

Brundidge United Methodist Church

January 2018 Newsletter



Come Alive in this New Year

I was walking through the sanctuary one day and found a large spider on its back with all eight legs stretched up in the air. I reached down to grab one leg and simply cast the deceased creature in the trash. All of a sudden all eight legs started moving and I started moving!

After my scared shuffle and hop, I looked around to see if anybody caught my performance. Well, I got my senses again and located the spider. Let us say that the spider was no longer in the sanctuary.

In this new year we need to get stirred into action. It is easy to just move in the regular religious rut in a spiritual stupor. The Holy Spirit needs to send a few lively spiders to crawl over our sleepy souls to see if we can still do the jig for Jesus.

“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ, even when we were dead in trespasses. It is by grace you have been saved!” (Ephesians 2:4-5)

I like that last part “It is by grace you have been saved!” It is like when you are at the rodeo and they swing open the gate to that bull pen. Friends, that bull doesn’t linger. He leaps out with a burst of super charged energy.

We have been released from the bondage of sin and certain death. We should spring forward in jubilant freedom to run with Jesus. Amen to walking with Jesus but running with Him is what we really need to do!

I can’t help but recall Ray Stevens’ song “The Mississippi Squirrel Revival”. “The day the squirrel went berserk in the First Self Righteous Church. In the sleepy little town of Pascagoula. It was a fight for survival that broke out in revival. They were jumping pews and shouting ‘Hallelujah!’”

So instead of doing something else in the world for self or keeping spiritual maintenance, get excited and serve the Lord with getting up gladness in 2018. If you think Brundidge United Methodist Church is becoming too relaxed, then step up and make us wake up.

The year 2017 brought so many blessings for us because we refused to take a spiritual nap. So, let us stay alive in Christ for 2018 to experience more blessings.

In Christ’s love.....Rev Ed

January 1st Marks 65 Years Since Hank Williams' Death



Our famous country singer from Alabama died January 1, 1953, at the age of 29. He was traveling in his 1953 Cadillac convertible driven by Charles Carr, a 19 year old college student he hired to drive him to concert dates in West Virginia and Ohio. After pulling into a gas station in Oak Hill, West Virginia, Charles found Hank Williams unresponsive. He died in the backseat of his vehicle.

It is interesting to note that his recently recorded song that was number one on the charts at the time of his death was "I'll Never Get Out of This World Alive."

Well, we know that Hank Williams probably did a lot of things wrong, we all have stumbled. But he did a couple of things right; writing the songs "I Saw the Light" and "House of Gold." The latter is my favorite Hank Williams' Gospel song of all time.

"I'd rather be in a deep dark grave and know that my poor soul was saved. Than to live in this world in a house of gold. And deny my God and doom my soul."

Of course Pike County claims its tie to Hank through his marriage of Audrey Mae Sheppard born in Banks February 28, 1923. I always liked what Sara Bowden's character said in the "Come Home, It's Supper Time" play. The woman in the beauty parlor said "I know that's about to put pore ol' Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard in their graves cause you know he ain't gonna amount to a hill of beans...pickin' that guitar and singin' them ol' hillbilly songs. Naw. He won't never amount to nothin'." They married in December 1944 and divorced in June 1952. They only had one child together in 1949, Hank Williams, Junior. Dad Hank called him "Bocephus" after country entertainer Rod Brasfield's ventriloquist dummy. Audrey died at the age of 52 November 4, 1975.



The Hank Williams Museum has been open in Montgomery for the past seventeen years. The very car that Hank died in is there along with many artifacts and memorabilia. My classmate from Stanhope Elmore High School, Beth (Jackson) Petty is the director.

Get on the Bus for a Trip to the Hank Williams Museum January 25th

We will leave the church parking lot at 10 a.m. on that Thursday. Plan to eat lunch at one of the fine restaurants in downtown Montgomery. The admission will be only \$5 per person to the museum if we have 20 or more. We are going to start planning monthly trips to get the bus moving. Next month we will plan a trip to Prattville for the "Prattville Pickers" and "T & G" flea markets. Let the church office know by noon on Wednesday, January 24th, that you plan on going to the Hank Williams Museum.

We Need CDL Passenger Vehicle Licensed Volunteers

Our bus was used eight times during 2017; five for church purposes. Three trips were cancelled because not enough showed up to justify taking the bus. The battery was recharged because of inactivity. We need at least six CDL passenger vehicle licensed persons in the church. The bus must be run once a week for about a ten mile trip to keep the fluids, charging system, and engine in proper condition (the trustees agreed to be responsible for this). Adults, children, and youth leaders are encouraged to plan trips with your first inclination to take the bus. There will be no charge for gasoline used.

How Do I Get a CDL Passenger Bus License?

Go to www.alea.gov to view the CDL Manual online. You can get a copy of the CDL manual from the church office or the state trooper office on Highway 231 in Dothan. Read & study chapters 1-4 then return to take a written test. Practice driving the bus with a licensed CDL driver for at least two weeks then return for a driving test scheduled through the state troopers' office in Dothan (334) 983-5616. It is recommended that you read chapters 11-13 for the skills test. Note that if you have a Class A CDL then it must also have a passenger bus endorsement, if not then you have to take the written and skill tests for a passenger CDL.

Clay Hill Church Epiphany Service January 6th Saturday at 6 p.m.



It is a climatic enjoyable simple delight in the Christmas season to attend this special service at Clay Hill Church. This service emphasizes the importance of worshipping Christ the King in the same attitude of awe as the three wise men who journeyed so far to see Jesus. A lot of work has been completed at Clay Hill Church and we have more improvements planned in the future. Please be prepared to give generously to the maintenance fund

for this historic treasure. The church bus will leave the Brundidge UMC parking lot at 5:45 p.m.

Montgomery/Opelika District Conference Sunday January 28th, 4 p.m.

All church leaders and all church members are encouraged to attend the meeting at Saint James UMC. There will be a very informative program presented by the Opelika Police Department on "Church Safety." What to do in an active shooter situation will be one of the major topics. The bus will leave the parking lot at 2:30 p.m.

The Season of Lent



Our Devotional Book for Lent from Brundidge UMC Members

We are receiving some contributions from our church members for our church's Lenten Devotional book. Thank you for responding. Please keep them coming in for this special project that features our congregation's inspirational messages to prepare us for the celebration of Easter. We will compile a book, print it, and distribute it at the beginning of Lent 2018. Please get your devotional to the church office by January 17th.

December Memorials and Honorariums

In Honor of Ed, Sharon, & Amber Shirley

Jimmy Hollis- BUMC Missions

In Honor of Mel & Adaline Adams

Jimmy Hollis-White Christmas

In Memory of B. DuBose

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hudley-We Care



January Birthdays

Daisy Hollis-1st, Wynnette Fryer-2nd, Jaine Treadwell- 3rd,
Evan Strother-7th, Georgia Galloway- 9th, Cindy Johnson- 9th,
Jimmy Hollis-10th, Donna Hogan-11th, Mike Robinson-11th,
Karen Robinson-14th, Penny Dickert-15th, Adam Sanders-22nd,
Helen Wallace-27th, Lauri Dorrill-31st

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Smiles From Mrs. Sara

Genesis 21:6

- 1.) What would bugs on the moon be called?
- 2.) Why are graveyards so noisy?
- 3.) What did the skunk say when the wind changed?
- 4.) What do you call a guy who sticks his right arm into a lion's mouth?



Answers: 1.) LunaTicks 2.) Because of all the coffin 3.) "It all comes back to me now." 4.) Lefty! :