



The First United Methodist Church of

Pine Mountain

The Wesleyan Communicator

Open Hearts, Open
Minds, Open Doors

January
2012

From My Heart to Yours

*Hope is the thing with feathers,
That perches on the soul;
Sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.*

.....Emily Dickenson

One of my favorite stores, especially at the first of the year, is Staples. There is just something about breathing deeply in the midst of all those brand new calendars waiting to be marked with important dates, those empty notebooks waiting to be filled with inspiring thoughts, and those unused pencils waiting to be lost. Staples is a store of hope—there is no doubt about that!

When I get that calendar back to the church and on my desk, the feeling has not gone away. My heart is full of hope for the year ahead. That's what the church is—the place where hope should be ladled out like good, hot soup to a hungry soul. The place where hope should be palpable in the air. The place where we can experience hope in our lives as clearly as we see the cross in the sanctuary.

It's certainly what God has promised. In his Revelation, John shares with us the good news that we need not fear the future because Jesus is not only with us today, but is there waiting for us tomorrow, and tomorrow and tomorrow. That, my friends, is real hope!

So, what are you hoping for this year? What fills your heart when you stop and reflect on the journey? What do you hope is around the next bend? I hope to learn to play the saxophone Jim gave me for Christmas. I hope to get serious about exercise.

But those are small things compared to the hope that lives in all our hearts. It is the hope of Jesus we all share as Christians. We don't always feel it. We don't always see it. But, if we pay attention, it grabs us up and sets us apart even when we find ourselves in the dark.

My prayer is that we will live as if we believe that this year! May we thank the God who created us for each day on our calendar! There will be days of rain and days of sunshine. Some days will be better than others. Some days we will want to crawl back into bed and pull the covers over our heads.

Even so, live each day in hope, my friends! It's a gift from the God who loves us! It's the blessed assurance that changes the whole notion of life and death. It's the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God. And that is good news, indeed!

Martha





Staying Connected

Know of any high school students having SAT Math anxieties?



Our Church will offer three classes to prepare students for the March exam: Feb 7, 21, and 28. Mr. Rick has taught Sat Math courses for the past six years. This is open to the community. No cost. Please let Mr. Rick know of students who wish to participate at : ricktadams@bellsouth.net

Hungry for PIZZA???? Noah's Ark is selling Fox's Pizza coupons. For only \$14.00 you can buy a Big Daddy one topping pizza and help us raise money to for the program. We need your help to make this a successful fund raiser. We have challenged our Noah's Ark families to sell at least 8 coupons each and they would love to sell you a coupon or two. Pizza sure does hit the spot after all these big holiday meals we have been eating and Fox's Pizza is sooo- Good! *See Mary Ellen or one of our families for a coupon.*



United Methodist Women Souper Bowl Sunday

January 29th following 11:00 Service

Menu

Two Kinds of Soup
Toasted Cheese Sandwiches and Crackers
Salad
Desserts

Please join us for a delicious luncheon prepared by our UMW ladies. All profits will go to support mission work helping women and children locally and worldwide



The Sew Blessed Group: The Sew Blessed Group enjoys warm fellowship with one another while sharing a variety of creative gifts and talents. We are more than quilters!! Many exciting projects are planned for 2012. In January we will be making juvenile and infant fleece blankets for The Medical Center in Columbus and Henderson Settlement. We want to extend an invitation to all ladies and men who like to sew, crochet, knit, quilt, design, create, or just have good fun to come and join us the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 9:30am in the Family Life Center. Our first meeting for 2012 is Thursday, January 12, at 9:30am. For more information call Sandra Barge @ 706-628-7435.

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Starting in January

On the final Friday of every month. The Family Life Center will be open for our youth to come and "hang out" from 7—9 PM. There will be air hockey, foosball, ping pong, board games available. Snacks will be offered and non stop Christian Rock videos.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Church Mugs

Picture and name of our church on one side. Mugs will be given out to our Sunday Morning guests.

Radical Hospitality

If you would like to have one or more, they are available for \$5.00 each. Would make a nice gift!





Staying Connected

From Jacob Douthit

BIBLE Challenge

(Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth)

Seeds can't be grown if they aren't planted. Though the seed may be rejected, there is a chance the seed will be late and still sprout. Which is more astonishing: a lichen or moss that slowly creeps along an old log, or a tree or flower planted in the ground as a seed ever so slowly becoming what it was meant to be. Which becomes more profound? Plants are a wonderful part of Life. They are a wonderful part of God's Creation.

