

November 2017

# RIVER

# NEWS

What fun we have been having! We have received **five new members**: Tommy and Mary Lou Owenby, Donna Stevens, Carolyn Conner and Jenny Mitchell, all of whom

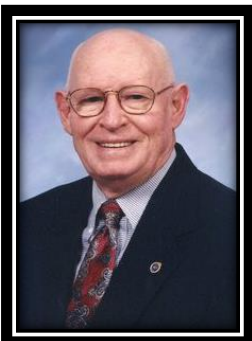


are seasoned Methodists. What an asset to Little River they will be. I thank God for each of them!



Pastor Gale's Moment

The Trunk or Treat Event, despite extreme cold, proved to be a wonderful outreach to our community. With it we have been able to spread God's grace to Community partners and make all aware that we care enough about them that we provided a safe place for families to gather and celebrate Halloween. We estimate around 400 children and at least as many adults, who dressed in amazing costumes, enjoyed music provided by Gary Coleman, ate all of our chili, many of our hotdogs, desserts, hot cocoa, coffee, etc!! Thanks to all who decorated cars, gave out flyers and solicited community partners, worked in the kitchen, the Scouts who directed traffic, and above all: Jessica Porter who organized and directed this event so well; what a blessing she is!



### What is coming up in November?

On Tuesday, November 7, we will have the funeral of Woodstock's former Mayor, Bill Long, at 11 am in our sanctuary. In recent years it has been difficult for him to come to worship, but he felt greatly loved by Little River by the cards and phone calls sent to him.

Wednesday, November 8, at the Family Night Supper, we will enjoy a Thanksgiving feast! Bible study for men and women continues into December. Monday, November 13, the Incredibles are traveling to Jasper for great eats, fellowship and shopping. Check with them for more details. Tuesday, November 14, ladies are invited to the nighttime UMW, at Gail O's, 7 pm. Sunday, November 19, we will celebrate Thank You God Sunday and, for many who are new, further explanation is necessary.

Thank You God Sunday is our opportunity to thank God for providing for us this past year. With it we take a moment and consider all of the ways God has blessed us. Pause and remember the times and ways you were loved by God, family and friends. Now look with faith-filled eyes to the future. How will you, yes you, extend the Kingdom of God? Consider stepping out in faith and giving generously of your resources: both time, talents, gifts (both financial and spiritual), prayers, service and witness (both how you live and with words carefully chosen). Maybe you do not tithe yet, completely trusting in God's provision. Consider giving to God a percentage of your income; maybe 2%, 4% or 6%, and watch how faithful God will be to give back to you more than you give him. You know God is faithful; test him by faithful giving, you will have God-sightings multiple times a week!



We hope you all will enjoy the Thanksgiving break with family and friends, then Sunday, November 26, we celebrate Christ The King Sunday, the culmination of our focus on the coming of the Kingdom of God!



11am worship. We will carol throughout the community, finishing at 3:30. Sunday, December 10, at 6 pm, the Children and Youth will present their Christmas program, "The Power of the King."

When does Christmas begin?

We start celebrating Jesus's birth four weeks before and call it the Season of Advent. We will set up the tree, decorate the church and begin Advent on Sunday, December 3. Wouldn't it be fitting for us to go caroling? Well, we are! Plan on coming to lunch at the Willows' Clubhouse and then go caroling. Lunch starts after



Sunday, December 17 the choir will present their cantata during 11 o'clock worship.

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve, you can choose to worship at 8:30 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm (family-centered with carols and candlelight), and 11:30pm to greet Christmas Day with carols and candlelight. You

are invited to come to one or more and get filled with the delights of Christmas worship. We have so much to be thankful for.

Join in when you can as we celebrate and experience God's love during this exciting holiday season. – Pastor Gale





## **TRUSTEES**

Our parking lot project has finally been completed. The railings were the final item and they have been installed and painted this week. Our next project will be the playground. We have already added three new pieces for small children. We want to buy some new items for older kids especially a large ark. We also want to add mulch and do some other work. If you have some extra money you would like to donate toward this project, it will certainly be appreciated. It is near year end and a great time for you to donate for tax purposes.



## **SAFETY AND SECURITY AT OUR CHURCH**

With all the mass shootings going on, especially the latest shooting in a Baptist church in Texas Sunday, many of you have expressed concern about our church and whether we have any kind of plan in effect.

Yes, we do have a Safety/Security Team in place. This team is composed of capable, well-trained individuals and are in place on Sunday mornings for all services in the sanctuary. We have met with representatives from Homeland Security, GEMA and representatives from City of Woodstock Police Department. They have gone over our facility and grounds and given an assessment and suggestions of things that we can do to maximize your safety.



