



# BLACKMAN

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### February 2, 2018

It is approaching that time of year again when we will gather as a church to celebrate the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service. Ash Wednesday is the start of the 40-day Christian journey to the celebration of Easter. This is a time for us to remember God's words to the people of Israel in Joel 2 for them to "return to me with all of your heart" and confess our sins before God. These 40-days mirror Jesus' time in the wilderness following his baptism, which served as a time for him to consider God's plan for his life. Additionally, this was a time when he battled the temptations of the Devil and emerged strengthened for his ministry ahead.

Our service this year will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> (yes, I know it's Valentine's Day J) at 6:30 p.m. You might be wondering why I am talking about Ash Wednesday/Lent when it is still a couple of weeks away. The reason is because I want you to begin thinking, even now, about how you will approach this holy season. Lent can be a time when, like Christ, you consider God's plan for your life. Are you doing with your life what you believe God wants you to be doing? Or is God calling you to something else, something greater?

This can also be a time when think about your temptations and the sins that keep you from God or keep you from being who God has created you to be. The key though is to not just think about those things that separate you from God, but also repent of those sins, and, by God's grace, emerge stronger than you were before.

The reality of life is that there are things within all of us that separate us from God or keep us from being who God designed us to be. However, the even more powerful reality for many of us is that our lives do not need significant shifts in behavior, but rather we need subtle changes that will lead to a greater obedience to God. You may not need to stop doing something drastic, but instead allow God to change an attitude of pride, self-righteousness or even unworthiness within you that creates a more obedient heart and life for God to use.

During this season of Lent my hope is that all of our lives are healed and transformed as you take time in prayer, study, meditation, worship and service to remember God's presence

in our lives, desire to transform what is less than God within us and strengthen us for the long journey ahead. Hope to see you Sunday. Have a great day and God bless!!

Bro. David

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## **Prayer Requests**

- **John Sloan**, kidney tests on 2/8
- **Charles Radanovics**, father of Kathrina Reed, hip replacement 2/1
- **Praise report: Dave Speer**, father of Jenny Peck, back surgery on January 30th; the surgery went well and he is on his way to full recovery
- **Mrs. Jewell Strode**, placed under hospice care
- The family of **Mrs. Dell Horsley**, who passed on 1/15
- **The Stallings family** and friends, at the loss of John Stallings, friend of John Forrest
- **Lisa Hecker**, friend of John & Elaine Forrest, awaiting medical results
- **Eddie Peel**, stage 4 cancer
- **Betty Tinkle**, cervical spine surgery January 25th
- **Malcolm Hart**, friend of the Peck family, pancreatic cancer
- **Carrie Borchers**, friend of Tamara Harris, treatment for lymphoma
- **Debbie Carr**, sister of Kim Luther, brain tumor
- **Charles Prebble**, Uncle of Ginny Mathes, aneurysm
- **Braxton Matt**, 3 yrs. old, brain tumor removed
- **Kathy Davis**, sister of Jennifer Simons, health concerns
- **Bill Lambert**, father of Caroline Houchens, cancer diagnosis
- **Sue Marcum**, friend of Ginny Mathes, recovery from stroke

# **Announcements**

*In case of inclement weather, stay tuned to Facebook, Twitter and email for updates on church services and activities.*

- **Tax Contribution Statements:** Your Statement can be picked up in the lobby at church. If you would like yours emailed, contact the church office at [615-893-0347](tel:615-893-0347).
- **UM Men's group along with Simply Fellowship** – will meet Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8 am for breakfast. **The defibrillator training is rescheduled for March 3.** Come and join us for breakfast tomorrow, everyone is invited!
- Youth: Please note the final Warmth in Winter payment is due this Sunday, Thank you.
- **Save the date: Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup>.** We will have a 6:30 pm service to celebrate Ash Wednesday.
- The Youth group would like to thank everyone who donated to the envelope fundraiser. It is a blessing to know that our church family is part of our Warmth in Winter experience. We appreciate your continued support of the youth group.
- **UM Men's Ministry:**The United Methodist Men are thankful we were able to help a family from Special Kids at Christmas, as well as many others during the year. We are looking forward to all the fun at kite day, Mothers day and much more. You could help our ministry by collecting, saving and bringing aluminum cans. There is an area inside the garbage area to leave the bags of cans. We then haul them off and sell them. Please bring more cans and make us work even harder and help others even more. Thank you.
- **Children's Ministry:** A New Year brings new opportunities, and your Children's Ministries team wants to know what you think! As we look forward to the impact we will have on both our children, and the people that they interact with, we want to know what would you like to see from the Children's Ministries program. Please be specific, give examples if you have them, etc. You can email your thoughts

