

WHITE BLUFF METHODIST CHURCH
 11911 WHITE BLUFF ROAD
 SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31419
 (912) 925-5924

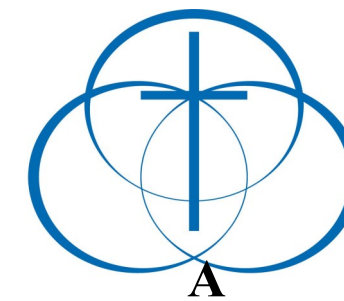
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GLOBAL
 METHODIST CHURCH

White Bluff News December 2023

As the 2023 Christmas season is upon us at White Bluff, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members and guests a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

This year has certainly brought about a time of change as White Bluff affiliated with and I became an Ordained Elder in the Global Methodist Church. With the help of many, I also received my Doctorate from Talbot School of Theology. I am grateful for the unwavering support of our members and the resilience of our community during this time. It takes a village! Despite the obstacles, we have come together to support one another and persevere as we keep our focus on Jesus.

As I reflect on the year that has passed, I am reminded of the importance of kindness, compassion, and generosity. We have witnessed countless acts of kindness and selflessness, from our volunteers at the Easter and Fall Festival outreaches to our mission work in the community. In the past few weeks, I was fortunate enough to see faith in action through the P.A.C.K. ministry. Many of our members go each week to help assemble bags of food for school-aged children. This is a wonderful ministry indeed!

This Christmas, I encourage you to spread joy and cheer to those around you. Whether it is through a simple act of kindness or a thoughtful gift, let's make this Christmas season one to remember, not just for us, but as we share Christ with those around us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun, Dec 3

First Sunday of Advent
 9:30 am

Mon, Dec 4

Churchwide Dinner with
 the Children Singing!
 6 pm

Sun, Dec 10

Second Sunday of
 Advent/ Choir Cantata
 9:30 am

Sat, Dec 16

Children's Lunch with
 Santa
 12 pm

Sun, Dec 17

Third Sunday of Advent
 9:30 am

Sun, Dec 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent
 9:30 am

Sun, Dec 24

Christmas Eve
 Candlelight Service
 5:30 pm

Sun, Dec 31

New Year's Eve Worship
 9:30 am

Staff

Rev. Dr. Barry Giddens
 Senior Pastor

Rev. Cindy Layton
 Director of
 Music Ministry

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
 Assistant Children's
 Director and
 Nursery Director

Audrey Tilton
 Custodian

Diana Hodges
 Membership Secretary



Special Gifts

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

Mike Hefner

Carol Kemp

Poinsettia Order

Red and White Poinsettia to be placed in the Sanctuary at Christmas

\$15.00 each

The supplier gave us a few more Poinsettias just in case you did not make the deadline. Call the church office (912) 925-5924.

Currently available to purchase
 15 Red and 4 White



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

Daughter, Dee Dee Seagraves and Granddaughter, Courtney Matzen, on the death of Dale Booth, November 8, 2023.

Margaret (Boots) Penfield, on the death of her brother, Lamar Linton, On November 26, 2023.

Fellowship/Coffee Time Clean-Up

December Joyful Believers

All classes are responsible for the entire month.



When you have a moment, take a look at the website SalvationPoem.com and become more familiar with the basics of faith and how you can share your faith with others when the Holy Spirit gives you an open window. Pray for opportunities to share Jesus and know that God will provide more opportunities than you can imagine. Join us in the WB Advent Devotional Protagonist. It's not too late, and you can always catch up! Always remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!

From all of us here at White Bluff Methodist, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May your holiday season be filled with love, laughter, and joy.

Godspeed and Merry Christmas to all!

Barry

Rev. Dr. Barry S. Giddens

Senior Pastor

White Bluff Methodist, Savannah



**Thank you to all who support our Food Pantry.
We are in need of the following items:**

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Large Canned Chicken | Canned Ham |
| Large Canned Roast Beef | Large Canned Tuna |
| Large Canned Beef Stew | Canned Turnips |
| Large Box Saltine Crackers | Instant Potatoes |
| Canned Yams | Canned Collards |

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Diana Hodges

Food Pantry Coordinator

From The Sound Booth

2023 has been both a challenging year and a handful of blessings. Maddux Giddens has been one of the true blessings for me in the sound booth. This young man has learned to run both the video and the sound board equipment. He is dedicated and is usually the first one there getting all the equipment started up. On the Sunday's that I have been away, he has taken the lead role of ensuring the service runs smoothly including the live stream. If you get a chance, please encourage and thank him for his service to White Bluff. Without Maddux, we would not have a consistent worship and live stream service because this is a 2 man job.

