

# Brundidge United Methodist Church

## November 2017 Newsletter

### By the Grace of God Not Me

I worked at the Elmore County Jail from 1994 to 1996. At the beginning of the 3rd shift I had to walk through the booking room to get to the 911/dispatch center. If you don't know what a booking room is then I am relieved. Praise the Lord! That is the area where the new arrivals, after arrests, are processed into the jail.

**I thank God for protecting me from what I thought I wanted and blessing me with what I didn't know I needed.**

Every now and then as I entered the booking room I would hear "Hey Eddie!" I knew it was somebody from the past because I go by the name "Ed" now. There at the counter would be standing one of my classmates from Stanhope Elmore High School.

"What are you doing here?" was always my first response. I never thought this fellow would be voted most likely to wear an orange jumpsuit at the county jail. In most cases they became addicted to crack and committed all kinds of crimes to support their habit.

Soon I realized that I should not look down my righteous nose at those who veered onto the destructive criminal path. Why? It could have been me. I know that the temptations and avenues to fall into dire straights are greater today. People of all ages can stumble.

Where am I going with this pastor's thought? I am thankful that the Lord protected me when I foolishly frolicked close to the dangerous flames of great trouble. I remember stopping along the road and seeing a friend with a group once. He asked me to stay and I drove on. Just ten minutes later all at that location were arrested.

Let us count our thankful blessings for what is hard to explain other than a combination of the Lord's protective presence, an active church life, and the influence of Christian parents that kept us from going down the undesirable path.

"The Lord is my strength, my shield from every danger. I will trust in Him with all my heart. He helps me and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving." Psalm 28:7

Even if any of us have trod the path of selfish wickedness, if you are still here Jesus is certainly still here to restore and redirect you to the path of joyous righteousness. Thank you Lord for never turning away and giving me the opportunity to turn to You.

In Christ's love..... Rev Ed

## All Saints Day Service Sunday November 5th 11 a.m.

All saints day is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history; what United Methodist call the “tradition of the church.”

From the early days of Christianity, there a sense that the Church consists of not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. For example in Hebrews 12 the author encourages Christians to remember that a “great cloud of witnesses” surrounds us encouraging us, and cheering us on.

Charles Wesley picks up on this theme in his hymn that appears in the United Methodist Hymnal as “Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above,” #709. In the first verse he offers a wonderful image of the Church through the ages:

***Let saints on earth unite to sing, with those to glory gone.***

***For all the saints of our King in earth and heaven are one.***

Charles Wesley (1707-1788) was John Wesley’s brother who wrote around 6500 hymns in his lifetime.



John Wesley (1703-1791) wrote of All Saints Day “I have always found this to be a comfortable day. It is a festival I truly love.” Of course we know John Wesley as the founder of Methodism.

The congregation of Brundidge United Methodist Church, the family, and the friends of those who have gone before us since our last All Saints Day Service will be remembered on November 5th.

**Jane Senn, Martha Ramage, Betty Hixon, Irene Carter, and Hortense Horn**

**HOME GROWN**  
Cornbread Festival  
Saturday November 18th,  
9 a.m. until 4 p.m.  
At the Pike Pioneer Museum

Rev Ed will be out in the Old Country Church dressed as the Circuit Rider. Don Renfro and his mule wagon will be all over the place!

You can enter your family recipe for cornbread in the contest, you can be a vendor, enter the photo contest, be a contestant in the pageant, or just come to enjoy the fun on a beautiful fall day at the Pike Pioneer Museum. Phone 566-3597.

## Calling All Veterans to Get on the Bus Nov. 10th 6:30 a.m. Friday



The 17th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast Program has changed locations this year to the Troy Parks & Recreation Center. The guest speaker is Captain Jessie C. Mooney, Army Chaplain. We will leave the church parking lot at 6:30 a.m. Coffee and registration are at 7 a.m. then the breakfast starts at 8 a.m. The program is sponsored by the Colley Senior Complex but it is at the Troy Sportsplex.