[tobumcchildrensmin@gmail.com](mailto:tobumcchildrensmin@gmail.com) or, beginning on January 21st, there will be a box in the narthex that you can drop your ideas into. We ask that you share with us by January 31st, though we welcome your thoughts any time throughout the year. Thank you in advance for being a part of teaching our children God's love.

- DO YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES TEAM? There is a spot for you, no matter what amount of time you have to commit. We will have meetings approximately 6 times this year, several events, and of course, VBS. Please think about what gift you have to share with the children, and recognize that the gift of your time is HUGE. Please email your interest and questions [tobumcchildrensmin@gmail.com](mailto:tobumcchildrensmin@gmail.com), or call Jenny Peck at (615) 218-9277.

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## Acolytes Sign-Up

We are now scheduling our Acolytes for Q1 (January - March) 2018. Acolytes usually are children ages 3rd Grade through 6th grade and older. They help with worship each week and with communion on the first Sunday of each month.

It has never been easier to sign up. Just go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d4faaaf2fa7f85-bumc> and select a date and time that your children are available. You can also email Mike Rose as [music@blackmanumc.com](mailto:music@blackmanumc.com).

**If your children are new to this, we will provide training to get them started.**

Thanks to all our Acolyte families for serving in worship!

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# Youth Calendar

**February 4 Warmth in Winter meeting 4 pm & Reg. Youth 5 pm.  
(Warmth in Winter meeting is for students and parents)**

**February 9, 10 & 11 Warmth in Winter**

**February 11 No Youth meeting, rest up from Warmth in Winter**

**February 14 Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 pm**

**February 14 Dinner after Ash Wednesday service  
Youth and their families are invited to eat out with their crosses  
on.**

**February 18 Regular youth 5-7 pm**

**February 24 Potato Gleaning Project**

**February 25 Regular youth 5-7 pm**

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**TayLa Fugate is a Senior studying Music Business at Middle Tennessee State University and an active member of the MTSU Wesley Foundation. Beyond her love for music, TayLa is currently exploring her passion and call to ministry through serving as a Next Generation Discipleship Intern through the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church where she will be assisting Chandra Inglis with various events, programming, and planning here at Blackman UMC.**

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### **A Word about Worship for 2/4/2018**

Isaiah 40:21-31

I Corinthians 9:16-23

#### **Leaders in Worship Today**

Rev. David Stockton

Mike Rose, Music Director,

Jan MacKrell, piano

**8:30 am:**

Stacy Soules, Worship Leader,

Kami and Jessi Shupp, Acolytes  
Andrew Peck, Lay Reader  
Grace Towle, Kylie Shupp, Chandra Inglis, Communion Servers  
Andrew Peck, Communion Prep  
Mike Rose, Sound Tech, Madison Peck, Multimedia Tech

**10:45 am:**

Brandon Whitt, Worship Leader,  
Mason Smith, Acolyte  
Deanna Kendall, Lay Reader  
Betsy Williams, Diana Dalen, Wayne Rollins, Chandra Inglis, Communion Servers  
Cindi Smith-Walters, Communion Prep  
Mark Spears, Sound Tech, Sarah Stockton, Multimedia Tech

**Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. David Stockton, [pastor@blackmanumc.com](mailto:pastor@blackmanumc.com)  
Music Director: Mike Rose, [music@blackmanumc.com](mailto:music@blackmanumc.com)  
Youth Director: Chandra Inglis, [youth@blackmanumc.com](mailto:youth@blackmanumc.com)  
Administrative Assistant: Mary Rose Gansel, [office@blackmanumc.com](mailto:office@blackmanumc.com)