

Hiawassee United Methodist Church



Email: humc@hiawasseeumc.org
Website: www.hiawasseeumc.org
Phone: 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. 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*

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

HUMC Mountain Messenger



Pastor Sam Hamby
Church (706) 896-2818
Cell (706) 400-2618

Visit us online at www.hiawasseeumc.org



Simplified, Accountable Leadership

For many years, local churches have gone through the annual process of selecting and asking members to serve on leadership committees. We typically call the process "nominations" and we even have a committee that carries us through that process. Our congregation, just like many other congregations, has committees such as Trustees, Finance, Staff-Parish Relations, Worship, Missions, Education, and several other committees and sub-committees. We also have an Administrative Council that meets every month to potentially approve or disapprove policies, procedures, programs, and ministries for our congregation. In order for an idea to go through the channels for approval, it could start in one committee and then be sent to another before going through the Finance Committee (if funding is needed) and ultimately landing in the Administrative Council for a hearing. From the Administrative Council, that idea might be approved, disapproved, sent back to another committee for further study, or have an ad hoc committee formed to look into the idea and report back to the Administrative Council. In reality, it can take an idea several months to go through the channels before a decision is made. Going through this process takes a lot of time and a lot of people even before individuals or ministry teams can carry out the work of ministry.

In many congregations, structures like this are driving the church rather than "mission" driving the church. We often select many people through a nominations process to field several committees that will meet to make decisions. We wear our members out with meetings rather than equip and empower most of our members for the mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ" and letting them carry out real ministry. Most congregations are stuck in a structure-driven model rather than a mission-driven model of church leadership. This can lead to a management style of church leadership rather than a governing style of church leadership. Management style leadership easily stays bogged down in the day to day maintenance of the church while governing leadership continues to look at the big picture and provides visionary direction for the congregation.

There is a better way to provide church leadership that empowers members rather than burning them out. That better way is through a *Simplified, Accountable Leadership* model and our congregation is looking into bringing this model of church leadership to HUMC. The simplified, accountable leadership model would take our top heavy administrative committees (usually consisting of 35+ people) and streamlining those committees into one board or governing body. This means that the mission of the church can be kept front and center while decisions are made by fewer people in a more timely fashion. Since the one board or governing body is attuned to the mission, more church members are free to be equipped and empowered for the work of ministry without the work of the church being hung up in tons of committee meetings. The goal is to provide a simple leadership that is held highly accountable resulting in a "lean, disciple-making machine!"

What do we need from you? Come learn with your church family about this model for leadership by attending the **Simplified Accountability Structure (SAS) Workshop** on Saturday, September 22nd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will provide lunch during this important time of learning and praying together, but we need you to make a commitment to attend. Please sign up at the welcome desk or through the church office so we can provide enough food for lunch. This workshop is very important to our congregation and our future and should be attended by every member of our church family. I am looking forward to seeing you there!

Be Blessed,

Sam

Pastor Sam





From Our Director of Music & Worship: Hope Horkavy

Great Night of Music

Once again HUMC was filled with the sound of music as we hosted the Towns-Union Connectional Group of UM churches in the "Great Night of Music" on August 12th.

Each of the churches sent representatives to give God glory. We enjoyed choral music, blue grass, old hymns and new praise songs. HUMC featured Roy Perren soloing with the Choir on "Joy In My Heart" and Kim Perren with a great jazz rendition of "I Will Sing of My Redeemer." The bluegrass group "Cottonwood," which consists of folks from HUMC and Coosa UMC, regaled us with three great songs!

We had a packed house of about 280 folks! This event is getting so big we may have to move it to a larger venue next year. What a great problem to have!



Joint Worship Service and Supper

Wednesday, September 19th 5:30 PM

For the Towns-Union Connectional Group
At First UMC of Union County MAC
We are responsible to provide
Cold Salads to share.

Bible Study and Choir Practice here that night will be cancelled so that everyone can attend!



