

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.

Hiawassee United Methodist Church

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

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*

HUMC Mountain Messenger



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



Refocusing On The Mission



Have you ever asked the question, “What is the mission of the church?” People that want to know the what, when, where, why and how will often ask questions like that to see what the meaning and purpose of something is. Often, we find ourselves going through the motions of “religious practice” without asking deeper questions and looking for greater meaning. In seasons of “religious practice” for religion’s sake, we can lose sight of the mission.

The congregation of HUMC has been scratching through the surface and asking, “What is the mission of this congregation?” Thankfully, we have a great picture of our mission from scripture as Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Every congregation that trusts Jesus Christ for salvation and teaches God’s Word (The Bible) should adopt the mission Jesus gave us. After agreeing upon “The Mission,” the next question becomes, “How do we put our focus on this mission so that everything we do as a congregation flows from the mission?”

A lot of things have taken place through this congregation over the years. Many of those things have been focused on the mission of “making disciples.” However, being in ministry in a transitional community can be difficult because many faithful members move or graduate into the presence of God. As a result, losing faithful saints can lead to taking our focus off the mission and giving more attention to the structure of our congregation (buildings, finances, programs, etc.). Amazingly, in God’s mercy, refocusing on “The Mission” only requires shifting from a structural emphasis back to missional emphasis.

Our congregation has been praying for “missional” focus and has begun taking steps to trust God in returning to a “Mission-minded” congregation. We recently held training on a simplified accountable structure (“SAS”) so our congregation’s leadership can focus on “The Mission.” We introduced a season of “Financial Catch-up” to turn our hearts toward mission rather than worrying about money. We have begun 2 new Bible Studies (Wednesdays @ 6 pm, and Thursdays @ 10:30 am) that focus on the foundations of our faith and what we believe. We have begun to revisit children’s ministries as part of our congregation’s mission. Also, we have asked our congregation to spend time each Thursday over the next month fasting and praying for this congregation to refocus and live out “The Mission.”

Won’t you join us in asking “missional” questions, learning together, and fasting and praying that God will accomplish His mission through our faithfulness as we submit fully to Him?

Be Blessed,

Sam

Pastor Sam

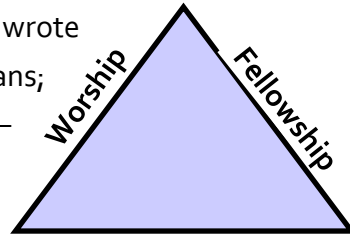




From Our Director of Music & Worship: Hope Horkavy

HYMNSTORY: ALL PRAISE TO OUR REDEEMING LORD

William Barclay, popular Scottish theologian who died in 1978, once wrote that a person needs to have **three conversions**: first, to God; second, to other Christians; and third, to the world. Certainly there are these **three crucial aspects to our faith**— *worship, fellowship, and ministry*. Charles Wesley, the prolific Methodist hymnwriter, wrote widely on all three sides of this sacred triangle.



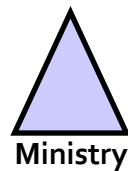
Many churches emphasize one of these aspects and neglect one or two of the others. Some focus on personal growth or outreach but never develop a "body life" in which Christians get to know and love one another. Others are so absorbed in Christian fellowship that they never do anything to reach out to others.

As usual, Wesley's words are rooted in Scripture. The New Testament continually weaves these three threads of Christian life together.

From *The Complete Book of Hymns* by William J. Petersen and Ardythe Petersen, P.10

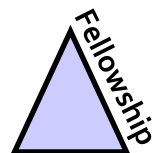
Worship
All praise to our redeeming Lord,
Who joins us by His grace,
And bids us each to each restored
Together seek His face.

The gift which He on one bestows,
We all delight to prove,
The grace through every vessel flows
In purest streams of love.



Fellowship
He bids us build each other
up;
And, gathered into one,
To our high calling's glorious
hope,
We hand in hand go on.

