

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



Don't forget your box tops and Ingles' card over the summer!

Contact Us

STAFF MEMBERS	TITLE	PHONE EXT.	EMAIL ADDRESS
Ben B. Lewis	Pastor	223	blewis777@aol.com
Richard Rivera	Minister of Young Families	232	richardrivera68@gmail.com
Stan Wallace	Older Adult/Recreation	222	stanwallace@windstream.net
Evelyn Ueltzen	Administrative Ass't	234	firstumc@windstream.net
Deidra Gilbert	Financial Secretary	227	fumcfincsec@windstream.net
Parish Nurses		224	parishnurses@gmail.com

Church Email Address: firstumc@windstream.net

Church Web Address: www.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.

Worship Services

To Know Christ - To Make Christ Know

9:00 am Contemporary

10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Traditional Service



First News

Vol. 4, issue 67

First United Methodist Church of Union County

July 2011

LET FREEDOM RING AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Glory! . . . **HALLELUJAH!!**

Four of my favorite things to do on a Sunday afternoon after church are: to take a nap, watch whatever golf tournament is on TV, then cook-out (hamburgers, or hot dogs, or steaks) and spend time with Gwen and Bella. To me it just doesn't get any better than that!

However, this past Sunday afternoon was ruined for me and millions of others. Gwen and I were watching the U.S. Open Golf Tournament when they (U.S. Open Association and NBC) decided to pay tribute to our service men and women serving at home and abroad. They began the tribute by showing patriotic scenes and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, with liberty, and justice for all."

Yes! They intentionally left out the phrase **"one nation under God, indivisible . . ."**. What's up with that? Has our nation become so anti-God that we are brazen enough on public TV to omit God from the Pledge of Allegiance?

Christians have already lost some of our religious freedoms. I wonder what is next? Will "they" indeed take the phrase, *"one nation under God,"* out of our Pledge of Allegiance? Will "they" take *"In God We Trust"* from our money? Will "they" ban all religious activities from being held outside of designated places (churches) of worship? What is happening to America? Slowly, but surely God is being eliminated as the God of this nation.

What are we to do? Make your voice heard! First, make your voice heard to God. Cry out to God to change the course, direction, and attitude of America. If we go the way of Europe we will one day soon be a nation where the primary religion is Muslim. Second, make your voice heard to our county, state, and U.S. leaders and representatives. Let us not stick our heads in the sand and pretend that it will all just go away. It won't. We have got to be proactive.

Now is **THE TIME** for us to pray intentionally and intensely for our church and our nation that the blessings and the favor of Almighty God would continue to be upon us. Therefore, I am asking every family, every man, woman, and child to stop what they are doing at 8:00 P.M. each night and light two candles and pray. One candle for our church and one candle for our nations. I am asking that you spend just fifteen minutes in prayer for our church and the nation. The church and America are God's idea and I don't think He is through with either one yet. However, if we cannot or will not get the job done He will indeed turn to someone or something else. The Old Testament Israel stands as our example.

Therefore, **LET FREEDOM RING AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!**

Your Servant,

Membership News

June Average Worship Attendance

9:00	Contemporary	132
10:00	Sunday School	139
11:00	Traditional	266

July Servants

Ushers: Bob Barnes
Billie Roach
Joe Roach
Gray Williams
Phil Hill
Miriam Sherman

Greeters:

11:00 Paula and Richard
Myers

New News



Come enjoy food, fun and fellowship at our annual July church wide dinner on Sunday, 3rd. We will eat immediately after the 11:00 service. The Methodist Men will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for us. You are asked to bring the side dishes and desserts. We will eat in the MAC so there's plenty of space for EVERYONE!



There will be an independence sale of clothing and household items on Wednesday, July 6th—8th in the fellowship hall from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The sale will continue on Saturday, July 9th from 9:00 am till noon. All proceeds will go towards the MAC.



The Morning Glory Circle "Footlocker Ministry" continues. If you would like to thank the men and women serving our country, please check out our "wish list" and bring any of the following items mentioned to our footlockers at the church. Footlockers will be at both entrances.



