



2000



June 2001





BURNING OF THE MORTGAGE -- This picture at Gulfview United Methodist Church was made after the burning of the mortgage on the church -- 40 years ago! You may recognize some of the member. For instance, second from left on front row is Lee Sullivan, who served as police chief of Panama City Beach for 20 years. The tall lady standing in the middle on the second row is Johnnie Remsnyder, who manages the famed Thomas Donut and Snack Shop. The Rev. Linwood Lewis is the young man on left side of second row with coat and tie and wearing glasses. On second row, standing next to Johnnie on left is Rachel Wright, who works in the office at Frank Brown Park. There are many other people in the picture you probably know. See if you can find them. *Contributed photo.*

Gulfview United Methodist Church

232 Rose Lane, Panama City Beach, FL 32413

2000 Administrative Board, Other Officers and Committees

Chairperson of Administrative Board	Mike Kabaci
Vice-Chairperson of Administrative Board	Gary Salter
Secretary of Administrative Board	Faye Kabaci
Lay Leader	Glenn Bowron
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Faye Kabaci
Alternate Delegate to Annual Conference	Beverly Bowron
Chairperson of Trustees	Jack Hyde
Chairperson of Finance	Jack Smith
Chairperson of Staff Parish Relations Comm.	F.T. Pinson
Church Treasurer	Teresa Henson
Financial Secretary	Teresa Henson
Church Historian	Alison Simmons
Chairperson of Council on Ministries	Mary Foreman
Chairperson of Education/S.S Superintendent	Terry Seaborn
Chairperson of Missions	Linda Keith
Chairperson of Evangelism	Reva Brewer
Chairperson of Health & Welfare	O.B. Dowis
Chairperson of Worship	Barbara Johnson
Nursery Coordinator	Jackie Vaughn
Children's Coordinator	Teresa Henson
Youth Coordinator	Chris Depew
Adult Coordinator	Cindy Tucker
Older Adult Coordinator	Pauline Letlow
Coordinator of Communications	Duffie Chisholm
Membership Secretary	Sheila Rucks
Church Librarian	Jean Williams
Chairperson of Stewardship/Wills & Estate Planning	Gary Salter
Secretary of Nominations & Personnel Comm.	Faye Kabaci
Noah's Ark Representative	Robbie Martin
President of UMW	Nell Luckie
Children's Home Representative	Herbert Letlow

Members at Large of Administrative Board:

Gordon Simmons	Keith Wetzel	Mary Ruth Tucker
Jimmie Rucks	Joan DeLoach	J.D. Hill
Larry Pauley	Jeanette Clark	Sol Williams
Walter Ransdell		



BREEZES FROM GULFVIEW...



Vol. V Issue 8 February 2000 Jim Fillingim, Pastor

Revival Times at Gulfview

First, "Be Blessed" with the great music and preaching through the Holy Spirit as Dr. Bill Ury and Mr. Dick Barrett lead us during our **Winter Weekend Revival**, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 11-13.

Dr. Bill Ury, is a professor at Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. His studies included a year in the Holy Land at Mr. Zion in Jerusalem. In graduate school, he served as an Associate Pastor in a Chinese-American UMC in Chinatown, New York City.

His missionary parents moved to Taiwan, where Dr. Ury grew up. He and his wife Diane have 3 daughters and 1 son and are active in the Christ UMC in Jackson.

Our music team, along with Camille Salter, our pianist, includes Mr. Dick Barrett, who travelled for 27 years in music evangelism. He and Yudora live here and he is "interim" to the "interim" at First Baptist. You are invited to be a part of the Volunteer Choir (come Tuesday, Feb. 8th at 7 PM). He has sung for us on other occasions. Schedule is:

- Fri - Feb. 11
6:00 P.M. **Service**
(The Jubilee Class will have a supper for the team)
- Sat - Feb. 12
7:30 A.M. **Coffee & Fellowship**
8:00 A.M. **Service**
8:45 A.M. **Brunch-Served by**
Evangelism Committee
- 10:00 A.M. **Service**
6:00 P.M. **Service**
(Team with Seasons SS Class)
- Sun - Feb. 13
9:00 A.M. **Service**
6:00 P.M. **Service**
(Team with Fellowship SS Class)



Attend every service possible. These days will be great opportunities for you to invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. And, pray that God will move mightily in your own heart and life!

Secondly, this is not all... Later in February, our Marianna-Panama City District of the UMC is sponsoring a District Revival with Evangelist George Morris. And, Gulfview will participate in this effort as well. The theme is "For Such a Time as This." Susan Gift-Porter will provide the music.

District Revival Schedule - Feb. 20-22
Sun - Feb. 20 at 6:30 Panama City First UMC (We will not have Sunday night service here to support the District)

Mon - Feb. 21 at 10:00 Lynn Haven UMC

6:30 St. Andrew UMC
Tues - Feb. 22 10:00 Lynn Haven UMC
6:30 Forest Park UMC

(We will take the church van and carpool 45 minutes before each service starts. Come go with us.)

Praise God for these wonderful opportunities to be challenged to grow in our spiritual lives. Thank you for making the effort to attend.

See you Sunday. Blessings, *Jim Fillingim*

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind...

Acts 17-11

inside...

- Upcoming UMW Events and Children's Event
- Henderson Settlement Trip
- Cut Out and Save February Calendar
- Habitat for Humanity-PCB Project

- Page 2
- Page 2
- Page 3
- Page 4

Notes and Articles from our Members:

You Know We Need Revival When...

- *We do not love Him as we once did.
- *Earthly interests are more important to us than eternal ones.
- *We would rather watch TV than read the Bible.
- *We have little desire for prayer.
- *We would rather make money than give money.
- *We aren't seeing regular evidence of the supernatural power of God.
- *We are bored with worship.
- *We are more concerned about our careers than about the Kingdom of God and the salvation of the lost.
- *We seldom think thoughts of eternity.
- *We have ceased to weep and mourn and grieve over our sin.
- *We aren't exercising faith and believing God for the impossible.
- *We are blind to the extent of our need and don't think we need revival.

(Materials out of Good News from Vic and Evelyn Ralston)

Live Churches or Dead Churches...

LIVE CHURCHES always have a parking problem: dead churches don't. LIVE CHURCHES are always changing their methods: dead ones don't have to. LIVE CHURCHES have lots of noisy kids: dead churches are quiet. LIVE CHURCHES are constantly improving and planning for the future: dead churches worship the past. LIVE CHURCHES move out in faith: dead churches keep it all home. LIVE CHURCHES support missions heavily: dead churches keep it all at home. LIVE CHURCHES grow so fast they forget people's names: in dead churches you've known everyone's name for years. LIVE CHURCHES dream great dreams for God: dead churches hold the line.

(from Pete Brannon out of Frazer UMC)

Help is Needed

Pray about Serving:

...Pianist for the Tuesday morning "Old Time Favorites" Sing-a-long in the Fellowship Hall. Call Herbert Letlow (235-7969) if you can help.

... Children's Church - to assist Mr. Gary Salter with music and organization. Call Teresa Henson (235-1729).

...Youth S.S. Teacher and Assistant. Call Terry Seaborn (233-7646).

THE BISHOPS INVITATIONAL FOR CHRIST'S MEN 2000

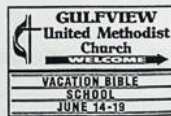
It's happening again! On June 24, at the Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center the Bishops Invitational will be led by Dr. Hal Brady of St. Luke's UMC in Columbus, GA, and Dr. John Ed Mathison of Frazer UMC in Montgomery, AL.

For information contact Chuck Christian, Pres of AL-W. Fl. Conference at 850-477-1037.

New Directional Sign

Our new church sign (lighted, 8x12) on Highway 98 (Back Beach Road) across from Wisteria may be installed by the end of next week (Feb. 5)

We may get to advertise our "Revival" as the first item. Thanks again, for your wonderful financial support.



Upcoming UMW Events

Your support is appreciated for two events sponsored by our United Methodist Women. The proceeds for these events are used for mission projects.

They are: **Spaghetti Lunch**, Sat., Feb. 4, 11:00-2:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are available from any member for \$5.00 and \$2.50 for children

under 12.

Annual Trash and Treasure Sale on Sat., March 4. Contact Mrs. Glenna Thomas (235-3519) for donations and large items can be brought to the Pilcher's Storage Buildings by calling Mr. O.B. Dowis (234-6827). Thank you in advance for your generosity and help.

Children's Event

A Children's Day at Blue Lake on Saturday, March 4 is planned. Teresa Henson, our Children's Coordinator, has announced a one-day outing for our children to Blue Lake Camp. This will be for Kindergarten through Elementary. Cost is \$7 per person. Call Teresa (235-1729) for more information.

Henderson Settlement Trip

A tentative date has been set for Sat., May 5 through Fri., May 12 for our church's mission trip to Eastern Kentucky. Our Missions Chairperson, Linda Keith, is currently getting the work list for us to consider. Be praying about going with the team this year. It's truly a joy and blessing.

