

First United Methodist Church of Union County
938 Hwy 515
Blairsville, GA 30512
(706) 745-2073



Remember that all of these labels and cards benefit programs here at our church. You may place the labels in the appropriate boxes on the narthex desk.



Contact Us

STAFF MEMBERS	TITLE	PHONE EXT.	EMAIL ADDRESS
Ben B. Lewis	Pastor	223	blewis777@aol.com
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Matt Meeks	Ass't Minister " "	227	matt@solidrockga.com
Stan Wallace	Older Adult/Recreation	222	stanwallace@windstream.net
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Parish Nurses		224	parishnurses@gmail.com

Church Email Address: firstumc@windstream.net

Church Web Address: fumcunioncounty.org

Church Fax Number: 706-781-6252

Times that Services are aired on Cable Channel 4: Sundays at 9:00 am and 8:30 pm.

Pastor On-call Phone number for evenings, holidays and weekends: 706-994-4501



First News

Vol. 4, issue 2

First United Methodist Church of Union County

February 2011

“...FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS”

Esther 4:14

RISE UP!

The New Testament Greek has two words for time – chronos and kairos. Chronos, which gives us our word chronology, is tick-tock time. Each second is exactly like the one that preceded it and the one that follows it. It is boring time, humdrum time, drudgery time, meaningless time, empty time.

Thank God, there is another kind of time. It’s called kairos. Kairos time is full time, vital time, crucial time, decisive time, God’s time. Kairos moments are those powerful, extra-special moments that are packed with meaning. While chronos is tick-tock time, kairos is when time stands still.

How long has it been since you had a moment so powerful that time stood still? Kairos is when God breaks into the routine and speaks loud and clear, and you are touched so powerfully deep in your soul that you can never be the same again. A cartoonist depicts an idea with a light bulb flashing. It is a “Voila!” moment, an “ah-ha” experience. Theologians call it the moment of revelation.

We have spent far too much time (chronos) in a state of dis-ease (a state of discomfort) and not enough time (kairos-God moments) in a healthy state of ease --freedom from pain or discomfort, freedom from care, freedom from labor or difficulty, and freedom from embarrassment or constraint.

How long has it been since we have had a moment so powerful that time stood still?

This is my VISION for 2011 for our church: **ALLOW GOD TO BREAK INTO OUR DIS-EASE AND SPEAK LOUD AND CLEAR SO THAT YOU AND I ARE TOUCHED SO POWERFULLY DEEP IN OUR SOULS SO THAT WE CAN NEVER EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN.** How shall we see this VISION accomplish?

1. Stop looking through the preverbal microscope at all the things that are wrong with our church.
2. Start looking through the FAITH microscope at how much God has blessed us with, and began claiming the (over 700) promises of God.
3. Begin looking through God’s telescope at all of the DIS-EASE in our community and world. Have a kairos moment that God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. The more we bless others the more God blesses us (spiritual law).
4. To put into place and practice another one of the FIVE PRACTICES OF A FRUITFUL CHURCH—Intentional Faith Development. Faith Development refers to how we intentionally learn in order to deepen our faith and to grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God. Put simply it is purposeful spiritual growth.

Therefore, I am asking you as the body of Christ at First United Methodist Church of Union County to **RISE UP IN FAITH FOR SUCH A TIME (KAIROS) AS THIS!** Will you join me?

Your Servant,

Worship Services

To Know Christ - To Make Christ Known

8:30 am Casual Service
Sanctuary
Pastor Ben B. Lewis

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Traditional Service
Sanctuary
Pastor Ben B. Lewis

10:45 am Contemporary
The MAC
Pastor Richard Rivera

Membership News

January Average Worship Attendance

8:30 Early Service	68
9:45 Sunday School	144
10:45 Traditional	205
10:45 Thrive	107

February Servers

Ushers: JoAnn Strickland
Tonia Albright
Ron Schultz
Jean Mellor
James Jordan
Ty Cobb

Greeters:

8:30 Norris & Peggy Wood

10:45 James & Ceil Jordan



THE GATHERING

THE GATHERING is a good time for us to get to know each other better. Come by and join us around 9:30 am in the Youth Room downstairs in the MAC.

The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 6	Journey
Feb. 13	Fidelis
Feb. 20	Bridges
Feb. 27	Searchers/Joy

Thanks to the Sunday School classes who bring scrumptious food items for this social time before Sunday school each week.

