

FINANCIAL REPORT – As of October 9, 2017

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2017)

Needed For Mission, Ministry, & Administration.....	\$762,815.90
Received for Mission, Ministry, & Administration toward Yearly Goal.....	\$468,561.09
Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal.....	\$24,521.23
Amount given on 10-08-2017	\$13,894.26

Building Fund

Balance in Building fund.....	\$620,453.53
Amount given on 10-08-2017	\$1,728.00

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
Gary Lenz	Interim Director of Music and the Arts
Leandre Majerus	Director of Preschool Ministry
Hank Morgan	Organist
Susan Rosenthal	Director of Children & Family Ministry
Donna Thomas	Interim Youth Administrator
Bradley Trammell	Accompanist for Children and Youth

November Missions

Blood Drive 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on November 19th. Please be in prayer about taking the time to donate **blood**. It's a great way to support those in need. Plan to give the gift of life on November 19th!

Sack Kids Hunger Donations of peanut butter cracker packs are needed this month. Drop these in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall. We also need volunteers EVERY Saturday to help make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, pack sacks, and hand out lunches. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com and click on "Find A Sign Up". Then use Suzanne Best's email address to find the SKH Sign Up jsabest@yahoo.com



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 October 1, 2017 – October 31, 2017

Vol. 29 / No. 11



Stewardship, what does that mean to you? The word means different things to different people. But for followers of Jesus Christ, it is using what God has blessed us with to glorify Him. We have been learning ways to honor God with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and our witness. On November 12th, we will get to celebrate with our commitment Sunday as we say to God what we are able to do to show our gratitude to Him. During the first week of November you will receive a commitment card for the coming year. Prayerfully consider what you are able to give of yourself for the coming year. And, if this is all new to you, remember you simply have to start somewhere. Join us on Nov. 12th as we celebrate what God has done and is doing, and what our response will be. It will be a great day.

Give a Gift that Makes a Difference!

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 1st. When you purchase a gift you will receive a special card to present to your relative or friend, describing the gift you have given in their honor!

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 18th - November 25th
December 2nd - December 9th

Come to the lobby of the CLC and place your order after the 8:30 a.m. service and again before and after the 9:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. There is a Child's Form for gifts as well.

Your Missions Committee

Buford First UMC to host the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service Tuesday, November 21st at 7:00 p.m.

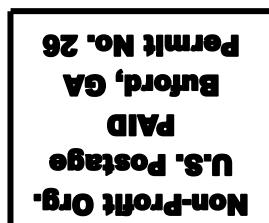
This year Buford First UMC will host the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service. We hope you and your family will plan to invite your friends and neighbors to join us for an evening of thanksgiving, worship, and praise for all that God provides.

This service will be planned and prayed over by the Buford Ministerial Association. Rev. Jim Buckman will give the message and the choir will be comprised of voices from our church and other churches in the community.

Join us as we give thanks to God for our many blessings!

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

If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done? Proverbs 24:12

Expecting a five-year-old to drive a car would be ridiculous. So would expecting a seven-year-old to cook a gourmet meal. See, those are skills that have to be taught. We don't come out of the womb knowing everything we need to know.

As we mature, however, we start seeing things in a new way. We overcome challenges, we gain new insight, and we grow. We are in the middle of a great opportunity to grow in a variety of ways. We are being shown new ways of looking at ourselves, at the world around us, and at God. On November 12th we will have the opportunity to demonstrate exactly what it is we've learned. So what will your response be?

It's hope you will prayerfully consider how to fill out your commitment card and you will be ready to turn them in. And if you have not received it by Nov. 12th or you forget to bring them that day, don't worry; we have extras available for you to pick up today.

As you prepare to turn these commitments in, however, think back over the previous weeks. Consider your thirst. Think about your previous levels of commitment, and the new places you're stepping into today. Think about the ways that our God has blessed us tremendously and ways we can show our thankfulness. And let the celebrations begin. Let's make Nov 12th a day of celebration as we commit to our God what we can do to show how thankful we are for all that He's blessed us with. It's a new day, after all, a new adventure, and a new life that's been transformed.

In His Grace
Pastor Jim



Remembering and Honoring
 *A donation has been given in memory of Virginia Keller by Doug & Mary Hellen Williams and Jim Pugh.
 *A donation has been given in memory of Dorothy Willis by Larry & Barbara Feind and Linda & Ken Martin.
 *A donation has been given in honor Al & Pam Kocher, Sandra Casper, and James Adair by Donnie & Linda McQuaig.
 *A donation has been given in honor Al & Pam Kocher, Sandra Casper, James Adair, Kenny & Cindy Karr, and Rick Huckaby by Donnie & Linda McQuaig.
 *A donation has been given in honor Al Kocher and Donnie & Linda McQuaig by Rick & Marsha Huckaby.
 *A donation has been given in honor Al & Pam Kocher, Donnie & Linda McQuaig, Cindy & Kenny Karr, and Rick Huckaby by Mike & Sandra Casper.
 *A donation has been given in honor Gary Colbert, Lynne & Mac Farr, Carol & Paul Gibson, and Wayne Ray by Sue Butner.
 *A donation has been given in honor Donnie McQuaig by Al & Pam Kocher.