The safety of all of you and the security of our church and grounds is of utmost importance and we are working on a more detailed plan to further enhance your safety. We will be implementing new security measures immediately. We also need you to be aware of things going on around you. If you feel something needs to be brought to our attention, please contact us immediately. Be assured that we are very concerned and are working hard to have a plan in effect to handle a bad situation such as active shooter, that we hope never comes to our church. Yet, through you and the team, we still need to be a welcoming and inviting church at the same time, being aware of our surroundings and report promptly anything unusual.

Gail Olschewske & Roger Long, Co-chairs, Trustees

## **MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP**

MMPG continues to meet and enjoy our time together. We have mailed over 600 cards this year! Every Monday is so special for those who attend and those who can't come, pray wherever they are at the time.

Roy and Peggy continue to visit the sick and the shut-ins. We are very grateful to those who support with money to be spent for cards and stamps. Please continue to pray for and with us for this project. Let us know of your concerns and joys. The church family is the best. Any questions or concerns, please contact Jenny [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172) or Sandra [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595). [Sandrwehunt1@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandrwehunt1@yahoo.com).



## INCREDIBLES NEWS

The INCREDIBLES had a great October. On October 10th, 15 folks went to the Buford Highway Farmers Market. We were greeted by a guide who told us about the different types of foods available. He had a delicious snack tray for us to enjoy of unusual foods. After the tour, we ate in their cafeteria which was delicious. A great day was had by all. November activities will include regular breakfast at Chick-fil-a @9am on Nov. 14th. On November 13th, we will go to Big Uns for a delicious BBQ lunch. We will go to the Bargain Barn for a little shopping and then on to Merciers for great treats. We plan to leave the church around 11:15am. The cost for travel is \$5.00. Come join us for both Nov. activities. Our time together is always so special. Don't miss out on the fun.

incredible

Call Jenny [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172) or Pat [678.938.5235](tel:678.938.5235) or Sandra [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595). [Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com).  
God Bless.



**Adults \$6 / Kids 4+ \$3 / Max \$18 per family.**

**Christ's Kids & Youth Group eat FREE.**

**A reasonable priced meal and fun fellowship September – May.**

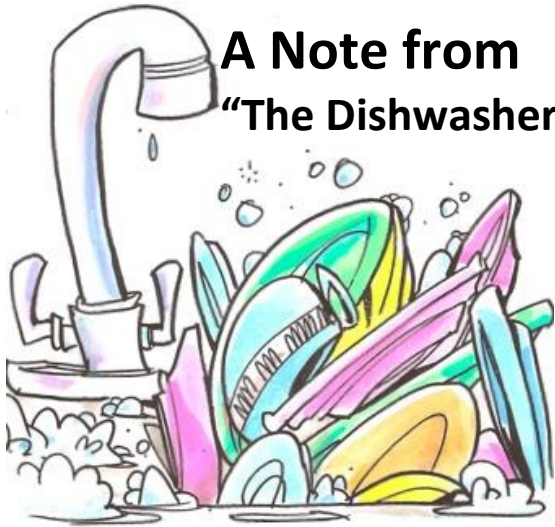
- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Nov 8  | Turkey, dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, green peas, sweet potato soufflé, rolls, drink & dessert.               |
| Nov 15 | Meat loaf, pinto beans, creamed potatoes, cucumber salad, bread, drink & dessert.  |
| Nov 22 | NO MEAL – ENJOY THANKSGIVING WITH YOUR FAMILY  |
| Nov 29 | Baked pork chops, vegetable medley, scalloped potatoes, peach half, rolls, drink & Dessert                               |
| Dec 6  | Homemade soups, chili, chicken & dumplings, sandwiches, drink & dessert.   |
| Dec 13 | LAST MEAL UNTIL JANUARY 10 – Fried chicken, green beans, creamed potatoes, tropical fruit salad, bread, drink & dessert. |

**Wednesday Night Meals upcoming fundraisers.**

All proceeds donated and cost absorbed.