New News



On February 18th Head Coach Mark Richt will be speaking in Blairsville at First Baptist Church. He will be delivering an inspirational speech to benefit the Glenda Gooch House. The program will begin at 12:15 pm. Doors will open at 11:00 am. Tickets are on sale now at any United Community Bank branch. Tickets are \$20.00/adult and \$10.00/student.



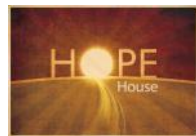
You are invited to attend the 10th Annual S.A.F.E. Charity Gala on Saturday, February 5th from 5 pm till 10 pm. It will take place at Brasstown Valley Resort and include dinner, dancing and auction. Tickets are \$60 each or 2 for \$100. These may be bought at 706.379.1901.



Our Stephen Ministers are ready to be of service! If you or someone you know is experiencing some challenges in life, and need someone to listen, to care, to lean on then Stephen Ministers are here for you. Please call the church office to find out how to have one.



Both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will be recognized in the traditional 10:45 service on Sunday, February 13th.



All Saints' Lutheran Church is having a craft sale on Saturday, February 12th from 9:00 to 2:00 pm. Proceeds will go directly to Hope House. Hope House is the county's benevolence center. If you'd like more information on Hope House, please contact Evelyn in the church office.



The 2011 Altar Flower calendar is available on the narthex desk. Open dates are still available to remember or honor someone. Cost is \$32.10.



The church staff sadly bid adieu to our financial secretary Sandee Peluso this past week. She left for personal reasons, and was very sad to leave us. She thanks everyone for their kindness during her time here.



Please remember to bring in non-perishable food items to the food boxes located in the narthex and MAC entrances. Winter is a long season. The holidays have passed and the contributions have slowed. Your generosity in restocking the pantry is appreciated.



February Calendar

February 1	Raven Heyer Brannon McAfee John Moon
February 2	Kathy Zimmerman
February 3	Peter Hussey Lisa Nalaschi
February 6	David Heyer
February 7	Gary Marshall Gina Nalaschi
February 8	Sue Chumley John Mark Turner
February 9	Kirby Bowron Kristen Kinnett Lee Weitzel
February 10	Norma Day
February 11	Kristy Carrier Mary Fletcher Elaine Neuhaus Ruth Twedt
February 12	Rebecca Conkle
February 13	Kathie McAfee Mamie Rogers
February 14	Nedra Kass
February 15	Kathy Berry Shirlee Evans Pat Warden
February 16	Terry Rogers
February 19	Barbara Marshall Ray Rogers Manon Thompson
February 20	Erin (Albright) ?? Ray Berry
February 21	Wes Seiler Ian Servis
February 22	JoAnn Mayhew
February 23	Eva Breedlove
February 24	Darrell Hackney
February 26	Myrtle von Staden
February 27	Joe Colwell
February 28	Anne Cooley Adalyn Rogers Grace Wischmeyer

Calendar cont'd.....

Thursday, 24th	OASIS
Sunday, 27th	Worship Services
Monday, 28th	Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am Stephens, 6:00 pm Zumba, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, 1st	Scrapbooking, 9:30 am Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Tai Chi, 1:30 pm Men's Bible Study, 10:00 am Get Fit, 5:15 pm Radical Hospitality, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 2nd	Morning Glory Circle, 10:00 am FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm WNL supper 5:00 pm Programming, 6:00 pm Choir, 7:00 pm
Thursday, 3rd	OASIS Get Fit, 5:15pm Circle of Love/Bible Study, 6:15 pm
Sunday, 6th	Worship Services
Monday, 7th	Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am Stephens, 6:00 pm Zumba, 6:30 pm
Tuesday, 8th	Scrapbooking 9:30 am Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study, 10:00 am Tai Chi, 1:30 pm Get Fit, 5:15 pm
Wednesday, 9th	FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm WNL Supper 5:00pm Programming, 6:00pm Choir, 7:00 pm
Thursday, 10th	OASIS Get Fit, 5:15 pm
Sunday, 13th	Worship Services - Scout Sunday
Monday, 14th	Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am Stephens, 6:00 pm Zumba, 6:30 pm
Tuesday, 15th	Scrapbooking 9:30 am Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study, 10:00 am UMW Missions, 10:00 am Get Fit, 5:15 pm Radical Hospitality, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 16th	FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm WNL Supper, 5:00 pm Programming, 6:00 pm Choir, 7 pm
Thursday, 17th	OASIS
Saturday, 19th	Ladies' Bible Study, 6:15 pm UMM, 8:00 am YAH—Presidential Pathways Trip Scouts Blue/Gold Banquet
Sunday, 20th	Worship Services
Monday, 21st	Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am Stephens, 6:00 pm Zumba, 6:30 pm MIFT, 6:30 pm
Tuesday, 22nd	Scrapbooking 9:30 am Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study, 10:00 am Get Fit, 5:15 pm
Wednesday, 23rd	FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm WNL Supper, 5:00 pm Programming, 6:00 pm Choir, 7 pm

