

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- June 4 -  
Trinity Sunday
- June 18 -  
Father's Day
- June 20 -  
UM Women  
Meeting
- June 20 -  
Meeting with DS  
Rev. Tippit
- June 21 -  
First Day of  
Summer

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# Circuit Writer

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2023

## Come Glorify God Together

Don't use summer as an excuse to skip church! By gathering in corporate worship, we obey God's command, become equipped for Christian living, and minister to our fellow pilgrims. Consider these tips for engaging in corporate worship.

First, show up—in person if you can. Examine your heart and your motivation for attending church. Lift up your eyes from earthly matters to focus on God.

Come prepared. Do you need to confess anything or remove any hindrance? As you worship, consider how each part of the service displays the gospel: greeting, singing, confessing, reading Scripture, hearing Bible-based teaching, praying, giving and communing.

Be careful not to compartmentalize corporate worship as separate from the rest of life. Instead, consider how you'll carry the experience into the coming week. Come ready to receive; then let that overflow you for the days ahead. Come prepared to participate, knowing that worshipping together is a rehearsal for heaven. But most importantly? Just come.

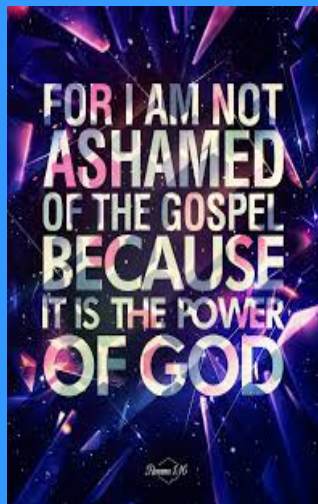
— Monica L. Wilkinson

## Alabama - West Florida Annual Conference

The Alabama-West Florida 2023 Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church is set for June 11-14 at the University of South Alabama's Mitchell Center, in Mobile AL.

This year's theme is "When They Prayed" based on Acts 4:31. Each conference day will focus on how a specific Biblical character's prayed.





**“The  
righteous  
person will  
live by  
faith”**



## Men that Stand on a Solid Foundation Make an Impact

“I’m not ashamed of the gospel: it is God’s own power for salvation to all who have faith in God, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. God’s righteousness is being revealed in the gospel, from faithfulness for faith, as it is written, ‘*The righteous person will live by faith.*’”  
– Romans 1:16-17 (CEB)

October 31, 1517, Martin Luther stood up to one of the largest institutions of his time by nailing his *Ninety-Five Theses* on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Pope Leo X of the Roman Catholic Church had recently authorized the sale of “indulgences,” which were payments to free deceased loved ones from condemnation in purgatory. Luther saw this as the Church succumbing to the temptation of greed for economic and political gain.

Within the pages of the Apostle Paul’s Epistle to the Roman Church, Luther found that in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous person will live by faith.” To him, faith and justification are given by God as a free gift to sinners not a reward for an action. Luther, reasoned if it is true that the pope is able to free souls from purgatory, he ought to use that power, not for trivial reasons such as the building of the church, but simply out of love and given freely. Martin Luther took a stand on the solid foundation that we are all justified by faith alone.

In the 1990s, my father volunteered to be the treasurer of his Southern Baptist church in North Alabama. He was a very frugal, goal-focused man who advocated for tightening the expenditures of the church that did not further the Lord’s ministry. The new pastor agreed and together they focused on ministry that grew their church.

However, with growth comes temptation. The pastor began to ask for expenditures that served his desires rather than the ministry of the church. One day my father met with the pastor about his requests and refused to approve any that would take away from the ministry of the church. The pastor went to the church’s Board of Deacons, all hand selected by himself, and they voted to overrule my father. Hurt, my father resigned his position and left the church.

My father never really got over that. He and my stepmother spent years searching for a new church home, always suspicious of the

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## Men that Stand on a Solid Foundation Make an Impact

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motives of the leadership.

I remember just days before my father passed away, a knock came on the door, and it was that pastor. Weak, my father greeted him from his hospital bed. That pastor got on his knees next to that bed and asked for forgiveness. I could tell my father was at peace.

The men who impact our lives the most are the ones who stand on a solid foundation. This Father's Day I invited you to join me in thanking our Heavenly Father for our Earthly fathers and all the men who impacted our lives by standing on a foundation that is not ashamed of the gospel, "God's own power for salvation."

Grace and Peace

Pastor Tyler

## Summer Solace

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite along with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles.

