

WHITE BLUFF
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

11911 White Bluff Road
Savannah, Georgia 31419
(912) 925-5924

Website:

www.whitebluffmethodist.org

Email:

info@whitebluffmethodist.org



White Bluff News

January 2023

EMBRACE TRANSFORM EQUIP IMPACT

2023 at White Bluff: Break Up Your Fallow Ground

Hosea 10:12,

"and Jacob must break up the ground.
¹²Sow righteousness for yourselves,
reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your unplowed (fallow) ground;
for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes
and showers his righteousness on you."

Staff

Rev. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor

Mike McCann
Director of Youth
Ministry

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

My personal devotion time recently has been incredible! I started a chapter-by-chapter reading beginning in Jeremiah with the Babylonian captivity. As of writing this newsletter article in mid-December, I am finishing Joel and headed into Amos next. Pray for me! Pray that I will have the fire and tenacity to press on and that God will continually reveal Himself to me as I read (I am praying the same for you, friends!). I am amazed by a common thread throughout the books of the Bible I am reading. God is with us all the time, God offers Himself to us all the time, and God gives us a choice of whether or not to listen and follow Him. Those who listen and follow are blessed beyond belief. Those who choose their own way do so at their own peril.

The other key theme throughout the entirety of Scripture is a recognition that life is hard. Take Daniel as an example. He made it through King Nebuchadnezzar's throwing him into the fiery furnace with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Not long after, King Darius threw Daniel into the lion's den. Daniel suffered unjust punishment. Daniel went through continual trials and difficulties. Even so, Daniel was faithful.

Exodus 34:14 discusses that God's name is "jealous." Feelings of jealousy come when a person suspects that someone else has been unfaithful. God is a jealous God in the sense that He wants us to be completely faithful to Him, first and foremost. Hosea 10:12 will serve as our theme verse at White Bluff in 2023 because it shows us the formula to remain faithful to the great I AM. It begins by telling the people to break up the unplowed (or fallow) ground. It is the process by which we take the tough areas of our lives and seek to make them soft yet again so that God can speak to us afresh and anew. My Granddaddy Giddens used to own a tiller that my dad inherited. It was a beastly machine that had big teeth on the end of it. When we were ready to plant a garden or flowers, we would break up the fallow ground.

If you remember The Parable of the Sower in Matthew 13, the seed that fell on the unplowed, fallow, hardest ground (the path) didn't have a chance to sprout or grow because it became bird food. The birds scooped it up before it could take root. When we break up the ground of our hearts by listening to God, we become more capable of allowing God's love and wisdom to take root in our loves. We allow God to sow His righteousness into us and through us into others. Our prayers go from wish lists to listening to the awesome voice of God. Our daily Bible study goes from a chore to a necessity because we are dependent upon our great big God for strength and guidance just to make it through the next day. Notice that when we break up the ground, God plants His unfailing love in us... the key word there being "unfailing." It is a love that is without error or fault, always constant and reliable.

My prayer for White Bluff in 2023 is that we would seek the Lord even more until He comes! Notice that we seek the Lord UNTIL HE COMES... we don't give up. We remain faithful to Him. Seek the Lord and His righteousness, and all these other things shall be added to you as well! (Matthew 6:33). I pray for God to shower His righteousness on us so that we may in turn shower His righteousness into the surrounding neighborhoods, Savannah, Chatham County, and on into the world!

Happy New Year and may the Blessings of God rain down on you and yours,

Barry

Rev. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor
White Bluff Methodist
whitebluffmethodist.org

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL AND LAY LEADERSHIP **WHITE BLUFF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Church Council Chair	Lisa McGalliard
Church Council Vice Chair	Tom Johnson
Lay Leader	Michael Lariscy
Chair of Trustees/Safe Sanctuaries	Debbie Hudgins/Dee Dee Seagraves
Finance Chair	Chuck Dickson
Finance Vice Chair	Doug Cobb
SPRC Chair	Frank Murray
Worship Chair	Martha Adams
Treasurer	Sarah Cooper
Secretary/Food Pantry	Diana Hodges
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Jerry Wilson
UMW President	Lisa McGalliard/Trudy Harting
Missions	Mauvaree Nelson
Endowment Chair	Charles Teel
Communications Chair	Bob Froelich
Sunday School and Adult Ministries	Doug and Harriet Cobb
Student Ministries	Melissa Cox
Young Adults	Kristen Maynard

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Gayle Spilliards
Bill Davenport
Debbie Hudgins
Al Harris
Stuart Lewis

STAFF:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Barry Giddens
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Russell Duke
Nursery Director/Children's Ministry Assistant:
Sarah McGalliard
Director of Youth Ministries: Mike McCann
Audio/Visual Coordinator: Rick Weeks
Administrative Assistant: Carolyn Anderson
Financial Administrator: Malinda Smith

Stewardship Report

Attendance 12/04/2022

9:30 am.....184
 Sunday School.....66
 Online Views74

Attendance 12/11/2022

9:30 am.....205
 Sunday School.....49
 Online Views293

Attendance 12/18/2022

9:30 am.....152
 Sunday School.....46
 Online views39

Attendance 12/24/2022 Christmas Eve

5:00 pm.....176

Attendance 12/25/2022

9:30 am.....80
 No Sunday School
 Online views103



WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

- 9:30 A.M.** Worship Service
 (Sanctuary)
9:30 A.M. Flourish Kids
 (Children's Church)
10:30 A.M. Connection Café
 Coffee & Doughnuts
 (Horton Hall)
11:00 A.M. Sunday School Classes

Journey with Friends S.S. moved to
 Room 28.

