

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of August 15, 2016

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2016)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration.....	\$600,000.00
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal.....	\$329,928.11
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal.....	\$14,214.31
Amount given on 08-14-2016.....	\$10,535.43

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund.....	\$2,622,833.74
Amount given on 08-14-2016.....	\$2,395.00

1. The amount needed by the last Sunday in 2016 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
Rev. Jim Buckman	Senior Pastor
Sandra Casper	Financial Secretary
Suzanne Clegg	Director of Adult Ministry
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

September Missions



Sack Kids Hunger
Sack Kids Hunger needs Capri Sun juice bags this month! Drop donations in the black crate in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. We give out around 120 of these juice bags every Saturday. Also- help is needed from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. every Saturday! See Suzanne Clegg for more information.

The United Methodist Children's Home

UMCH serves “the least of these.” It helps families who don’t have access to other help. The people they serve — abused children, troubled teens and struggling families — are often overlooked until they come to the Children’s Home. Your support will benefit families who have nowhere else to turn. The Work Day offering is a request for individuals to give what they earn in one work day.

On September 25th, please give!

Cleaning Supplies for Foster Families

Our Connection Group is helping families who are providing foster care to children in our community. We will collect all sorts of cleaning supplies in August and September and present them at Charge Conference September 29th. Drop donations off in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall.



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 September 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016

Vol. 28 / No. 9



District Charge Conference

September 29th

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

This year Buford First UMC will host the District Charge Conference for Connectional Group #7. The following United Methodist Churches will join us in worship and sharing ministry celebrations: Allen Temple, Candler, Cumming First, Flowery Branch, New Prospect, Oakwood, Redwine, Sugar Hill, and The Springs.

Everyone is welcome to come out and help us show radical hospitality to our District Superintendent, Rev. Richard Chewing and our sister churches as we celebrate mission and ministry.

Following or time of worship and celebration, we will enjoy a time of fellowship and light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Great Day of Service Saturday, Oct. 1st 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



This is a day for serving in the Buford community and beyond. Children, youth and adults are encouraged to participate.

Projects include: sanctuary clean up, Bake and Take, Hall County Humane Society, Buford Aid Project, Sack Kids Hunger, Tree of Life Garden, and more!
Plan to arrive at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast. Bring: water, lunch, and any equipment needed.

Registers by September 18th.

Registration Forms are in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

We are asking every volunteer to bring canned goods for the Gina Carswell Memorial Food Drive which benefits the North Gwinnett Co-Op. Also bring gently used coats and blankets for the coat drive!

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

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A Word From The Pastor

“Routines”

**Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
Psalm 119:105 New International Version**

School is back in. For many of us that means getting back in to a routine of getting up, going to bed, homework, sports, church, and all the other activities we have going on. Routines can help keep us sane in the craziness of life. That is not the easiest thing for me to do. I am not naturally bent toward routines. I don't know if it is because I am just not wired that way or my life profession as a minister tends to make it difficult to establish routines. Yet there are some areas in my life where routine has been very beneficial. One of those areas is in my devotional life. I remember reading from Wayne Cordeiro from New Hope Christian Fellowship in Hawaii. He shared how he would journal as part of his daily time with God using the SOAP method. This method has helped me over the years to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to me, and maybe it can do the same for you regardless whether you are a routine person or not.

Scripture

Open your Bible to the reading found under today's date of your Bible reading plan. I am currently using the Daily Companion Bible but there are other great plans and apps you can use. You Verson (ww.bible.com) is a great app that I also use. Take time reading and allow God to speak to you. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you that day, and write it in your journal.

Observation

What is happening in the Bible verse context? What does it say about God, about people, and about my relationship with God? What do you think God is saying to you in this scripture? Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you. Paraphrase and write this Scripture down in your own words in your journal.

Application

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Where does it touch my life and what do I need to do? Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, revelation of a new promise, or corrections for a particular area of your life. Write how this Scripture can apply to you today.

Prayer

This can be as simple as asking God to help you use this Scripture, or it may be a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out.

In His Grace, Pastor Jim



Thank you for your donations given to the Glory of God and in memory and in honor of friends and loved ones.

*A donation has been given in memory of Jeff Willis by: Dorothy C. Willis.

*A donation has been given in memory of Tom Butner by: Sue Butner.

*A donation has been given in honor of Lynne Bryan by: Mary Alice Beard.

*A donation has been given in honor of Mike and Sandra Casper by: Gary and Christy Lenz.

*A donation has been given in honor of the Beacon Class by: Rick and Marsha Huckaby.