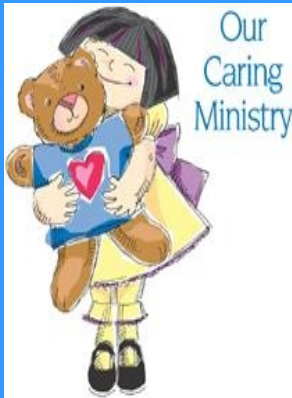
— Anne Frank, *Diary of a Young Girl*



## Christian Symbol

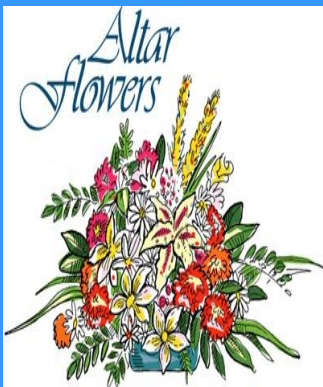
**EYE OF GOD** –This symbol represents our “all-seeing” God, who is present everywhere and is always watching over us. (“The eyes of the Lord are in every place,” Proverbs 15:3, NRSV.) The eye is inside an equilateral triangle, which is associated with the Holy Trinity.





... let your  
request be made  
known to God.

**What**  
**sunshine is to**  
**flowers, smiles**  
**are to**  
**humanity.**  
**Joseph Addison**



## Our Caring Ministry

### Short Term Concerns

Terry Blair  
Joyce Little  
Evelyn Mickler  
Joe Rector  
Sofia Rodriguez  
Sarah Lynn White

### Intercessory

Eric Alford  
Rhett Bozeman  
Connie Carpenter  
Bonnie Hall  
Sonny Harrison  
Paul Hoff  
Angie Jordan  
Joe Schrufer  
Mary Schrufer  
Johann Van Lierop  
Laura Williams  
Virginia Williams

### Caregivers

### Persecuted Christians

### Those Battling Cancer

Grace Barfield  
Terry Blair  
Robert Hughes  
Iann Kollarik  
Heather Leonard  
Luke Melvin  
Karen Pilcher

### Our Shut-Ins

Joe Webb  
Ann Weiler

### Our Military Ukraine

**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.

## FLOWER CALENDAR

June 04 - Mrs. Roy Golden  
June 11 - Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schrufer  
June 18 - Mr. & Mrs. Henry McCrone  
June 25 - Mr. & Mrs. James Byrd

**Chancel Choir  
Youth  
Wednesdays @  
5:30 pm**



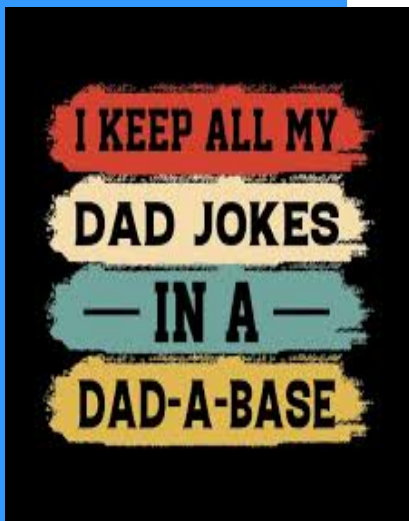
**Healthy  
Living Group  
Thursdays  
@ 5 P.M.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Communion</b> Gale Ferguson <b>Offering</b> Communities of Transformation	<b>Meeting with the DS</b> <b>June 20,</b> <b>6 pm</b>	<b>Ushers</b> Laddie Williams Marvin Williams <b>Standby</b> Marc McCaskill		<b>1 Sister Friends</b> <b>10:00 am</b> ♪Phyllis Miller	<b>2</b> ♡Ashley & Doug Whitfield	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Church Council</b> <b>12:00</b> ♪Barbara McClellan	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> ♡Charmian & Jerry Regiser	<b>7 Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	<b>8 Sister Friends</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	<b>9</b> → ♪Chris Tomlinson	<b>10</b> ♡Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel ♡ Sandra & Jim Jines
<b>11</b> ♪ Ken Sheperd ♪Mike Tucker	<b>12</b> ♡Jackie & David House	<b>13</b> ♪Bonnie Hall	<b>14 Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Flag Day</b>	<b>15</b> ♪ Cathy Kimbrel	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> ♡Laura & Roger Williams
Annual Conference						
<b>18 Father's Day</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20 UMW Meeting</b> <b>10:00 am</b> ♪ Ashley Durham	<b>21 Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 am</b> ♪ Donna Corbin ♪Joyce Peacock	<b>22</b> ♪ Mason Mayo	<b>23</b> ♪Jonathan Kimbrel ♡Virginia & Laddie Williams	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> ♡ Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill	<b>28</b> ♡Connie & Alton Carpenter	<b>29 Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 am</b> ←	<b>30</b>	





*“He will turn  
the hearts of  
the fathers  
to their  
children, ...  
Malachi 4:6*



## In Honor of Fathers and Father-Figures

Happy Father's Day to all the fathers and those who have stepped up to help the fatherless. You have been there for us in all seasons of our lives:

**Teaching** - Proverbs 22:6: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

**Encouraging** - Proverbs 4:11-12: "I will guide you in the way of wisdom and I will lead you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered, and when you run you will not stumble."

**Comforting** - Deuteronomy 1:31: and in the wilderness where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as a man carries his son, in all the ways, which you have walked until you came to this place.;

**Providing** - Matthew 7:9-10: Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fist, he will not give him a snake, will he" ...

