

November 2024
volume 1 • number 11

Circuit Writer

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2:30 p.m. November 3

Special Dates:

- Daylight Saving time ends - November 3
- All Saint's Day - November 3
- Charge Conference - November 3
- Veterans Day Program - November 11
- Christ the King/ Reign of Christ Sunday - November 24
- Thanksgiving- November 28

Blountstown United Methodist Church

Veterans Day Celebration

Join us on Monday, November 11, at 5:30 p.m. for a Veterans Day Program. Cliff Leonard will be the guest speaker. Cliff Leonard is a Blountstown native and sculptor of Marine and Navy Corpsmen who lost their lives in service to our nation.

Music will be provided by a Community Choir. There will be a reception in the fellowship hall following the program.

All veterans and their families are invited to attend.



Veterans Day Salute

After fighting in World War II, Luther Bergeland wasn't done serving his country—or his God. The Minnesota farm boy, who "came back to faith" during combat, later served for decades as a military chaplain. For his actions in the field in Korea, Bergeland was awarded the Bronze Star. The during Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves in Colorado, tasked with informing family members about soldiers' death.

Despite the challenges, Bergeland embraces the special role he was able to play for four decades, sharing Jesus and his love with countless people. "That's what we did, preaching and reaching out to people," he told a reporter. "I always like the military very much because it just did a lot for me, and I hope I did a lot for it."

On Veterans Day, we salute Bergeland and all the men and women who selflessly serve.

FROM THE PASTOR

"An Appointment With God"



An Appointment with God

The sanctuary of Blountstown United Methodist Church will be 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.

Bro John is available to pray or speak with you.



It is not a uniquely American holiday. Fifteen other countries have a day of Thanksgiving. But the origin of this day of gratitude is American. It came after a year of extreme hardship, suffering and death. The Pilgrims who had come to the New World to worship as they believed best lost half of their fellow travelers to the icy clutches of death. However, there were glimmers of hope in the direct intervention of the Almighty. As the first year was closing, Governor Bradford called for a day of feasting and merriment for the blessings of God who had been with them and led them safely through the tough year. Native Americans joined in the celebration and shared the festivities. The second year was nearly as difficult as the first. Deprivation and death stalked the colony. But they held firm and persevered.



Thanksgiving flows from an attitude of gratitude. Some good fortune or blessing, which we neither deserved, or earned, has come to us. That is not the general mindset of our day. We are much more interested in naming what we believe to be our 'rights' or what we ought to have coming to us. Or what we have earned and deserved just by being here and who we are. That never leads to gratitude and thanksgiving.

The Psalmist gives us this advice will change our perspective on everything. "Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 106:1 Immediately our focus is on One who is greater than us. The Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. The world is His idea and His creation. He has everything under control. Secondly, the Lord is good. He has our best interests at heart. He has adopted us, Christians, into His family and He calls us His daughters and sons. He fully understands our limitations and weaknesses. "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust." Psalm 103:13-14 When our weaknesses get the better of us and we find ourselves failing, our Heavenly Father, "does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is

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from the west, so far has he removed our transgression from us.” Psalm 103:10-12

The Scriptures remind us the “Lord (has) been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” Psalm 90:1-2 He is solidly in control of the world. We don’t have to try to figure things out. God is perfectly capable of handling this world all by himself. I find I do best, when I sit back and let him do His thing. I think that’s what the psalmist meant when he said, “Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” Psalm 90:12

So this Thanksgiving season, join me as we sit back, even in the middle of disappointment, heartache and struggle, let God be God and thank Him for His goodness and mercy. After all, He has everything under control. It can’t get any better than that. So I am going to relax and let Him do His thing. What else can I do. It’s in His hands. Thanks be to God!

Bro John King

Hungry for Jesus

Many residents of first-world countries avoid true physical hunger, grazing at the slightest stomach rumble. Spiritually, the opposite is common. Many people run on empty, unaware of or rejecting Jesus’ free gifts of grace, love and abundant life.

In her Magnificat, Mary proclaims, “He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty” (Luke 1:53, NIV). To be filled with Jesus, first we must empty ourselves and hunger for him. But what does that look like?

At Bible.org, pastor Steven J. Cole writes, “Starving people aren’t interested in new smart phones or computers, unless they can sell them to buy food. Hungry people have one focus — where to find food. It consumes their whole existence. ... That’s how we should hunger for God!”

Spiritual hunger leads to a feast of God’s blessings. He generously gives us gifts that overflow into the lives of others. So let’s share Jesus with people who are starving for him!

In Awe of Everyday Joys

Maybe you’ve heard of making micro-resolutions for the new year. Similarly, health experts recommend becoming aware of — and thankful for — micro-joys we experience and encounter.

In *The Power of Awe*, Jake Eagle and Michael Amster describe the benefits of taking several brief A.W.E. breaks throughout the day:

- **A** is for Attention, as you focus on something that amazes you or seems valuable.
- **W** is for Waiting, as you pause to take a deep breath.
- **E** is for Exhaling, as you breathe out and feel joy and gratitude.

