

Hiawassee United Methodist Church



Email: humc@hiawasseeumc.org
Website: www.hiawasseeumc.org
706.896.2818
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY:
9:00 a.m. Prayer
9:30 a.m. Integrative Bible Study
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

WEDNESDAY:
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Our Mission:

*Worship Jesus Christ;
Grow as Disciples;
Serve Others*



HUMC Mountain Messenger



Pastor Sam Hamby
Church (706) 896-2818
Cell (706) 400-2618
Visit us online at www.hiawasseeumc.org



Totally Eclipsed

For months now, we kept hearing about the coming total solar eclipse. I didn't understand what all the fuss was about! They said, "Many people will be coming to our area to watch." My question in response was, "Why?" After standing in my front yard viewing the totally eclipsed sun with my family and friends for a little more than 2 minutes, I NOW KNOW WHY! That was the coolest astronomical event I have ever experienced. I wanted to hit the pause button and keep watching a while longer.

In the event of a total solar eclipse, the moon gets in just the right position between the earth and sun as to block out the sun. The sky darkens, and for a short period of time you only view the corona outlining the circle of the sun. If not for the moon stepping in and intercepting the sun's overpowering light, you could not stare directly at the sun for more than a second or so before your eyes water and you are forced to look away to avoid damaging your vision. The moon steps in at just the right place and time to provide a view that we would otherwise never get to experience.

After experiencing this event and feeling so blessed to live in the path of totality, I couldn't help but remember our Creator God and thank Him for this unique glimpse of creation. I am also thankful that this same God stepped into human history on this small planet called Earth to do something for us that could not be done otherwise. In a broken world, full of hurts and pains because of a separated relationship with our Creator, God took on human flesh and intercepted our eternity. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 says it like this, *"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, 'Come back to God!' For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin so that we could be made right with God through Christ."*

If you were able to view this total solar eclipse, you will never forget it. If you missed it, I heard there is another one coming in seven years. However, you will have to drive some distance to get in the path of totality for that one. God created many special things, including you! Let these awesome events concerning God's creation remind us of the Creator and especially what He has done for us through Christ!

Blessings,
Sam
Pastor Sam



Hiawassee United Methodist Church
1139 U.S. Highway 76 P.O. Box 609
Hiawassee, GA 30546



From Our Director of Music & Worship: Hope Horkavy



AUDIO-VISUAL Team

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE:

	COMPUTER	MIXER
Sep 3	Peggy Jones	Mike Jones
Sep 10	John Whitaker	Mike Henderson
Sep 17	Preston Perren	Tommy Kirchner
Sep 24	Aaron Hamby	James Fagin

HymnSong: O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing

Charles Wesley wrote it on May 21, 1749, the 11th anniversary of his own conversion. Before they were converted, John and Charles Wesley were dubbed "Methodists" because of the methods of spirituality they had introduced in their club at Oxford, the Holy Club. But later John and Charles met the German Moravians, who loved to sing, were very missions-minded, and emphasized a personal conversion experience.

One of the Moravian leaders, Peter Bohler, once said, "Oh, Brother Wesley, the Lord has done so much for my life. Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise Christ Jesus with all of them." Charles had known from childhood that Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for sin. But on May 21, 1738, he accepted and applied it personally— "His blood availed for me."
 — from *The Complete Book of Hymns* by William J. and Ardythe Petersen, Tyndale House 2006

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace! Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, 'tis music in the sinner's ear, 'tis life and health and peace. He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free, His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me!



LADIES SUPPER ...

for all of us in the **single** season of our lives!

Thursday, September 7th 6 pm to 8 pm
Fellowship Hall

Come prepared with a salad to share and stories to swap about living as a single or a "single again!"
We won't dwell in the past;

we want to encourage and help each other succeed as single women of faith.

Call or email the church office to reserve a place at the table!

Contact Hope (706)994-3892

with questions or ideas to make this time most beneficial to you!

SEPTEMBER IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN:

Choir meets
Wednesdays from
7 pm to 8:30 pm ...
add your voice!



HandBells meet
Tuesdays from 10:45 am
to noon;
new "ding-a-ling" needed!

Praise Band practices
Sundays from 5:30 pm
to 6:30 pm ...
drag those old instru-
ments out of the closet!



Happenings on the Hill



Photographer Needed to take pictures at Church Events and in the community for our Ministries in Action. If you are interested, call Betty for more details.

