

RIVER NEWS

January 2018

the latest

Happy New Year! One of the first things every new year that I have to do as your Pastor is compile the end of the year reports that will be published in the North GA Conference Journal. The end of the year reports summarize in designated categories what happened last year at Little River UMC (and all the other nearly 1,000 churches in the NGA Conference). I will post this report on the bulletin board outside my office, and if you would like a copy, please let me know.

I hope you are excited about the possibilities of a new year opening before us. What have you been dreaming that we might do this year? Let your leaders know. Who are your leaders? We have copies of who serves you on the Administrative Board. Just ask and we can get you the information you desire. We are here to serve God first and then you. We are a team with the same goal: making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world! Each one of us has an important role to play as we pursue our goal to glorify God with our lives! Come, dream, pray and commit yourself to be a blessing! God is with us and will assure our successes as we depend on him!

Love Pastor Gale.



Pastor Gale's Moment

Ask Pastor Gale or Jessica about the new directory!

Church DIRECTORY

Everyone is invited to participate!



United Methodist Women

Home in Cedartown, Ga. Our UMW collected and personally delivered a car load of gifts for many of the 108 kids who are served there.

We also supported the Murphy Harpst Children's Home in Cedartown, Ga. Our UMW collected and personally delivered a car load of gifts for many of the 108 kids who are served there. (Pictured to the right)

Our night circle is off to a great start with our first evening circle meeting on Jan 9th at the home of Gail O. We have many plans to live out our mission of helping children and youth in the new year. Stay tuned, more to come! May God



Richly Bless You!
Paula Goddard
UMW President
2017
[678-234-6909](tel:678-234-6909)
Goddard.paula@yahoo.com



Annual UMW Christmas Luncheon at the home of Jane Watkins.



Morning Circle:

The UMW Morning Circle had a great first year!! We spearheaded a church-wide drive to provide items for the Cherokee Batter Women's Shelter in December. You responded so generously. The shelter was so thankful for our donations. Thank you.

Also, the response to our Little River UMC Christmas tree was great. It was a festive reminder that Jesus truly is "The Reason for the Season".

The first meeting for 2018 will be held January 23rd in the Fellowship classroom at 11:15 following Methodist Melodies. If you are in a woman looking for mission and fellowship opportunities, please join us. This group is a blessing for sure! Contact Bonita Cox 615-293-1670 for additional information.





Methodist Melodies

Methodist Melodies is starting our 2018 series of nursing home concerts. Our group is about 20 singers (male and female) representing several area churches normally meeting at 10am the first and third Tuesdays. All are welcome.

More Information: **Bob Hirsch**
770-344-8763



The Little River UMC choir, under the direction of

Jorge Alvarez, *pictured to the left with a wonderful Soprano, Stephanie Brownlow 😊 (shout out to my fellow soprano),*

presented a spectacular performance of "Love, Beyond Measure" this past Christmas season.

This is the perfect time to join the choir in the new year! All advanced music will be paired with a vocal recording available on the website, or recorded personally with Jorge.



Join us on Monday nights at 7PM for practice at church in the choir room. We would love to have you join us, especially now that we have our Easter Cantata in the works.

– "The River Choir"

By: Jessica Porter





Youth & Children's Musical was a hit!

Thank you for all of your love and support of this year's Youth & Children's Musical, "The Power of the KING" Whoa, whoa! 😊

I'm sure those



of you that attended can imagine the children singing and dancing. It was a lot of hard work with these 14 youth and children over 3 months, but the hard work paid off! Great job to all the kids and youth! Love you guys, and can't wait to produce something great like this in the future!

I look forward to working with you all every week and growing

together in our relationship with Christ. – Mrs. Jessica



#Christmas Party 2017!

#Loved





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.

- Jan. 31 Pork roast, pinto beans, seasoned roasted potatoes, cucumber salad, bread, drink & dessert.
- Feb. 7 Beef stroganoff over noodles, baby lima beans, marinated carrots, bread, drink & dessert.
- Feb. 14 Roast beef with potatoes, carrots, onions, etc., green peas, salad, bread, drink & cobbles.
- Feb. 21 BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, corn-on-cob, chips, pickles, drink & dessert.
- Feb. 28 Bill Goddard's country fried steak, green beans, creamed potatoes, slaw, gravy, biscuits, drink & dessert.

Come on Wednesday nights at 6:15 and enjoy a good meal and fellowship!

