

River News



March 2019

It is no accident Lent and Easter are in the Spring. In the Spring, hope and new life burst anew all around us. Birds build nests with the hope of new life. Flower bulbs that were resting in the ground feel the warmth and are nourished by spring rains and begin to pop out of the ground with beautiful flowers. Trees experience the flow of new life from their roots to the tips of every stem. The earth warms ready to allow seeds to grow and new lives to flourish. It's time for us to put off the heaviness of cold and dreary days and examine our lives for how we can grasp all that God has for us!! Lent offers us six weeks to take up a new exciting habit or drop a habit of thinking or acting that has held us back. God wants to come into us and renew us from the inside out. How are you doing with your renewal? We have exactly three more weeks until Easter to rethink how we are living and start anew. Jesus took upon himself ALL of our sins, so we could burst out of our tombs of thinking, "I can't," and step into new life with God and unlimited possibilities!! Carpe diem — grab the day, the moment— it is our time to soar with God. Love, Pastor Gale.



Egg Hunt Needs:

- 1. Candy/Egg Stuffers**
- 2. 250 Cupcakes**
- 3. Egg Hiders**
- 4. Refreshment Set-up**
- 5. Parking Lot Safety Crew**

Volunteers Email:

JessicaPorter1313@gmail.com

Community Easter Egg Hunt
Little River UMC
Saturday, April 20th 10AM



Miles of Hope

2019

Saturday, March 16 · 9AM

Silver Comet Trail

Cedartown, GA



Team Little River!



A Great Walk & Ride this year out at the Silver Comet Trail in Cedartown! It was a chilly morning,



but we all wore extra layers to keep warm for 3.1 miles! AnnMarie Carrier braved the cold and biked with other UMC members from Cara's home church/family! It looked like a blast! Bonita Cox brought Kroger bags, so our walking team doubled the mission project by cleaning up trash along the route. We saw several of the students who live at Murphy Harpst riding their bikes while we walked, and those who stayed for lunch afterwards were able to fellowship with the teens. This was so much fun, and we look forward to another great walk/ride in 2020!



CHRIST KIDS

Our kids on Wednesday Nights have really enjoyed participating in local mission projects so far this year! In January & February we collected funds and donations of diapers and baby products for The Hope Center of Woodstock. The kids collected enough funding for over 500 diapers! WOW! Currently,

they are collecting toilet paper donations for the Cherokee County Senior Center, and we've already had a couple donations come in this week! The leaders of our Christ Kids have really enjoyed sharing with the kids on how important giving back to our community is.





MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

We have been busy during the first three months of the year. We have sent 201 cards year-to-date. We are very grateful to the church family for your love and support. The many cards, stamps and financial contributions are greatly appreciated. Please continue to pray with us for all the concerns among our church family and the community. Come join us any Monday @ 10:30am for about an hour. It's a great way to start your week. Please continue to share your concerns with the group. You may contact Jenny at 770.926.3172 or Sandra @ 770.926.3595.

God Bless. Sandra

**Vacation Bible School
Is just around the bend!
Early Registration Coming Soon!
LittleRiverUMC.info**



This year we've had 2 very short planning meetings and a bowling outing in March. Six men attended; 3 bowled and 3 being unable to bowl shared some fellowship.

April promises to be busy for us.

April 7th we're hosting a brunch after services, 9 selections have been offered. More are welcome.

April 21st Early Easter breakfast. David and Tony have graciously volunteered to co-coordinate. Men who want to contribute some time please let them know. They would really appreciate the help.

April 21st (Easter) we're preparing the Floral cross for display

April 26th and 27th (yard sale) we expect to be helping separate the contributions, prepping the parking lot for the clothing racks, and setting them up for Saturday.

We're also looking at the possibility of making birdhouses for the children being supported by Pediatric Brain Cancer Foundation. The children will decorate the houses and give them up for a silent auction and the Foundation's annual charity golf outing.

Special Note; Our activities will be successful if participation is sufficient. Sincerely, Bob Hirsch



We had a great March together. On the 12th, we had our regular monthly breakfast. We had 8 in attendance. On the 4th, Mickey Gazaway, a Master gardener from Pikes Nursery, gave an outstanding program on gardening. Around 10



Incredibles plus 4 guests were in attendance. Everyone learned some tips and Mickie's discount coupons for purchases.