June 2000

2000
Feb.
Sat
5
11:00-2:00 UMW
Spaghetti Dinner
Fellowship Hall



March 2000

Revival days are days of Refreshing (Acts 3:19); and, our minds were challenged and our souls refreshed as we heard Dr. Bill Ury, and in our District Revival, Dr. George Morris. With sins forgiven and consciences cleared, we can again move forward in our walk with God and our witness to the world!

Dr. Morris reminded us that faith is awakened by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). And faith and love will grow when you find these conditions:

- 1) Word of God is fervently Believed!
- 2) Word of God is fervently Proclaimed!
- 3) Word of God is fervently Lived!
- 4) Word of God is fervently Celebrated!

And these days of blessings and refreshing are not over! Another fine event is scheduled

for Fri-Sat, April 7-8, with Mrs. Margaret Kennedy. Mrs. Kennedy will lead our ladies in a Women's Advance hosted here at Gulfview. An outstanding Christian, she shares out of her life and walk with Christ. An active church leader in First Baptist Church of Dothan, Alabama, she brings a dynamic witness of God's goodness

and faithfulness. So, ladies, put this event on your calendar right now - and, invite your friends to join in this "time of refreshing"!

Praise God for His continued mercy and goodness. The phrase is right: God is Good, All the Time; and, All the Time, God is Good!

Be Blessed,

Bro. Jim

Sign and Parking Lot Update

Signs Unlimited has poured the concrete and "set the pole" and will place our sign (north side of 98 across from Wisteria) this week. You will be pleased to have our "needed" sign back out for our visitors to see.

Trustees are still at work on the parking lot paving. Our representative is seeing if the county will redo the drainage in front of the church (on Rose Lane), which will be necessary to prevent flooding. You will be kept apprised of this project as facts and details are worked out.

Thanks for your patience.



Nursery Improvements

Special thanks and appreciation to Joan Deloach for the time and beautiful work she did in the nursery. Joan called the church office and volunteered to finish painting the nursery, as well as hang pretty border for the children to enjoy. The change really gives a happy atmosphere to the nursery, so feel free to come and look at the work in progress going on in the nursery. And, again thanks Joan!

Gulfview Church has added an 800 phone number so you can call when you and your family are away in another city (like Gainesville, Houston, etc.). This will help us pray for you and make it easier for you to call (especially 8-12 Noon, Monday through Friday). The number is 1-877-485-3682.

We pray God's blessings on Edith and Cleveland White who have moved to Quail Ridge Park, 1601 Harper, Northport, AL. 35476

GULFVIEW
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Exit 'L' off Hwy 98 Laguna Beach
 Sunday Worship
 9:00 AM & 6 PM
 Sunday School
 10:15 AM
 Broadcast on 1290 AM
 Welcome "Snowbirds"
 "Come And Be Blessed"
 At The Beach, West of the "Y"
 232 Rose Lane, Laguna Beach
234-2889



*Cindy Tucker, our Young Adult Coordinator, is planning a family campout for us at Pine Log State Forest on March 30 and 31st. Please call her at 230-1642 for more information and to make your reservation.

*Bro. Jim will go visit Glen and Hazel Vaughan this Tuesday in Houston, Texas. If you would like to send a note or card to them by Bro. Jim, please give it to him by Monday.

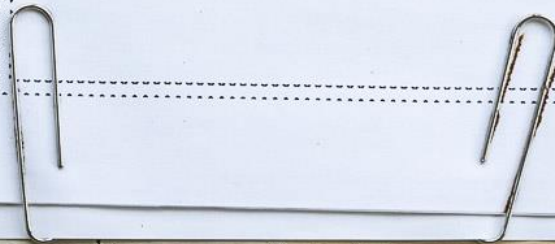
*There will be a dedication of the Habitat Home at 345 Twin Lakes Drive this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. Everyone is invited.

June 2000

*Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say
Rejoice!*



*And they shall praise him, and put him to death,
and the third day he shall rise again. Luke 24:7*



Easter in the Nursery



June 2000

GRACE RUSSELL

A Woman Of Distinction

Hope In My Heart

*Of all the thoughts my mind does think,
when standing at the kitchen sink,*

*The ones which most enrich my soul,
and touch my heart and make it whole*

*Are those which come in deepest prayer
to make me sure that God is there,*

*And that whatever life may bring,
he'll take my heart and make it sing!*

Reprinted from *Rings and Things*
Thoughts of a Wife And Mother by Grace Russell

It's not often you meet a woman that has given so much of her life to help others. But, Grace Russell is such a person.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Grace grew up in Humboldt where her family operated a box and basket factory. After

graduating from Humboldt High School she attended Lambuth College in Jackson where she met her husband, Hank. She later graduated with a degree in art from Southern Methodist University.

She has dedicated her life to serving, in her words, "behind" her minister husband at churches in Texas, Tennessee and Kentucky. She taught Sunday School and Bible studies, and worked with women and children's group. During the 1964-65 school year she taught art and English at Dyersburg High School.

She has been an active member of United Methodist Women and a number of other religious affiliated and community service organizations. Grace and her husband have traveled extensively at home and abroad. One of her books of poetry titled *How I See England* embodies their journey to that country. At present she has additional



manuscripts that have yet to be published.

With her varied and rich life experiences she wrote two other books, *Rings and Things* and *Hope In My Heart*. Both publications offer the reader the opportunity to examine various aspects of life, some complex, some everyday, routine tasks. Coupled with wisdom and deep religious convictions she offers her interpretation of God's will through individual prayers. For example, subjects covered range from technological triumphs to the significance of self esteem. A realization that God, love and friends are the real values in life inspire Grace to write. ♦



"DONUT" KING" HONORED -- Mike Thomas holds the plaque presented to him by the Gulfview United Methodist Church last week. Thomas, a city councilman, is the owner of Thomas Donut and Snack Shop and the restaurant provides doughnuts to Gulfview members between services on Sunday. Left to right above are: Rev. Jim Fillingim, pastor of Gulfview Methodist; Thomas; Thomas; Ferrell Pinson, chairman of the committee to honor Thomas, and J. D. Gray. The presentation to the "Donut King" was made at Thomas Donuts on Front Beach Road. Photo by Paul Cox.



Mrs. Margaret Kennedy will lead our ladies in a wonderful Women's Conference next weekend, April 7-8. You will be blessed by her sharing and teaching. Her husband of 23 years died with cancer. They have 2 children and 2 grandchildren and now she has married G. Ross Kennedy.

The sessions are as follows:
Friday, April 7 at 7 PM
Saturday, April 8 at 10 AM
2000

April 8, 2000

Pancake Breakfast

Come next Saturday (before the Women's Conference) to our Pancake Breakfast served by the Jubilee S.S. Class from 8:00-9:30. The proceeds from this event will go to the Henderson Settlement Work Team for their upcoming trip on April 29th. Tickets are \$4 and children 10 and under eat free.

Women's Conference
 Theme "In These Jars of Clay"
 Friday - April 7 at 7:00 P.M.
 Saturday - April 8 at 10:00 A.M.
 Speaker: Margaret Kennedy from Dothan, Alabama
and
Jubilee's Pancake Breakfast for Missions!
 All proceeds go to fund Mission Work Team for Henderson Settlement trip. Breakfast on
 Saturday, April 8 from 8:00-9:30 A.M. Adults \$4.00, Children under 10 are Free!
 Tickets are available through members of Jubilee S.S. class and the church office.

*The Communion Offering today will go to the **Churchwide Appeal for Flood Recovery in Mozambique and Neighboring Countries**, through UMCOR. They have estimated 2 million people have been affected by the floods. They are homeless, have lost loved ones, or desperately need food, water, medicine or other assistance. Thank you for your generosity in giving.

Welcome to Bro. Jim and Kay's second grandson, **Garrett Trent Springs**, born Tuesday, May 23 in Foley, Alabama. Garrett weighed 8 lbs. and is 20 inches long...and almost ready to help his granddaddy "pick tomatoes"! Thanks for your prayers for Laurel during this time.

*The Jubilee S.S. Class is sponsoring a **Pancake Breakfast** this Saturday with proceeds going for the Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement the end of this month. The price of a ticket is \$4 (children 6 yrs. and under eat free!) and tickets can be purchased from any Jubilee member. Come, invite your neighbors and have a great breakfast while supporting this wonderful mission project.

*The flowers on the altar are given by the Elby Rucks family in loving memory of Helen Rucks.

*Next Sunday, April 18, we will have a Dedication Service for our Mission Work Team going to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY. Monies have already been sent to purchase the necessary supplies for the team. Be in prayer for safety and a fruitful week "in those hollers"!

*There will be an **Older Adult Assembly** at Blue Lake on May 10th-13th. A Brochure is on the Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall outlining this event. Please see Dot Whitehill if you are interested in attending this worthwhile assembly.

*A special "thanks" to Shannon Parker for coordinating the Children's Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday. Several parents expressed their gratitude for the Church providing this, the Children's Choir and Children's Church for their little ones! Thanks to those serving our children.

