



Returning to Route 66

Lately, I have been following the old Route 66 on the various YouTube posts. Folks are fascinated in trying to follow the entire route from Chicago, Illinois, to Santa Monica, California. It's construction began in 1926 and concluded in 1937, with 2448 miles weaving through eight states. The problem in following the complete route today is the fact Route 66 officially does not exist anymore; parts of the route are gone. These nostalgic trekkers find abandoned motels, restaurants, and roadside attractions. The arrival of the interstate system allowed motorists to whiz by the little towns on a newly paved route.

I had a similar experience the other year when a major accident occurred on I-65. I took Highway 31 to Birmingham. Along the way, I viewed the ruins of old cinder block motels and restaurants. Before I-65, everyone traveled Highway 31 which is often called "The Old Birmingham Highway" now.

Is the church becoming another discarded pathway? Recent surveys reveal that 25% of the US population attends church on a regular basis (including Jewish, Catholic and Protestant); compared to 50% in the year 1950. Some say, "The church never declined it just changed. Now, folks attend church via televised worship services and internet streaming."

Around the year 2030, a resurgence of church attendance is expected with a massive sweep of retirement for Baby Boomers. They left the church for their careers and other interests, but without the 40 to 60 hour work week they will entertain the thought of returning to the church of their childhood.

"And let us consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds. Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25) The good news is the church is not a building. The church is an assembly of those who believe the Risen Lord Jesus is their Savior.

I know that when "we gather" the Holy Spirit moves in a mighty way that creates a greater sense of spiritual awareness among the assembly. The congregational hymns, the choir anthem, and the sermon will speak to a person's soul. The old way is still the more effective way of attaining spiritual renewal. My prayer is that the same spirit of those travelers of the forgotten Route 66 will seize the hearts of many in our society today to return to the church. Get your kicks on Route 66. Get your soul ready for the Rapture Route to Heaven in church.

Think Eternal and Tend to Your Soul.....Rev Ed

Thanks for a Great Homecoming 2019

We appreciate all those who made Homecoming 2019 an enjoyable and inspirational occasion. It was great to see two college roommates reunited: Dr. George Mathison and Reverend Jimmie Spikes. George thought our music for the service was wonderful. He said, "Ed, let Joe, Susan and all the choir members know how I was blessed by their music."

Brundidge United Methodist Church has a great heritage of faith that continues to influence the structure of families to provide hope and strength for future generations. I am so thankful that the Lord has brought the Shirley family to Brundidge to surround us with a loving, affirmative congregation. We have matured in our faith and gained greater insight into our precious relationship with Jesus.

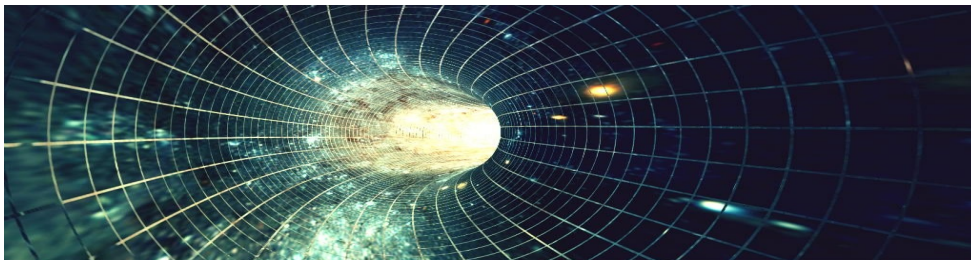
Brundidge UMC on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage



The Alabama Historical Commission approved Brundidge United Methodist Church, Clay Hill Methodist Church, and Williams Chapel United Methodist Church among their prestigious listings of historic, architectural, and archaeological landmarks. This is an honorary designation identifying these landmarks are worthy of both recognition and preservation.

We appreciate the thorough time-intensive research by Kathy Sauer. She prepared all required materials for the application process.

Does anybody know who these people are in this picture? When did they appear at the church wearing this interesting garb? They look like "time travelers" to me.



