

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of May 8, 2017

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2017)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration.....	\$762,815.90
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal.....	\$214,079.67
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal.....	\$16,139.30
Amount given on 05-07-2017	\$19,122.13

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund.....	\$634,509.77
Amount given on 05-07-2017	\$11,256.00

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
 Sylvia Beard
 Jim Buckman
 Sandra Casper
 Suzanne Clegg
 Tyler Garden
 Cindy LaTouf
 Leandre Majerus
 Hank Morgan
 Mark Ridings
 Susan Rosenthal
 Bradley Trammell
 Micah Wright

Custodian
Pianist
Senior Pastor
Financial Secretary
Director of Adult Ministry
Worship Leader & Media Communications Director
Office Manager
Director of Preschool Ministry
Organist
Director of Music and the Arts
Director of Children & Family Ministry
Accompanist for Children and Youth
Director of Youth Ministry

June Missions



Blood Drive 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on June 11th. Please be in prayer about taking the time to donate **blood**. Summer is here and that means vacation travel, lake activities, and the need for more blood donations. Plan to give the gift of life on June 11th!



Sack Kids Hunger needs **grape jam** in June! We make 120 sandwiches EVERY Saturday and use a LOT of peanut butter and jam! Drop donations in the collection bins in the Fellowship Hall and CLC! Please help by donating!



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 June 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017

Vol. 29 / No. 6

Yard Sale for Missions



**Friday and Saturday,
 June 9th and 10th
 8 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

At Church member, Pat Pirkle's home
 156 South Hill St.
 (Across Moreno Street and on the left)

Donations are welcome, and can be dropped off Thursday, June 8th between 4:00-7:00 p.m. Or bring donations the morning of the sale!

Come get some great stuff for a bargain price!

Proceeds will help the Bahamas Mission Team

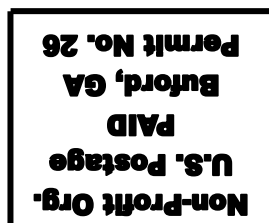
See Celina Countess for more information.



The bluegrass band "Church Street Station" will be our guests on June 25th during the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

Return Service Requested

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



A Word From The Pastor



“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.”

Isaiah 60:1

“You want to do what?” If I was to be honest, that was my first thought when Tyler proposed what he wanted to do for an altar table. He had met a local craftsman in Buford and had the idea of making an altar table out of old pallets and an old door. The pallets would be used to make the base, with burlap behind the pallets. With this design, lights could also be used behind the burlap to add an extra dimension. The base would be made so that the door would fit on top.

“Tyler, I don’t know about this idea.” was my response. In fact, I was not sold until he took me to meet the craftsman. I met Mike and Candice Jenness, the owners of Looney Bin Trading Company, and they took me on a tour of their shop and I saw the items they made with reclaimed wood. Some of the wood was from trees that had fallen around Buford, and some of the wood was from old pallets that he took apart. Basically, Mike used old wood that was tossed away and is able to recreate it in beautiful handcrafted items like hope chests, mantles, and even an altar table and cross for us.

What Mike is able to do with throw away wood, Jesus is able to do with “throw away” lives; lives that we sometimes think are no good anymore, or have already seen their better days. Even when it seems nothing can be good anymore, that is when God is at his best. Isaiah goes on to say in Isaiah 60: 2-3, “See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.” The Apostle Paul says it this way, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!” Christ has taken old, used up, sin-filled lives, and is able to create masterpieces out of them. In fact, that is what He has done in many of our lives and we gather every Sunday to worship our master craftsman. But I am also aware that there are many people around us that wonder if anything could possibly be done with their lives. They have given up hope that God can still use their lives for anything at all, much less create a masterpiece out of it. Each day I ask that God will use me in some way to help others see what Christ has done in my life and what He is able to do in their lives. Let me invite you to join me in that prayer. Let me encourage you to live your life as the masterpiece Christ has recreated you to be.

If you are ever wanting a new handcrafted mantle, bookcase, or hope chest, I know a great craftsman, right here in Buford, who can help you out. And if you need someone to take a worn out, throw away life and make a masterpiece of it, I know The Craftsman who desires to make something beautiful of that life. We can be the masterpiece God desires us to be.

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 Wendell and Darohty Peevy, Wayne and Shirley McWard, Mitch and Jeri Peevy, and Sandy Konicki.

*A donation has been given in memory of Patsy Kay Walker by Jonathan Holmes and Jason Lavender.

*A donation has been given in honor of Dorothy C. Willis by Wendell and Darohty Peevy.