If you are interested in serving as the **Coordinator for our Quarterly Fellowship Luncheons**, please call or email the office.



This Month at HUMC

- 9/4 Labor Day; Office Closed
- 9/7 6 to 8 pm -Ladies Supper (singles)
- 9/13 @ 2 pm - Worship Meeting
- 9/16 @ 9 am - UMM Breakfast
- 9/20 @ 2 pm - Finance Meeting
- 9/21 @ 2 pm - Admin Council Meeting
- 9/22 -Dinner for Towns County Football Team
- 9/25 @ 6:30 - PPR Meeting
- 9/27 No Bible Study or Choir—Service and snacks at Young Harris College.
- 9/30 CPR training

New-and-Improved WEBSITE

Our new website is up and running. Check it out!



www.hiawasseemc.org



We are on Facebook as **Hiawasse United Methodist Church.**

Please **LIKE** and **FOLLOW** us.

The Great Night of Music was a GREAT NIGHT!



HUMC and Hospitality- hos•pi•tal•i•ty, noun. the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.

Fellowship Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 8th following our Worship Service. Plan to stay, Bring a dish, Ask a friend. All are invited!

UMM Breakfast is the 3rd Saturday of the month. All men are welcome to gather in the Fellowship Hall @ 9:00 am for breakfast and a business meeting.



This month we will focus on the second Gospel, the Gospel of Mark. Unlike Matthew, who wrote primarily for Jewish believers, Mark addresses his writing to a non-Jewish audience. Matthew's focus was primarily on identifying the Old Testament Messiah as Jesus Christ. Mark's major thrust was on the ministry, death and resurrection of Christ; Let's start the quiz.

1. True or False. Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels.
2. True or False. The crucifixion is recounted in Mark 15.
3. In what chapter do we find "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he _____."
4. The book of Mark begins "Prepare the way for the Lord. Make the road straight for Him." True or False.
5. To whom does the above statement refer? Paul, Thomas, Matthew or Peter?

Bonus: The dance which led to John the Baptist's death is recounted in Matthew and Mark but not Luke or John. What was the name of the dancer?



Finance: Joan Whitaker

**Financial Report as of August 16, 2017
Year to Date Figures**

General Budget Income	\$ 135,111
Debt Retirement/Mortgage Income	58,255
Total Budget Income	\$ 193,366
General Budget Expenses	\$ 124,171
Debt Retirement/Mortgage Expense	52,504
Total Budget Expenses	\$ 176,675
Present Net Gain	\$ 16,691

Outstanding bills to pay in August:	
(General Expenses)	\$ 8,763
(Mortgage Payment)	3,851

Still in a slightly Positive/Net Gain status as of 8/16 (year to date) with two more Sundays of tithes and offerings.



Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:1-2



Library News: Dawn Lamade



We learn much from biographies and autobiographies of faithful believers. In addition to books about individual Christians, the library has several books with chapters telling the inspirational stories of a number of those faithful to Jesus. Included among these are the following:

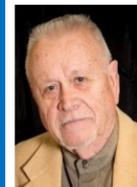
- ◆ The Hidden Price of Greatness, by Ray Beeson.
- ◆ Martyrs, by Susan Bergman.
- ◆ Thirteen Men Who Changed the World, by H. S. Vigeveno.
- ◆ Heroes of the Holy Life, Wesley Duewel.
- ◆ Men and Women of Deep Piety, by Clara McLeister.

Please check out your book or movie and leave the card, found in the back of the book or movie, in the box in the library on the shelf near the return box. This gives us an opportunity to find out what is being used and we can send you a gentle reminder if you have forgotten to return a book or movie.

A listing of titles in the library is now available online. Go to our website for a direct link.

Book listings can be found at <http://cloud.collectorz.com/HUMC/books>

DVD and video listings can be found at <http://cloud.collectorz.com/HUMC/movies>



From Our Lay Leader: Dale Gardner

We have discussed the spiritually valued numbers of 3 and 7 already; now we take on the number 10 which is spiritually valued as a complete and perfect number. It is not the most frequently found number in the Bible, appearing only 242 times. This does not include "10th" which is used 79 times.

Most of us know that God gave Moses the 10 commandments; so in context 10 represents man's responsibility to God. We are also all probably acquainted with the "tithe", as 10th of our earnings, as testimony of our faith in God. Ten is, then, made up of 4, the number of physical creation, and 6, the number of man and as such signifies testimony, law, responsibility and completeness of order.