*Welcome to "Clear Voice" tonight at our evening service. They are local women with a wonderful music ministry. A love offering will be received. Be sure to invite a friend and be blessed! You can visit their website at www.clear-voice.com

"Dear Friends, I always thought I belonged to the greatest church, but now I know I do. Thanks to the men and women who helped me move from my condo at Pinnacle Port to my new apartment at St. Andrews Towers. I could not have gotten through moving without the help and prayers of all my friends. Praise the Lord! I have been truly blessed. I am enjoying my new apartment! God Bless you all."
 Sincerely, Ellen Humphreys

As you read this, Annual Conference is just concluding and Kay and I are returning for our sixth year. Thank you for your wonderful support, prayer and love for us and our family. We are blessed to serve Gulfview. Our delegates to Conference include Faye Kabaci, Beverly Bowron and Glenn Bowron, our District Lay Leader.
 I want to introduce you to our new District Superintendent, the Reverend John Wesley Spivey and his wife, Voncile. Rev. Spivey comes to us from the Crestview UMC (where Bro. Dick and Linda Wright will now serve). A graduate of Troy State and Emory University. The Spiveys have two children, Tammy Shank of Birmingham and John Spivey of Crestview.
 Reverend Spivey served the Forest Park UMC (1984-1989) and comes from a long line of Methodist Preachers (grandfather, father, and three brothers!) We welcome them to the Marianna-Panama City District and to Gulfview.
 Blessings,
 Bro. Jim

June 25 2000

Dedication of the Home of Glenna and John Thomas

219 Glades Trail

June 6, 2000

While many other agencies perform functions once held more closely within the family, the home will remain the hallowed spot where understanding, love and mutual respect are shared most satisfactorily. In the providence of God it is planned that way. The most wholesome security is that found in the Christian home.



May 2000

Congratulations to our Graduates!

Melissa Blanchard finished high school in the Spring and will graduate in June. She is working at the Boys and Girls Club. Melissa will start the University of Florida during the summer session. Congratulations Melissa!

Claire Fillingim graduated with an AA at Gulf Coast Community College on May 4. She also received her Certificate from the Massage Therapy at Haney Vo-Tech College. Congratulations Claire!

June 2000

Focus: Si Mathison

The legacy of the Mathison ministry

By Camie Young

Si Mathison watched his three-year-old son, John Ed, dodder across the lawn of his parsonage toward the Methodist church where he served as pastor in Loxley, AL. Curious about the intentions of the toddler, Mathison followed. When the baby entered the building, he crossed immediately to the pulpit. He shook his tiny fist at his imaginary congregation, beat on the Bible and said, "Be good, folks; be good now. We'll now have the morning offering."

"From then on, I knew he would be a preacher," says Mathison, who celebrated his 90th birthday earlier this year.

John Ed began preaching at age 16. His younger brother George began at age 18.

From the time of this scene, about 58 years ago, Si Mathison — known throughout the Methodist community as Brother Si — has left an ageless legacy through his ministry and his children to thousands of people in the south, even throughout the world.

Now, after serving five churches and retiring four times, the father of two and "brother" of thousands still travels around Alabama and West Florida, singing and preaching at revivals and church services nearly every Sunday.

Born Marion Clyde Mathison on Jan. 10, 1910, Brother Si picked up his nickname from his younger brother, who couldn't pronounce Clyde.

A minister's son, Brother Si became an adult during the Great Depression. He worked with the state road department of Florida. But at age 28, with a young wife and a baby on the

way, he left the stability of a government job for the meager income and uncertainty of the ministry.

"I knew very definitely that my call to the ministry was real," he said, never doubting himself or his God.

That year, his first as a full-time Methodist minister, Brother Si's income was \$1,000. But he made his own fortune through the lives that he touched. Besides, the people of the community of Loxley provided the young family with food and anything else that they needed.

Since that decision to serve the church full time in 1938, Brother Si has served United Methodist churches in Loxley, Wetumpka, AL, Opelika, AL and Panama City, FL before he retired in 1980 at the age of 70. Later, he served as a retired supply preacher, saving a dying little church on the beach in Panama City. He also served as chaplain for Bay Medical Center for 29 years before he retired four years ago.

By his last count, he says he has performed 1,081 weddings and 1,576 funerals.

Known and loved throughout the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church, the aging and influential preacher is undoubtedly most loved by his two sons, John Ed and George.

"(Brother Si) is a model of what the Christian faith is all about," says the younger son, George, minister of Auburn UMC.

Nowadays, Brother Si tours the south, preaching and singing at various revivals and church activities. He also spreads the gospel through a weekly "thought for the day" style program on a Panama City radio station.

Through all of his teaching and preaching, Brother Si has influenced generations through Christian ministry, especially in the Methodist Church. He has brought Christianity to people across Alabama and West Florida. He has lost count of the number of people whom he has brought into the church, using an innovative outlet.

"Everywhere I went, I was on the radio," he says, looking back on his career. "Everywhere I've been, they've known there is a Methodist church in town."

What's more, he put his church service at Panama City First UMC on television in 1968, and it has been on every Sunday for the 32 years since.

In time, Brother Si taught his sons the power of the media, and with it, they have become two of the most influential ministers in the conference.

George's services at Auburn UMC are currently televised locally four times a week. He also broadcasts devotions for a local NBC news affiliate and an "inspirational thought" every day on the Auburn Network. In fact, during football season, George reaches Auburn University fans throughout the state every week through a special thought before every game.

From his father, George learned the media is an important "outlet through which we can reach people."

John Ed's services at Frazer Memorial UMC in Montgomery are televised several times a week on a local NBC affiliate as well as the church's own television station. Networks also broadcast his services in all 50 states and in several other nations.

"There's no preacher in Methodism who gets the exposure that John Ed does," says his proud father.

Brother Si has reached hundreds of people over the airwaves. "There are so many people who don't have a church," he says. Many of them call Brother Si when they need the support or the services of a loving preacher. The people he touches show their appreciation in a variety of ways. One couple recently sent him flowers to show their appreciation for marrying them 50 years earlier.

Brother Si exudes friendliness and compassion to the people that sur-

round him. He offers a firm handshake to every man he meets and kisses each girl, young or old, that he encounters on the cheek. Now at 90, the retired minister is like a benevolent father or grandfather to nearly every person he meets.

"He reminds me a lot of my father," says Neysa Troutt, a reporter for the NBC affiliate in Panama City, where Si now makes his home.

About six months after the medical reporter moved into town, she encountered Brother Si waiting in line for popcorn at a Pat Boone concert at the Ocean Opry, a local concert hall. Brother Si stood with his back to the counter, facing Troutt and greeting everyone who passed him, most of whom knew him by name. Then, according to Troutt, he looked at her and said, "Hey, you're that new girl on television, aren't you?"

After only a few minutes into the conversation, Brother Si asked the young journalist where she attended church.

"I knew he cared about my soul," she says, remembering the chance meeting four years ago.

Brother Si invited Troutt to sing at Gulf View UMC where he served as a retired supply preacher. "He didn't know if I could carry a tune in a bucket," she laughs now, but she sang at the church service the next Sunday.

Since then, Troutt has been Brother Si's almost constant traveling companion. She drives him around the south and sings with him at revivals.

Troutt sang Brother Si's favorite hymn, "Amazing Grace," at his wife Mary's funeral. She died in 1995 after 61 years of marriage.

For many, Si Mathison's name has become a symbol of growth. As well as a grandson who bears the preacher's name, many other things proudly display the name of Si Mathison.

A chapel being built at the Bay Medical Center where Brother Si served as chaplain will be named in his honor.

Because Brother Si turned Gulf View UMC from a dying service of 15 to 20 people into a fiery congregation averaging more than 250 worshippers, a \$400,000 addition to the church has been named the Mathison Education Annex.

One of Brother Si's most memorable days was the day that he welcomed seven people, the Albritton family, into his church in Wetumpka. Years later, Brother Si refers to Walter Albritton, the oldest of the five children, as "my boy." Albritton remembers the impression that the new preacher made of the Wetumpka First UMC.

"He created quite a stir," says Albritton. "I got to know him and fell in love with him."

From then on, as a member of the youth group at the church, Albritton focused his attentions on convincing his parents to transfer their membership to Brother Si's church. With the preacher's wonderful way with people, it didn't take much convincing. Living about 15 miles in the woods, the Albritton family did not receive many visitors, and Brother Si was the first to take the trouble.

Since that day in 1945, the Mathison family has been a life-changing influence on the life of Walter Albritton. Now, Albritton serves as preacher at Trinity UMC in Opelika.

When he considered entering the ministry, he discussed the situation with Brother Si. "Why, you'll be a good one," Albritton remembers his preacher telling him. "He has always been an encourager."

The humble preacher has left an inspiring legacy of ministry and Christian love. He and his sons have brought the gospel to the people, bringing hope to people both here in Alabama-West Florida and throughout the world.

"He starts the ball rolling," says Troutt. "He touches millions of lives, and they touch a million more." †

Young is a senior in journalism and English at Auburn University, where she is active in the Wesley Foundation and writes for the Auburn Plainsman. She attends Auburn UMC but is a member of Ousley UMC in Lithonia, GA.