Which brings me to a few others to recognize. Al Harris and Cheryl Hampton. Al steps in to run the sound board from time to time when Maddux or I are absent. And some times just to stay current on the skills. Thank you so much for your help Al. You also have been a true blessing this year.

Cheryl recently volunteered to help with the video. She has been training and has filled in when I was the only person in the booth. Another blessing this year. I think you will be seeing more of Cheryl next year.

I also want to thank Wes McGalliard who not only trained when he could but was able to troubleshoot some internet issues we were having and helped get those resolved. A blessing in need.

Last, but not least, I want to thank Diana Hodges for filling in at the last minute when Maddux got sick and none of my experienced people were present that Sunday. Another true blessing when the need was greatest!

I started this year wondering how I was going to run everything by myself but God did provide. Thank you all! And God bless you!

Rick Weeks



Thank You, Thank You!

To My White Bluff Family,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your calls, cards, concerns, support and prayers over the past few weeks. It's truly a blessing to have such a loving and caring church family. I love each and every one of you.

Love and Blessings,

Margarete Deloe

Lunch WITH SANTA
Friends and Family of White Bluff Methodist Church
PHOTO WITH SANTA
GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST
SANTA SHOP
PIZZA PLUS MORE
12 - 3:30PM
SATURDAY DEC 16
\$10
Per Family
White Bluff Methodist Church
11911 White Bluff Road, Savannah, GA
MUST RSVP WITH THE OFFICE
PH: (912) 925 - 5924



Santa Shop

On Saturday, December 16, there will be a Santa Shop in conjunction with the lunch with Santa. The Santa shop will have items available for children to buy Christmas gifts for their parents, siblings, friends and teachers.

Needs for Lunch with Santa

Monetary Donations for Santa Shop

Purchase of Pizza

Juice Pouches

Assorted Chips



Sunday School Door Decorating Winners!

Theme: Jesus is the Light of the World

1st Place: Seekers Sunday School Class

2nd Place: Joyful Believers Sunday School Class



Sanctuary Flowers

The 2024 flower chart is posted in the hallway next to the office. The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary in honor of or in memory of your loved ones on Sunday.

The cost is \$30.00 and can be paid with a check made out to White Bluff United Methodist Church, marked altar flowers. Either drop the check off at the office or put the check in an envelope in the offering plate.



**Composer Weekend
February 23-24, 2024**

White Bluff Methodist Church Choir is sponsoring a Composer Weekend with composer Brad Nix. Church choirs from all over the Savannah-Hilton Head area have been invited to send their singers. We will learn 6-8 of Brad's Christian Choral Anthems.

The weekend will conclude with a free concert of all the beautiful music we have learned-Saturday, February 24th at 7:00 P.M.

If you know a singer who would like to participate in this event, please have them call me-Cindy Layton (512) 985-7057. The cost is \$75.00



2023

- December 3**
9:30 am Rev. Barry Giddens and Family
- December 10**
9:30 am Susan and Gary Young
- December 17**
9:30 am Carol Downs and Susan Fallen
- December 24**
9:30 am Cindy Layton and Family
- Candle Light Communion Service**
5:30 pm Mike McCann and Family

Church Office Closed

The Church office will be closed **December 25 and December 26 for Christmas.**

The office will be closed on **January 1 and January 2 for New Year's.**

Coming Soon!

New Member Luncheon

We celebrate that White Bluff has had 20 new members join our church this year. As such, we will have a new members luncheon on January 21, 2024 at 11am. All church members will be invited. The church informational meeting can also coincide with this date. More information will be provided at a later date.

Confirmation Class

In January, we will begin a new confirmation Class for 6th-12th graders. We will have a group of 6-8 students who will begin their journey through the confirmation process and be confirmed in the spring.



Christmas Offering

You are invited to give a gift to Christ this Christmas.

At the Christmas Eve service there will be a special offering envelope for you to give this gift.

This Christmas we are selecting Tharros Place as the recipient for our Christmas offering.

Tharros Place provides support and shelter for survivors of human trafficking by providing residential services for girls between the ages of 12-17.

Tharros, meaning courage in Greek, is the motivating force for survivors which allows them to envision the future that they desire for themselves.

Tharros Place is new to the Savannah area and will house 12 girls who will receive services through a year long program. The residents will receive schooling, coaching, and they will also work with case managers and social workers who will provide support to them and their families.

Tharros Vision: Courageous survivors will transform their lives to create confidence, self-respect, and well being.



