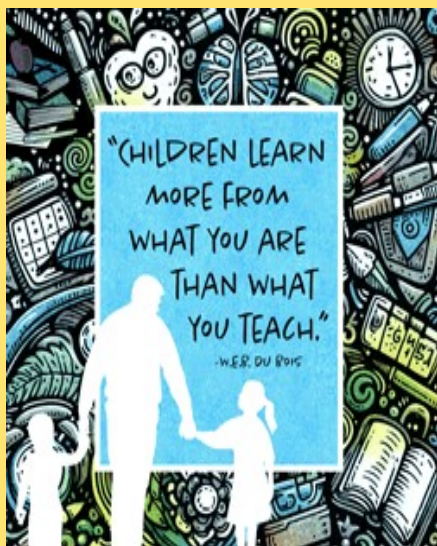


August 2024
volume 1 • number 8

Circuit Writer

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Special Dates:

- Teacher Return to School - August 1
- Students Return to School - August 12
- Sister Friends - August 8
- United Methodist Women - August 20, at 10:00 a.m.

Blountstown United Methodist Church

CHOIR CAMP!

Our 2024 Choir Camp was a big success! The children learned the moves, songs and their lines so quickly this year. There were 26 children in attendance and 18 volunteers. Most are looking forward to next year's camp.



FROM THE PASTOR

"An Appointment With God"



You can have
An Appointment with God

The sanctuary of Blountstown
United Methodist Church
is open every Sunday
evening,
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Come by, spend as much
time as you wish in the
quietness of God's presence.

No preaching, only quiet
meditation as you sit in the
presence of the Almighty,
unburdening your soul,
sharing your grief and pain,
receiving His encouragement
and comfort.



They have encroached on summer. School should not begin on August 12, but it does. Inevitably school begins in the fall, it always has. But the middle of August is a bit too soon. It has sneaked in and robbed us of those last few lazy days of summer, and has set in motion the routine of the fall; high school ball games, Saturday football, school buses on the highways. The new school year also marks promotion to the next grade; a new teacher, a new class, new materials to be mastered, and meeting with old classmates and friends.



School brings with it a sense of excitement and anticipation. And for many of us, we are given a chance to begin again if, in a class in college, we did not meet the requirement for professional standards and accreditation to do the job we have chosen for our profession. The course was tough; the professional standards high; the professor difficult to understand and follow the lectures. To complete the course and meet the requirements require tenacity, a sense of stick-to-itiveness to master the material and complete the course. So we are at it again, slogging through it, studying hard, preparing for what lies ahead.

Just as the professional and academic worlds require preparation and excellence in their fields of endeavor, so the spiritual world. Our Christian faith requires a constant vigilance to maintain our fidelity to Christ and our love and ministry to others through our church. When Paul was writing to his young mentee, Timothy, he said, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 [KJV] Or "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 [NIV]

Learning never ends. Knowledge is exploding at an exponential rate. Our faith is being challenged on all sides. In the world of ideas circulating all around us, God's Word is the only constant in this swirling stream. To be able to withstand this onslaught, it is imperative that we read, reflect on and put into practice the principles of His word. So this fall, let us determine we will read the Scriptures daily, study and reflect on them, and follow the instructions they give us for daily living.

{Continued on Page 3}

Continued from Page Two

The psalmist gives us this truth about God's Word; "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." Psalm 119:111 [NIV] As we learn that Word, it "is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Psalm 119:105 [NIV] This fall, set time aside for study, for prayer, and for reflection of God's love to us and His mercy as He guides each step of our way.

Bro John King

Co-laborers with Christ

Rusty Stevens, a ministry leader in Virginia, described trying to finish mowing the lawn before dinnertime. His 6-year-old son darted in front of him and grabbed the mower handle. But when Stevens stopped pushing, the mower stopped.

The busy dad fought the urge to tell his son to get out of his way and instead offered to help. Stevens began pushing again, leaning over and walking awkwardly to accommodate his eager assistant. Although the mowing commenced, it was slow-going and not as efficient as the solo effort.

That's when Stevens realized a ministry parallel: "This is the way my heavenly Father allows me to 'help' him build his kingdom!" The church leader pictured God busy "seeking, saving and transforming the lost, and there I was, with my weak hands 'helping'."

Although God surely can tackle all the work of ministry and evangelism alone, he "chooses to stoop gracefully to allow me to co-labor with him," said Stevens. What a blessing and privilege that God lets us work alongside him!