Vacation Bible School

G'Day Mates! We are all getting ready for you at Club Can-Do! This is a club for Can-Do Kids! I'm Can-Do and I'll be here at Gulfview on June 12-16 to meet you from 6:00-8:00 every evening!



trusted the Lord when he had a Goliath on his case! The boy who gave his lunch to Jesus to share with the crowds was truly a Can-Do kid. We'll learn how Jesus welcomes children. 'Cause the strength of Jesus gives us the power to do all things.

Well, this KANgaroo better get hoppin'... We'll look for you soon mates. Be sure to sign up for Club Can-Do before May 31st so we can get ready for YOU!

like me and Can-Do Kids like you?

A: *Christ helps Can-Do Kids do all that Can-Do Kids can do!*

Registration forms for VBS are available at the church office. Please call 234-2889 for any information. Classes are available for Ages 4 through children entering the 6th Grade in the Fall.

Visit the website at www.clubcando.com

It's Happening Again!!!



the BISHOPS Invitational for Christ's Men 2000

Theme: Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

PREACHING WITNESSING SHARING SINGING
with

BISHOP LOONEY Bishop MORRIS Bishop HENDERSON
South Georgia Alabama-West Florida Florida
along with
Fraser Singers and others

DR. HAL BRADY
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Columbus, Georgia

DR. JOHN ED MATHISON
Fraser Memorial United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

June 24, 2000

TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

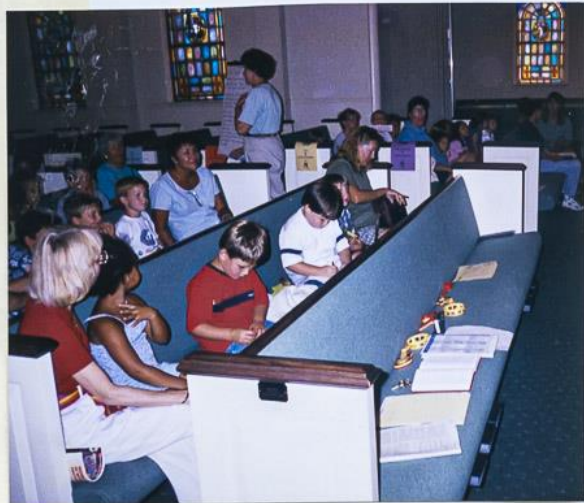
For information contact

CHUCK CHRISTIAN
President, Alabama-West Florida UMM
(850) 477-1307

JOE R. GARRIS, SR.
Past Pres., Alabama-West Florida UMM
(205) 968-7139

Sponsored by United Methodist Men

Registration Forms due by June 17. We will leave here at 6 AM and return at approximately 6 PM. Let's have 15 Men (and sons are welcome!) to go from Gulfview!



**Vacation Bible School Registration is underway!* Forms are in the Fellowship Hall. Club Can-Do: Kids Called to Care is an exciting way to show children that Jesus welcomes them and calls them to be doers in the Christian ministry. Please invite your neighborhood children. June 12-16 at 6:00-8:00 PM will be a time of learning, having fun, crafts, stories and missions for ages 4 through those children entering the 6th grade in the Fall. We need the forms in by May 31st so we can have classes and materials all ready for our Can-Do Kids. See you then!



Campus Outreach

AUGUST 6, 2000
*Thanks to our Campus Outreach Students for leading our service this morning. We have been blessed this summer to have our students and pray God's blessings on them as they return to school. Also, thanks to Jeanne Simmons our guest flutist for blessing us.

June 2000
Notes of thanks...
...to those who brought the home-made ice cream and cookies for our Ice Cream Social last Sunday evening to welcome our Campus Outreach Students.
...to Jack Hyde, Ferrell Pinson, Jimmie Rucks and Strawberry Simmons for putting together the swing set for our Nursery children. Zack and Tayler have already given it the "Safety Test"!

*Tonight, our church will be blessed by a 50 voice youth choir from the Custer Road UMC, Plano, Texas. They are touring through 3 states, presenting a toe-tapping, foot stomping musical by Harry Chapin called the "Cotton Patch Gospel". Invite a friend tonight.
June 11, 2000



July 8th Gospel Sing

Join us for a delicious BBQ Dinner (6:00 PM) in the Fellowship Hall (Bro. Jim will have a surprise along with the Smoked Boston Butt pork meat). Then, we will go into the Sanctuary for our Gospel Sing (7:00 PM) with the "Rocks of Faith" Quartet from Birmingham.

We have been blessed by this group, several who are family of Herbert and Pauline Letlow.

And, we will receive a love offering to help with their expenses. Thanks in advance for your generosity.



July 2000

*We will have a family cookout 11:00 A.M. at Econfina (Hwy 20 (East of 77) 8-10 miles, turn right on Strickland Road-Right at Williford Spring) this Saturday for the Young Adults. Call Cindy Tucker (230-1642) for more information. Bring your favorite dish and drinks for your family and join us for a fun day!

*Next Sunday evening we will have a Healing Service with anointing with oil and laying on of hands. Come and be a part of this special service.

*Our Summer Reading Program for Children is about to start. Please call Jean Williams, our Church Librarian, (235-7845) for the schedule.

*Thanks for your generous offerings for the two churches burned last month in Titus, Alabama. Your gifts to date total \$1,135.50 and we will receive offerings through July 16. The Bishop has asked that 80% of the monies go to the Providence UMC and 20% to the Bethlehem Baptist church.

July 2000

Up-Coming Events

- July 15, Sat. Young Adult Family Cookout at Econfina (Hwy 20). Call Cindy Tucker, our Young Adult Coordinator at 230-1642 for more information.
- July 16, Sun. Healing Service at 6:00 PM. Anointing with oil and Laying on of Hands.

*You are invited for a "free" BBQ Dinner in the Fellowship Hall followed by a Gospel Sing with the "Rocks of Faith" from Birmingham, Alabama. We will receive a love offering for the group. Invite a friend and come and enjoy!

July 9, 2000

*Our Children's Ministry is providing a follow-up to our wonderful Vacation Bible School, called the Can-Do Kids Choir that will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 PM. They will have refreshments at the end of each "rehearsal" and hopefully sing for us once a month.

*We are getting a good response for the Summer Reading Program for Children at Gulfview. Jean Williams, our Church Librarian is organizing this weekly, one-hour long program to begin the week of July 10th. Please call and enroll your child through the church office (234-2889) mornings between 8:00-12:00. Rewards will be given for those who participate.

*We are updating our Prayer Wheel and if you would like to be called to pray and to call 1 or 2 more on the wheel, please let us know on the Registration Pad. Also, if we do not have your Birthday or Anniversary Date, please list it on the Registration Pad. Thanks.

July 30, 2000

Can-Do Kids VBS Follow up!

AUG. 2000

You will enjoy hearing the "Can-Do" Kids Choir, August 13 in our morning worship. During VBS, our children learned things they "can do" to help (be in ministry) and they sent cards to several of our home bound families. Mrs. Edna McKinney (Nursing Home) wrote:

"Dear Can Do Kids, Thank you so very, very much for the pictures you sent me. I enjoyed them so much, and enjoyed sharing them to the people here. They enjoyed them, too! You were so sweet and kind to think of me."

Also, we heard from Mrs. Maude Zingarello in thanks for the cards and pictures that we sent of the Can-Do Kids.

"Titus Church Burnings"

We have received an appeal from our Resident Bishop, William W. Morris, to help in a very unfortunate and sad situation. Due to two churches set afire in Titus, Alabama, our bishop is requesting a special offering be collected today to help in their rebuilding. This is an excerpt from his letter to us:

"Around Tuesday, June 6, 2000, two churches were set afire in the Titus Community. One church was Bethlehem Baptist Church, and the other church was Providence United Methodist Church. The churches are approximately five miles apart. Providence lost their fellowship hall and the sanctuary is badly damaged. Bethlehem was burned to the ground."

"The burnings have been identified as arson. Providence met under the oak trees for worship last Sunday, June 11. Of the money collected from your offering, 80% will go to Providence UMC and 20% to the Bethlehem Baptist Church. Your response will be greatly appreciated."

Knowing what Gulfview means to our church family, we can certainly know what these two church families must be feeling. Thank you for helping today, and for your generous contributions. Please mark your gift for "Titus Church Burnings". Be blessed to know you are giving in the name of Jesus Christ.

July 2000

Special Events - August

2000

Sunday, Aug. 13 - Can-Do Kids Choir will sing in the Morning Service.
Saturday, Aug. 19 - Our "Magical Days of Summer" Children's Pizza Party with Magician Lamar Cantrell.
Sunday, Aug. 27 - The Jubilee SS Class will host a Mexican Mission Lunch at 11:15 AM. Donations accepting for our upcoming Mexico Mission Trip in September.
Thursday, Aug. 31 - Along with Woodlawn UMC, we will be serving the football team from Arnold High School. Keep our new school in your prayers.

Choir News

August is the last month of summer. It is also the last month choir is casual (no robes). So, to go along with the long, hot days of summer, the choir will be singing gospel music the entire month of August. So if you like foot stomping, hand clapping, good ole Southern gospel music, now is the time to join the choir (even if only for the month). Practice is Wednesday nights 7-8:00. Come join in on the fun.