It was a great afternoon.

April Plans are being finalized. Watch the upcoming bulletins for more information.



Mark your calendars for April 9th and 16th. Make your plans now to join us during April. Any questions, please contact:

Pat @ 678.938.5235,
Jenny @ 770.926.3172 or
Sandra @ 770.926.3595.

Also, email:

SandraWehunt1@yahoo.com.



****Shout out from Girl Scout Sunday! We loved having the girls and leaders from one of our very active troops in worship.**



Churchwide

YARD SALE

BBQ / YARDSALE FUNDRAISER

Saturday, April 27th

8am- 3pm

It is almost time for our annual fundraiser which is the weekend after Easter this year. This means we have a lot going on in April. It is not possible to have a successful fundraiser unless everyone does their part. These are the things we need donated. Please look at this and decide what you can donate and tell Gail, Sandra, or Tom. **FOOD DONATIONS:** We need baked beans, potato salad, corn-on-cob, home-made desserts, pickles, tea, soft drinks, and money to buy meat, buns and other supplies. We need you to buy tickets and sell tickets to your family, friends, & neighbors. Tickets are \$6 for adults / \$3 for child.



They include

BBQ sandwich, 2 sides, pickle, drink & dessert. **We also need workers, and we need you to contribute stuff for the yard sale.** We will take clean clothing, furniture, household items, toys, books, etc. The Long room will be open starting Sunday afternoon April 21st for you to bring your items. If you need pickup for your items, please call and we will arrange a time. This is a churchwide event so remember it takes all of us doing our part and if we all work together, we can accomplish great things. (Gail O)

Gail O. 678-641-5486 (c) gailols@bellsouth.net

Tom Walbeck 770-401-1433

Sandra Wehunt 770-709-2402 (c)

Drawing for
3 Lucky
Winners

Prize: Free Meal the
following week!

Wednesday
Night
MEALS

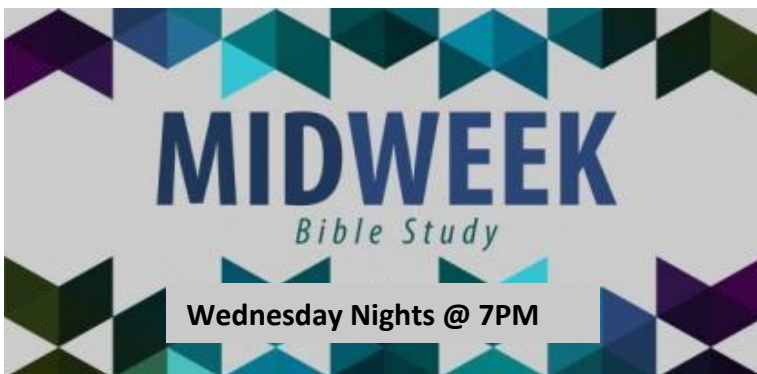
Returning
this fall.

6:15PM

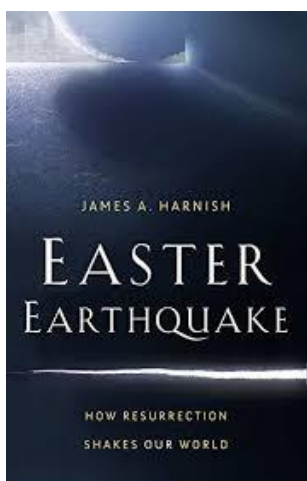
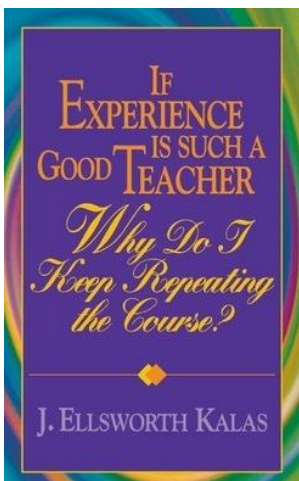
Adults \$6 / Kids 4+ \$3 / Maximum \$18 per family.

