



At Bright Star, we will be a beacon of light  
so that we might bring people to

**Jesus Christ**

and live a life that magnifies



**Bright Star Beacon**

create disciples,  
share and develop  
our spiritual gifts.



**God**

*The Light of Love and Hope in Our Community*

A Publication of Bright Star United Methodist Church, Douglasville, Georgia 30135-3223

**November 2020**  
**Volume 33, Issue 11**



## Undie Sunday 2020

The entire world is facing extreme challenges during this pandemic. This is even more evident with the homeless. Bright Star United Methodist Church has supported ministries for the homeless for many years. One in particular is Trinity Community Ministries.

Trinity Community Ministries is a non-profit organization in Atlanta that cares for men experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental health disabilities. They provide much needed services to the men in their program that will help them return to their families and communities as mentors and leaders. You can find out more about Trinity Community Ministries at [tcmatlanta.org](http://tcmatlanta.org).



For many years, Bright Star's tradition has been to sponsor Undie Sunday in September to directly benefit the men of Trinity. Each year we gather donations of new men's underwear, t-shirts, and socks. These donations are then delivered by Richard and Connie Jacobus to Trinity.

Because of the generosity of the people at Bright Star, we were able to deliver 108 pairs of underwear, 40 t-shirts, and 140 pairs of socks.

Thank you to all who donated to Undie Sunday!



Pastor Edwin and some of the men from Trinity Ministries in 2019



Pick an Angel from the tree 

Buy A Gift 

Wrap & Return With All Tags Dec. 13th BY NOON

Be A Blessing To Those In Need

Angels available starting November 22nd

Give someone hope and love this Christmas  

**FROM THE TRUSTEES:**

During the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Trustees, we discussed the "reopening" of the Church to other functions besides our Sunday service. We agreed that for now, the only functions we should consider were those with involved Bright Star church functions. This would include things like Sunday School, church committee meetings, etc. For the current time, we would not entertain any functions other than those. This would include the scouts and any other non-church events like birthday parties, etc. The scouts have been meeting outside and this would be the case for the near future.

We also discussed that the only areas where meetings could take place would be those areas where social distancing could be maintained. This would include Hunter Hall, Driskell Hall, the Activity Center/Gym, and the Sanctuary. In Hunter Hall, we are referring to where we meet for Sunday services and not the smaller classrooms that are there.

Our discussions were presented to the Church Council on October 18<sup>th</sup>, following the morning service. The council approved our proposal and agreed that any group meetings should be limited to the church membership as of now. Debra Fields presented the proposal to the Council and mentioned that we may want to consider combining some classes, etc. because of the social distancing guidelines.

Any group wishing to meet will need to submit the facility use form which can be obtained from the church office. All requests must include a plan to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you,

The Trustees of Bright Star UMC



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code below to submit your prayer requests for Sunday morning service.

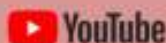
Fill out the request before prayer time and they will show up on the screen in Hunter Hall and be sent out with the weekly email containing Prayer Requests and Praises For the Week.



*Still in quarantine? No problem!*

Join us each Sunday Morning at 11 am as we LIVESTREAM to our YouTube Channel

SEARCH brightstarumc



**A TRUE STORY**

From the current PRC Newsletter  
Client of Laura Frank, Bright Star Church Liaison

Michelle\* said she and her boyfriend had talked about her pregnancy and neither wanted a baby because they had just started a small business and money was very tight. Abortion seemed the only option. She watched our video on abortion procedures and said she wanted to get the RU486 abortion pill. Post-abortion stress was mentioned as a concern by Michelle, and her advocate spent time talking this through with her, concerned that it would be an issue for her after an abortion procedure. We scheduled her ultrasound at 7 weeks because Michelle wanted the time-sensitive abortion pill.