Sometimes the number 10 is specifically stated and thus easily understood but sometimes the number ten is not so readily apparent. For instance, In Genesis 1, "God said" appears 10 times. The Passover Lamb was selected on the 10th day of the first (Hebrew) month, and the 10th day of the seventh month is the Day of Atonement; and the last kingdom of man, under Satanic rule, is symbolized prophetically by the 10 toes of the statue in Daniel 2 and the 10 horns of the beast in Revelation 13 and 17.

Ten women in the Bible caused the death of another person, these stories can be found in Judges 4:21; 9:52-53; 2 Samuel 20:1, 21-22; 1 Kings 3:19; 18:4; 21:9-10; 2 Kings 6:24-29; 11:1; Matt. 14:8. That is nine; the 10th is found in the book of Esther, where Esther has the 10 sons of Haman, enemies of the Jews, hanged.

You may be able to name other instances where the number 10 is significant, such as the 10 plagues God sent on Egypt (each one challenging an Egyptian god) or the parable of the 10 virgins (5 wise; 5 foolish) or the less obvious parable of the servants where one received 5 bags of gold, doubled it to 10 bags of gold and received a reward from the master for his faithfulness.

I think 10 is an awesome spiritual number, but next month we will tackle the spiritual number 12, which I think is even greater.



Missions



This is a story not so much about a little house, but our big, big God, with a much bigger picture and plan. About two months ago we heard about the need of a man named George, whom I've even written about before. George is an extremely humble man, very slow mentally, and yet he works very hard to try and make ends meet. He has **never** asked for any kind of help or assistance. So when we heard of the condition of the house where he was living, our hearts were stirred to try and help him. With the help of his family, George had begun construction of a new home, and had the basic structure in place, but, as you can see in this photo, he was struggling to complete it so he and his family could live there.

So, I took a few youth to assess the home to see how we might help. We were at one of the boy's homes later that day discussing the project when the older brother who works in construction overheard us and chimed in to help in the process. Before we knew it he was our foreman and had four young men helping with the project, for no pay. So for the next few days, they worked together digging dirt, fetching water, mixing and slinging mud to complete the home. We were so excited each day as we went to visit, to see the progress and encourage them! It was such a joy to hear they completed the house and the very next day we went to see the home.

When we arrived, the house was not as we expected. Due to the quality of soil they were able to dig around George's home (too sandy), some of the mud had come off. We were all so disappointed and the enemy saw an open door to try and come in and divide our team due to some miscommunication. However, we were determined to pursue unity (Ephesians 4:2-4). After all, the community witnessing the project was almost completely Muslim and we wanted to maintain our testimony. So that evening we scheduled a meeting for us to try and work through our disagreements and make a plan to repair the house.

We gathered as a team, prayed, shared from different views/perspectives, shared from God's Word, and then what happened that day I hope I will never forget. The older brother had recently become an elder in our local tribe and we were all expected to recognize his leadership. That evening we all had the opportunity to humble ourselves and seek forgiveness from the others and then I witnessed a complete miracle. This elder led the way by apologizing and in his local language using the term, almost unheard of by a leader, stating, "I bow myself down before you in sorrow, asking forgiveness". (Our English, "I'm sorry", just didn't even feel worthy at this moment.) All of the boys followed. This elder shared that he was now ready to be a godly leader for the boys in this community, many of which do not have a father. He stated he did not care who gave birth to them, who was their blood family, father, or tribe, but he wanted to be a father figure to them, stating they were all "family" because of Christ.

I have been praying for men of God to rise up in this community, to be fathers to the fatherless. God answered my prayers, our prayers to begin a change in this community. And, of course, God worked in a way I never saw coming. He used sweet George once again in His Master Plan, He used struggle to bring healing, and He used a man (the older brother) whom I judged wrong, really wrong.

{Lord, forgive me, forgive us when we don't trust in You, Your bigger plan, and when we don't recognize You in others.}

I am once again humbled by our big, big God. Oh, I almost forgot, yes the little house is complete.

