

JANUARY

River News 2019

Are you ready for 2019? Many have told me they are not ready to leave the fun of the Christmas Season, but I hate to tell you that time moves on, and we have to hang on for dear life and move with it!! New Year 2019 begins with fresh new dreams of what we can do and be for God.

The only way to find out is to pray and ask God. Consider coming to an intercessory prayer meeting at 5 pm, Sunday, January 27, in the sanctuary. At that meeting, facilitated by Rich Seibert, we will sing several songs, have a short teaching on prayer, a time of silence to



listen to God and to sense what he is saying, and then a time for sharing our impressions. This will be the best way to start our new year of ministry by finding out what is important to God and how we might be obedient.



We are excited about a new group, the Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group which meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday here in the Fellowship Classroom at 11 am. By being connected to the Atlanta Chapter of the

National Alzheimer's Association, we are reaching out to a much broader audience in our area. In fact, to find out more about how seniors are ministered to in our area, Rich, Fritz and I attended the Cherokee County Senior Business Network where we met many people in our county who work in various leadership roles in organizations that address the needs of seniors in assisted living, home meal delivery, caregiving and rehabilitation. They were aware of the spiritual benefits of starting a group meeting in a church context. We hope that they might provide speakers and others who can enrich our group. We hope that everyone in our church who is providing caregiving to someone with Alzheimer/Dementia will attend and bring a friend.





Wednesday night meals are terrific as usual and such a great deal for everyone. Who can imagine enjoying such a delicious, well balanced meal for only \$6? Please come out and support this amazing ministry!

Everyone is invited to enjoy the events planned by the Incredibles: breakfasts every second Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A at 9 am and trips around our area—there is so much to see and discover around us! It is so much fun when we do these things together as a group! We make new friends and laugh a lot!

The Choir is looking for new members and is already considering a cantata for Easter. If you like to sing, we need your voice!! You don't have to commit to every Sunday and you will be using a gift God has given you. Come out on a Monday night from 7-8 and see for yourself how much fun it can be to sing with a group.

Look forward to Souper Sundays sponsored by the Daytime UMW on 2nd Sundays in the Fellowship Hall after 11 'clock worship. See Bonita Cox to sign up to make soup. On the 2nd Tuesday in February the nighttime UMW will have its first meeting in 2019 at Gail O's home beginning at 7 pm. All ladies are invited to come.



I am enjoying a sermon series on Stewardship this January. The first Sunday was about the make-up of the church where Jesus Christ is the head and we are his body. The second Sunday was about Baptism, the way we enter into union with Jesus Christ and his church. This week we will begin to look at the vows we made when we joined the church. This Sunday, January 20, will focus on two vows: prayer and

presence. Get ready to get excited about prayer! And get ready to realize how important your presence is. Then next week, Sunday, January 27, we will focus on giving and how we can be the best stewards of the gifts God has given us. The 1st Sunday in February, February 3, we have named, Commitment Bowl Sunday. On that Sunday we will seal our filled out commitment cards in envelopes and put them in our soup bowl. Then on October 6, we will open our envelopes and see how well we have done with our commitments so far. Every year it is important to ask God for help to give the Lord more of us: our time talents, our love and our resources. This will increase our faith and help us trust God more which will release blessings into our lives. Please begin praying about how you can be the best steward in 2019 of the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you. The information on Commitment Cards will never be seen by another person, it is a commitment between you and God to do your best for his kingdom.

Growing in your relationship to God is the most important thing we can do as his children. There are lots of ways to grow in your relationship with God here at Little River.

Join us as we Dream Big and Pray Bigger!!



Stewardship
a way of life

Love, Pastor Gale

Drawing for 3 Lucky Winners

Prize: Free Meal the
following week!