We all partake the joy of one;
The common peace we feel:
A peace to sensual minds unknown,
A joy unspeakable.



Worship
And if our fellowship below
In Jesus be so sweet,
What height of rapture shall we know
When round His throne we meet!



Let's work together
to be a balanced church!



But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift... And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God ...

Ephesians 4: 7,11-13

Going Solo Ladies Supper October 5th 6 pm to 8 pm

All single ladies plan to attend and bring a dish to share. Call Pam Allen or Hope Horkavy with questions. We meet on the first Friday of every month for food, fellowship, and growing in Christ.



www.hiawasseumc.org

Volunteers Needed.....

The Food Pantry is hosting a dinner on November 10th for the families in our county who receive assistance. Help is needed with

- ◆ Set up on 11/9,
- ◆ Serving on 11/10 from 4-8 pm,
- ◆ Followed by clean up.

To volunteer, please contact Sandi Bradshaw @ 706-897-8214 or email: sandibradshaw4@gmail.com



Minister to your Minister

- Accept them as people.
- Build them up. Say "thank you."
- Communicate with them.
- Defend them when someone tries to run them down.
- Entertain them. They like to have fun, too!
- Family. Allow them to have a family life.
- Genuine. Be honest with them. Be yourself around them.
- Honor them. Don't put them on a pedestal, but respect them.
- Income. Pay them enough so money isn't a concern.
- Judge not! Avoid being critical.
- Kind. Treat pastors as you want to be treated.
- Love. See 1 Corinthians 13.
- Maintain. Their families have the same needs as other families.
- Nurture. Help them grow in grace.
- Offer to help. The list of things you can do is endless.
- Pray for them. Lift up their names to God daily.
- Quelch not. Encourage instead!
- Rejoice in and with them.
- Surprise them — in little and big ways.
- Trust them. Believe in them.
- Understand them. Put yourself in their place.
- Vacation. They need time away.
- Welcome them into your home. Don't wait for an invitation.
- eXpend yourself, not them.
- Yoke. Help them bear their burdens with grace and dignity.
- Zap all gossip!



- 10/2 @ 1 pm SAS Workshop make-up session
- 10/4 @ 2 pm Finance Meeting
- 10/7 World Communion Sunday
- 10/9 @ 6 pm SAS Workshop make-up session
- 10/10 @ 9:30 am Trustee Meeting
- 10/14 @ 4 pm Charge Conference
- 10/18 @ 2 pm Admin Council
- 10/19 Dinner for the Towns County Football Team
- 10/20 @ 9 am HUMM Breakfast Meeting
- 10/20 @ 1:30 pm Emmaus Meeting
- 10/24 Snacks for YHC Worship Service

Weekly:

- Tuesdays @ 11 am Bell Choir
- Wednesdays @ 11 am Ladies Prayer
- Wednesdays @ 6 pm Bible Study
- Wednesdays @ 7 pm Choir Practice
- Thursdays @ 9 am Men's Prayer
- Thursdays @ 10:30 Bible Study



The HUMM sponsored Chili Supper is scheduled for Friday 11/9. Please sign up as to how you can help. Sign up sheets are at the Welcome Desk. We all need to participate in this important fundraiser.



If you missed the SAS Workshop in September, the information will be presented again on the following days:
10/2 from 1 to 4 pm
10/9 from 6 to 9 pm
Please sign up at the Welcome Desk or Call or Email the Office if you are attending.



Operation Christmas Child Campaign begins Sunday, Oct.14th. The amazing journey of a simple shoebox begins with you!

Church Member Services Directory

Massage
Coin Collecting Club and Stamp Collecting

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

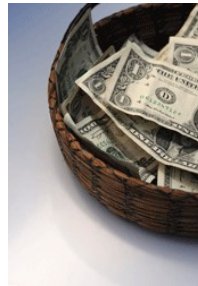


Administrative Council ...Tom Ramsey

OCTOBER MINISTRY FOCUS: THE MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship – What should it mean to me?

