

The Ambassador

August 2018

Our Mission Statement

To be disciples
Of Jesus Christ
So all may know,
To educate,
To grow and
Empower to serve.



Worship Opportunities

9:45- Coffee & Conversation
10:00 –Sunday School
11:00- Worship
5:00- Youth

From the Pastor's Desk

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSINGS

I wouldn't often admit it, but I always loved going back to school. Not that I didn't enjoy my summers: sleeping in, staying up late, reading books for fun, going swimming, biking and hiking – and the two week family vacation. Still, when we turned calendar from July to August, I started getting excited about going back to school. Each year felt like a new beginning, full of hopeful possibilities to learn and grow with others.

As our children, youth and young adults, along with teachers and staff, venture back to school in the weeks ahead, I share these prayers of blessing that I found on Ministry Matters. I invite you to pray them with me on behalf of all those who are going back to school:

Blessing for Students:

Lord, bless these students as they begin another school year. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever present with them in the classroom, on campus, on the school bus, and at home. May they feel your gracious presence and loving care in all they do. Amen.

Blessing for Teachers and Staff:

Lord, bless those in the ministry of teaching and nurturing future generations. As they embark on a new school year, grant them energy, passion, endurance and discipline for their daily tasks. Infuse their school with an atmosphere of care and mutual respect, that all interactions may be immersed in patience, understanding and growing. Help them grow student in both knowledge and character, and help us to support their work in building our community and our future together. Amen.

Let us support our students, teachers and staff with ongoing prayers throughout the school year.

Pastor Dana



The Altar Guild works with the pastor and the Worship Committee to prepare the sanctuary and its furnishings for the celebration of worship. This committee is devoted to the care of the altar table and its surroundings.

Thank you to the volunteers who placed flowers on the altar during the month of July. Last month's flowers were in honor of Mary Stark and Joan Archer. We welcome other volunteers who would like to place flowers on the altar in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Diane Gilbert in the office so that she can add it to the church calendar and include it in the church bulletin.

Altar Guild hostesses for August are Beth Blalock and Linda Walraven.

Beyond the Broken Heart Grief Group

Join Pastor Dana for an 8-week small group for those who are journeying through grief. We'll be using *Beyond the Broken Heart* by Julie Yarbrough. This group is open to anyone in our church or community who is coping with the loss of a loved one and is looking for understanding and support. Group will meet on Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Club House beginning September 4th. \$15.00/person includes Participant Book. (Optional Daily Devotions book \$12.00.) To sign up contact the Church Office via email at pgumc30028@gmail.com or call 770-844-7095

United Methodist Women



We hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and is ready for upcoming events. The UMW is changing when we normally would begin meeting after the summer. Our first meeting will be Monday, August 20 at noon in the Clubhouse. We decided at the May meeting to begin meeting at noon instead of at 7:00 pm as well as meeting a month earlier than we used to. Linda and Glennell will provide the refreshments for the August meeting. The UMW yearly auction will run from October 21 through November 11 this year. We hope the ladies have begun thinking about ideas for this year's basket auction. The baskets will need to be brought to the church by October 14. We encourage all ladies to attend the August meeting. A lot of planning for the upcoming year will take place. We hope to see you there.

Co-presidents
Barbara McNutt
Luna Farris



PGUMC Music Notes
From David Holladay

*Sing and make music in your heart to the
Lord!
Ephesians*

*E'er since by faith I saw the stream, Thy flowing wounds supply.
Redeeming love has been my theme, And shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, And shall be till I die.
Redeeming love has been my theme, And shall be till I die.*

I love this last verse of “*There Is a Fountain*”! Have you thanked Jesus today for that great fountain of redeeming love! It has supplied salvation for all who will put their faith in Jesus and receive Him as Savior. Down through the ages it has never lost it's power!

This hymn was written by William Cowper in 1772. William was the 4th child of a British clergyman and his wife. The first 3 siblings died, and his mother died in childbirth with the 5th child. William was 6 when he lost his mother, and he never recovered emotionally.

