

WHITE BLUFF
METHODIST
CHURCH

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

Website:

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White Bluff News June 2025

Staff

Rev. Dr. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor

Cindy Layton
Director of
Music Ministry

Elizabeth Van Hoy
Church Pianist

Rick Weeks
Audio/Visual Coordinator

Carolyn Anderson
Administrative Assistant

Malinda Smith
Financial Administrator

Sarah McGalliard
Children's Director

Audrey Tilton
Custodian

Diana Hodges
Membership Secretary

Hello White Bluff, Barry here. I pray you and yours are doing well today!

I recently read an article about Acts 29 written by Monica Wilkinson, who is a Discipleship Pastor in Beaufort, SC. It is about something we all experience but few of us enjoy: change. Excerpting from her article, she says

"Here are four ways Jesus experienced transition during his earthly ministry, and how that provides comfort for us today.

Change of Heart

Jesus was masterful at this—he touched the untouchable, showed kindness to the lonely, and met their tears with compassion. Jesus never left a conversation without offering an invitation to receive forgiveness and to enjoy an eternal relationship with him. He sought to heal hearts, and we can do the same.

Change of Pace

Jesus recognized the need for prioritizing both public and private ministry. He never worried about slowing down and didn't live in a state of hurry. Many around him expected him to be a prominent leader, but his care for others was gentle and focused. Jesus's example of serving publicly and then pulling away for time alone with the Father should compel us to think about our own ministry. The world is fast-paced, but Jesus didn't let that affect his approach. What would it look like for us to do the same? We must prioritize time alone with our heavenly Father, just as Jesus did. Not everything has to be seen. A slower pace sets realistic expectations and allows us to truly see people where they are.

Change of Location

Churches changing locations is nothing new. Many churches now meet in renovated buildings that used to be something very different than a church or rent spaces from local schools or organizations. It's difficult to borrow physical space, knowing it isn't yours to permanently inhabit. But even with a permanent building, transition and change still occur because it's a normal part of life and ministry.

Jesus didn't stay in one place very long; he was constantly traveling. He slept in a new place many times, but he never let that mobility of ministry distract him from his purpose. Locations bring expectations and may carry a certain sense of status, but may we keep the perspective of Jesus in our minds as we steward what he's provided.

Change of Role

Jesus physically grew from an infant to a toddler, to a teenager, and eventually became a man with a ministry. He then invited men and women to learn from him because he knew the time would come for him to return to heaven. He was forming disciples who would eventually make more disciples. Just as Jesus grew, his disciples grew, too."

I pray you will view our current change at White Bluff as a stepping stone to an even brighter future. The church is not a building or a steeple, the church is the people. Certainly, there is much history here at 11911 White Bluff Road, and I know that makes this decision especially difficult for some. I remember the first house we left in Cairo. I cried all the way to the new house. The new house was great, but my first memories were from that Gray Road house. It took a little while, but in time, my new house was home. Most of us have worshipped in multiple houses of worship during our lifetimes. The possibilities for the future are many, and you will be able to look at every possibility and decide the best possible path for White Bluff, should we sell. My hope is to facilitate this process for you and remain with you. Erin, Maddux, Paxton, Lennox, and I have found a home here, and are grateful for each and every one of you.

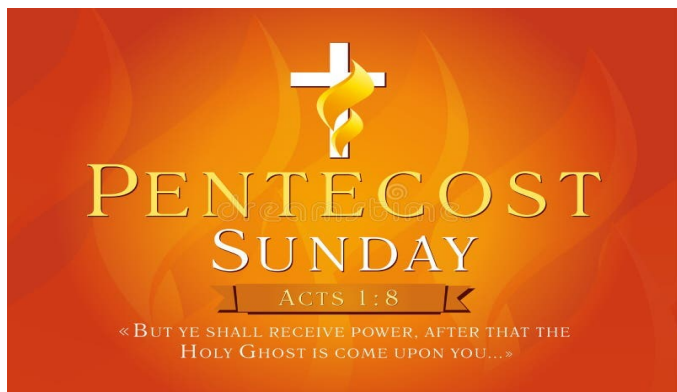
Please continue to ask questions. No question is insignificant. If we do not know the answer, we will seek to find it. Lisa McGalliard (912) 658-7556, Michael Lariscy (912) 401-8040, and myself (912) 585-7247 are available to answer any questions you may have. In addition, former pastors John Haney (912) 704-5021 and Ken Sharpe (912) 656-1524 are available to listen and pray. I know these guys meant a lot to many during their time at White Bluff, and they have individually shared with me their desire to be a source of comfort and strength as we journey together in this time of transition. We are the body of Christ together, and I am grateful for our connection.

