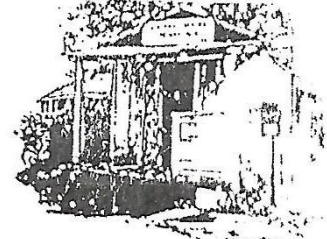


The Acmar Soul Miner

*Searching for wisdom
As for hidden treasures...
For the Lord gives wisdom*



Acmar United Methodist Church August 2020 Vol. 21 Issue 8 Acmar Post Office

Monty Roberts is "the man who listens to horses." He enters into a silent language of body movements which are readable signs. The horse will "voluntarily join up."

Monty spent years watching horses and learning his equine manners and grammar. He knows when to face the horse and make eye contact, whether to touch the horse first or turn his back and let the horse approach him.

Monty not only learned from horses. He had three teachers who made a significant impact.

One was Miss Marguerite Parsons. She became his baby sitter when he was two. When as a child he began traveling as a stunt rider in movies and a rodeo and horse show competitor, she taught him while traveling.

In her mid-twenties, she was neat, clean, steady as a rock and mature and wise beyond her years. She was strict and serious but read Monty stories and made learning fun. He loved her as pupils love their favorite teacher.

Monty's most influential teacher was Sister Agnes Patricia at a local Catholic school. Standing in her long black habit, her face framed by her white wimple, pointed at the top like the spire of a cathedral, she said: **There is no such thing as teaching only learning.**

She believed she could not teach anything. She was to create a learning environment. Knowledge is pulled in by the student who wants to learn not pushed in by the teacher.

The third was Mr. Fowler. Standing straight and tall, he paced back and forth giving the assignment. "It should be like painting a picture of your lives in the future. It should be a fair and accurate assessment of where I might find you if I were to visit you in your mid-thirties. This vision should be realistic."

It was Monty's last year of high school. He knew what he wanted to do. He wrote what he thought was a good paper for a Thoroughbred racehorse facility. His paper was returned with a big red "F" and "See me."

Due to Monty's family and low income, Mr. Fowler did not think Monty's dream was attainable. He gave him a chance to rewrite it. Monty's mom encouraged, "If that's your life's dream, then in my opinion you can achieve it. You set your goal not your teacher."

Monty turned the paper in as written with a note explaining that he could grade the paper as he saw fit but he thought it was attainable. Thirty-years later Mr. Fowler visited Monty at Flag Is Up Farms. He said, "A teacher cannot set a cap on a student's aspirations."¹

We pray for students and teachers who engage in learning. Beginning in August, some U.S. school systems will offer options:

- (1) Traditional classroom instruction
- (2) Full virtual online with limited face-to-face
- (3) Hybrid combination of online & classroom

Through Makena Children's Foundation, Acmar sponsors a child's education in Kenya. Recently, the director sent an email stating: *Online learning is continuing in Kenya for our elementary and secondary students. Students are excited to use the internet with their android phones. Thus far not a single student has missed even one class!*

May we all be excited to learn in many ways.

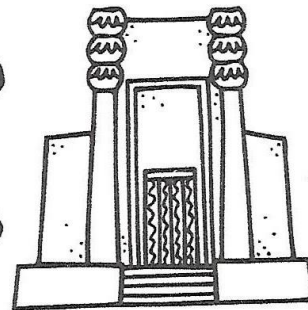
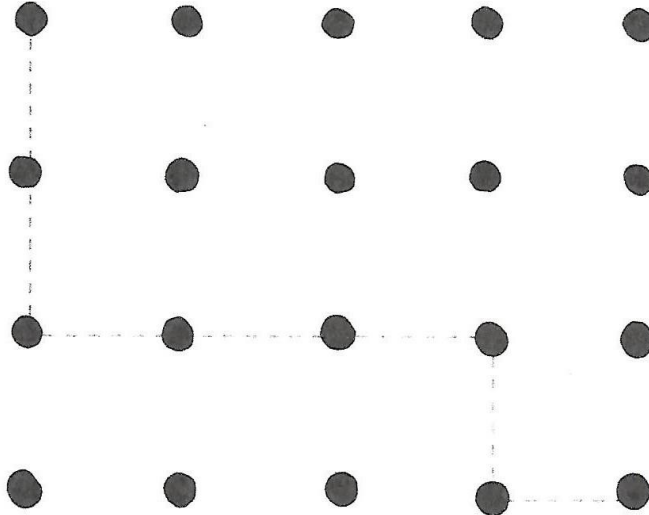
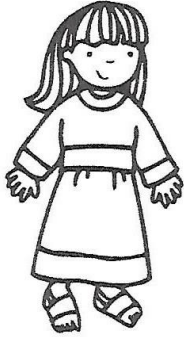
Jesus said, "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle ... you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:29)

¹Roberts, Monty. The Man Who Listens to Horses. New York, NY: Random House, 1996, pages xviii-xix, 72, 87-88, 98-100, 176-8.

Children's Camp

Puzzle 99

Help the girl get to the Temple to hear King Josiah read God's Word.
Draw lines in different colors to show some of the different paths
she can take.



