

July 2024
volume 1 • number 7

Circuit Writer

What's INSIDE

- 2 From the Pastor
- 3 Redeeming Wasted Time
- 4 Calendar
- 5 Our Caring Ministry
- 5 Declaration of Interdependence
- 6 Family Prayer List



Special Dates:

- Independence Day - July 4
- Sister Friends" Coffee - July 11
- Choir Camp - July 15-19
- Choir Camp Performance - July 21
- United Methodist Women Meeting July 23

Blountstown United Methodist Church

CHOIR CAMP!

Choir Camp will be at on Monday, July 15 and run through Friday, July 19. The hours for each day are 8:30 until 11:30 am.

The camp is open to children who have completed Kindergarten through Eighth grade.

This year we will travel back to 1970 and attend a game show "Tell Me the Truth". This new musical was created by Steve Moore, Rob Howard, and David Guthrie. It is full of humor, scripture and catchy songs.

Volunteers are needed to help with refreshments, crafts, games and several other duties. Contact Beth Herndon if you can help during the week.



Our Present Hope

Christian hope involves more than a sunny, cheerful attitude. It is more than a general kind of optimism. It is more than hope in hope, of faith in faith. Christian hope is tied to the goal of history and the purpose of each person's existence. It is the unshakeable confidence of the sovereignty of God and God's eventual over all the forces that stand against truth, righteousness, faithfulness, love and mercy.

And in the great contest between good and evil, Christian hope declares God as winner. ...Christ is the hope not only in the world to come; he is the hope of the world right now.

-Oswald Bronson



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.



It started rather inauspiciously, with fits and starts. The odds were stacked against us; a real David and Goliath Contest. The colonies were rebelling against the strongest nation in the world at the time, with resources and a military that could overwhelm us in a matter of months, or at best a year or two. Trouble has been brewing for years, a government ignoring the demands of its citizens; disagreement over taxes and the quartering of soldiers in the homes of private citizens, among other complaints. These were ignored until they festered, reached a boiling point and exploded along a country road from Boston to Concord. The 'shot heard 'round the world' has been reverberating ever since.

By the summer of 1776, the colonists were ready to make their case for rebellion against England and set out their argument for liberty in the Declaration of Independence. They argued that we had the right "to assume among the *powers of earth*, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them." As the laws of nature, established and governed by God, determine the course of the universe, so this same God gives all humans have the right to chose their own government. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

This call for liberty had been championed by the black robed regiment, pastors of churches who preached unequivocally and without reservation or hesitation that liberty was a divine right and ought be pursued at all costs. The Scriptures, God's Word, are to be the guideline for our life and practice. Any interference from the stare prohibiting us from following our conscience is anathema. in March 1775, with the clouds of war on the horizon, Patrick Henry gave a speech before the Virginia Assembly, where he gave his response to the coming storm. "Gentlemen may cry, 'Peace, Peace,' but there is no peace. The was is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle" ... Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!"

In our society today, there are those within the church and those outside our walls, who argue for the separation of church and state;





Continued from Page Two

that the church and religious principles and faith have no direct part in our civic life. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Judeo-Christian principles and 10 Commandments are the bedrock values and standards for our nation. The Scriptures guided the ideology, philosophy and thoughts of our founding Fathers. For the last two or three generations we have questioned the value of these beliefs. Our values have eroded. We find our nation awash in the storm of moral relativism, with no definitive guidelines by which to chart our national course. WE are in serious trouble.

As we celebrate our nation's birth this July 4, give God thanks for His goodness to us. Pray that His continuing mercy be upon us. Renew your commitment to be the kind of citizens who stand apart from the values of our contemporary society, cherish the blessing of freedom and pass on the responsibility of liberty and freedom to our children and grandchildren.

Bro. John King

Redeeming 'Wasted' Time

In *Just like Jesus*, Max Lucado writes that the average American spends a total of six months waiting at stoplights, eight months opening junk mail, 18 months looking for items we've lost and five years standing in line. All the while, many of us grumble: "what a waste of time! I could be doing something much more important! *Where* are my keys?"

But Lucado suggests that we give these moments to God. Rather than whispering to ourselves, we can speak to God in prayer. "Simple phrases such as 'Thank you, Father,' 'Be sovereign in this hour, O Lord,' 'You are my resting place, Jesus' can turn a commute into a pilgrimage," he writes. "You needn't leave your office or kneel in your kitchen. Just pray where you are. Let the kitchen become a cathedral or the classroom a chapel. Give God your whispering thoughts.

When we do this, "the common becomes uncommon," Lucado adds. What's more, "wasted time becomes valuable; boring waits become meditative; the lost—your time, if not also your keys— is redeemed.



Worship in Wonder

Worship is a faith-building, faith— sustaining act. It's also a form of service to God. Remember to worship regularly during the summer, even when you're out of town.

● "Worship is like corrective lenses for our souls, bringing God clearer into view. That's important for all of us, especially when life goes off the rails."