You are cordially invited to watch the July 4th fireworks from our parking lot. Radical Hospitality will be offering bottled water to the community and the youth will be selling concessions. Come enjoy the fellowship.



The missions committee will be collecting school supplies for needy children in Union County. You may drop off your items in designated boxes at the narthex and MAC entrances. Items may include spiral notebooks, notebook paper, pencils, markers, small size scissors and Kleenex.



Got a green thumb? Have we got a place for you! The volunteer landscape maintenance crew meets every Tuesday morning at 9:00 am in the parking lot. We need help keeping the weeds at bay and the flower beds perky. If you have any questions, you may contact Beverly Bradley at 706.745.4364



Looking for a place to serve? Hope House is looking for volunteers on Monday and Thursday mornings. If you are interested, please see Evelyn in the church office.



July Calendar

July 1 Mia Brumfield
Tom Sweet

July 2 Sonya Alexander
Jim Arthur
Kaylee Seabolt
Jeff Young

July 3 Ray Graphman
Bette Ivy
Wendy Seabolt

July 4 Natalie Barnard
Martha Preston
David Steed

July 5 Teresa Cronk

July 6 Natasha Aaron

July 7 Debbie Steed

July 9 Lynn Varian

July 10 Allison Evans
Courtney Stephens

July 11 Myron Turner

July 12 Doris Eshelman

July 13 Ellen Woolsey

July 14 Mary Ruth Cook
Kathryn Rittenhouse
Peggy Schultz

July 15 Joe Collins
Kitty Jones
Dwayne Miller
Tricia Wallace

July 16 Diane Gutierrez
Shelley Warren

July 17 Janice Boland
Kay Bradley

July 19 Joseph Caporale
Fran Ives

July 20 Ruth Stefko

July 21 Colton Chandler
Kristin Heuker
Jean Mellor

July 23 Dorothy Smith

July 24 Jack Dugger
Artie Hodgson

July 25 Mona Lee Hackney

July 26 Tighe Day-Lewis
Kathy Johnson

July 27 Lloyd Dunham
Cynthia Mellendorf

July 28 Sharon Carson
Gloria Howard

July 29 Stacy Mellendorf

July 30 Shelby Adams
Teresa Moore
Jane Craddock
Liz Plott
Cindy Weitzel

Sunday, 3rd Worship Services, Church-wide dinner

Monday, 4th July 4th fireworks

Tuesday, 5th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:00 am
Tai Chi, 1:30 pm
Get Fit, 5:15

Wednesday, 6th Morning Glory Circle, 10:00 am
Clothing/Household Items Sale, 9 am—4 pm
Youth, 6:00 pm
Choir, 7:00 pm

Thursday, 7th Clothing/Household Items Sale, 9 am—4 pm
Get Fit, 5:15pm

Friday, 8th Clothing/Household Items Sale, 9 am—4 pm

Saturday, 9th Clothing/Household Items Sale, 9 am—noon

Sunday, 10th Worship Services—Youth leave for Myrtle B.

Monday, 11th Kids' Soccer Camp, 9:00 am
Stephens, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, 12th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:00 am
Kids' Soccer Camp, 9:00 am
Tai Chi, 1:30 pm
Get Fit, 5:15 pm

Wednesday, 13th Kids' Soccer Camp, 9:00 am
Choir, 7:00 pm

Friday, 15th Youth return from Myrtle Beach

Saturday, 16th UMM, 8:00 am

Sunday, 17th Worship Services

Monday, 18th MIFT, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, 19th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm
UMW Missions, 10:00 am
Kids' Soccer Camp, 9:00 am
Get Fit, 5:15 pm

Wednesday, 20th Youth, 6:00 pm
Choir, 7 pm

Thursday, 21st Kids' High Adventure Day—Helen
Get Fit, 5: 15 pm
Circle of Love/Bible Study, 6:15 pm

Sunday, 24th Worship Services

Monday, 25th Stephens, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, 26th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:00 am and 5:30 pm
Tai Chi, 1:30 pm
Get Fit, 5:15 pm
Radical Hospitality, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, 27th Youth, 6:00 pm
Choir, 7:00 pm

Thursday, 28th Get Fit, 5:15 pm

Sunday, 31st Worship Services



Prayer Corner



It is said if you write from the heart another heart will receive and understand your message. That is true with prayer. If we pray from our heart, our Heavenly Father's heart will receive it.

