

Order of Service

*CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAISE & WORSHIP Praise Team

OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah" #98 SOZ

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... The Apostles' Creed #881

*GREETING OUR GUESTS & ONE ANOTHER
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Male Chorus

SCRIPTURE READINGS Leon Amison

Old Testament: Psalm 32 (NRSV)
New Testament: Luke 15:11-24 (NRSV)

SONG OF MEDITATION Mrs. Wynnett Lee

ALTAR CALL & PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Children's Church for ages 4-7 dismissed to children's classroom.
Please check-in children in the Welcome Center.*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Male Chorus

Sermon: Rev. Charles H. Lee

*Retired Superintendent of the North Alabama Conference
of The United Methodist Church*

*AN INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS & CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

*INVITATIONAL HYMN "I Thank You, Jesus" #532 AAHH

CONSECRATION & BLESSING OF OUR ACOLYTE MINISTRY

GOD'S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS**

*THE DOXOLOGY

*OUR VISION STATEMENT & CLOSING SONG

Pastor: My friends, New Beginnings United Methodist Church is...

**Congregation: Transforming lives through mission, ministry and worship
as a prophetic witness for Jesus Christ in the world.**

*BENEDICTION

****SECURE ELETRONIC GIVING OPTIONS Online: www.newbeginningsbham.org/give
Text-To-Give: From your smartphone, text the amount you wish to give to (205) 791-5441**

Sermon Notes



Are You Thinking About Joining the Church?

Don't wait! You may talk with Pastor Cowser about your decision at the altar rails during the *Invitation to Follow Jesus and Church Membership* of any worship service, talk with him in the Welcome Center, or make an appointment to meet. The process is simple and we will get you connected right away. Another great option is to register for our *Next Steps Class*. *Next Steps* is a one-day class designed for new members and those interested in church membership. Register today in the Welcome Center for the next class. Those interested in the Sacrament of Baptism may contact Pastor Cowser or the church office.

Our Church Staff

*Regina Warren, Church Secretary
JonTomas Johnson, Minister of Music & Lead Musician
Nathaniel Willis, Organist
Antonio Anderson, Percussionist*

Ministry Opportunities

The Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. David & Rebecca Hubbard by their children.

Loading for Service-Learning: Students in mission and service at Birmingham-Southern College are here today to explain their service experiences and to offer loaves of bread that they have helped package. The congregation may participate by contributing to the cause after our morning worship service. A contribution of at least \$10.00 (checks should be made payable to "Birmingham-Southern College") is suggested for which you will receive a fresh loaf of bread and the gratitude of all the people involved.

Core Team Meeting: Monday, October 29th, 6:00 p.m.

Pastor's Disciple Bible Study Class: Wednesday, October 31st, 11:00 a.m.



Annual Trunk or Treat: Wednesday, October 31st, 6:00-8:00 p.m. We are in need of candy donations and volunteers to help set-up. Please contact Sierra Hall, Sasha Hubbard, or Sharon Terriel to volunteer. Invite your friends and neighbors for some safe fun.

Daylight Savings Time Ends: Sunday, November 4th – Don't forget to set your clocks back!

Discipleship Division Meeting: Monday, November 5th, 6:00 p.m. Please be prepared to present a draft of your 2019 Calendar of Events that connect with our current S.M.A.R.T. Goals of increasing average worship attendance and strengthening our connection with guests and members, especially as it relates to children and youth.

Election Day: Tuesday: November 6th, 7:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m.

Vision Team Meeting: Saturday, November 10th, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Calling all Military Service Women & Men: If you have served in any branch of the armed service (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy), please sign the list in the Welcome Center, as we prepare to honor our veterans on Sunday, November 11th.

