

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.



High Country Harmonizers will perform their 10th annual show on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2 pm & 7pm. Performance will be at the Clegg Auditorium in Young Harris. Tickets are \$10. You may sign up for tickets at the narthex desk.

Contact Us

| STAFF MEMBERS | TITLE | PHONE EXT. | EMAIL ADDRESS |
|----------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Ben B. Lewis | Pastor | 223 | blewis777@aol.com |
| Stan Wallace | Older Adult/Recreation | 222 | stanwallace@windstream.net |
| Evelyn Ueltzen | Administrative Ass't | 234 | firstumc@windstream.net |
| Deidra Gilbert | Financial Secretary | 232 | fumcfinsec@windstream.net |
| Tricia Wallace | Children's Minister | 235 | fumckids@ymail.com |
| Parish Nurses | | 224 | parishnurses@gmail.com |

Church Email Address: firstumc@windstream.net
Church Fax Number: 706-781-6252

Church Web Address: www.fumcunioncounty.org

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



Turnaround at Helena

by Bishop William Willimon
North Alabama Conference
Weekly Message
10/17/11

“I appointed Mike Edmondson to our Helena congregation in 2008. Since then, the church has experienced a remarkable turnaround... I have been studying Mike’s leadership and the moves that this congregation has made in the past few years and wanted to share some of what I have learned by observing Helena by asking Mike to describe some of the most important leadership moves:”

“Jim Savage told me, ‘It will be three tough years, but when the church comes through the other side, a spirit of excitement will emerge.’ And Mickey Morgan stated, ‘In these situations, a pastor needs thick skin and a soft heart.’ I have found both statements to be true! In my first meetings with the Helena SPRC and Finance committees, I was made aware of that:

1. We had \$15,000 total cash, and 2.7 million in total debt.
2. The entire roof system was failing, and we had a serious mold issue.

The church was in the midst of a 7-year crisis of spiraling decline in worship attendance.

The biggest strength the church had is a strong group of committed Christians whose mindset has been all along, ‘This is our church and God is not done with us yet.’ Most importantly, as a group, they saw a necessity for change.

The Pastoral Team, Staff, and Lay Leadership set out on a three prong solution: 1) Identify the needs of the community, 2) Identify what can be fixed in house quickly, 3) Simplify the Vision and organize the entire church around it. We revised the vision within the first month, then we continued at an accelerated pace to organize around the three distinct but interlocking groups, which were: 1) Worship, 2) Discipleship, and 3) Missions.

It was important to achieve quick victories in order to gain some level of trust. Scriptural References Used: Acts 1:8; Acts 4:32-35; Eph. 4:11-12; John 17:20-23; Acts 2:6-11.

After the initial assessment of the situation using the SWOT analysis (SLOT analysis is a strategic planning method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses/Limitations, Opportunities, and Threats involved in a project or in a business venture), as well as putting the vision with core values in place; the leadership of the church set out to address the toughest issues holding us back from numerical and spiritual growth. During this time, the congregation achieved the following:

1. Repaired the entire roof system.
2. The church raised \$400,000 for the refurbishment of the campus.
3. The church grew by an average of 150 additional people in worship.
4. Baptisms and professions of faith increased.
5. We launched 2 more worship services.
6. The inside of the church was given a makeover.
7. The average age of the congregation dropped from the mid-forties to the upper thirties.

Debt was reduced from 2.7million to less than 2.5 million. This includes a \$500,000 loan obtained to help with the repairs.

We have prepared a 3 to 5 year plan, making preparations for Helena UMC to be averaging 800 in worship. The church continues to work the plan in order to become a stronger partner in the connection. Overall, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Missions (which is being instituted aggressively) are paramount for us reaching our full potential. We have made great progress, but we still have a long way to go!”

(Ben) Beloved, tuff times call for tuff measures. I believe that the great “turn-around” at Helena UMC was due to strategic and intentional prayer, planning, and re-ordering of their priorities. I believe that Helena’s strategy was/is totally biblical. I also think this is a clarion call for First UMC of Union County to intentional prayer, planning and re-ordering of our priorities. **Worship, Evangelism, Discipleship** and **Missions** must be “aggressively” come to the forefront as our top four core values and priorities.

