

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of October 19, 2015

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2015)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration.....	\$599,996.00
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal.....	\$459,042.34
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal.....	\$14,095.37
Amount given on 10-18-2015.....	\$8,924.12

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund.....	\$4,622,251.78
Amount given on 10-18-2015.....	\$2,012.67

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

James Adair	Custodian
Sylvia Beard	Pianist
Sandra Casper	Financial Secretary
Suzanne Clegg	Director of Adult Ministry
Rev. Dr. Sondra R. Jones	Senior Pastor
Cindy LaTouf	Office Manager
Leandre Majerus	Director of Preschool Ministry
Hank Morgan	Organist
Mark Ridings	Director of Music and the Arts
Susan Rosenthal	Director of Children & Family Ministry
Bradley Trammell	Accompanist for Children and Youth
Micah Wright	Director of Youth Ministry

2015 Average Attendance

Worship	291
Sunday School	115

November Missions

Blood Drive November 1- LifeSouth will be in the church parking lot from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Sunday, Nov. 1st. Please donate blood. You just might save a life.

The Alternative Christmas program of BFUMC allows you to purchase a Christmas gift for someone in the form of a contribution to a worthwhile ministry. The ministries supported by this program are: The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Heifer Project International, The Gwinnett Children's Shelter, Causelife (a clean water ministry), & Murphy Harpst Children's Home. The ministry's wish list brochure will be in the fellowship hall by Nov. 1, & shopping begins Nov. 22! When you purchase a gift you will receive a special card to present to your relative or friend.

5th Sunday Missions Event: November 29! Meet in the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m. to hear from Chaplain Charles Tolbert from the Phillips State Prison in Buford, who will share about ways the church can reach out in mission to these men, making a difference in their lives for God. BFUMC has been collecting Christmas Cards, All Occasion cards, and deodorant for the 900 inmates at Phillips. There is a yellow bin in the fellowship hall for donations. Drop these off by 10:00 a.m. November 29. We'll present Rev. Tolbert with the donations that morning!!

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 November 1, 2015 – November 30, 2015

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Charge Conference is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 16, 2015 at Sugar Hill UMC.

All Ministry Reports are due to be **E-mailed** to Church Board Secretary, Chris Close, (christine_close@hotmail.com) **no later than Monday, November 9th, 2015** and you should be prepared to present them at the Church Board meeting on November 15th at 12:15p in the Fellowship Hall. Your reports should be an overview of what your ministry area has done since the last Charge Conference (Nov. 14, 2014). Reports are needed from the following committee chairpersons:

- Nominations Committee Chair: **Sondra Jones**
- UMM President: **Chris Simonson**
- UMW President: **Sandra Burgess**
- Finance Committee Chair: **Bradley White**
- Stewardship Committee Chair: **Suzanne Best**
- Staff-Parish Relation Committee Chair: **Lenna Applebee**
- Trustee Committee Chair: **Mike Garrett**
- Building Committee Chair(s): **Linda McQuaig and Tracey Yancey**
- Communications/Evangelism Committee Chair: **John Alford**
- Older Adult Committee Chair: **Ann Reichert**
- Youth Committee Chair: **Lynne Farr**
- Children's Committee Chair: **Pam Stewart**
- Sunday School Superintendent: **Joe Best**
- Preschool Advisory Chair: **Beth Langston**
- Missions Committee Chair (s): **Wendy Lindly and Deena Rindfus**
- Worship Committee Chair: **Mike Countess**
- Security Committee Chair: **Mike Countess**
- Congregational Care Coordinator(s): **Beth Langston and Linda Hummer**
- Lay Leader: **Mike Rosenthal**
- Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: **Mary Alice Beard**
- Treasurer: **Donnie McQuaig**
- Church Historian: **Mary Alice Beard**

Bahamas Bridge Celebration



Special Guest Philip Stubbs- joins us in worship Sunday November 22. Plan to be in worship Sunday November 22, to hear guest preacher Rev. Philip Stubbs. Rev. Stubbs is the pastor at St. Michael's Methodist Church in Nassau, and has hosted BFUMC Mission Teams 3 times since 2012. This will be Rev. Stubbs third visit to BFUMC to share in ministry and to celebrate our ministry connection.