MENU FOR APRIL & May

- April 3 No Meal (CCSD Spring Break)
April 10 Grilled hamburger steaks, baked potatoes, baked beans, garden salad, T. Toast, drink & dessert.
April 17 Homemade chicken pot pie w/ vegetables, broccoli w/ cheese sauce, peaches on lettuce, rolls, drink & dessert.
April 24 Tacos and all the trimmings, rice, beans, chips with salsa and cheese sauce, drink & dessert.
May 1 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NIGHT Fundraiser**
Fried pork chops, green beans, creamed potatoes, baked apples, bread, drink & dessert.
May 8 Fried chicken, green peas, tater tots, tropical fruit salad, bread, drink & dessert.
May 15 Hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings, baked beans, chips, drink & dessert.
May 22 **BOY SCOUT NIGHT-** All you can eat spaghetti, garden salad, Texas toast, drink & dessert.

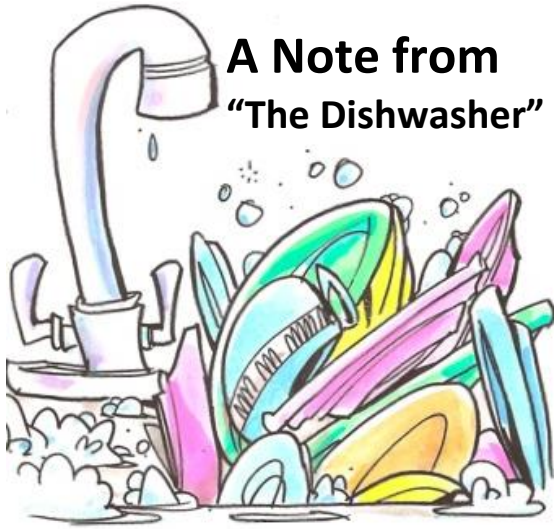


Our ladies have decided to stretch their abilities this winter/spring by tackling two Bible Studies. "Hope" will continue after Easter, but we felt Lent deserved sometime of reflection and respect. So...right now, the Wednesday Night Bible Study is reading, "Easter Earthquake" James Harnish. This has sparked lots of good conversation about the Bible. It has also led us to sing, check our



phones and tablets for art work, and bonded us more tightly to one another. This group meets at 7:00 following the Wednesday night supper. Studies will be finished by the end of the CCSD school calendar year.

Men's Bible Study also meets at 7pm on Wednesday nights. The title of their bible study is "If Experience Is Such A Good Teacher, Why Do I Keep Repeating the Course?", taught by David Pope.



A Note from "The Dishwasher"

Crazy!

I would ask my mom how her soap operas were going, and she would say, if you didn't watch them for two weeks, you could catch up on the story line after only watching one episode. It seems to be the same now as we watch the mess of so-called News outlets and journalists doing their best to tear the President and anyone who ever worked for him apart. Even the newspaper boy delivering his paper must have known something he was doing wrong. So I'm tired of watching all the news channels trashing the President and his family. We need to show respect to the office of the President and everyone else that we are privileged to greet each day. While driving I have changed my radio stations to

faith-based stations during the day. At night I watch comedy or sports stations. I'll take my Mom's advice and check back in every once in a while. Maybe this will have a more calming effect.

Beginnings!

Gail O, Frank, and Ruby started the Wednesday night meals way back. Also there have been many of our church family to serve on the kitchen crew through the years. Our attendance has slowed lately and that means less money earned going to our many missions. Those of you still supporting our cause must help by inviting someone you know to come and enjoy a great meal with an evening full of warm fellowship included for free. I know we can increase the attendance if each one of us spreads the news to someone. Buy their meal. We must as a whole help our valuable missions. Besides, it keeps the dishwasher out of trouble.

Sow where you grow!

April is always one of the busiest months of the year. We need all hands-on deck to help like no other time of year. You can help in so many ways. Physically on those days we need a lot of muscle, or behind the scenes. Donate your time/money to help with our busy schedule in April. If you sow, Little River will grow.

The Mighty Duo! David and Teresa Bailey

In the bulletin, you will see PowerPoints by Teresa Bailey, which take about four hours to put together. Thank you, Teresa! Now the Boy & Girl Scout guy...David Bailey. His amazing work with the scouts began when David Jr. expressed an interest in joining the Scouts. Now as an eagle scout, he and his father still remain very active with the scouts. David K. Bailey enjoys working with Ms. Gail O. every Sunday morning before the services begin making the biscuits...I mean the bulletins. It is time consuming creating the bulletins each week, folding, and inserting different events for the upcoming weeks ahead. Frank Lowry stated, when he misses church, he misses the bulletin the most. So thank you David & Gail O.

