

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of April 20, 2015

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2015)

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration | \$599,996.00 |
| Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal | \$192,052.38 |
| Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal..... | \$11,331.77 |
| Amount given on 04-19-2015 | \$9,469.50 |

Building Fund

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Balance in Building fund | \$4,737,982.16 |
| Amount given on 04-19-2015 | \$560.00 |

1. The amount needed by the last Sunday in 2015 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>Sandra Casper</i> | <i>Financial Secretary</i> |
| <i>Suzanne Clegg</i> | <i>Director of Youth Ministry</i> |
| <i>Rev. Dr. Sondra R. Jones</i> | <i>Senior Pastor</i> |
| <i>Cindy LaTouf</i> | <i>Office Manager</i> |
| <i>Leandre Majerus</i> | <i>Director of Preschool Ministry</i> |
| <i>Hank Morgan</i> | <i>Organist</i> |
| <i>Mark Ridings</i> | <i>Director of Music and the Arts</i> |
| <i>Susan Rosenthal</i> | <i>Director of Children & Family Ministry</i> |
| <i>Bradley Trammell</i> | <i>Accompanist for Children and Youth</i> |

| 2015 Average Attendance | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Worship | 317 |
| Sunday School | 133 |

May Missions

Prison Ministry: The Prison Chaplain of Phillips State Prison has requested donations of deodorant and greeting cards. The prisoners especially like to have Mother's Day Cards! Please donate cards by May 3rd so we can get the Mother's Day cards to them on time. Deodorant will be collected until June 1st.

Wesley Woods Homes: The Mother's Day Offering on May 10th will help the 1,600 residents of Wesley Woods Homes.

The Appalachia Service Project Team
Purchase "stock" in this venture and see how your investment pays off. Turn in a stock form with a donation by May 31st.

Full information on these missions can be found on your May Calendar.

Allergy & Asthma: With respect and concern for persons, who suffer from allergies and asthma, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne on Sunday morning. For those who have allergic reactions to fragrances, this can cause extreme respiratory stress. Thank you for your consideration for the health and wellbeing of others.



The Connection

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World



To shine the light of Jesus so that children, youth, and adults grow in the knowledge and love of God through missions, evangelism, worship, nurture, and Christian education.

The Weeks of May 1, 2015 – May 31, 2015

Vol. 27 / No. 5

Welcome Confirmation Class

2015!



We have been meeting together to study and discuss church membership and the Christian Faith. Teachers have been: Suzanne Clegg, Pastor Sondra, and Sara Lingerfelt. The mentors have been with us on several occasions and have done a great job of supporting us as we grow in our faith.

The following students will join the church on Sunday, May 17th at the 11:00 a.m. service.

- Katherine Applebee**
- Eric Gohman**
- Travis Grant**
- Eva Harrington**
- Charlie Lynskey**
- Julia Montville**
- Morgan Moody**
- Annabelle Rose**
- Hailey Sullivan**
- Lizzie White**
- Grace Yancey**



VBS is coming!

Mark your calendars for June 1st – 5th 9:00 – 12:30

Get ready to MOVE, ACT, CARE, FOLLOW & SHARE all in the name of our amazing GOD!!! Registration is open to everyone ages 3 to 5th grade with registration forms available online, in the church office, and in the church narthex. Register before May 1st for 10.00 per child, 15.00 after May 1st with registration closing on May 10th. No walk up registrations.

In order to make this week even more amazing, we need volunteers in several areas to include:

- ❖ Decorating & Prep (VBS work days are 5.27-5.29 9:00 am. – noon)
- ❖ Registration and check out each day
- ❖ Leading or assisting a class (divided by grades)
- ❖ Snack preparation
- ❖ Runners (to help in whatever areas are needed).
 - We will have a volunteer meeting on 5.17.15 in room 203 at 12:15.

We also need donations and would love to have gift cards to Walmart and Hobby Lobby and monetary donations as well.

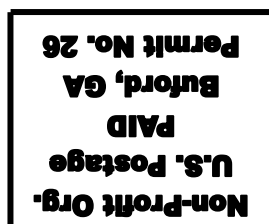
If you have never experienced VBS here at Buford First, I encourage you to join us this year. It is an unbelievable week of fun and fellowship and an amazing way to share God's love with so many awesome kids!

If you would like to have more information, make a donation, or volunteer your time, please email Susan Rosenthal at Children.director@bufordfirstumc.org.