Going Solo Ladies Supper

September 7th 6 pm to 8 pm

All single ladies plan to attend and bring a dish to share. We meet on the first Friday of every month at 6 pm for food, fellowship, and growing in Christ.



- 9/3 Labor Day—Office Closed
- 9/4 Last Day for clothes for Red Bird Mission
- 9/7 @ 6 pm Going Solo
- 9/9 Fellowship Luncheon following worship
- 9/12 @ 2 pm Worship Meeting
- 9/12 @ 5:30 pm Potato Bash & Meeting
- 9/13 @ 2 pm Finance Meeting
- 9/15 @ 9 am HUMM Breakfast & Meeting
- 9/19 @ 5:30 pm Joint worship at First UMC
- 9/20 @ 2 pm Admin Council Meeting
- 9/22 from 9 am-3 pm SAS Workshop
(Simplified Accountability Structure)

Clothing Drive for Red Bird Mission through 9/6.

Please bring your donations in 13 gallon white trash bags only. You can place your bags in the fellowship hall.



Plans are now underway for a Church Yard Sale in the spring of 2019. So start saving your no longer wanted treasures for this big fundraiser! If you are interested in working on the planning committee, call or email the office.

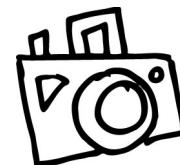


www.hiawasseeumc.org

Pictures for the Online Directory

If your picture is not in the directory...

- ♦ Pictures will be taken following the Fellowship Luncheon on 9/9 OR
- ♦ You can email your favorite picture to the office



Online Giving now available for :

- ♦ Credit Card
- ♦ Debit Card
- ♦ ACH transactions

Visit our website:
www.hiawasseeumc.org



We are on Facebook as
Hiawassee United Methodist Church.

Community News

Enotah CASA invites you to attend our open house on Thursday, **September 6, 2018 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM** at the Towns County Historical Society located at 900 N Main Street Hiawassee, GA. Enotah CASA is looking for volunteers to advocate for children's best interest that are in foster care and ambassadors to take our message to the public, help raise support for our cause and/or assist with events. For more information please contact Stephanie Brown at 706-435-7419 or sbrown@enotahcasa.org

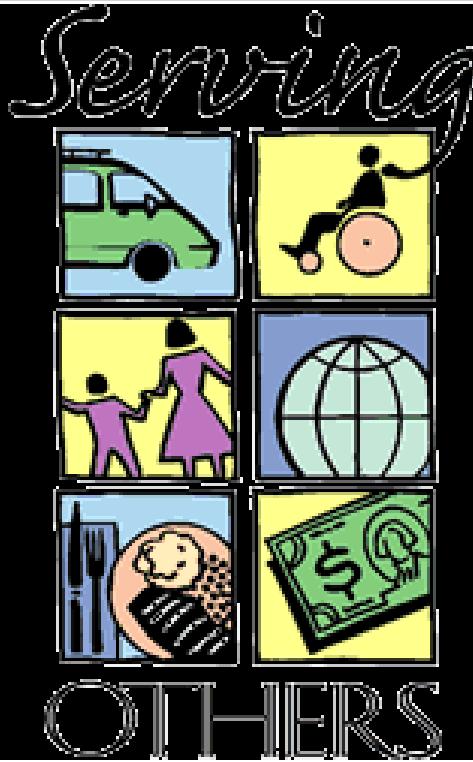


...Bob & Joan Ghiotto

Church Member Services Directory

Massage
Coin Collecting Club and Stamp Collecting

Contact: Geri Baker 706-896-6108
Contact: Tayo Leduc 706-896-6001



Finance: Dawn Lamade

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY FOCUS: THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

To give: to donate or contribute; to devote to some occupation or cause; to make a gift of.

