



## Alabama-West Florida Conference

# Wesley Heirs

## Fall 2019 Newsletter

### *Marking Time*

Greetings Fellow Retired Status Ministers!

I call you that because we aren't retired from ministry and work, as we all continue in ministry, even though some don't receive any more checks for our work. A lot of us continue to answer the call to serve as pastors in churches who have a need. In any case, we all have reached at least the very upper limits of middle age (I'm told middle age ends at 80). Thus, we are all Wesley Heirs! A very special welcome to all those who received retired status at Annual Conference!!! Wesley Heirs is an organization for ministers and spouses who served or reside in the AWF Conference. This includes ordained, local, diaconal, etc. "If your heart is as my heart, then place your hand in my hand" and together we will continue to serve our awesome God!

Wesley Heirs is where we can find love, fellowship, mutual support and serve as we are able. In addition to eating a meal together at Annual Conference, we gather at Blue Lake the 2nd Tuesday-Wednesday in March and October from 10AM on Tuesday - noon dinner on Wednesday. We worship and sing together, partake in Holy Communion, have a "Memorial Celebration Service" for all those who have departed this life since our last gathering, have a program on Tuesday evenings, and have guest speakers to keep us up to date about what's happening in our church as well as information to help get us through the remaining years on this side. This can also be very helpful to your heirs. If you have difficulty driving or just getting around, invite a child, grandchild, or a friend to come with you. ALL are welcome! The hall is long between where we sleep and where we eat, and some of us walk a lot better when pushing a wheelchair. There are a few wheelchairs at the lodge you may use or bring one with you.

Oh Yeah! EAT! We Wesley Heirs do enjoy eating. Blue Lake cooks do a great job for us with wonderful meals starting at noon Tuesday through noon Wednesday; 4 meals! But that isn't enough, so there is a snack table available 24 hours. We have members who still bake cakes, make cookies, candy, peanut brittle and more. Those of us who never became accomplished cooks or bakers bring other snacks such as fruit. While snacking and fellowshiping we bring games to play, so bring your favorite along. Some of us find that 26 hours is not enough time together, so we come Monday afternoon. Supper is on your own, but several meet at 5PM at "The Gator Cafe" in Baker, FL.

My,my,my! How time has flown! Suddenly it's September. That means next month is October and time for our Wesley Heirs gathering at Blue Lake. I have not turned on my electric fan this summer as the pages on my calendar have been flipping so fast, it has kept me cool, so it's now time to look elsewhere in this newsletter and get registered to join us October 8-9. Consider arriving early and join us Monday night, October 7 for food, fellowship and games.

Brent Holmes (many will remember as a member of the Conference Youth Council), a singer and songwriter of note, is coming to provide our entertainment Tuesday night. I hope you will join us for a great time of love and fellowship! You'll leave refreshed and ready for more ministry!

Mark Stewart, President

**See you at Blue Lake!!!!**

### *Brent Holmes*

Brent Holmes is a native of Brundidge, AL and a Huntingdon College graduate. A life-long Methodist, he has worked in the oil fields, the fisheries, and disasters with FEMA. Brent's true calling is as a singer/songwriter. He is one of the most popular children's recording artists in the country, having produced over a dozen CD's and videos of songs for children. His songs have been recorded and become hits for several artists, and he has also written and published "Uncle Handsome's Redneck Poetry". We are blessed and grateful to have Brent join us Tuesday night, October 8, 2019 for our entertainment. (You are welcome to invite family and friends to attend this free event.)