Linda Thompson

AUG. 2000

Mid-Week Bible Study



Yes, we are going to start a Wednesday Bible Study for 6 weeks from 6:00-6:45 PM in the Sanctuary. Dates are June 28-August 2.

Bring your Bible as we study together the Book of Galatians.

Update of Beach Habitat Home

Thanks again for your support and interest in helping a working poor family get an adequate home this Fall. Our ministerial has set Monday, Sept. 18, for a community service. At the end of April \$7,350 had been given towards our \$30,000 goal. Our ministerial meets again in two weeks and we will have the 6 month update. Would you pray about a gift for this project and be sure to mark you check "Habitat Home".

*Be sure to visit our Church Library in Room 209. The weekly hours of operation are Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30-11:00 AM. Our Church Librarian is Mrs. Jean Williams and we want to thank her for the fine job of getting our library ready for us to enjoy.

AUG. 2000

*We are excited to announce that a new Girl Scout Troop is being organized in our area. They have asked to meet in our Fellowship Hall on Mondays 4:00-5:30 PM, beginning September 11. This troop will be for girls in Grades 3-6. Please call Lisa Burns, Troop Leader at 231-5393 for any additional information or to enroll. Space is limited so please call soon. Thanks.

Please join us for
The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House of
The Mathison Retirement Center
a Methodist Home for the Aging
Monday, September 25, 2000 2:30 PM
3637 West Highway 390, Panama City, Florida

Trip to Colquitt, GA

Oct. 2000

Join a small group of 10 as we go up to Colquitt, GA for the musical "Swamp Gravy Brothers and Sisters." We'll leave Friday at 1:00 PM, check in at Day's Inn (2 persons 2 double beds), eat Dinner at the restored Tara Inn (Buffet) and then go to the musical in a renovated "cotton warehouse." After a continental breakfast, we will return to PCB approximately 11 AM Saturday. Cost is \$60.00 per person. We have room for 5 more - Deadline is Tuesday at noon, Oct. 3. Make checks payable to Gulfview UMC.

Great Fall Kick-Off of Events

Our Fall Bible Study begins Sept. 6 (Wednesday at 6:00-6:45 PM) in the Fellowship Hall (around the tables)! We're going to study the Book of Joshua - a book of battles, a book for people who would dare win God's way. It's the faithful who win - those who follow God's strategy win - those who don't - don't! Read Chapters 1 and 2 and bring your Bible and Notebooks.

Remember Promotion Day in S.S.?! We have set Sept. 10 as Promotion Sunday and want to encourage you to join a class this Fall. We have four excellent classes and will be offering 3 different materials. They are as follows:

Fellowship Class - Rm 104- Adult Bible Studies on Judges by Dr. Ellsworth Kalas

Seasons Class-Rm 103 - Adult Bible Studies on Judges by Dr. Ellsworth Kalas

Jubilee Class-Rm 111 - Consuming Something Miraculous by Charles Swindoll
New Adult Class-F. Hall - Uniqueness of Christian Revelation in World Religions by Norman Anderson.

Our Church Library is Open!

Thanks to a lot of help from donations and sorting...the library is up and running. Jean Williams, our Church Librarian would like to thank Dot Whitehill for her help in categorizing many of the books.

The hours for our library is 8:30-11:00 AM on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays in Room 209.

So, have fun perusing and may you be richly blessed by the materials you find there for meditation, inspiration or to broaden your study of God's Holy Word.



MEXICAN MISSION LUNCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH

TO HELP SUPPORT
OUR MISSION TEAM
FOR THEIR TRIP TO
LAJOYA, MEXICO

11:15 (AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL)

DONATIONS ONLY



CANCEL YOUR LUNCH RESERVATIONS
AND PLAN TO JOIN US!

2000 Oct.
*Be in prayer this week for our Mission Team. They will be doing medical missions and working on the clinic at LaJoya, Mexico. Our missions team include Kathy Pate, Linda Keith, Kay Fillingim, Larry Pauley, Bill Cherry and Bobby Henson.

The flowers in the vestibule are given by Gordon and Anne McKelvey in honor of her parents, Doyle and Frances Good, who are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary.

2000

*The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to announce that October is **Clergy Appreciation Month**. We do sincerely appreciate Bro. Jim for his ministry at Gulfview. He and Kay are wonderful leaders and true servants of God. We will be celebrating **Clergy Appreciation Day** on **October 8** during our morning Service. Let's join together to let Bro. Jim know they are appreciated.

We will have a Memorial Service for Lillian Tyree on Sunday, October 22, at 2:00 in the Sanctuary. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested any memorials be made to Gulfview and then forwarded to the Vietnam Veteran of America Chapter 826. This chapter helps all veterans (of any war) and widows of veterans in need and is funded through community contributions.

 *Congratulations to Wayne Williams and Lori Hyde. They were united yesterday in marriage and we pray God's best blessings upon them. Oct. 14, 2000

Notes of Thanks...

*Thank you from the Fillingim's for such a meaningful service of Appreciation last Sunday. Thanks to the SPR Committee and Bobby Henson for the program that included the beautiful cake, gift certificates for golf and dinner at Chef Paul (plus dessert!), notes, and cards from so many individuals, the choir and the S.S. Classes. We all were so humbled and blessed by your generosity. Bro. Jim and Kay

"We are humbled to think that our church loves us this much. Words cannot describe how we feel. Gulfview is truly our family. We have always felt comfortable, but now we know we truly belong. Thank you so much for your generosity and love. We are blessed."
 In Him, Eddie and Linda Thompson

*Bro. Si called and wants to thank everyone for the clergy appreciation gift!

*It is with great joy that we welcome Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr., as our church Organist today. Already he has blessed us with his beautiful music and we look forward to our worship together. Bless you Henry!
Nov. 5, 2000

Choir Notes

Nov. 2000

By Linda Thompson

I am excited to announce that beginning November 1st, we have an organist, Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr. Henry is well qualified for the position and very excited about joining the music team. He was born and raised in Illinois. After finishing his education in Fine Arts, he moved to the nation's capital for 10 years. Henry auditioned and was accepted into the 300 voice Paul Hill Chorale and performed annually with the National Symphony Orchestra. He is a 26-year veteran of ball-room dancing and moved to Panama City Beach in April of this year. The organ will be a welcome addition to our worship service. We look forward to having Henry play for us. Please make him feel welcome.

The choir is now working on the Christmas Cantata entitled "Memories of a Merry Christmas". The message is sweet and brings back memories of Christmas' past. If you have ever wanted to join in the choir, now is a wonderful time. We work hard but have a good time. We would love to have you. Come and join us Wednesday nights 7:00-8:30.

*Our children will prepare and serve a "Harvest of Thanks" dinner on Oct. 27 at 6:30 PM for their families. The children can dress up in Fall colors or as Indians and Pilgrims. Please bring the children by at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall and then come back at dinner time! Call Teresa at 235-1729 for further details.

Scout Troops at Gulfview

We are so pleased to be hosting a Jr. Girl Scout Troop here at Gulfview each Monday afternoon from 4:00-5:30. Bro. Jim will be having an Investiture Service this Monday night, November 6 at 5:00 PM. Also, we are pleased to host a Cub Scout Pack 323 each month on the second Tuesday.

These opportunities give Gulfview a chance to support our community as well as expose our community to Gulfview.

Open House at the Parsonage

You are invited to the Church Parsonage for an Open House on December 3 from 2:00-4:00 PM.

Update on Church Families

We welcome Ms. Vivi Playford who joined Gulfview August 6. She lives at 220 Poinsettia Drive, Panama City Beach, FL 32413 - phone 233-5699.

Our blessing to Darin

Hyer who transferred his membership to the Hopewell UMC in Tyrone, Georgia. He is the son of Louise and Jim Anderson.

Our sympathy to the family of Ila Sandlin who died and went to be with the Lord Jesus on Friday, August, 18.

Please note an address change for Mildred Beck, who moved to 244 Industrial Road, Moultrie, GA 31768 (1-912-891-3303).

Mission Memo

Our trip to LaJoya, Mexico was a memorable experience by all who went. Our work team consisted of 6 people from Gulfview, and 15 from Mississippi. Some of whom were first time missionaries in another country. When we arrived, we were in for quite a surprise: One shower for 21 people! This

I was touched that the children remembered my name from last year and were there to meet our bus ...

was one of the things that made this trip memorable! But the other (and more important) things were the people who were seen by the doctors, the children who participated in our Bible classes, and the community who joined us in worshipping our One True God, who is everywhere in this world, loving all of us, no matter where we live.

I was touched that the children remembered my name from last year and were there to meet our bus at the clinic the night we arrived. We did complete an incredible amount of work for the short time we were there. Seeing the pure heart of Pastora Evelyn of the church there was the most touching of all. She is a 23 year woman and she reaches out to two other communities by preaching on Saturdays. One was called Vista Hermosa, a "squatter" community built

on an abandoned railroad track, the other is Capiri, a town with much poverty, close to LaJoya. We made medical trips to both of these locations.

Bobby Henson and Bill Cherry worked on a project which consisted of pouring concrete on the roof of the second floor of the clinic. Larry Pauley did numerous electrical and plumbing jobs. Kay Fillingim worked in the medical clinic, and Kathy Pate and myself painted rooms and did children's ministries with Kathy's puppets. We are now in the process of preparing a video to give you an idea of what we did there.