Michelle's advocate also explored adoption as an option, and she said she would think about it. Michelle expressed that she was a believer in Jesus but hadn't been to church in a while. Before leaving, Michelle's advocate gave her an Embrace Grace Love Box (<https://embracegrace.com/love-box>) and information on how to access the abortion video online to share with her boyfriend when she got home.

When Michelle returned for her ultrasound, her boyfriend came with her. She told her advocate that she opened the box she was given and found the book called "A Bump in Life." The book tells stories of unplanned pregnancies, and she read the book cover to cover. One of the stories that really struck her was of God speaking to a woman who wanted to have an abortion and how God gave her a sign that her pregnancy was His plan.

After reading this story, Michelle was sitting in her car in her driveway when the most beautiful blue butterfly was fluttering around her windshield and landed on the garage door in front of her. The butterfly wouldn't leave, and she sat and stared at it for the longest time. Then she looked down at her fingernails on which she had butterfly imprints. When she looked back at the butterfly on the garage, she felt that maybe God was speaking to her too, and it was a sign to her that she should have her baby.

When Michelle saw her ultrasound and her baby's beating heart on the large screen, it was just further confirmation of the things God was speaking to her heart. When her boyfriend came in to see the ultrasound and looked at his baby, he told the sonographer and advocate that he was ready to be a father. The happy parents-to-be went home with their first baby gift – a lovely hat and booties set made by Ms. Shirley (Hopkins).

\*Client names changed to protect confidentiality.



**Douglas County Pregnancy Resource Center**  
3030 Chapel Hill Rd • Douglasville, Ga 30135  
[www.partnersofprc.com](http://www.partnersofprc.com) • [volunteer@partnersofprc.com](mailto:volunteer@partnersofprc.com)

## GIVING THANKS

Giving thanks, really? What exactly is there to be thankful for, given all of the personal, social, and life changing things that all of us have been subjected to this year?

Furthermore, who knows how long these COVID 19 challenges will still be with us? All we know is that some of us may not be able to travel or to gather with family and friends as we are so accustomed to doing at this time of the year. In addition, the lives of many will feel very different and empty as they gather around their meal tables because someone they love and have lost will no longer be there.

However, having said all that, perhaps this Thanksgiving, more than any other, is precisely the time for all of us to be far more intentional about what it is that we are grateful for. So, let's take some time this year to stop and think about the things we truly value and how this might be a new opportunity for personal, social, and spiritual change. After all, just think about how we tend to take this gift we call life for granted. And yes, it includes the gift of our health, our families, our friends, our pets, etc.

Therefore, let's take this special time of the year to reach out to others via cards, letters, phone calls, and Zoom calls to express our thanks and our gratitude for who they are and for what they mean to us.

Last, but not least, I want to invite all of us to take the time this Thanksgiving season to give some personal attention to this Thanksgiving ACROSTIC. Don't rush through it but read it and let it read you. Then, focus on what it is calling forth in you. Jot it down and then do what it might be challenging you to do. Have fun, but above all be thankful!