**March 8: Camp Glisson Summer Camp – Youth**

**April 19: Vacation Bible School Nightly Meals**



## **A Note from "The Dishwasher"**

**As we turned back the clock this week, it is a reminder that the joyous holiday season is upon us. We reflect on the past year thanking God for our many blessings. It is important to remember the little things that might possibly make someone else's day. Laughter is the best medicine when someone is feeling low. A smile is contagious. Service to the church and your community are all examples of ways to contribute. Our mission on Wednesday nights is to serve a very satisfying meal to our great church family and friends, including the entire community. It takes a lot of experience to coordinate the Wednesday Night Meals, so they are**

**served on time. Thanks to everyone who contributes selflessly every week. A question was asked about exchanging a winning meal ticket for cash. The winning tickets and the cash prize are purchased anonymously each week. All proceeds are donated towards Little River charities, so we will not be exchanging cash for tickets. So many currants in a little puddle. I usually let my mind wander 360\* while I am washing the dishes. Why, I ask is the attendance down at the Wednesday Night Meals? We appreciate all who attend.**

**As I am jotting down notes for the newsletter hurricane Irma is bearing down on Fla., GA, and beyond up to the northeast coast. We pray for everyone that this hurricane season has affected. Times like this bring out the best in humanity. Volunteers from around the entire country came to the aid of all in need. There were many hero's risking their own lives to rescue strangers. Another example of God's will. We are reminded to hold loosely to our earthly possessions.**

**October 7th show-cased another successful fish fry hosted at Gail O's house. Bill Goddard, "The Great Fry Daddy", and his fry Daddy crew prepared an array of fish and hush puppies. Everyone who attended brought a side dish or dessert to compliment a delightful meal.**

**I would like to relay a few questions that were recently brought to my attention. A friend curiously asked, "What do the men do in the kitchen? Whatever the women tell us to do." Then he asked, "What do you guys talk about? Nothing! The women do all the talking." Seriously, we have fun and take pride as a team in whatever the kitchen crew creates**

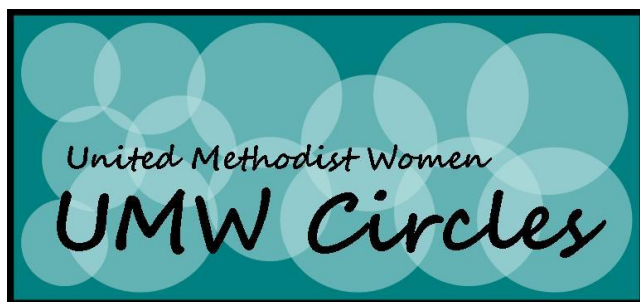
**Have you ever heard perfection is the enemy of good? What does that mean? Please relay your answer to the dishwasher. Best answer wins a free meal ticket.**

**Congratulations to Gail o's grandson, Tyler Vanderberg. He graduated from Quantico VA, as a DEA agent. Previously serving as a K-9 officer in Acworth.**

**God bless our soldiers and their families, God Bless America - The Dishwasher**



## UMW's NEW Morning Circle



This has been a great year for our new daytime circle. New ladies continue to visit us on a regular basis – many finding a wonderful place to praise God through missions. October 31<sup>st</sup> was our final “scheduled” meeting for 2017. We collected thank banks and will be gifting the offerings donated for the “Water for Liberia” at the UMW Conference Meeting at Sardis UMC. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this life changing mission.

Advent plans are to collect needed items for a local battered women’s shelter. A list of needed items will be available soon. Also, look for our LRUMC Advent/Christmas tree on a bulletin board at church. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

Next UMW AM Circle meeting will be January 23, 2018.  
Blessings, Bonita Cox c 615-293-1670

## UMW's Night Circle

Ladies, please join us for the next UMW Night Circle meeting on Tuesday, 11/14, at 6pm at the home of Gail

O. We will be working on Chrismon ornaments for our church Christmas tree. Don't miss this evening of devotion, fellowship, crafts, and of course, some delicious refreshments.



If you have a Thank Bank, please bring it the meeting.

All funds go toward our Unit Missions. The Day Circle, led by Bonita Cox, has wrapped up their Water missions project, and we will be announcing the contributions soon. Every penny counts!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, 12/2 for the annual UMW Christmas luncheon. Details coming soon!

Love and Blessings to all,  
Paula Goddard - UMW President 2017  
678-234-6909 [Goddard.Paula@yahoo.com](mailto:Goddard.Paula@yahoo.com)



The UMM appraised, repaired, repainted and reinstalled the Scout sign. In addition, UMM is working with the scouts to replace the very weathered crosses welcoming people to the church.

# WOMENS RETREAT 2017



Our retreat turned out great this year. We left Gail O's home around 9:15 on Friday and our first stop was Cowpens National Battlefield. We had a picnic lunch and then toured the battlefield.



Next, we went to the motel in Pineville, NC. Friday night we went to NarroWay Production's Dinner Theater in Ft. Mills, SC to see the "Lord of Light" play which was very well done.