## Fall Retreat Schedule

### Monday, October 7

5:00 Supper (The Gator Café in Baker, AL)  
7:00 Fellowship & Games

### Tuesday, October 8

8:30 Breakfast  
10:00 Registration  
11:15 Hymn Sing  
11:30 Gathering  
12:00 Lunch/Dinner  
1:00 Executive Committee Meeting  
5:00 Choir Practice (all are welcome)  
5:30 Supper  
6:30 Program-Brent Holmes

### Wednesday, October 9

8:00 Holy Communion-Rev. Sam Parkes  
8:30 Breakfast  
10:30 Memorial Celebration Service-Rev. Alecia Curtis Glaize  
12:00 Lunch/Dinner

## Wesley Heirs Executive Board

President: Mark Stewart  
(615) 319-4962; austew@aol.com

Co-President: Monette Walker  
(850) 865-8101; monette\_charles@yahoo.com

Secretary: Paula Bonner  
(334) 385-3384; PaulaMarie49@aol.com

Treasurers: Ed & Betty Britton  
(334) 858-6986; bettyedbritton@yahoo.com

Registrars: Curtis & Dianne Smith  
(251) 675-7835; curtisanddianne@gmail.com

Sunshine Camp: Betty Blackwell  
(334) 410-0619; Blackwell0619@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Julia Fitzpatrick  
(281) 635-6548; jazzyj.fitz@gmail.com

Music Director: Julia Fitzpatrick  
(281) 635-6548; jazzyj.fitz@gmail.com

Accompanist: Glenda Bryan  
(334) 702-4275; (334) 701-7265 (cell)

Past Presidents: Jim & Bobbie Dannelly  
(334) 584-7514; jpdcdj@yahoo.com

Past Co-Presidents: Walter & Dean Albritton  
(334) 567-3290; walteralbritton7@gmail.com

## REGISTRATION FORM

(Deadline is September 24, 2019)

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### RATES:

Double Occupancy=\$45/person; \$90/couple

Single Occupancy=\$60/person

Campers=\$31 for meals/person. In addition, campsite charges are paid directly to WESLEY HEIRS. (Meals not eaten are deducted.)

Monday Night=\$31 plus \$2 ground fee/person.

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

Assign same gender roommate

Single Occupancy requested

Double Occupancy requested

Camper registration

Check if downstairs room required

Check if upstairs rooms with queen bed preferred

Check if wheelchair required

Special Diet

DIABETIC YES ( ) NO ( )

Please make retreat checks payable to WESLEY HEIRS. Show breakdown here & on check. Send registration with payment to:

WESLEY HEIRS  
DIANNE & CURTIS SMITH  
POST OFFICE BOX 400  
CREOLA, AL 36525  
(251) 675-7835  
[curtisanddianne@gmail.com](mailto:curtisanddianne@gmail.com)

Registering Scholarship Recipient (provide name & contact information above)

Spouses of Memorial Celebration are guests of the Wesley Heirs, but please register.

## Spotlight on Sunshine Camp

Every spring the Wesley Heirs provide support to Sunshine Camp. Sunshine Camp is a weekend retreat for adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities. The camp is held in the spring and fall; Spring camp designated for the southern part of the conference, and Fall camp designated for the northern part of the conference. In addition to caring volunteers, Sunshine Camp employs two nurses for each weekend. The following is an excerpt from a letter sent to the Wesley Heirs:

I thank God for your generosity to Sunshine Camp. The funds provided by Wesley Heirs are used to fund camperships for those persons who are unable to pay the registration fee of \$75. There were over 10 campers who utilized camperships for Spring and Fall 2018 camps. On behalf of the Sunshine Camp Board of Directors, I thank you for your prayers and financial gifts to this ministry. If you feel so led, talk to church groups and other organizations about financial support for the camp. If you would like for someone to come and speak to a group in your church about Sunshine Camp, please contact Laura Carpenter, Sunshine Camp Registrar at (334) 868-1118 or [lcarpent@aum.edu](mailto:lcarpent@aum.edu).

### Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance at ending of spring meeting	\$1,807.91
Deposits from Registration & Offering	2,018.00
TOTAL	\$3,825.91
Disbursements:	
Blue Lake assembly for fall registration	\$250.00
Sean Dietrick Honorarium (program)	300.00
Sunshine Camp	287.50
Discovery Camp	287.50
Fay Tisdale (check cashed)	75.00
Blue Lake United Methodist Assembly	1,504.90
Invoice for fall meeting	TOTAL \$2,704.90
Bank Balance 08/31/19	TOTAL \$1,121.01

### Note Address Change

Doug Newton  
1555 Taylor Road, Box C 10  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
(850) 830-7022

### About Your Editor

I'm Julia Fitzpatrick, and I am the Newsletter Editor. All of my life I have been involved in the church, mostly in music ministry and worship ministry. However, I also have vast experience in newsletter and yearbook editing. In October 2018 I was named an Honorary Wesley Heir as well as the Music Director for the group. In January 2019 I took over the responsibility for the newsletter. I am excited to serve with you! If you know of any address/phone/email changes to members, please let me know. Also, if you know of anyone in our area that could provide entertainment, please let me know.