“In God, we live, move and exist” (Acts 17:28a)

Return Service Requested

*Buford First United Methodist Church
285 East Main Street, P.O. Box 329
Buford, Georgia 30515-0329
770-945-7438 ~ www.bufordfirstumc.org
Preschool 770-945-4161*



A Word From The Pastor

A Word from the Building Committee

We are members of the household of faith, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the corner stone, and we are building and growing to the glory of God. (Ephesians 2)

The Building Committee has been in constant contact with the architect and building contractor, ironing out the final details, i.e. which parts of the sidewalk wall are to be brick and which parts are to be concrete; which kinds of fixtures would be best in the bathrooms; what type of flooring would be best for the hallways, classrooms, activity center; kitchen layout; fellowship hall decisions; scheduling with the District Committee on church development...you get the picture. It's almost time for the Trustees and the Building Committee to give the plans a final review, and THEN...unveiling for the church members!! (You know there are procedural rules we have to follow, and we don't want to break any of them!!) Friends, we are almost there! We know you are going to be as excited as we are when you see the future look of BFUMC with the Christian Life Center (CLC) addition, and the capital improvements of the current facility.

Proposed timeline:

| | |
|--|---|
| Thursday, April 30 th 7:00 p.m. | Architect and Contractor meet with Building Committee and Trustees Presentation of final plans and costs |
| Sunday, May 3 rd 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. | Bradley White~ Stewardship moment |
| Sunday, May 10 th 10:00 a.m. | Listening Session in Sanctuary |
| Tuesday, May 12 th 7:00 p.m. | Listening Session in Sanctuary |
| Later in May | Mailing of print materials and pledge cards |
| Sunday, June 28 th | Commitment Sunday |
| Thursday, July 9 th 2:00 p.m. | District Development Presentation of Final Plans (in Gainesville) |
| Sunday, July 12 th and 19 th | Announcement about Church Conference (from pulpit, newsletter, and bulletins) |
| Monday, July 20 th 7:00 p.m. | Church Conference to vote on final plans and funding |
| Sunday, August 16 th | Homecoming, lunch and Ceremonial Groundbreaking |

Please continue to pray for our church, and for the Building Committee, Finance Committee, and Trustees, as we enter the final steps of the planning stages for the Christian Life Center (CLC) and capital improvements of the present building. We thank you for your support and encouragement. We are building to the glory of God at the corner of Hill and Main. To God be all glory, praise, and honor.

Blessings,
Tracey and Linda, Building Co-Chairs



Sondra

*A donation has been given in memory of Austin Grant by: John and Gypsy Alford, Bobby and Estelle Dobbs, Tommy and Sara Lingerfelt, Jim and Meredith Holt, Harla Samples., and Phillip and Sylvia Beard.

*A donation has been given in memory of Jay Giddens by: Mike and Sandra Casper, Pat Stanley, and Rick and Marsha Huckaby.

*A donation has been given in memory of Herman Cobb by: Mike and Sandra Casper, Al and Pam Kocher, Rick and Marsha Huckaby, Donnie and Linda McQuaig.

*A donation has been given in memory of Olivia Ouimet by: Chris and Leigh Ouimet and David and Ashley Crosssett.

*A donation has been given in memory of Ruth Holcomb by: Jim and Meredith Holt.

*A donation has been given in honor of Dorothy Willis by: Donnie and Linda McQuaig.

*A donation has been given in honor of Dwight and Sandra Burgess by: Mike and Sandra Casper.

*A donation has been given in honor of Madison Thrailkill by: Paul and Brenda Remke and Larry and Carol Miller.

*A donation has been given in honor of Mike Casper by: Donnie and Linda McQuaig, Rick and Marsha Huckaby, Dwight and Sandra Burgess, and Kenney and Cindy Karr.

*A donation has been given in honor of Linda McQuaig by: Kenney and Cindy Karr.

To our BFUMC family,
Thank you for all the prayers, flowers, cards, and food, but most of all for being there for us. We Love and appreciate all of you!
Love, Wendell and Daroathy, Donna, Tommy, and Ali, Deborah and Dena, and all our Families

Dear BFUMC,
Many thanks for your thoughtfulness during the period of my surgery and extended rehab. The many kind thoughts and expressions of love and encouragement are greatly appreciated. Thank you.
Sincerely, Handsel Morgan



Please join the ladies of BFUMC for a Spring Brunch which will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 2nd, from 10 AM until noon. Butch Miller, Georgia State

Senator, will be the guest speaker at 10 and following that, we will have brunch. You don't need to be a circle member to attend this special morning.