To BUMC -

I just wanted to express how much I enjoy the church chimes & hymns that your church blesses us with daily. As a child raised outside of the city limits, I always loved coming to my aunt's home on Angle Street because I could hear the church bells. Hearing the beautiful hymns ring out across town today, make me so thankful that BUMC has chosen to continue the tradition of sharing these beloved songs with the town. Thank you for being a beacon of light in our dim world. May God bless you for your faithfulness!

Traci S. Hall

A Sign of What's to Come

When God is about to do something great, he starts with a difficulty. When he is about to do something truly magnificent, he starts with an impossibility.

— Armin Gesswein





AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Esther Alford Communion Offering Marcus Register Fund	Ushers Joe Ferguson Glenn Kimbrel Stand by Mark Herndon			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
♪ Sue Stanley		♪ Cheri Henderson	♪ Tiffany Taylor		♪ Drew Whitfield	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
♪ Vicki Bennett ♪ Doug Whitfield						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	♪ Steve Whitfield	♪ Helen McGowen	♪ Virginia Szrowicz	♪ Theresa Merchant	♪ Nathan Kimbrel	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
♪ Laddie Williams				♪ Brooks Hayes	♪ Peggy Cox	

Our Caring Ministry List

Short Term Concerns

Melissa Bailey
Rhett Bozeman
Ted Dempsey
Jimmy Devane
Tommy Edwards
James Griffin
Sonny Harrison
Dorothy Hughes
Robert Hughes
Heather Leonard
Brenda Parrish

Robert Hughes
Iann Kallarik
Heather Leonard
Luke Melvin
Robert Petty
Ed Pilcher
Karen Pilcher
Anthony Sims

Our Shut – Ins

Betty Ann Cayson
Owen House

Our Military

Ukraine soldiers and citizens
Israel Citizens
Middle East

Persecuted Christians

UM Missionaries

Caregivers

Intercessory Prayer

Eric Alford
Mary Schroefer
Hannah Stephens
Sarah Lynn White
Laura Williams
Virginia Williams

Those Battling Cancer

Grace Barfield
Leslie Faurot Hand

Please contact the office with any updates to this list — Thank You!

August Flower Calendar

August 04 Miss Peggy Hall and Family
August 11 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ferguson
August 18 Mrs. Wade Martin
August 25 Mrs. Amanda Dunn McCarthy



Where We Live

[Christians] do not live in themselves but in Christ and their neighbor, or else they are not Christians. They live in Christ through faith and in the neighbor through love. Through faith they are caught up beyond themselves into God; likewise, through love they fall down beneath themselves into the neighbor—remaining nevertheless always in God and God's love.

-Martin Luther,
The Freedom of a Christian.

The greatest thing that we can do is to help somebody know that they're loved and capable of loving."

— Fred Rogers



Blountstown United Methodist Church

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www.blountstownumc.org

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Family Prayer List

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1. Chris & John Tomlinson /
Ann & Mike Tucker
2. Janis & Jack Weiler /
Jarred Weiler Family
3. Cherie White Family /
Doug Whitfield Family
4. Drew Whitfield Family /
Vicky & Steve Whitfield
5. Laura & Roger Williams /
Marvin Williams
6. Mary Ann Williams /
Mary Beth Williams
7. Virginia & Laddie Williams /
Barbara Wilson
8. Eric Alford /
Esther Alford
9. Dresia Barfield /
John Barfield Family
10. Wynelle Bateman /
Vicki Bennett Family
11. Alton Carpenter /
Betty Ann Cayson
12. Finlay Corbin Family /
Peggy & Jimmy Cox
13. Tyler Cox Family /
Joe Durden Family
14. Debbie & Tommy Edwards /
Gale & Joe Ferguson
15. Dottie & Bob Fleck /
Mary Flowers
16. Frank Gates /
Gina Gates Family
17. Montez Golden /
Bonnie Hall
18. Peggy Hall /
Pam & Ronnie Hand
19. Norah Hanley /
Louise & Sonny Harrison
20. Eileen Hatch /
Trevor Haser Family
21. Brooks Hayes Family /
Cheri & Quentin Henderson
22. Mark Herndon Family /
Jackie & David House
23. Owen House /
Nick Hughes Family
24. Laurie James Family /
Sandra & Jim Jines
25. Billy Jordan Family /
Becki Kastli Family
26. Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel /
Jonathan Kimbrel Family
27. John King /
Clay Knight
28. Annie Jo Lander Family /
Hester Leonard
29. Alva Martin /
Sally & Mike Mayo
30. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill /
Marc McCaskill Family
31. Michael McCaskill Family /
Barbara & Hentz McClellan