



*A Community of faith, led by God's spirit, offering Christ to the World*

**#WHYWYNNTON**

**January 15, 2023**

It truly is hard to believe that it has been 7 months since our journey started together. I have had the joys of meeting new families and walking with them as they continue to grow in their spiritual journey. We have had families return to the church and new families start walking with us. I have had the blessing to truly see why so many families love to call Wynnton UMC home.

So as we move into the beginning of the new year, I want to ask you this one poignant question, "Why Wynnton?" For many of us there have been so many reasons to come and spend time in worship and discipleship. There have been families drawn in because of our preschool, children and student ministries. They have come because of our adult ministries, and the many ways we serve in missions to reach our neighbors. There are people who have been here for almost their entire lives, and they continue to wave the banner for the amazing connection that God has placed in this space.

I know my family found a peace of heart and mind when we walked through the doors for the first time. I personally enjoy my time in prayer staring at the stained glass windows that tell so much of the stories of our faith. I know that no matter what the world may bring, God created this space in 1927 to minister to the people of Midtown and surrounding communities. God knew well in advance of the lives that would be impacted because of the AGAPE LOVE that exudes out of every person that walks throughout this space every day. A space that provides comfort, healing, discipleship, connection, community and a solid foundation built on the Word of God.

In the coming days, I know that Wynnton and our families will continue to be tested and tried as we make a final discernment as it relates to the future direction where God will lead us. On January 22nd, 2023 at 3pm, Rev. Steve Patton, our District Superintendent for the Northwest District, will join us for a gathering where our people will come for a time of prayer and questioning as to where God is leading us next. I know that this has truly been a taxing process on all of us and pushed some to the edge of frustration, but I know that God will reveal His plan for our Wynnton family in the days to come.

January 22nd will be a time to come together and show our families and community WHY WYNNTON is so important to God's plan for the furtherance of God's kingdom here in Midtown Columbus. We have a chance to walk and work together to make Wynnton a place where families will once again understand WHY WYNNTON is so valuable to this community.

Regardless if any of us truly know what may happen in the unknown, we have a certainty that allows us to remain strong and unified as the Body of Christ. God is in this place and will continue to move, if we are willing to walk with Him through our obedience with our Prayers, Presence, Witness, Gifts and Service. These are the qualities that God has called us to build on as members of His church. If anyone would ask me, "Why Wynnton?", I know that with my whole heart I could honestly say, "Because it is where the Lord dwells and calls His people to be the hands and feet of God!"

Love God... Love People... Serve Together

In His grip,  
Jason

**IN MEMORIAM**

Wanda Lybarger  
Dec. 31, 2022

*"In my Father's house are many mansions..."*

*The Chancel Flowers are given  
in honor of Brittany and  
Logan's January birthdays by  
Bart and Brenda Wilson.*

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Tom Moore** by Ramona & Andy Andresen; New Beginnings Class; Cindy & Randy Autry

## LOVE AND SYMPATHY

To Gloria Toelle and family on the death of her brother, Rev. Bennie Frank Hughley, of Hoover, AL on Jan. 3, 2023.

To Mary Nell and Mike Blasingame on the death of her brother, Tom Moore of Columbus, GA on Jan. 4, 2023.

To Tonya & Jonathan Calvert on the death of her mother, Diane Ryals, of Columbus, GA on Jan. 7, 2023.

## TOWN HALL MEETING

**Wynnton United Methodist Members Only**

**January 22nd, 2023 at 3p.m.  
Fellowship Hall**

Rev. Steve Patton, our District Superintendent for the Northwest District will be speaking

If you cannot attend this meeting in person we will be sending out a ZOOM link to church members only. Please make sure the church office has your correct email address if you are interested in attending by Zoom.

## WYNNTON ARTS ACADEMY NEEDS

Our church was able to serve 23 students through the Adopt-A-Family project. Thank you all so much for your generosity. This year there were individuals who "adopted" students in addition to the Sunday School classes!

In January and February, WAA is asking for donations of **gloves and socks**. The cold weather is here and many students are in need of these items. Please drop your donations in the bin in the Fellowship Hall to be delivered.

## JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

In his autobiographical work, *Confessions*, St. Augustine says of his relationship with God, "You have created us for yourself, O God, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Similarly, to Psalm 42, St. Augustine expresses a feeling of an inner longing to be one with our Creator God, our one true home.