The dictionary defines it as: The responsible planning and management of resources; duties and obligations of a steward; careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.



C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity defines it this way: “Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole

life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already.” Many of us only associate stewardship with sermons, budgets and building programs – it's a whole lot more – your gifts, talents, abilities, etc, are just a part of being a good steward for God.

God owns everything, we are simply managers (stewards) acting on his behalf. “The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” Psalm 24 So stewardship is realizing that we do not own nor have the right of control over our property or ourselves. “Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.” Deut 8:18 God gives us all things, but nothing really belongs to us. **God owns everything**; we're responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it. Owners have rights – stewards have responsibilities and we need to do it according to His desires and purpose. And one day each one of us we will be called to give an account for how we have managed what our LORD has given us. - just like in the Parable of the Talents. Our goal is what we read in Matthew 25:21: “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things: I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!”

We are ultimately accountable to God for how we use our gifts and opportunities, whether for ourselves or for the benefit of others. Daily prayer and Bible reading is still the foundation of our relationship with our Lord. Remember: “Prayer is not a way for me to get God to do what I want, but it is a way for me to become an instrument of what God wants.” Derrick Prince Pray for what God would have each one of us do as we look to being good stewards of His resources.



CHURCH YARD SALE Plans are now underway for a Church Yard Sale in the spring of 2019. Start saving your no longer wanted treasures for this big fundraiser!



Online Giving now available for

- ◆ Credit Card
- ◆ Debit Card
- ◆ ACH transactions

Visit our website: www.hiawasseemc.org



We are on Facebook as Hiawasee United Methodist Church. Please LIKE and FOLLOW us.

Library News: Dawn Lamade



New Books in the HUMC library:

James Strong, *Strong's Complete Dictionary of Bible Words*. (Reference)

Robert D. Lupton. *Toxic Charity*. (Social Holiness) Charity can hurt more than help by causing dependency and destroying personal initiative; we disempower those who have the capacity to do for themselves.

Lorry Lutz. *Women as Risk-Takers for God*. (Ministry) Shows how women have learned to understand and use their spiritual gifts in spite of the resistance found in many churches. Provides an overview of the history of women in the church, practical advice on women's roles in ministry and in society.

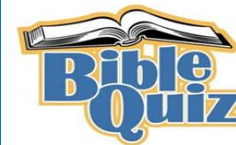
C. Anne Davis. *Come Go With Me*. (Ministry) Uses book of Luke as a model of ministry for us, showing how Jesus models what it means to minister to others, then tells us to go and do the same.

Jim and Janice Walton. *Sent to the River God Forgot*. (Biography) Through disease, cultural barriers and hardships, Jim and Janice Walton continued the long process of translating the New Testament into the Muinane language. (Columbia)

Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins. *The Jesus Chronicles: Matthew's Story. Mark's Story. Luke's Story. John's Story*. (Fiction) Walk with each disciple as he walks with Jesus.

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 we are looking at the book of James. This happens to be one of my favorite books in the Bible because James does not mince words. He tells it as it is. Some seem to think that James contradicts Paul by insisting that faith and works are part of salvation. In fact, James recognizes that salvation comes through faith but that there are several types of faith. I believe his point is that faith, unless acted upon, has little meaning.

- ◆ Who was James? The brother of John; the brother of Jesus, an apostle and one of the 12, or all of these.
- ◆ James 2:26 reads, “As the body without the spirit is dead, so _____ without _____ is dead.
- ◆ James 3:6 states, “The _____ also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”
- ◆ What book follows James?
- ◆ True or false. James was executed in Jerusalem about 62 AD
- ◆ Bonus: How did James appear most prominently in Acts (15)?



Are you using the new Online Directory?

If you need help installing the AP on your smartphone, please come by the office for assistance.



Remember, All Thursdays through October 24th are days of Prayer and Fasting for our church.



