

# The Ambassador

September 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

As I write, summer continues slowly drawing to a close as Labor Day approaches. After the holiday, all that's left of summer will be the lingering heat and humidity accompanied by afternoon thundershowers and mosquitoes as we await the official end of the season with the autumn equinox later this month. It's been a good summer.

Again, I want to thank you all for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality. I appreciate all the work done on the parsonage, the housewarming gifts and the fresh vegetables from your gardens. Most of all, I've enjoyed getting to know you. The Conversations with Pastor Dana that we had this summer were a huge help in putting names with faces and learning about Pleasant Grove. I thought I'd share with you a few themes from the conversations:

Everyone talked about how much they love our church. They love being part of a small, warm church where they don't get lost in the crowd. They love seeing familiar faces and knowing everyone by name. Time and again folks talked about our church as being a family where they find love, acceptance and support. Everyone wants to see our church family not just survive, but thrive.

Another theme that emerged from all the conversations was about change. The community has changed dramatically. New people from all over are moving in. The times have changed. It's the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our culture has changed, especially in regard to technology, communications and the church. Some ways that used to work in sharing God's love and growing the church just don't work anymore. As some folks pointed out, "We can't keep doing the same old things and expecting different results."

Related to that theme was another that every group noted: Resistance to change. That's not surprising. Most of us resist change. Sometimes we may stand in the way. Through the Conversations I heard a passionate desire by many to be creative, try new ideas, do some things differently, along with keeping some of our cherished traditions – all with the goal of reaching out, making a difference in people's lives in the name of Jesus Christ. It's what being the church is all about.

It's clear everyone loves our church! Pleasant Grove is the kind of place where everybody knows your name, and we're always glad you came. We are family, grounded in the love of Christ and growing together in His love. We want others to experience the love we've all found here. What are we doing, what are we willing to try to welcome others into this wonderful family?

In Christ,  
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 August. 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 September are Mary Stark and Luna Farris.

### **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. To sign up contact the Church Office via email at [pgumc30028@gmail.com](mailto:pgumc30028@gmail.com) or call 770-844-7095

## United Methodist Women



The August UMW meeting was well attended. The ladies were reminded to continue working on ideas for the UMW Basket Fundraiser. Items are to be brought to the church on October 14. The silent auction will run from October 21 through November 11.

The ladies were encouraged to begin reading for the Reading Program, which runs from September through June, 2019. Opportunities for UMW ladies to get involved in local missions were discussed.

The UMW Christmas Family Dinner will be held on December 2. More information will be given as the time approaches.

Everyone enjoyed meeting in the Club House. Our next meeting will be held there also at noon on Monday, September 17. Diane and Mary will be providing the refreshments and program. Please come join us if you can.

Co-Presidents  
Barbara McNutt  
Luna Farris



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

## For the Month of September

### Greeter/Usher

September 2-Brad & Lindsey Schimweg  
September 9-David & Pat Bradley  
September 16-Jennifer & Patience Wisniewski  
September 23-Earl Holbrook & Fay Gravitt  
September 30-Joe & Kim Fannin

### Acolyte

September 2-Cary Bannon  
September 9-Sam Ellis  
September 16-  
September 23-Shaun Ellis  
September 30-Luke Schimweg

### Liturgist

September 2- Allison Ellis  
September 9- Chris Bannon  
September 16- Barbara McNutt  
September 23- Jackie Garmon  
September 30- Diane Gilbert

### Nursery

September 2-Wanda & Emily Garmon  
September 9-Kathy Holbrooks  
September 16-Wendi & Mary Jones  
September 23-Gail & Cary Bannon  
September 30-Terra Manton

### Children's Moment

September 2- Allison Ellis  
September 9-  
September 16-  
September 23-  
September 30-

Those counting offering for September are Rex Tallant & Wendi Jones.  
Altar Guild hostess for September are Mary Stark & Luna Farris



## *Prayer Networking/Caring Ministry*

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>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.

### 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



## September

### Birthdays

September 6- Mary Jones  
September 9- Rex Tallant  
September 10- John Dye  
September 11- Barbara Croft  
September 13- David Bradley  
                    Bonnie McMillan  
September 20- Luke Schimweg  
September 21- Jean Massie  
September 22- Kim Kennedy  
September 25- Ashley McGrady  
September 27- Seth Scott  
                    Pat Ripley  
September 28- Gene McBrayer  
                    Joshua Tincher

### Anniversaries

September 12- Kurt & Valerie Ross  
September 15- David & Jennifer Wisniewski  
September 27- Pat & Cindi Ripley

### *Blessings*



Be present.  
Let the Day flow with grace.  
Expect joy. Be positive.  
Serve with compassion.  
Speak only kindness.  
Impart only love.  
Never forget you're not alone.  
Give thanks for everything.  
See goodness in others.

**Mary Davis**



Our next host week is the week of October 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer during that week but have not taken the training needed, the next one will be August 28<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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.