Our mission as we understand it at this moment in time is: TO KNOW CHRIST—TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN. What better way than to put our total focus on Worship, Evangelisms, Discipleship and Missions? Beloved, are you with me?

I love you and there’s nothing you can do about it!

Membership News

October Average Worship Attendance

| | | |
|-------|---------------|-----|
| 9:00 | Contemporary | 94 |
| 10:00 | Sunday School | 130 |
| 11:00 | Traditional | 237 |

Servants

Ushers: Lynn Varian
Barry Varian
Gene Hodgson
Artie Hodgson
Kit Carson
George Houdeshel

Greeters:

11:00 Burma & Cecil Brown



Meetings

Radical Hospitality
Tuesday, November 15th
6:30 pm

New News



We have a new youth director, Zach Thompson. He is a senior at Young Harris College studying outdoor leadership. He will be taking over the youth the first of the month. We're excited about having him join us on staff. Please make him feel welcome here.



The Morning Glory Circle is holding a coat drive. Gently used coats, especially CHILDREN'S sizes are needed. Coats will be distributed on November 17th at Antioch Baptist Church. Coats may be dropped off in the MAC closet across from the Welcome Desk. Our "Footlocker Ministry" also continues. This ministry serves our military. Footlockers will be at both entrances.



Do you have a child who is away at college? We want to know so we might encourage them throughout the school year. Please give us their name, email and mailing address along with the name of their college/university. You may email it to the church (firstumc@windstream.net) or call the church office at 706.745.2073.



The cupboard is running bare. Please help stock up the food pantry by bringing in canned goods and pantry items. You may place them in the food bins located at each entrance.
Thanksgiving Food Boxes - We will be collecting 10 food boxes to give away for Thanksgiving. The details are still being worked out but keep an eye/ear out for them.



The church is in need of a photographer. Someone who would take pictures at church events, new members and special dinners. If you enjoy snapping pictures and are willing to donate the time, please call the church office.



We will have a church-wide Thanksgiving Banquet on Sunday, Nov. 20th after the 11 o'clock service. The church will provide the turkey, dressing and gravy. If you will bring the vegetables, salads and dessert. Sign up sheets will be put out after the first of the month.



Got a musical talent? We'd love to use you in the Contemporary service. Instrumentalists that can play guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and vocalists are needed. Please contact Ken Soltys at 706-897-2873.



November 2 Hildegard Lucarelli
 Les Myers
 Mike Thomason
 November 3 Phyllis Baker
 JoAnn Strickland
 November 4 Diane Simonsen
 November 5 Tonia Albright
 Ralph Evans
 Brooke Frechette
 November 6 Judy Bryner
 Peg Gordon
 November 7 Ron Schultz
 Rick Siefken
 November 8 Diane Bauman
 Clayton Carrier
 Annette Gibbs
 November 10 Adam Chandler
 Minnie Schartz
 November 11 Joy Jaegle
 Ron Taylor
 Karen Williams
 November 12 Judd Plott
 Joan Wiley
 John Wischmeyer
 November 13 Kellie Hughes
 November 14 Roger Pope
 November 15 Emma Lander
 November 16 Julie Rittenhouse
 November 17 Steven Lewis
 November 18 Gretchen Burrell
 Joyce Byers
 Jim Eddins
 Pennie Hebble
 Norm Thompson
 November 20 Brenda Turner
 November 21 Lawson Baenninger
 November 22 Sharon Hess
 Chuck Stancil
 November 23 Taylor Schuknecht
 November 24 Kelly Schuknecht
 Diane Thomason
 November 25 Shane Lance
 Sarah Partain
 November 26 Olivia Burrell
 Doug McGinnis
 November 27 Angie Hughes
 Jane Wilson
 November 28 Braedyn Robbins
 November 29 Lib Read
 Phil Salling
 November 30 Ty Cobb
 Marian Malac
 Karen Sutton
 MacWarren
 Barbara Williams