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### A Big Thank You for an Enjoyable Homecoming!

Everybody did just a superb job in preparing the church for this special occasion. Pastor Bruce Fitzgerald and his wife Nancy sent a letter of thanks for being our guests this year. Next year Alabama-West Florida Conference Bishop David Graves will be our guest. Remember the formula is always the third Sunday in October every year.

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### Help Us Keep Identifying Those Pictures in the Fellowship Hall!

You will always find a pile of photos on the counter with identifying sheets to be completed. Remember to “not” mark on the photos but on the photocopy of the photos. After we have done our best to get who, what, when and where figured out we will start assembling photo albums. We are getting the pictures out of the closet and into your hands to make sure our church’s history is properly recorded for future generations. Do you have any idea who these people are in the photograph below?



**Try first!**

You may know who? But can you help us with the year?

Marie Thompson   Heather Minton   Clint Wallace   Kate Wallace

**← Answer**



This year's Community Thanksgiving Service will be  
 Tuesday, November 21st, 6:30 p.m. @  
 County Line Baptist Church with Pastor Chad Manion preaching.

**Camp Stew Sale on Sunday November 19th**

Be sure to make your usual contributions of chicken, pork, and broth. Ingredients need to be at the church no later than noon on Saturday, November 18th. Contact the church office at (334) 735-3180 to place your order or call Don Renfroe at (334) 268-0053. \$10 a quart. On Victory Sunday, November 19th, we will all have a camp stew lunch after the 11 a.m. worship service.

**Lenten Devotional Book Getting a Fair Start**

We still need some short devotionals from you, all church members, for this booklet planned to be distributed for Lent. Please make it a priority to contribute a devotional. Contact Barb Homann for more information. The deadline is Wednesday January 17, 2018. You can use the Upper Room or Rev Ed's newsletter article as a pattern to follow. We have many church members that can offer inspirational words and this will be a treasured keepsake in years to come.



**JINGLE & MINGLE  
 CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>  
 6PM-8PM

**DROP BY FOR FELLOWSHIP & GOODIES  
 AT THE JACKSON HOME**

HOSTED BY: ANN & LARRY WEBB, JOE STINSON,  
 AND JIMMIE & LES JACKSON

**IN LOVING  
 MEMORY**

**In Memory of Hortense Horn**

Kate Taylor- Building Fund

**In Memory of Irene Carter**

Rachel Rodgers UMW Morning  
 Circle- We Care

**NOVEMBER  
 Birthdays**

Jensen Garrett- 2<sup>nd</sup> , Sue Fraley-3rd, David Adams-  
 5th, Lomax Bryan-5th, Bobbi Jo Strother Davis-7<sup>th</sup>,  
 Clay Barron-7<sup>th</sup>, Trevor Barron-7<sup>th</sup>, Joey Strother-  
 8th, Betty Coppage- 9th, Mike Richards-11th, Maria  
 Strother-11th, Jim Ramage-12th, Lorraine Dunnum-  
 13th, Michelle Tyson-14th, Max Copeland- 15th,  
 Mike Tatom-16th, Max Bundy-17th, Billy Hixon-18<sup>th</sup>,  
 Hunter Keenan-18<sup>th</sup>, Reba Howard-18th, Hanna  
 Hixon-20th, Adela McDowell-23rd, Wendy  
 McDowell-23rd, Alice Hudley-25<sup>th</sup>

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## Smiles From Mrs. Sara

### Genesis 21:6

- 1.) What kind of bed is a Three Season Bed?
- 2.) What is free speech?
- 3.) Why did the boy get a dachshund?
- 4.) If two wrongs don't make a right, what did two rights make?



Answers: 1.) One without a Spring! 2.) Using someone else's cell phone 3.) Because his favorite song was "Get Along Little Doggie" 4.) An Airplane