

WHITE BLUFF
METHODIST
CHURCH

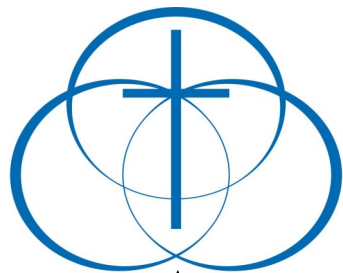
11911 White Bluff Road
Savannah, Georgia 31419
(912) 925-5924

Website:

www.whitebluffmethodist.org

Email:

info@whitebluffmethodist.org



A

GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

White Bluff News April 2026

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

What a day of celebration we enjoyed Sunday, April 5! If you missed it, I invite you to see the below and view the Easter cantata, sermon, and Holy Communion. Thank you to all who made it a wonderful day! This week, we transition into Women of Faith Sunday, April 12, 2026.

Easter celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection, signifying victory over death and a promise of eternal life. It's a time for Christians to rejoice in God's love and grace, and to reflect on the profound implications of Christ's death and resurrection from the grave.

The resurrection of Jesus is the central tenet of Christian belief, proving His divinity and offering hope of eternal life to all who believe in Him. But now that Easter has come and gone, what's next? Does everything go back to normal? Do we go back to living our regular everyday lives?

The temptation is to return to our safe, everyday routines and view the Easter weekend as the spiritual highlight of the year. Or we could let Easter transform our lives. There were hundreds of people, including the disciples, who saw Jesus after He rose from the dead. Many of Jesus' disciples were present for His arrest, trial, flogging, and crucifixion. While some fled in fear, others, including Peter, followed at a distance. John the apostle was present at the foot of the cross. The disciples witnessed Jesus being taken into custody, interrogated, and eventually sentenced to death. The Gospels mention various people, including Mary, the mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Roman soldiers, who were present and presumably witnessed His death on the cross. Yet, He appeared to over 500 people. Think for a moment about Jesus' disciples and the hundreds of people who saw Him after He rose from the dead. How could they go back to their everyday lives? If we were there and witnessed what they had, could you go back to life as usual? Probably not.

Knowing that Jesus rose from the dead is widely believed to have had a profound and transformative impact on the lives of the disciples, particularly those who witnessed the resurrection. This belief in Jesus's resurrection is seen as a primary catalyst for their courage, confidence, and willingness to proclaim the Gospel, even in the face of persecution and death. The same should be true of us. If you know Christ is living and you trust Him as your own Savior, then you should live it out. Tell others. Invest in the lives of others. Let Christ's love be a transforming force within you.

Jesus isn't just a "good guy" — He's our Savior, worthy of all praise and attention. We were made for a relationship with Him, a consistent prayer life with Him, and a committed practice of reading His Word. Even in the busyness of our lives, we must tend to our relationship with Jesus every day.

As we continue to move forward in the sale of the WB church property, please know that the WB leadership is working behind the scenes (WB Task Force, Trustees, Finance, SPR, and Church Council) to make sure that we not only leave our existing facility well, but that we are prepared to move over to Grace Methodist as two churches in one meeting location. And, we are preparing to increase our ministry offerings (as finances permit) as we vision for the future. We hope to work with Grace to see that location grow the Kingdom, and to consider many opportunities, including building a new location in the west Savannah area.

When will the move happen? If all goes well with City of Refuge raising their financing, the closing will happen either in August or in November.

What can we do right now? Continue to worship and attend services at the church. We are the church—all of the members within it. Pray for God to continue to move us in the direction that He would want us to go, and continue to love one another. One of the things White Bluff does extremely well is keeping up with one another! Keep me in the loop of community needs, as when I know I go!

Dates:

Sunday, April 12 @ 9:30 am: WB Women of Faith Sunday with Judge Kathy Palmer, a Global Methodist from Swainsboro, GA, will be our speaker! You will not want to miss it.

Wednesday, April 22 @ 9 am: The WB Prayer Team assembles in the Conference Room (all who would like to participate are welcomed)

I thank God for each of you and pray for you frequently.

Blessings to you,

Barry



The Handbell Choir is in need of new ringers!

Join in the fun! Wednesdays at 11:00 A.M. in the choir room.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

DINNER/ PRAYER/ BIBLE OR BOOK STUDY

5:30 P.M.

