

Circuit Writer

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*And whatever
you do, whether in
word or deed, do it all
in the name of the Lord
Jesus, giving thanks
to God the Father
through him.*

COLOSSIANS 3:17, NIV

Special Dates:

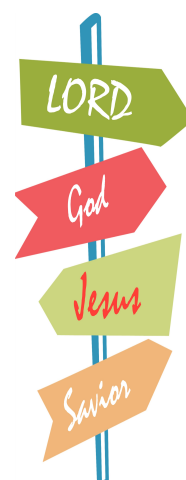
- National Day of Prayer - May 2
- Ascension Day - May 9
- Sister Friends' Coffee - May 9
- Mother's Day - May 12
- Day of Pentecost - May 19
- Recognition of Graduates - May 19
- United Methodist Women Meeting - May 21
- Altha Graduation - May 23
- BHS Graduation - May 24
- Trinity Sunday - May 26
- Memorial Day - May 27

Blountstown United Methodist Church

You Are My Witnesses

John White (1924—2002) was a medical missionary, psychiatry professor, church planter and prolific author who wrote about faith and outreach. He refuted the notion that being an affective witness for Christ is akin to being a salesperson. Christian are representing and sharing a person, he said, not touting a product.

"A good witness is like a signpost, "It doesn't matter whether it is old, young, pretty, ugly. It has to point the right direction and be able to be understood. We are witnesses to Christ; we point to him."



A Hidden Graduation Message

A college class was graduating on a hot and humid day. As the graduates walked across the platform and received their diplomas from the president, he smiled, shook their hands and said loudly, "Congratulations!" Then, in a much lower voice, one that was firm and could be heard only by the graduates, he would say, "Keep moving."

He was only trying to keep the line moving across the stage, but his words were good advice for a lifetime: "Keep moving." After every achievement—growing up, graduation, marriage, job promotion, even retirement—the best advice is, "Keep moving." Don't stagnate. There is more to life than you have found thus far. This is not the end; it is only the beginning. Keep moving.

- SourceBook of Wit and Wisdom.



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.



May 27, 2024, Memorial Day, the day we remember and honor the sacrifices of those great men and women who have served our nation in time of war and peace. But particularly, we remember those we have known who have endured the horrors of war of have sacrificed their lives in defense of our freedom. My father-in-law, Mr. Curtis Capps and his son, my brother-in-law, Johnny Capps, both served during wartime: World War II and the Vietnam War. Mr. Owen Housie, a 100-year-old veteran of WWII, was a tail gunner in the Pacific theater. We are a small town from the panhandle of Florida, but from our rural village, we sent numerous young men into the fury and horrors of war. Charles Anders was a surveillance pilot during the Battle of the Bulge, Terrell Yon flew over 100 missions over France and was awarded their highest honor for bravery. Lyman Blair, Betty Mercer's father was in Pearl Harbor when it was bombed. Cornelius Davis, of the Tuskegee Airmen, was from Blountstown. I hesitate to name particular persons because my information is so limited. Please forgive me those whom I have omitted.



One of the great regrets of my ministry is that I failed to record and keep accurate accounts of persons in the churches I served who were in the military defending our freedoms. I never served a large church, mostly churches whose attendance averaged 100 or so. And yet from these churches I had persons, mostly men, who were involved in historically recognized engagement or events. In Kentucky, I served an Army major who led the American column that liberated a Nazi concentration camp. In Mobile, a member of my church was a paratrooper during Normandy and became entangled in the trees. My neighbor in Greensboro, AL was in the second wave at Normandy. In Chipley, two brothers were in a Nazi concentration camp for 18 months. In Mobile, I had a survivor of the Bataan death march. In Chipley, a good friend, Wilton Kolmetz, was a Korean War veteran who suffered the numbing cold of that war. Dowling Parrish, a classmate, is a Vietnam War veteran. Now, my son, Bill, is a retired Army officer. My grandson, James Daniel, is in basic training. I realize these men may not technically fit Memorial Day, as they are still with us. But I affirm their commitment to keep our nation free and independent.

All of these persons I have known or mentioned, and so many more, came from small towns and villages, left the comforts and security of home and family to join the patriotic chorus that sings, "My Country 'tis of Thee, sweet land of liberty of Thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrim's pride, From every mountain side Let freedom ring."





Continued from Page Two

The solemn question before us is this, Have we become the nation our founding fathers envisioned and The God of our Fathers intended. It is important that we read and remember the last stanza of our National Anthem.

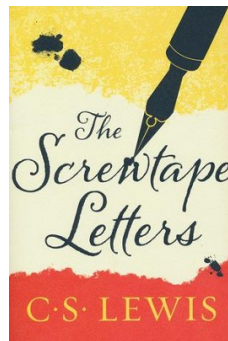
O thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserve'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto - "In God is our trust,"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

From the words of Lincoln in the Gettysburg Address, may we "here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—the this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom —" a realization that that our freedom comes from our Creator. Our allegiance to Him and His Commandments are the foundation for real freedom, and they cannot be compromised or disaster is the result.

