

# Circuit Writer

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Sunday, October 6

## Special Dates:

- Pastor Appreciate Month
- World Communion Sunday - October 6
- Sister Friends' Coffee and Chat - October 10
- Columbus Day - October 14
- United Methodist Women - October 15
- Reformation Sunday - October 27
- Reformation Day - October 31

## Blountstown United Methodist Church

### Parable of the Pufflings

As summer ends on a remote island off Iceland, parent puffins—black and white seabirds with rainbow beaks—stop bringing fish to their chicks. These “pufflings,” whose first few weeks were lived in burrows in cliffs, now must launch into a wind current to glide out over the sea and find their own food. Some babies, however, mistake a lit-up house or gas station for moonlight on the water and, as locals say, “fall out of the sky.” Because pufflings can’t take off from land and fly, if left alone, they starve.

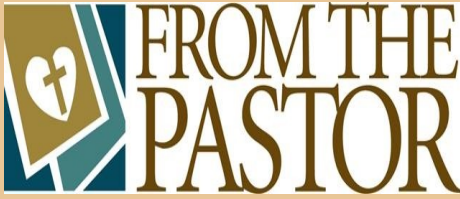


So for generations, during “puffling season” people on this island have stayed up late to rescue baby birds. On his *Animal* podcast, reporter Sam Anderson tell how, with an islander’s help, he picks up a puffling one night, placing it in a box for morning release over the ocean. As the frightened, confused bird squeals and scratches to get free, Anderson supposes it thinks this is the worse night of its life. In fact, it is the best: It’s being saved.

We humans often get confused, pulled in wrong directions. We’re misled and land in trouble from which we cannot save ourselves. Scared and confused, we believe we’re irredeemably trapped in the worst of circumstances. We can’t perceive that, even now, we are being protected and rescued, that God is working to give back to us the fullness of life we cannot attain for ourselves.

Hang on, beloved one. Though you can’t sense it at this moment, you are held in God’s care, soon to be lifted on the wind of the Holy Spirit, who will carry you into better days.

-Heidi Hyland Mann



## "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.



October—the promise of cooler temps; shorter days and longer nights. With it comes the comforting rhythm of the seasons. Following the flood, as Noah was offering sacrifices to God for His goodness. "The Lord was pleased with the aroma of the sacrifice and said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things. As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night." Genesis 8:21-22 [LNT]



Something altered human DNA when humans rebelled against the Creator in the Garden of Eden. Our Heavenly Father recognized this shift in His creation, this bent toward evil, but He has never given up on us; not now; not ever. Evil has become a permanent part of our human environment and existence.

With all the cacophony of our election cycle, it is so easy for our hope in our Lord and the confidence in His wisdom and care to be drowned out in the noise. But God has provided signal jammers to silence this confusion.

He has given us the Scriptures to remind us of His care and providence. "God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." Hebrews 13:5 [NLT] Again He has promised, "Be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20 [NLT]

Prayer assures us that our Lord is interested in us, concerned about us and is just a call away. "I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. I will be found by you," says the Lord." Jeremiah 29:11-14 [NLT] Again in the Psalms, "In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened; he saved me from all my troubles." Psalm 34:6 [NLT]

Each day and in every circumstance, Jesus promised the Holy Spirit

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## Continued from Page Two

would be with us. “But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.” John 14:26-27 [NLT]

So as the days of October unfold, join me as we rest in peace of God and the confidence that He knows all about us, our joys and concerns. Remember, we have a God who loves us and cares deeply about each of us. Thanks be to God!

Bro John King

## Humble Beginnings

True Christian religion does not begin at the highest as all other religions do, but at the lowest. Therefore whenever you are concerned to think and act about your salvation, you must put away all speculations about the Majesty, all thoughts of works, traditions and philosophy—indeed, of the Law of God itself.

And you must run directly to the manger and the mother’s womb, embrace this infant and Virgin’s Child in your arms, and look at Him—born, being nursed, growing up, going about in human society, teaching dying, rising again, ascending above all the heavens, and having authority over all things.

—Martin Luther, *Commentary on Galatians*

## The Heart of a Volunteer

A daughter had just helped her 90-year-old mother through the complex process of moving from and selling the family home. Now in a senior living center, the once-active woman was adjusting to her new surroundings and lifestyle.