Wednesday Night MEALS

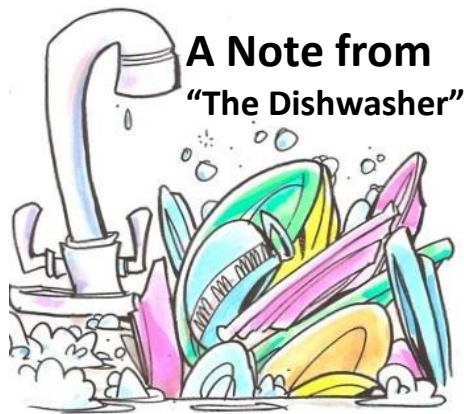
6:15 PM

Adults \$6 / Kids 4+ \$3 / Max \$18 per family.
A reasonable priced meal and fun fellowship

Christ's Kids & Youth Group eat FREE.
January-May ; September-December

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS FOR JANUARY 2019

- Jan. 9 All you can eat spaghetti, garden salad, garlic bread, drink & dessert.
- Jan. 16 Roast beef with potatoes, carrots, onions, etc., green beans, peaches on lettuce, bread, drink & dessert.
- Jan. 23 Breakfast for dinner: pancakes, sausage patties, bacon, scrambled eggs, cheese grits, jalapeno grits.
- Jan. 30 Meat loaf, mixed beans, creamed potatoes, salad, bread, drink and dessert.



A Note from "The Dishwasher"

1. Joy

January 5, 2019, marked the fifth year Gary Coleman has been graciously playing music for our early service at Little River UMC. When he finishes the 8:30 am service he drives to Burnt Hickory UMC to sing and play his guitar at the eleven o'clock service. He also visits many nursing homes and assisted living facilities playing his guitar and singing with his friend Marcia Wright. At our "Trunk or Treat" celebration this Halloween, he is the DJ playing the scary music and other great hits. Since December, 1996, Gary has played Joseph at the Bethlehem Walk at Mountain View UMC, and we've greatly

enjoyed his Christmas Carol Sing-Alongs with Marcia at Little River! He is married to Leslie. Proud parents of two daughters and their four-legged babies. Leslie helps at Little River in many ways. She helps with "Christ Kids" on Wednesday night meals and is our Church Nurse! She attends Chuck's Sunday School class, and she runs the sound system for the 8:30 AM service. What a joy to have such a wonderful couple sharing their talents here at Little River!

2. Did you know?

- A. Moses was the first person with a tablet downloading data from the cloud.
- B. My body is a temple (ancient and crumbling)
- C. Need an ark? I Noah a guy.



Good Day, The Dishwasher!



CHRIST Kids

This is our Pre-K through 5th grade group of kids that meet on Wednesday Night! We had an awesome 2018!

Approximately 28 kids came to this program last year! There were fun times like our Christmas Party (see our "Wrap them Up" Christmas paper Fashion contest), but there were also sad times like when one of our families with four children moved to the other side of Atlanta. Being able to pray with them, and for them, helped our kids grow so much. We've also grown and learned so much through our multi-dimensional program, "The Gospel Project".

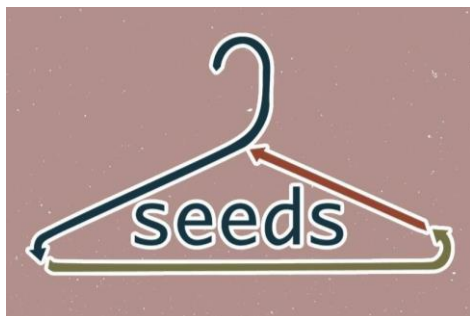
Each week we are supplied with fun music videos, a very creative Bible Story Video, games relating to our story, and a fun discussion video clip that helps our children talk about how to use what we learn in class back to current day. The kids love competing for a prize at the end of the night! Throughout the night, beginning at dinner and game time, kids can be entered into our jar of tickets with their names on the back for good behavior, and helpful attitude, answering questions about our Bible lesson, winning a game, or singing and dancing to our music for the week. Tom Walbeck, our dishwasher, supplies us with a prize each week, and we also have a prize bin filled with goodies, so 2 children each week are chosen for a prize.

This past year, we expanded our program to include a Missions Moment each week. During this time, we take up an offering and explain what our money will be used for, such as the ARK of animals for communities in

need across the world, or our current project, "Dollars for Diapers." One of our local ministries, The Hope Center/Seeds Thrift Store, located across from His Hand's Church on Hwy 92 has made a request on social media for diapers. Newly expecting families who might need a little extra help, counselling, or parenting classes, may reach out to this local non-profit for help. The kids have a donation jar downstairs, or you may place an offering in the plate marked for the kid's mission project, "Dollars for

Diapers". If you would prefer to purchase new diapers and bring them to the church, we will gladly show the children the donations and take them to The Hope Center that week. We will complete this project at the end of February, and then pick a new project. Thank you for all of your support!