Draw a picture of yourself.
Draw a picture of your Bible.
Draw a path from you to your Bible.



Look Here:
"O Lord, I will learn Your words."
(Psalm 119:71)



Digging In:
When King Josiah repaired the Temple, he
found the book of God's Word.
He invited people to come and hear it read.



The Acmar Community Quilt

The approach of a new school year is often met with mixed feelings of excitement, anxiety, hope, or dread, probably depending on whether you're a student, teacher, or parent! Schools in Acmar and Moody through the years have seen good times and bad, with changes that had to be made and all parties have had to make adjustments. It has eventually worked out fairly well with students, and parents generally satisfied that their children had been okay with making the changes and received a good education.












When the "white" school in Acmar with grades 1 – 6 burned around 1940, the decision was made to not rebuild and to send those students to another company school in nearby White's Chapel, which was also grades 1 – 6. After that, Acmar's children went to Moody Jr. High for grades 7 – 9, and at that time, students could choose to go to Leeds, Pell City, or St. Clair County High in Odenville to finish. St. Clair High was the only one for which transportation was provided. At some point, the "colored" school in Acmar changed to serving only grades 1 -6, also. After that, those students for grades 7 – 12 were sent to the "St. Clair Training School" in Pell City to complete their education. This was all during the time of segregation in our country. When the company closed in 1950, the company schools became part of the St. Clair County School System. In the fall of 1960, a new school building opened at Moody Jr. High, and the elementary school at White's Chapel was permanently closed, sending the white students from Acmar there. The colored students continued as before.

"The wheels of justice turn slowly..." This is a phrase with a variety of attributions as to who said it first, (from 17th century French poets to modern day speakers), and what they meant by it. But it can be applicable in the context of educating our children. The U.S. Supreme Court issued its historic *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, decision on May 17, 1954, and it called for the desegregation of all schools throughout the nation. But not much changed until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 a decade later, and even then, Alabama schools were still segregated. In the spring of 1966, the St. Clair County School System published a lengthy public notice in the St. Clair News Aegis informing citizens that all county schools would be desegregated beginning with the 1966 - 1967 school year. Letters were also sent out to parents of school children. The colored schools closed, and all parents could choose which school they wanted their child to attend. No choices were to be denied except in cases of overcrowding, at which time something would be worked out. Of course there was anxiety as the new school year approached. White kids probably didn't know many black kids, and vice-versa, but looking back now, what a loss it would have been had not some very special, long lasting friendships been created during those times. Children had a chance to know, learn about, and accept differences in other people in our world. A white child in Acmar today would think it strange (and kinda silly) for kids to have to go to different schools simply based on the color of their skin.

Any child in Acmar today is probably experiencing a great deal of anxiety about the approaching school year. When schools closed mid-March, it was hoped that the Covid-19 virus would be mitigated in a matter of a few weeks, but that has not been the case. As teachers last spring tried to quickly create and make available lessons for children to do to complete the school year, many are still in limbo as to what and how they will be teaching in just a few weeks. At the time of this writing, parents, teachers, and our local leaders are still trying to develop plans for educating our children while also keeping everyone as safe as possible.

And there's another phrased being used by many people today, "We'll get through this together."

August 2020 / No Worship or Events Scheduled Due to COVID-19

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>"Soul Miner" by e-mail. Contact Donna Turner at msdturner@aol.com. "Soul Miner" is on the website at www.acmarumc.org</p> </div>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8  Joseph Grant Howard
9	10  Linda Lee	11  Alexa Wimberly	12	13	14  Leigh Byers	15  Adam Byers Merritt  Champion
16	17	18  Martha Womack	19	20	21  Phil Howard	22  Lee Raines
23	24	25	26  Coleman Gable	27	28	29
30  Beau Lamphear	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Hear Audio Sermon Podcasts by Pastor Belinda Wilson on the Acmar UMC Website.</p> </div>				

Mon., July 27
Tue., July 28
Wed., July 29
Thur., July 30
Fri., July 31
Sat., August 1

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21
1 Corinthians 13:4-7
Psalm 120:1-7



Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 640-4325
Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. 10
Take Cty. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
Travel 1 mile; Right on Acmar Rd; travel 2 miles;
Left onto Old Acton Rd.; Church is on the left

Mon., August 3
Tue., August 4
Wed., August 5
Thur., August 6
Fri., August 7
Sat., August 8

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33
Job 37:14-24
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Mon., August 17
Tue., August 18
Wed., August 19
Thur., August 20
Fri., August 21
Sat., August 22

Exodus 1:8 - 2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20
Matthew 6:9-13
Galatians 5:16-25

Mon., August 10
Tue., August 11
Wed., August 12
Thur., August 13
Fri., August 14
Sat., August 15

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:21-28
Psalm 40:1-10
James 4:13-17

Mon., August 24
Tue., August 25
Wed., August 26
Thur., August 27
Fri., August 28
Sat., August 29

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11
Matthew 25:31-46