

# THE WHITFIELD



## SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church  
September 24-September 30, 2017

### *“The Voice of the True Shepherd”*

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Last Sunday, we discussed Jesus’ interaction with Zacchaeus in Luke 19. Zacchaeus was surrounded by a large crowd but felt very alone. Feelings of isolation and loneliness were more common than not to Zacchaeus. Yes, he was wealthy and powerful. However, his wealth and power came with great price. As a result of his greed and dishonest ways in his role as a chief tax collector, Zacchaeus was considered to be among the worst of sinners. He was despised and, as a result, isolated and lonely. The following prayer about loneliness is found in the book *Prayers from the Heart* by Richard J. Foster (available for purchase on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)). Foster composed this prayer in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, in the midst of a busy convention. May God use these words to encourage each of us and others.

#### *Praying Through Loneliness*

*Today, O Lord, I feel the loneliness of anonymity. No one in this city knows me and no one cares. At least it seems that way. So I am left to myself and my own thoughts. My loneliness, of course, is quite comfortable. It is not the loneliness of the truly abandoned. But perhaps it can help me enter more fully into their feelings of abandonment. O Lord, may my small experience of loneliness teach me to have fellowship with all those who are marginalized:*

*When I eat alone, help me to pray for those who have nothing to eat.*

*When I walk the streets alone, help me to remember those who do not have the strength to walk.*

*When I feel on the outside of every conversation, help me to see the nameless people to whom no one pays attention.*

*When I speak and am ignored, help me to hear those whose voices fall on deaf ears.*

*And whenever my circumstances are devoid of familiar voices, may I always be able to hear the voice of the true Shepherd.*

*Amen.*

Like Zacchaeus, each of us has likely felt alone in a crowd at one time or another. However, Foster’s powerful words remind us that, even when we experience loneliness, we are never alone; “the true Shepherd” is always with us and desires to commune with us as He did with Zacchaeus. Furthermore, we are reminded of the countless marginalized individuals who are often invisible to others and, as a result, experience isolation and loneliness as a way of life. As children of God and brothers and sisters in Christ, may we remember that each individual is God’s precious and priceless creation. May God, who created all in His image and loves all enough to give His life for us, enable us to see others with His eyes and love others with His heart of compassion. Like Zacchaeus, may we “hear the voice of the true Shepherd” speak words of truth and love to us. Additionally, may we share His truth and love with a world in desperate need of Him and the healing and hope that He alone can bring!

Listening to the Shepherd’s Voice,

*Carolyn*

“I am the Good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.... My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” John 10: 14, 27

**Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer:** Please pray for those who are marginalized and experience isolation and loneliness as a way of life. The aforementioned prayer shares specific prayer needs.

Restaurant Supper Club will meet  
Monday, September 25th at 6:00 p.m.  
at Corsino's on Court Street.

Please call Brownie Brown to RSVP.

Ladies Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study  
A study of the Holy Spirit  
Beginning September 19 @ 2:00 p.m.  
Sign up with Patty



Ukulele Class  
Sundays at 5:00 p.m.  
Choir Room  
Beginning September 24

We hope to eventually start a Ukulele Ministry, going to nursing homes, hospitals, etc. to bring smiles to folks, four strings at a time. Instruction materials and music will be provided. Sign up now!

Karl C. Harrison  
Museum of George Washington  
Columbiana, Alabama

The A+ Council is sponsoring a day trip to visit the Museum of George Washington in Columbiana on Friday, October 20th. We will plan to leave at 8:15 am and return by 4:00 pm. We will travel in private cars. Please sign up in the church office by Friday, October 13th. There is no charge to visit the museum, but donations are welcomed. We will have lunch in a restaurant there in Columbiana which will be Dutch treat.

A sixth generation granddaughter of Martha Washington decided to share her legacy with the public providing the basis of the museum. The collection contains paintings, letters, furniture, glassware, jewelry and more. The collection focuses on art and artifacts from the colonial period through 1865. This should be a most interesting day trip so make plans to attend!

**Attendance September 17, 2017**  
Sunday School 55 Morning Worship 88

Wednesday Night Dinner  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

NO SUPPER / PROGRAM THIS WEEK

Wednesday Night Supper / Program  
Fall Schedule

Oct. 4 - Medical Outreach Missions  
Oct. 11 - No WNS  
Oct. 18 - Rev. Davis Martin  
Oct. 25 - No WNS  
Nov. 01 - No WNS  
Nov. 8 - Margaret Lowder, Children's author  
Nov. 15 - UMW Auction/ Last WNS for 2017

*Thank you!*

*I just wanted to thank everyone in my Whitfield family for their thoughts, prayers, cards and visits during my recent surgery and recovery.*

*They are greatly appreciated.*

*Ann Cheney*

**Holy Communion - Sunday, October 1, 2017**

Holy Communion will be offered on Sunday, October 1, to our members who are unable to attend church at this time.



*Holy Communion*

The elements will be consecrated at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and volunteers will take Communion out between the hours of 2:00 and 4:00 pm. We plan to take Communion to all who received Communion on Sunday, August 6. If you did not receive in August, but would like to receive the sacrament on October 1, please call the church office by Thursday morning, September 28. This ministry is being sponsored by the A+ Council at Whitfield UMC.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The September 24 flowers are offered to the Glory of God and in memory of Brandon Hobbie's birthday by Jackie Sheppard.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

### Sunday, September 24

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.
Handbell Practice	4:00 p.m.
UMYF	5:00 p.m.

### Monday, September 25

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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### Tuesday, September 26 - ELECTION DAY

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study	2:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, September 27

#### NO SUPPER OR PROGRAMS THIS WEEK

Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
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### Thursday, September 28

Gladlane Estates HOA Meeting	6:00 p.m.
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### Friday, September 29

Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.
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### Saturday, September 30

No Events Currently Scheduled

## YOUTH

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

We are looking forward to the *new* school year!

Amy & Scott

## Joshua 1:8-9

<sup>8</sup>This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. <sup>9</sup>I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**Charge Conference**  
**Tuesday, October 24**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Chapel**

## 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, Norma Prater

### 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, 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, Ella Marie Burns, Hunter Howell, Brock Woodham, Beverly Cornwell

### 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  
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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 - September 24 (4th Sunday)**

**Ushers:** (8:15) Mark Willis  
(10:30) Youth

**Counters:** Martha Pippin, Ida McCain

**Van Driver:** Pam Merritt

**Soundboard:** (8:15) John Carmichael  
(10:30) Jeannie Anderson

**Readers:** (8:15) Margaret Feld  
(10:30) Jeannie Anderson

**Children's Worship:** TJ Whitehead,  
Patty Macready