

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of April 10, 2017

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2017)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration.....	\$762,815.90
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal.....	\$164,525.28
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal.....	\$15,744.49
Amount given on 04-09-2017	\$14,548.80

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund.....	\$138,751.60
Amount given on 04-09-2017	\$2,042.00

1. The amount needed by the last Sunday in 2017 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
Jim Buckman	Senior Pastor
Sandra Casper	Financial Secretary
Suzanne Clegg	Director of Adult Ministry
Tyler Garden	Worship Leader & Media Communications Director
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

May Missions

The Foundation of Wesley Woods: On May 14th we will take the North GA Conference Mother's Day Offering. This offering will help the 1,600 residents of Wesley Woods Homes. It provides for approximately 25 percent of the charitable and unreimbursed care at Wesley Woods communities each year. Over the years, Wesley Woods has cared for hundreds of retired Methodist clergy members, many with meager savings and modest pensions who have benefited greatly from charitable assistance. Wesley Woods welcomes residents of all income levels, races, gender, and faiths.

Sack Kids Hunger: We need applesauce! The packs of individual serving cups are what we like to have to put into the lunch bags. Drop donations in the black crate in the narthex. Please help by donating!

Volleyball Tournament for Missions: We'll use the new GYM and play Sunday, May 7th, at 4:00 p.m. Play on a team and help the Bahamas Mission Team! Youth and Adult Teams are welcome. Players register NOW for a \$10.00 fee. Every Team member will receive a free t-shirt, so form a team and let's play! See Suzanne Clegg or David Crossett to register. Information is in the Rm. 109, (youth lounge) and the Narthex.



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, 2017 – May 31, 2017

Vol. 29 / No. 5



The United Methodist Women's Annual Spring Brunch will be held in our beautiful new Fellowship Hall (Rm. 108) in the Christian Life Center on Saturday, May 6th, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. **All women and girls, ages 11 and up**, are invited to attend this potluck meal together. You do not need to be a member of the United Methodist Women, or even a member of Buford First UMC, to come and fellowship with us. Tables will be decorated by ladies of the circles, and these are always lovely, whimsical, fun, and unique. We'll have a delicious meal and enjoy a wonderful program together, so please put this date on your calendar.

For more information, please contact Niki Redstrom at nikiredstrom@yahoo.com. Circle members, please RSVP to your circle leader by Sunday, April 30th.

Confirmation

One step in a *lifelong* adventure of *faith*.

Confirmation Class 2017

We have been meeting together to study and discuss church membership and the Christian Faith. Teachers have been: Suzanne Clegg, Pastor Jim, Heather White, 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 21st during the 11:00 a.m. service.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Emily Hassell | Emma Sawyer |
| Trey Hassell | Molly Rollins |
| Laken Mitchell | Audrey Zachman |
| Keren Ray | |

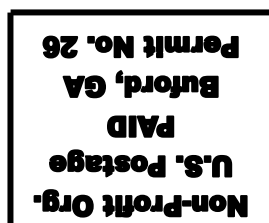


The following students are graduating from High School this spring and are a cherished part of our church family! Help us in honoring them at our 11:00am service on April 30th and at a banquet following in the Fellowship Hall!

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Abby Close | Sarah Farr |
| Rachel Dobbs | Ethan Norton |
| | Lexi Smith |

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

All My Moms

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." Philippians 2: 1-4

May is upon us and that means flowers are blooming, weather is getting warmer, and summer is almost here. May also means that we get to celebrate Mother's Day. Somewhere over the years, I came across this poem written in the early 1900's, probably around the same time that Mother's Day was first being recognized:

M is for the Many things she gave me,
O means only that she's growing Old.
T is for the Tears she shed to save me,
H is for her Heart of purest gold.
E is for her Eyes with love light shining,
R means Right and Right she'll always be.
 Put them all together, they spell MOTHER.
 A word that means the world to me.

For myself, and some of you can relate, when I think of Mother's Day, I am thankful for several "mothers" I have known. There was my grandmother who raised me as a child, for Mamie who was there to give her some time without me, and for my stepmom who had me during my teenage years (bless her soul). But there were others. One was my second grade teacher, who I thought was the meanest teacher there ever was. That is until the one day that my grandmother had to work late and did not pick us up after school. My sister and I were the only children left and my teacher noticed us on the playground. Unheard of today, she took us to her house to wait for my grandmother to come get us. And while we were waiting, she even gave us some cookies. Maybe this meanest teacher in the world was not so mean after all. In reality, she only wanted what was the best for me, just like the other women in my life. Though I did not realize it at the time, many of the significant women that influenced my life had something in common; they had my best interests in mind. Looking back I can see the compassion they had for me, even if I did not see it at the time.

Let me invite you to join us for worship on May 14th as we celebrate our mothers, whether it is just one or whether you have had several moms. Looking forward to seeing you in church.

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 family.