Much prayer has already gone (and will continue to go) into this process. The South Georgia GMC, fellow GMC churches, and even some of our sister denominations are praying for us right now! I invite you in the coming days to continue to pray about God's leading as we seek to live out our mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ who will spread Scriptural holiness throughout the world."

Prayerfully,

Rev. Dr. Barry Giddens
Senior Pastor
White Bluff Methodist Church, Savannah

Rev. Dr. Barry Giddens
barrygiddens@gmail.com



June 8, 2025

9:30 A.M. Worship

Bring a friend

Wear red, Yellow or Orange as we remember the day in Acts when they spoke in many languages and the Church was born.



Happy Father's Day

June 15, 2025

We will honor Fathers.

Stewardship Report

Attendance 05/04/2025

9:30 am.....121
 Sunday School.....58
 Online Views.....65

Attendance 05/11/2025

9:30 am.....106
 Sunday School.....45
 Online Views.....44

Attendance 05/18/2025

9:30 am.....121
 Sunday School.....60
 Online Views.....68

Attendance 05/25/2025

Church Wide Luncheon

9:30 am.....135
 Sunday School.....None
 Online Views61



The Global Mission

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



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



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00 A.M.

Room 21

Everyone is welcome
 to join us.

Happy Birthday
 Greetings extended
 to:



Rev.
 Dr. Barry Giddens

June 30th



White Bluff
 Methodist
 Church

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

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



Trustee Meeting

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

5:30 P.M.

Room 21



Tom Johnson
Greenhills High School
Class of 1961



Tom Johnson was a standout basketball player at Greenhills high School from 1959-1961, earning three varsity letters under Coach Ralph Staub. A 3-year starter, Tom led the team in scoring, rebounding & field goal percentage during his senior season, earning MVP honors. He held the title of all-time leading scorer at Greenhills for the next 19 years.

Highly recruited by Division I programs, Tom chose to continue his basketball career at Miami University, 1961—1965, playing under Coach Dick Shrider. Following college, Tom entered the coaching profession, serving as head basketball coach at Cridersville High School before returning to the Cincinnati area to coach in the Wyoming School District, & eventually becoming the head varsity basketball coach in the mid-1970's.

Tom later pursued a career in officiating, beginning with high school football. After 5 years, he advanced to officiating in the Mid-American & Big Ten conferences. In 1982, he was selected to join the officiating ranks of the National Football League, where he served with distinction for 22 seasons. Tom's lifelong dedication to athletics, as a player, coach & official, exemplifies the spirit of excellence honored by the Winton Woods Athletic Hall of Fame.

Tom Johnson, welcome to the Winton Woods High School Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025.

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

**June 9, 23, and 30
Room 21**

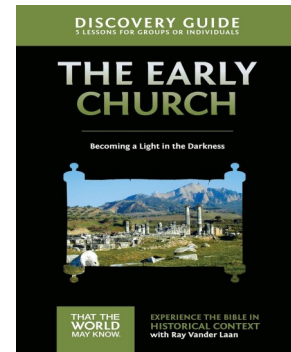
Come play Canasta with us.

If you are interested in other games come and play.

This is a great opportunity to get to know people and just have some good fun.

Bring your own drink and a light snack to share.

Tuesday Morning Book Study



**10:00 A.M.
Room 21**

Uncover the passion and commitment early believers displayed as they claimed Jesus in the face of fierce consequences and powerful adversaries.

*In the fifth volume of the series **That The World May Know**, travel with teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan to places like Caesarea Philippi, Sardis, Pergamum, Ephesus, and Laodicea in order to gain a new understanding of the Bible that will ground your convictions and transform your life.*

This is a great learning visual experience, and lively discussions follow. Come join us at 10:00 a.m. in Room 21.

June 10th-Everything to Lose, Nothing to Gain

June 17th-The Salt of the Earth

June 24th-Where Satan Lives

**Book Study will not meet the month of July
And first three weeks of August 2025.**

August 22nd-The Mark of the Beast

August 29th-Hot or Cold

LINE DANCE CLASS



June 5, 12, and 26

No Line Dance June 19th

Time: 10-11 A.M.

Where: White Bluff Methodist Church
Gym

Cost: Free

(a small donation is requested for church utilities)

Instructor: Susan Morgan

Scripture and the Life of God
By Dr. David Watson

Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 P.m.

**Skidaway Island Methodist Church
Sanctuary
54 Diamond Cswy, Savannah, GA**

All are welcome

**This event is free and open to the public,
followed by a meet and greet.**

Livestream will be available.