Wed. PM Schedule

3:30 FUNdamentals
 5:00 Supper
 6:00 Hand bell Practice
 6:00 Children/Youth Programs
 6:00 Adult Bible Study
 7:00 Choir Practice



February 6 Team #4
 February 13 Team #5
 February 20 Team #6
 January 27 Team #1

Team #1 Steven Seiler
 Sam Seiler
 Adam Rowe
 Team #2 Ben Wegas
 Alex Collins
 Emma Collins
 Team #3 Caleb Metcalf
 Isaac Metcalf
 Eric Perricone
 Team #4 Caroline Legg
 Adalyn Rogers
 Team #5 Grace Rivera
 Tanner Carrier
 Team #6 Milo Bauman
 Grace Wischmeyer
 Mary Wischmeyer



Wednesday Night Suppers

Wed., Feb. 2nd Roasted chicken with pineapple, rice, twice-cooked noodles with vegetables, salad and mandarin orange cake
Dinah Carter
Kids' Menu: Pizza pockets, carrot & celery sticks, fruit, banana pudding and pb & j station

Wed., Feb. 9th Loaded baked potato bar, chili, salad, fruit and dessert
Joyce Wyckoff
Kids' Menu: Grilled cheese, chicken noodle soup, veggies, fruit and ice cream and pb & j station

Wed., Feb. 16th Barbeque, baked beans, slaw and dessert
Methodist Men
Kids' Menu: Spaghetti bake, garlic bread, green beans, and Valentines' day cake and pb & j station

Wed., Feb. 23rd Bistro Night with a variety of soups and subs, dessert
Circle of Love
Kids' Menu: Ham & cheese/ Turkey & cheese subs, chips, fruit, cookies and pb & j station

SOLID ROCK STUDENT MINISTRY

I just wanted to send out a look at 2011. 2011 is our second year of our three year vision. The first year was challenging in many ways. More ways than I can express here in writing.

The highlights for 2011 are so that everyone can see that we are on track for having a successful year in ministering to our children and youth. The potential for growth is there to obtain. I would say that my greatest concern is the financial pressure of producing at a level of expectation that is fitting for our church family. I guess this is where faith comes in and sets for us a path of security.

Please recognize that what is being highlighted is on top of our weekly discipleship programming to nursery, pre-school, elementary, middle school and high school students. This listing of events trumps the budget calendar that was handed out in August.

Because We Love Them, Richard

January 9th: Spaghetti Fund Raiser for REAL '11
 January 14th-16th: REAL '11
 February 18th-20th: Confirmation Class @ Camp Glisson
 March 27th: Bake Sale to raise money for the ministry as a whole
 April 17th: Children waving of palms for Palm Sunday service followed by Easter egg hunt on the hill
 April 24th: Confirmation confirmed in Traditional Service
 May 7th: Car wash fund raiser during the men's pancake breakfast
 May 13th-15th: D'NOW for middle and high school students
 May 22nd: Honor graduates
 June 6th-9th: VBS/Xtreme
 July 3rd: 4th of July fireworks fund raiser
 July 11th-15th: Youth Camp: Myrtle Beach
 October 30th: Fall Festival on the hill
 December 4th: Basket fund raiser
 December 11th: Christmas production and dinner
 December 14th: Super Wednesday with Christmas parties for children and youth

Did You Know?



In Wales wooden love spoons were carved and given as gifts on February 14th. Hearts, keys and keyholes were favourite decorations on the spoons. The decoration meant, "You unlock my heart!"

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

In some countries, a young woman may receive a gift of clothing from a young man. If she keeps the gift, it means she will marry him.

Some people used to believe that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire.

A love seat is a wide chair. It was first made to seat one woman and her wide dress. Later, the love seat or courting seat had two sections, often in an S-shape. In this way, a couple could sit together -- but not too closely!