**Loving** - Luke 15:20 "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

**We give thanks to God for each and every one of you!!**

## Dad Jokes

We have all heard them, corny dad jokes and puns, and they never grow old. Here are a few dad, feel free to use them.

- What do a tick and the Eiffel Tower have in common? They're both Paris sites.
- What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie? Sofisticated.
- What do you call a factory that makes okay products? A satisfactory
- I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes. Turns out it was the refrigerator all along.
- Why do seagulls fly over the ocean? Because if they flew over the bay, we'd call them bagels.
- What did the ocean say to the beach? Nothing, it just waved.
- Do you wanna box for your leftovers? No, but I'll wrestle your for them.

## Meeting with DS

On **Tuesday, June 20th, at 6:00 pm** our District Superintendent will host a town hall meeting regarding our discernment process.

Blountstown United Methodist members are encouraged to attend and ask questions. No vote will be made that this meeting.



## My Poverty, God's Riches

When Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3), I've tended to think in terms of emotions: "Blessed are the sad, depressed, discouraged, regretful, lonely ..." I pictured human experiences that God will fix when the kingdom of heaven is made full, as in Revelation: "Mourning and crying and pain will be no more" (21:4). Surely that's one faithful understanding.

But a poem by Pastor Steve Garnaas-Holmes gives a different slant:

Eternal God,  
I humbly confess my riches,  
... all to which I cling.  
I repent of the wealth  
of what I think and what I fear  
and what I want.

O I am truly poor; I have nothing  
but ... my openness to you.

... sustain my blessed poverty,  
an open hand,  
reaching out in this present moment,  
to your open hand.

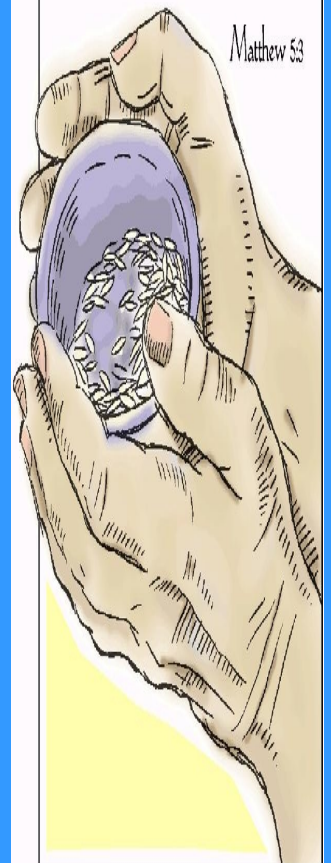
(Poor is Spirit" Jan. 25, 2023, at <https://unfoldinglight.net>)

Now I hear poverty of spirit as what I need to experience to be open to God's riches. If I cling desperately to "what I think and what I fear and what I want" my hands and heart are not open to receiving God's unconditionally love.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Blessed are the poor in  
spirit, for theirs is the  
kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3





## Blountstown United Methodist Church

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**Glorifying God by loving and leading all  
people to Christ.**

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## PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES

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- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Laurie James Family / Sandra & Jim Jines         | 11. Petty McGhee Family / Phyllis & Frank Miller          | 21. Scott Stephens Family / Virginia House Szrowicz     |
| 2. Kinsey & Seth Jones / Billy Jordan Family        | 12. Kathryn Mitchell / Betty Monford                      | 22. Chris & John Tomlinson / Ann & Mike Tucker          |
| 3. Becky Kastli Family / Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel      | 13. Karen & Daivd Murrell / Brenda Parrish                | 23. Ann Weiler / Janis & Jack Weiler                    |
| 4. Jonathan Kimbrel Family / Clay Knight            | 14. Gary Parrish / Joyce Peacock                          | 24. Jarred Weiler Family / Joe Webb                     |
| 5. Richard Leath / Alva Martin                      | 15. Michelle Pettis Family / Charmian & Jerry Register    | 25. Cherie White Family / Doug Whitfield Family         |
| 6. Mike Mayo / Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill            | 16. Diane & Russell Scholz / DellAnne & Michael Schruefer | 26. Drew Whitfield Family / Vicky & Steve Whitfield     |
| 7. Marc McCaskill Family / Michael McCaskill Family | 17. Shelia Shelton / Ken Sheppard Family                  | 27. Grant Williams Family / Marvin Williams             |
| 8. Danita & Glen McClellan / Heath McClellan Family | 18. Stacy Sims / Brittany Smith Family                    | 28. Mary Ann Williams / Mary Beth Williams              |
| 9. Hentz McClellan Family / Kyle McClellan Family   | 19. Rodney Smith Family / Donald Stanley Family           | 29. Laura & Roger Williams / Virginia & Laddie Williams |
| 10. Helen McCowen / Sharon & Henry McCrone          | 20. Sue & Don Stanley / Mert Stephens                     | 30. Barbara Wilson / Esther Alford                      |