LINE DANCE CLASS



January 5, 12, 19 and 26

Time: 10-11 A.M.
Where: White Bluff UMC-Gym
Cost: Free
 (a small donation is requested for church utilities)
Instructor: Susan Morgan

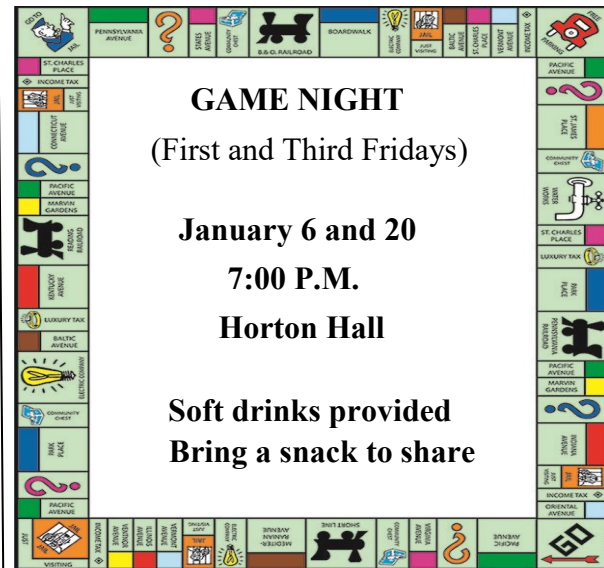


UNDECORATE THE CHURCH

Sunday, January 8, 2023
 11:00 A.M.
 Sanctuary

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.



GAME NIGHT (First and Third Fridays)

January 6 and 20

7:00 P.M.

Horton Hall

**Soft drinks provided
 Bring a snack to share**



DEAL THE CARDS MONDAYS AT 1:00 P.M.

**Come play Hand and Foot
 (Canasta), Hearts, Solitaire,
 Quiddler, etc.**

**January 9, 16, 23 and 30
 Room 21**

**Bring your own drink and a light
 snack to share.**

**“Every good gift
 and every perfect
 gift is from above,
 and cometh down
 from the Father of
 lights, with whom
 is no variableness,
 neither shadow of
 turning.”**

James 1:17



Pins and Needles Sewing Group

January 9, 16, 23, and 30

9:30 A.M.

Room 21



Trustee Meeting

January 11, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Room 21

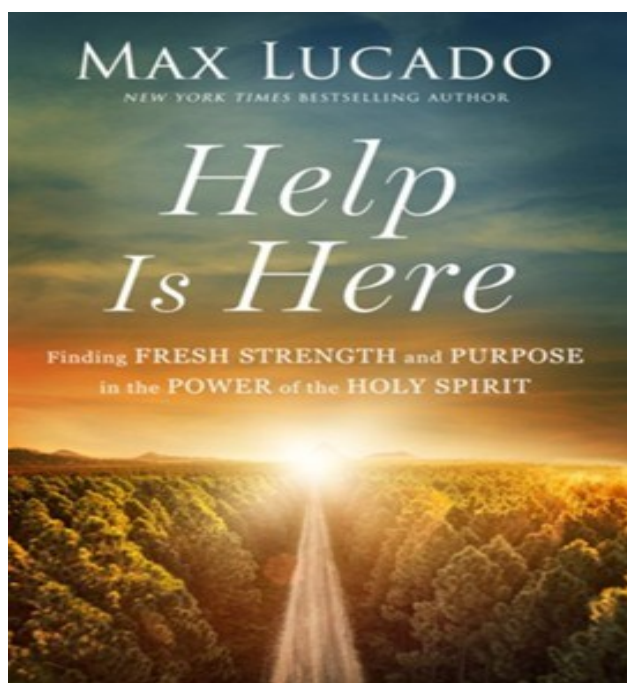
Church Council MEETING

Church Council Meeting

Monday, January 16, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hall



White Bluff United Methodist Church
Tuesday Morning Book Group

Begins: January 10th

Time: 10:00 A. M.

Room 21

(A DVD study of the Holy Spirit)



SOCIAL SENIORS

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

11:30 A.M.

Fellowship Hall

Bring a covered dish.

Meat and drink provided.



Covenant Sunday School Class

Will do a study on The Book of Daniel.

January 29, 2023

11:00 A.M.
Room 21

Come Join us!

Seekers Sunday School Class

Will do a book study on
"Help Is Here"
by Max Lucado

January 8, 2023

11:00 A.M.
Room 6

Come Join us!



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00 A.M.

Room 21

Everyone is welcome
to join us.



REMINDER: Pledge envelopes for 2023
are located in Narthex.

If your envelopes are not available and
you are an active contributor, please see
Malinda Smith in the finance office.