But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. 2 Peter 3:8

All Saints Day Sunday Service November 3, 2019, 11 a.m.

from www.umc.org website

All Saints Day is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history, what United Methodists call the tradition of the church. From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists of not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. For example, in Hebrews 12 the author encourages Christians to remember that a “great cloud of witnesses” surrounds us encouraging us, cheering us on.

Charles Wesley, John’s brother, picks up on this theme in his hymn that appears in our United Methodist Hymnal as “Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above,” #709. In the first verse, he offers a wonderful image of the Church through the ages:

***Let saints on earth unite to sing, with those to glory gone,
for all the servants of our King in earth and heaven, are one.***

All saints day is November 1st, but we have this special service the Sunday following this date. Our congregation will acknowledge those church members who have preceded us to Heaven since the last All Saints Day service:

Homer Homann

Bill Jackson, Jr.

Louis “Lou” Silvestri

Charge Conference November 3, 6:30 p.m. at Troy FUMC

This will be a gathering of other churches in our area. Please make plans to attend so that Brundidge UMC will be well represented.

Your Letters to Those Unable to Attend Church Welcome

As Thanksgiving and Christmas approach, remember how encouraging and thoughtful it would be to send a holiday card to our shut-ins. Here is a portion of a letter of thanks sent to us from Donna Mencer:

Dear Agape Class and church family of Brundidge UMC,

I would like to write to ya’ll and say, “Thank you all for the lovely card you sent me wishing me well and hoping I get better soon. It is good to know that we are missed in class and at the church. I really appreciate the prayers as I continue to struggle with health issues, it is hard to get out of bed each day.”

With love your sister in Christ,

Donna Mencer 173 Sandy Lane Troy, AL 36081



Camp Stew—Get Your Orders In and Pick It Up Sunday, November 24th

Just \$10 a quart. Contact Don Renfro or call the church office (334) 735-3180. Remember to contribute the broth, meat and other ingredients for the cause. Have it all at the church by noon on Saturday, November 23rd. Thanks.



Saturday, December 7th

11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Enjoy the best buffet of the season sponsored by our United Methodist Women. Just \$8 per adult, \$4 for children, and \$8 for takeout. This event funds various mission programs.



Jensen Garrett- 2nd

Sue Fraley-3rd

David Adams-5th

Lomax Bryan-5th

Bobbi Jo Strother Davis-7th

Clay Barron-7th

Trevor Barron-7th

Joey Strother-8th

Betty Coppage— 9th

Mike Richards-11th

Maria Strother-11th

Jim Ramage-12th

Richard Hagan-13th

Lorraine Dunnum-13th

Michelle Tyson-14th

Max Copeland— 15th

Max Bundy-17th

Billy Hixon-18th

Hunter Keenan-18th

Reba Howard-18th

Hanna Hixon-20th

Adela McDowell-23rd

Wendy McDowell-23rd

Allyson Outlaw-25th

Alice Hudley-25th



IN MEMORY

In Memory of Liz Ann Harbuck

Jimmy & Johnnie Ramage— Prayer Cushions

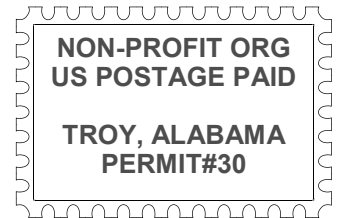
In Memory of Lorene Roberson

Barb Homann- Prayer Cushions

In Honor of Susie Hastie

Kate Taylor— Prayer Cushions

Brundidge United Methodist Church
140 North Main St.
Brundidge, AL 36010



Address Service Requested

Smiles From Mrs. Sara

- 1.) Where did the turtle fill up his gas tank?
- 2.) Why do sea gulls fly over the sea?
- 3.) What do you get when you cross a dog & a daisy?
- 4.) What happened when the frog's car broke down?
- 5.) What kind of sea food tastes great with peanut butter?



Genesis 21:6

Answers: 1.) At the Shell Station. 2.) Because if they flew over the bay they'd be called Bagels.
3.) A Collie Flower 4.) It had to be TOAD away. 5.) JELLY fish!