

**First United Methodist Church
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Prayer Concerns

The family of Kermit Hocutt, Ridge Moore, Don Whitfield, Dave Toburen, Bonnette Marks, Ruth Farish, Libby Ivey, Wiley Crittenden, Hodges Manross, Calli Nickels, Iris Corbett, John Morrow, Louise Williams, Vivian Wickersham, Mildred Brown, Marjorie Tyler, Libby Ivey, Marquerite Thornton, Sara Gresham, Maxine Gresham, Leon Johnson, Hugh and Sue Warren, Tommy Walton, Randolph and Mary Lawrence and Mary Mc.Clearen.



First News

January 2010

Washington First United Methodist Church
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**Soaring on Spirit Wings — Views from the Pastor
Guest Contributor: Laura Toburen**

There has been a lot of bad press lately about the idea of making New Year's resolutions. Personally, I think it is a good idea to take stock, re-evaluate and assess your personal goals, etc. It is also good for an organization. However, according to TV and other media, making resolutions is not "in vogue." The main objection seems to be that we don't keep our resolutions so why make them. I disagree. Setting goals, even though they are rarely attained, gives us the focus and direction that we need to improve and make changes in our lives.

I took an informal survey of family and friends to find out what resolutions, if any, they were making. I got a mixed bag of replies, as you might imagine. Most dealt with losing weight, exercising more, saving more money, getting organized, doing away with the clutter in their lives, spending more time with family and close friends, and doing more for others. Most of their responses were the same resolutions that I made on January 1st. I wonder how many of mine I'll keep in 2010?

This whole resolution thing did get me thinking about the "quality" of my resolutions. What if I took them a step beyond the usual? What if I took them to a spiritual level? What if I resolved to get closer to God in 2010?

I could accomplish that by spending more time in the daily devotionals of reading His holy word and in prayer for myself, others, the Church, situations, and so forth. I could get closer to God by serving others, by putting the needs of others up front and center, by praying that God put the needs of others on my heart. I could get closer to God by being a better steward of my time, talents and treasure.

Our church offers many opportunities for getting closer to God in 2010. There are several Bible studies being offered: *Experiencing God and Disciple I*, for example. Call the Church office, 706-678-7116, for the times and place. Also, the Upper Room of the Methodist Church sponsors a retreat known as the WALK TO EMMAUS which is an opportunity to develop a closer relationship to God. There is a weekend retreat scheduled for spring. Call Laura Toburen for more details, 706-678-7043.

"To fail to plan is to plan to fail." God's blessings on you as you plan your spiritual goals for 2010.

Laura Toburen

An Amazing Event is Going to Happen Soon

On the following Saturdays: January 30, and February 6, from 9 am until 2 pm, we have the privilege of learning the **Savi Grid**—a Communication Tool par excellant- for families, marriages, friendships, workplaces, you name it! Dr. Fred Smoot, Director of Emory Clergy Care, is driving from Atlanta to train us in this fun, dynamic, eye-opening tool to equip us to be better communicators. Only four other churches have taken advantage of this; we will be the fifth, staying on the cutting edge of proclaiming the gospel! The cost will be \$15 per person; but, don't let cost deter you from this experience! Scholarships are available for anyone who wants to come! This will be helpful for the whole family, with a cost not to exceed \$45 for families, including lunch and snacks.

A list of topics Dr. Smoot will address will be coming out soon; if you have any specific issues you'd like covered, please let Gale know. Please sign up at the office, 706-678-7116.

Gale

Happy Birthday to all those who celebrate in January!!

Jimmy Bowman—1/10
Madison Porterfield—1/10
Ralph Bray—1/12
Debbie Holes—1/15
Rose Newby—1/15
Joe Hardy—1/17



Wendy Swann—1/19
John Keen—1/20
Tina Lewis—1/23
Thomas Burriss—1/27
Isabelle Blakey—1/29
Janie Cravens—1/30

Upcoming Week at a Glance

- **Sunday, January 10**
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Worship—Guest Speaker: Alice Lindsey
12:30 Connection Homes Group meeting w/lunch in FSH
6:00 p.m. UMYF
- **Monday, January 11**
6:00 p.m. Band practice
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in Wesley Hall
8:00 p.m. Prayer Time
- **Tuesday, January 12**
10-11:30 Iris Garden Club in Wesley Hall
6:00 p.m. PreK Meeting in Wesley Hall
- **Wednesday, January 13**
6:15 p.m. Fellowship Supper
6:45 p.m. Children/Youth Activities
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir practice
- **Thursday, January 14**
5:00 p.m. Girl Scouts in Wesley Hall
7:00 p.m. Seekers Circle at Claire Jones' home

PreK Board Meeting

The Prek Board will meet on Tuesday, January 12 at 6 pm in Wesley Hall.

Prison Celebration

Our next prison celebration will be Tuesday, January 19 at 7 PM

PreK Fundraiser

Our PreK program will be having a soup and sandwich fundraiser immediately after church on Sunday, February 7. Please come and support this ministry.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

There will be a FREE preview this Sunday, January 10 at 4 PM in the Fellowship Hall for all who want to learn more about this life-changing program. There will be another FREE preview on Wednesday, January 27 after supper. Classes will begin on Sunday, January 31 at 4 PM in the fellowship hall.