Hiawassee UMC is a giving church. Members of the church give their time, talent and money to support activities within the church and services outside the church that further the work of Jesus. This year, the church has given to Robin Broom, Missionary in Uganda, to the Uganda Children's ministry, to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Closer to home, the congregation has given to Towns County residents needing temporary help through the Benevolence/Altar Fund, to the local food pantry, to members of the congregation needing temporary help, to the local Boy Scouts, to Branan Lodge.

Have you assessed your giving recently? Have you looked at the ways you are spending your time, talent and money to promote the cause of Christ? Just as when you receive a raise or retire or move to a new location, you should periodically review how you spend your time (TV, sports, reading, volunteering) your talents (music, art, speech, teaching) and your money (food, concerts, electronics, clothes) and determine if there need to be changes made to your way of sharing.

 **FOOD PANTRY** HUMC is also reassessing its' giving. This church would like to do more to share the work of Christ, but it needs your help. You are the church and without your active participation, the church's ministry stagnates. Ask what you can do. Do you know it took 28 people to put on the supper and play for the Red Bird Mission at the end of July? From the food donation, to the serving, to the lighting and sound, to the creative props, to the "acting", there were a lot of people involved, most of whom where behind the scenes.

That is the way with much HUMC activity – a number of people behind the scenes are needed to make the church activities happen.

As part of the church's assessment, we monitor the church's finances monthly and yearly. This year we have been spending more than we have taken in. The expenses have run about the same as last year but the giving has not and we are about to run out of the extra money that was built up last year. On September 12 there will be a "potato bash" (supper meeting) from 5:30 to 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall to discuss this issue, to answer your questions about the budget and to hear your suggestions about how to turn this issue around. So we also ask that you assess your monetary commitment to HUMC for this year and begin planning your commitment for 2019.

Are you part of the HUMC adventure? You can be. Offer to give time, talent and/or money to serve in the church and ultimately to serve our God. After all, He gave His all for us. What can we do to glorify Him?

For it is in giving that we receive (Francis of Assisi, Prayer for Peace).



Library News: Dawn Lamade

New in the HUMC library:

Books:

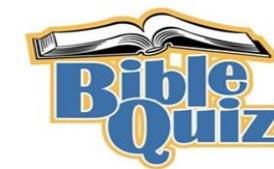
- ♦ Marjorie Holmes. *Three From Galilee*. (Fiction) Portrays the life of Jesus from age twelve, when he debated the elders in the Temple, through age thirty, when he began his ministry, a period not covered in the Bible.
- ♦ Jan Karon. *To Be Where You Are*. (Fiction) The fourteenth novel in the beloved Mitford series, featuring three generations of Kavanaghs. After twelve years of wrestling with the conflicts of retirement, Father Tim Kavanagh realizes he doesn't need a steady job to prove himself. The saga continues.

DVDs:

- ♦ *The Exodus Revealed; Search for the Red Sea Crossing*, A journey revealing physical evidence for the Exodus including the remains of 3800 year old Hebrew settlements in Egypt's Nile Delta; Egyptian records of the Israelites bondage under Pharaoh; the precise route they may have followed to freedom; their crossing site on the shore of the Red Sea; and the location of Mt. Sinai.
- ♦ *I Can Only Imagine*, The inspiring and unknown true story behind MercyMe's beloved, chart topping song that brings ultimate hope to so many is a gripping reminder of the power of true forgiveness.
- ♦ *Let There Be Light*, An atheist goes through a near-death experience in an auto accident before converting to Christianity.
- ♦ *Only God Can*, The story of 5 longtime friends struggling through life's challenges, discovering through faith that Only God Can empower them to become the person they truly desire to be.

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.

