



The Messenger

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June 2016

REVEREND VICKI'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION!

Please plan to join us Sunday, June 5th,
at 11am for morning worship.

Stay for a special retirement
celebration luncheon immediately following
service in the Fellowship Hall.

Please RSVP to the church at
info@cpfirumc.com or 404-766-6294
so we can plan accordingly.

OUR NEW PASTORAL LEADER

Katharine comes to us from Decatur First UMC where she has served as Associate Pastor since 2010. Her husband, Jonathan Brown, is a student at Candler and will be appointed to serve as a part-time Local Licensed Pastor at Hapeville UMC.

Prior to entering the ministry, Katharine received her PhD in Ecology and Evolution then served as the Bat Biologist for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. She completed her M.Div. from Candler School of Theology in 2006 and also worked as the Executive Director of Georgia Interfaith Power & Light.

When she's not at the church, Katharine plays roller derby and spends time with her husband, their dog, and cats.



On June 19th we will welcome Rev. Dr. Katharine Hinman to our church. Plan to stay after worship and enjoy lemonade and cookies as we introduce ourselves to Reverend Katy in the back of the sanctuary.

A WORD FROM REV. SMITH

Dearly Beloved

It's an old-fashioned phrase, but one that expresses my feelings when I think of you, so...

Dearly Beloved,

I don't do endings very well. They are hard for me even when I know that the "goodbye" also means "hello" to something new and good. So let me just say thank you.

Thank you

- ... for the warm welcome and sweet goodbyes,
- ... for allowing me to laugh with you and cry with you
- ... for the privilege of preaching from this pulpit
- ... for the joy of teaching among you and learning from you,
- ... for making my ministry more meaningful
- ... for making this church a hospitable place for the needy
- ... for thinking of those who will come after you
- ... for the witness you bear to those who draw near

Some of you have heard me say that I believe this is a *kairos* time in the life of this congregation - a time when the Spirit of God is moving to shape the identity and renew the spirit of this congregation. To have been part of that work even for a short time is an experience for which I am grateful.

God bless each of you as you continue to grow in faith and witness in love. God bless you all as you begin this new chapter in your long, rich history as a faithful community.

Affectionately,

Vicki



Our sympathy to the families of:

- Verna Mills who died May 7th at the age of 95;
- Nedra Gilbert who died on May 11th after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease; and
- Pearl Harrelson who died on May 18th.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We hope everyone will have a great summer and wish to remind you that just as you have to pay your bills every month whether you are on vacation or not, the church has to pay their bills all summer also.

Before you go away on vacation, please remember to make your donation to the church, either at Sunday worship service or by sending your check to the church office.



JUNE COUNTERS

June 5th- West Gary and Kathleen Gulley

June 12th - Mary Bieberstein and
Leslie Haskins

June 19th- Janet DeOrio and Leslie Haskins

June 26th - Peggy Morris and Leslie Haskins

Happy June Everyone!



It's hard to believe it's already summer, because it feels like Christmas with the presents we are about to receive. First, we are thrilled to welcome Rev. Katharine Hinman as our new pastor on June 19th. Katy, we are excited to welcome you and husband, Jonathan, to our family. Second, we anxiously await the Learning Academy moving to their newly renovated location in the Education Building!

Thanks to the Board of Directors, particularly Gordon Hunter, James Hill, and The Learning Academy Board, including Ricci Lewis-Johnson, for all the hard work prepping the Education Building for the new tenants. The Learning Academy is moving "back home" to the first floor where it was housed when created as a church ministry in 2003. The expanded space will allow not only more room to breathe, but also for increased student enrollment this fall.

What happens to their old space? A team, led by Kathleen Gulley, determined that the space would be ideal for designated Sunday School classrooms. The Church Council will discuss the highest and best use for the rooms in the next couple of months and move forward with a plan, hopefully this fall. If you have ideas to share please join us for one of the council meetings – we meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Library. (You're always welcome to attend.)

The Board of Directors is working on parking lot repair and considering repair needs for the old parsonage. Renting the old parsonage is currently being considered as a source of church revenue. Repairs on the current parsonage will be handled the week in between minister moves.

Lastly, attendance for Sunday worship continues to be lower than anticipated. If you are not able to join us due to work, travel, health, etc. and have some ideas on how you can feel more connected to the congregation, would you please let me know at meredith.hodges@gas-south.com? We'd love to figure out a means by which the church can be supportive of you outside of Sunday service.

Thank you again to Rev. Vicki and Larry Smith as they move forward in this new stage of their life. We continue to be grateful for the many things you have done for the church and the gift of your presence. May the Lord bless you and keep you and know you are always welcome here at College Park First!