**T**-HANK GOD FOR ALL YOUR BLESSINGS

**H**-OLD FAST THE COURSE TOWARD YOUR GOAL

**A**-TTEND TO ALL THE DUTIES BEFORE YOU

**N**-OURISH YOUR GOD GIVEN SOUL

**K**-NOW THAT GOD IS EVER WITH YOU

**S**-EEK TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT

**G**-IVE OF YOURSELF TO OTHERS

**I**-NSPIRE THEIR LIVES WITH YOUR LIGHT

**V**-OICE YOUR CONCERNS FOR OUR WORLD

**I**-NVOLVE YOURSELF IN THE ENDING OF STRIFE

**N**-EVER DISCOUNT ANYONE'S IMPORTANCE

**G**-LORIFY GOD IN YOUR LIFE



God bless,

Pastor Edwin

*... From the Pastor*

### DRIVE-THRU FOOD PANTRY

at Bright Star UMC to serve those in need starting

**November 14th**

**Saturday**



**Volunteers welcome!**

**Contact Pastor Edwin**

### Sunday Worship

Each week at 11 am in Hunter Hall

There are no other physical activities at the church until further notice

### Sunday School

Available each week virtually on

**Google Meet or Zoom**

Contact Susie Munday or Jack Yancey

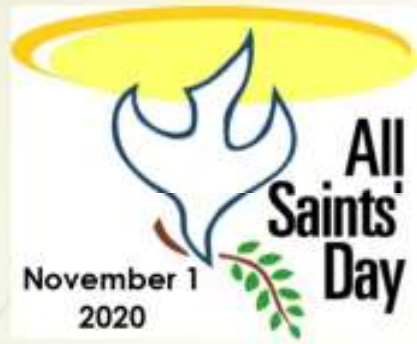
### Women's Bible Study

Each Wednesday from 7-8 pm

virtually on **Google Meet**

Contact Susie Munday





Joyce Briggs



Bill Allen



Elinor Davis



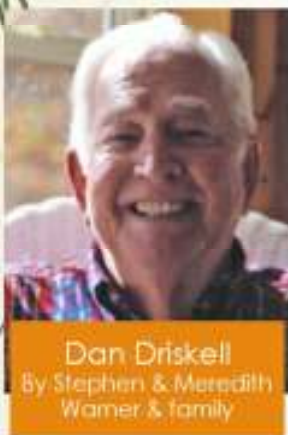
Colene Chadwick  
By Jennifer Chadwick



Verfine Dennis



Frieda Dixon



Dan Driskell  
By Stephen & Meredith  
Wamer & family



Dot Driskell



Mira Dudley  
By Jennifer Chadwick

Remembering and honoring all our loved ones  
we have lost in the past year

# In Loving Memory

of all those who have gone on before



**Tyler Jacobus**  
By Richard & Connie Jacobus



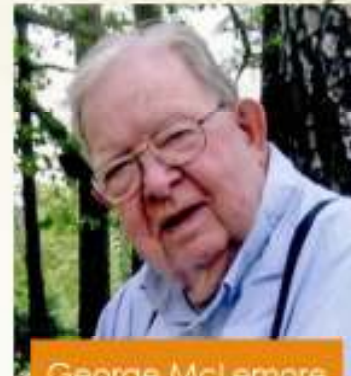
**Dewey Jones**



**Teresa Kelley**  
By Scott & Debra Fields  
and Jennifer Chadwick



**Barbara Matthews**  
By Larry & Carol Holland



**George McLemore**



**Rosemary Parker**



**Jeff Sentell**  
By Cliff & Kim Daniels



**Mary Anne Willis**  
By John & Lynn Willis



# Bright Star Photo Class #6

By Diane Yancey



## AMBIENT LIGHT

When I first began to study photography, an experienced photographer told me that what we are actually photographing is the light. Light and composition are the two basic components of a nice photo. My favorite light in which to photograph is ambient light, or found light. That is natural light that we don't add. Early morning, late evening or on a cloudy day makes it easier to photograph without blown-out highlights and harsh shadows.

### ADJUSTING LIGHTING:

1. Make adjustments in the environment
2. Make adjustment in the camera for the light.

### ADJUSTMENTS in the ENVIRONMENT

Notice where the light is coming from and how it lights the subject. Notice the quality of light, whether harsh or soft. Soft is better and sometimes you have to wait for the light to change. Move around the scene or subject and shoot from the best direction. You might need to move higher or lower for the best angle.

1. Front lighting is the most commonly used. Light comes from behind the photographer and onto the subject.
2. Backlighting comes from behind the subject. Often the subject becomes dark creating a silhouette.
3. Side lighting can be dramatic. Light is very strong and lights up one side of the subject.
4. Overhead lighting or light coming from below. The results can be harsh.
5. Rembrandt lighting is subtle and comes from the side and a little from the front. This can look great in a photo. The shadows give a quality of depth to the scene.

