

# RIVER NEWS

March 2018

the latest

On Sundays during this Lenten Season—at the Praise Service and the traditional service—we have been working on our hearts from which come our motives, passions, and words (remember: out of the heart the mouth speaks?) What demeaning, judgmental things we say, especially when we gossip, and God wants these easy to fall into habits out of our hearts. When we think of our hearts as gardens, we realize we have allowed big rocks of doubt and discouragement, as well as clods of dirt into our hearts. These block the beautiful growth and garden that God wants for us.

During the Sundays in March, before Easter, Sunday April 1, we will continue to work on our heart gardens: preparing the dirt (04), planting seeds (11), fertilizing and watering (18 and Holy Communion) and on March 25, Palm Sunday, removing weeds that block Sonlight and stunt healthy growth. Come and get revived as we prepare for Easter.

So many have been sick and were wary about getting out in the rain. Well, the sunshine is here, and we have missed you. Come back to Sunday school and worship as soon as you can!

We have suggested doing some hands-on mission work. Now is the time to gather, share ideas, and start planning. **If you are interested in any type of missions, please meet briefly after church on March 25, Palm Sunday, in the pastor's office immediately after the Praise Service or immediately after the traditional service: your choice.** Here is how our Mission Team will be organized—We need a Home Team as well as a GoTeam. If you can't go, but want to help in any way, please come to our meeting. You will be part of the Home Team to pray, help plan and prepare. Our Go Team will go do the Mission Work. God has big plans for us, if we will step out in faith! Call me for more information, 706-910-8074.

Have you been praying big and dreaming bigger? Have you asked God lately about His work here at Little River and how you might participate? Do you think you are too old? Never! Do you think Missions is only for youth? It's for everyone. God wants us to join him in his work. He just needs available people. Want you make yourself available? Love Pastor Gale



Pastor Gale's Moment

## **COMING SOON!! BBQ / YARDSALE FUNDRAISER – APRIL 28.**

It is almost time for our annual fundraiser, so we need to start planning for its success. Think about what you can do individually to help. We need you to contribute stuff for the yard sale. We will take clean clothing, furniture, household items, toys, books, etc. We need you buy tickets for your family and sell tickets to your friends, neighbors, and businesses you deal with. We need you to contribute food items like potato salad, baked beans, corn-on-cob, home-made desserts, tea, pickles, individual bags of chips, and money to buy meat and other supplies. Also, we need workers. Watch the bulletin for more info. Remember it takes all of you doing your part and if we all work together, we can accomplish great things. - Gail O

# Church Yard Sale



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

Christ's Kids & Youth Group eat FREE. Come and join us each week for a good meal and fellowship.

### **MENU FOR MARCH 2017 – Takeouts Available**

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Mar 7  | CAMP GLISSON NIGHT – Turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, green peas, sweet potato soufflé, giblet gravy, rolls, drink & dessert.              |
| Mar 14 | Vegetable Night: Garden salad, baked potato with all the trimmings, black-eyed peas, macaroni & cheese, green beans, bread, drink & dessert. |
| Mar 21 | Taco Night: Chips and salsa, tacos with all the trimmings, pinto beans, Mexican rice, drink & dessert.                                       |
| Mar 28 | Chicken & wild rice casserole, steamed broccoli w/cheese sauce, marinated carrots, garden salad, Texas toast, drink & dessert.               |

Our first meal this month is Camp Glisson Night. All the money we collect goes toward helping defray the expenses of our youth who will be attending Camp Glisson this summer. All expenses of the meal are absorbed. 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 and the Men's by David Pope. If you would like a meal, but in a hurry, get your meals to go.