—Louie Giglio

● "Worship is transcendent wonder. Wonder for which there is now no limit or measure."


—Thomas Carlyle



**July Communion
Offering
designated for
Embrace Florida Kids.**



JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Eileen Hatch Offering White Christmas/ Embrace Florida Kids	1	2	3	 4	5 ♪Beth Herndon ♪Billy Jordan	6
7 ♪Marley Barfield	8	9 ♪Courtney Doyal	10	11 Sister Friends' Coffee & Chat 10:00 a.m.	12	13 ♡Ann & Mike Tucker
14	15	16	17 ♡Donna & Finlay Corbin July 18	18 ♪Owen Houes ♪Mary Beth Williams	19	20
Choir Camp - July 15 through July 19 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.						
21 Choir Camp Performance 6:00 p.m.	22 ♪Glen McClellan	23 UMW Meeting 10:00 a.m.	24	25	26 ♡Beth & Mark Herndon	27 ♪Cherie White
28 ♪Maisie Jones	29 ♡Phyllis & Frank Miller	30	31 ♪Philip Kastli	Ushers Jimmy Cox Frank Miller Standby Mike Schrueler		



Our Caring Ministry List

Short Term Concerns

Karen Pilcher

Rhett Bozeman

Jimmy Devane

Tommy Edwards

Robert Hughes

Heather Leonard

Brenda Parrish

Intercessory Prayer

Eric Alford

Mary Schruefer

Hannah Stephens

Sarah Lynn White

Laura Williams

Virginia Williams

Those Battling Cancer

Grace Barfield

Leslie Faurot Hand

Robert Hughes

Iann Kallarik

Heather Leonard

Luke Melvin

Ed Pilcher

Our Shut – Ins

Betty Ann Cayson

Bonnie Hall

Owen House

Our Military

Ukraine soldiers and citizens

Israel Citizens

Middle East

Persecuted Christians

UM Missionaries

Caregivers

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

Just a reminder names placed on Our Caring Ministry List must be submitted through the church office. Requests can be done by emails, or phone calls.

A Declaration of Interdependence

“Dependence does not destroy human personality,” writes Donald F. Baillie. Instead, people are “never so fully and so truly personal as when [they are] living in complete dependence upon God.” Jesus modeled this type of living by depending completely on his heavenly Father.

In that light, let it be declared and hereby celebrated ...

- That all people everywhere depend on one another.
- That everyone needs everyone else for freedom, life, love and happiness.
- That all things in the natural order depend on everything else.
- That the Earth and all planets and stars are mutually dependent.
- that this universally shared dependence comes from God and is of God.
- And that each individual part of this relationship has its own role in fulfilling God’s plan

July Flower Calendar

July 07 Mrs. Don Stephens
July 14 Mrs. Joe Alford
July 21 Mrs. Eileen Hatch
July 28 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Scholz



Blountstown United Methodist Church

Post Office Box 299
20500 Central Ave, West
Blountstown, FL 32424
Phone: 850-674-8254/3144
Email: bunitedmc@gmail.com
www.blountstownumc.org

First Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
City, ST
Permit # 000

Family Prayer List

volume 1 • number 7

1. Gale & Joe Ferguson /
Dottie & Bob Fleck
2. Mary Flowers /
Frank Gates
3. Gina Gates Family /
Bill Gaskin
4. Montez Golden /
Peggy Hall
5. Norah Handley /
Louise & Sonny Harrison
6. Trevor Haser Family /
Eileen Hatch
7. Brooks Hayes Family /
Cheri & Quentin Henderson
8. Mark Herndon Family /
Jackie & David House
9. John David House Family /
Owen House
10. Nick Hughes Family /
Laurie James Family
11. Sandra & Jim Jines /
Seth Jones Family
12. Billy Jordan Family /
Becki Kastli Family
13. Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel /
Jonathan Kimbrel Family
14. John King /
Clay Knight
15. Annie Jo Landers Family /
Hester Leonard
16. Alva Martin/
Sally & Mike Mayo
17. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill /
Marc McCaskill Family
18. Michael McCaskill Family /
Barbara & Hentz McClellan
19. Danita & Glen McClellan /
Heath McClellan Family
20. Kyle McClellan Family /
Helen McGowen
21. Sharon & Henry McCrone /
Perry McGhee Family
22. Phyllis & Frank Miller /
Kathryn Mitchell Family
23. Karen & David Murrell /
Brenda Parrish
24. Gary Parrish /
Michele Pettis Family
25. Jeremy Proctor /
Charmian & Jerry Register
26. Diane & Russell Scholz /
DellAnne & Michael Schrufer
27. Tracy Cox-Stanton Family /
Ken Sheppard Family
28. Stacy Sims /
Rodney Smith Family
29. Donald Stanley Family /
Sue & Donald Stanley
30. Mert Stephens /
Scott Stephens Family
31. Virginia House Szrowicz /
Betty Sue & Ken Taylor