Support the Towns County Food Pantry when shopping at Amazon. Once you sign into Amazon with the following link, Amazon will donate a percentage of your sale to the Food Pantry. This is no additional cost to you. Shop for great deals at smile.amazon.com/ch/80-0206686



Missions MinistryRobin Broom

Last Thursday I got a call informing me that there had been an accident and one of our friends from Kisoko was seriously injured and at our clinic. I immediately rushed over there and a nurse took me to him. I walked in to find Karajja Abdallah, the father of Jamilla (my dear 8 year old friend who recently passed away). My heart sank. He lay on a stretcher close to the floor unable to move or speak. All I could think was this family cannot endure another loss, not now. I dropped to my knees beside his head, laid my hand upon his bare chest and began to cry out to God for mercy.

The ambulance was outside waiting for us to transfer him to another clinic in Bugiri. No family had reached yet and I was not about to leave his side. We entered the ambulance and drove off. That was a drive I never want to repeat! We drove as fast as physically possible down narrow, bumpy dirt roads dodging animals, people, cars, trucks, bicycles, and motorcycles. Mukisa, who travelled with me, had a firm grip on the stretcher, that was not securely fastened, so it would not go flying. But other than trying to keep from falling over in the back of the ambulance, none of that held my attention.

Abdallah was critical, he was gasping for breath and groaning in absolute pain. The doctors had started an IV at the clinic, but it was only fluids, no pain medications. He kept pointing to his chest and his head. I prayed with fervency and kept my hand on his chest for two reasons, one to continue to praying, but the second was to make sure he was still breathing. The only reason I removed my hand was to change the bag of IV fluids - thank God I have been around enough medical settings to have some very small medical knowledge. Abdallah was scared, I could see it. When his eyes were open they were locked on mine. I know the living God dwells within me, and I know that it was HE that Abdallah was gazing upon.

When we reached the other clinic in Bugiri they began some IV medication and we would wait for him to stabilize in order to take him to x-ray. We waited and we prayed, many of you prayed. He would motion to his chest and I would place my hand there and pray and he would shake his head yes. Abdallah had not spoken, but after a short time he looked at me and said, "Jesus". Keep in mind this man is a Muslim. Time went on, I sat

by his side praying in the strong name of Jesus. We finally got x-rays and an ultrasound which both were completely normal. I was astounded! And so was Abdallah. Although he was in excruciating pain, he was now speaking and even able to stand for the x-ray. The doctor said they would continue to monitor him overnight. Some family had finally arrived so we headed home and would come back to check on him in the morning.





When we returned, Abdallah was still in a lot of pain. The doctor said to try and get him to eat so we could give him oral medication. When we sat him up he began to groan in sheer agony and huge tears were streaming down his face. I knew he was not stable. He began having convulsions and I ran to get the doctor. He came and determined he had some fluid on his brain. All I knew to do was cry out to God once again. The doctor began to treat him medically, we prayed and would wait. Again I returned home for the evening.

I called later that night to receive more shocking news. He was sitting up, talking, had walked, eaten and was strong. Our God is truly an amazing Physician. He is our Healer! There is no other explanation. I visited Abdallah the next day. He told me he would feel peace when I would lay my hand on his chest and pray to my God. His family was all there by his side, his two wives, and even his son, Aramanzan. His first wife's father had driven his bicycle over 30 kilometers to visit him, not knowing if he would live. I stand in awe at the depths of love of our Heavenly Father. And once again, I find this family before me, for me to love. And it is my delight to do so. As I go, as I love, the lost, the broken, the wounded, I am ever so close to our LORD. Because it is those He is longing for, it is those that He came for. On Sunday morning, we went to pick up Abdallah to take him home to Kisoko. Before we left the hospital he told us that he wants to visit our church. Pray for Abdallah, for courage, as I know he is close to making a life changing decision.

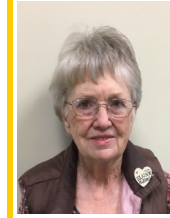
With Much Love, *Robin*

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 vital part of my team!!! Thank you for your love, encouragement, prayers and support! May God bless you!