Say that I throw a handful of seeds up in the air. I throw those seeds not even with the slightest care where they go. All of the seeds are caught in the wind, and who knows where they will land. One might land in the ocean and never grow. One might land on the road and never grow. One might even get caught on my shirt and end up in the washing machine. Another might end up in my garden and sprout into the most beautiful flower ever seen.

As Christians we have a mission: To Spread the word of God. To Plant that seed. How can We spread the word of God if we aren't familiar with it ourselves. The best way to be familiar is to start memorizing verses. This isn't something I'm accustomed to but as my New Year's Resolution it will be something I am accustomed to. To Fight the Good Fight of faith we must be knowledgeable so that we can save the Hearts of those around Us. Join Me in this challenge, there is no consequence if you fail to memorize a verse, there is no reprimand for forgetting. All you have to do is try. If you try then God will meet you in the middle and help you the rest of the way. You have a full week to learn the verses Individually that I've set aside. Each week LEARN not memorize the verses. Good luck

Week 1 (Jan 1- Jan7) 1Timothy 6:12

Week 2 (Jan 8- Jan 14) 1 Thessalonians 5:8

Week 3 (Jan 15- Jan 21) Matthew 5:13-16

Week 4 (Jan 22- Jan 28) 1Timothy 4:12

Week 5 (Jan 29- Feb 4) Matthew 5:3-12

Week 6 (Feb 5- Feb11) Luke 2:30

Week 7 (Feb12- Feb 18) John 3:17

Week 8 (Feb 19- Feb 25) Isaiah 53:5

Week 9 (Feb 26- March 3) John 6:47

Week 10 (March 4- March 10) Jeremiah 1:7

Week 11 (March 11- March 17) Psalm 44:22

Week 12 (March 18- March 24) 1 Thess. 4:16

Week 13 (March 25- March 31) Luke 19:10

Week 14 (April 1-April 7) Matthew 19:14

Week 15 (April 8- April 14) Habakkuk 3:19

Week 16 (April 15- April 21) Ephesians 6:12

Week 17 (April 22- April 28) Psalm 103:1-4

Week 18 (April 29- May 5) 1 Timothy 6:7

Week 19 (May 6- May 12) Ecclesiastes 7:20

Week 20 (May 13- May 19) Mark 2:8-11

Week 21 (May 20- May 26) John 1:1-5

Week 22 (May 27- June 2) Exodus 3:14

Week 23 (June 3- June 9) Psalms 31: 7-8

Week 24 (June 10- June 16) Jeremiah 12:2

Week 25 (June 17- June 23) Romans 6:1-4

Week 26 (June 24- June 30) Isaiah 58:10

Week 27 (July 1- July 7)1 Corinthians 14:15-17

Week 28 (July 8- July 14) Jude 1:20-23

Week 29 (July 15- July 21) 1 John 4:13-16

Week 30 (July 22- July 28) Romans 3:23

Week 31 (July 29- Aug 4) John 4: 10, 13-15

Week 32 (Aug 5- Aug 11)Ephesians 2:4-5

Week 33 (Aug 12- Aug 18) Jeremiah 29:11

Week 34 (Aug 19- Aug 25) Psalm 100:4

Week 35 (Aug 26- Sept 1) Isaiah 43: 1-3a

Week 36 (Sept 2- Sept 8) Ecclesiastes 10:13-14

Week 37 (Sept 9- Sept 15) Romans 8:38-39

Week 38 (Sept 16- Sept 22) John 6: 35,51,53

Week 39 (Sept 23- Sept 29) Isaiah 9:6

Week 40 (Sept 30- Oct 6) Matthew 5:8

Week 41 (Oct 7- Oct 13) Luke 2:10-11

Week 42 (Oct 14- Oct 20) Habakkuk 3:18

Week 43 (Oct 21- Oct 27) 1 Corinthians 15:19

Week 44 (Oct 28- Nov 3) Proverbs 18:24

Week 45 (Nov 4- Nov 10) Psalm 19:14

Week 46 (Nov 11- Nov 17) Romans 1:19-20

Week 47 (Nov 18- Nov 24) Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Week 48 (Nov 25- Dec 1) 2 Corinthians 4:18

Week 49 (Dec 2- Dec 8) Proverbs 27:17

Week 50 (Dec 9- Dec 15) Romans 8:28

Week 51 (Dec16- Dec 22) 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Week 52 (Dec 23- Dec 29) Hebrews 11:1



Children's Ministry

Upcoming Events:

January 8- All children activities resumed
January 28- Family Game Night and Covered Dish
Dinner 5:30-7:30



THANK YOU!