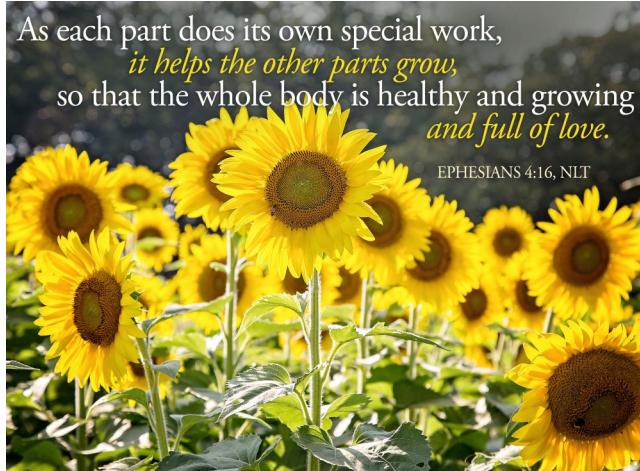
A listing of titles in the library is now available online. Go to our website for a direct link under "News."



This month's quiz is on the book of Hebrews. While not a key theme, it has been argued over the years by various scholars as to who wrote this book. It is not clear, but what is clear is that the author had not been with Christ personally nor had he/she received direct revelation from Christ. This rules out Paul and all of the original apostles. The major theme of Hebrews is the superiority of Christ and why it is worth enduring persecution for His sake.

1. True or False; Hebrews has 13 chapters.
2. Jesus is a high priest, in the order of whom? Methuselah, Mephibosheth, Melchizedek, or Mephistopheles.
3. What book follows Hebrews?
4. "The word of God is living and active" is found in Heb. 4:12, True or False.
5. "By now you ought to be teachers." is found in Heb. 5:12, True or False.

Bonus: "Encourage one another" and "We do not want you to become lazy" are found in Heb. 3:12 and/or 6:12. Which statement appears in the earlier chapter?



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Missions MinistryRobin

IT'S CAMP-TIME AGAIN!

We can all feel the "buzz" of camp-time here at the Village of Eden! For months we have been praying and preparing for this huge event — our annual Esangalo Day Camp and now the time has come (3rd thru 5th September). We will host thousands of children from many villages near and far for a time of fun, learning God's Word, sports & games, praise & worship, dancing, laughter, good food, friends, and so much more! Our Children's Ministry Program was named Esangalo for a great reason, in English it is translated Joy, and there is no better word to describe what we will experience during camp. Our Day Camp is one way we are able to reach many of the children in our community and offer them HOPE through Jesus Christ!

The theme for camp this year is OBUWANGUZI, in English—VICTORY. Our theme verse is 1 Corinthians 15:57, "But thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Our strong heart's desire is for the children and youth of this community to be raised up knowing they can be victorious! So many of them live in defeat and with a "survival" mentality. But, we know there is more! There is victory, and victory has a name —JESUS! We will teach and discuss several messages during camp, all based on living victoriously through Jesus and what He accomplished at the Cross. This year's topics are: VICTORY Over Temptation, VICTORY Over Rejection & Loneliness, VICTORY Over Problems & Adversity, and VICTORY Over Fears. The enemy has long had "dominion" over our villages. The lies of superstition, doubt, defeat, and tradition keep a strong pull on our village and especially the young people.

Please pray that the children and youth would not just accept Christ as their Savior, but they would truly grasp all that means. Pray they would realize the significance and power of their new position IN CHRIST ... that they would understand the importance of living in their new culture — the Kingdom of God! We believe God has miracles for this year and we know that many lives will be transformed into VICTORY!



PRAYER FOCUS FOR OBUWANGUZI CAMP:

- For God to be glorified!
- For a GREAT HARVEST, for many children to come to know Jesus as their Savior
- Safety for the children and the team
- Good weather (no rain)
- For our team to display SERVANT leadership
- Strength for our team
- Unity for our team
- Closing ceremony—for our community to see Jesus in all we are doing, and for many to give their hearts fully to Him



Financial Support can be mailed to:
Answer God's Call Ministries
215 W. Mesa Ave. Gallup, NM 87301
(Please include a note for Robin Broom-Africa)

THANK YOU for being such a valuable part of my team!!! THANK YOU for your love, encouragement, prayers and support! May God bless you!

