

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church

September 3-September 9, 2017

“Jesus, the Author and Perfecter”

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Reverend Jessica LaGrone serves as Dean of the Chapel at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. In her book *The Rewritten Life: When God Changes Your Story*, Jessica shares the following words. These words bless and encourage me. May they do the same for you and others.

God is a masterful editor. When our stories need a rewrite, God is there with a new page and a new start. God knows the characters to send our way to shape our stories--- the doors that need opening and closing. In the Book of Hebrews, Jesus is called the “author and perfecter” of our faith; He is perfecting our story and shaping us....If God is the author, starting us off with big dreams and aspirations, then I’m grateful that God is also the perfecter, or editor, of our faith! God knows we won’t ever get it right the first time and yet never gives up on our stories....God wants to be intimately involved in your story, offering you an identity and a storyline that shine with the purpose for which you were created: to know God through God’s Son, Jesus, and to become more and more like Him, bringing God glory. God has revealed Himself to us in Scripture and desires to reveal Himself personally to each and every one of us. God is a God who reveals and transforms. My prayer is that you will come to know God in a deeper and more personal way, as you invite Him to rewrite your on life story, allowing God’s dreams for you to unfold on its pages. As you do, you are inviting God’s transformation and responding to God’s revelation. Transformation is true and remarkable change. It’s what happens when something is no longer its old self. God is not only great at creating (from scratch); God is great at transforming. When God’s creation goes astray, God doesn’t walk away in disgust. God “rolls up His sleeves” and gets down to the business of transformation. God nudges, whispers, shouts, pulls and prompts until we get the picture of what God desires for us to become. And then God helps us get there....Revelation is what God does from beginning to end in Scripture. God reveals Himself and His character to us in Scripture again and again, ultimately coming to us in human form through Jesus so that we might truly know Him and how He feels about us. When we know who God is, our understanding of who we are and what we are about shifts dramatically. All true transformation starts with revelation, not about ourselves but about the One who has the power to show us who we are and change us into whom we are called to be....Transformation and revelation are threads woven throughout the Bible and through our own stories, as well....At every stage and in every experience of life we are led to ask again, “Who is God and how is God rewriting my story?” May you discover more of God’s transforming power as you get to know Him as the author and editor of your life and faith!

Through Jessica’s powerful words, God reminds each of us that our story does not end when the reality of life does not unfold according to our hopes, dreams and plans. Rather, the creator and author of our lives redeems and restores. Moment by moment and day by day, He writes and edits His ongoing story for each of us. Thanks be to God, our author and perfecter! Through our stories, individually and collectively, may others be blessed and God be glorified!

Trusting our author and perfecter,

Carolyn

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.” Hebrews 12:2a

Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer: Please pray for everyone who is impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Jane Ruud’s son-in-law recently deployed to Kuwait with the Army. Cards and letters of encouragement can be mailed to:

CPT John Gallacher

1TSC – 135th ESC

APO AE 09366

PRIMETIMERS

Will meet Thursday, September 14
At 11:30 a.m. at the Capitol Oyster Bar
Call Gail Gilmore to RSVP
Ph. 396-3358

The morning **September UMW** meeting
will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017
at 10:00 AM

Please come and enjoy the program,
the fellowship and the snacks!

Hostesses: Ella Mae Eggers & Helon Haack



Labor Day
Monday - September 4
Office Closed

UMCOR RELIEF for Texas —HURRICANE HARVEY
As [UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief](#)
continues to prepare for Harvey, please pray for those
whose lives have been impacted by this hurricane.
Those who wish to support the work of UMCOR as it
responds to this and other disasters in the U.S. are
encouraged to give to UMCOR's US Disaster Response
Advance #901670

PoP Resumes September 6

Our family prayer group (People of Prayer) will
meet on Wednesdays at 4:30 PM in the Library.
All are welcome to join. Gracie Edwards and Patty
Macready will lead this group.



Attendance August 27, 2017
Sunday School 58 Morning Worship 85

Wednesday Night Dinner

SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

MENU: Sunday Chicken, Rice Pilaf,
Glazed Carrots, Broccoli,
Roll & Dessert.

PROGRAM: Praise & Prayer Service

Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet

We hope that you will plan to join us for this Adam
Hamilton video study as we explore the sites of Moses'
life, from the Nile River to the Reed Sea, from Mt. Sinai
to the desert wilderness.

The 6 week study begins on Thursday, October 12 and
concludes on Thursday, November 16 at 10:00 am and
again that evening at 5:30 in the church library at
Whitfield UMC. Turn your reluctance into boldness as
you study and learn more about this important prophet.

The cost is \$20.00 for the student book which can be
paid at the first meeting. Please call the church office to
register by Wednesday, September 20 so that books
may be ordered. Please indicate your preference for the
morning or evening class. Co-facilitators: LuAnne
Houser and Nancy Pugh.

Communion Rail Offering

On Sunday, September 3, the Communion rail offering
will be for "Communities of Transformation." This is a
program that seeks to help members of our community
who struggle with financial instability. It is an innova-
tive ministry that partners low-income families with
community volunteers. You can learn more about the
program by going to

www.communitiesoftransformation.org

One Day Event - Ozark First UMC

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Please have your payment (\$20.00) in to the church of-
fice by Friday, September 1. Bishop David Graves will
be the keynote speaker. Details for transportation will
be worked out once we know the number attending the
event.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar for September 3 are offered
to the Glory of God and in honor
of the Whitfield Church family by Jannett Baggett.

WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS		YOUTH
Sunday, September 3		We will resume our normal weekly gatherings with the Wednesday Suppers on September 6th.
Worship Service	8:15 a.m.	
Sunday School	9:15 a.m.	Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17
Morning Social	10:00 a.m.	
Choir practice	10:00 a.m.	We are looking forward to the <i>new</i> school year! Amy & Scott
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.	
YAF	11:30 a.m.	
UMYF	5:00 p.m.	
Monday, September 4—OFFICE CLOSED—LABOR DAY		
Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.	
Tuesday, September 5		<i><u>In Sympathy</u></i> We extend our sincere sympathy to Gloria Wilson and family upon the death of her mother Carolyn Wilson on Thursday, August 24, 2017.
Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.	
Wednesday, September 6		<i><u>JEREMIAH 29:11-13</u></i> ¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹² Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³ When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart,
PoP Prayer Group	4:30 p.m.	
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, September 7		
No Events Currently Scheduled		
Friday, September 8		
Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.	
Saturday, September 9		
No Events Currently Scheduled		

You Are In Our Prayers!!

Whitfield Members

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, Edna Kohn, Eloise Parsons, Helon Haack, Telsie Davis, Jay Byrd, Daisy Stelk, Ann Cheney, Caryl Carrick, Alice Henley, Lynn Norsworthy, Vivian Rogers

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, Tommy Rutledge

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

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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

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 - September 3 (Communion)

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

Counters: Jan Heath,
Gene Holsenbeck

Van Driver: Ron Capel

Soundboard: (8:15) John Carmichael
(10:30)

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

Children's Worship: Communion