To Our Church Family:

*We want to thank you for all the prayers, love and cards that you gave to us during Ray's battle with gastric lymphoma! The chemo treatments are done and the doctors said "you are cancer free"! Praise the Lord! We truly don't know how we would have gotten thru this journey without our wonderful church family! Thank you! We love you so much!
Ray Page and Family*

Effie Wood Circle

The Circle will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, September 6th, at 7:00 pm in the Beacon Sunday School Classroom.

All women are invited to come join us.



Are you Young at Heart?

(50 years and up)

Come to Dick and Debbie Atcheson's home for good food, good company, and a look at the coming year of fun events for our group. All you need to bring is your favorite dish to share. Join us on Tuesday, September 20th, at the Atcheson's-3126 Perimeter Circle, Buford, starting at 6:30 p.m. To ride in the church van, meet Suzanne at the church at 6:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, let Debbie know at djatcheson@gmail.com.

UMW Ladies Book Club

Meets at Sue Jones' home Tuesday, September 13th, at 7 PM for dessert and discussion of *In Defense of Food* by Michael Pollan. You don't have to be a member of the UMW and friends are also welcome. Please contact Sue with any questions at 770-932-2202.

Community Supper



Community supper is Wednesday, September 28th! This is a free meal provided by the Carol Scott & Florence Gardner Circles. Everyone is welcome! Plan to join us at 6:00 PM for some good food and warm fellowship!

Music Ministry

Wouldn't you like to know why people participate in your church choirs?

"Music quiets my soul."

"The Choir provides a small group to become close to in a large church."

"There are times when the words and music we sing, touch my soul."

"Singing in the shower just isn't enough."

"The people in the choir are just fun to be around."

"I sing because I'm happy."

"Music is an important part of my life and has helped guide me through both happy and sad times."

For more information on how you can become a part of the Music Ministry of our church, please contact Mark Ridings at music@bufordfirstumc.org or ask any choir member.

Youth Ministry

The Talent Show for You to Show Off!
Sign up Today at: wakeministries.com

The Children's Ministry is still looking for that special someone to work with our precious 3 and 4 year olds each Sunday morning. Please contact Susan Rosenthal at children.director@bufordfirstumc.org for more information!

Well, the summer is coming to an end and the kids are heading back to school! With the calendars filling up fast, we are hard at work in planning fall and winter activities for our kids. Each day I look at the CLC (Christian Life Center) and see that we are that much closer to having a new larger space to share God's love with so many people; my heart just fills with joy! In this wonderful time of growth and change, I do ask that you be patient and understanding in that we will be making some temporary adjustments to our usual fall and winter Children's activity calendar. We are thinking outside the box for innovative ways we can provide fun and exciting things for the kids! Keep an eye out for more info on that!

Our Children's G.L.O.W. Program will begin on September 11th. We are looking for additional volunteers to help with this so please contact Mark or Susan if you would like to be a part of the fun!

Blessings, Susan

Children & Family Ministry

Welcome Back!

September Preschool Happenings:

6th: First Day of School

15th: Wear Red to School

18th: Teachers Commissioned at 11 AM Service

22nd: Fire Drill

26th: Fundraiser Starts

27th: Grandparents Day Breakfast

28th + 29th: Early Release at Noon

Let's Learn and Grow Together!

Join Pastor Jim Buckman for an event with author and consultant, Leonard Sweet, Sat. September 17th at Cumming First UMC. Mr. Sweet will be discussing his latest book, "Jesus Speaks", in which he helps Christians who are hungry to hear God's voice, listen for the voice of Jesus. The book explores the various ways in which Christ speaks today and how His sheep can grow in their ability to recognize and respond to His voice daily. Mr. Sweet is known for his insights into culture and how the church must change to meet spiritual need. Sign up with Suzanne Clegg to ride the church van (adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org). This event is free, and is from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon. To ride in the van, please meet at BFUMC at 8:00 a.m.

Inquire 101

Are you new to Buford First? Are you interested in learning more about the church and how to get involved? Do you have questions about the United Methodist Denomination? Please join us for Inquire 101! Pastor Jim Buckman will lead this 90 minute session in the Beacon Room on Sunday September 11th. We'll begin at 4:00 p.m. and conclude at 5:30 p.m. We would love to have you join us! Please let us know if you plan to attend. Call the church office at 770-945-7438, or email Suzanne Clegg at adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org Child care is available by appointment!

Women' Retreat to Twin River

September 23rd-25th

Put it on your calendar now and turn in a \$55.00 deposit to save your spot. This is a great time of building friendships and faith. We will have two sessions led by Rev. Kathy Lamon, who is a former BFUMC member and now on staff at Gainesville First UMC. Those of us who know Kathy are so excited that she can be with us! The theme for the weekend is "Laughter really is the best Medicine." Registration forms are in the Narthex and on our website. The cost will vary depending on your preferences. See the registration form for more information.