Jail/Prison MinistryElaine McEver



The most important things that are happening in this ministry right now are: Lindsey is graduating from drug court, we have a new house mother at Ms. Elaine's House, and there is a great increase in the female population of all three jails.

I met Lindsey at the Habersham County Jail when we interviewed her to come live with us at the Transitional House in Hiawassee. She cried almost all the way through the numerous questions we were required to ask her but agreed to all of the rules that she would be expected to keep. When she was released she accepted an offer to live in a trailer owned by one of her relatives. Although it was not completely acceptable she was happy with her freedom and did not want to move. With the help of another participant we finally convinced her that although not completely free we were not that bad. When my time as housemother was up she moved with me to my house in Young Harris. When I moved into the apartment she moved with me. Another housemother resigned and we were about to close until the Director of Drug Court and Judge Gunter recommended her as a replacement. After graduation this week, she will move back to Habersham County to be with her daughters, Faith and Gracie. What a joy they are and looking forward to having mommy back home!

The new House Mother is Donna Singale who is a member of McConnell Baptist Church. She has been on our list of choices from the very beginning but did not feel she was up to the task until recently. She has a part time job cleaning houses, still attends Sunday School and Church at McConnell and will move in this week. There are now three girls living in the house. Another girl is expected to move in after Drug Court on Thursday. Every situation has to be approved by the judge during court.

The increase of the jail population also shows us the need for housing. The men's shelter in Blairsville is up and running under Freedom Ministries, Inc. but runs into the same problems that we have encountered; lack of funding, volunteers and staff. Some people do not believe there is a homeless problem in Towns and Union Counties because most of them live in the woods or camp grounds. Women and men who return from prison have a harder time than people who have been in local jails because of the lack of housing and/or jobs available to people with a record. We are told that companies that hire them can get a tax credit but most do not know that, or may be unwilling to take a chance.

Lindsey's success story is not the only one that we hear about but it is the one that is closest to me right now. We just do what we feel God has called us to do and pray. Thank you for all that you do. "Ms Elaine"

From Our Lay Leader: Dale Gardner



I was told of an old Indian saying that goes something like this: When a pine needle falls in the forest, the eagle sees it, the bear smells it and the deer hears it. In the natural world this makes sense - an eagle's eyesight is much better than ours and a bear's olfactory sense is much better than ours and the deer, while having both vision and the sense of smell uses the sense of hearing to sense danger.

If we apply this logic to our physical life we are much more like the deer than the eagle or the bear. We can not improve our vision to the level of the eagles and our sense of smell can not rise to the level of the bear. But, regardless of those big brown eyes a deer's vision is monochromatic and as most any deer hunter will tell you, artificial scents and approaching a deer quietly from downwind, can fool a deer, so the deer relies on its hearing to sense danger.

If we apply this saying to our spiritual life, we will find that our vision is basically used in the reading of the Word and Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) which says in part "Where there is no vision, people perish," perhaps referring to the need for planning. In various places we are told that sacrifices are a "sweet aroma" to the Lord, but frankly our sense of smell is mostly limited to the mouth-watering smells from the fellowship hall. Spiritually, though, we can take a valuable lesson from the deer, specifically from his acute hearing and the listening for items that need attention. We should, of course, read the Word but, more than that, we need to pick up our heads and perk up our ears during worship services, Christian education classes and to the voice of God whispering through nature. We need discerning hearing because the forces of evil are trying to penetrate our hearing of God's word. So, be like the deer and keep your head down in God's word using all of your senses, but be alert to hear the tempting, deceiving words of Satan and his minions so that like the deer you can avoid danger.

Are you using the new
Online Directory?

- ◆ Up to date information
- ◆ Available on your smartphone, and
- ◆ Through the HUMC website