Gardeners!

Thank you, Marci Watkins, for getting your cherished friend Mickey Gazaway of Pikes Nursery to come to speak to us a few weeks ago on gardening. We had great attendance and treats. Thanks to all involved for making this event happen.

I love all of you.
The Dishwasher



United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

MORNING CIRCLE - If you are interested in missions and looking for a place to plug in, the UMW Morning Circle may just be the place for you. Generally, we meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 11:15 a.m. Our UMW Morning Circle is continually coming up with ideas that nourish our local church, community, and help us to learn more about Global Missions. So far this year, we have hosted 3 Souper Sundays for the



congregation. The fellowship was as amazing as the 22 people who provided crockpots of soup for us to enjoy after those Sunday services. In February, we hosted a Mission Study of the Special Methodist Conferences within the United States. This was a very informative study and we hope it will encourage more hands-on involvement in missions.

Currently we are planning a soup making day to provide simple meals to those who need something handy which needs little preparation when they are caregiving. We will meet April 16th at 11:15 in the kitchen instead of our regular room. Look for more information in the church bulletin.

Night Circle - Special thank you to the LRUMC members who



donated to the UMW Lenten Time Apart Social Action Project benefitting The Family Haven for our neighboring county. Dorothy McKinney attended the meeting and carted her bustling SUV full of goodies for organizing and bagging at the event. The group who attended the meeting was

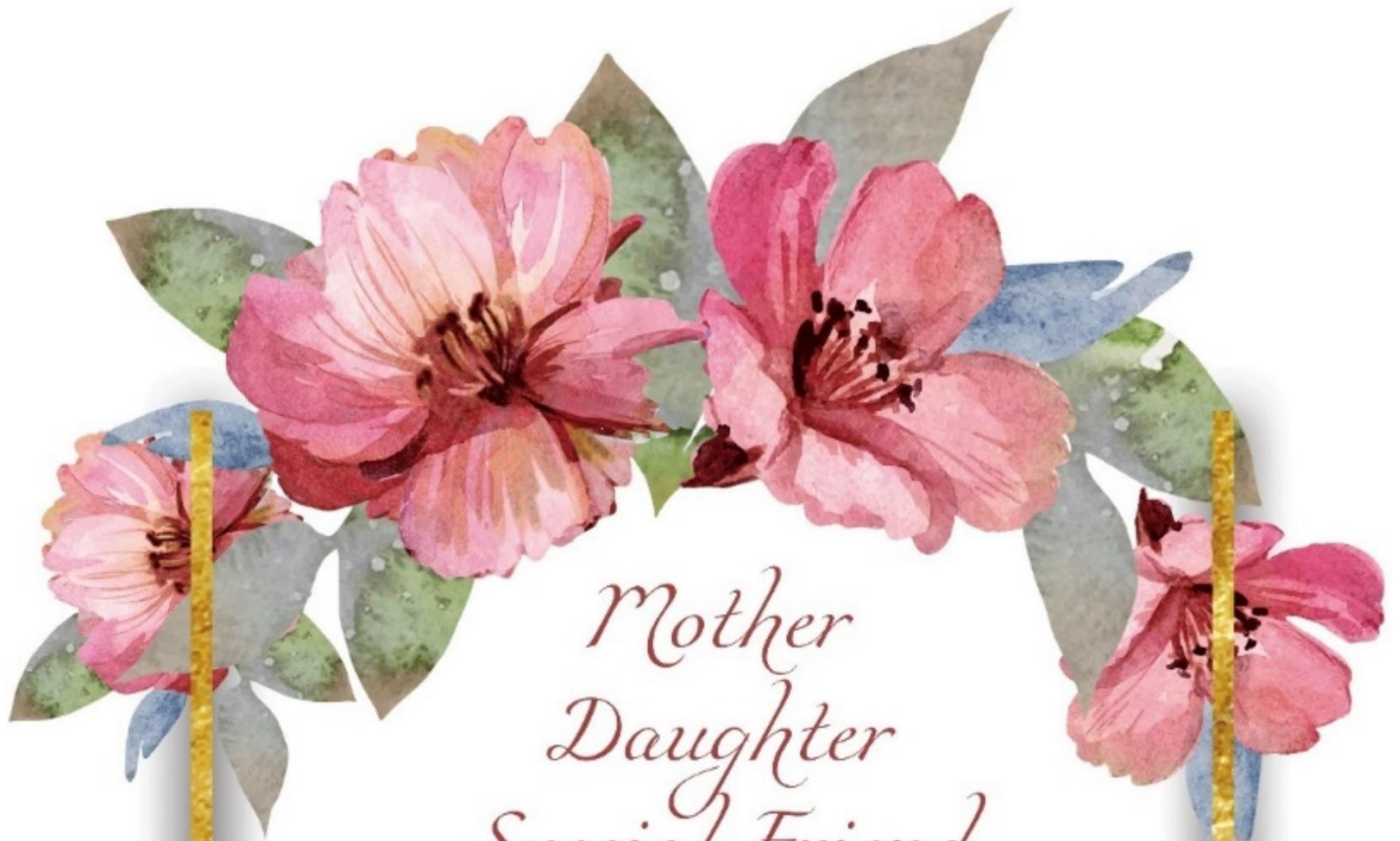
overwhelmed by the response from all of the UMWs represented. More bags had to be purchased for all of the care packages. Thanks so much Dorothy for representing Little River!

