

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church
October 1-October 7, 2017

Praying Through Chronic Pain

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Many individuals within and beyond our church family are living with chronic pain. May the following prayer, written by Richard J. Foster, encourage you and others. Please feel free to share these words with individuals who would be blessed by them.

O Lord, my God, I do not ask for the pain to go away. I have prayed that prayer a thousand times over, and the pain remains with me. But I am not angry about it. I am not even disappointed anymore. I have come to terms with my pain.

No, my prayer is much more basic, much more simple. I ask, O God, for help in getting through this day. It is difficult because I have lost the ability to care.

God, what is hardest of all is that no one understands my experience of pain. If I had a broken leg, they could understand. But my pain is too hidden for them to understand. And because they cannot understand, they doubt my experience, and when they doubt my experience, they doubt me. And their doubts make me doubt myself, and when I doubt myself, it is hard to get through the day.

Maybe Lord, the pain is all in my head, like everyone says. Even those closest to me think that, though they have learned not to say it. Jesus, do you think that too?

Meaning has long since fled my life. What purpose is there in all this pain? Why am I here on this earth? What am I supposed to do with my life? These questions mock me.

I do not know who I am anymore, but whoever I am, O Lord, you know that I am Thine.

Amen.

Foster offers an honest reflection about the human experience of enduring pain during our earthly lives. Additionally, he reminds us of God's enduring presence, love and care in the midst of pain. May those living with chronic pain, in whatever form it presents itself, take part in the regular practice of "praying through chronic pain." In addition to praying through our personal experience with chronic pain, may we acknowledge the chronic pain endured by others, pray for them and point them to God, our Comforter and Divine Physician. Life is a gift. Each day is a gift. Thanks be to God for His enduring presence, love and care each day, as we journey through earthly life toward our eternal and pain-free heavenly home!

In Him,

Carolyn

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." Romans 8:18

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4

"Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many." Author unknown

Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer: Please pray for all who are living with various forms of chronic pain and those who support them.

**TRUSTEES WILL MEET TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 3 at 4:00 p.m.**

Dear Whitfield Family,

Thank you for your prayers and all the many expressions of love and support during my illness. The cards, flowers, meals, calls, transportation, and e-mails were so very helpful and encouraging.

I love you all.

Norma Prater.

An Eclectic Christmas

“It was the night that saved the world. The star shone so bright in the night sky. There was not room in the inn. Forced out into the cold night air surrounded with animals, Christmas was born in a stable.”

The 2017 Registration will be opening for the 2017 productions of An Eclectic Christmas on **October 1**. This year's dates are **December 1-9, 2017**, nightly. Reservations are highly suggested. As always, Admission is Free! Visit our website, www.anelecticministry.org, for the place to submit registration requests and more details. Again, registration opens on October 1, 2017.

**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. This should be a most interesting day trip so make plans to attend!

Attendance September 24, 2017

Sunday School 38 Morning Worship 71

**Wednesday Night Dinner
October 4, 2017**

Menu: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Cabbage, Corn Muffin & Dessert

Program: Medical Outreach Missions (MOM)

Nancy Hogan, Executive Director of MOM
Jimmy Barnes, Resources Coordinator at MOM

**Wednesday Night Supper / Program
Fall Schedule**

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

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 October 1 altar flowers are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of Carl & Pat Stevenson's 62nd wedding anniversary.

WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday, October 1

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.
Ukulele Class	5:00 p.m.
UMYF	5:30 p.m.

Monday, October 2

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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Tuesday, October 3

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study	2:00 p.m.
Trustees Meeting	4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 4

PoP Prayer Group	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Supper Program	5:30 p.m.
Children's Activities	6:15 p.m.
Youth Engage	6:15 p.m.
Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 5

No Events Currently Scheduled

Friday, October 6

Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.
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Saturday, October 7

No Events Currently Scheduled

WE WANT YOU!!
(and we'll feed you , too)

**Volunteers needed for
Youth Activities --**
Sundays @ 5:30 PM
Wednesdays @ 5:30 PM
See Amy or Scott Blackwell

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Cereal, Dried milk, 16 oz cans vegetables, 16 oz cans of fruit, Jelly, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.



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

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, Marilyn Spencer

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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Phone: 334.281.2467 Fax: 334.281.2698

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MONTGOMERY, AL
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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
k milano@whitfieldumc.org

Nursery Director

Daisy Stelk

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Andrews
whitumc@bellsouth.net

Program Director

Patty Macready
p macready@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 - October 1 (Communion)

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

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