With Much Love, *Robin*



But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God. Acts 20:24

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT AND FOR BEING SUCH A HUGE PART OF MY TEAM!!!
Mail (Tax Deductible) Financial Support to:
Answer God's Call Ministries
215 W. Mesa Avenue - Gallup, NM 87301
(Please include a note for Robin Broom-Africa)

Church Member Services Directory

Massage Contact: Geri Baker 706-896-6108
Coin Collecting Club and Stamp Collecting Contact: Tayo Leduc 706-896-6001

Answers: 1 True 2. True 3. Prayed 4. False. It does however, appear in Mark 1:3 5. Neither - the reference is to John the Baptist Bonus: Herodias

Jail/Prison MinistryElaine McEver



For several years now I have been visiting three local jails to tell the women there that Jesus loves them and has not forgotten them. Our purpose is not to show them that they are sinners because in Romans we are told that everyone is a sinner and is in need of a savior. During one of our visits to Union County Jail, this month, a woman said that she knew Jesus but she had not accepted Him into her heart. We led her through the sinners prayer and encouraged her to read the Bible that she was given. The other women said they would help her since they read the Bible and pray together each night. Some people tell us that it is "just jail house religion" and is not real. We have come to believe that it is not up to us to judge or have concern because the Holy Spirit will continue to draw them and teach them. There is a difference between knowing Jesus and learning to live within the boundaries of His love. At Towns County jail another woman said that she believed all religions were of God and that Jesus was not the only way. I was able to explain to her that at one time I had believed that and had studied at the Foundation of Truth in Atlanta because they teach all of the different religions of the world. It was there that I heard a story that convinced me that "Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father except by Him." She began to cry and we knew that it was the truth of His word that finally reached into her heart.

The new House Mother reported to Ms. Elaine's House to take my place on August 1. The next week, Chairperson of Almost There, Inc., Malinda Gray, invited Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw and Director of Enota Drug Court, Barbara Honekar to lunch to meet her at the house. It was a good time of fellowship and learning. Barbara explained how the court system places individuals in their program and the 5 phases of learning that they must complete. Commissioner Bradshaw had visited a graduation from the program and told us that he cried at one of the testimonies. We were also told that Sole Commissioner Lamar Parris, from Union County, has helped the men find property there for a men's facility. They have land already and two trailers. We serve an awesome God and know that He understands the problems people have with addiction.

As I am back at my house in Young Harris, I am a happy camper. Love and thanks to you all.

Sincerely, "Ms. Elaine"

Administrative Council ...Tom Ramsey



Our featured speaker, **Mark Adams** shared his testimony and the experience he and his wife, Leigh, had working with Young Life and Wild Life Ministries. Mark's family attended church until he was 10. He loved it. Then they stopped going and he drifted into a different life before being directed back to God later in his thirties. Mark & Leigh realized the importance of getting kids involved in a personal relationship with Christ and they started supporting Young Life. They gave a great witness and testimony.

Updated Church Website: If you haven't been to the new site yet, when you do, you will be **pleasantly surprised**. It looks GREAT! www.hiawasseeumc.org. Great visuals, schedules, and remember you can submit photo's and articles to Betty regarding things happening in our church. Good job Betty!

Finance: Your faithfulness is allowing us to stay ahead of our expenses and your tithes, offerings, and willingness to use your gifts in service at our church is appreciated. The September fundraising dinner is being cancelled and will be sometime in 2018. We are still ahead with our mortgage fund contributions; however, we are starting to drop some and we could use your support.

Worship: WOW, what a fun **Great Night of Music**. All of the churches presented special music, choirs, trio's, solo's, congregational singing, and with no parking problems and over 200 in attendance; we're ready for next year. Thanks to all for everyone's hard word and a willing spirit to serve our fellow churches and members.

Nominations: You may want to start praying about how the Lord would like to have you **use your gifts**, because this committee's members may be sharing with you about the opportunities for service next year. Derek Prince has a good way of explaining what prayer should be: **"Prayer in not a way for me to get God to do what I want. Prayer is a way for me to become an instrument for God, to do what He wants."**

As we continue with our **Moving Forward** meetings and seek God's will for what direction He leads; let's remember our responsibility to **Love One Another** and use our individual gifts to **Serve** our Lord, and for God to **Find us Faithful** as He has been faithful to us. The apostle Paul stated in **Phil 3: 13-14** "...forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." We all need to learn from our past; however we need to ask the question: Are we looking in Mirrors or through Windows? Mirrors allow us to see our past experiences and accomplishments. Only when **we seek** the guiding of the Holy Spirit through prayer and move ourselves to look out the window of opportunity for serving, will we experience what Paul talks about as we begin; **"reaching forward/moving forward"** to see the unlimited potential ahead for us as God reveals His will for HUMC and each of us as a part of **Moving Forward**.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" 1 Cor. 15:58