Dear White Bluff Methodist,

What an AMAZING surprise! Thank you so much for joining our efforts to help be the hands and feet of Christ to local children in need. We are so excited to have you as a community partner. We already love so many of your sweet ladies. They are some of our best volunteers. Thank you for being a blessing to us.

Sincerely,
Malena Stone
Founder and Executive Director



Stewardship Report

Attendance 11/05/2023

9:30154
Sunday School.....69
Online Views.....74

Attendance 11/12/2023

9:30 am.....141
Sunday School.....53
Online Views.....92

Attendance 11/19/2023

9:30 am.....142
Sunday School.....71
Online views99

Attendance 11/26/2023

Contemporary Worship
Horton Hall

Happy Birthday
Greetings extended to:



Bob Lawrence
on celebrating his
96th birthday
on December 5th.

Betty R. Downs
on celebrating her
90th birthday
on December 12th.



The Global Mission

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.



**White Bluff
Methodist
Church**

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



Sunday School Classes

11:00 A.M.

Covenant	Room	21
Joyful Believers	Room	12
Seekers	Room	6
Wayfarers	Room	4
Young Adults	Room	16
Nursery	Room	9
Flourish Kids (3rd grade thru 5th)	Rm	14
Pre-K thru 2nd grade	Room	10



Christmas Worship Service Schedule

Christmas Eve Worship Service
Sunday, December 24, 2023
9:30 A.M.
(Sanctuary)



Christmas Eve Candle Light Communion Service
Sunday, December 24, 2023
5:30 P.M.
(Sanctuary)

New Year's Eve Worship
Sunday, December 31, 2023
9:30 A.M.
(Horton Hall)





CHURCH WIDE CHRISTMAS DINNER

You are invited
Church Wide Christmas Dinner
Monday, December 4, 2023.

6:00 P.M.

Gym/Horton Hall

We are asking folks to bring unwrapped gifts to present to Wesley Community Center. Toys are for children 6 weeks-12 years old. Cost: Adults \$10.00 Children \$5.00 ages 10 and under. **Entertainment:** Huxsle Scott and Pre-K thru 5th grade will present a Christmas play.

This will be a great time of fellowship for our church. (Sponsored by the Women of Faith Women's Circles)



DEAL THE CARDS

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

Come play Hand and Foot (Canasta), Hearts, Solitaire, Quiddler, and other card games.

December 4, 11 and 18
Room 21

Bring your own drink and a light snack to share.

Overcomers Tuesday Morning Book Study



10:00 A.M.
Room 21

December 5 "Why the Nativity?"
Dr. David Jeremiah-New DVD
December 12th "Why the Nativity?"
December 19 "The Chosen-Christmas Story"
New DVD

January Study
"The Great Disappearance"
David Jeremiah
6 sessions-study and DVD-begins January 9th



December 13, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Room 21



SOCIAL SENIORS

Christmas Lunch
Thursday, December 14, 2023

11:30 A.M.

Carey Hilliard's
\$10.00

Payable at the Church Office
Please make a Reservation.

See Harriet Cobb for Details



GAME NIGHT

(First and Third Fridays)

December 1, 2023

December 15, 2023
No Game Night

7:00 P.M.
Horton Hall

Soft drinks provided
Bring a snack to share



Christmas Caroling

You are invited to join the choir.

December 17, 2023

Time: 2:00 P.M.

John Wesley Villas

231 W. Montgomery Crossroads

White Bluff Methodist Church Missions Ministry

Our mission for December is the Senior Citizens Center and our church family shut-ins. We will be collecting blankets for both the Senior Citizens Center and our church family shut-ins as well as items such as cards, stamps, candy, and special hand written notes and cards to our shut-ins to let them know they are remembered and missed. There will be a cart in Horton Hall for your donations.

MISSION VERSE: HEBREWS 13:16 DO NOT NEGLECT TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE, FOR SUCH IS PLEASEING TO GOD.

LINE DANCE CLASS



December : No Line Dance Classes

Time: 10-11 A.M.

Where: White Bluff Methodist Church Gym

Cost: Free
(a small donation is requested for church utilities)

Instructor: Susan Morgan

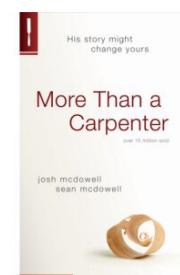


Pins and Needles Sewing Group

December 4, 11, 18

9:30 A.M.

Room 21



"More Than A Carpenter"

Book Study

Sunday Evenings at 6:00 P.M.

For details see: Karen Prevatt or Kristen Maynard



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

December 10, 2023

9:30 A.M. Worship Service

"The Winter Rose"

Sanctuary