



White Bluff News

September 2021

EMBRACE TRANSFORM EQUIP IMPACT

WBUMC Mission Statement

The White Bluff United Methodist Church is called by God to **EMBRACE** their salvation in Christ, to be **TRANSFORMED** into His likeness, to be **EQUIPPED** to serve in ministry, as we **IMPACT** the world.

Staff

Rev. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor

Rodney Powers
Director of Music
Ministries

Bobby Floyd
Director of Modern
Service and Student
Ministries

Suzanne R. Woodrum
Church Organist

Rick Weeks
Audio/Visual Coordinator

Carolyn Anderson
Administrative Assistant

Malinda Smith
Financial Administrator

Sarah McGalliard
Nursery Director

Audrey Tilton
Custodian

“I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me!” – Philippians 4:13

Hello friends! This past month, you may remember my calling to two emphases as your pastor- 1) Pastoral Care and 2) Church Growth, especially in the younger age groups. I thank you for the kind feedback that you gave to me about the article.

This month (September), I would like to share with you some of the emphases that came from the Onboarding Session. As it turns out, there is harmony in the Spirit! I am very humbled and honored by what both the laity and the clergy shared during the conversations that were facilitated by Allison Lindsey.

One of the questions asked in the laity session was, “What are your hopes and dreams for your church?”. Among their responses were to “have growth in the children and youth areas” and to “establish a core of young families” as we seek to be a “church of transformation!”. There was a recognition that we already have “[great] facilities and lots of room to potentially bring in ministries such as a ‘nursery school’”. When the staff were asked in their session “What is the DNA/ culture of the church?”, they responded there is “tension between what was and should come next”. In other words, they recognized that White Bluff has such a rich history of ministry to all age levels but the church is also in need of revitalization, especially in the youngest of ages. Another interesting aspect that the laity shared is that there is a potential “hesitancy to take on new challenges”. There was a lot more shared, but there is not enough room to list it all in this short article!

Taken all together, I am very hopeful. We have a strong core membership at White Bluff. We have a church that recognizes the need to bring in young adults of all ages (from babies up to those in their 30’s). At the same time for many reasons, there is a hesitancy to launch into something new. Part of this may be fear of the unknown or potential failure. Hesitancy may also come from knowing that something has been tried that did not work. I believe that moving forward entails 1) valuing the rich foundation on which White Bluff is built as we 2) create an even brighter future by building God’s Kingdom at White Bluff.

As your Pastor, I am encouraging to develop a “CAN DO” focus. Instead of focusing on what we cannot do, let’s focus on what we “CAN DO”. Jim Collins, business leadership guru and author of many books including *Great By Choice*, once said that sometimes we have to fire calculated cannonballs. In the days when cannons were used in war, an uncalculated cannonball would most certainly miss its target. A calculated cannonball took into account the wind, the location of the target, the amount of gunpowder to be used, and other factors that might change how the cannon was fired. The goal was to hit the target, square on, even if the target was miles away. More often than not, a calculated cannonball would hit close to its intended target if not on the bullseye. I am inviting us to begin the process of firing calculated cannonballs at White Bluff through prayer, visioning, and creating new opportunities to build the Kingdom of God at White Bluff. I am reminded of Philippians 4:13 (NIV), “I ‘CAN DO’ all things through Christ who strengthens me!”

In the next month, I will be inviting White Bluff to begin corporate prayer on what we “Can Do”. I am well aware that COVID is very active, but I am also aware that there is a lot we can do even in the midst of the COVID struggle. It truly takes a village to accomplish God’s mission, and so I need your help! This cannot be just the Pastor or Staff working to build God’s church.

As a beginning step, join me in weekly prayer. Delilah Meadows already has a marvelous list of cell phone numbers that she sends texts to regularly. If you are not already on the list call or text Delilah at (912) 657-8051. In turn, you will receive periodic prayer requests as well as my upcoming weekly prayer texts that will invite us all to pray together at a specific time. It will be a call to take a moment to pray at the same time for the mission of church growth that God would like us to undertake. It all starts with prayer!

There will be next steps, but for now, let’s be more like Mary than Martha, sitting in the presence of Almighty God as we ask Him what we “CAN DO”.

Blessings,

Reverend Barry Giddens

Senior Pastor, White Bluff United Methodist Church, Savannah, GA

Director of Modern Worship and Student Ministries

bfloyd@wbumc.org

Hey Church Family,

Some brief updates!

1. Children’s Ministry-Beginning this month, there will be no children’s church on communion Sundays. This will be a time for our young ones to get acquainted with our tradition and spend some time with family while doing it. It’s going to be awesome! Also, be on the lookout for upcoming event news. For example, we will have an ice cream social on September 25th for our kids from 3pm to 4pm. It’s going to be a blast!