A note from Henderson Settlement - more soup labels are needed! They would like to thank all who contributed Campbell soup labels for the

May 2000 order. They used them to get a TV for use with the work teams and other groups in the Mission Dorm, and the Senior Center was able to order some items for their recreation program. A video camera was ordered to be shared by all the ministry areas. A list of accepted labels are in the collection box on our Mission bulletin board if you would like to help.

In His Steps, Linda Keith



December Events For You

December 3 (Sun) 9:00 Gospel Concert with the Rich Evans Family Singers from Montgomery, AL.

2:00-4:00 **Open House at the Parsonage** which is located off Downing Street at 200 Nancy Ave.

December 6 (6:30 PM) **Community Tree Lighting** at Frank Brown Park

December 9 (Saturday) Hanging of the Green - Preparing for Advent

(6:00 PM) **Christmas Parade** and Gulfview's Float

December 16 (Sat) Children's "Birthday Party for Jesus" (2:00-4:00 PM in F. Hall)

December 17 (Sun) 9:00 Adult **Cantata "Memories of a Merry Christmas"**

11:00 **Christmas Church Luncheon**-bring "canned goods" for the Food Bank and be our guest for Lunch!

6:00 **Children's Program "A Very Special Baby"** and we will receive our **White Christmas Offering** for the Children's Home.

December 24 (Sun) 5:00 Service of Holy Communion (not come and go as in past years)

December 31 (Sun) 6:00 Candlelight Service

January 2001

January 9 (Tues) 7:00 Linda Rice (Harpist) Concert

January 14 (Sun) 9:00 Bro. Si Mathison Preaching

6:00 Bro. Darin Hyer Preaching

January 25-27 (Thurs-Sat) Pictures for New Church Directory

Page 2

Welcome to our New Members

Welcome to our new members, **Carol Eisenhart** and **Cori**. Cori received the Sacrament of Baptism and she and her mother joined on Profession of Faith. They live at 317 Gulf View Drive, Panama City Beach, FL 32413 Phone #234-6859.

J.D. and Mot Gray joined by transfer of letter. They reside at 610 Malaga Place, Panama City Beach, FL 32413, Phone #235-0678.

We have restored a Non-Resident membership to **Mr. Darin Hyer**. He is pursuing the Ordained Ministry in our Annual Conference.

PARKING LOT UPDATE

We just got a correspondence Monday from Mr. Lafrenz that he is sending the engineering data to us. Our plan is then to have a drawing made, send it back to Mr. Lafrenz for review; he will then "sign and seal" the document. At that point, we can let it out for bids. Thanks for your patience - the end is in sight.

Habitat for Humanity PCB

At our celebration at Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church (Sept. 18), Mr. Jack Cox, Coordinator for HH said that we had enough monies (over \$16,000 so far) to begin our Habitat Home. One problem: we don't have a family yet! There are financial restrictions, job and other necessities, but if you know of a deserving family "trying to get off renting; or just needs decent housing, have them call Mr. Jack Cox at 784-9975. Thanks.

WELCOME to Gulfview! We want God's Church to be a House of Prayer and invite you to pray and prepare your heart for worship. May you be blessed today and be filled with God's peace. Please sign the Registration Pad and stay after worship for the time of Greetings and Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

The Time of Greeting Guests by Mr. Pete Brannon

8:55 A.M.

Morning Worship

December 3, 2000

9:00 A.M.

The Prelude "What Child is This?" arr by Stephen Nielson

Mrs. Camille Salter

When you hear the piano playing, please conclude your greetings and pray silently as you begin to prepare for worship. Thanks.

The Call to Worship "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Choir

The Opening Prayer and Affirmation No. 881

"Apostles Creed"

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Miss Sammy Jo Cantie-Depew

The Hymn No. 213

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

The Moments of Congregational Greetings

The Notices

Ministry of the Evans Family
of Montgomery, Alabama

Rev. Rich Evans is Pastor of the Dalraida Baptist Church
He and Melanie have three children
Heather, Michael and Amy Scott

The Giving of His Tithes and Our Love Offering

Congregation

The Closing by the Evans

The Benediction

Rev. Jim Fillingim

The Postlude

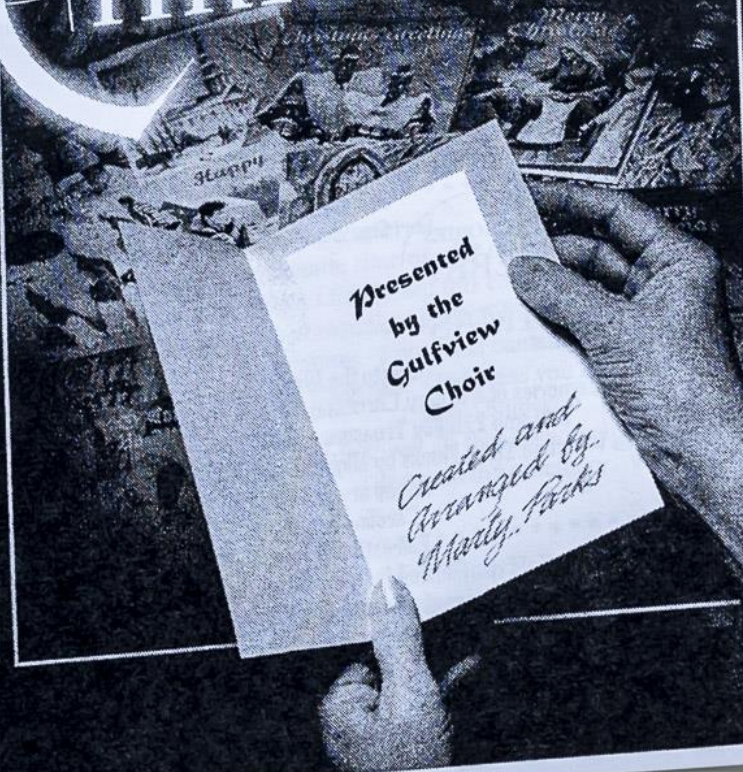
"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr.





MEMORIES of a MERRY CHRISTMAS



Presented
by the
Gulfview
Choir

*Created and
Arranged by
Marly Parks*

WELCOME to Gulfview! We want God's Church to be a House of Prayer and invite you to pray and prepare your heart for worship. May you be blessed today and be filled with God's peace. Please sign the Registration Pad and stay after worship for the time of Greetings and Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

The Time of Greeting Guests by Mr. Pete Brannon 8:55 A.M.

Morning Worship

December 17, 2000 9:00 A.M.

The Prelude "Advent Medley" Mrs. Camille Salter and Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr.
When you hear the instrumentalist playing, please conclude your greetings and pray silently as you begin to prepare for worship. Thanks.

The Opening Prayer and Affirmation No. 881 "Apostles Creed"
 The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle Ms. Cori Eisenhart
 The Hymn No. 218 "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"*
 The Moments of Congregational Greetings
 The Notices
 The Giving of His Tithes and White Christmas Offering Congregation
 The Offertory "Gesu Bambino/O Holy Night" Mrs. Linda Thompson
 The Doxology No. 95 Congregation*

The Cantata by the Choir under the direction of Mrs. Linda Thompson
 Grandmother played by Mrs. June Wetzel
 Sound managed by Mr. Ted Nulle



Joy to the World
 Memories of a Merry Christmas...Soloist, Teresa Henson
 A Name I Highly Treasure...Soloist, Joyce Shank
 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night...Duet, Kay Fillingim and Henry Kraus, Jr.
 Away in a Manger
 Caroling Medley
 Fairest Lord Jesus
 Go, Tell It on the Mountain
 Memories of a Merry Christmas (Reprise)

The Benediction Rev. Jim Fillingim
 The Postlude Mrs. Camille Salter and Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr.
 "Processional" by George Fredrick Handel
 *Congregation please stand

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN 8:30 A.M. Choir Rehearsal
 9:00 A.M. Cantata "Memories of a Merry Christmas"
 10:15 A.M. Sunday School and "A Man Called Norman"-Sanctuary
 11:00 A.M. Christmas Luncheon-Fellowship Hall
 6:00 P.M. Children's Program "A Very Special Baby" and White Christmas Offering for the Children's Home

MON 9:00 A.M. Intercessory Prayer

TUES 10:00 A.M. Zone Ministry
 6:00 P.M. Church Staff Christmas Party

WED 5:15 P.M. Can-Do Choir leaves to carol at Summer's Landing
 6:00 P.M. Bible Study-Ioshua-Fellowship Hall
 7:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

THURS 9:30 A.M. Men's Prayer Group
 Church Office Closed

FRI Church Office Closed

Notes of Interest...