If you plan to attend and don't belong to a circle, please RSVP to Sandra Burgess at slburg48@gmail.com. Circle members, please RSVP to your Circle Leader.

Ladies Book Club

May book selection is "Whatever Happened to Dinner?" by Melodie Davis. It is Recipes and Reflections for Family Mealtime. Sue Jones will lead the discussion with dinner provided from recipes in the book. Please bring \$5 to help cover the cost. We will meet on May 12 at 7 pm, at Sue Jones' home. Call Sue at 770-932-2202 with any questions or if you need directions.

Music Ministry

Youth Ministry

Children & Family Ministry

BBQ Plate Fundraiser

Sunday, May 17 · Noon

Help support the summer

Youth Choir Tour and get some good eats!

\$7 for BBQ, bun, pickle, chips, slaw & drink

Purchase in advance from Youth Choir members

(Extra plates will be available for purchase on the day)

Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare to sing 3 morning services at Myers Park UMC in Charlotte, have a fun day in Busch Gardens Amusement Park, and sing for a retirement home in Richmond, VA.

The youth of our church are doing great things!

Welcome to F.L.A.M.E. rising 6th graders!

Sunday, May 17th we will have a great time and invite all those students finishing up the 5th grade to join us!

Meet us in the Fellowship Hall at 5:15 p.m. for some great fun and games. Be ready to eat Buford's LARGEST ice cream sundae! Parents pick up at 7:00 p.m.

The youth do not meet Memorial Day weekend, but we will have F.L.A.M.E. on May 31st! Get a summer calendar off the youth table to see the summer schedule.

Suzanne

The Children's Ministry has some very important events coming up in the next few months so please take a minute to see.

During the month of May, all rising 3rd graders and I will be studying about the Methodist Worship Service and the different parts of our bulletin and how they all come together to make our service so amazing. This is a special time for our kids as they learn more about what it means to be a Methodist and a Christian. Upon completion of this class, each of these children will receive their own Bible so they can study and learn more of God's message at home. We will present these Bibles during the 11:00 service on May 31st so if your child is in this group, please plan to attend.

On June 7th, we will celebrate promotion Sunday when the children will move up to the next grade level in Sunday school. Please keep an eye out in the weekly newsletter for more detailed information on promotion Sunday and what that means for each of your children. Blessings, Susan



Pre-School

May Preschool Events:

6th: Ballet Recital & Fire Drill

7th: Muffins With Mom

11th: Pre-K Graduation

13th: Last Day Of School!

Australian Outback Animal Show

Bounce House/Slide

Chick-fil-a/Ice Cream Sundaes

Have A Fun Filled Summer!

Missions Committee Fifth Sunday Program

Eddie Staub, the founder and executive director of the Eagle Ranch in Flowery Branch, will join us again this year for the Missions Committee Fifth Sunday Program on May 31. Eddie has a fascinating story of the inspiration and creation of the ranch. As stated on its website: "In the Chestnut Mountain community of Flowery Branch, Georgia, Eagle Ranch helps make life better for children and families going through a crisis. Our unique community includes homes, recreational facilities, and a SACS-accredited school. Boys and girls come to live here, and are given the space and time they need to work through their struggles. Their families stay connected and actively involved during their child's stay. Our Christian program uses an integrated approach that models home life, emphasizes education and incorporates multifaceted counseling. Our aim is for renewal: of the child's individual purpose and identity; of positive relationships among family members; and of hope for a more promising future for everyone we serve"

Come and hear more about the Eagle Ranch programs and find out how you can help!

Young At Heart! The last event for the season will be the Northwinds Symphonic Band's Patriotic Concert on Monday, May 25, 2015 Memorial Day. This is an evening event. The cost will be \$2.00 for van gas. The actual concert is a love offering. We will leave the church parking lot at 5:00 P.M. Earlier if you want to go to Schlotzsky's for dinner before the concert. Please let Debbie Atcheson know by May 20th. Contact Debbie at 770-965-3729 or djatcheson@gmail.com

Effie Wood Circle

If you've ever wondered how Georgia laws are created, adopted and put in place, come hear our State Senator, Renee Unterman, who chairs the GA Senate Health and Human Services Committee, speak on this process and health issues at the May 5th meeting of Effie Wood Circle. We begin at 7 P.M. in the Beacon Sunday School Class Room. All women of our church are invited and bring a friend with you.