Announcing for All Ladies! Save The Date! The Mother, Daughter, Special Friend Banquet is right around the corner, Friday, May 10th at 7pm, located at the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.

This is a very special event the UMW organizes for all women of the church and their friends and families. Tickets will go on sale as soon as we confirm the catering company. If you would like a color copy of the save the date below, please contact Jessica Porter for prints. Some folks will choose to decorate their own tables for their families and friends, and some will tag on to already formed tables. No lady left behind! We would love it if you

joined us. Many ladies will tell you this is one of their favorite church events of the year. If you have any questions, please speak to UMW President Paula Goddard, Youth & Children's Minister Jessica Porter, or Bonita Cox, Day Circle Leader. Ladies may decorate their tables on Thursday, the day before the event, and you may choose on your own table theme/décor. More details on our speaker & entertainment coming soon. This will be a special evening that you don't want to miss! - Paula





*Mother
Daughter
Special Friend
Banquet*

Save the Date

Date & Time:

Friday, May 10, 2019 - 7:00-9:00 PM

Location:

*The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce
3605 Marietta Hwy, Canton, GA 30114*

Methodist Melodies



Melodies continues to grow, adding 4 potential members including 2 instrumentalists. We would be very interested in hearing from someone who would like to join us and plays the piano. We've been asked to do a concert at the new care facility (Brickmont) on 92. We've also been asked to sing some of Ethel's favorite religious songs at her celebration of life. Her personal request of "Softly and Tenderly" will be included. Please call me if you would like more info. - Bob Hirsch 770-344-8763



From the LRUMC Finance Team

The LRUMC Finance Team has been busy working toward a financially successful year. We began the year by working on our "Spending Plan", usually called a Budget. We realized that with the unsettled feeling of the United Methodist Church as a whole until after the General Conference in February, we did not really know how to plan for 2019. Therefore, we decided to come up with a spending plan allowing all activities and ministries to continue

without change – no additions or subtractions from on-going activities or ministries. We removed all escrows, made reductions and additions only to reflect actual needs for 2019, and agreed to meet again in March to review the current status of our financial condition at that time.

We met on March 21 and reviewed the Revenue and Expense Report for January and February.

Receipts	\$24,258.78
Expenses	<u>\$31,327.70</u>
Balance	(\$7,068.92)

We were concerned about the negative balance and decided to come up with a short-term plan to be implemented immediately. We agreed to meet again in May to review this plan and discuss possible long-term changes needed to keep LRUMC financially whole.

The 2019 LRUMC Operating Budget is below and is available for anyone wishing to have a copy, and the current Revenue and Expense Report is also available. Anyone who has a question regarding either of these is encouraged to ask someone on the Finance Team. We will be happy to talk with you about them. If you have ideas or suggestions you feel might help this Team, please feel free to talk with us about them. You may contact Levada Eller, Finance Chair, at home (770-720-1522) or cell (770-778-5796) or at church.