Think of five or six names of boys or girls you might marry, As you twist the stem of an apple, recite the names until the stem comes off. You will marry the person whose name you were saying when the stem fell off.

Pick a dandelion that has gone to seed. Take a deep breath and blow the seeds into the wind. Count the seeds that remain on the stem. That is the number of children you will have.

If you cut an apple in half and count how many seeds are inside, you will also know how many children you will have.

Opportunities @



MAC Winter Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8:00am - 8:00pm

Wednesday: 8:00am - 5:00:pm

Friday: 8:00am – 1:00pm



Upward Indoor Soccer!

First Game: Saturday, February 5th

We will again be hosting the games for our Kindergarten, 1st grade and second grade divisions on Saturdays in February and March. Games begin at 9:00am. Come out and support our children. **Awards Night:** Saturday, March 12th at the MAC

Mac Fitness in February! ...



"Zumba" Fitness... Mondays at 6:30pm Class meets downstairs in the MAC in room M-0. What is a Zumba fitness class like? It's a very exciting dance party atmosphere full of Latin and international music. You'll forget you're working out with the simple moves to dance music like Cha Cha, Salsa, reggaeton, rumba and more. Best of all, you don't need any previous dance experience! The workout is basically watch and follow. The moves are repeated often enough for you to catch on and they're not complicated. Class will work with DVD instruction. There is no cost.

"Get Fit" Exercise Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays led by Dan D'Agostino. Class includes weight training, cardio exercise, and muscle toning and meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:15pm until 6:00pm in room M-0 downstairs at the MAC. and there is no cost. Bring a mat and some hand weights.

Christ Centered Yoga: Compliment any exercise program at any fitness level with yoga. Led by Pat Tomzyck. Cost is \$5.00 per class. Bring your own yoga mat. Meets Tuesdays at 9:00am in Room M-0 and 5:30pm. In room M-32.

"Tai Chi": Tuesdays at 1:30pm downstairs at the MAC in room M-0 and is open to everyone. Class is led by Dr. Dennis Tidwell. Cost is \$5.00 per class. Bring a mat!

Young at Heart

Presidential Pathways! February 19-20 Featuring... the Andersonville National Historic Site, National Prisoner of War Museum, Lodging at the Historic Windsor Hotel in Americus, Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, Plains, Attend President Carter's Sunday School Class.

Cost is \$95.00 per person (double occupancy) plus \$ for 2 meals and includes transportation, lodging, and 2 meals. We will leave the church at 7:00am on Saturday the 19th and return at approx. 6:00pm on Sunday the 20th. Sign up by bringing the full amount to the church office. Registration deadline is Monday, February 7th Grab a roommate and sign up today!

YAH Coming Events...

March 11 Scotts' Antique Market in Atlanta

April 15 Young Harris Spring Play "Carousel"

Prayer Corner



God Hears Our Prayers

D. L. Moody gave this illustration of the wonderful results of prayer:

While I was in Edinburgh, a man was pointed out to me by a friend, who said, "That man is chairman of the Edinburgh Infidel Club." I went and sat beside him and said, "My friend, I am glad to see you in our meeting. Are you concerned about your welfare?"

"I do not believe in any hereafter," he replied.

"Well, just get down on your knees and let me pray for you."

"No, I do not believe in prayer."

So I knelt beside him as he sat, and I prayed for him. He made a great deal of sport of it. A year later, I met him again. I took him by the hand and said, "Hasn't God answered my prayer yet?"

"There is no God," he said. "If you believe in one who answers prayer, try your hand on me."

"Well, a great many people are now praying for you, and God's time will come, and I believe you will be saved yet."

Some time afterwards, I got a letter from a leading barrister in Edinburgh telling me that my infidel friend had come to Christ, and that seventeen of his club men had followed his example. I did not know how God would answer prayer, but I knew He would answer. Let us come boldly to God.

Yes, this took place in a different era, but we serve the same wonderful prayer-answering God. He longs to bring salvation to those who will believe, confess and trust in Him as Savior. May we never grow weary of praying for those who do not know Him.

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And when you pray please remember our military and homebound members.