### We Remember

**Gaynell G. Newton (Doug)** March 5, 2019  
**Frances T. Baxter (Zedoc)** March 17, 2019  
**Rev. Danny Doss, RE** March 28, 2019  
**Carolyn L. Gaither (Billy)** April 8, 2019  
**Julie B. Sellers (Ennis)** April 8, 2019  
**Rev. W. Carol Herndon, RE** April 9, 2019  
**Nell F. Sims (W. Robbins)** May 1, 2019  
**Rev. Jack P. Davis, RL** May 15, 2019  
**Ardis L. "Tootsie" Kemper (Harry)** May 19, 2019  
**Rev. Joseph W. Gissendanner, RL** May 24, 2019  
**Claire A. Spencer (Lester)** May 26, 2019  
**Rev. Kenneth "Buck" Hudgens, PL** June 12, 2019  
**Rev. Moon Hee Choi, RE** July 7, 2019  
**Rev. A. Roderick Curry, Jr., RA** July 16, 2019  
**Rev. Jerry L. Glover, RL** July 20, 2019  
**Karen M. Robinson (Michael)** August 4, 2019  
**Rev. Martha G. Baxter RL (Henry)** August 16, 2019  
**Sandra Lee Rose (Edwin)** August 21, 2019  
**Shirley "Inez" McCain (Freddie)** September 14, 2019

These Wesley Heirs will be remembered during the Memorial Celebration Service on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 10:30 AM. Family and friends are invited to attend the Service as guests of the Wesley Heirs, but must register using the Registration Form.

## SAVE THESE DATES

### SPRING 2020 RETREAT

### MARCH 10-11

### FALL 2020 RETREAT

### OCTOBER 13-14

### **Rev. Sam Parkes**



The Rev. Dr. Sam Parkes serves as the Senior Pastor with Mary Esther United Methodist Church in Mary Esther, FL. Sam received his MDiv from Candler School of Theology in 1998 and graduated in 2016 from the University of Toronto with a ThD in Homiletics. In addition to his work with MEUMC, he teaches preaching in the AWF Local Pastors Licensing School, The Alabama Course of Study, and in the School for Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. He currently leads the new Preaching Excellence Team of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference which seeks to provide outstanding programming in preaching for clergy and laity of the conference. He has been named the Director of Worship for the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference at Lake Junaluska, NC next July. Sam has two fine teenage children - Will, 16, and Harper, 13 - along with two cats and a dog. He also loves Blue Lake and is delighted to share this time with you!

### **Rev. Alecia Curtis Glaize**



Rev. Alecia Curtis Glaize is a Deacon (in Full Connection) in the Alabama-West Florida Conference currently serving as Director of the Alabama Course of Study (for educating part-time local UM pastors). Alecia serves as the Hurricane Michael Program Director as part of the AWF Disaster Response Team. Alecia grew up in Glenwood, AL. She received her BA from Huntingdon College and her MA in Religious Education from The School of Theology at Claremont (California). Her first job was working as a Blue Lake Camp Counselor where Mark Stewart was her boss. Alecia was the first Executive Director of Escambia County Habitat for Humanity. She lives in Dothan, AL with her husband Ed (who is the Dothan District Superintendent), and their 3 dogs. Their daughter, Anna Grace, is a candidate for ministry in the AWF Conference, presently in her 2nd year of seminary at Yale Divinity School.

***“Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God, and I care not whether they be clergymen or laymen, they alone will shake the gates of Hell and set up the kingdom of Heaven upon Earth.” – John Wesley***