November Calendar

Wednesday, 2nd CEC
 Morning Glory Circle, 10:00 am
 FUNDamentals, 3:30 pm
 WNL Supper, 5:00 pm
 Programs, 6:00 pm & Choir, 7:00 pm
 Thursday, 3rd OASIS
 Circle of Love, 6:30 pm
 Friday, 4th CEC
 Sunday, 6th Worship Services—All Saints' Sunday
 Monday, 7th CEC
 Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am
 Wednesday, 9th CEC
 FUNDamentals, 3:30 pm
 WNL Supper, 5:00 pm
 Programs, 6:00 pm & Choir, 7:00 pm
 YAH— Scott's Antique Market, 7:30 am
 CEC
 Friday, 11th Worship Services
 Sunday, 13th CEC
 Monday, 14th Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am
 Tuesday, 15th UMW Missions, 10:00 am
 Radical Hospitality, 6:30 pm
 Wednesday, 16th CEC
 FUNDamentals, 3:30 pm
 WNL Supper, 5:00 pm
 Programs, 6:00 pm & Choir, 7:00 pm
 UMM, 8:00 am
 Saturday, 19th Worship Services—Thanksgiving Banquet
 Sunday, 20th CEC
 Monday, 21st Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am
 MIFT, 6:00 pm
 Wednesday, 23rd OUT for Thanksgiving—Offices Closed
 Thursday, 24th Offices Closed—Thanksgiving
 Friday, 25th Offices Closed
 Sunday, 27th Worship Services—Hanging of the Greens
 Monday, 28th CEC
 YAH—Smokey Mountain Christmas
 Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am
 Wednesday, 30th CEC
 FUNDamentals, 3:30 pm
 WNL Supper, 5:00 pm
 Programs, 6:00 pm & Choir, 7:00 pm

Please see the MAC page for the schedule of fitness classes available during the week.



Wed. PM Schedule

3:30 FUNdamentals
 4:00 Angel Choir
 5:00 Church supper
 6:00 Children and Youth
 Programming
 Adult Bible Study
 Handbells
 7:00 Choir Practice



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|-------------|---|
| November 6 | Team #6 |
| November 13 | Team #1 |
| November 20 | Team #2 |
| November 27 | Team #3 |
| Team #1 | Caroline Legg Adalyn Rogers |
| Team #2 | Grace Wischmeyer Mary Wischmeyer |
| Team #3 | Gracie Weldon Tucker Weldon |
| Team #4 | Steven Seiler Milo Bauman |
| Team #5 | Jordan Olmsted Jaden Olmsted |
| Team #6 | Alex Collins Emma Collins Isaac Metcalf |



Wednesday Nite Suppers

| | |
|---------------|---|
| November 2nd | Barbeque, slaw, baked beans, and cake Methodist Men |
| November 9th | Tilapia fish, slaw, hushpuppies and pie Handbell Choir |
| November 16th | Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and dessert Open |
| November 23rd | NO SUPPER DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY |
| November 30th | Pizza, salad bar and orange crunch cake Dinah's Team |

Needed: Cooks and cleaning team for the 16th. Menus are set, food is bought, just need hands to prepare it and clean up afterwards. Gather some friends together and come have some fun. You may contact the church office to volunteer.

Children's Ministry

New FUMC Kid's Ministry Email address... funckids@gmail.com Questions about what's happening? Email us!

Many Thanks to:

Dinah and Cameron Carter and Staci Olmsted for cleaning and organizing the nurseries...

Paula Myers for washing, mending, and altering our acolyte robes...

Martha Preston for the donation of the glider rocker...



SUNDAY SCHOOL; BE COOL AND BE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

2 YEAR OLD -KINDERGARTEN CLASS

1ST - 3RD GRADE CLASS

4TH - 6TH CLASS

THERE WILL BE SPECIAL TREATS HANDED OUT EACH SUNDAY FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. SO BE HERE TO GET YOURS....

Dates to save:

Dec. 5 - Angel Workshop

Dec 11th - Children's Christmas Production/Refreshments

EXERCISE CLASS



Mac Fitness ...