This simple practice reveals how profound the “ordinary” can be, thanks to the generosity of our extraordinary God.





NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Ann Tucker Communion Offering Calhoun Ministy Center		Ushers Vicky Whitfield Steve Whitfield Standby Jimmy Cox		Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 3	1 ♪Brenda Parrish ♪Joe Ferguson	2 
3 Charge Conference 2:30 p.m.	4 ♪Tiffany Weiler	5 ♪John Tomlinson	6	7	8 ♪Charmian Register	9
10	11  VETERANS DAY Ceremony 5:30 p.m.	12 UMW 10:00 a.m. ♪Hannah Haser	13 ♪Louise Harrison ♪Norah Handley	14 Sister Friends 10:00 a.m.	15	16 ♪Michelle Pettis
17	18	19	20 ♡Gale & Joe Ferguson	21 ♪Clay Knight	22	23
24	25	26	27 Church Office Closed	28  Happy THANKSGIVING	29 ♡Debbie & Tommy Edwardds	30 ♡Chris & John Tomlinson

Our Caring Ministry List

Short Term Concerns

Rhett Bozeman

Terry Chambers

Jimmy Devane

James Griffin

Intercessory Prayer

Eric Alford

Joel Butler

Tommy Edwards

Sonny Harrison

Quentin Henderson

Brenda Parrish

Mary Schruefer

Hannah Stephens

Sarah Lynn White

Laura Williams

Virginia Williams

Those Battling Cancer

Melissa Bailey

Grace Barfield

Vivian Eckerson

Leslie Faurot Hand

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

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

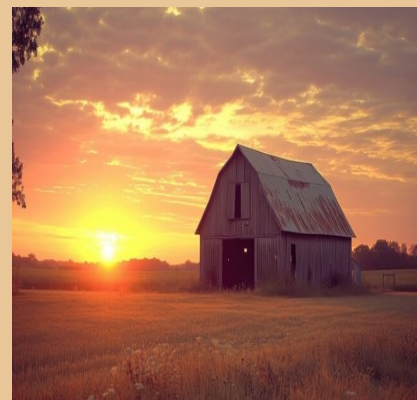
With Gladness and Thanksgiving

... The long day of the year is almost done, and nature in the sunset musing stands, gray-robed, and violet-hooded like a nun, looking aboard o'er yellow harvest lands: ...

Empty and folded are her busy hands; her corn and wine and oil are safely stored, as in the twilight of the year she stands, and with her gladness seems to thank the Lord.

Thus let us rest awhile from toil and care, in the sweet Sabbath of this autumn calm, and lift our hearts to heaven in grateful prayer, and sing with nature our thanksgiving psalm.

-Kate Seymour Maclean
(1829-1916)



Let there be for every pulse a thanksgiving, and for every breath a song."

-Konrad von Gesner

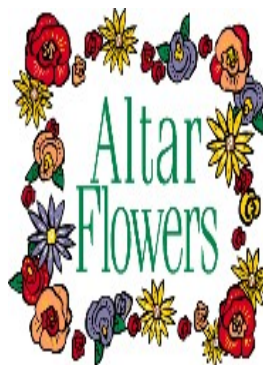
November Flower Calendar

November 03 Mrs. Don Stephens

November 10 Ms. Stacy Sims

November 17 Dr. & Mrs. Quentin Henderson

November 24 Mrs. Hester Leonard



Blountstown United Methodist Church

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Family Prayer List

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1. Vicky & Steve Whitfield /
Laura & Roger Williams
2. Marvin Williams /
Mary Beth Williams
3. MaryAnn Williams /
Virginia & Laddie Williams
4. Barbara Wilson /
Eric Alford
5. Esther Alford /
Dresa Barfield
6. John Barfield Family /
Wynelle Bateman
7. Vicki Bennett Family /
Betty Ann Cayson
8. Jane Creamier /
David Corbin Family
9. Donna & Finlay Corbin /
Gina & Tyler Cox
10. Peggy & Jimmy Cox /
Steve Cox
11. Joe Durden Family /
Debbie & Tommy Edwards
12. Norma Failes /
Gale & Joe Ferguson
13. Mary Flowers /
Frank Gates
14. Gina Gates Family /
Holly Gates Family
15. Bill Gaskin /
Montez Golden
16. Peggy Hall /
Norah Handley
17. Louise & Sonny Harrison /
Trevor Haser Family
18. Eileen Hatch /
Brooks Hayes Family
19. Cheri & Quentin Henderson /
Mark Herndon Family
20. Jackie & David House /
Owen House
21. Nick Hughes Family /
Laurie James Family
22. Sandra & Jim Jines /
Seth Jones Family
23. Billy Jordan Family /
Becki Kastli Family
24. Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel /
Jonathan Kimbrel Family
25. John King /
Clay Knight
26. Annie Jo Landers Family /
Hester Leonard
27. Alva Martin /
Sally & Mike Mayo
28. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill /
Marc McCaskill Family
29. Michael McCaskill Family /
Barbara & Hentz McClellan
30. Danita & Glen McClellan