Horton Hall

Everyone is welcome to join us!

Stewardship Report

Attendance 03/01/2026

9:30 am.....125
 Sunday School.....43
 Online Views.....60

Attendance 03/08/2026

9:30 am.....148
 Sunday School.....52
 Online Views.....62

Attendance 03/15/2026

9:30 am.....127
 Sunday School.....49
 Online Views.....43

Attendance 03/22/2026

9:30 am.....123
 Sunday School.....38
 Online Views52

Attendance 03/29/2026

9:30 am.....126
 Sunday School.....50
 Online Views.....50



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.** (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 |



**WEDNESDAY MORNING
 BIBLE STUDY**

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

Happy Birthday
 Greetings extended to:

Margaret Legler
 on celebrating her
 101th birthday
 April 8th.

Leita Stevens
 on celebrating her
 99th birthday
 April 16th.

Sara Chilton
 on celebrating her
 94th birthday
 April 25th.

Thomas Nelson
 on celebrating his
 91st birthday
 April 27th.



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

**Come play Canasta with us.
 April 6, 13, 20 and 27
 Room 21**

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



Tuesday Morning Book Study

10:00 A.M.
April 7, 14, 21 and 28
Room 21

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



White Bluff Methodist and Grace Methodist Dinner and Prayer Meeting

April 8, 2026

5:00 P.M. Prayer
6:00 P.M. Dinner \$10:00
Horton Hall

RSVP by calling the church office at
(912) 925-5924

Everyone is invited!

LINE DANCE CLASS



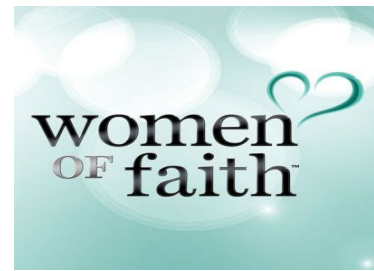
April 9, 16, 23 and 30

Time: 10-11 A.M.

Where: White Bluff Methodist Church
Gym

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

Instructor: Susan Morgan



Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle April 7th
10:00 A.M.
Horton Hall

Eve Circle April 14th
11:30 A.M.
Martha Adams Home

Abigail Circle April 16th
6:00 P.M.
Horton Hall

Women of Faith Sunday

April 12, 2026

9:30 A.M.

Sanctuary

Speaker: Judge Kathy Palmer

Soloist: Huxsie Scott

You are Invited!



SOCIAL SENIORS

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

11:30 A.M.

Fellowship Hall


Bring a covered dish

Meat and drink provided



Trustees Meeting

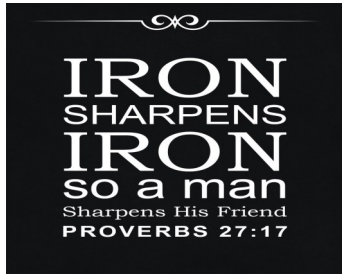
April 15, 2026
5:30 P.M.
Room 21



Congratulations
to
Eric and Breanne Mitchell
on the birth of
Marley June Mitchell
March 31, 2026

The proud grandparent is
Debbie Mitchell

MEN'S MINISTRY



SATURDAY, April 25, 2026
10:00 A.M.

Windsor Forest Church

No charge (Donations accepted)

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



HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE SENIORS

If you are a high school graduate or college graduate, we would like to honor you. Please contact the Church Office if you are graduating this summer. (912) 925-5924.



Pins and Needles-Sewing

Monday Mornings

9:00 A.M

Room 21.

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 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 |
| | | |



Babies

We will be celebrating the birth of our new babies this past year on Mother's Day. If you are a member of the church and have had a baby since last Mother's Day, please call the church office to make sure your baby is on our list. A gift to missions will be given in their honor. Baby and mother will be recognized on Mother's Day.



Main Idea: The Holy Spirit gives me incredible power.

Gospel Connection: When we believe in Jesus, He forgives our sins and fills us with the Holy Spirit, enabling us to show His love through our actions.