“Zumba” Fitness...IS BACK!

Sept. 12th Mondays at 6:15pm
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. 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.

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 Hours!

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 8:00am - 5:30pm Wednesday: 8:00am – 5:00pm Friday: 8:00am – 1:00pm

Upward Indoor Soccer! Register Now online or in the MAC.

Age Group: Kindergarten - Grade 6 **Registration Deadline:** December 16th

Evaluations: Tuesday, Dec. 6th & Thursday, Dec. 8th 6pm-8pm @ the House of Prayer FLC

Practices Start: Week of January 9th **First Game:** Saturday, January 28th

Awards Night: Saturday, March 3rd **Cost:** \$50.00 per child

Operation Christmas Child Pack A Shoebox For A Child! It's time to pack that shoebox. Brochures that include an identification label for the age and gender of the child for whom you've packed a shoebox are available in the MAC. **SUGGESTED ITEMS... Socks, Gloves, Small Toys, Hard Candy, Gum, Pencils, Notepads, Toothbrushes, Soap, Toothpaste, Combs, Coloring books, Markers.** Please do not include chocolate, liquid items, or toys of war such as guns or knives. Place \$7 for shipping inside each box. Deadline to bring your packed shoebox is November 16th! Let's break last year's record!



“Other Missions at the MAC” In the MAC lobby there are several opportunities for you to give to local missions.

- **“Foot Locker Ministry”** Sponsored by our Mourning Glory Circle! If you would like to thank the men and women serving our country, check their “wish list” and bring items to the footlocker at the MAC!
- **“Hope House”** meeting local needs!
- **“Food Bank”** meeting local food needs!

Young at Heart

Atlanta’s “Scott Antique Market” Day Trip! Friday, November 11th America’s Favorite Treasure Hunt and the Worlds Largest Indoor Antique Show! With over 2400 indoor exhibitor booths, and with more overflowing outside displays, the Atlanta Scott Antique Market is known as America's Favorite Show. You'll find everything from massive amounts of Americana to elegant continental antiques. Cost is \$10.00 per person, plus \$ for lunch on your own at the show, and includes transportation and admission. We will leave the church at 7:30am and return at approx. 6:00pm. Reserve your spot by bringing the \$10.00 to the church office. Space is limited so reserve a spot early!

It's Another.. “Smoky Mountain Christmas” November 28th -29th in Pigeon Forge, TN Highlights include... The New Hatfield & McCoy Dinner Theater Christmas Spectacular, the Comedy Barn Theater Christmas Show, Christ in the Smokies Museum and Gardens, shopping at the Incredible Christmas Place and more! Cost is \$140.00 per person (double occupancy) plus \$ for 1 meal. Pick up an information sheet at the MAC desk. Sign up by bringing the full amount to the church office.

Prayer Corner



Where did the summer go? It seems that just yesterday we were watching the trees bloom in the spring. But now as we enjoy the color displayed on the mountains and rake the leaves that have fallen we are reminded that life continues to move on. Of that we should be thankful. Imagine not having the changes of the season or the changes experienced in life.

Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 to “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (NIV)

We have to admit that there are times when being full of joy and giving thanks is not what is on our mind. Circumstances, some of them beyond our control, seem to take away the joy and the thought of giving thanks. Those are times when just holding on seems to be the best we can do.

But Paul tells us to be joyful and thankful in all things, not for all things. And we can be joyful and we can be thankful because we are in Christ Jesus. It is Jesus who leads us through the long winter of life.

Our heavenly Father, thank You for the times You have carried us through the hard days of winter to bring us out into the beautiful days of spring. Help us to have joy and give thanks for Your care for us all along the way.

Homebound:

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



Military Addresses

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, 3620 Park Blvd., Apt. 1, San Diego, CA 92103. 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.

SrA Krystle Marie 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.

Capt. Paul Hargrove, CMR445 Box 1270, APO AE 09046. 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

Sgt. 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 (3rd Platoon), FOB Shakari Karez APO AE 09313. He is the son of Evelyn and David Ueltzen.

