

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of December 11, 2011

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2011)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration	\$559,204.75
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal	\$516,580.57
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal	\$21,312.09
Amount given on 12-11-2011	\$10,501.00

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund	\$452,568.04
Amount given on 12-11-011	\$1,625.00

1. The amount needed by the last Sunday in 2011 should be an aggregate total of our financial needs including Conference Apportionments as well as all other needs.
2. The Amount Received should be the aggregate total of funds received for budgetary purposes.
3. The Consistent Weekly Need to reach the Yearly Goal will change each week depending upon the amount of weeks left as offset by the gifts received.

CHURCH STAFF

<i>James Adair</i>	<i>Custodian</i>
<i>Sylvia Beard</i>	<i>Pianist</i>
<i>Suzanne Clegg</i>	<i>Director of Youth Ministry</i>
<i>Diana Foster</i>	<i>Director of Music and the Arts</i>
<i>Heather Hagler</i>	<i>Director of Children and Family Ministry</i>
<i>Debra Hogg</i>	<i>Music Associate</i>
<i>Sondra R. Jones</i>	<i>Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Cindy LaTouf</i>	<i>Office Manager</i>
<i>Leandre Majerus</i>	<i>Interim Director of Preschool Ministry</i>
<i>Hank Morgan</i>	<i>Organist</i>
<i>Susan Rosenthal</i>	<i>Director of Nursery</i>

Attendance – Sunday, December 11, 2011

8:45a	Worship @ BFUMC	73
10:00a	Sunday School	101
11:00a	Worship @ BFUMC	260
	Total Worship Attendance	333

Mission of the Month

Mission Meeting – January 15, @ 12:15p, in the fellowship hall. Please bring your own lunch.

Disposable Diaper Collection

The United Methodist Children’s Home office in Gainesville, GA has a ministry that gives diapers to families that are Hall County residents.

For the month of January the Carol Scott Circle has teamed up with the United Methodist Children’s Home Office to support their Diaper Mission. All during the month of January we will be collecting disposable diapers. We need all sizes for both boys and girls. A collection box is located in the fellowship hall.

The Weeks of January 1, 2012 – January 31, 2012

Vol. 24 No. 01



Dear Church Family,

As the celebration of Christ’s birth approaches, it is also time for us as a congregation to say thanks to our staff for the work they do throughout the year. Each December, we strive to provide our staff with year-end bonuses as financial recognition of their efforts. As there is no money in the budget for this compensation, we are dependent upon the generosity of the Church Family to provide the funds for year-end staff bonuses.

Should you desire to contribute to this effort, please make your check payable to the church and mark the check “Staff Bonus” so the financial secretary can keep this gift separate from the other church donations. If you want credit on your 2011 statement of giving, please have your check to the church office no later than December 25th. If you wish to submit a written note of appreciation to our staff, please send it to the church office and we will make sure the staff receive your written words of gratitude.

Thank you in advance for supporting this recognition effort.

Love in Christ,

Mike Countess
SPRC Chairperson
and the SPRC Committee Members
Buford First United Methodist Church



2012 Church Board Members

Church Board Chair	Harry Wilkins
Board Vice Chair	Kevin Gohman
Board Secretary	Susan Rosenthal
Lay Leader	Mike Rosenthal
Treasurer	Donnie McQuaig
Financial Secretary	Sandra Casper
Church Historian	Mary Alice Beard
UMYF Representatives	Corbin Farr & Austin Sanders
UMM Representative	Eric Lynskey
UMW Representative	Heather White
Nominations Chair	Rev. Sondra Jones
Finance Chair	Mike Casper
Stewardship Chair	Shon Rupert
Staff Parish Chair	Alan Davis
Trustee Chair	Mike Garrett
Building Committee Co-Chairs	Linda McQuaig & Tracey Yancey
Missions Chair	Sue Jones
Worship Chair	Marsha Walters
Evangelism Chair	Chris Simonson
Communications Chair	Gary Lenz
Older Adult Work Area Chair	Ann Reichert
Youth Work Area Chair	Beth Ritchie
Children’s Work Area Chair	Heather Hagler
Preschool Board Chair	Beth Langston
Church Staff: Suzanne Clegg, Diana Foster, Heather Hagler, Rev. Sondra Jones, Cindy LaTouf, Hank Morgan & Susan Rosenthal	
Members At Large	Lynne Farr, Mark Redstrom, Nathan Ring, Randy Moody, George Moore, Connie Hardee, Alan Kocher, Joe Best & Don Trawick

Return Service Requested

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285 East Main Street, P.O. Box 329
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"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him, not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:1-5

Yes, friends, the Light has come into the World and the darkness shall not overcome it. 2012 begins the secular calendar year. The beginning of a New Year is always a time of making resolutions, new promises, new plans, and new hopes for the New Year that life will be better somehow.

As we begin 2012, we remember that Jesus is our beginning because He is the Light of the world. We begin with Him, we start over with Him. So also to have new start is to renew our Christian resolutions taken from the vows of our baptism and membership in the church. We promise to be faithful to Christ through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and our witness. These resolutions help keep us on track with our discipleship. These can be our continued resolutions in 2012. I invite us to keep this list as a way of keeping faith with the Life of Jesus in us. I invite us to pray and live these resolutions into reality.