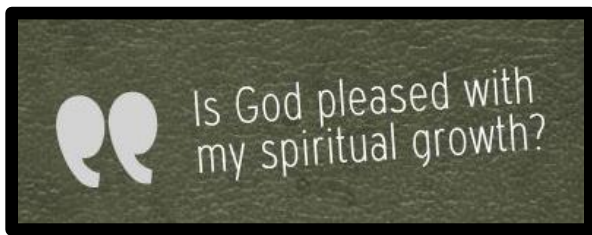
It is a great way to get to know your church family better.

Bring your children to Christ's Kids, or the Youth Group, or if they are too small to participate in these two groups, we have a staffed nursery with Pam and Megan.

Stay for Bible Study at 7. The Ladies' study is taught by Bonita Cox & the Men's by David Pope.

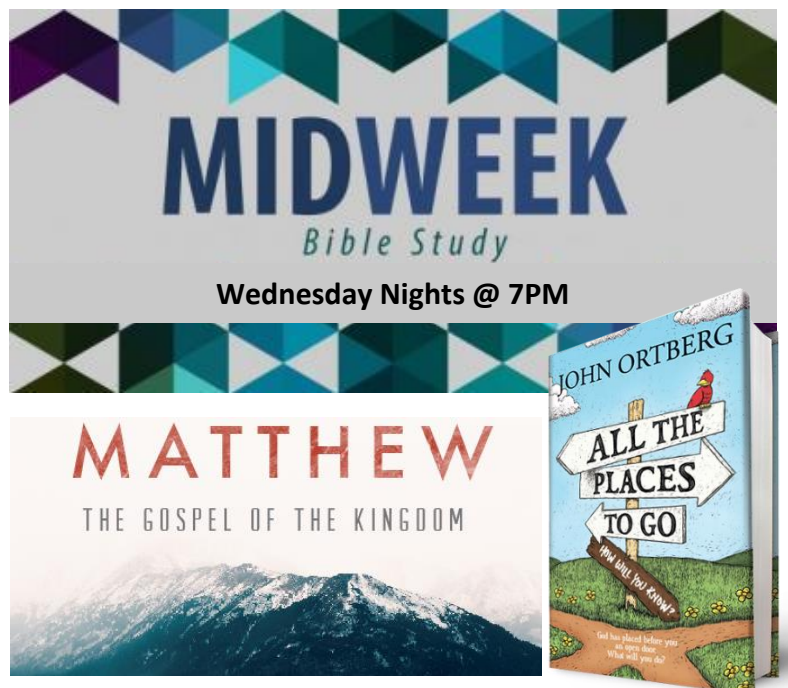
If you would like a meal, but you're in a hurry, get your meals to go!

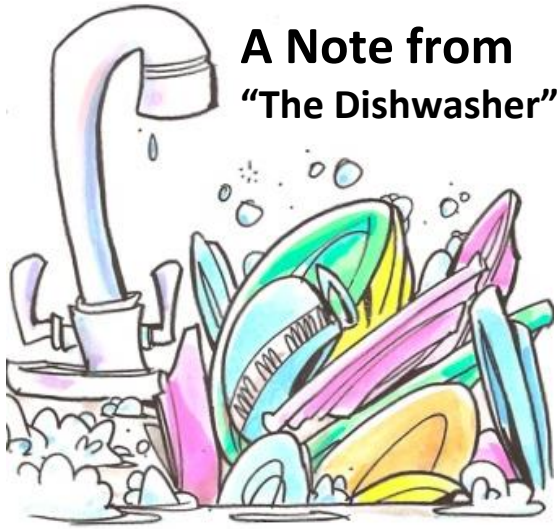
- Gail O. & the Kitchen Crew



Both Ladies and Men's Bible Studies are jumpstarting into the new year with new curriculum! Join the men as they study the book of Matthew, and the women as they delve into "All the Places To Go; How Will You Know", by John Ortberg

For more info, contact Bonita Cox or David Pope.





A Note from "The Dishwasher"

I foresee bigger and better days ahead for Little River United Methodist Church, which by the way has been voted the BEST little United Methodist Church east of the Mississippi. I also foresee our church family growing with our love of God and each other. Spreading our love outwardly to include family, friends, and community.

I know Pastor Gale will continue to lead our church, encouraging us to be aware of how God will always protect us as we strive to show His love. She has done a great job.

I believe we will look out for each other. We will and we should look out for the elderly in this fine community and our great country. Especially when they are driving!