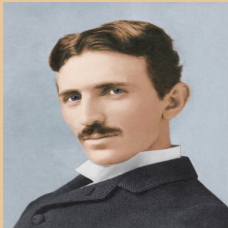
As the daughter finalized arrangements, she tactfully brought up matters of nutrition. Hoping her mom would accept some help, she asked, “What about Meals on Wheels?”

Mom replied, “No dear, I don’t think I can volunteer for them anymore.”

## Recognizing Genius

Inventor Nikola Tesla, whose discoveries led to alternating current, was born in 1856 during a lightening storm. According to legend, a frightened midwife declared, “This child will be a child of darkness!” But Tesla’ mother replied, “No, he will be a child of light.”

As an adult, Tesla reportedly stood to applaud God whenever the skies opened.



In *Please, Sorry, Thanks*, Mark Batterson writes, “Every time lightning struck and thunder clapped, it was one genius giving a standing ovation to another Genius.”

Every day, about 3.46 million lightning strikes occur on our planet. “That is a lot of standing ovations,” Batterson writes, “but according to the psalmist, the angels shout ‘Encore’ after each one!” He asks, “When was the last time you clapped for the Creator? When was the last time you gave Him a standing ovation?”



# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Communion</b> Charmian Register  <b>Communion Offering</b> World Communion Fund		1	2	3  Quentin Henderson	4	5
6  World Communion Sunday	7  ♪ Julie Jordan	8  ♪ Sandra Jines	9	10  ♥ April & Mike McCaskill	11	12
13  ♪ Max Herndon	14  Columbus Day	15	16  ♪ Esther Alford	17  ♪ Katie Hayes	18	19
20	21	22	23  ♪ Ann Tucker	24  ♪ Pace McCaskill	25  ♪ John Sheppard	26  ♪ Ronnie Hand ♪ Joshua Jordan
27	28	29	30	31	<b>Ushers</b> Hentz McClellan Finlay Corbin  <b>Standby</b> Joe Mike McCaskill	



## Our Caring Ministry List

### Short Term Concerns

Melissa Bailey  
Rhett Bozeman  
Jimmy Devane  
Tommy Edwards  
James Griffin  
Sonny Harrison  
Robert Hughes  
Brenda Parrish

Luke Melvin  
Robert Petty  
Ed Pilcher  
Karen Pilcher  
Anthony Sims

### Our Shut – Ins

Betty Ann Cayson  
Owen House

### Intercessory Prayer

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

### Our Military

Ukraine soldiers and citizens  
Israel Citizens  
Middle East

### Persecuted Christians

### UM Missionaries

### Caregivers

### Those Battling Cancer

Grace Barfield  
Leslie Faurot Hand  
Robert Hughes  
Iann Kallarik  
Heather Leonard

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



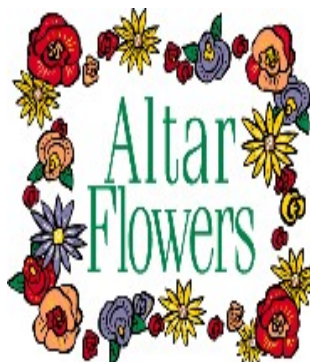
## Healthy Start Baby Shower List

Diapers - Newborn, Size 1&2  
Baby Wipes—Unscented  
Baby socks  
Baby Towels and washcloths  
Cloth Diapers  
Baby Scratch Mittens  
Baby Fingernail Clippers  
Baby hats - cloth or knitted  
Bibs - with Velcro  
Baby Shampoo and Body Wash  
Onesies (newborn - 3 months)  
Baby Lotion— “Baby Magic or Johnson  
Pacifiers - green - Called a Soothie - for newborn  
Destin Diaper Rash Cream or Vaseline, or A&D Ointment  
Bottles - old fashion, plastic is ok. \*Parent’s Choice brand”  
Baby Blankets—thin are better (fabric like thermal underwear is best”

The United Methodist Women invite the church to help provide baby items for their Healthy Start Program Baby Shower. Providing for the basic needs of infants and children under the age of 3 can make a big difference in a healthy start. The Florida Health Department’s Healthy Start Program offers assistant to low income women and teenagers who are pregnant, as well as their children. All the items donated will be used locally. Donations accepted the entire month of October. If you wish to make a monetary donation, checks should be made out to the Blountstown United Methodist Women.

## October Flower Calendar

October 06 Mr. Alton Carpenter  
October 13 Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hand  
October 20 Mr. & Mrs. Laddie Williams  
October 27 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ferguson



# 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 10

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