1. I resolve to pray for God's Holy Spirit to lead us in to this New Year with power and hope. I will intentionally pray for the people in the church, community and world. I will pray for our future building efforts and the needed ministries of our church.
2. I resolve to be in worship as much as possible. Worship is our response to God giving us our new beginnings and I resolve to come as part of the community of believers because worship is a community experience. I resolve to be in church and work hard to be against the secular demands of my life or let them take precedence of over the worship of God.
3. I resolve to give generously financially and to tithe, to offer other material resources for the sake of Jesus. I realize that all of my resources come from God and I need to give back to Him to make a difference and to help others have better life.
4. I resolve to share my time and talent with others for the sake of the mission of the church because the ministry is for all Christians, not just a few.
5. I resolve to live with a witness of Love and Light. I will live by example and speak lovingly, even confidently, of Jesus to my friends, neighbors, co-workers and strangers as we seek to meet the needs of ministry inside and outside of our walls.

Yes, it is 2012, a New Year. The darkness cannot overcome the Light. The darkness of sin and past disappointments fade away when the Light of His Love Shines in our hearts forever.

Happy New Year and God bless us everyone!

Love, Sondra

***A donation has been made in honor of Dick Atcheson** by Mike & Sandra Casper, Donnie & Linda McQuaig, Al & Pam Kocher, and Rick & Marsha Huckaby.
***A donation has been made in memory of Joy Morgan** by Jane Horah.
***A donation has been made in memory of Bill Booth** by John Booth.

*Dear Church Family,
 Thank you so much for your kindness and thoughtfulness during Helen's illness and passing. Dave and I appreciated your visiting with her, the sympathy cards, the beautiful Memorial Service, and the Effie Wood circle for the delicious food served at the reception.
 Thank you from our hearts,
 Brenda and Dave Billiter*



Come and see what Missions we support at Buford First on January 29 during the Sunday School hour (10:00 am). We think you might be surprised at the many different service and giving opportunities there are AND there is sure to be one that calls your heart. Please come to the Fellowship Hall on January 29th for some breakfast and to learn more.

Eat At Famous Joes the first Monday night of each month and you'll be supporting the BFUMC Missions! Famous Joe's is located at the intersection of Hamilton Mill and Ridge Rd. The address is: 3290 Ridge Rd., Buford, 30519. Their phone is 770.271.5637. It's fun to see your church friends, have a great meal, and raise funds for the church! Be sure to drop your receipt in the bucket at the register.



Congratulations to Devon Thomas for placing 1st for her age group in Bar, Vault, and All Around at the Georgia State Level 5 Gymnastics Meet on November 19th! We are so proud of you!

Congratulations to Grady Rothweiler for receiving The Coach's Award from his Cross Country Team Coach at Buford Middle School. Way to go Grady!

Congratulations to Harrison Saylor for qualifying for the National Junior Olympics again! He will be traveling to Utah in February to compete. We are so proud of you Harrison!

January Music News

A special thank you to all of the musicians in this church for a festive and eventful Advent and Christmas Season. I love and appreciate each of you and am so thankful to serve God with you all year long.

On a scheduling note – all of the ensembles except for the Chancel Choir will be on break until the week of January 22/23. Enjoy the time off, but be ready to come back for an exhilarating spring season!

**In Christ,
 Diana**

Youth Mission Report

I am so proud of our students! Just look at what they did for others at Christmas in 2011:

- *The 6th Grade girls worked a Rent A Kid to raise funds for a family who needed help at Christmas. They used the \$150.00 donation from the RAK to shop for the little girl. They also took the Donor to dinner! And they had a great time shopping and wrapping!*
- *The 7th and 8th grade girls made 7 fleece blankets to donate to Children's Healthcare in Atlanta. They went to lunch as a group and then down to deliver the blankets.*
- *The Middle School boys bought for an angel off the Angel Tree, and brought donations for Sack Kids Hunger.*
- *The Senior High group collected items to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.*

Our students shared the Joy of the Season with others!

Suzanne

Hello new friends and church family! My name is Heather Hagler, and I am your new Director of Children and Family Ministry. I am very excited that God has called me here to minister to and with the children and families of Buford FUMC.

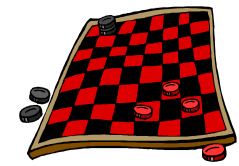
A huge thank you goes to Heather White for her leadership of this ministry for the last six months. I appreciate so much her energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to this church and our children.

As a way of an introduction, I have been involved in Children's Ministry for the last 20 years in all areas including Sunday school, children's church, VBS, summer camps, and preschool. I have a BA degree from Asbury University in Christian Ministries, and an MA in Christian Education from Asbury Seminary. I am a life-long United Methodist, and I grew up in the beautiful mountains of eastern Kentucky.

I have been married for 17 years to Ken Hagler. He is the associate pastor at Cumming First United Methodist Church. We live in Cumming with our two children, Logan (13 years old) and Jillian (11 years old), and two cats.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of you and your families as we share God's love with our community and grow in faith.

Blessings, Heather Hagler



Young At Heart is for folks 50 and older!

Join us for our "Game Day" on Martin Luther King Day, January 16, 2012. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share. We will meet at 2:00p in the Benson House.

Let Debbie Atcheson know if you plan to attend: call 770-965-3729 or email richardatcheson@bellsouth.net by January 10th.

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February Activities with a January Deadline!

Come to a Valentine Show and Dinner on February 11 presented by the Show Time Singers of Atlanta. Group rate tickets are \$27.00 per person. This is a quick registration as we need your money by January 15th to get good seats.



Send checks to Pam Kocher (5776 Amberside Lane, Sugar Hill, GA 30518)

On Saturday, February 7 we will be going to the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History more details to follow. Let Debbie know if you are interested in YAH February events.



Confirmation Classes for students in 6th grade and up will begin in February. There is a sign up sheet on the Youth bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Confirmation meets on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour, and is taught by Suzanne Clegg, Pastor Jones, and Bradley and Heather White. This is a great experience for young people, and helps them to understand the Christian Faith and make it their own. Please sign up to take this course!