 *The HUMM will be selling pecans and peanuts again this year. Order forms will be available Sunday 10/7 for delivery at the Chili Supper. Prices are the same as last year.* 

Jail/Prison MinistryElaine McEver



Ministry is not much different from any other occupation. Yet, the smallest differences are important. Just when I think I know about everything, God shows up with his "o beloved, not yet". I just started reading a book from one of our foreign missionaries called The Great Omission by Steve Saint. It teaches from life on the mission field about the issue of Co-dependency. Recently, I had to tell one of our women that I could not help her any more. She is currently living in a tent in the woods and my heart is burdened for her. I could see that until I let her go, she was not likely to do any of the things she needed to do for herself. A bird held too closely in the hand cannot fly.

This month has been very eventful at Ms. Elaine's house. When someone gave us a car we gave the older ministry car to the resident who had been driving it. The paper work on such a transaction takes time and effort on our part because of the legalities. She donated her own disabled vehicle to the Men's Ministry in Blairsville in the hope that they could restore it. Two new residents have their own cars. I enjoyed spending three days at the house with the new residents while the new house mother was in Florida on business. A volunteer from St. Vincent De Paul's gave us over \$250 worth of meat for the freezer helping us save on groceries. Writing to the women when they go to prison, I have learned that two previous residents will be getting out in October, and have no home to return to. When they went to prison they lost everything. New Executive Board members are learning with us to help when we can and then to let go.

A praise from jail ministry. On one single visit to Union County jail, 15 women prayed with us to re-dedicate their lives to Christ. The joy of that one visit will always be with us and makes it all worth the time, money and effort. Re-dedications are not unusual. However, all of them agreeing to pray together was wonderful. One of the new residents had tears in her eyes when she thanked me for the Bible I had given her while she was in jail. Thank you for all you do, and especially for the Life Recovery Bibles.

By the way, we have a wonderful Administrative Assistant in the office at HUMC. Special thanks to Betty for her help.

From Our Lay Leader: Dale Gardner



During August and September we have had as our mission themes Benevolence (Altar Fund) and Giving (Time, Talent and Money) and as I write this, I have no idea what October's theme will be. But, as I consider these last two months a couple of ideas keep rolling around in my mind. For example, the idea of compassion stirs in our benevolence - that is, actually helping our brothers and sisters in need with more than just a passing glance. (Remember the parable of the Good Samaritan?) And when I consider the giving of Time, Talents, and Treasures; compassion also appears along with another term many are not thrilled to hear - Stewardship. In most, if not all, cases where stewardship is mentioned in the Bible we can substitute the word management; for the word steward we can substitute the word manager or servant and in the case of phrases we can read "those chosen to care" or "chief servant" or "God's manager".

Factually, all humans are stewards. We really have no choice in the matter. God has placed the whole world in our hands. And that started with Adam (See Genesis 1:26-31) Also see Psalm 8:6 which says of God, "You put them in charge of everything You made. You put all things under their control." In so far as I know the word of God does not reverse this stewardship relationship. We are, like it or not, God's managers. Everything we are, everything we have comes from God.

Mostly, though, we tend to think of stewardship in terms of money; annual pledge campaigns, building fund drives. special offerings and the like. And, money is important; but, I go back to compassion as we fund benevolences and give of our time, talent and treasure to Red Bird Missions, Habitat for Humanity, Helping Hands Ministries, the Jail ministry and yes, even the Chili Supper, or Rummage Sale as well as property maintenance volunteers. The last thing I want to mention is our privilege in giving to God our tithes and offerings. They are, in fact, acts of worship and should not be offered grudgingly or out of a sense of duty or obligation; but, as a measure of the gratitude we have for that with which God has blessed us.

Quotes and bible verses from the Everyday Study Bible, New Century, Version, p.1173.



Answers. 1 The brother of Jesus 2. Faith deeds 3. Tongue 4. 1 Peter 5. True Bonus: He presided over the Jerusalem council.