This Sunday, the Chancel Choir will sing Benjamin Harlan's beautifully crafted anthem, *Classic Praise*. Harlan pairs the Adagio from Sonata "Pathetique" by Beethoven, with a familiar contemporary classic arrangement of Psalm 42 (*As the Deer Panteth for the Water*). The slow, steady rhythms of the Adagio are comforting and sublime. The choral treatment of Psalm 42 combines with the Adagio to create an experience that allows us the opportunity to feel the message of the Psalm as we hear it.

"Classic Praise" arr. by Benjamin Harlan  
*As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longeth after Thee. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee. You alone are my strength, my shield; to You, alone, may my spirit yield. You're my friend and You are my brother, even though You are a King. I love You more than any other, so much more than anything. You alone are my strength, my shield; to You, alone, may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee.*

God's Great Peace to You!  
Diana B.

## THANK YOU

Thank you everyone for your faithful and continued support of our pecan sales fundraiser. Once again this year, because of you, we were able to donate to organizations that provide help to our local community, as well as some national and international groups. We appreciate each of you for buying pecans and for telling your friends about us. See you again next fall. THANK YOU!

Joyful Noise Sunday School Class

\*CORE Groups Sunday 5:00-7:00pm  
 \*Prayer Breakfast & Jesus Fridays 7:00-& 7:30am  
 Chick-fil-a on Whittelsey  
 \*Youth Winter Retreat - February 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
 brochures will be available on Sunday to begin  
 registration.  
 \*Youth Information: Text @basement22 to 81010  
 \*Youth Parents Info: Text @wumcpa to 81010



### Children's Programs

The nursery is available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. as well as Sunday School for grades K-12 from 9:45-10:50 a.m. The nursery for infants through age 3 is on the first floor of the Grimes building. Children's Sunday School for Pre-K-5th Grade is on the first floor of the Grimes building, and youth Sunday School is in the basement under the sanctuary. Children's Church will be offered for children through 5th Grade in the Children's Center in the Grimes building during the worship hour.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children in Pre-K through 4th grade are welcome to join us for Children's Sunday School from 9:45 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. in the Grimes Building on the first floor in the Children's Church room next to the nursery.

### BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of January. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.

### UPCOMING ADULT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

January 18th join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 am to make cards! These cards will be going to our home-bound members for their birthday, holidays, or just to know we are thinking of them. All are welcome to come and help us create cards. A light lunch will be provided.

January 19th at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall, we will be having a planning meeting for adult ministry. The goal of this meeting is to put events and activities on the calendar for the new year for our adults. Please plan to bring your lunch and ideas for us to discuss and potentially put on the calendar for the year.

February 4th at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will be hosting a cyber security seminar for the whole church. Unfortunately, scammers are becoming more prevalent and sneakier in their approaches. Join us as we learn from Sargent Jane Edenfield how to recognize and avoid scams.

Mark your calendars for February 16th at 11:30 am for a Valentine's luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Details to come.

Blessings,  
 Rev. Michaela Walley

### BACKPACKS OF GRACE

January is Backpacks of Grace month at Wynnton! Backpacks of Grace is a ministry of our church through which we provide weekend food for selected students at our Partner in Education school, Wynnton Arts Academy. Each Thursday morning, volunteers pack bags that are distributed at the school on Friday. We purchase basic items from Feeding the Valley at low costs. Supplemental items are purchased at retail food stores. If you wish to donate, please choose items from the list below. They must be packaged in INDIVIDUAL SERVING containers. Also, NO PEANUTS can be in the product or in the manufacturing process (see "Contains" label on packages). Collection bins are in the Fellowship Hall and the hallway outside the Library. Items which are helpful are:

- Individual macaroni and cheese cups
- Individual snacks (cookies, crackers, etc.)
- Individual breakfast food (cereal, oatmeal, grits, etc.)
- Individual fruit cups (diced fruit, applesauce, etc.)
- Financial donations may be made through the church office.

Thank you for your support of this important ministry!

## WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

We ended the year serving 168 households during our Christmas food giveaway, more than 30 households greater than we've done before. Every family got a ham plus an extra bag of holiday food in addition to our normal distribution. At Thanksgiving we gave groceries (including a turkey) to more than 240 households, November and December were both record months for grocery giveaways, even though we have limited the number of families served to 25 per day. Demand at this time is so great that often we have served our quota of families in less than an hour. It is heartbreaking to turn families away, but we just don't have the money and people to serve everyone who comes. To make matters more challenging, the USDA and GMAP food programs that normally supply the bulk of the food we distribute currently have little in them. Therefore, we are having to purchase more food from grocery stores, which is much, much more expensive. November was also our busiest November ever for utility assistance. We served 70 families in November, spending over \$6000.