***If you might be interested in being a substitute chaperone or teacher for our class, please contact Jessica Porter, Youth & Children's Minister. Each class requires no prior prep work for the lesson. Thank you! 404-217-3158 JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com*



MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

The MMPG enjoyed a great year. We mailed 629 cards during 2018. Many prayers and visits were shared. We appreciate the church family. Your support means so much. Thanks to everyone who contributed monies, stamps, time, and cards. We want to extend an invitation to join us anytime you can. Our prayers are that during 2019 you will have good health, happiness and success. Please remember to pray with us at 10:30 a.m. every Monday morning. God Bless. Sandra

Jenny [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172) or Sandra [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595). Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com.



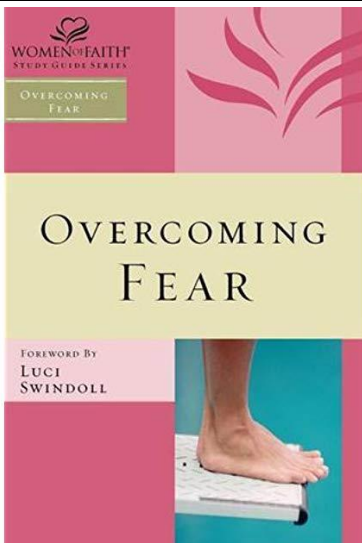
incredible

INCREDIBLES NEWS

The INCREDIBLES had a fantastic year. We had many memorable gatherings. Our last trip of the year was great. Rich drove the new church bus to Edna's Restaurant in Chatsworth. We appreciate our drivers, thank you, Rich. The highlight of the day, in addition to the first trip on the bus, was the fact that Geraldine was able to go with us. A delicious meal was enjoyed by all. We are looking forward to 2019. During the upcoming months in addition to our regular scheduled breakfast we plan to have Janine Rowe, with MASA, who will provide a meal for us and give a presentation about her company, a trip to the Blue Willow Restaurant in Social Circle, a trip to the Little White House in Pine Mountain, and a program about gardening by a Pike Nursery representative. We are getting our spring off to a good start. Please join us anytime you are able for an outing. All suggestions are appreciated.

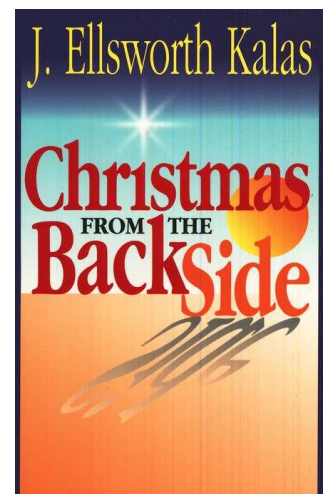
Feel free to call Jenny at [770.926.3172](tel:770.926.3172), Pat @ [678.983.9290](tel:678.983.9290) or Sandra @ [770.926.3595](tel:770.926.3595), [770.709.2402](tel:770.709.2402) or email @ Sandrawehunt1@yahoo.com. God Bless.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY



“Overcoming Fear” is the current study and will finish the end of January. The next study has not been chosen. If you have never done a Wednesday night study, it meets at 7:00 in the Fellowship Classroom immediately following our Wednesday night supper. Studies are usually easy, thought provoking and enjoyable. Call Bonita Cox at 615-293-1670 or Annette Davidson at 770-757-8048

The Men’s Bible Study “Christmas from the Backside” is close to an end, so now is the perfect time to join in on the next study! See Rich Seibert or David Pope for details.





United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

The United Methodist Women of our Church had a wonderful end of the year, UMW Christmas Luncheon. This is a tradition we have done for many years, and it's always a joy to have all of the women in the church come together to fellowship, eat great food, and award one person for their work as a servant in our Church Ministries.

This year, Bonita Cox was presented this award by Pat Andre for her "One Call, That's All" servant's heart. She has truly made a difference in our church since she has come through the doors. If you need a ride to the doctor; you need a ride to the hospital; you need help with a project; you need help decorating the church; one call and she is there, smiling and ready to do whatever you need.