We will have a covered dish luncheon after the 11:00 worship service to provide an opportunity for us to have more time with Rev. Stubbs and his family. Please plan to bring a dish to share. Buford First has been blessed with the relationship we have with Rev. Stubbs and his church congregation. We will have a great time in fellowship, and will be inspired to reach out to our world with God's love. Don't miss it!



Alternative Christmas...

Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway?

The Alternative Christmas program of Buford First United Methodist Church allows you to purchase a Christmas gift for someone in the form of a contribution to a worthwhile ministry. The ministry's wish list brochure will be in the fellowship hall by November 1. When you purchase a gift you will receive a special card to present to your relative or friend.

You'll write one check, payable to Buford First United Methodist Church for the entire purchase.

Our Alternative Christmas shopping days will be Sundays:
November 22 ~ November 29
December 6 ~ December 13

Come to the fellowship hall and place your order, after the 8:45 a.m. service, and again before and after the 11:00 a.m. service.

Your Missions Committee

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

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Buford, GA
 Permit No. 26

A Word From The Pastor



"Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it. One who always prays is ever giving praise, whether in ease or pain, both for prosperity and for the greatest adversity. He blesses God for all things, looks on them as coming from Him, and receives them for His sake- not choosing nor refusing, liking or disliking, anything, but only as it is agreeable or disagreeable to His perfect will." John Wesley

This Thanksgiving take the time to pray. Pray with a grateful heart. Pray to offer praise to God for life and for loved ones. Pray for God to lead you in the path of God's choosing.

God provides us with true blessings in abundance. We have joy and laughter; we have courage in the face of fear, hope where there is doubt, comfort when we have tears and sadness. God is with us in all things. John Wesley believed in the love and blessings of God. Even on his death bed, he said, "Best of all, God is with us."

Pray for our community as we seek to strengthen and grow in Christ. Pray for the staff and leaders who work to make ministry meaningful. Pray for all the people who serve and provide the financial resources for ministry to take place. Pray for our church as we continue to build and grow to the glory of God.

Give thanks to the Lord always with a grateful heart.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Sondra



*A donation has been given in memory of Joseph E. Cheeley Jr. by: Dorothy C. Willis.
*A donation has been given in memory of Austin Grant, Pat LaTouf, Glyndon Pruitt, Max Samples, Beth Pirkle, Jeff Willis, Charles Garrett, and Tom Ed Robinson by: Tommy and Donna Grant.
*A donation has been given in honor of Rev. Dr. Sondra Jones, Donnie and Linda McQuaig, Bob and Linda Hummer, and Dwight and Sandra Burgess by: Leanna Brown.
*A donation has been given in honor of Wendell and Darothy Peevy and Phillip and Sylvia Beard by: Tommy and Donna Grant.
*A donation has been given in honor of Rick Huckaby and Linda McQuaig by: Al and Pam Kocher.
*A donation has been given in honor of Linda McQuaig, Kenny and Cindy Karr, and Rick Huckaby by: Mike and Sandra Casper.
*A donation has been given in honor of Donnie McQuaig and Al Kocher by: Rick and Marsha Huckaby and Mike and Sandra Casper.

Dear Buford First United Methodist Church,
I wish to thank you for the signal honor accorded me at the September 27th service. I love this church and pray for it every night. I am excited about the building program and wish only that I could be a younger participant.

With love and appreciation, Handsel Morgan
HMS

To my Church Family,
I want to thank you for the outpouring of love and support during my recent surgery and as I continue to recover. I have felt your prayers and I am overwhelmed by all the cards, calls, meals, and visits. I am blessed to be part of the Buford First UMC family.
Sincerely, Mary Alice Beard

Youth Ski Trip January 8-10



Deposits are due NOW. Youth in 6th grade and up can go with us. We ski the day and night sessions at Cataloochee, and the cost is \$229.00 each. Siblings get a \$10.00 discount. See the information on the Youth Table in the fellowship hall. The trip is Jan. 8-10. Sign up with a \$30.00 deposit! Space is limited

Ladies Book Club

We will meet Tuesday, November 10th to discuss the second half of "No Longer Silent" by Susan Dehn Matthews. Please join us at 7:00 p.m. pm at the home of Brenda Remke. Please bring \$5 for a light supper.



The Florence Garner Circle will be accepting names from Church members for the Angel Tree starting Nov. 2nd. If you know of a Church member or someone that is in need please contact Barbara Money at 770-601-8462 or by e-mail at barbara.money@charter.net. We will continue to have the tree in the Fellowship Hall and we will also have a table top tree in the Narthex.

