

THE WHITFIELD



SPIRIT



For Members and Friends of Whitfield Memorial United Methodist Church
November 26-December 2, 2017

Seeking and Finding Jesus

Dear Whitfield Family,

Hello to my brothers and sisters in Christ. I look forward to experiencing the season of Advent with you. Recently, I read the poem "What Are You Looking For?" by Glenn Hitchcock. God is using these words to speak to me. May they speak to you and others, as well.

They were looking for a lion; He came as a Lamb, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a warrior; He came as a Peacemaker, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a king; He came as a Servant, and they missed Him.

They were looking for liberation from Rome; He submitted to the Roman stake, and they missed Him.

They were looking for a fit to their mold; He was the mold maker, and they missed Him.

They were looking for their temporal needs to be met; He came to meet their eternal need, and they missed Him.

He came as a Lamb to be sacrificed for your sin. Will you miss Him?

He came to make peace between God and man. Have you missed Him?

He came to model servanthood for all mankind. Have you missed Him?

He came that we might have true liberty. Have you missed Him?

He came to give you eternal life. Have you missed Him?

What are you looking for? Lion? Warrior? King? Liberator?

When we submit to the Lamb, we will meet the Lion.

When we join with the Peacemaker, we will meet the Warrior.

When we work with the Servant, we will meet the King.

When we walk with the Submitted, we will meet the Liberator.

When we concern ourselves with the Eternal, we will have the temporal.

If Jesus is not fitting into the mold you have, then come to the mold maker and get a new one. Submit to His plan for your life, and you will see the eternal need met first; then all other needs will be met as well.

These words serve as a powerful reminder of Who and what is important, during Advent and throughout our lives. A very busy season of the year is upon us. It is easy to become unnecessarily distracted by the extra activities and responsibilities that accompany the season. However, it is my hope and prayer that we will not simply go through the motions during this valuable season of preparation. Rather, may we take the time and make the effort to seek and find Jesus. He longs to commune with us in fresh and powerful ways. Thanks be to God!

Seeking and Finding,

Carolyn

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7:7-8

Weekly Focused Corporate Prayer: Please pray to encounter Jesus in fresh and powerful ways and for opportunities share Jesus with others during Advent, the New Year and throughout our lives.

Staff Christmas Gift



It has been our tradition at Whitfield to give cash gifts to our staff at Christmas. We would like to do so again this year. We will collect gifts through Sunday, December 17 and give the staff the gifts prior to the Christmas break. If you would like to contribute, please designate on your check or envelope "Staff Christmas Gift." You can place your donation in the offering plate on November 26, December 3, 10 or 17 or drop it off at the church office. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Earl Heath, Lay Leader

The Holiday Season will soon be upon us. Please mark your calendars for these special services and events:

November 26 - Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 am

December 3 - Holy Communion, 10:00 am

December 3 - Interfaith Nativity Exhibit, LDS (WUMC performs 5:00 pm)

December 5 - An Eclectic Christmas, 6:45 p.m.

December 10 - Children's Christmas Pageant, 10:00 am

December 14 - A Kempter Christmas at Frazer UMC, 6:00 pm

December 15 - Kindergarten Program, 11:00 a.m.

December 17 - Chancel Choir's Christmas Around the World, 10:00 am

December 24 - Morning Worship, 10:00 am

December 24 - Candlelight Communion Service, 4:00 pm

December 31 - Fifth Sunday Carol Singing Service, 10:00 am

January 7, 2018 - Epiphany Sunday/Covenant Renewal, 8:15 & 10:30 am

Bold Sundays = Advent Schedule:

9:00 am Combined Sunday School in Sheppard Center

10:00 am Worship

Attendance November 19, 2017

Sunday School 54 Worship 92

Wednesday Night Dinner

November 28, 2017

**NO SUPPER / PROGRAM THIS WEEK
SUPPERS WILL RESUME IN JANUARY**

Combined Sunday School During Advent

ALL Sunday School classes will meet in the **Keystone Class** for "A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas Story in Word and Art". Using the contemporary art of John August Swanson, scholars from Candler School of Theology at Emory University offer their expertise in discussions of how the familiar stories from Luke and Matthew are brought to life through Swanson's work. Join us for study, art, and fellowship.

Holy Communion - Sunday, December 3, 2017

Holy Communion will be offered on Sunday, December 3rd to our members who are unable to attend church at this time.

If you did not receive in October, but would like to receive communion on December 3rd, please call the church office by Friday, morning, December 1st. This ministry is being sponsored by the A+ Council at Whitfield UMC.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thanks to your generous donations, there are **61 shoeboxes** from Whitfield UMC on their way to children around the world!!!!

POINSETTIAS!

It is time to order your Poinsettias! Order forms will be in the bulletins and in the church office or feel free to call Jennifer (281-2467) with your order. The cost of the plants is still \$10.00.



AN ECLECTIC CHRISTMAS


1733 Claude Road Eclectic AL, 36024

Tuesday, December 5

Tour begins at 6:45 - please arrive by 6:30 so that our group can be counted. We still have spaces open.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The November 26 altar flowers are offered to the Glory of God and in honor the Dan & Elaine Dillon's 58th wedding anniversary.

WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS		Food pantry needs: Jelly, cereal, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meats and dried milk. 
Sunday, November 26 - Hanging of the Greens Sunday School - Keystone Class 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Choir practice 10:00 a.m. Pageant Rehearsal 11:00 a.m. Ukulele Class 11:00 a.m. UMYF		
RESUMES IN JANUARY		The United Methodist Women's Christmas Luncheon December 11, 2017 Arrival Time: eleven"ish" Time to Eat: Eleven thirty a.m. Cost: \$12.00 each We look forward to gathering together for a Merry Christmas & tasty luncheon in the Sheppard Center of Whitfield
Monday, November 27 Walking Group (M-F) 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, November 28 Prayer Group 7:15 a.m. Wednesday, November 29 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 30 No Events Currently Scheduled Friday, December 1 Sew n Sews 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 2 No Events Currently Scheduled		
<u>SAVE THE DATE</u> A Kempter Christmas Thursday, December 14 Frazer UMC 7:00 p.m.		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thank you</u></p> <p>The family of Harry Brantley appreciates the expressions of sympathy and support from the Whitfield family during Harry's death.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jane Brantley</p>

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, Caryll Carrick, Alice Henley, Vivian Rogers, Edna Kohn, Charles Stone, Peggy Byrd

Home Bound Members (in-town)

Nealie Pruitt, Emmett Turner, Teresa Chavers, Rubye Solomon, Wayne Read, Delores Dodson, Mitzi Warren, Libby Richardson, Lois Payne, Margaret Deacy

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, Darlene Fox, JoAnne Westery, Wayne Merritt, Bailey Casteel, Molly Nelson Brantley, Susannah Jones Cleveland, Jack Behm, Douglas Nelson, Ella Marie Burns, Hunter Howell, Brock Woodham, Beverly Cornwell, Marilyn Spencer, Mac Macready, Jackie Parquette, Brad Ruud, Dan Sheppard, Jean & Gary Lee, Cindy Flowers

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

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NON-PROFIT ORG
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
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 - November 26 (4th Sunday)

One 10:00 service only

Ushers: Youth

Counters: Martha Pippin, Ida McCain

Van Driver: Pam Merritt

Soundboard: Jimmy Lee

Readers: Patty Macready