Theologian, author, and seminary professor, Dr. David Watson, is the author of Scripture and the Life of God. Why the Bible Matters Today more than ever and will share insights from his book. For those reading the One Year Bible, Dr. Watson will offer an extra layer of knowledge as we seek to understand more about how God's word impacts our everyday lives.

Dr. Watson is the Academic Dean and Professor of New Testament at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio and is an ordained elder in the Global Methodist Church. Dr. Watson was recently named President of Asbury Theological Seminary and will step into that new role in August. He is the author of several books including Honor Among Christians, Wesley, Wesleyans, and Reading the Bible as Scripture, and most recently Scripture and the Life of God.



MEN'S MINISTRY



SATURDAY, June 27, 2025

10:00 A.M.

Windsor Forest Church

No charge (Donations accepted)

RSVP: sign up in the Narthex or the church office.



Snake Plant



Spider Plant



Areca Palm

FINANCE DEPARTMENT-Malinda Smith

WBMC Statements Coming in August!

Many of you are aware that I am working remotely in June and July as my husband and I support mission teams that are in Honduras working with Mission on the Move. I am grateful to the SPR and Finance committee members who have supported me and advocated for me throughout this process, as well as the wonderful ladies who work with me weekly to process giving. These ladies will work weekly to make sure that all of our giving is processed quickly and efficiently and they are a blessing to me and to the church for the work that they do!

And, as is the case in many jobs, there is one component of my work that is difficult to handle remotely - and that is the processing and sending of quarterly giving statements.

In light of this logistical difficulty, WBMC giving statements will not be mailed in July for second quarter giving - they will be emailed/mailed in August for year to date giving through July 31st. I am hopeful that this will not cause a hardship for anyone in the congregation. However, if it does, or if you have any other questions or concerns for me, please email me at finance@whitebluffmethodist.org or you can speak with WBMC Finance Chair Bob Whitmarsh.

I appreciate your understanding of this schedule change, and I would ask that you prayerfully support me over the next 2 months as I take on a new adventure in ministry!

Social Seniors

**Recap of Gardening Tips with
JoAnn Harita-Master Gardner**

House plants help us bring nature inside. JoAnn highlighted four plants that purify the air. These plants are non toxic to animals and dogs. NASA study revealed the best air cleaning plants for your home.

1. Snake Plant-works best at night. It works to remove toxins and produce oxygen while you sleep. Helping you feel much more rested and ready to tackle the day.
2. Pothos-Plant to purify the room.
3. Spider Plant-Known for its ability to filter out common air pollutants and is also pet safe.
4. Areca Palm-Removes dust from the air.

Plants purify air through a process called phytoremediation where they absorb pollutants through their leaves and roots. They release oxygen through photosynthesis which can improve air quality.

Indoor plants enhance mood, reduce stress and increase humidity which can contribute to healthier indoor environment.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VBS NEEDS

Volunteers June 16-20,2025

5:30-8:15pm.

Fake Christmas Trees 4ft-7ft

Need by June 8th

CHURCH WIDE COOKBOOK

Many of you have made some delicious dishes through out the years. Lets get together and share our recipes with everyone to make and enjoy.

Contact Lisa at 912-658-7556 or Email: 1mcgalliard1@yahoo.com or call the church office at (912) 925-5924.



Week 1: You Caught What?

- Bible Story: Luke 5:1-11 (The Miraculous Catch) Key Bible Verse: Luke 5:10
- Main Idea: Jesus' miraculous catch of fish wasn't just a cool trick; it was a sign of His divine power and His call for us to follow Him, proving He is our Savior.

Week 2: What Wind?

- Bible Story: Mark 4:35-41 (Jesus Calms the Storm) Key Bible Verse: Mark 4:39
- Main Idea: Jesus calms the storm, revealing His power over nature and our fears, affirming that He is the Lord who brings peace to our souls.

Week 3: Will He Float?

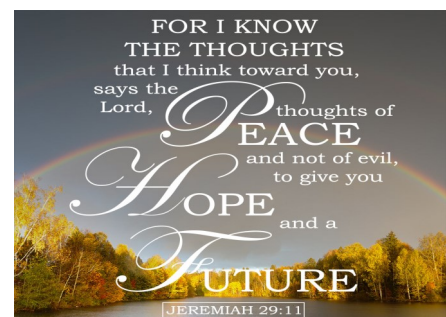
- Bible Story: Matthew 14:22-33 (Jesus Walks on Water) Key Bible Verse: Matthew 14:29
- Main Idea: Jesus walking on water demonstrates His command over physical laws, a vivid testament to His deity and His ability to help us overcome the seemingly impossible.