Week 1: "What Got Into Them?" Peter and John, Speak Up! (Acts 4:1-22)

Week 2: "What's Her Story?" Lydia's Conversion (Acts 16:11-15)

Week 3: "Can Villains Change?" Saul's Conversion (Acts 9:1-19)

Week 4: "Let's Get This Straight!" Priscilla, Aquila, & Apollos (Acts 18:24-28)



Congratulations
to

Joseph and Rebecca Bradley Smithers
who were married on February 28, 2026



Congratulations
to

Matt and Bentley Edwards Mayes
who were married on March 21, 2026

Stay Connected!

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 Methodist Church.



Suzanne Woodrum
"Piano Recital"

White Bluff Methodist Church

May 2, 2026

2:00 P.M.

Sanctuary

Everyone is invited.

Prayer Focus

Jesus tells us that prayer is a lifeline to God. We pray for comfort in our troubled times, we pray with thankfulness in our happy times, but we always need to keep others as the focus of our prayer. In 1 Timothy 2:1 we are instructed “First of all then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for everyone.” Can we say that again....”For Everyone.”

Prayer is our personal conversation with our Father, but is not to be focused only on ourselves. We should never keep the spotlight on our issues, but pray with supplication for the world around us.

We hope that everyone who has received a prayer packet is enjoying it and that it is enhancing your time talking to our Father. There are still some available and if you can not get to church to pick one up please, contact Kristen Maynard (912) 657-3634 to coordinate getting one to you.

Beginning in April, on the second Wednesday of each month, we will be starting an evening prayer gathering followed by a supper. This is going to include the church family at Grace Methodist and will be hosted between both locations. Our first gathering will be April 8th here at White Bluff in Horton Hall. We will begin our prayer service at 5 pm with dinner to follow at 6pm. There is a \$10.00 charge for dinner and you can call the church office to assist us with a head count, but don't let this stop you from coming if you are not on a list. You are ALWAYS welcome.

Our prayer team is very excited about the prayer focused direction that we are walking here at White Bluff. We continue to daily hold up our church family prayer requests and the campus sale to our Father. Our meetings are always open to all who would like to join us.

Next Meeting: April 22, 2026, 9am in Conf. Room.



Prayer Requests

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Pat Straw | Cheryl Hampton |
| Bobby Gee | H. D. McDougald |
| New Members | Military |
| White Bluff Transition | |

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father,

We come before you now to thank you for all you have given to us in our lives. Lord, we thank you that even in times that it is hard to hear you, we know that you are there. You have your spirit ready for us Lord, all we have to do is ask. We boldly come before your throne Lord and ask for so many things, healing, love, direction, discernment, comfort, acceptance, strength, clarity, faith, grace and forgiveness.

Lord, everyday we fall short of your glory, we try but we fail. Father, we can not do this on our own. We kneel before you and ask that you put your spirit upon us, to guide us. Father God, we pray that rather than getting wrapped up in what we want for ourselves, that we except the direction and plan that you had for our lives from before we were born.

Lord, we have the opportunity everyday to reflect your light into the world and I pray that each of us answers your call. Pray for that stranger, love someone in need, provide support for our neighbor, and be a leaning post for someone who is broken. Father God, help us to remember that we are your tools in this world. I pray Lord that as in Isaiah we are able to answer “Here Am I, Send Me!”

In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

As always I am available for any information. Please feel free to contact me, Kristen Maynard at (912) 657-3634.



Thank you!

From the first day I walked into White Bluff Methodist in 1975, I knew it was a special place. The church IS the people and WB people are absolutely family. The Seekers-we raised our children through birth, toddlerhood, teen years, college, marriage, all the way to grandchildren-together. On the worst day of my life, you were there. Mounds of delicious food, visits, love and prayers. There are no words to adequately express my gratitude. Just know I love you back, always.

“Man is not free unless government is limited” Ronald Reagan

Ginny Knorr

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Special Gifts

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

Al Hudgins

Cheryl and Dave Conrad
Tommy and Kathy Swinford

John Rechtzigel

Suzanne Woodrum
Art and Belinda Gnann



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

Stephen Russell, Floyd, and Jenny Floyd Owen,
on the death of their Stepfather, John A. Butler,
on March 25, 2026.

Louis, Amanda and Matthew Young, on the death of
their mother, Catherine Converse Wittkamp young,
on March 28, 2026.

2026

Fellowship/Coffee Time Clean-Up

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| April | Joyful Believers |
| May | Young Adults |
| 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.