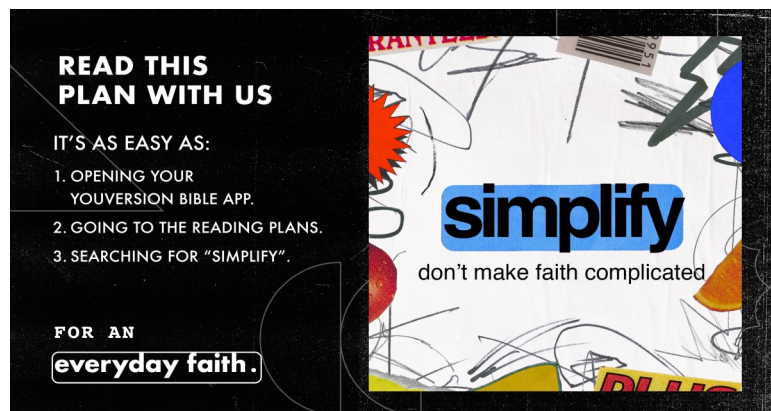
Childrens Church



Our Message in January is "Think Tank" We will be
talking all month about Putting our Knowledge to the
test. Today's story is "Knowing me, Knowing you"
From Luke 2:41-52, and our bottom line is "Knowing
God is the most important thing," and our question of the
day is "How do you know God?". Continue to ask your
kids each week about the story they heard and review
with them the question to you on your way home!

Youth Group

Join the Youth Group in our January Message and
Devotional, "Simplify, Don't make faith complicated" You
can join us by following the directions below and you are
welcome to leave thoughts/messages to them each day.



CHURCH CAMP

Church Camp will be here before you know it and Woodland Camp
fills up very fast! Junior Camp (June 6th-9th) is open to all Incoming
3rd Graders to all outgoing 5th graders. Last year I took 14 kids and
would like to add some more to that number. If you know of any kids
that would like to attend, please have them reach out to me at
417-392-0634. I can provide them all the details and answer any
questions they may have. Middle School Week (June 11th-16th) is
open to all incoming 6th graders to outgoing 8th graders. You can
learn more about Woodland by visiting their website at
www.woodlandcamp.org. All registrations will need to be in by April
1 to guarantee a spot. If you would like to help a child go to Church
Camp, please connect with me and I would love to provide you more
information- Mike McCann



Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to drive the Church Van on Sunday mornings for member who would like to attend the Worship service.

Call the church office at (912) 925-5924 if you would like to volunteer.



JOIN REVEREND JOHN HANEY IN The Holy Land

April 26-May 6, 2023	\$4, 500
Deposit	\$500
Deadline	01-26-23 JTHAN423

Host: Reverend John Haney

Phone: (912) 704-5021

Email: revjohnhaney@bellsouth.net

Expected sights, Unexpected experiences!

Day 1	Departure	Day 8	Old City of Jerusalem
Day 2	Arrive in Holy Land	Day 9	Qumran and Jericho
Day 3	Galilee	Day 10	Garden Tomb
Day 4	Valley of Armageddon	Day 11	Return to USA
Day 5	Dead Sea		
Day 6	Journey to Jerusalem		
Day 7	MT. of Olives & Bethlehem		

Brochure Available in the Church Office.

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor
barrygiddens@gmail.com
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Rick Weeks
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(912) 925-5924



FLOWER CHART

The 2023 flower chart is posted in the hallway next to the kitchen. The cost is \$25.00 and can be paid with a check made out to White Bluff United Methodist Church.

Either drop the check off at the office or put the check in an envelope in the offering plate.



Stay Connected!

Please call the church office if you have moved, changed your telephone number or have a new email address.

You would not want to miss out on the upcoming events at White Bluff UMC.



FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Canned Ham (available at Walgreens, some Walmarts, Red and White on Habersham and on line.)

Canned Chicken

Canned Roast Beef

Canned Tuna

Green Beans

Green Peas

Canned Corn

Canned Greens

Canned Potatoes

Canned Fruit

Regular Size Boxes of Cereal

Spaghetti

Spaghetti Sauce with Meat

Rice - Small bags or boxes

Saltine Crackers

Goya Jamon (ham seasoning in grocery Spanish section)

Shelf Stable Milk (Fairlife, Parmalat, Horizon) or Powdered Milk

No 2022 Expiration Dates, Please



White Bluff is a Community-oriented, Bible-believing church family serving the southside of Savannah, Georgia where the Truman ends and faith begins.

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Special Gifts

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

Shannon Butler

Jane Beare and Tom Johnson

David Blake Alexander

Aldine Scott (Mrs. Jack S. Scott)
Joan Schmidt
Suzanne Woodrum

Madie Lee Clements Dickey

Gayle Spilliards
Doug and Harriet Cobb

Alan Blake Matthews

Suzanne Woodrum

Howard Sanders

Kenny and Alice Dubose
Jane Beare and Tom Johnson

Sally Ann Slocum

Suzanne Woodrum



Fellowship/Coffee Time Clean-Up

January	Seekers Sunday School Class
February	Covenant
March	Wayfarers

All classes are responsible for the entire month.