Bro John

New Bible Study

Our next Wednesday Bible study will begin on May 1 and will be "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis. In it Lewis outlines both the subtle and direct assault by the enemy of our faith. (Read Chapters 1-3 in preparation of May 1.) The book available online or from the church office. The cost of the book is \$10.00.



A Prayer for Roots

O God, we thirst for you, as dry tree roots thirst for water in hot, dusty soil. Help us send spiritual roots down deep into the grace and knowledge of the One who is the same yesterday and today and forever, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who gives us stability when the earth shakes and the storms of life swirl about us.

Rooted and grounded in your love, and strengthened and comfort by your grace and your Spirit who gives us hope, may we be steadfast and immovable in the work Christ gives us to do, until he comes again. Amen.



A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
a channel from above
that longs to share with every child
God's Comfort, Grace and Love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who "mothers" us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

- Peggy Ferrell





MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Gale Ferguson Offering Golden Cross	Ushers Finlay Corbin Hentz McClellan Standby Glen McClellan		1	2 ♥ Barbara & Hentz McClellan	3 ♥ Sandi & Jonathan Kimbrel	4
5	6 ♪ Ashley Whitfield	7 ♪ Ryan Whitfield	8	9 Sister Friends' Coffee & Chat 10 am ♪ Mike Mayo	10	11 ♪ Kinsey Jones ♪ Mary Ann Williams
12 	13	14 ♪ Gale Ferguson	15 ♥ Jackie & David House	16 ♪ Chris Herndon	17	18
19 	20	21 United Methodist Women 10 am ♪ Drayton Hayes	22	23 AHS Graduation ♪ Zeb Kimbrel	24 BHS Graduation	25 ♥ Cheri & Quinton Henderson
26	27  ♪ Jackie House	28 ♪ Sharon McCrone	29 ♪ Jagger Weiler	30	31	Our Graduating Seniors Jaden McGhee Joshua Jordan

Our Caring Ministry List

Short Term Concerns

Rhett Bozeman
Mike Butler
Tommy Edwards
Heather Leonard

Intercessory Prayer

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

Those Battling Cancer

Robert Hughes
Iann Kallarik
Heather Leonard
Luke Melvin
Karen Pilcher

Our Shut – Ins

Betty Ann Cayson
Bonnie Hall
Owen House
Ann Weiler

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.

May Flower Calendar

May 5 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tucker
May 12 Mr. & Mrs. Henry McCrone
May 19 Dr. & Mrs. Finlay Corbin
May 26 Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hand



REMEMBERING
**OUR
HEROES**
MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day

Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones — especially those who fell in battles while helping preserve America's liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."



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

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Family Prayer List

volume 1 • number 5

1. Tiffany Jordan Family /
Becki Kastli Family
2. Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel /
Jonathan Kimbrel Family
3. John King /
Clay Knight
4. Annie Jo Lander Family /
Hester Leonard
5. Alva Martin /
Sally & Mike Mayo
6. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill /
Marc McCaskill Family
7. Michael McCaskill Family /
Barbara & Hentz McClellan
8. Danite & Glen McClellan /
Heath McClellan Family
9. Kyle McClellan Family /
Helen McCowen
10. Sharon & Henry McCrone /
Perry McGhee Family
11. Phyllis & Frank Miller /
Kathryn Mitchell Family
12. Karen & David Murrell /
Brenda Parrish
13. Gary Parrish /
Joy Peacock
14. Jeremy Proctor /
Charmian & Jerry Register
15. Diane & Russell Scholz /
DellAnne & Michael Schrufer
16. Tracy Cox-Stanton Family /
Ken Sheppard Family
17. Stacy Sims /
Rodney Smith Family
18. Donald Stanley Family /
Sue & Don Stanley
19. Mert Stephens /
Scott Stephens Family
20. Virginia House Szrowicz /
Betty Sue & Ken Taylor
21. Chris & John Tomlinson /
Ann & Mike Tucker
22. Eric Alford /
Esther Alford
23. Dresia Barfield /
John Barfield Family
24. Wynelle Bateman /
Vicki Bennett Family
25. Alton Carpenter /
Betty Ann Cayson
26. Ron Copeland Family /
Jane Creamer
27. David Corbin Family /
Donna & Finlay Corbin
28. Peggy & Jimmy Cox /
Steve Cox
29. Gina & Tyler Cox /
Joe Durham Family
30. Debbie & Tommy Edwards /
Norma Failes
31. Gale & Joe Ferguson /
Dottie & Bob Fleck