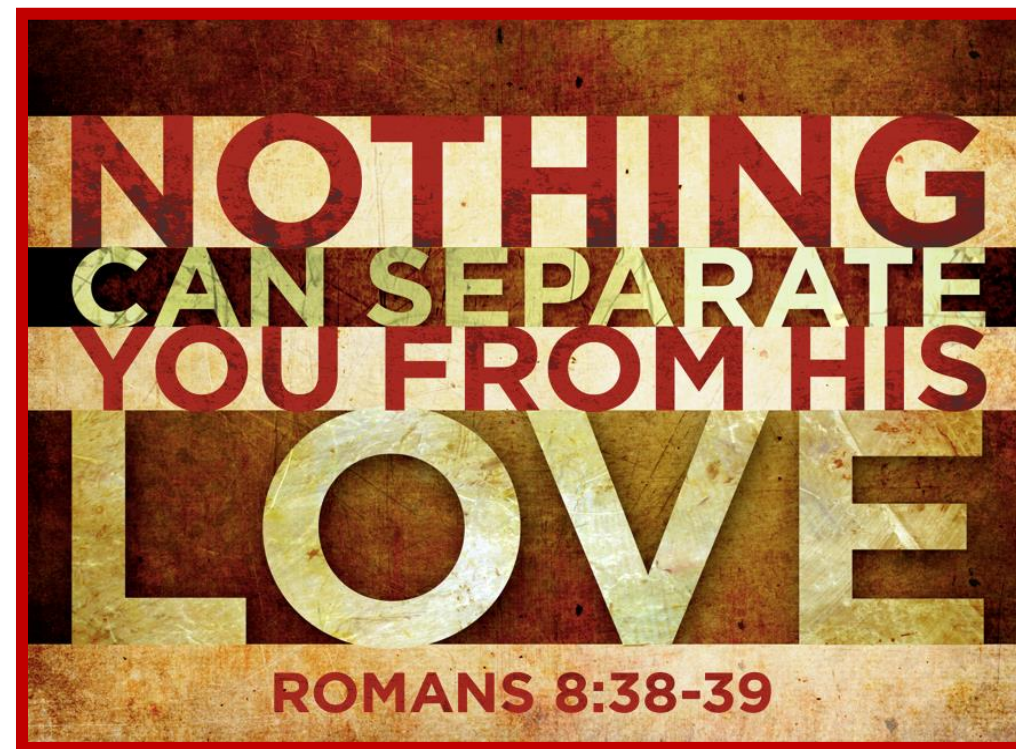
Pastor's Preaching Engagement: Pastor Cowser will be preaching the Homecoming Service at Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church (329 Colony Road, Hanceville, Alabama 35077) on Sunday, November 11th, 3:00 p.m. The choir will be providing the music, the usher board serving, and the entire congregation has been invited to attend. Pleasant Grove supported us during our Annual Revival, so let's plan to support their church and ministry.

Additional Announcements: www.newbeginningsbham.org/calendar
To Receive our E-Newsletter: Text "NBUMC" to 2282
Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



New Beginnings United Methodist Church

Birmingham, Alabama • A Place of Possibilities and Transformation



OUR VISION STATEMENT

*"Transforming Lives through mission, ministry and worship
as a prophetic witness for Jesus Christ in the world."*

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(205) 328-3937 • office@newbeginningsbham.org
www.newbeginningsbham.org

The Reverend Dr. Dedric A. Cowser
Senior Pastor

23rd Sunday after Pentecost | Sunday, October 28, 2018 | 10:30 a.m.

Consecration & Blessing of Our Acolyte Ministry

Pastor Cowser: New Beginnings, I present to you these young people who have been duly trained and are qualified to be consecrated as acolytes for service in the House of God.

My young sisters and brothers, do you believe in your heart that you have been led by the Spirit of God to be an acolyte?

Acolytes: I do.

Pastor Cowser: Will you strive to carry out faithfully the responsibilities and duties of an acolyte to the glory of God and the service of God's holy church?

Acolytes: I will.

Pastor Cowser: Will you follow Jesus Christ as your teacher?

Acolytes: I will.

Pastor Cowser: Will you do all in your power to grow to be more like Jesus by showing love and kindness in all that you do?

Acolytes: I will.

Pastor Cowser: *Name*, I consecrate you as an acolyte in New Beginnings United Methodist Church in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Pastor Cowser: New Beginnings, I commend to you these young people who have been consecrated for service in the church as acolytes. Do all in your power to assist them in fulfilling their duties and to increase their faith in Jesus Christ.

Congregation: We rejoice with you this day and recognize you as acolytes in our church. With God's help, we will seek to support you through our love, prayers and example. Amen.



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What is an Acolyte?

Acolytes have been part of the Christian church in one form or another for nearly 2,000 years.

The word *acolyte* comes from the Greek word *akolouthos*, meaning follower, a helper or assistant. In the early church, acolytes were a clerical order. Acolytes carry into worship the light, processional cross, banners or Bible and assist the pastor with communion, baptism and other duties. Children and youth often serve as acolytes, but adults can serve as well.

"Jesus said: 'I am the light of the world'" (John 8:12). The presence of the light reminds us of Jesus coming into our world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus coming into the presence of the worshipping community.

Many congregations use two candles on the altar to point out that Jesus was both a human being and God; however, there is no rule of the number of candles a congregation should use. At the end of the worship service, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere. This symbolizes the light of Jesus Christ going out into the world where believers are to serve."

Excerpt taken from *Worship Matters Vol II: A United Methodist Guide to Worship Work*, "The Work of Acolytes," E. Byron Anderson (Discipleship Resources, 1999)