Photographing on an overcast day makes a very nice light. Usually, it is best to avoid a bright grey sky showing in your photo because it can look like a bright washed out area. Get higher up and aim the camera down a bit to avoid this. Another lovely light is just after sunset. If inside, photographing by a window is also shooting with ambient light.

### ADJUSTMENT in the CAMERA

1. ISO Setting
2. Exposure Compensation Setting
3. The Histogram

#### ISO SETTING

The ISO is the sensor's sensitivity to light in the camera. In a bright setting, the ISO could be set to 100 in order to not over expose the photo. In a dark setting, 800 ISO setting would allow more light on the picture. Generally, it is better to choose the lowest ISO setting possible for the scene in order to avoid a grainy photograph.

#### EXPOSURE COMPENSATION SETTING

The exposure compensation setting dial functions as a dimmer switch. (Check your camera manual) It increases or decreases the exposure when the camera is in an automatic exposure setting in program, aperture priority, or shutter speed priority. Very light or very dark scenes can fool your camera and it is best to compensate for this. I was told to add light to light subjects and add dark to dark subjects when photographing.

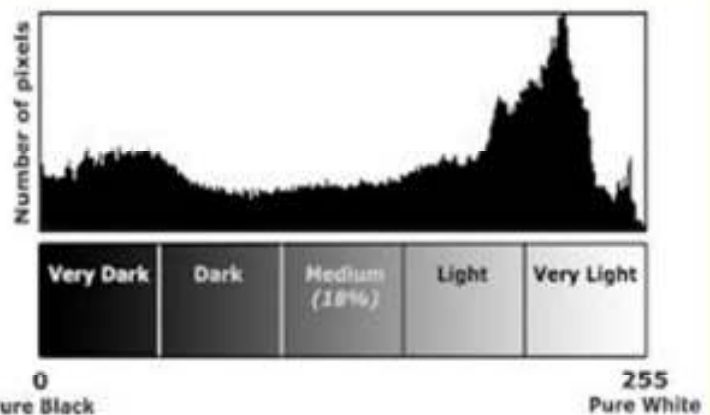
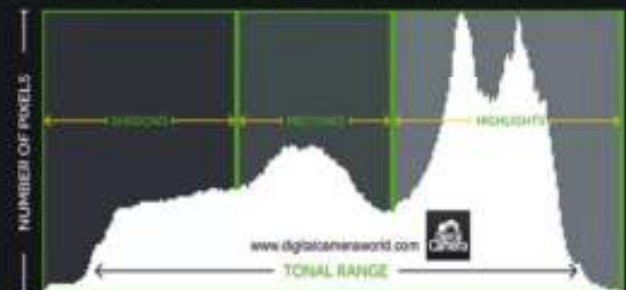
#### THE HISTOGRAM

The histogram is a graph that shows if the images are underexposed, overexposed, or exposed properly. The histogram can be displayed on the screen on the back of most cameras. The graph showing on the left side of the histogram shows what is underexposed (dark) and the graph showing on the right side shows what is overexposed (too bright). The ideal for each photo is to have the peaks in the middle of the histogram and not touching each side.

#### EXPLAINED HOW TO READ A HISTOGRAM


A camera's histogram is an accurate guide to exposure, as it illustrates the range of tones, or brightness levels, present in an image. You

should review the histogram each time you take a picture, so that you can assess if you need to make any exposure adjustments.



**TRY THIS:** Photograph the same subject at different times from early morning to after sunset. Shoot from the same spot and take 5 or 6 shots during the day. Notice which ones you like best and why.

Questions or comments: [diane.yancey@gmail.com](mailto:diane.yancey@gmail.com)





**PASTOR'S APPRECIATION**

Thank you! Both Una and I thank you most sincerely for your words of encouragement and for your love expressed in such tangible ways.

*Thank You*

Thank you and God bless you,  
Pastor Edwin and Una



October 9, 2020

The time has finally come to say our farewell to Douglasville and our church family at Bright Star. It's been a long road but everything has finally fallen into place.