She has gone on mission trips, teaches a bible study class, reorganized the Women's Group Day Circle and more! She organized the pancake breakfast, and along with her group has great plans for next year for many activities involving the church. Bonita also served on our Finance team when we needed help this year. Today we would just like to say thank you to Bonita Cox for all she does and for the impact she has made on our church since she has been here.

And UMW would also like to thank Rosalee Little for hosting us again this year at your beautiful home! If you haven't had the chance to join these great groups of ladies for a meeting, consider joining them in 2019! We have a Morning Circle & a Night Circle to accommodate the schedules of our ladies at Little River. ☺



MORNING CIRCLE

United Methodist Women's Morning Circle invites you to their **January 22nd meeting**. We will be setting up our plans for service and mission in 2019. Pledge cards and thank banks will be available. If you are looking for a place to connect here at Little River, please come and

join us. 11:15 AM in the Fellowship Classroom (immediately following Methodist Melodies practice). Call Bonita Cox at 615-293-1670 for info.

Our Souper Sundays began January 13th immediately following the 11:00 service. On the second Sunday of January, February and March 8 people are bringing crockpots of soup to share. EVERYONE is invited to prepare their favorite soup and EVERYONE is encouraged to come and fellowship with one another as they share this special meal. If you want to prepare soup for February or March, there will be a sign-up sheet on the church patio. For information, call Bonita Cox at 615-293-1670.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY
Souper Sundays
2nd Sunday of January, February, & March



Miles of Hope 2019

Saturday, March 16 · 9AM
Silver Comet Trail
Cedartown, GA

Murphy-Harpst
LIFE AND HOPE FOR CHILDREN

MISSIONS!

Put this on your calendar. The MILES OF HOPE BIKE RIDE/WALK for Murphy-Harpst children's center will be March 16th. Look for more information soon.






Little River UMW night circle will kick off 2019 with their first meeting on **Tues, 2/5** at 7pm at the home of Gail O. All ladies are welcome. We have an exciting year ahead and many plans to discuss. Come be a part of this group of Christian ladies who seek to honor God through local and global missions.

United Methodist Women's President
Paula Goddard
Goddard.Paula@yahoo.com
678-234-6909

2018 Recap from Our UMW Night Circle

1. We met Bi-Monthly at the home of Gail O.
2. Mother/Daughter/Special Friend Banquet in May held at Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce with approx. 125 in attendance.
3. Made and delivered 300 PB&J sandwiches/sack lunches in July for Must Summer Lunch Program.
4. Participated in the Thank Bank Program and funds goes to missions.
5. Participated in the District Pledge Program where we keep half for missions and half goes to the District missions fund.
6. We donated funds to the following missions in 2018:
 - Ark project
 - Lauren's Run for Caroline Connor
 - LRUMC Prayer Group for Cards/Postage
 - Goshen Valley Boys Home
 - Sleep Out for Homeless Youth-Covenant House
 - Murphy Harpst Children's Home
 - Next Step Ministry in Woodstock for adults with special needs
 - Toy Fund for MUST
7. We helped collect item for Hygiene Kits for Annual Conference.
8. Ladies Retreat in Oct
9. Christmas luncheon on Dec 1
10. Three attended district meeting at Alpharetta UMC in Feb.



PURPOSE
OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose **PURPOSE** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Celebrations within the church:

Upcoming Wedding Anniversaries:

Frank & Ruby Lowry	2-14-1970 (49 Years)
Rev. Dr. Gale & Rich Seibert	2-14-1981 (38 Years)
Tom & Debra Hord	2-19-2005 (14 Years)
Frank & Carol Ford	3-22-1958 (61 years)

Upcoming Birthdays:

	Jan.		Feb.		Mar.
Bobbie Hartsfield	7	Timothy Sharp	6	Joe Pendley	20
Pauline Smith	9	Lorraine Goecks	7	Elizabeth Armstrong	20
Jenny Mitchell	9	Mary Brown	7	Joyce Purvis	23
Bob Connor	20	Betty Groves	8	Marci Watkins	30
Kaylynne Barfield	22	Odie Mae Long	14	Jorge Alvarez	31
Jean Jones	23	Debra Hord	15		
Ruth Petherick	30	Tom Thorpe	16		
Beth Watkins	31	Kathy Walbeck	17		
		Dawn Thorpe	17		
		Ruth Lyons	20		
		Lois Allen	21		
		Britt Burch	25		
		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