We served groceries to nearly 5200 families with over 15,000 people, including over 6500 children this year. Surprisingly, this was not our busiest year on record, although it missed by less than 100. However, it was a record year for utility assistance. We served 620 families, which is a hundred more than last year, and spent \$56,000.

We at the Network are so appreciative of the superb support we receive from our congregations. As you can see, many thousands of people in Muscogee County are recipients of your generosity, and you do change many lives for the better.

## FLOWER DELIVERY

Neita Denny

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

16	Maxwell Bray, Amelia Toelle, Wallace Twiggs
18	Bobbie Edmondson
19	Joseph Calvert
20	Betsey Dryman
21	Aaron Tincher

## READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

### Reading Through Psalms

Week 1

Starting this week, we will be doing daily readings together through the book of Psalms. We just finished our time of Christmas, and so that means we are starting the journey through the year towards Easter. Each week we will have a reflection to go with our readings, and our readings will go through sixty days in total. Join us in this time of study and reflection together as a church. Remember, Psalms is a book of songs. This is still a time to be joyful, so raise your voice and be excited as we read together. -Will

January 15: Psalm 1, 2, 3

January 16: Psalm 4, 5, 6

January 17: Psalm 7, 8, 9

January 18: Psalm 10, 11, 12, 13

January 19: Psalm 14, 15, 16, 17

January 20: Psalm 18

January 21: Psalm 19, 20, 21

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

### 1-8-23

General Fund.....	10,603.00
Backpacks of Grace.....	250.00
Communion.....	31.00
Endowment.....	10.00
Loose Offering.....	39.00
Missions.....	50.00
Methodist Home.....	100.00
Open Door.....	100.00
Other Contributions.....	50.00
Sunday School.....	50.00
Wynnton Neighborhood Network.....	375.00
Wesley Glen.....	100.00

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 15

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
Streams Live on Facebook  
5:00-7:00 p.m. CORE Group - Youth

### Monday, January 16

- Office Closed - MLK DAY  
5:30 p.m. Bible Study - Home of Beth Hendrickson

### Tuesday, January 17

- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building  
10:00 a.m. Worship Planning Meeting - Library

### Wednesday, January 18

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Building  
11:30 a.m. Card Making Luncheon - F. Hall  
12-1 p.m. Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)  
4:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuaries Meeting - Library  
6:15 -7:15 p.m. Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)  
6:30 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 19

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Building  
9:45 a.m. Backpacks of Grace  
12:00 p.m. Adult Ministry Planning Meeting - FH

### Friday, January 20

- 7:00 - 7:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast - Chick-fil-A - Whittlesey Rd.  
12:00 p.m. Goodwill Meeting - Fellowship Hall

## SUNDAY'S SERMON

#Why Wynnton Prayers:  
Prayer Changes Lives  
Luke 1:346-55  
Dr. Jason Wade

## PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Jan. 13-15  
Rev. Will Walley 601-337-9691

## OUR ATTENDANCE

### **1-8-23**

8:30 a.m. Service.....44  
11:00 a.m. Service.....122  
Sunday School.....93

### **Our Known Prayer Concerns:**

Sue Rogers	Lexy McRae
Lynn Christenson	Dorothy Robinson
Aubrey Walker	Jennefer Spell
Daro Miller	Jim Accordino
David Woolbright	Denise Hill
Pam Feagle	Benjamin Feagle
Julee Robinson McGehee	Frank Feagle
Betty Garrett	Barbara McKenzie
Lucy Hart	Richard Holmes
Andy Andresen	Agnes Tew
Sue Pope	Joy Graham
Doris Rowe	Freddie Richardson
Tom Stafford	Denton Spurlin
Jeanine Cotton	Shelley Montgomery
Joe Batastini	

### **Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:**

Family of Wanda Lybarger  
Family of Rev. Bennie Frank Hughley  
Family of Tom Moore  
Family of Diane Ryals

## WYNNTON SAFETY SQUAD

January 15: Team 1 – Dom Edwards, Dan Draughon, Gib Richardson

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Please help us update our information (or pick up a card in the church) by using this QR code. Contact Will Walley at the church for more information or questions.

