

Circuit Writer

Blountstown United Methodist Church

DEFENDING YOUR NAME

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

October 3rd -
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 11 -
COLUMBUS DAY
OCTOBER 15—
BOSS'S DAY
OCTOBER 24 -
UNITED NATION DAY

Hundreds of people recently brought pool noodles to a Nebraska field to “fight” for the name they all shared: Josh. The event was the brainchild of Josh Swain, who jokingly suggested a battle to keep that moniker.

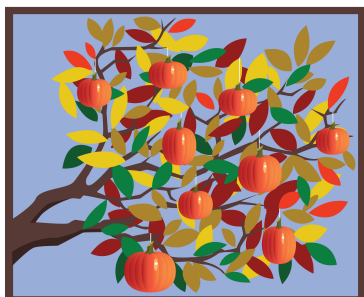


The #JoshFight was tongue-in-cheek, but how strongly do we stand up for our name as Christians “Defending the faith to the best of our ability is not a luxury or an indulgence in intellectual vanity.” writes R.C. Sproul. “It is the task given to each one of us as we bear witness to our faith before the world.

Pool noodles may not work well for this task, but we have God’s armor and the cross. As the hymn notes, “Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim/ Till all the world adore his sacred name.”

-Stephanie Martin

OCTOBER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

THE LAW AND THE LIVING GRACE	2
GOING TO EXTREME	3
OUR CARING MINISTRY	4
CALENDAR	5
FAMILY PRAYER CALENDAR	6



WORLD COMMUNITY SUNDAY

The World Communion Fund allows countless gifted and qualified people, youth and young adults, around the globe, facing financial obstacles to prepare for the vocations God has given them.

October 3rd, is World Communion Sunday, gives us an opportunity to help provide scholarships for national and international students whom God has called to the ministry to learn and serve.



THE LAW AND LIVING A GRACE-BASED LIFE.

“From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” - John 1:16-17 (NRSV)



FROM THE



PASTOR

1 John 3:4 states that, “everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.” As a former attorney, I can understand the importance of the law as a source of guidance in someone’s life. Without the law, some people would not limit their behaviors or desires. I believe that the purpose of the law is to reveal humanity’s sinfulness and transgressions leaving the need for a Savior in Jesus Christ, which is freely given through grace. The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 7:7, “What then should we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”

However, through Christ’s action in humanity, we are not under the law but under grace. John 1:17 states, “The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” Paul writes in Galatians 5:18 that, “if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law,” and in Romans 6:14 he writes, “For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.”

The best example I could give as to how I am drawn to a grace-based life is my salvation. I am no longer tormented by the pending punishment for my collective sins throughout my life. God’s grace has freed me from the bounds of sin but has also allowed me to understand sin through the law. My relationship with God revolves around the fundamental transformation His grace has brought to my life. God’s grace has humbled me in my relationships with others. Grace humbles us without degrading us and elevates us without inflating us. We are elevated into His family and our interactions with others relates the joy God’s grace has brought us and our desire to share that joy.

As we enter the final months of 2021 and closer to the Advent season, I encourage you to reflect on the grace God has blessed your life with. Reflect on how you can strive to live a grace-based life, experiencing the joy God’s grace has brought you.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Tyler



GOING TO EXTREMES

When a herd of elephants ventured into a town in eastern India, people chased them away. But soon they learned that a baby elephant had fallen into a 30-foot well and been left behind. Workers had to use three backhoes to free the calf, breaking down a brick well and digging a sloping trench for the youngster to walk out on.



Righting a wrong—and even saving a life—may require extreme measures. A structure holding someone captive may need to be torn down. And in many cases, it's better to allow the trapped one as much independence and agency as possible. Rather than hoisting the elephant vertically, which might have been dangerous and traumatic, helpers made a path so it could take part in attaining its freedom.

God often works like this, restoring and equipping us to partner with him. How can we assist others while granting them the dignity of being part of the solution?

—Heidi Hyland Mann



PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY- OCTOBER 10

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called. Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

We don't change the message; the message changes us. You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

If a church wants a "better" pastor, it just needs to pray for the one it has. Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to their special servants.

OUR CARING MINISTRY

Short Term Concerns

Eloise Gholson
Charmian Register
Hannah Stephens
Charles Walton

Intercessory Concern

Madison Anderson
Spencer Ayers
Gabra Barber
Gary Cox
Larry Carter
David Crosby
Winston Deason
Jan Gaskin Dobbs
Chance Donahue
Alvin Grantham
Cloud Kirbo
Pat Maner
John Pforte
Brenda Rough
Joseph Schrufer
Michael Schrufer
Don Stephens
Jonathan Tison

Those Battling Cancer

John Gibson
Bruce Hall
Tony Hall
Keith Jarrett
Heather Leonard
Steve McClellan
Becky Nobles
Karen Pilcher
Cara Tolbert

Shut-Ins

Joe Webb
Bernice Whitfield

Our Military

Alan Rodriguez

Persecuted Christians UM Missionaries COVID-19 Victims

Please notify the church
office with any prayer
concerns and updates.