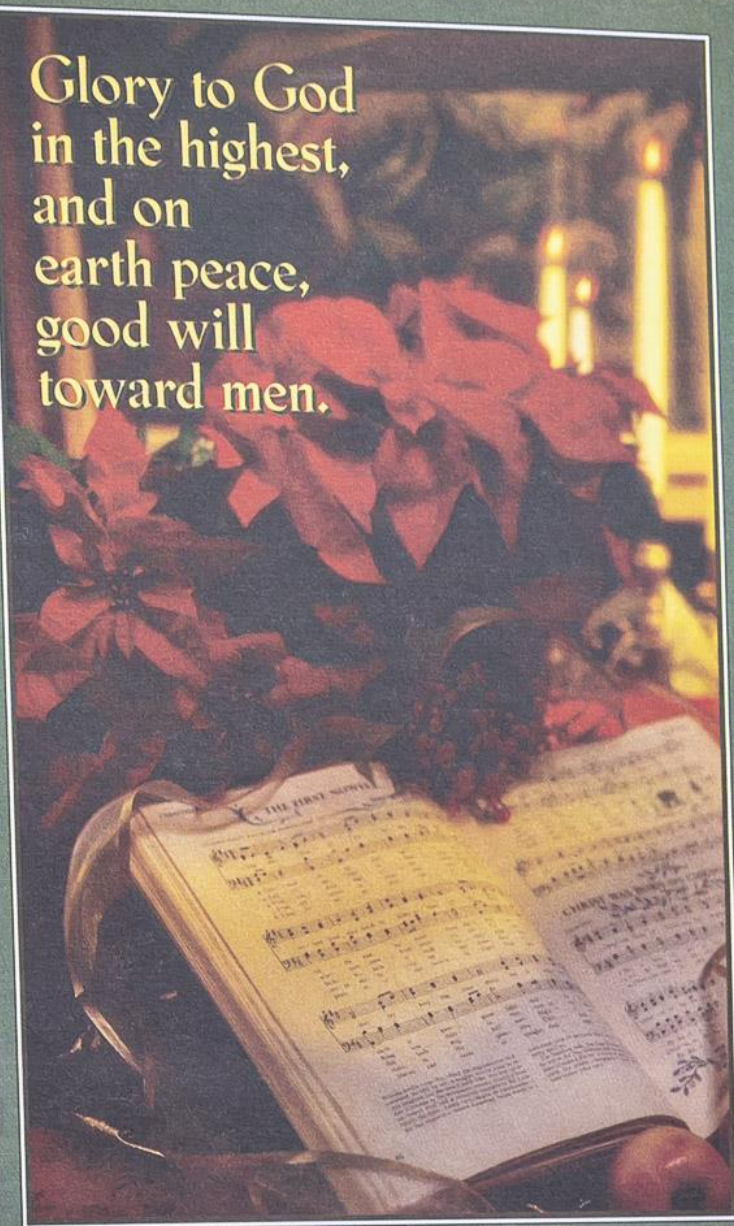
*Christmas has always been a favorite time of year for me. I have many wonderful memories of Christmas' past. When I first heard this cantata I knew this was the one for us. We have such a unique group of members in this church, all who bring with them their own special memories of Christmas. I pray this cantata will touch each of you and help you to remember those special moments. God bless you and may you have many Memories of a Merry Christmas! Linda Thompson

*The worship committee would like to thank all those who helped make new Christmas decorations and also those who helped us decorate the sanctuary. We are so grateful for your generosity of time.

*Our 2001 Tithing Envelopes are in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a box of 52 envelopes and use them weekly (or monthly) to give your tithes in the upcoming year.

*The flowers on the altar today are given in honor of Dwight Crump's 85th birthday by his daughter, Marcia Small.

Glory to God
in the highest,
and on
earth peace,
good will
toward men.



WELCOME to Gulfview! We want God's Church to be a House of Prayer and invite you to pray and prepare your heart for worship. May you be blessed today and be filled with God's peace. Please sign the Registration Pad and stay after worship for the time of Greetings and Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

The Time of Greeting Guests by Mr. Pete Brannon 8:55 A.M.

Morning Worship
December 24, 2000 9:00 A.M.

The Prelude Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr.
"Christmas Medley" arr. by Henry Kraus, Jr.

When you hear the instrumentalist playing, please conclude your greetings and pray silently as you begin to prepare for worship. Thanks.

The Call to Worship "Angels From the Realms of Glory" Choir

The Opening Prayer and Affirmation No. 881 "Apostles Creed"

The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle Miss Spencer Henson

The Hymn No. 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

The Moments of Congregational Greetings

The Christmas Melodies No. 234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

No. 240 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

No. 245 "The First Noel"

The Anthem "Jazz Gloria" Choir

The Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings Congregation

The Offertory Terry Seaborn and Courtney Saunders

"The Gift Goes On"

The Doxology No. 95 Congregation*

The Children's Message Rev. Jim Fillingim

The Children's Church Mrs. Franki Givens

The Prayer Concerns

The Prayer and The Lord's Prayer in Union Mrs. Chris Depew

The Scripture Luke 2:8-16 Mr. O.B. Dowis

The Message Rev. Jim Fillingim

"Our Framework of Faith: I Believe...in Christmas (and Angels!)"

The Invitation No. 156 "I Love to Tell the Story"*

Benediction Rev. Jim Fillingim

The Choral Benediction "May the Lord Go With You"

The Postlude Mrs. Camille Salter and Mr. Henry Kraus, Jr.

"Halleluiah Chorus"

*Congregation please stand

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN 8:30 A.M. Choir Rehearsal
9:00 A.M. Worship Service
10:15 A.M. Sunday School
5:00 A.M. Service of Holy Communion "Call His Name Jesus..." Matthew 1:20-25

MON 9:00-11:00 A.M. Sanctuary Open for Prayer
Have a Blessed Merry Christmas-Office Closed Today

TUES 10:00 A.M. Zone Ministry

WED 6:00 P.M. Bible Study-Joshua-Fellowship Hall

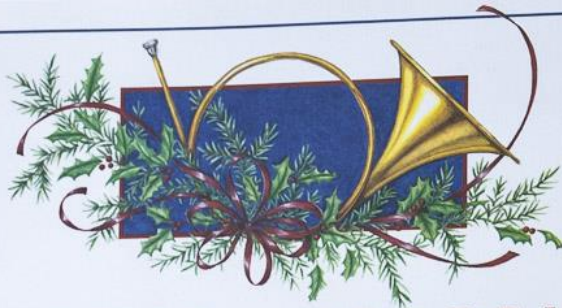
THURS 9:30 A.M. Men's Prayer Group
3:00-9:30 P.M. Church Pictorial Directory

*Thanks to everyone who purchased a poinsettia. They were a beautiful addition to our Christmas decorations. You may pick up your poinsettias after the morning service.

*The flowers on the altar today are given by the Wichterman Family in loving memory of Bonnie Estes, Mother and Grandmother, who is loved and missed very much.

*A special "thanks" for so many people who have made this advent and Christmas Season so special. Everyone's part made the "whole" so great! And, we will have rich memories to add - like dozens of gift items for Henderson, a truck load of food for our Food Bank at the Presbyterian Church, over \$1,300 for the Children's Home, the choir Cantata, the decorations, the joy of the Children's Christmas program and even "Can Do" made a surprise visit. May each of you be blessed this Christmas Season - because God sent His Only Begotten Son!

Christmas 2000



SEASON'S GREETINGS

We trust this letter finds you and your family blessed at this special time of the year. All of the things about Christmas remind us of God's great love for us, as demonstrated by the Christ Child. *Thank you, Heavenly Father, for your unspeakable gift!* And may God's Peace come to so many troubled lands.

The highlight for our family has been the addition of our second grandchild, **Garrett Trent Springs**, born to Laurel and Lee on May 23, 2000. Now at six months, he is pulling up, crawling, four teeth, a healthy 18 pounds and mostly tolerated by **Collin**, who at 2 ½, is not so sure about this "brother thing"! At our recent Christmas Parade, Collin was dressed as a "Wise man/boy/toddler"—just the prettiest wise man there ever was! What joy these little boys have brought into our lives.



Laurel and Lee now live in Pensacola, where Lee is employed with Lowes. He begins next month training for Assistant Manager. Laurel is a stay at home Mom. She did finish her Masters program with Southern Mississippi and will perhaps teach in the future. They are enjoying having contact with the Fillingim clan in the Pensacola area.

Tammy and Jed are now living in Jackson, Mississippi, where Jed is completing his internship at the Veterans Hospital, as assistant to the CEO. He completed a double masters at Georgia State this May (MBA and MHA) and is putting out resumes for this coming June. Tammy is an Ultrasound Technologist and works part-time for several hospitals and Dr.'s offices in the Jackson area. Her folks (Bonnie and Leslie Elder), who live in west Mobile, AL., have thoroughly enjoyed having them living only 2 hours away.

Ready for a Massage? That is what **Claire** is now doing here and in the Destin, FL. area. She got her training in Massage Therapy and is now a Licensed Therapist and is enjoying the early signs of this entrepreneurial venture. Jim is too "ticklish" for a massage; however, Kay is ready anytime! Claire is now 23 and shares an apartment with another girl in Panama City. We still get to see her several times a week.