Stay active my friends, The Dishwasher

"The Incredibles" – Gotta Love 'Em!

The Incredibles had a great December and a wonderful year. On December 11th, fourteen of our group had a delicious lunch at the Swan House in Atlanta. Lots of good food, fun and fellowship was enjoyed. On December 12th, fifteen folks met for our monthly breakfast at Chick -Fil -a Dwarf House. It was a special time for all. If you haven't joined any of our outings, let 2018 be the year you come with us! Lots of good plans are in the making.

Suggestions are always appreciated for outings.

You may contact Pat Andre [678.938.5235](tel:678.938.5235), Jenny Mitchell [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172), or Sandra Wehunt [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595). Also, email Pat @ dpandre1@hotmail.com or Sandra Wehunt @ Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com. Join us for our next outing!



MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

The MMPG hasn't met in a few weeks due to the holidays and the inclement weather. We sent 700+ cards during 2017, made lots of visits, and lifted up lots of prayers. We appreciate all the support from our church family. Our dreams for 2018 include saying more prayers and mailing more cards.

If you know someone who needs the groups help, please do not hesitate to let us know. Remember, everyone is invited to attend our gatherings on Monday @ 10am in the fellowship hall. Any questions, you may call Jenny @ [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172) or Sandra @ [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595). You may

also email Sandra @ Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com. Please keep us in your prayers.



Did you know?

The future of the United Methodist church could drastically change this year!

Come and find out what important decisions & votes will be made this year!

**Special Event: February 13th @ 7pm. Location: Little River UMC
Speaker: Our UMC District Superintendent Doug Thrasher**

Dr. Doug Thrasher is a native of Decatur, Georgia. He grew up in an active Methodist family and was a member of Decatur First United Methodist Church. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Georgia, a Master's of Divinity degree from Emory University's Candler School of Theology, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois.

In 1980 he was ordained Elder by Bishop William R. Cannon and has served as Pastor of churches in the North Georgia Annual Conference for 35 years, most recently as Senior Pastor of Hillside United Methodist in Woodstock, Georgia. He was appointed District Superintendent of the Atlanta Roswell District in 2014 where he currently serves.

He is the proud husband of Debbie, to whom he has been married for 41 years. They have two children, Brianne Thrasher Miller and Rev. Jordan Sims Thrasher, who serves as Associate Pastor at Creekside UMC in Cumming, Ga. He and Debbie have 5 granddaughters: Charlotte, Georgia, Elizabeth, Abigail, and Anna.



UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS

When could you serve?

INFO MEETING

Fall? Spring? Summer?

Contact Pastor Gale or Jessica for more info.

**Celebrations within the church:
Upcoming Wedding Anniversaries:**

Eric & Natalie Hartley	1-18-2007 (11 Years)
Rev. Dr. Gale & Rich Seibert	2-7-1970 (48 Years)
Frank & Ruby Lowry	2-14-1981 (37 Years)
Tom & Debra Hord	2-19-2005 (13 Years)



Upcoming Birthdays:

	January		February
Jason Goecks	1	Ann Smith	2
Evan Schwartzberg	3	Anna Long	2
Julie Blake	6	Betty Klau	2
Bobbie Hartsfield	7	Timothy Sharp	6
Pauline Smith	9	Lorraine Goecks	7
Jenny Mitchell	9	Mary Brown	7
Nick DeCicco	13	Betty Groves	8
Katherine Walden	14	Odie Mae Long	14
Bob Connor	20	Debra Hord	15
Clayton Bailey	21	Jonathon Chattin	15
Kaylynne Barfield	22	Tom Thorpe	16
Jean Jones	23	Catherine Long	17
Eric Hartley	25	Kathy Walbeck	17
Ruth Petherick	30	Dawn Thorpe	17
Beth Watkins	31	Frances Guffey	19
		Brandon Hanson	20
		Ruth Lyons	20
		Jade Vanderberg	21
		Lois Allen	21
		Karen Hicks	24
		Britt Burch	25
		Brittany Neese	26
		Ricky Blount	28



If you would like Little River to celebrate an anniversary or birthday not listed above, please email Jessica Porter, and she will update her listings, JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com

Thank you for Reading the January Edition of the Little River Newsletter "River News"!
If you did not get your group/individual segment into the newsletter this month, no worries.

Simply send your next update to Jessica Porter. JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com

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

Color edition available via email & LittleRiverUMC.info under history.