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# PGUMC YOUTH

As the youth settled back into our fall routine in August, we had a great first meeting where we welcomed new members, shared summer stories and a devotion in our Enos, played corn hole and giant volleyball, and created some amazing chalk art in the parking lot. It was a fun first night back! Since then, we have had a busy August with electing our 2018-19 officers, beginning to design our youth t-shirt, and planning some fall activities.

We are so excited to be participating in Family Promise's Annual Family Festival and Bed Race on September 15! We have watched the race from the sidelines for the last few years, and we finally have our own amazing bed, the S.S. Usain Boat, that we will be racing to raise money for Family Promise! We would love for everyone to support Pleasant Grove UMC Youth's bed and Family Promise! You can make your donation and vote for our bed at [www.fpforsyth.org](http://www.fpforsyth.org), or make your donation at church and mark it "Bed Race". Also, come out and cheer us on at Cumming Elementary from 11-4pm on Saturday Sept 15. Thank you for your support!! It is always a fun even, and there are prizes for the fastest bed and the bed that raises the most money for Family Promise. All proceeds from the Family Festival and Bed Race benefit Family Promise.

Also in September, we will be planning our upcoming Youth Sunday service and making plans for the much anticipated Annual PGUMC Chili Cookoff...dates to be announced soon! We look forward to participating in Trunk or Treat with the Children's Ministry on October 28 and will be planning some youth outings and service projects for October and November as well.

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!!!



# a simple gift



I was astonished last year to learn that with every one hundred shoeboxes handed out through Samaritan's Purse, 14 children are saved. Each of those children often then becomes the tool that God uses to save others in their family, school, or village. So much can happen through a simple shoe box. What can happen with 800?

We are on track to pack all 800 this year but there are certainly still things that we need. Below is the list of the items I hoped to collect this year. Some are all done, some need some serious work. This is the ideal – not the be all and end all list. I don't think we have ever hit the "ideal" yet but somehow the boxes get packed and shipped and God's work is done. Feel free to buy as much or as little as you like (more is better but every little bit helps).

In these last two months we need to concentrate on toys, games, ball, nail kits, tools, etc. In other words, the fun stuff. As always, if money donations are easier for you, I am happy to do the shopping. 😊

If you have any questions you can email me at [lawmomathome@bellsouth.net](mailto: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

## SHOEBOX PANTRY INVENTORY AS OF AUGUST 27, 2018

CATEGORY	Item	total Number needed	age group	number on hand	still needed
school supplies	crayons	300	2 to 4	382	0
school supplies	pencils 3 each	2400	all	2401	0
school supplies	pencil sharpeners	800	all	792	8
school supplies	colored pencils/markers/water colors	500	10 to 14, 5 to 9	333	167
school supplies	scissors (5-9)	200	5 to 9	0	200
school supplies	notebook	500	10 to 14, 5 to 9	217	283
school supplies	solar calculators	300	10 to 14	7	293
school supplies	coloring pads/books	300	2 to 4	0	300

school supplies	scissors (10-14)	300	10 to 14	0	300
school supplies	pens 2 each	1000	10 to 14, 5 to 9	649	351
school supplies	erasers 1 each	800	10 to 14, 5 to 9	27	773
school supplies	pencil cases	800	10 to 14, 5 to 9	0	800
school supplies	rulers		10 to 14, 5 to 9	1	
toiletries	soap	800	all	805	0
toiletries	washcloths	800	all	818	0
toiletries	hair doodad packages	200	girls	152	48
toiletries	combs	800	all	350	450
toiletries	toothbrushes	800	all	269	531
toiletries	deodorant			34	
misc	stuffed animals	500	2 to 4 5 to 9 10 to 14 girls	357	143
misc	sunglasses			16	
misc	tote bags			120	
misc	shoeboxes	800	all		
misc	hats, scarves, gloves & socks				
misc	craft kits		5 to 9		
misc	craft kits		10 to 14	35	
misc	craft kits		2 to 4	41	

# September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  Kathy Russell 9-4 FH
2 9:45- Converstation & Coffee, Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	3	4 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-8:30 CH Bible Study	5 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-Choir	6 9- Sewing guild	7	8  Kathy Russell 9-4 FH
9 9:45- Converstation & Coffee, Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	10	11 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-8:30 CH Bible Study	12 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-Choir	13 9- Sewing guild	14	15  Kathy Russell 9-4 FH
Social Media Team-7-CH						
16 9:45- Converstation & Coffee, Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	17  12-UMW- Club House	18 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-8:30 CH Bible Study	19 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-Choir	20 9- Sewing guild	21	22  Kathy Russell 9-4 FH
23 9:45- Converstation & Coffee, Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth	24	25 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-8:30 CH Bible Study	26 6:30-10- Kathy Russell  7-Choir	27 9- Sewing guild	28	29 Kathy Russell 9-4 FH
30 9:45- Converstation & Coffee, Sunday School 11-Worship 5-Youth						