Sincerely,

Meredith Hodges
Church Council Chair



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/01 Barry Fields	06/16 Jason Underwood
06/01 Paxton Jones	06/19 Doris Perry
06/04 David Calloway	06/21 Jan Anderson
06/06 Shirley Petty	06/23 Sarah Beth Couch
06/06 Gracie Underwood	06/24 David Mulkey
06/08 Kathy Barnes	06/25 Raymond Cornelius
06/10 Ken Allen	06/26 Ingrid Van Orden
06/12 Frances Wiley	06/27 Jake Longino
06/12 Mary Ann Ward	06/29 Sam Sutton
06/13 Virginia Farr	

**BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OFFERING FOR HOMELESSNESS, SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH**

On any given night, there are hundreds of families with children living in extended stay hotels that dot the north Georgia landscape. There are thousands more who are one paycheck, health crisis or car repair bill away from homelessness. Georgia has the second highest rate of homeless veterans in the U.S., and we are in the top ten for overall poverty rates in the nation. About 1 million of our kids are considered food-insecure.

Today, the church has a bold and unique opportunity to step into the stories of their neighbors in need— those struggling with poverty, homelessness, hunger and a lack of education—and help them write a new chapter in their lives. With the help of the NGUMC special offering, Action Ministries can Raise the Roof over the heads of families in need, providing them with the foundational pillars of hunger relief, housing and educational opportunities.

As the North GA Conference, we hope to raise \$250,000, which can **lead 100 families out of poverty** by providing safe, stable housing and wraparound services to ensure they have the skills they need to maintain their independence. For 100 families transitioned from homelessness, we could save Georgia communities \$4 million, and even more importantly, provide hope to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

You are encouraged to give generously to the Annual Conference offering.

**Place a check in the church offering plate made out to your church
with "Raise the Roof" in the memo line.**



**NORTH GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 7TH - 9TH**

The Classic Center, Athens, GA

This year's annual conference is a special one as North Georgia marks its sesquicentennial (150 years) with the theme "Bound for Greater Things," based on John 14:12-14.

Please be in prayer for this Annual Conference.



THE LEARNING ACADEMY OF COLLEGE PARK UPDATE

The Learning Academy is gearing up for a summer to remember! TLACP is reintroducing our summer program for children ages 5-7 years of age. If you are interested please contact the center for additional information (404-766-9252).

Our younger scholars will participate in a summer theme as well! Infants, toddlers, and twos will enjoy summer programming focused on themed weeks rooted in outdoor exploration, science and a splashing good time.

TLACP also has our relocation on the horizon. We are inviting volunteers in the upcoming month to assist with the relocation into the education building. We will need assistance with furniture assembly, light cleaning, decorating, etc. We will post information closer to the date.

Ricci Lewis-Johnson, M.Ed.
Center Director

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Vicki's Retirement Luncheon No Choir Practice	6 Smart Lunch, Smart Kid	7 Annual Conference	8 Annual Conference	9 Annual Conference	10	11
12 Stuart Gulley preaching Choir Practice	13 Smart Lunch, Smart Kid	14	15	16 Finance Meeting- 7pm	17	18
19 FATHER'S DAY! <i>Raise the Roof Offering</i> Welcome Reception for Katy Hinman Choir Practice	20 Smart Lunch, Smart Kid TLACP Council Meeting- 6:30pm	21	22 Church Council- 7pm	23	24	25
26 Choir Practice	27 Smart Lunch, Smart Kid	28	29	30		

SMART LUNCH, SMART KID

Interested in helping to feed hungry children in our area this summer?

College Park First UMC is once again serving as a distribution center for the *Smart Lunch, Smart Kid* program which provides lunches for children in the area whose free lunch ends when summer begins.

Beginning Monday, June 6th we will meet and prepare 200 lunches every Monday for distribution. This year we are also collecting books for children ages 3-18 years.

Please contact Julie Couch at couch6553@comcast.net or 404-234-7702 to find out how *you* can make a difference in a child's life!



PRAYER LIST

CHURCH MEMBERS

Julie Askew
Tina Donaldson
Bill Freeman
Carolyn Price
Caroline Rowley
Mary Ann Ward

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Sharon Coer
Jenny Dubose
Jane Hannah
Julien Henley
Dwight Oxford
Elana R. Rowell
Carolyn Rowland
Todd Sinclair
Clay Zupp, Sr.

SHUT-INS

Wanda Adams
Jerry & Juanita Aldredge
Jean Cowden
Zoe Dixon
Skeeter Faulkner
Evelyn Glover
Dot Hale
Harry & Laura Leigh Hicks
Bobbie & Jake Longino
Jewell Moore



Special Events in June

- 06/05 Celebration Luncheon
for Vicki's Retirement
- 06/7-9 Annual Conference
- 06/12 Stuart Gulley in the
Pulpit
- 06/16 Finance Meeting
- 06/19 Welcome for
Rev. Dr. Katharine
Hinman
- 06/20 TLACP Council Meeting
- 06/22 Church Council Meeting