Dear Friends,
 Thank you for the love and concern you have shown us since my fall in June. Your prayers, visits, delicious meals, phone calls and cards sent from children in our Sunday School class have been very much appreciated. We are especially grateful and blessed to be a part of this wonderful church family.
 Please continue to keep us in your prayers. May God bless you as you have been a blessing to us. *Love, Beth and Frank Langston*

Advent Bible Study
 led by Rev. Jim Buckman
 4 Wednesdays - beginning November 29th
 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Rm. 312.
 Join us as we prepare for the birth of the Christ child with a 4 week study during Advent. *Joseph*, by Adam Hamilton looks at how Joseph provides an example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. Join Adam Hamilton as he examines Christmas through the eyes of Joseph and learn to accept God's will even when our situation makes it difficult to do so. A sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall, and Narthex.
 You may also email Suzanne Clegg at adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org to register.
 The student book is \$15.00. This is due at the first class.

Connection Group Project
 Everyone is welcome to help with the Gateway House project, a women's shelter, in Gainesville. The 10 churches in our group are all collecting items to be organized into 100 toiletry kits and 50 bedding kits. Our assignment is to collect the following:
65 12 oz Shampoos / 65 12 oz Conditioners and 20 plastic shoe boxes with lids
 Please drop off donations in the boxes located in the Narthex and CLC Lobby. We have until November 5th to collect these items. We will pack the kits together on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall (Rm. 108). The Effie Wood Circle will be there to help and we hope you will too. **Effie Wood Circle will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 7th, in the Fellowship Hall (Rm. 108) at 7:00 to help pack care bags for Gateway House.** This will be followed by a short meeting in the Youth Lounge (Rm. 109).

Ladies Book Club
 All ladies are invited to join the UMW Book Club. Check out our new web page and book blog at <http://bfumc-umwbookblog.weebly.com/>. On October 17th we will be discussing "So Long Insecurity" by Beth Moore.
 On November 28th we will be discussing "Not Safe for Church Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations" by F. Douglas Powe. Please join us on Oct. 17th and Nov. 28th at 7:00 PM for our book discussions, snacks, and fellowship.


Music Ministry

Rise Worship Ministry
Isaiah 60:1


Youth Ministry

Children & Family Ministry

Do you like to laugh? Do you like to sing? Are you curious as to what the choir members do behind closed doors on Wednesday nights?




If so, come join the fun and find out. WE NEED MORE SINGERS! We have just begun rehearsing our music for the December 17th Lessons & Carols service. PLEASE plan to come join the fun and "therapy session" every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room (Rm. 23)!




The Rise service will have at least two videos in the month of November. On the 5th, we will have our first ever testimonial video of a couple of our church members on putting your faith into action and serving others. Then, on the 19th, mark your calendars because you won't want to miss our kids being featured in a Thanksgiving video!


Also, since this is the season of Thanksgiving, we want to say how thankful we are for all of our volunteers and attendees! We also would love to add more people to our volunteer teams! If you would like to volunteer or find out more, email Tyler Garden at tgarden@bufordfirstumc.com.




5th graders are invited to Wednesday Night Bible study on December 6th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.




Skip Trip is scheduled for January 5th-7th, 2018 Sign up sheet is in the Youth room – cost will be around \$150




Progressive dinner plans are being made. Parents let me know if you would like to host; we need homes to serve appetizers, main course, and dessert. We will be taking RSVP for youth this year. Details to come!
StudentMinistry@BufordFirstUMC.org



During the month of November, the children will be focusing on ways that we can give thanks and to help and serve others in our community. Our goal is to spread God's love through sharing, caring, fun, and fellowship.

God Loves You! 

November Preschool Happenings
 2nd: Wear Fall Shirt
 7th: Kids Speech Screening
 8th: Stay and Play for 3 & 4 year olds
 15th & 16th: Thanksgiving Feast @ 11:30 AM
 20th-24th: No School
 27th: Fire Drill
 28th: December Staff Mtg.
 HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM THE LADIES AT BFUMC PRESCHOOL



Sponsor a Thanksgiving Turkey through the Sack Kids Hunger Mission! For \$25.00, you can give a turkey to a family in need of food. Please make checks to the church and mark them clearly: Turkey Sponsor. Deadline to sponsor is Sunday, November 12th.

YOUNG AT HEART
 Jimmy Carter Library and Museum
 Tuesday, November 14th
Reservation Deadline is Tuesday, November 7th.
 The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum is one of 13 presidential libraries run by the National Archival Administration and the only one in the Southeastern USA. The library contains over 30 million pages of documents that can be used in research by students and scholars. The museum shows his life from his childhood through his presidential years and continues to show his humanitarian interests after his presidency. Cost is \$ 6.00 for the museum ticket + \$2.50 for van gas and lunch will be on your own at one of the YAH favorites Mary Mac's Tea Room. Load the van 9:00 A.M. return around 3:00 P.M.
There are two events in December. They are both evening events and they both have a November 14th reservation deadline!
Northwind's Symphonic Band Holiday Concert
 Monday, December 4th (Evening Event)
Reservation Deadline is Tuesday, November 14th
 Holiday music that will surely get you in the mood for Christmas. The concert is held at the Gainesville First Baptist Church at 7:30 P.M. Cost \$2.00 for the van gas - there is a love offering for the band. Dinner will be on your own at Cheddars Restaurant. Load the van at 5:00 P.M. and return around 10:00 P.M.
Living Christmas Tree Concert
 Friday, December 8th (Evening Event)
Reservation Deadline is Tuesday, November 14th
 If you have never seen a Living Christmas Tree performance, this is the one to see. Enjoy the music of Christmas and the Christ Child story. The performance is held at the First Baptist Church in Gainesville. Cost is \$2.00 for van gas and dinner will be on your own at Scholtzsky's Deli. We will leave the church at 5:00 PM and return around 10:00 PM. **Even if you do not want to attend dinner, a reservation is still required to procure tickets.**