Thank you from the Kitchen Crew (Gail O, Debbie Hamby, Rosalee Little, Tom Walbeck, Teresa & David Bailey, plus Sandra Wehunt, cashier, and Pat Andre, baker)

**CHEROKEE COUNTY**  
**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**TOWN HALL MEETING**  
**APRIL 12 – 7PM**

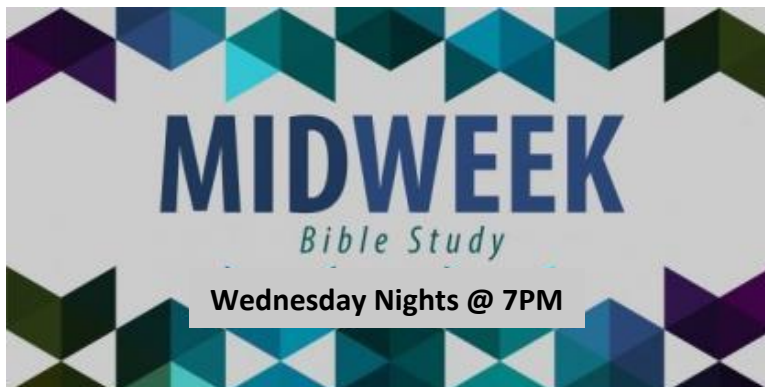
Little River UMC is hosting the second annual Town Hall Meeting for the **Hickory Flat Precinct**. The service area of



the Hickory Flat Precinct covers the unincorporated county east of I-575 from the Cobb County line to Hickory Flat Hwy and Old Batesville Road. This is an opportunity to meet Sheriff Frank Reynolds, Chief Deputy Ken Ball, your local precinct commander Lt. Jason Donley, and several members of the Command Staff. There will be a presentation and an open floor for questions. Please help the Sheriff's Office spread the word about this event. Other precincts will be hosting meetings for their respective areas as well.

Tell your friends and neighbors about this meeting and invite them to come and hear what is going on in our community and have any questions answered. - Gail O

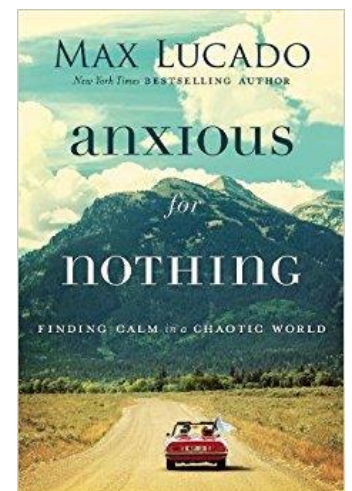
**Wednesday Night Bible Studies**



The ladies' night time Bible Study begins Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. We are so excited to begin this study of Max Lucado's book "Anxious for Nothing". Although this study is set up for 5 weeks, we have already decided that will not be enough time, so...we're going to stretch it to 10 weeks. On the first week we will show the DVD and discuss it. The second

week, we will dig into our feelings and findings from the readings. This should be fantastic, ladies! If you cannot be with us on Wednesday night and would still enjoy participating, there is a DVD in the front porch mailbox which you may check out, view and return. If you have questions, please call or text Bonita Cox at 615-293-1670

**Join the men as they continue their study in the book of Matthew! For more info, contact David Pope.**







United Methodist Women

Our UMW Circles at Little River UMC are gearing up for a great year filled to the brim with mission activities. This is an invitation to all ladies of the church (bring guests if you would like). We have both day and night circles, so everyone can participate.

The Tuesday Morning Circle of United Methodist Women will meet in the Fellowship Classroom on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 a.m. We are still in the planning stages for a large group mission study but have not set a date yet.

## UMW—Women Uniting and Making a Difference!

On February 17th, a few of our UMW ladies attended a President's Brunch at St James UMC in Alpharetta, Ga. It was a delightful morning spent with fellow United Methodist Women in the Atlanta-Roswell District as we learned about all the exciting things happening in 2018.

God is at work,  
and we have the  
opportunity to be his hands  
and feet!