Prayer is our open line to God. We don't need an area code to reach Him. We need not be concerned about time zones because He is always available. Just like any dad, He welcomes a call from His children.

Our prayer can be that of praise, thanksgiving, concern or desperation. The latter two are probably the ones He receives the most.

Again, like our earthly Father, God's answer to our prayer may not be the one we want to hear. We must have faith—He will answer in His time frame and according to the plan He has for each of us.

Remember Romans 12:12 (NLT) *Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and always be prayerful.*

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

### Homebound:

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Bonnie McCullum | Nadine Tison     |
| Omah Rogers     | Jim Hinton       |
| Shirlee Evans   | Elizabeth Henley |
| May Langman     | Hattie Gleasure  |
| Lavon Butt      | Lois Barr        |

**Michael Couture, US Marine Corps, Afghanistan.**



## 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) Germany. He is Myrtle & Henry Von Staden's grandson in law.

**Tech Sgt. Kevin Ryan** , 102 Santa Rosa Drive, 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

**Cpl Womack, Christopher G.** 2d MLG (Fwd) HQSVC Co Fd. Svc, Unit 73950, FPO AE 09510-3950. He is the grandson of Glen and Linda Womack.

**Sgt. Ueltzen, Matthew, 55th MAC (1st Platoon), FOB Ramrod, APO AE 09313.** He is the son of Evelyn and David Ueltzen.



OASIS

Summer courses have begun. Bridge for Fun, Bridge with George Houdeshel, Hearts and Hand and Foot play in the fellowship hall on Thursdays from 1 pm—3pm. Painting class is in the theater same day and time. Autoharp meets at Meeks Park. There is a \$1.00 weekly fee for participating. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Twedt at 706.781.6724.

## United Methodist Men

The UMM will meet on Saturday, July 16th at 8:00 am for breakfast in the fellowship hall.

## United Methodist Women Circles

**Circle of Love** will NOT meet on the 7th. We will meet on the 21st. Please watch your email for more details.



**Morning Glory Circle** will meet Wednesday, July 5th at 10:00 am in the Friendship SS room.

**UMW Missions Circle** will meet on Tuesday, July 19th at 10:00 am in the Bray Chapel.

**MIFT** will meet Monday, July 18th, 6:00 at Antoinetta's.



## Parish Nursing

Blood pressures will be taken Sunday, July 3rd in the MAC.

### Shingles

**Shingles (herpes zoster)** is a viral infection of the nerve roots. It causes pain and often causes a rash on one side of the body, the left or right. The rash appears in a band, a strip, or a small area. Shingles is most common in older adults and people who have weak immune systems because of stress, injury, certain medicines or other reasons. Most people who get shingles will get better and will not get it again.

#### **What causes Shingles?**

Shingles occurs when the virus that causes chickenpox starts up again in your body. After you get better from chicken pox, the virus “sleeps” (is dormant) in your nerve roots. In some people, it stays dormant forever. In others, the virus “wakes up” when disease, stress, or aging weakens the immune system. It is not clear why this happens. But after the virus becomes active again, it can only cause shingles, not chickenpox.

You can't catch shingles from someone else who has shingles. But a person with a shingles rash can spread chickenpox to another person who hasn't had chickenpox and who hasn't gotten the chickenpox vaccine.

#### **What are the symptoms?**

Shingles symptoms happen in stages. At first you may have a headache or be sensitive to light. You may also feel like you have a the flu but not have a fever.

Later, you may feel itching, tingling, or pain in a certain area. That's where a band, strip or small area or rash may occur a few days later. The rash turns into clusters of blisters. The blisters fill with fluid and then crust over. It takes 2-4 weeks for the blisters to heal, and they may leave scars. Some people only get a mild rash, and some do not get a rash at all. It's possible that you could also feel dizzy or weak, or you could have long-term pain or a rash on your face, changes in your vision, changes in how well you can think, or a rash that spreads. If you have any of these problems from shingles, call your doctor right away.

