



The Methodist Messenger
OCTOBER 2019
Whiteville United Methodist Church



Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Communion Service - 6:00 p.m.

THE 2019 HOMECOMING SUNDAY
AT WHITEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 13

Second Sunday of October (as Usual)

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9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Rev. J. Alexander Maultsby III Preaching

11:15 a.m. (or so) Homecoming Feast in the Fellowship Hall

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Come one, come all, to the 2019 Homecoming!

Please invite family and friends to join us.

Invitational postcards are available in the Church Office for your use.

A BILLBOARD FOR "UNIFY COLUMBUS"

The last several months in Columbus County have been politically and socially restless, even divisive. Divisiveness was aggravated by the months required to settle last fall's election of the sheriff and by the uninhibited, tell-it-like-you-feel-it use of social media by some in our county. In response, the Unify Columbus! effort, led by Dr. Dalton Dockery (County Extension Director) and several area ministers, has attempted to be a force for unity, and for the common good, in our county.

On July 12, the Radio Ministry Fund Committee (composed of Beverly Justice, Wayne Overcash, and the pastor) met, discussed, and agreed to the Radio Ministry Fund covering the cost of a one-year billboard, with the following message:

UNIFY COLUMBUS

In agreement...thanksgiving.

In disagreement...respect.

Always...mercy.

The cost will total \$2,250: \$450 for production plus \$1,800 for rental. (This total cost is less than what had been reported earlier. The pastor did not realize that the quoted \$2,250 included the cost of production.) Immediately after the UNIFY COLUMBUS! billboard is completed -- on October 1, on US 701S, at Golf Course Road -- by Myrtle Beach Outdoor, letters will be written by the pastor and sent to several local churches to invite them to help pay for this project. All resulting donations will be deposited in the Radio Ministry Fund.

How is it possible to use dollars from Radio Ministry Fund to pay for a billboard in Columbus County? Glad you asked.

The Radio Ministry Fund has a constituting document entitled "A Resolution of the Charge Conference of Whiteville United Methodist Church." It was adopted on April 3, 1990, and signed by William I. Jackson and Carol S. Nickolaus. The document dedicates the Fund, generally but not exclusively, to supporting outreach ministries of the Whiteville Church -- by paying for media to get the church's message out to the larger community and by specifying that excess funds can support the Pastor's Discretionary Fund ministry. The Radio Ministry Fund Committee reasoned that the one-year funding of a billboard, which is dedicated to promoting the common good in Columbus County, is consistent with the Fund's constituting purpose. The Church Council agreed on the evening of July 15.

Now, when you are traveling south on US 701 into Whiteville, look up near Golf Course Road, and see:

UNIFY COLUMBUS

In agreement...thanksgiving/In disagreement...respect/Always...mercy.

Then, let's live up to what the billboard says and encourage others to do the same.

In Christ, Pastor Paul

(This is a revised version of an earlier statement approved by Beverly Justice, Wayne Overcash, and the pastor, and then placed before the Church Council.)