*Pictured right: LRUMC ladies who attended the President's Brunch were: Bonita Cox, Dorothy McKinney and Paula Goddard*



**Calling all ladies!** Alpharetta UMC is having a Mission Study, "Living as a Covenant Community" led by Rev. Brad Greene from 9AM-1PM on March 24<sup>th</sup>. \$15 covers the cost of the book and lunch. Kim Simmons and Bonita Cox from our day circle are planning to attend, and we hope others will too. The plan is to carpool from the church. The mission project for this study is to help provide some clothing and items for young boys in the area. If you would like to help, check out the list below and bring your items to Bonita Cox, Kim Simmons, or Paula Goddard at church. **Please call Bonita Cox at 615-293-1670 if you plan to attend.**

- Little boys' 12 month through size 8 long pants, jeans, khakis, nylon or sweat pants
- Little boys' socks to fit shoe size 9-2 ½
- Boys' sneakers size toddler 4 up to men's 5 1/2
- Toothbrushes for toddlers up to age 5
- Toys for boys: craft or science kits, Legos or educational toys for boys 7+

### **Mark your calendars!**

- **Next Evening Circle UMW Meeting – Tues, 3/13 @ 7PM at Gail O's house - All ladies are welcome!**
- **Next Day Circle UMW Meeting – Tues, 3/20 @ 11:15 AM in the Fellowship Classroom at LRUMC-All ladies welcome!**
- **Friday, May 11 – Our Annual Mother/Daughter/Special Friend Banquet (Details will be shared shortly, but you don't want to miss it!)**

**We are on a Mission and YOU can join us!**

All ladies of our church are invited to join our UMW Day Circle les by Bonita Cox or the evening circle led by Paula Goddard. We have many plans in 2018 for missions supporting women, children, and youth. Come join us and bring a friend!

## United Methodist Men

Brothers and Sisters,

The UMM had a meeting this past Sunday which was started with prayer to guide us in HIS work. Six men attended.

We decided to bring in a speaker to tell us about a program to provide hand driven carts to those unfortunates who have lost the use of their legs. This is a global program with a massive need.

We also touched on several other topics including our relationship with scouting, social activities, a possible relationship with other church sponsored men's clubs. Perhaps the most relevant is recruiting men from within our congregation. 6 men attended, because of working, family and illness our capabilities are quite limited. We do what we can. I'm certain you can appreciate the result of continually asking so few to do the work of many. Please recognize that our service to the LRUMC family is directly related to our numbers.



Our goal is to build relationships with God, our community and each other. If you are the least bit curious, come to the next meeting in April. We need 2 things from you, first and foremost -your ideas, perhaps that will lead to a sense of ownership and participation.



## Methodist Melodies

Methodist Melodies is well underway for 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.

Five people have expressed an interest in MM. To date 2 have joined. That is balanced by a temporary loss of 3 members.

We have added the memory care unit at Merrill Gardens to our outreach ministry. Our requirements for singing with us are twofold, smiling and breathing.

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







## News from the Trail

David K. Bailey, Scouting Ministry Specialist

It's a wonderful year for Scouting at Little River UMC! This is the 50th anniversary of the birth of Scouting at Little River and an achievement that most Scouts never experience. While we are the 2nd oldest Troop in the district, we have the greatest tenure with our chartering organization. On Boy Scout Sunday we welcomed back some of the original members of the Troop as well as the Scoutmaster. They came from as far away as Utah, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina to be with us on this important occasion. Also visiting on this day was the Scout Coordinator for the North Georgia Conference who asked to feature the service as an example to other churches in the conference.

Our Boy Scouts are preparing for the Spring Camporee at Camp Woodruff in Blairsville which will be followed shortly by preparations for Summer Camp at Rainey Mountain in Clayton GA. We also have several young men who have begun their last push to reach their Eagle rank. Since Scout Sunday we have produced our 80th Eagle Scout and his name, Adam Glisson, will join the others on a new plaque honoring them that will be placed in the Sanctuary entrance.

Our Cub Scouts are closing in on their yearly ranks and we will be saying goodbye to the 5th graders as they cross over into Boy Scouting. In the coming year, we expect that the Cub Scout program will grow with the addition of a new rank, Lion, that is designed for the Kindergarten age. Recruiting the new Scouts has already begun, and many of the Cubs will be attending Twilight Camp later this summer.



