

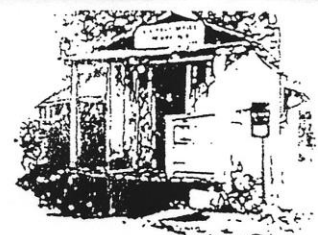


The Acmar Soul Miner

Searching for wisdom

As for hidden treasures...

For the Lord gives wisdom



Acmar United Methodist Church May 2023 Vol. 24 Issue 5 Acmar Post Office

Thank You Jessie!

If you enjoy our *Acmar Soul Miner*, you will want to be thankful for Jessie Wilson Turner.

From June of 1994 to June of 2000, Acmar was on a charge with Moody United Methodist Church. This means that while we each had our own church family and building, we shared a pastor and were welcome to participate in each other's activities. We also shared a newsletter called *The Moody Messenger*.

When Acmar was coming off the charge in 2000 to return to a single charge, we were discussing some of the changes. At the meeting, it was mentioned that Moody had graciously offered for us to continue to receive their newsletter.

Jessie Turner really enjoyed the newsletter and always read every word. At that morning meeting, she smiled sweetly, lightly shrugged her shoulders and leaned into her pew mate as she pondered aloud, "Why can't we have our own newsletter?"

Why can't we? We could. With that bit of encouragement, God primed creative spirits. As a former coal mining community, the suggestion to call our monthly newsletter, *The Acmar Soul Miner*, seemed insightful.

From the beginning, we wanted to proclaim our Christian faith, to remember our heritage as a coal mining community, to celebrate where we are as God's children, and to encourage one another to become like Jesus.

The first issue was published in September, 2000. It was one page, front and back, with Scripture reading and reflection, article on Acmar's Heritage, Children's Corner, Calendar, and Daily Bible Reading for the month.

With paper real estate at a premium, we decided to double in size. In February of 2001, we went with two front and back pages with the current first page format, Children's Camp, The Acmar Community Quilt, Calendar, and Soul Food Bible readings.

Also from the beginning, we knew that we wanted it to be more than a newsletter for our immediate church family. We wanted it to be for extended community. We were delighted to discover that the Acmar Community was not so much of a place where one lived but where one's heart connected with others.

Particularly interesting has always been The Acmar Community Quilt page. Featuring stories from the past with the forming of the coal mining community in 1908, through the closing of the mines in 1950, and continuing into the current community, people connect.

The *Acmar Soul Miner* has enjoyed a circulation reaching into several states. The posting on the Acmar Website has provided even easier and wider readership.

People like Jessie, who grew up in the sister coal mining community of Margaret and then moved to Acmar in 1956 with her husband and children, help us to keep alive values of faith, resourcefulness and community.

Jessie and others like her have also passed along their Christian faith. The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 1:5:

I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

Jessie Turner graduated to Heaven on March 24, 2023. We are grateful for our *Acmar Soul Miner* and most of all her faith in Jesus Christ.

Children's Camp

Use a different color to trace each line.
Then you will see what God has made so that we can have food.



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have to
dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

***I remember the genuine faith in you which
dwelt first in your grandmother, Lois, and
your mother, Eunice. (2 Timothy 1:5)***

Digging In:

Timothy had a Christian mother and
grandmother.
He believed in Jesus and was a Christian.

We can believe in Jesus and be a Christian.
We share our faith so others will believe.

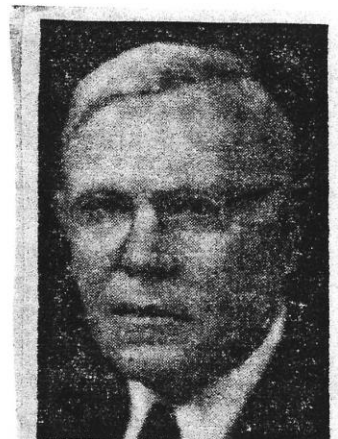
The Acmar Community Quilt

From the very beginning of the coal company's development in Acmar in 1908, the churches were an important part of the community. With Baptist and Methodist being the predominant religions of the miners and their families, they worshiped together throughout the entire time the company was in business and for almost two decades after the company closed.

We have records for the Methodist pastors and members from 1936 through the present, but that information is not available for the Baptists. Some names have been remembered through the years, and sometimes, someone is able to share their memories of a Baptist minister who was important in their life. We appreciate the following information former Acmar resident LaVelle Smith Depaepe has shared from her scrapbook!

Leslie L. Gwaltney, like many young ministers who preached from the pulpit of the Acmar Church, went on to accomplish many things in his career in ministry. He was the main minister LaVelle remembers from her early years of going to church and Sunday School at Acmar. L.L. Gwaltney achieved his doctorate degree, was the author of approximately nine books, became a well known minister, speaker, and Southern Baptist leader. Dr. L.L. Gwaltney also became the editor of *The Alabama Baptist* from 1919 until 1950, and then served as editor emeritus of that publication. Dr. Gwaltney passed away on November 10, 1955, at the age of 79.

His son, Richard "Bob" Gwaltney, also became an ordained minister and served as a "fill in" pastor until Bro. Jim Irwin came to Acmar.




















Editor dies—Dr. L. L. Gwaltney.

**Dr. L. L. Gwaltney,
Baptist editor, dies**

11-10-55

Shared stories are always appreciated and enjoyed. If you would like to share some of your Acmar stories—past or present—please let us know!

May 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Picnic May 7	1  Skyelur Byrd	2	3  MCA 3-5 White's Chapel	4  PRAYER	5	6  Ethan Wilson
7 CHURCH 9 PICNIC 12-2 Don Borg Millie & Prudence Howard	8 	9	10  CHURCH SUPPER 6 pm	11  MOODY BINGO 10	12	13
14 CHURCH 9 	15	16  Kay Hammett	17 MCA 3-5 White's Chapel Maureen Raines	18 Jeff Reeves  William Rowell	19	20  Nancy Miller-Borg
21  CHURCH 9	22  Bonnie Goodner	23	24	25	26	27
28  CHURCH 9	29 <i>Memorial Day</i> 	30	31  Nolan Carpenter	VISIT ACMAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE	Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	Soul Miner on the Website in Gallery

Soul Food for May

Mon., May 1 Acts 7:55-60
Tue., May 2 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Wed., May 3 1 Peter 2:2-10
Thur., May 4 John 14:1-14
Fri., May 5 Isaiah 55:8-11
Sat., May 6 Psalm 148:1-14

Mon., May 8 Acts 17:22-31
Tue., May 9 Psalm 66:8-20
Wed., May 10 1 Peter 3:13-22
Thur., May 11 Genesis 21:1-20
Fri., May 12 Genesis 50:15-21
Sat., May 13 Psalm 86:1-7

Mon., May 15 Acts 1:6-14
Tue., May 16 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
Wed., May 17 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
Thur., May 18 John 17:1-11
Fri., May 19 Luke 6:46-49
Sat., May 20 John 6:54-69



Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 **Phone: 205 640 4325**
Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., May 22 Acts 2:1-21
Tue., May 23 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Wed., May 24 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Thur., May 25 John 7:37-39
Fri., May 26 Romans 8:31-39
Sat., May 27 Ephesians 4:1-16

Mon., May 29 Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a
Tue., May 30 Psalm 8
Wed., May 31 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Thur., June 1 Matthew 28:16-20
Fri., June 2 Luke 15:8-10
Sat., June 3 Philippians 4:10-13