Week 4: What's for Breakfast?

- Bible Story: John 21:1-14 (Breakfast on the Beach) Key Bible Verse: John 21:12
- Main Idea: The risen Jesus cooking breakfast on the beach is a profound reminder



Office closed on Fridays for the Summer.





FOOD PANTRY DONATION NEEDS

Canned Chicken	Canned Green Beans	Spaghetti
Canned Roast Beef	Canned Green Peas	Small Bags Rice
Canned Tuna	Canned Greens	Shelf Life Milk
Tomato Soup	Canned Corn	Pancake Mix
Spaghetti Sauce	Applesauce	Pancake Syrup
Canned Ham	Canned Peaches	Peanut Butter
Spam	Canned Pears	Jelly or Jam
Chicken Noodle Soup	Canned Apples	Saltine Crackers
Vegetable Soup		Boxed Cereal

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR OLDER ADULTS

Hurricane season is June 1st thru November 30th.

A hurricane can develop at anytime during this time. Are you prepared if a storm is formed. Make an emergency plan. Create a chain of contacts. Ask family, friends, and neighbors. Plan how you will communicate with one another before, during and after a disaster.

Make Plans to stay safe. Think through these questions: Can I stay safely at home without power? If the power is out for an extended time or you don't have adequate air conditioning in a heat wave, consider evacuating to an appropriate location. Will I need electricity to operate medical equipment or keep medicine cold? If I need to evacuate-Where will I go? How will I get there? Where will I stay? What will I bring with me? How can I care for my pets? Are pets allowed where I am evacuating? Will I have the food and medication they need?

Plan to stay connected: Listen to the guidance from your local authorities. Have a battery-powered radio, and cell phone, chargers with a backup cell phone portable charger.

Gather Emergency Supplies: Gather food, water, and medicine. Organize supplies into a **Go-Kit** and a **Stay-at-home kit**. **Go-kit:** At least three (3) days of essential supplies if you need to leave in a hurry. Gas up your car if you will be driving. Have cash on hand. You may need non perishable foods and water depending where you are going. Include backup batteries and chargers for (cell phones, CPAP, Wheelchair, etc.) Three days of clothing and sturdy shoes. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist to make sure you have enough medications. Make sure you have your prescription eyewear and cane, also include pet medications and supplies. Lock up your home and leave.

Stay-At-Home-Kit: at least two (2) weeks supplies. Include basic such as non perishable foods and water, first aid kit, flashlights, sturdy shoes. Make sure you have enough medications. The stores and pharmacies may be closed. Stay away from windows, skylights, and glass doors. Bring your pets inside.

Prepare and Protect Key Documents: Keep personal, financial, and medical records safe and easy to access. Keep an up to date list of medical information: conditions, allergies, medications, instructions and dosages, prescription records, doctors phone numbers, health insurance cards, homeowners insurance account and phone numbers. Include a similar list for your pets or service dogs. Locate and keep copies of important documents including household identification (such as ID, social security card, driver's license, marriage license), financial and legal (deeds, loans, credit cards, banking, wills, property insurance) and a list of individual or companies that normally make repairs for you. Consider keeping copies of paper documents in a waterproof box or safe, store electronically or with a trusted family member. Keep in mind, some of these are required for recovery financial assistance.

Take care of yourself. It's normal to be stressed or have anxiety after a disaster or other emergency. Eat healthy food and get enough sleep to help deal with the stress.

After a disaster, scam artists, identity thieves, and other criminals may try to take advantage of some people. Work with vetted, trusted sources, and safeguard your personal and financial information.

Information by American Red Cross, FEMA and CEMA.



Sanctuary Flowers

The 2025 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 Methodist Church, marked altar flowers. Either drop the check off at the office or put the check in an envelope in the offering plate.

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Special Gifts

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

Corine Hall

Elizabeth and Randall
Sheila Anderson



Thank You!

This is one of those times when saying
THANK YOU! Doesn't seem like enough.

Ralph was over whelmed with his blanket and
he loved it. There are no words to thank every-
one for their kindness.

Ralph and Donna Henley



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

Art Lawrence and Kendall Lawrence, on the death
of their father, Bobby Wayne Lawrence, on
May 17, 2025.

2025

Fellowship/Coffee Time Clean-Up

June	Seekers Sunday School Class
July	Covenant
August	Wayfarers
September	Joyful Believers
October	Young Adults
November	Seekers Sunday School Class
December	Covenant

All classes are responsible for the entire month.