Dear Church Family,
Many thanks for all the prayers, thoughts, cards and food during the recent death of my father, Bobby Powell. It really means a lot to have such a caring church family.
Tony, Kelly, Mallory and Madison Powell

Children's Corner

MarketPlace News

We have had a blast for the past several weeks as we have journeyed through the Old Testament. Our students are focusing on the "line of David" in Jesus' genealogy. This path has taken us from Abraham and Sarah through to Joshua walking around the walls of Jericho. During December we studied the excitement of the birth of Jesus. We focused on connecting Jesus back to Abraham and Sarah in the Old Testament! We are continuing our journey this Winter and Spring as we skip ahead a few books from Exodus to the book of 1 Samuel where we will encounter King Saul and the future King David. As soon as we witness Solomon (King David's son) build the Temple in Jerusalem, we will jump forward several hundred years to a time when a young Jesus was found to be missing by his parents. We will about explore what it means to be "About my Fathers work."

MarketPlace Money

As incentives for participation during Sunday School we have opened a Market for the kids. Each student has the opportunity to earn points each Sunday. We open the market once a month for the students to spend their earnings. Listed here are the details of our system. You will receive 10 points for Attendance—On Time, Bringing their Bible, Memorizing the Verse, Bringing a bulletin form another church service (when out of town or with other family or friends), Bringing a First Time Visitor/

Scripture Memory Verses

**The Dates listed below are the dates the scriptures go home. We are encouraging them to memorize the scriptures by the following Sunday!

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| January 3 | 1 Samuel 16:7b |
| "People Judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the Heart" | |
| January 10 | 1 Samuel 17:41 |
| "When Goliath looked at David and saw that he was only a boy,..he looked down with disgust." | |
| January 17 | 2 Samuel 6:14 |
| "Then David danced with all his might before the Lord." | |
| January 24 | 2 Samuel 5:10 |
| "And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him." | |
| January 31 | 2 Samuel 5:2b |
| And the Lord told you, "you will be the shepherd of My people Israel. You will be Israel's leader." | |
| February 7 | 1 Kings 3:3 |
| "Solomon showed he loved the Lord by following the commands his father David had given him" | |
| February 14 | 1 Corinthians 13:4 |
| "Love is patient, Love is Kind" | |
| February 21 | 1 Kings 5:12 |
| "The Lord gave Solomon wisdom, just as He had promised him." | |
| February 28 | Review! |

Children's Church

Listed below are the dates and volunteers of who will be supervising our Children's Church Ministry. If you are interested in serving please contact David Jones @ 678-7116.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jan 3 Jones | Feb 7 Bryngelson |
| Jan 10 Meech | Feb 14 Warrenfells |
| Jan 17 Connell | Feb 21 Blakey |
| Jan 24 Ward | Feb 28 Holloway |
| Jan 31 Jones | |
| | |
| Mar 7 Eubank | Apr 4 Pope |
| Mar 14 Eubank | Apr 11 Pope |
| Mar 21 Johnston | Apr 25 Bryngelson |
| Mar 28 Johnston | |
| | |
| May 2 Burriss | |
| May 9 Burriss | |
| May 16 Pope | |
| May 23 Jones | |
| May 30 Blakey | |

Laity Meeting

There will be a laity meeting at Warrenton First United Methodist Church on January 14th at 7:00 pm. Lay leaders, lay speakers, those interested in becoming lay speakers, and other interested laity are invited.

Seekers Circle

The Seekers Circle will meet on Thursday, January 14 at 7 PM at the home of Claire Jones. She will providing the program as well. We will watch a DVD by Christian comedienne, Chondra Pierce. Please make plans to come. We will also receive our tickets to sell for our pancake supper fundraiser, which will be February 15.

Trustees

The trustees will meet for dinner and planning in the FSH on Monday, January 18 at 7 PM. Last year's members as well as new are invited.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee

(SPRC) will meet in the FSH on Friday, January 22 at 7 PM. Members from last year as well as new are invited.

Chili Lunch—Sunday, January 24

The Faithful Messengers Sunday school class is providing lunch after the morning worship service on January 24th to benefit the building fund (generous donations are encouraged). The menu is chili, tossed salad, baked potatoes, and dessert. Everyone is welcomed.

Calendar of Events January 2010

Every Sunday Happenings:

10:00 am — Sunday School

11:15 am — Worship

6:00 pm — United Methodist Youth Fellowship, Bell Cottage

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	4 8:00 Prayer Time	5	6 6:15 Supper 6:45 Youth/ Children Activities 7:00 Chancel Choir	7	8	9
10 12:30 Connection Homes Group meeting in FSH 4:00 Free Preview of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace in FSH	11 6:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Cub Scouts in Wesley Hall 8:00 Prayer Time	12 10-11:30 Iris Gar- den Club in Wesley Hall 6:00 PreK Meet- ing in Wesley Hall	13 6:15 Supper 6:45 Youth/ Children Activities 7:00 Chancel Choir	14 5-6:30 Girl Scouts in Wesley Hall 7:00 Seekers Cir- cle at the home of Claire Jones	15	16
17	18 5-6 Girl Scouts 6:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Trustees dinner and planning in FSH OFFICE CLOSED	19 7:00 Prison Cele- bration at Pre- Release center	20 6:15 Supper 6:45 Youth/ Children Activities 7:00 Chancel Choir	21	22 7:00 SPRC meeting in FSH	23
24 12:30 Faithful Messengers class providing lunch as a fund- raiser for Build- ing Fund	25 6:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30 Cub Scouts in Wesley Hall 8:00 Prayer Time	26 Tentative date for Children's Choir to begin—Shay will let everyone know.	27 6:15 Supper 6:45 Youth/Children Activities 6:45 Free preview of Financial Peace 7:00 Chancel Choir	28 5-6:30 Girl Scouts in Wesley Hall	29	30 9-2 Equipping the Saints—Secrets of Effective Com- munication Ses- sion I in FSH
31 4:00 Dave Ram- sey's Financial Peace class starts						

Please look at the calendar above for exceptions and additional events.

Also, please look for ways you can share your gifts and talents and experience Christian love and fellowship!

Chancel Choir is held upstairs in the Education Building