Flower Calendar October 2021

10/3

Dr. Gary Parrish
in memory of Ms. Simmie Horne

10/10

Mr. & Mrs. Al Carpenter
in memory of her mother, Vera Davis

10/17

Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hand

10/24

Mr. & Mrs. Laddie Williams

10/31

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ferguson
in memory of
E.A. & Jean Ferguson
and
George & Myrtle Burch

**Please contact the church
office with any changes.**

GRACE — WHAT A GIFT

Grace strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It strikes us when we walk through the dark valley of a meaningless and empty life. It strikes us when our disgust for our own being, our difference, our weakness, our hostility, and our lack of direction and composure have become intolerable to us. It strikes us when, year after year, the long-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign within us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage.



Sometimes at the moment a wave of light break into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: "You are accepted."

— Paul Tillich

Chancel Choir Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm		October				Youth Fellowship Wednesday @ 6:00 pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Offering World Communion Fund		Ushers/Greeters Hentz McClellan Finlay Corbin *Standby Jack Weiler		Acolyte Julie Jordan	1	2
3 World Communion Sunday ♪ Quentin Henderson	4	5 ♪ Jessie Doyal	6 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	7 ♪ Julie Jordan	8 ♪ Sandra Jines	9
10 Clergy Appreciation Day	11 Columbus Day	12	13 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. ♪ Max Herndon	14	15	16 Goat Day ♪ Esther Alford
17 ♪ Connie Carpenter ♪ Katie Hayes	18	19	20 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	21	22	23 ♪ Ann Tucker
24 United Nation Day	25 ♪ John Sheppard	26 ♪ Ronnie Hand ♪ Joshua Jordan	27 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	28	29	30
31 Reformation Sunday	TIME TO HIT DELETE If we really have too much to do, there are some items on the agenda that God did not put there. Let us submit the list to him and ask him to indicate which items we must delete. There is always time to do the will of God. If we are too busy to do that, we are too busy. — Elisabeth Eliot					

*Blountstown United Methodist Church***Glorifying God by loving and leading all people to Christ.**

**Blountstown
United
Methodist Church**

Primary Business Address
Post Office Box 299
20500 Central Avenue, West
Blountstown, FL 32424

Phone: 850-674-8254/3144
E-mail: bunitedmc@mail.com
Website: blountstownumc.org

METHODIST MOMENT

After his father's death in April 1735, John Wesley was persuaded by Col. James Oglethorpe, governor of the colony of Georgia in North American, and an Oxford friend, John Burton, to oversee the spiritual lives of the colonist and to mission to the Native Americans as an agent for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The mission to the indigenous peoples proved unsuccessful, nor did Wesley succeed with most of this flock. He returned to England in December 1737.

**PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES**

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Alva Martin / Sally & Mike Mayo | 12. Susan & Raymond Russell / Diane & Russell Scholz | 23. Drew Whitfield Family / Vicky & Steve Whitfield |
| 2. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill / Marc McCaskill Family | 13. DellAnne & Michael Schrufer / Shelia Shelton | 24. Grant Williams Family / Marvin Williams |
| 3. Michael McCaskill Family / Danita & Glenn McClellan | 14. Ken Sheppard Family / Stacy Sims | 25. Mary Ann Williams / Laura & Roger Williams |
| 4. Hentz McClellan Family / Kyle McClellan Family | 15. Brittany Smith Family / Rodney Smith Family | 26. Virginia & Laddie Williams / Constance Williford |
| 5. Mandy & Heath McClellan / Sharon & Henry McCrone | 16. Donald Stanley Family / Sue & Don Stanley | 27. James Williford / Barbara Wilson |
| 6. Perry McGhee Family / Kathryn McMillan Family | 17. Mert & Don Stephens / Scott Stephens | 28. Esther & Joe Alford / John Averett Family |
| 7. Theresa Merchant / Phyllis & Frank Miller | 18. Virginia Szrowicz / Chris & John Tomlinson | 29. Dresia Barfield / John Barfield Family |
| 8. Betty Montford / Karen & David Murrell | 19. Ann & Mike Tucker / Ann Weiler | 30. Wynelle & Vance / Vicki Bennett Family |
| 9. Mary Sue Neves / Brenda Parrish | 20. Janis & Jack Weiler / Jarred Weiler Family | 31. Mary Margaret & Bob Barsch / Connie & Alton Carpenter |
| 10. Gary Parrish / Joyce Peacock | 21. Joe Webb / Cherie White and Sarah Lynn | |
| 11. Michelle Pettis Family / Charmian & Jerry Register | 22. Bernice Whitfield / Doug Whitfield Family | |