

# THE WHITFIELD



# SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church  
October 8-October 14, 2017

## *“If Death My Friend and Me Divide”*

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Charles Wesley, a leader of the Methodist movement and brother of John Wesley, authored more than six thousand hymns during his lifetime. Included in his writings is “If Death My Friend and Me Divide.” God is using these words to bless and encourage me. May they bless and encourage you and others, as well.

*If death my friend and me divide, Thou dost not, Lord, my sorrow chide, or frown my tears to see; restrained from passionate excess, Thou bidst me morn in calm distress for them that rest in Thee.*

*I feel a strong immortal hope, which bears my mournful spirit up beneath its mountain load; redeemed from death, and grief, and pain, I soon shall find my friend again within the arms of God.*

*Pass a few fleeting moments more and death the blessing shall restore which death has snatched away; for me Thou wilt the summons send, and give me back my parted friend in that eternal day.*

When I lived in Pensacola, Florida, Betty and Don Topp welcomed me into their hearts and lives and were referred to as my “Pensacola parents.” On the morning of Sunday, May 1, 2011, while riding as a passenger during a five minute drive from the home of a family member to Montgomery’s Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Don passed away in a car accident. A portion of Don’s obituary reads “Throughout his life, Don’s kindred spirit and zest for life touched many people. He greeted each new day with joy and a sincere desire to lift those around him by sharing his faith, love, and excitement to live life to the fullest.” On May 16, 2011, a former colleague and I co-officiated Don’s celebration of life service. At the conclusion of the eulogy, I turned toward Don’s flag-draped casket and spoke these words, “My ‘Pensacola Daddy,’ I love you. I miss you. You will forever be in my heart, and I look forward to the time when we are together again in heaven.”

Each of us has lived long enough to experience the sting of death. Throughout the years, we have experienced the death of cherished family and friends and the resulting grief due to our earthly loss. However, Wesley’s powerful words remind us of God’s powerful promises of eternal life and reunion with loved ones in heaven. Until that glorious day, when we are reunited with loved ones who have gone before us and live together in God’s holy presence for all eternity, may our Comforter and Prince of Peace bless all who mourn with His comfort and peace that passes all understanding. May treasured memories of special moments shared with loved ones bring smiles to our faces and joy to our hearts. Thanks be to God for His promises of eternal life and reunion with loved ones in heaven!

Looking forward to the reunion,

*Carolyn*

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.’ ‘Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57

“Sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.” 1 Thessalonians 4:13b

**Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer:** Please pray for God’s powerful comfort, peace, strength and hope to surround and fill all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

### Whitfield Preschool Board Request

In order to meet national & state regulations, our Preschool must purchase napping cots and baby cribs. The Preschool Board is asking that you consider contributing to the cost of these required items. Please indicate on your checks Cot/Crib Fund.

Thank you,  
The Whitfield Preschool Board

### 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](http://www.anelecticministry.org), for the place to submit registration requests and more details.

If you are interested in attending *An Eclectic Christmas* with our Whitfield group, please contact Patty Macready immediately. We have signed up for our first choice to attend on December 7. Our backup is Dec. 5 Time will be announced once our registration is confirmed.

This will be a walking tour taking us through live-action vignettes of the Christmas story as told through Scripture. Tours last about one hour. Admission is free; donations are accepted.

### Alabama-West Florida Conference Prays for Las Vegas

The Alabama-West Florida Conference and Bishop David Graves continue to join in prayer in the wake of the horrific shooting in Las Vegas. We remember the lives lost in the senseless act of violence and continue to pray for the families and friends of those who died, the injured, law enforcement, medical professionals and the city of Las Vegas. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

### Attendance October 1, 2017

Sunday School 47 Morning Worship 80

### Wednesday Night Dinner October 11, 2017

**NO SUPPER OR PROGRAM THIS WEEK**

### Wednesday Night Supper / Program Fall Schedule

Oct. 11 - No WNS / Youth WILL meet

Oct. 18 - Rev. Davis Martin

Oct. 25 - No WNS

Nov. 01 - No WNS / Youth WILL meet

Nov. 8 - Margaret Lowder, Children's author

Nov. 15 - UMW Auction/ Last WNS for 2017

Trunks O' Treats will be  
Tuesday, October 31st!

5-6:30 p.m.



October 31st

You can start bringing in your candy donations to Patty's office. Also, start planning your creative trunk decorations. This annual outreach event will be here before you know it!

### Primetimers

Will meet on Thursday, October 12, at 11:30 AM at First Watch, 2920 Zelda Road To make your reservations, call Martha & Jimmy Lee (277-0802).



### ALTAR FLOWERS

The October 8 altar flowers are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of October birthdays by Margaret Ann Batley.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

### Sunday, October 8

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 9 - Columbus Day - Office Closed

Walking Group (M-F)	7:15 a.m.
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### Tuesday, October 10

Prayer Group	7:15 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study	2:00 p.m.
McGehee Place HOA Meeting	5:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, October 11

NO SUPPER OR PROGRAM THIS WEEK

Youth Program	5:30 p.m.
Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

### Thursday, October 12

Primetimers - First Watch on Zelda	11:30 a.m.
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### Friday, October 13

Personnel Testing	8:00 a.m.
Sew n Sews	10:00 a.m.

### Saturday, October 14

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**

### **1 Samuel 3:10**

<sup>10</sup> Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

### **2 Chronicles 16:9**

<sup>9</sup> For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the entire earth, to strengthen those whose heart is true to him. You have done foolishly in this; for from now on you will have wars."

**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, Charles

### **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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**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 - October 8 (2nd Sunday)**

**Ushers:** (8:15) Gene Holsenbeck  
(10:30) Brownie Brown, Ken Carrick,  
Jimmy Lee

**Counters:** Carl Stevenson

**Van Driver:** Pam Merritt

**Soundboard:** (8:15) John Carmichael  
(10:30) Vic Bradsher

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

**Children's Worship:** Patty Macready