During his school years he developed a love for literature and poetry. His dad wanted him to become a lawyer. When preparing for his bar exam, he decided to run away. Concluding himself damned he threw away his Bible and attempted suicide.

Friends recommended an asylum for him that was run by a devoted Christian who also loved poetry. Under this person's care William slowly recovered. In 1764 while still in the asylum William found the Lord while reading Romans 3:25, “..... whom God set forth as a propitiation by his blood, through faith”

His remaining days were to hold many days of deep depression, but at least he now had a spiritual foundation. As he later put it:

“There is a fountain filled with blood / Drawn from Immanuel's veins, / And sinners plunged beneath that flood, / Lose all their guilty stains.

God bless you in the fountain!



Lay Servants = Greeter/Usher,
Liturgist, Acolyte,
Children's Church
Nursery Workers

For the Month of August

Greeter/Usher

August 5- Byron & Wanda Garmon
August 12- Steve & Angela Schimweg
August 19-
August 26-Ruth Holbrook & Katie Wallace

Acolyte

August 5- Michael Dye
August 12- Shaun Ellis
August 19- Luke Schimweg
August 26-

Liturgist

August 5-Kim Kennedy
August 12-Jason Murphy
August 19-Jennifer Wisniewski
August 26-Pete Rodda

Nursery

August 5- Kim Fannin
August 12-Gail & Cary Bannon
August 19- Wendi & Mary Jones
August 26-Terra Manton

Those counting offering for August are Kim Fannin, Richard & Brenda Ashmore.

Altar Guild hostess for August are Beth Blalock and Linda Walraven.



Prayer Networking/Caring Ministry

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. James 5:13-14

Pray for one another. James

If you have a need for special prayer, please call Jennifer Wisniewski at 404-226-0023 or 678-513-8116 If you would like to be part of this "CHAIN" call the coordinator or the Church Office at 770-844-7095 and your name will be added to the list.

Men's Group

The Pleasant Grove Men's Group will start back with our regular monthly meetings beginning in September. We will meet on Saturday morning the 8th at 9am in the Fellowship hall. Please join us if you can make it as we will have breakfast and a devotion and discuss projects we can do to help the church. Please contact me if you have any questions I will send out an email to remind you the week before. Thanks!

David Martin

678-409-6126

dmartin@stairworx.com

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will start meeting at 10:00 on Tuesday, September 11. We meet across from Pastor Dana's office. Our study will be "A Life Beyond Amazing- 9 Decisions That Will Transform Your Life" by Dr. David Jeremiah. Please let me know by August 19 if you would like a study guide ordered for you. Thank you.

Barbara McNutt





August

Birthdays

- August 7- Cindi Ripley
Barbara McNutt
- August 10- Beth Blalock
- August 14- Marlee Kennedy
- August 15- Larry Williams
- August 17 – Pete Rodda
- August 19- Cary Bannon
- August 25- Tori Ross

Anniversaries

- August 23- Bob & Anne Newton

There's always a good crop of food for thought.
What we need is enough enthusiasm to harvest it.





Our next host week is the week of October 7th. If you would like to volunteer during that week but have not taken the training needed, the next one will be August 28th at 7pm at The Place. A Signup Genius will go out closer to time of need for volunteers.

DURING THE MEANTIME.....there are still plenty of ways to help out with FAMILY PROMISE. They are having a MEGA Garage Sale 8/17 and 8/19. See the attached flyer. They are also in the process of putting the annual Bed Race & Festival together which will be held at Cumming Elementary on September 15th. If anyone is interested in hosting a booth, our church is allowed one free booth. If any of the groups are interested in entering a bed, please go to the Family Promise website and register.

Also, the families that are currently in the program could use some assistance with transportation if you are available. Please contact Tina Huck tina@fpforsyth.org and have an MVR ran if you are interested in volunteering for this.

