

WESLEY HEIRS FALL NEWSLETTER 2014



WESLEY HAIRS, SPRING 2014 AT BLUE LAKE

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AN EXPLOSIVE IDEA: WE CAN ENDURE HARDSHIP WITH JOY

(Guest Editorial by Walter Albritton (paraphrased) From Altar Call - Opelika-Auburn News, August 4, 2013)

Walter reported that his copy of *The New Testament in Modern English* by J. B. Phillips, given to him by a dear friend and fellow pastor, Jim Connor, is now tattered as he received it in 1967. But recently he began digging into the truth of Colossians 1:11-14 and after reading this scripture in the *New International Version*, found this one to be cumbersome:

"being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption the forgiveness of sins."

Next, he turned to the J. B. P:hillips version and his heart began to sing as he read this version:

"As you live this new life, we pray that you will be strengthened from God's boundless resources, so that you will find yourselves able to pass through an experience and endure it with joy. You will even be able to thank God in the midst of pain and distress because you are privileged to share the lot of those who are living in the light. For we must never forget that he rescued us from the power of darkness and reestablished us in the kingdom of his beloved Son. For it is by his Son alone that we have been redeemed and have had our sins forgiven."

Walter stated he got excited with the concept of "passing through" a hardship as good theology. When times are tough we desire the grace to get "through the night" rather than get stranded in the pain. But, in the 23rd Psalm David speaks of walking "through" the valley of the shadow of death. That told him that God wants to help us "pass through" a hardship and get victory over it as Phillips has Paul praying that we will not only pass through a hardship, but "*endure it with joy*". This was a new way to suffer misfortune - to do so with joy! The word "endure" had always conjured up the idea of tolerating a problem, suffering through it and gritting your teeth to the bitter end. But Phillips injects "joy" into the ordeal! Walter stated, "That marvelous idea was suddenly it up on the billboard of my soul - God can help me endure difficulty with joy! I want that kind of faith. I have some of it. I want more! I need more!" What a great example of what can happen when we open our mind and begin searching for truth in the Holy Scriptures!!!

**WESLEY HEIRS PRESENTS
FALL RETREAT
“CELEBRATE LIFE, LOVE,
AND LAUGHTER”
OCTOBER 14-15, 2014
Blue Lake**

Registration is at 10:00, then unpack, and session one at 11:30. ARRIVE EARLY! Check if Special Diet Required /Wheelchairs are available & furnished

Ann Johnson’s team will bring snacks for the snack table. There is always food for dieters and those with diabetes. If interested in bringing your favorite goodies, contact Ann at (334) 446-3086 or email at bruceann103@comcast.net. These snacks help keep those at the game tables full of energy because they can stay at their games way into the night. There is always punch and coffee present. The Executive Committee meets in upstairs Conference Room at 2pm. Choir practice will be on Tuesday and the time will be announced by Albert Hunt. Door prizes to be given out by Myrt, but please remember to help her out by bringing at least one prize, wrapped or bagged for the drawings. Please, nothing over \$10.00.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: The Rev. Rurel Ausley will preach the Memorial Service sermon and will visit with us Tuesday evening for discussion of issues facing the Church.

Prior to breakfast on the 15th, Holy Communion will be observed with The Rev. and Mrs. Ed Britton leading this service.

SOME ARE COMING ON MONDAY AFTERNOON!

Wesley Heirs who wish join each other on Monday evening plan to either meet at the Gator Café in Baker, FL or go together from Blue Lake after checking in. We try to get to Baker around 5:30. This is great fun and fellowship. If you have another place you wish to eat, that will be alright, too. The Gator Café does have good seafood. Register with the Maddox’s but pay Blue Lake, direct per room rate for single (\$27.50)or double (13.75/person) for one night. You will be responsible for meals as none are served by Blue Lake until noon Tuesday on Tuesday.

Wesley Heirs Announces Scholarships

Five scholarships to attend the Fall meeting of Wesley Heirs are available for anyone requiring financial assistance to attend. Contact Joyce or Gerald Maddox at (334) 585-5071 for these scholarships and please provide them a registration form to assure registration is complete.

**CLIP and MAIL
REGISTRATION FEE **TODAY****

**WESLEY HEIRS
REGISTRATION FORM
Registration Deadline: Oct. 3rd.**

Name (s) _____
Address _____
City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

RATES: Double Occupancy=\$54.00/person or \$108.00/couple

Single Occupancy = \$66.00/person

Campers = \$33.00 for meals/person plus \$8.00/person registration Fee or total \$41.00/person.