Kay is still working for the State of Florida at Children's Medical Services but now only half time. This has been a blessing, since Collin and Garrett love their Grandmother (and, of course, their Granddad—which Jim is trying to teach them to say "Grand Dad" but with little avail) and this allows her to go to Pensacola often or have the boys come to Panama City. Along with the usual work at the Church, Kay has now added the handbell choir for the little ones—what patience she has. Kay went on her third trip to Mexico this fall with Volunteers in Missions, working in a Medical clinic about 4 hours south of Mexico city within site of the volcano "Popo...".

Jim is in his sixth year here at Gulfview and God has blessed for another wonderful year. One highlight was attending Jurisdictional Conference (only as a guest) where our new Bishop was elected and later assigned to this Annual Conference. He, Kay and Claire will be going to Minnesota in January, where he will assist in the wedding of Kay's niece, Reagan Carr (Allan and Beth's daughter). The New Year includes a trip to the Holy Land in March (???) and then back to Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky., in June for our 35th. Reunion.

Now, back to Garrett and Collin. From the picture you can get an idea of what handsome children they are—and we do have several albums to show you whenever you come to visit. We're blessed, and may you be blessed this Christmas season.



Parsonage Open House
DECEMBER 2000



















> Subject: Explain God

>

> Sit back and enjoy reading the simple words of an 8 year old boy trying to

>

> explain God. Written by Danny Dutton, age 8, from Chula Vista, California, for his third grade homework assignment to "Explain God".

>

> EXPLAIN GOD

>

> One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make.

>

> That way, He doesn't have to take up His valuable time

> teaching them to talk and walk, he can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

>

> God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times besides bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because He hears everything there must be a terrible lot of noise in His ears, unless He has thought of a way to turn it off.

>

> God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere,

>

> which keeps him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting His time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

>

> Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

>

> Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of Him preaching to them and they crucified Him. But He was

> good and kind of like His Father and He told His Father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said

> OK.

> His Dad (God) appreciated everything that He had done and all His
> hard work on earth, so He told Him He didn't have to go out on
the

> road anymore, He could stay in heaven. So He did.

> And now He helps His Dad out by listening to prayers and
> seeing things which are important for God to take care of and
> which ones He can take care of Himself without having to bother
> God.

> Like a secretary, only more important. You can pray anytime you
> want and they are sure to hear you because they got it worked out
so one

> of them is on duty all the time.

> You should always go to Church on Sunday because it makes God
> happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God.
> Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun, like
> going

> to the beach. This is wrong! And besides, the sun doesn't come
out

> at the beach until noon anyway. If you don't believe in God,
> besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your
> parents

> can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is
good

> to
> know He's around you when you're scared in the dark or when you
> can't swim very good and you get thrown into real deep water by big

> kids.

> But you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you.
> I figure God put me here and He can take me back anytime He
> pleases. And that's why I believe in God.

2. The Alphabet

While walking through the woods one day, I was surprised to hear a child's voice. I followed the sound, trying in vain to understand the child's words. When I spotted a boy perched on a rock, I realized why his words had made no sense: He was repeating the alphabet.

"Why are you saying your ABC's so many times?" I asked him.

The child replied, "I'm saying my prayers."

I couldn't help but laugh. "Prayers? All I hear is the alphabet."

Patiently the child explained, "Well, I don't know all the words, so I give God the letters. He knows what I'm trying to say."

pp. 100.



Evangelist Charles Dennis

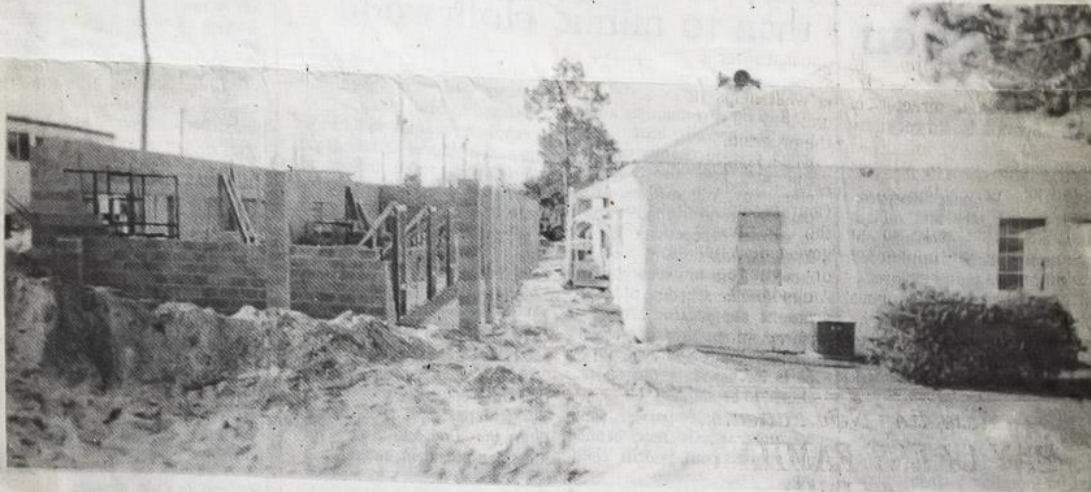
WINTER REVIVAL

Hear great Bible preaching and beautiful music at Gulfview, **Feb. 22-25** with Evangelist **Charles Dennis**, Columbus, GA and Rev. **Charles Coulliette**, Enterprise, AL.

Services Sunday at 9 & 11 and 6 PM.
Monday - Wednesday at 10 AM and 7 PM.
Nursery Provided.

Evangelist Dennis ministers both in the states and around the world. He has written 268 songs. "*Come and Be Blessed*".

Church soon to Dedicate Mathison Education Annex in honor of Dr. Si Mathison and the late "Miss Mary" Mathison.



Gulfview Methodist is located 2½ miles west of Hwy. 79, on Wisteria and Rose Lane. **Sunday Services 9, 11 & 6.**

Sept. 26, 2011

Longtime friend of the Rev. Si Mathison becomes retirement center's first resident

PAFFL D. WOODHAM
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS HERALD

One sunny morning this summer, I was lucky enough to watch 90-year-old Si Mathison and Marjorie Hildreth greet each other. They hugged and almost simultaneously stood back and appraised each other. Such a greeting between old friends is not remarkable until you consider that they have been friends for 69 years.

Today, Mrs. Hildreth, 89, will be the first resident to move into the Mathison Retirement Center in Panama City.

She says that it is almost as if her life has come full circle.

"I met Si when he and my husband (the late Rev. Charles "Red" Hildreth) came to Bob Jones College here in Panama City in 1931," she said.

Si and his late wife ("Miss Mary" who died in 1995) double-dated with Red and Marjorie on weekends. According to Marjorie, Miss Mary, who was a pretty red-head, had been dating an attorney in her hometown of Laurel Hill, eight miles south of Floral, when she was first introduced to Si.

"When Mary died they found an old letter she had saved from Charles that was written in 1933. Charles was pleading with her not to date that attorney but rather to date only Brother Si," she laughs. "And the rest, as they say, is history."

The Mathisons married in 1934 and the Hildreths in 1935. Mrs. Hildreth, who was the daughter of a Methodist minister and the oldest of eight children, enjoys recalling that when she married Charles he was pastoring

"I met Si when he and my husband (the late Rev. Charles "Red" Hildreth) came to Bob Jones College here in Panama City in 1931."

—Marjorie Hildreth, center's first resident



The Rev. Si Mathison, center, is joined Monday by several family members and local dignitaries in cutting a ribbon for dedication of the Mathison Retirement Center on State 390 near Lynn Haven.

News Herald Photo: Tom Needham



The Rev. Charles "Red" Hildreth and his new bride, Marjorie, in 1935.



Friends for almost 70 years, Marjorie Hildreth and the Rev. Si Mathison.

seven little churches and that they had an income of \$432 a year. "Charles always joked that I married him for his money," she said.

"Si and Red" began a professional and personal friendship that lasted until Hildreth's death in 1986. "And Mary and I set about the full-time job

as preachers' wives," Mrs. Hildreth remembers. "Mary believed that her job was to support Si and their boys in everything that they did. And she did that all of her life."

According to Mrs. Hildreth's daughter, Marjorie Ann Ellis, the friendship between her parents and the Mathisons is one of the closest she has ever known. "They courted together, preached together, took their youth groups to camp together and traveled many miles over the back roads of this district conducting revivals in hundreds of country churches," she said.

In fact, she says that when Si and Red were first starting out as young preachers, they got invited to their first revival and the posters were out in the little community in big bold print — "Charles Hildreth, Revival Preacher and Si Mathison, Song Leader."

They were on their way to the service when the conversation got around to Mathison leading the singing. He confessed that he had never led singing before. At that, they decided that Hildreth had better teach Mathison before they got to the church. "So they pulled off the road and Daddy taught him to lead singing there on the side of a dirt road," Ellis said. Mathison has recalled that no matter what the song is, "I always remember what Red told me to do — down, in, out and up in 4/4 time!"

And now, Marjorie Hildreth enters another chapter in her long and full life as she moves into the new retirement center named in honor of her best friends. "I am so excited," she says, "I don't want to live by myself anymore and I especially don't want to cook!"

After 43 years as a minister's wife, who did everything from singing in the choir to cooking church suppers, she says she looks forward to "being with people and enjoying the activities — that someone else plans. ..."

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