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday, August 28

10:30 Service

Students, bring your backpacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.

for a special time of prayer, as we start the new school year.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for August 21 are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Col. Thomas Rodgers and in honor of the August birthdays of Tiffany Turner, Rob Mitchell, and Angie Mitchell, by Joan Rodgers.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday, August 21

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.

Monday, August 22

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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Tuesday, August 23

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
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Wednesday, August 24—Suppers Resume September 7

Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
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Thursday, August 25

Kindergarten in Sheppard Center	
Garden Club Meeting, SC	10:00 a.m.

Friday, August 26

Sew n sews	10:00 a.m.
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Saturday, August 27

No events currently scheduled

Youth News

Youth Ministry T-shirts

are on display in the

church office.

\$20 each

Funds go toward
youth mission trip.

In Memoriam

Mildred Maxene Fischer

November 16, 1924 - August 9, 2016

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathies to Bill Fischer and family upon the death of his wife, Maxene Fischer, on Tuesday August 9, 2016, in Montgomery, AL.

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, Libby Richardson, Joan Rodgers, Thursa Brown, John Woodson, Dottie Suber, Martha Pippin, Charlotte Brambir, Mildred Jones, Betty Fuller, Helon Haack, Edna Kohn, Kay Littlepage, Brownie Brown, Lib Cain, Tom Burns, Caryll Carrick, Elmer Stelk, Eloise Parsons, Sawyer Johns, Bill Fischer, Allison East, Jim Solomon

Home Bound Members (in-town)

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

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, Jean Cantey, Teresa Kempter, Mac Macready, Pat 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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHITFIELD STAFF MEMBERS

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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 - August 21 (3rd Sunday)

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

Counters: Jim Judd and
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