As always, if you would like to make monetary donations, they are tax deductible and can be made on the Family Promise website <https://www.fpforsyth.org/>

Here is a list of items that can also be donated for the families:

laundry detergent	fabric softener
hand soap	liquid body soap
shaving cream	male/female razors
1 and 2 inch binders	printer paper
working laptops	gas gift cards
grocery gift cards	oil change gift cards.

These items can either be taken to the place and dropped off or I can collect them and take them.

Family Promise of Forsyth County

MEGA

Garage Sale

Friday, Aug. 17: 9 am - 8 pm

Saturday, Aug. 18: 8 am - Noon

Cumming First United Methodist Church - 770 Canton Hwy. Cumming

The MEGA Garage Sale is a cooperative effort by the host and support churches of Family Promise of Forsyth County.

Funds raised directly support children who are experiencing homelessness
as their parents are empowered to attain
sustainable independence through the Family Promise program.

How can you help???

Volunteer Your Time

To volunteer, visit www.cfumcga.com/garagesale

Donate Items to Sell

Most any items are accepted other than electronics, clothes, armoires, mattresses/box springs

DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

Sunday, Aug. 12 (Noon-7 pm)

Mon., Aug. 13 & Tues., Aug. 14 (9 am-7 pm)

Large Item Pick Up (Starting July 28)

Contact Doug McDougal -

doug.mcdougal@gmail.com

Shop at the Sale!

For additional information:

Carol Terry carolterry11@comcast.net 770-722-2201

Nancy Graves nancyjgraves@gmail.com 805-501-7894



PGUMC YOUTH

After a short summer break, the Youth Group will begin meeting for the new school year on August 12th at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall! We are excited to welcome the new members to our group and hear stories of everyone's summer adventures! In the following weeks, we will be busy electing new officers and making plans for the upcoming year.

We welcome all youth grades 6-12. Our meetings include devotion, fellowship time and a light snack/supper. The Youth Group enjoys fun weekly fellowship and activities with great friends, serving in our church and community, and sharing God's love with others...So Come Join Us!!!

Wendi Jones
Allison Ellis

a simple gift



Since 1993, Samaritan's Purse has partnered with local churches around the world to deliver 157 million [Operation Christmas Child](#) shoebox gifts to children in need in 160 countries. Each one—packed full of fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items by a family or individual—is sent with prayer that the child who receives it will experience God's love through their simple gifts. Please help us meet this year's goal of 800 shoe boxes from Pleasant Grove.

August's item: School Supplies

We need pens, erasers, solar calculators, small notebooks, crayons, colored pencils, markers, watercolors, etc. **PLEASE NO PENCILS.**

Also, with many people traveling or otherwise absent this summer collections were not up to our usual standards. Please pick up toys or clothing items (the June and July items) when you are out and about as well. If money donations are easier for you, I am always happy to do the shopping. 😊

If you have any questions you can email me at lawmomathome@bellsouth.net or call me at 678-513-8116. As always, thank you so much for your willingness to help.

In His service,

Jennifer Wisniewski

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH) 7-Choir	2	3 11:30 Conversations With Pastor Dana @ the Walravens	4 9-4 Sawnee Playhouse (FH)
5 10:30 Conversations & Coffee Sunday School 11-Worship	6	7 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH)	8 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH) 7-Choir	9	10	11 9-4 Sawnee Playhouse (FH)
12 10:30 Conversations & Coffee Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	13 Girl Scouts (clubhouse)	14 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH)	15 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH) 7-Choir	16	17	18 9-4 Sawnee Playhouse (FH)
19 10:30 Conversations & Coffee Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Church Council 5-Youth	20 12- UMW (CH)	21 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH)	22 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH) 7-Choir	23	24	25 9-4 Sawnee Playhouse (FH)
19 10:30 Conversations & Coffee Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	27 6:30-Mission Planning Mtnng. (CH)	28 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH)	29 6:30-10 Sawnee playhouse (FH) 7-Choir	30	31	