Music Ministry

Youth Ministry

Children & Family Ministry

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 13, 2015

8:45 & 11:00 am

The Service of Lessons and Carols
with adult and youth choirs, instruments and organ

5:30 pm

Children's Handchimes

6:00 pm

"Silent Night" by Hal Hopson
A musical play for children

It's not too late to join a choir for the Christmas Season!
Please see any choir member for more information.

Welcome New Director of Youth Ministry, Micah Wright!

Micah officially joined the staff of BFUMC on October 15!
He is a part time staff member, whose focus will be our Youth Ministry (6th - 12th grades).

Micah graduated Magna Cum Laude, from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL with a Double Major in Religion and Psychology. He has served at First United Methodist Church, Montgomery, as a Pastoral Intern, Missions and Outreach Intern, and a Youth Ministry Intern. He has a wealth of experience and a sincere love for young people.

Micah is in his first year at Candler School of Theology where he is working on his Masters of Divinity. Help me welcome our newest staff member into the church family.

We are blessed to have him at BFUMC!

Suzanne

The Holiday Season is fast upon us and we have so many awesome things going on in the Children's Ministry! Take a look at what we have to offer for the Children to take part in...

- ❖ **BFUMC Angel Tree** – The children can take an angel from the tree and help their parents pick out a gift for a child in need.
- ❖ **Alternative Christmas** – Let the children share in the blessings of Christmas by giving to others.
- ❖ **Happy Birthday Jesus!** – Join us on December 6th at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy snacks, crafts, and a step back in time to hear the story of our Savior's birth.
- ❖ **Silent Night: The Birth of a Carol** – The G.L.O.W. choirs will be performing a special play this year sharing the history of the classic Christmas carol "Silent Night". The kids are working on their music each Sunday and will perform on December 13th at 5:30. It's not too late to join in on the fun!
- ❖ **Special Craft Projects** – The kids will be making some special crafts during our Sunshine Church and Children's Church. I have some really neat ideas I want them to make ☺
We have a few other tentative items in the works so stay tuned for more info!
Blessings, Susan

BFUMC Youth --Help with Sack Kids Hunger in November



Youth can help with the SKH mission in November. Meet a Youth Counselor at the church at 12 noon, to help give out lunches, and hold signs. Youth are welcome to come any Saturday in November. Come 2 or 3 times if you can! Let's reach out and help our neighbors.

Effie Wood Circle

Meets on November 3 in the Fellowship Hall at 7 PM for our Mission Project, "Pillowcases for Children with Cancer." Please join us for the construction, fellowship and refreshments.

For more information, call Meredith Holt at 770-945-3655.

The Women's Retreat to Twin Rivers Resort will be November 13th-15th.

Come enjoy some time with a great group of ladies! This year's theme is "Take Me Away-Find Rest in the Lord". Donna Thomas and Beth Ritchie will lead our sessions. Christian fellowship can boost your spirit and strengthen your faith. Cost is \$120.00 for 2 nights. Turn in a \$55.00 deposit to Louise Nauman or Suzanne Clegg to register. There's information in the Narthex and in the Fellowship Hall. Hope you can join us!



Christmas Poinsettias

Order forms for poinsettias are in the narthex. The youth make a few dollars on each flower purchased, and this year the funds will help with the summer Mission Trip. The flowers are \$10.50 each and the deadline to order is November 22.

November Preschool Happenings

- 2nd-5th: Scholastic Book Fair
- 3rd: Staff Meeting 1:15
- 11th: Chatterbox Speech
- 13th: Mom's Morning Out 9-1
- 18th+19th: Thanksgiving Feasts 11
- 23rd-27th: Thanksgiving Holiday
- 30th: Fire Drill



Have A Blessed And Happy Thanksgiving!



We will be going to Madison Georgia on November 10.

Madison is one of Georgia's largest designated historic sites. We will visit 2-3 historic homes and the cultural center, and we will lunch in Madison. Reserve a spot by Nov. 3rd. Cost is \$25.00 for the tickets & gas. Lunch is on your own. The bus will leave at 8:30 and be back around 4:00. Give your money to Pam Kocher or Debbie Atcheson. If you have questions you can call Debbie at 770-965-3729 or email her djatcheson@gmail.com.