The children would like to say thank you to all that attended the Children's Christmas

Program. We hope that you and your family had a blessed holiday season!

Nursery News:

Thanks to all that love our little tots! Due to so many of our tots being "on the move" we are restructuring the procedures in the nursery. Baby gates will be put up at each door for safety precautions and we ask that only the workers and scheduled volunteers go into the rooms. Please continue to come by and say hello between Sunday School and Worship! This procedure will keep us safe and help with the structure of drop off /pick up. A big thanks goes to all that help our little angels in the nursery! See Shannon if you would like to volunteer.



Have a Talent to Share?

His Helping Hands Club (3H) is looking for new projects for 2012. If you have a talent that you could teach our children or know of a service project please see

Shannon. This could include planting flowers in church beds, painting, sewing, crafts, etc. 3H Club meets on Sunday afternoons from 4:30-5:30.

Costumes Needed:

The Children's Department will be working on getting new Christmas pageant costumes for December 2012. If you would like to help in this sewing project please see Shannon!



Costumes Needed



Pop Tabs, Labels for Education and Box Tops can be placed in the designated cans on the first floor of the CEC.

These labels will be given to area schools and the Ronald McDonald House.

Children Programs

Sunday Evenings

3H Club—4:30-5:30pm

Wednesday Evenings

Children's Choir—6:15-6:55pm

Kingdom Seekers—7:00-7:30pm



Youth Ministry

WEEKLY YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sunday

4:30—5:30 Choir
5:30—7:30 UMYF

Wednesday

6:15—7:00 Bible Study
7:00—7:30 Choir

SUNDAY SCHOOL both Middle and High School classes meet at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall



YOUTH ROOM MAKE-OVER

Mr. Rick and many volunteers spent part of Christmas break painting the room. New carpet will be next and a new video system will be added.

BUT

We Need Your Help

Mr. Rick forgot about the three windows, The blue and yellow current curtains don't seem to match the new green and grey walls. If you are good with a sewing machine perhaps you can bless our "new" room Please contact Mr. Rick.

ALSO,

We need furniture. If you have sofas, love seats, comfy chairs please let Mr. Rick know. We can arrange pick-up, if necessary



Look for Youth with Rice bowls. We are collecting for orphans around the world. For more info go to ricebowls.org



John, one of Jesus' closest disciples, took on the task of proving the identity of Christ. John paints a picture of Jesus as the Son of God, the promised Messiah, and the redeemer of God's children. Proof teaches your students the story of Christ through His powerful teaching, His amazing miracles, and His death and resurrection.

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

6:15—7:00



FAMILY DAY AT ICE ARENA

Our Youth joined Miss Shannon and the children of the Church for fun on the ice in Columbus and a meal. I am not sure we have any future Wayne Gretskys or Dorothy Hamils but everyone improved and had a great time!

INVITING ALL YOUTH

Any youth grades 6 thru 12 are welcome to join us. If you have any questions contact Rick Adams at 706-663-4420 or at ricktadams@bellsouth.net.

These are crucial years. Without God in them, it is a roll of the dice



Noah's Ark



Show me your ways, O Lord: Teach me Your paths, Lead me in Your truth and teach me. For you are the God of my salvation: on You I wait all the day.

It is great to be back at Noah's Ark! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas! Thank you to all our families that came to our Christmas Party and Program and brought cookies! The children did a great job of entertaining us all!! Also Thank you to Zach Hartley for being our Santa again this year! In January we look forward to learning about winter animals, snow, and enjoy some of our favorite stories. Then on Thursday, Jan. 26 we will have one of our favorite events at Noah's Ark...The Pajama Party! I don't know who enjoys it more... the parents since they don't have to dress their child for school, the teachers or the children themselves! We will watch a movie, eat popcorn and relax in our PJ's!

In February we always enjoy learning about our local Community Helpers and other careers! We look forward to our special visitors and trips through town. If you have anything to share with the children we would love for you to join us one day this month. It can be a collection, hobby or special talent. Please contact me at 663-9521 or leave me a note in my box. Thank You!