### Homebound:

Bonnie McCullum  
Omah Rogers  
Shirlee Evans  
May Langman  
Lavon Butt

Jim Hinton  
Elizabeth Henley  
Hattie Gleasure  
Lois Barr



## Military Addresses

**Fireman Brandon Rignour**, 320A Dewey Avenue, BEQ 634 RMG 208, Great Lake, Illinois 60088. His email is: brandonrignour@yahoo.com. He is Rosa Mandon's great-grandson.

**EN1 (SW) Blane Dorton**, He is Buddy & Teresa Moore and Bob Dorton's son.

**ND Brody Dorton**, He is Buddy & Teresa Moore and Bob Dorton's son .

**AW3 Evan Albright**, HS-4 Unit 25172, FPO AP 96001-5704. He is the son of Tonia Albright.

**1 Lt. Loertscher, Seth, J.**, 11 11th Street, Apartment 9, Columbus, Georgia 31901. He is Ruth Stefko's nephew.

**A1C Krystle Lewis** 1531 West Lemom Street, Apt. 4405, Tampa, FL 33606. She is the daughter of Barry and Shelley Lewis.

**Pvt, Prentice, Nathaniel**, 11214 8th Avenue CT E #82, Tacoma, Washington 98455. He is the grandson of Juanita Prentice.

**Krogmeier, Cory** Army. Grandson of Lois Connolly.

**Capt. Paul Hargrove** (Army Special Forces), 1266 Arailia Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28314. He is Myrtle & Henry Von Staden's grandson in law.

**1st Sgt. Kevin Ryan** (Air Force), 104 Creekside Lane, VAFB, CA 93437. He is Henry Von Staden's grandson in law.

**Cpt. Laura Jeffrey, 1 Sgt. Craig Jeffrey, Lt. Andre LaTaste** All children of Vern and Angie Craft

**Sgt 1st class, Josh Pierce**, grandson-in-law of George Houdeshel.

**Sgt. Patrick Riley** 2/1 WPNS Co., Unit 40210, FPO AP 96427-0210. Patrick is Norm and Carole Thompson's grandson.

**USAF Major Curtis DeLoach**, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Curtis is the son of JoAnna and Sam DeLoach

**Corp Christopher Womack**, P.O. Box 8549, Camp Lejeune, NC 28528. He is the grandson of Glen and Linda Womack.

**Sgt. Matthew Ueltzen**, Army, Afghanistan. He is the son of Evelyn and David Ueltzen.

## United Methodist Men

The UMM meeting for this month is Saturday, February 19th at 8:00 am in the fellowship hall.



Thanks to North Georgia's snow event on Sunday, the 9th of January, OASIS was cancelled on the following Thursday. Due to that cancellation we have extended the winter session to March 3rd to make up that day. Should we have another snow day it will become a lost day and will NOT be made up. The winter session will end on March 3rd.

Looking ahead to Spring session, registration forms will be mailed out in February. A firm return date will be printed on the registration form itself. The North Georgia News and Towns County weekly papers will also carry this information.

The OASIS website, [www.oasisfumc.com](http://www.oasisfumc.com) will carry up-to-date information, and you are invited to check it out at any time. The Spring registration forms will also be made available at the MAC desk and at several venues through the local area. Hopefully, you will find something that interests you and we will see you during the Spring session. Your suggestions and input are always welcome for consideration.

## United Methodist Women Circles

Circle of Love will meet February 3rd and 17th at 6:15 pm downstairs in the children's theater. We will continue the Beth Moore study, "Jesus, the One and Only."



Morning Glory Circle will meet Wednesday, February 2nd at 10:00 am in the Friendship SS room.

UMW Missions Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 15th in the Bray Chapel.

MIFT will meet on Monday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in the children's theater.

### Dates to Remember:



*February 2nd*

*February 14th*



*February 21st*



## Parish Nursing

Blood pressures will be taken Sunday, February 6th in the MAC.

February is American Heart Month. Maintaining heart health involves diet, exercise, and reducing stress.

**DIET:** Reduce saturated fats in your diet and increase servings of fruit and vegetables; maintain a healthy weight.

**EXERCISE:** Walking is one of the best exercises. 30 minutes several times a week is a good goal. Join the Walking Club sponsored by the Health Cabinet.

**STRESS:** Read Matthew 6:25-34 about worry. Yesterday is gone, tomorrow hasn't arrived. All we have is today, so take life one day at a time, and trust in the Lord.

Advance notice of the American Red Cross Blood drive at our church: March 13th, Sunday. Sign up sheets will be available in mid-February. The life you save with your blood could be that of a friend or a loved one.