Saturday, we got an early start on a busy day. Our first stop was Belmont Abbey, a Catholic basilica and Benedictine Monastery. We were met by Brother Edward, one of the monks, who gave us a tour of the Abbey. Our next stop was The Schiele Museum of Natural History. It was a very good museum with exhibits inside and outside. By then we were all hungry of course so we stopped at a BBQ restaurant for lunch. Everyone had a choice of going back to the motel to rest or go to Pineville's Fall Festival of doing some other activity, but everyone chose to go to the festival.



After this, we went back to the motel for a short time and then went to the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens to see the Chinese Lantern Festival. The lanterns were spectacular. They were scattered throughout the gardens – all sizes and shapes and colors. We returned to the motel around 9:30 and some went to bed and others played cards until 1am.

Sunday, we had our devotional time and then went to "Christmas In the South" Arts & Crafts Show. This was an excellent craft show with lots of things to spend your money on. After having lunch there we returned home and got to Gail's around 8pm. Great trip!

If you did not get to go this year, start planning to go next year. It is always the third full weekend in October which will be the 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> for 2018.

Join us!!







## Old Alabama Rd. (Before it became Highway 92)

It was the Summer of 1946 when the Old Alabama dirt road was worked and top soiled by convict labor from the Cherokee County convict camp. The ditches were pulled, and the roadbed scraped down to a good foundation. The topsoil was hauled from Sweet Mountain to cover the road from Hwy 5 to the Cobb County line. It took several weeks for the work to be finished, a real improvement, a blessing.

When the work was completed, the members of Little River Church, under the direction of Mr. Olin Hames, gave the convicts and the county employees who worked with them, a dinner to show their appreciation. It was held on a Saturday; food was heaped on the tables at the edge of the cemetery, in the shade where homecoming dinners were held. It was a regular banquet and a real treat to the convicts who thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

Several years later, tar and gravel were spread, and the old road became a real blessing and the name was changed to Highway 92. It was in the early 1900s when the divided four lane highway was built and the busy thoroughfare we see today came into being and same might call it a mixed blessing. We did get a traffic light with this change to help us enter and exit the church yard.

Also during these early days in Cherokee County, there was another county dirt road that led from Old Alabama Road to Neese Road. It started from Old Alabama Road between Little River Church and the cemetery through the churchyard, running north, forded the stream between the church and Trickum Road, crossing Trickum, then on north through woods and fields to dead end on Neese Road about halfway between Arnold Mill Road and Old Alabama Road. This was also the way to the Old Meadow, a lake a swampy area off to the right where the outdoorsmen loved to fish and hunt.

Although most of the hunting was done in the Thousand Acre Woods, west of Woodstock, now known as Town Lake. The fishing was mostly limited to the Old Meadow and Little River.

Everything keeps changing, which is also called progress.

### Upcoming Wedding Anniversaries:

<b>Bob &amp; Eileen Hirsch</b>	<b>11-7-1969</b>
<b>Tony &amp; Cara Bush</b>	<b>11-18-2012</b>
<b>William &amp; Beverly Oberleitner</b>	<b>11-22-1959</b>
<b>J.R. &amp; Betty Smith</b>	<b>12-6-2003</b>
<b>Jimmy &amp; Julie Long</b>	<b>12-19-2011</b>
<b>Ray &amp; Ellen Brandt</b>	<b>12-24-1950</b>

### Upcoming Birthdays:

Jacob Goecks	11	2	Mr. Jason Watkins	11	19	Mrs. Paula Goddard	12	9
Katie Goecks	11	2	Oscar King	11	21	Mr. Carl McKinney	12	12
Mary Clayman	11	2	Mrs. Rebecca Davis	12	2	Mrs. Jane Watkins	12	13
Mr. Joey Porter	11	3	J.R. Smith	12	2	Mrs. Sandra Eaton	12	14
Lamira Bowles	11	12	Allyson Goddard	12	4	Mr. David Oakes	12	15
Ridgely Bayley	11	13	Scott Christian	12	4	Earl Cosner	12	18
Judy Beavers	11	14	Layla Cluff	12	4	Ethel Burkhard	12	20
Mrs. Gail Oakes	11	16	Carol Ford	12	5	Ms. Geraldine Stell	12	27
Miss Megan Sharp	11	16	Ms. Geneva Evans	12	6	Mr. Bob Eller	12	28
Becky Hughes	11	17	Mrs. Sharon Hamby	12	6	Mr. Patton McKinney	12	28
Mrs. Debbie Hamby	11	18	Mr. Ryan McKinney	12	8			

*Thank you for Reading the November 2017 Edition of "River News"!*

*Send your next article to [JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com](mailto:JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com) for publication.*

*Copies will be available at church & mailed to shut-ins.*

*If you would like a color copy, please send [JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com](mailto:JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com) your email address.*