In Christ Love, Karen



Case, Ellen Elizabeth and Hunter have fun laughing together



Kelsey, Katelyn and Jane love to smile for the camera



Macurdy loved the Christmas Lights

Bo enjoys making Christmas Cookies



Mitchel thinks school is fun

Smile Gaitz



In Our Prayers

Our Church Family

Louise Burlton
 Van Boulware
 Terry Chandler
 Jane Claire Culverhouse
 Peggy Davis
 Gary Dawson
 Terry Holmes
 Jackie Jarrett
 Ann Koze
 Skye Loftin
 Aston Mabry
 Dathan Mabry
 Emma Mabry

Ed Manseau
 Irene Mapes
 Teresa McCullohs
 Elliott Moon
 Martha Morgan
 Lexie Paulk
 Betty Roberts
 Irene & John Sale
 Fran White
 John Willis, Sr.
 John Y. Willis
 Sandy Wilson
 Our Church

Extended Church Family

Danny Bridges, Friend of Sandy Wilson
 Jane Coefield, Missionary
 Eva Creech, Mother of Amy Mabry
 Glenn Crowder, Neighbor to church
 Lloyd & Loretta Darby, Parents of Pam Davis
 Evelyn Davis, Mother of Steve Davis
 Ella Goudie, Friend of Aria Mabry
 Barbara Gray, former church member
 Andy Hagler, Son of Pat & John Hagler
 Gary Levi, Member of our community
 Brandon Mallory, Nephew of Terry Douthit
 Neal McCullohs, Former member
 Jonathan Parker, Friend of April Turner
 Bob Reed, Friend of Tracy Willey
 Steve Shealy, Nephew of Lamar & Carol Hamric
 Louise Smith, Mother of Mark Smith
 Robert Smith, Father of April Loftin
 Donald Stephens, Friend of Sandy Wilson
 LaVerne Thompson, Mother of Dawn Swanson
 Cassy Williamson, Daughter-in-law of
 Janet & Bobby Williamson
 Our Country & All Nations

**Celebrating This Month
 January Anniversaries**

- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Parrish
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Ed Douthit
- 21 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Willey



January Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Harold Tarpley | 21 Kinley Emerson |
| 3 George Elmore | 22 Bill Bass |
| 4 Terry Chandler | 22 Julian Sivell |
| 5 Jim Lovern | 23 Ellen Elizabeth Ertle |
| 6 Rachel Chambers | 23 Jo Holladay |
| 8 Kay Hightower | 24 Teri Lind |
| 8 Justin Smoot | 24 Genie Clancy |
| 11 Nikki Clepper | 25 Gunnar Williamson |
| 11 Anne Story | 26 Janis Phillips |
| 13 Mim Clepper | 29 Nick Peterson |
| 14 Geneva Elmore | 30 Amy Riley |
| 19 Angie Barker | 30 Miriam Adamson |
| 19 Vanita Boulware | 30 Jackie Jarrett |
| | 31 Jan Simmons |

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or not listed, please contact the church office so we can correct our records.

If you have a request for someone to be on our prayer list, please complete the purple card on the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate.

Financial Information as of December 25



General Budget

Budgeted: \$409,500.00
 Received: \$380,216.53

Exercising the Faith

In order to reach our Vision 2020 Goal to be debt free by 2020 we need to average \$48,000 per year **above and beyond** our General Budget [Campaign year from June through May each year]



Received Campaign 2011/2012: \$10,571.00
 Received to date: \$134,816.25



January Calendar

6	Emmaus Reunion Group	6:30pm	CEC
7	UM Men	8:00am	FLC
9	Louise Miller Circle	12:00pm	FLC
9	Open Door Ministry	7:00am	
11	Wednesday Night Suppers Resume	5:30pm	FLC
12	Sew Blessed Quilters	9:30am	FLC
15	Finance Committee	6:00pm	CEC
15	Church Council	7:00pm	CEC
23	Open Door Ministry	7:00am	
26	Sew Blessed Quilters	9:30am	FLC
28	Family Game Night	5:30pm	FLC
29	Souper Bowl Sunday	12:00pm	FLC

Every Sunday

- 8:30am Worship
- 9:30am Coffee/Fellowship
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 11:00am Worship
- 4:30pm Youth Choir
- 4:30pm 3H Club
- 5:30pm UMYF

Every Wednesday

- 5:30pm Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:15pm Youth UMYF
- 6:15pm Children's Choir
- 6:30pm Bible Study
- 6:30pm Chancel Choir
- 7:00pm Kingdom Seekers
- 7:00pm Youth Choir

Every Tuesday

- 10:30am Pastor's Bible Study

The First United Methodist Church of
 Pine Mountain
 McDougald Avenue, N.
 P. O. Box 246
 Pine Mountain, GA 31822

Phone: 706-663-2538
 Fax: 706-663-9559
 Email: mdyefumcpm@bellsouth.net
www.fumcpinemountain.com