*A donation has been given in memory of Alan Smiley by Brenda Billiter, Donnie and Linda McQuaig, Jim and Meredith Holt, Al and Pam Kocher, Terry Ellis, Robert and Virginia Crall, Robert and Donnis Bowman, B.L. Mullinax Landscaping & Nursery, Amy Cates, Dennis and Jane Young, Museum of Buford, Pat Stanley, Don, Charlotte, and Julie Trawick, and Mary Alice Beard and Cindy LaTouf.

*A donation has been given in memory of Patsy Walker by Pat Stanley and Mary Alice Beard and Cindy LaTouf.

*A donation has been given in memory of Ed Rindfusz by Al and Pam Kocher, Donnie and Linda McQuaig, Bobby and Estelle Dobbs, the Beacon Sunday School Class, and Mary Alice Beard and Cindy LaTouf.

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

*A donation has been given in memory of Lois Natoli by Pat Stanley.

*A donation has been given in honor of Tracey Yancey and Linda McQuaig by Ladies Strength Training.

*A donation has been given in honor of Mike and Sandra Casper by Rick and Marsha Huckaby and Al and Pam Kocher.

To the BFUMC Congregation

There truly is no way to fully express our thanks and appreciation for your support throughout the project of building the Christian Life Center. We would not have this beautiful building without you. Your steadfast support, financial as well as emotional, bolstered us when times were rocky, and cheered us when things went well. Your generosity, which continued with the shower for the CLC, has been overwhelming. We never thought we would have these many furnishings, plus a dishwasher and the activity center bleachers, this quickly. Thank you for helping make this dream of long ago come true. We thank God for you!

Very gratefully, Your Building Committee



On May 29th the YAH will attend our last event of the season. Honor our military on Memorial Day with patriotic music which inspires us to be true Americans. The van will load at 4:30 PM and return around 9:00 PM. Cost of gas is \$2 and there is a love offering for the band. We will go to Schlotzsky's Deli for dinner at our own cost before the concert. Reserve by May 22nd to Debbie Atcheson at djatcheson@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Rise Worship Ministry
 Isaiah 60:1

Youth Ministry

Children & Family Ministry

G. L. O. W.

God Lights Our World

SPRING PROGRAM

with 3 children's choirs, handchimes and skits of modern parables

Sunday, May 21, 2017

5:30 pm in the sanctuary



We are thrilled to have our Rise service up and running! Thanks again to everyone who helped or participated in our service! We can't wait to see how God is going to move and grow the service!

Our service verse is Isaiah 60:1 – Rise up and shine; for your light has come. The shining-greatness of the Lord has risen upon you.

This month we are excited for our Mother's Day project! In order to complete it we will need permission forms signed by parents so the kids can leave a special message for their mother or grandmother on video. There will be permission/video content forms submitted and no child's full name will be used.

JUNE JAMBOREE

June 4th @ 5:15pm
 Welcome RJsing 6th Graders!

Food, Games, Prizes,
 And Plenty of Water!



What: 2017 Vacation Bible School
 When: Monday-Friday, June 5th-9th, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
 Where: Buford First UMC – Christian Life Center
 Registration: April 1st – May 15th
 Forms available at bufordfirstumc.org or at the church
 For more information, please contact Susan Rosenthal
Children.Director@BufordFirstUMC.org.

May Preschool Happenings:
 3rd: Ice Cream Social 12:30pm
 10th: Ballet Recital 1:00pm
 11th: Muffins With Mom 9:00am
 Stay And Play Day
 16th: Pre-K Graduation 10:30am
 17th: Last Day Of School
 Have A Fun Summer!

Effie Wood Circle
 The next meeting will on Tuesday, May 2nd, at 7:00 PM in the CLC Fellowship Hall. DeAnne Wilmoth, an Inspirational Speaker, will be speaking to us on the "Ties that Bind" about the power of community to inspire, uplift, and heal.

United Methodist Men
 Please join the Buford First UMM at 7:30 AM on Sunday, May 21st, for a fellowship breakfast at Golden Corral.

Are you looking for a good book to read? Come check one out at the **BFUMC Ladies' Book Club!**

The book club is open to all ladies in our community. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at church at 7:00 pm. Coffee and dessert are provided by volunteers for your enjoyment. Come and join us for a time of fellowship and fun!

Up Coming Schedule: April 18th: *Worry Less So You Can Live More* by Jane Rubietta. May 18th: *When Joy Comes To Stay* by Karen Kingsbury (first 200 pages). June 20th: *When Joy Comes To Stay* by Karen Kingsbury (page 201 to the end), and July 18th: *It's Your Move: Life Lessons from the Game of Checkers* by Jim Ellison. We look forward to having the author visit us for this exciting book study.

Churchwide YARD SALE for MISSIONS
 At the Tree of Life Garden
 156 Hill St., Buford, on June 9th and 10th

Donations will be accepted on Wednesdays May 10th, 17th, and 24th from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Drop your donations off at the garden. A Bahama Team member will be there to help.

Shop for the BEST stuff on Friday, June 9th from 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. You can also shop on Saturday from 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

What a great way to help those on New Providence Island in the Bahamas. Donate and/or shop the sale!