*A donation has been given in honor of Kenny Karr by Sandy Konicki.

*A donation has been given in honor of Mike Casper and Harry Wilkins by Donnie and Linda McQuaig.

BFUMC is a  Community Rewards participating organization!

We receive a % of what our members spend at Kroger each quarter and funds are used for our mission project, SKH. As you shop, BFUMC receives rewards. You can help by registering online with Kroger as a BFUMC member at krogercommunityrewards.com.



Book Club News

Ladies of BFUMC come and join us for some fun, fellowship and a good book. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the new Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Christi Lenz at christi.lenz1@gmail.com. The book for June 20th is *When Joy Came To Stay* by Karen Kingsbury (page 200 to the end). July 16th we will discuss *Broken and Blessed God Changes the World One Person and One Family at a Time* by Jessica LaGrone.

The Buford First UMC Tree of Life Garden



The garden needs volunteers to help! The Garden is located in church member’s Pat Pirkle’s yard---practically across the street from the church at 156 South Hill Street. We have over 800 plants growing in the garden!

Can you spare an hour one weekend - or maybe one evening during the week? We work in the garden on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:00–11:00 a.m. Stop by and help us weed! Produce will be given away to those in need through Sack Kids Hunger and North Gwinnett Co-Op.

Connection Group Project - Tuesday, June 6th

The ten churches in our Connection Group will meet at 7:00 p.m. at Oakwood UMC to put together 300 lunches for the Smart Lunch Smart Kid Ministry. Can you help? We need individual cups of applesauce (300), 300 lunch bags, 300 plastic spoons, and 300 sandwich sized baggies. Drop donations in the bins at church. Please donate by June 4th. Thanks for helping us feed children in our area!

Music Ministry

JOIN THE CAMP MEETING CHOIR

Sundays, July 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
Singing songs from the
COKESBURY HYMNAL

*The Church in the Wildwood · Unclouded Day
Love Lifted Me · His Eye Is On the Sparrow*

Rehearsals on Sundays
at 10:30 a.m. in the choir room.

No robes ~ No Weeknight Rehearsals
No Commitment ~ Families Welcome!

The RISE service would like to honor the dads we have in our church with a Father's Day video. The video will feature kids from our church talking about their dads and will be presented during the RISE service on June 18th, Father's Day.



Also, we are still in need of volunteers in all areas, especially musicians. If you are interested in playing or singing in the band, contact Tyler Garden at tgarden@bufordfirstumc.org.

Rise Worship Ministry
Isaiah 60:1

2017 Youth Summer Excitement



BAP
Buford Aid Project



Youth Ministry

Children & Family Ministry

June Happenings....

3rd Grade Bible Presentation and Promotion Sunday, June 4th



VBS – June 5th-9th
Discover your
Strength in GOD!



Summer Fun Days!
Coming Soon!

The BFUMC Women’s Retreat November 3rd-5th, 2017

Last year we had over 30 women participate in our weekend retreat, “Laughter Really is the Best Medicine!” We will begin planning for the 2017 retreat in June, and all women are invited to come and help us plan. We will meet Monday June 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Vinny’s Restaurant on Lanier Island Parkway. We love to have new ideas and suggestions, so please attend. See Suzanne Clegg for more information.



Fall Bible Study Sign Up now for fall 2017

We are planning now for small group Bible Studies to start this fall. Would you like to be part of a study? Email Suzanne Clegg if you are interested in participating at adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org

I RIDE FOR OLIVIA!

The Jackson Brevet is a charity bike ride to raise funds for research and awareness for Aplastic Anemia, in memory of Olivia Ouimet. The ride is June 17th. The website is: www.jacksonbrevet.com. It’s a Fun Day and all are welcome to ride. We need volunteers that day to help. If you are able please sign up at <http://www.jacksonbrevet.com/staff-volunteers/>. You will receive a volunteer shirt and lunch! One of our greatest needs is on June 16th for event setup, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (breakfast/lunch provided) and take down/clean up on June 17th, 2:00-5:00p.m. These time slots require some physical effort.

Guess what day it is!



The Church Offices are Moving!

The Church Office is scheduled to move on Wednesday, May 24th & Thursday, May 25th. This means that there will be no phone or internet service on these two days. If all goes as planned, phones and internet will be back up by the end of the day on Thursday, May 25th. The staff will be working to get their new office space set up so please be patient during this process.

When Sending Mail to the Church

All first class and standard mail should continue to be mailed to the church’s Post Office Box.

Buford First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 329
Buford, GA 30515-0329