In addition campsite charges paid directly to Blue Lake. Meals not eaten, deducted. One-Day Stay, (No Overnight) \$4.00, Registration Fee with meals in addition, based on number of meals eaten.

Registrar to assign same gender roommates if requested with double occupancy rate.

- Assign Same Gender Roommate
- Single Occupancy Requested
- Double Occupancy Requested, Rooming With Spouse
- Camper Registration
- Check if downstairs room required.
- Check if Wheelchair Required

DIABETIC YES [] NO []

Reserve Room, 03/11/2013—Pay Blue Lake Directly for Charges, Not Wesley Heirs

Please make checks payable to: **WESLEY HEIRS**

Send registration with payment to:

Wesley Heirs
JOYCE & GERALD MADDUX
919 County Road 115
Abbeville, AL 36310-6135
(334) 585-5071
ejmaddox2@gmail.com

- Monday night stay
- Reservations/Monday Night Call -Maddox by Friday Morning, October 10th.

TREASURER'S REPORT by William E. Calhoun, Treasurer Spring Meeting
Offering for camps amounted to \$1,250.00 that was divided equally:

Sunshine Camp \$625.00
Discovery Camp \$625.00

Wesley Heirs donated \$1,000.00 to the Blue Roof Fund

Another \$100.00 went to the Wesley Heirs Trust Fund

The Fall offering will go into the General Fund of Wesley Heirs. As a result of the Fall offerings, Wesley Heirs carries a balance that enables us to absorb any increases in Blue Lake's charges and offer scholarships. We are not increasing cost to our members.

THANKS GO TO TRACI

Wesley Heirs extends its thanks and appreciation to Traci Herndon at Conference HQ for her devotion and untiring service in facilitating communications among approximately 400 retirees, some scattered over the U.S. Keeping these lines of communication open is not easy and we do appreciate her devotion to assisting us. She sends information to the Districts, the Bishop, via general emails and even snail mails to those who do not have computer service. We have officially made her an honorary member of Wesley Heirs! Please let Myrt Carr know if you fail to receive communications for this may mean Traci does not have your most recent contact information. Emails that have bounced at the conference level are: Albert Hunt, Jr; Aida Lea Walker Barrera-Segura; Clara Turner; Betty Spencer (in assisted living); Johnnie Peters; Evon Belflower; Frank McClendon; Jimmie Spikes; John Brannon; Jesse Lough, III; Coyt Jordan, Jr; Pamela Ross; R.C., Warren; Thomas Brown; and Richard Brooks. Send your corrected email address and the conference database will be updated.

GOOD NEWS

Celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary, his two surgeries, retirement a second time, but still visiting multiple families; Jean and Roy Sublette still found time and energy to take on an Alaskan cruise plus an inland trip into Alaska with their retired daughter and son-in-law. Yes, the same daughter they visited in India. Roy remains active and is writing his experiences in the ministry scanning over 62 years. He and Jean did retire from serving as Registrars for Wesley Heirs after many years of faithful service. Thanks for a job well done!

Mary and Fred Zobel are serving the Little Stone Church on Mackinac Island, Michigan, for the summer season, which will end on Oct. 5th when they depart home to Pensacola. They reported hoping to see some fellow friends while resting there, but will leave in Dec. for Tucson, Arizona, until April. These are two busy retirees living in their RV's when not helping by serving churches. They were thrilled to live in a parsonage while in Michigan, however. We extend to them an invitation to visit and fellowship with the Wesley Heirs since they will be in our area.

Wesley Heirs welcomes a new Director for Blue Lake Camp, Steve Lewandowski and family will be moving into the parsonage as he begins his work at the Camp on September 15, 2014. We look forward to meeting and hearing his ideas and plans at our meeting.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Martha Hyles	Mary Ann Ross	Sylvia Chandler
Langdon Garrison	Bonnie Chandler	Claire Spencer
Lavada Renfroe	Cliff Abbott	Joan Riddlebarger
Roy Gamblin	Laura Ford	Sue Jones
Kathleen Farrow	James Farrow	Ann Calhoun
Bill Calhoun	Ed Deabler	Grant Parker
Nathan Elliott	Connie Bennett	

REMEMBERING OTHERS

If you know of someone unable to attend the meeting due to illness or infirmity, please bring stamped appropriate cards so we each may sign to let them know our love and thoughts are with them. Ann Calhoun to gather the cards after the signing is complete. You may leave the cards on tables in the Fellowship room (TV room) during the meeting to assure everyone gets to sign. It is helpful to bring a pen and leave it on the card.