2. Youth Ministry-We are still offering a bible study every other Sunday from 1:30-2:30p.m. if you have youth students who might be interested. This month the weeks will be the 12th and 26th. Also, on the 12th of September we will be having a movie night in the Fellowship Hall. Friends are welcome! There will be enough snacks and soft drinks for all!

3. Open Table-We will be back to in-person worship this coming Sunday! We also are very close to having the means to live stream. So be on the lookout for that!

I appreciate all of you in this wonderful church family.

Grace and peace,

Bobby

Stewardship Report

Attendance 08/01/21

9:00 am.....130
 11:00 am.....13
 Sunday School.....46
 Online Views.....163

Attendance 08/08/2021

9:00 am.....76
 11:00 am.....11
 Sunday School.....39
 Online Views.....140

Attendance 08/15/2021

9:00 am.....102
 11:00 am13
 Sunday School.....46
 Online views.....193

Attendance 08/22/2021

9:00 am.....96
 11:00 am12
 Sunday School.....40
 Online views.....178

Attendance 08/29/2021

9:00 am.....93
 11:00 am ..No in person
 Sunday School.....42
 Online views.....124

DEAL THE CARDS
MONDAYS AT 1:00 p.m.
 Come play Hand and Foot
 (Canasta), Hearts, Solitaire,
 Quiddler, etc.
 (Will not meet Labor Day)
September 13, 20, and 27
Room 21
 Bring your own drink and a light
 snack to share.

Game Night
September 3rd and 17th
7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
 Soft drinks provided.
 Bring a snack to share.

Youth Ministry
September 12th and 26th
Every Other Sunday
1:30-2:30pm
Games and Bible Study
Fellowship Hall

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT
 JOIN US!

Youth Movie Night
 September 12, 2021
 Fellowship Hall
 6:30 pm til 8:30 pm.
 (6th thru 12th Grade)



Trustee Meeting
September 14, 2021
 6:00 P.M.
 Room 21

Ice Cream Social



Children and Youth
are invited to a Ice Cream Social

September 25, 2021

3pm til 4pm

Fellowship Hall



CONFERENCE NEWS

The following names are church members with whom we have lost contact. If you have any contact information or know anything regarding their church membership, please contact our church office (912) 925-5924.

2021 SECOND Reading of Names and Removal by Charge Conference:

1. Holly Abruzzio
2. Jill Abruzzio
3. Stacie Abruzzio
4. Scott Dubberly
5. Susan Dubberly
6. Chris Dubberly
7. Katie Dubberly
8. Stephen Lenderman
9. Orlando Malave
10. Brian Ratcliff
11. Craig Stusak
12. Andrew Young

2021 FIRST Reading of Names for Removal by Charge Conference:

1. Morgan Strode
2. Catherine Young
3. Ulysses Simpkins

Women of the Bible Devotion and Greeting Cards

We will have a short devotion highlighting two women in the Bible and make two cards for the upcoming holidays.

Tuesday, September 28, 2021
 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 Fellowship Hall

RSVP: Contact Harriet Cobb by Thursday, September 23rd.

Email: harrietcobb@comcast.net
 or call (912) 927-3320



Happy Birthday

Greetings extended to:

Betty Whitaker

On celebrating her
 99th birthday
 September 11th.

Dorothy Wade

On celebrating her
 97th birthday
 September 17th.

Aldine Scott

On celebrating her
 91st birthday
 September 19th.

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Special Gifts

Gifts were given to White Bluff United Methodist Church in memory of:

John Longaberger

Suzanne Woodrum

Marian Happy

Corine Hall
Mr/Mrs. Tim Kosterlecky



Text-Messaging Prayer Ministry

If you would like to join the prayer request chain or if you would like to send text messages contact Delilah

Instructions for sharing a prayer concern:

1. Send prayer concern via text message to Delilah at (912) 657-8051 between 9am and 9pm. If it's an emergency or confidential, contact Pastor Barry Giddens at (912) 585-7247.
2. Send text exactly as it is to be sent out. We don't want our volunteers rewording the text as that takes an enormous amount of time.
3. If you are on the prayer chain, no replies are needed.

Christian love and sympathy are extended to the following families and friends of White Bluff United Methodist Church.

Wilma Kostelecky, on the death of her mother, Marian Happy, on August 19, 2021.

Fellowship/Coffee Time Clean-Up

September	Covenant
October	Wayfarers
November	Ampersand/Harmony
December	Journey with Friends

All classes are responsible for the entire month.