My parents are settled in at Oaks of Douglasville and are being taken care of so that relieves my mind. We have been able to see them now, from a distance and all masked up, but that is better than nothing. We will be back and forth visiting with them until the time God calls them home. Dad just celebrated his 95th birthday and Mom turned 91 in August.

The moving van will be here Monday morning to move us to Ocala. Our new home has been waiting on us for a couple of months and our current home finally sold and will close out next week. Oh what a relief that has been with all the issues going on in our state and county.

We leave behind many friends and fond memories of our 33+ years as members of Bright Star. Our prayers go with Bright Star to continue the ministry God has called this church to do.

We will be seeking out a new church home once we are settled and I pray with God's help we will find that special place where we can serve.

God bless you,  
Teresa & Jim Mackey



Bright Star  
United Methodist Church

**Missions  
2020**

November - PIE Ministry / Angel Tree  
December - PIE Ministry / Angel Tree

PIE = Partner in Education

# Upcoming EVENTS

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
11/02 Election set-up	12/01 Election run-off (if needed)
11/03 General Election	12/01 Trustees-7pm
11/03 Trustees-7pm	12/08 Staff-6pm
11/07 Council planning 9-1pm	12/15 Finance-7pm
11/08 Celebration Sunday	12/13 Angel Tree due
11/10 Staff-6pm	12/24 Christmas Eve-
11/14 Drive Thru Food Pantry	12/25 Christmas Day
11/15 Confirmation Sunday	12/24-31 office closed
11/15 Church Council-noon	
11/17 Finance-7pm	
11/22 Angel Tree goes up	
11/20 Council-noon	
11/26 Thanksgiving-office closed	
11/27 Office closed	
11/29 Hanging of the Greens	



## Finance/Stewardship

Monthly Operating Budget Required:.....\$32,475  
Fiscal YTD Operating Budget required thru October .....\$324,750

**Report thru October 25, 2020**

Operating Budget Received MTD .....\$14,823  
Operating Budget Received Fiscal YTD .....\$248,470  
Average 11:00am Worship Attendance .....56

**Mortgage Account Activity**

Monthly mortgage pymt.....\$8,110.21  
**Principal Balance as of 10/25/20 .....\$1,314,558**

*NOTE: Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31*

***"Strive for \$1.5" Fundraiser as of 6/23/20***

Donations to date (beg. 1/27/19) .....\$108,853  
Amount needed as of 1/27/19 .....\$1,500,000

*"Generous persons will prosper;  
those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."  
Proverbs 11:25, CEB*

Thank You

FOR GIVING FAITHFULLY 100%  
OF ITS APPORTIONED SHARE IN 2019

**Bright Star United Methodist Church**  
Douglasville, GA

**North Georgia Conference**  
Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson

# The Bright Star Beacon

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## **BRIGHT STAR STAFF - *READY TO BE OF SERVICE TO YOU!***

**Rev. Dr. Edwin Jones, *Pastor***  
Kim Daniels, *Office Manager*  
Joan Ray, *Financial Secretary*  
Jill Perry, *Children's Director*  
Dakota Gammage, *Youth Director*

Katie Plumley, *Director of Music/Drama*  
Ivan Winslett, *Assoc. Director Of Music*  
Tara McIlwain, *Nursery*  
Cliff Daniels, *Custodian*  
Richard Jacobus, *Stephen Ministry Referrals*

# (770) 949-2555

**Worship With Us Each Sunday**

**11:00 am in Hunter Hall**

**or livestream via our YouTube channel**

**[brightstarumc](http://brightstarumc)**

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next newsletter is

**November 20, 2020**



**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
**8am - 12pm**

## **OUR PURPOSE**

*As a beacon of light, we will bring people to Jesus Christ, create disciples, share and develop our spiritual gifts, and live a life that magnifies God.*



**BSUMC is a Stephen Ministry congregation**