Don't forget our Girl Scouts! We host 5 Girl Scout Troops and the monthly Girl Scout Service Unit meeting. Our girls perform many interesting service projects in the community that you might not hear about. Troop 14665 (pictured) collected over 770 cans of food for Papa's Pantry and stuffed 270 pairs of new socks with toiletries and personal care items for needy people in the county. Hardworking efforts like this are the hallmark of their program and speak highly to their dedicated leaders. **Did I forget to mention that it's cookie season?**

In closing, thank you for the strong support you've shown the Scouting program at the church. It's an honor to serve the Scouts and be a part of the thousands of lives that the program has impacted at Little River. Welcoming back the first Troop members serves to show that a strong Scouting program has a great impact on our community and our nation.

Yours in Scouting,

*David K. Bailey*



## “The Incredibles” – Gotta Love ‘Em!

Tuesday, March 13th, we will have our monthly breakfast at the Chick fil a Dwarf House. Come on out around 9am. It is always a good time and great food.

On Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, we will go to see the play Driving Miss Daisy at the historic Canton Theater. (Side Note: The Goddards and Porters went to see the play last night and noted it was excellent!



Joey Porter stated, “Best play I’ve ever seen, and I saw several in college/high school.”

We will leave immediately after church. Stop off for lunch; place to be announced later. If you can't go with the group, please come to the theater by 2pm. The tickets are \$12.00. Please

let Dorothy McKinney know if you would like to attend. Come join the **INCREDIBLES** for lots of fun and fellowship. April plans are being arranged.

*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](mailto:dpandre1@hotmail.com) or Sandra Wehunt @ [Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com). Join us for our next outing! \_

**\*\*See Jessica Porter if you would like to volunteer the day of in any of the following ways: bringing Cupcakes, setting up the cupcake tables, “hiding” eggs, walking a group to their hunting area, passing out flyers, or parking lot crew.**



**Celebrations within the church:**

**Upcoming Wedding Anniversaries:**

<b>Pauline &amp; Maurice Smith</b>	<b>3-1-1954</b>	<b>(64 years)</b>
<b>Julie &amp; Peter Blake</b>	<b>3-17-1984</b>	<b>(34 years)</b>
<b>Frank &amp; Carol Ford</b>	<b>3-22-1958</b>	<b>(60 years)</b>
<b>Ricky Blount &amp; Shawna Blount-Barfield</b>	<b>4-4-2009</b>	<b>(8 years)</b>
<b>Fred &amp; Ridgley Bayley</b>	<b>4-6-1953</b>	<b>(64 years)</b>
<b>Joey &amp; Jessica Porter</b>	<b>4-8-2017</b>	<b>(1 year)</b>
<b>Mike &amp; Roxie Joyce</b>	<b>4-24-1976</b>	<b>(41 years)</b>
<b>Earl &amp; Kendra Cosner</b>	<b>4-30-1994</b>	<b>(23 years)</b>

**Upcoming Birthdays:**

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	<b>March</b>		<b>April</b>
<b>Kaedyn Vanderberg</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Leyla Jones</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rayleigh Walden</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Frank Ford</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Adam Schwartzberg</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Doreen Pumphrey</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Laura Hamby</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Wayne Davis</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Joe Pendley</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Julie Long</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Elizabeth Armstrong</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Edward Leftwitch</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Joyce Purvis</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Brittany Oakes</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Marci Watkins</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Ashlynn Pope</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Jorge Alvarez</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>David Bailey</b>	<b>24</b>
		<b>Bill Willis</b>	<b>25</b>
		<b>Janet Castleberry</b>	<b>29</b>
		<b>Aniston Watkins</b>	<b>30</b>
		<b>Ruth Ann Morrison</b>	<b>30</b>

**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](mailto: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](mailto:JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com)  
Copies will be available at church & mailed to shut-ins.  
Color edition available via email & [LittleRiverUMC.info](mailto:LittleRiverUMC.info) under history.