Let someone know if you require a ride to the Fall Retreat! Contact information on next page.

FAMILIES ATTENDING MEMORIAL SERVICE

If coming for one day or for the service, only, breakfast cost is \$6.50 per person and lunch cost is \$8.00 per person. Please make reservations on the Registration Form and send to the Sublette's.

DID YOU KNOW?

Grave markers for United Methodist Clergy can be purchased from Cokesbury if not already provided to the family by the Commission on Archives and History. Cost is \$114.95, including shipping. This service was not available, free, to families until recent years.

INVITATION TO SURVIVING SPOUSES

Every surviving spouse is invited to attend the Fall Meeting as guest of Wesley Heirs as your spouse is being remembered in the Memorial Service on Wednesday at 10:15. This includes cost of room and meals for both Tuesday and Wednesday activities. Each person being remembered will be honored during the service. Family members and friends at welcome to come with the spouses at their own expense. All planning to attend must complete the Registration Form and submit these to the Registrars as indicated on page 2.

SPECIAL INVITATION TO 2014 RETIREES

When this Conference ministers retire, they and their spouses automatically join an illustrious group of fellow ministers and spouses known as the Wesley Heirs. This organization asks very little from each new retiree, but strive to impart a loving and warm welcome to the group. Some feel themselves to be too young to mix with this group, but they will find that age is not important here. The mission of Wesley Heirs is to celebrate LIFE, LOVE, AND LAUGHTER. Plenty of each can be found and felt during their bi-annual retreats at Blue Lake Camp. One minister noted that he had never felt so much love in one place before. Yes, they like to tease, tell old war stories, some on themselves and some on friends, but it is all done with love and acceptance.

SPRING MEETING

The Wesley Heirs Spring Meeting will be March 10 – 11, 2015 at Blue Lake. Mark your calendar.



Alabama-West Florida Conference
 4719 Woodmere Blvd
 Montgomery, AL 36106

**LET US HEAR YOUR
 ADVENTURE
 STORIES OR
 CONCERNS**
 Send them to
 myrticecarr@att.net



Myrtice Carr, Editor.
454 Eaton Road
Birmingham, Al 35242

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2014

2014 Servant Leadership Roster

- Presidents: Ed Sells 251-344-2946
- Vice Pres: Dean & Walter Albritton 334-567-3290
- Vice Pres.: Bobbie & Jim Dannelly
- Secretary: Doug and Nelda Williams 251-626-7496
- Treasurer: Bill and Ann Calhoun 251-990-2662
- Registrars: Joyce and Gerald Maddox 334-585-5071
- Sunshine Camp: Betty Blackwell
- Newsletter Editor: Myrtice Carr 205-991-7858
- Music Director: Albert Hunt 334-514-9805
- Accompanist, Judy Hust 251-943-8354
- Past Presidents:
 Monette and Charles Walker 850-939-7417
 Gaynell and Doug Newton 850-897-2363
 Jody and Ed Cotton 850-994-5499

Call one of the Executive Board Members nearest to you if you require help in obtaining transportation to Wesley Heirs meetings. We like to see everyone's shining faces!

THOSE TO BE REMEMBERED

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Lowell Edgar Hale | August, 2014 |
| James (Jim) Perry | August 17, 2014 |
| Margie Armstrong Ham (Ralph) | July 13, 2014 |
| Lorrie Nichols (Freddie) | July 11, 2014 |
| C. A. (Bert) "Weiss | June 23, 2014 |
| Clarence Burrell | June 12, 2014 |
| Betty Sells (Ed) | June 11, 2014 |
| Hampton Kicklighter | June 09, 2014 |
| Robert Hendricks | June 07,m 2014 |
| J. Joel Jones | May 31, 2014 |
| Bishop James Lloyd Knox | April 13, 2014 |
| Rachel Cole Mathison (Ovie) | April 10, 2014 |
| Fred Fuller | April 07, 2014 |
| Rex M. Mixson | March 16,m 2014 |
| Sue Mills Andrews (Ellis L.) | February 18, 2014 |
| Glan L. Pugh | March 05, 2014 |
| Sue Mills Andrews (Ellis) | February 18, 2014 |
| Earsy Mae Cruthchfiled (William) | November 18, 2013 |
| Rachel N. Jones (James) | October 18, 2013 |

These are Wesley Heirs who have passed away since our last meeting. The list will be updated through September for the Memorial Service.

Family and friends are invited to attend the memorial service to support spouses. Please register using the form on page 2 and pay Blue Lake for meals.