Michael Couture, US Marine Corps, Afghanistan.

Raymond Pomeroy, PSC 3, Box 4335, APO AP 96266. He is the nephew of Joan Wiley and Marti Shaffer.

1st Lt. Sparks, Andrew, JTFGTMO- JDGS2, APO-AE 09360. He is the grandson of Janice and James Jarrard.



David Cook has resigned his position as Director of the OASIS program and will be replaced by Stan Wallace, Recreation Director/Older Adult Minister. David will remain on the OASIS committee as an advisor and his last official day as Director will be November 11, 2011. Additionally, Stan Wallace has announced the promotion of Ruth Twedt to the position of Assistant Director effective immediately. Ruth will continue handling registration and other administrative details.

These changes in the administration of the OASIS program will ensure the continuation and advancement of this important outreach ministry of the First United Methodist Church of Union County. Everyone is encouraged to support Stan and Ruth in their new positions.

Further, please note, that the OASIS Winter Term brochure will be mailed the last week of October and will be available at the MAC desk by November 1. Meals for OASIS are now provided by Subway and are a great bargain at \$4 a meal. Saturday workshops offer an opportunity for people to attend that are not able to on Thursdays.

United Methodist Women Circles

Circle of Love will continue with our Bible Study by Kay Arthur, "Lord, Teach Me to Pray". We will meet November 3rd and 17th at 6:30 pm downstairs in the MAC.

Morning Glory Circle is busy with their coat project. Give away is November 17th. If someone needs a coat, please contact Paula Myers. We are also collecting items for our military members. Trunks are set up in both entrances. Next meeting is November 2nd at Maryln Demers' house at 11:00 am.

UMW Missions Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 15th at 10:00 am in the chapel.

MIFT will meet Monday, November 21st at 6:00 pm at Antoinetta's.



Methodist Men will meet Saturday, November 19th at 8:00 for breakfast in the fellowship hall.



Parish Nursing

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

Great American SmokeOut Day—November 17th

“Just this one day...walk away.... from tobacco” - Then keep doing it....one day at a time!

What do I need to know about quitting?

The US Surgeon General has said, "Smoking stopping smoking represents the single most important step that smokers can take to enhance the length and quality of their lives." Mark Twain said, "Quitting smoking is easy. I've done it a thousand times." Maybe you've tried to quit, too. Why is quitting and staying quit hard for so many people? The answer is nicotine.

Nicotine

Nicotine is a drug found naturally in tobacco. It is as addictive as heroin or cocaine. Over time, a person becomes physically dependent on and emotionally addicted to nicotine. When you inhale smoke, nicotine is carried deep into your lungs. In fact, nicotine inhaled in cigarettesmoke reaches the brain faster than drugs that enter the body through a vein.

Dangers of Smoking:

Cancer - of lung, mouth, nose, sinuses, larynx, throat, esophagus, bladder, kidney, pancreas, cervix, stomach, and acute myeloid leukemia. Lung diseases – COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) such as emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and pneumonia. Heart attacks, strokes, **and blood vessel diseases** Smokers are twice as likely to die from heart attacks and strokes as are non-smokers. Smoking causes damage to blood vessels to the heart, brain, and body. And men who smoke are more likely to develop erectile dysfunction (impotence) because of blood vessel disease.

Blindness and other problems – increased risk of macular degeneration, cataracts, wrinkling of the skin, bad breath, gum disease and tooth loss. **Special risks to women and babies** Women have some unique risks linked to smoking. Women over 35 who smoke and use birth control pills have a higher risk of heart attack, stroke, and blood clots of the legs. Women who smoke are more likely to miscarry or have a lower birthweight baby. And low birth-weight babies are more likely to die, or have learning and physical problems.

Why quit now?

No matter how old you are or how long you've smoked, quitting can help you live longer and be healthier. People who stop smoking before age 50 cut their risk of dying in the next 15 years in half compared with those who keep smoking. Ex-smokers enjoy a higher quality of life. **Contact the American Cancer Society or the Lung Association to find help.**

Start stopping tobacco on November 17th, the Great American Smoke Out Day!