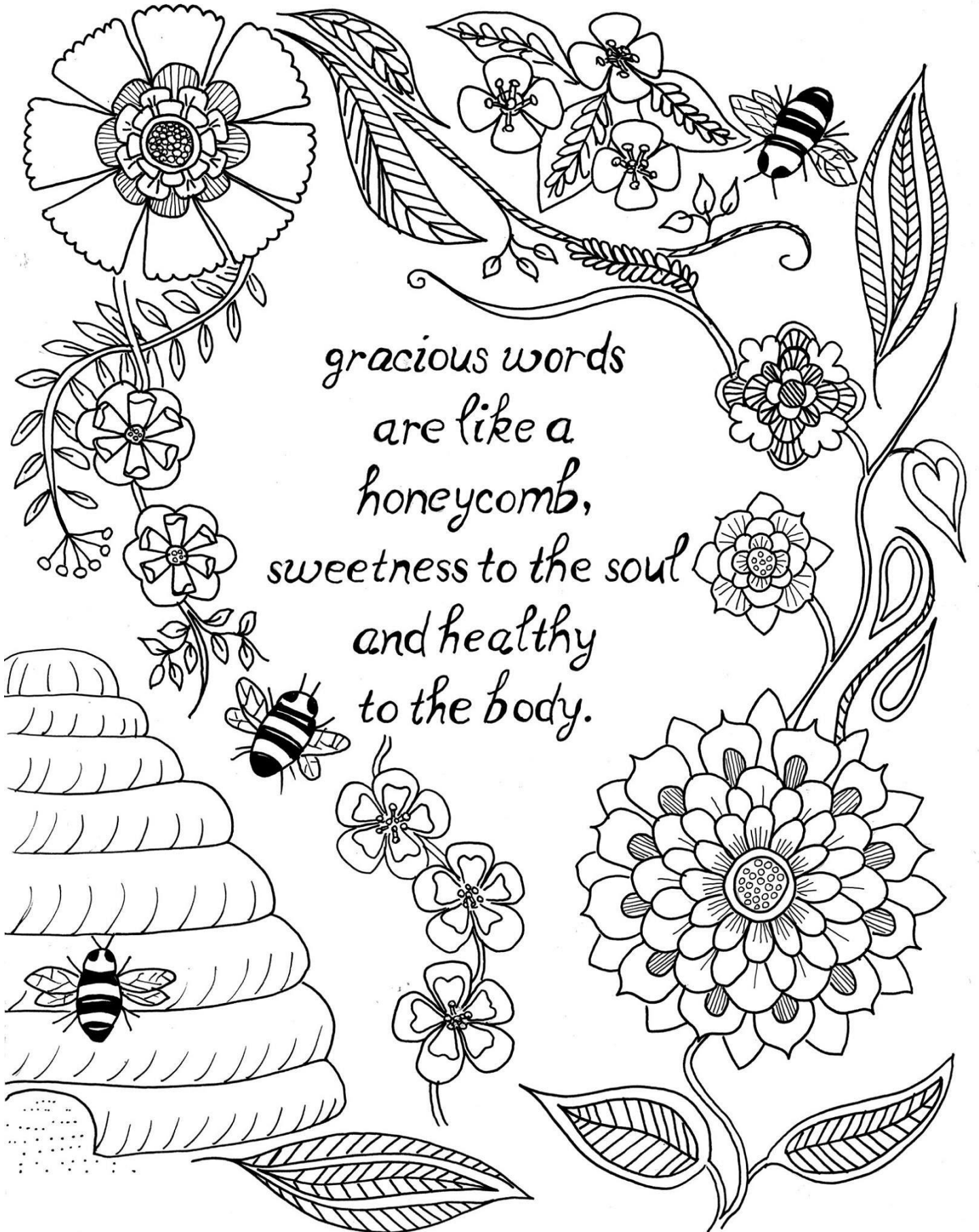
Copies will be available at church & mailed to shut-ins.

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

Coloring Page is brought to you by the suggestion of David Bailey. ☺

Name: _____

Date: _____



gracious words
are like a
honeycomb,
sweetness to the soul
and healthy
to the body.