#### **Who gets shingles?**

Anyone who has had chickenpox can get shingles. You have a greater change of getting shingles if you are:

Older than 50

Have an autoimmune disease that causes your immune system to attack your body's own tissues

Have another health problem or stress that weakens the immune system

If you have never had chickenpox and have not gotten the chickenpox vaccine, avoid touching someone who has shingles or chickenpox. If you are at least 60 years old, you can get a vaccine that may prevent shingles or make it less painful if you do get it.

## Wed. PM Schedule

We will resume our regular Wednesday programming in the fall.

The youth will continue to meet during the summer on Wednesdays from 6 –8 pm.



|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| July 3rd  | Team #1 |
| July 10th | Team #2 |
| July 17th | Team #3 |
| July 24th | Team #4 |
| July 31st | Team #2 |

|         |                                                     |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Team #1 | Steven Seiler<br>Sam Seiler                         |
| Team #2 | Alex Collins<br>Milo Bauman                         |
| Team #3 | Caroline Legg<br>Adalyn Rogers<br>Isaac Metcalf     |
| Team #4 | Emma Collins<br>Grace Wischmeyer<br>Mary Wischmeyer |

## SOLID ROCK STUDENT MINISTRY

### Solid Rock Student Ministries: K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School:



Year Two of KONNECT continues right where we left off last year! The Israelites have just followed Moses through the Red Sea and now have to continue to the land God promised them! But all kinds of adventures happen on the way. We'll follow them through their journey with Moses, Joshua's epic battles, all the way to Canaan. But once they're there, the book of Judges-with Deborah, Samson, and Gideon-provide even more stories of God working through imperfect people to do amazing things. We'll end up the year with Samuel anointing a young man named David to be their king!

### Kid's Church Series: K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade



A ten week series created by High Voltage Kids Ministry called **TRANSFORMED**. Ten stories of people who were transformed by encounters with Jesus

### 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School:



**Deep down, everyone wants to make a difference.** But it is difficult for students to get past their own issues, problems, and distractions to see that their lives can count right now.

### B.A.S.I.C.S.: 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Wednesday Nights

We are studying the Book of 1<sup>st</sup> John where we are discovering that God is light; God is love; and God is life.

## EXERCISE CLASS



### Mac Fitness ...

#### **"Zumba" Fitness... POSTPONED**

**FOR NOW!** 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 \$10.00 per class. Bring a mat!

## Opportunities @



### MAC Summer Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00am - 5:30pm

Wednesday: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Friday: 8:00am – 1:00pm

### **Upward Flag Football and Cheerleading! Grades K-6 Register Now! ...**

Practices begin the week of August 9th. First game is Saturday, August 28th. Registration forms are available at the MAC desk or you can register online at our church website.

**Mark your calendars for these Summer Recreation events...** Get details for these at the MAC desk!

**July 19-21** **"First's Kids Soccer Camp"** ... for rising 1st-6th graders. 9:00am - 11:30am. Cost is \$25.00 for 1 child and \$45.00 for 2 children. Led again this year by Rollie and Maria Thomas. Cost includes a daily snack. Get a registration form at the MAC desk.

**July 22** **"Kid's High Adventure Day!"** ... for rising 3rd-6th graders. We're heading to Helen to tube the Chattahoochee. We leave the church at 8:30am and return at approx. 3:30pm. Kids should bring a sack lunch and a drink. Cost is \$20.00 per child and includes tubing, water slide, and transportation. **3rd & 4th graders must be accompanied by a parent or assigned adult.** Sign up at the MAC desk or in the church office!

## Young at Heart

"Back to School" Bunco Party.....August 12th

OASIS Fall Session Begins.....September 8th

Gatlinburg "Autumn Craftsman Fair" Day Trip .....Tuesday, October 18th

Young Harris College Choir "USO Show" .....October 29th and 30th