

 Powder Springs Love Notes  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Proclaim and Live the Truth in Jesus' Name

Rev. Susan Gary Ashe, Senior Pastor

Hello my friends,

I trust you have had a good summer, even though it was the shortest one yet! I guess it was short for us partly because we have been so busy here at the church as we get ready for Fall.

I am excited to announce our new Wednesday Night ministry. We have had Wednesday night programming for some time now, and starting August 20, we will begin our new version of that ministry: **AMP!**

**AMP!** is our new name, standing for **Arts, Music, and Prayer.**

As your leaders thought and prayed about God's will for our church and what our future might be like, we acknowledged that we feel God has blessed us with much talent and creativity. This is a strength! We are a church full of artists and of art enthusiasts—and by art I mean vocal, instrumental, dramatic, audio and visual. Having been given so much, and seeing that God continues to send more and more talent and art enthusiasts to us, we feel it is time to let our light shine in this arena. Why not become a place where the community knows us for our dynamic arts applications? Why not become a place where we enable artists to grow in God's love and in their own area of giftedness? Why not offer options for that growth in a way that will lead to even more excellent worship?

At the same time, we acknowledge that we are a church that is founded on prayer. We have a prayer chain team that receives and honors prayer requests every day of every year. Additionally, we have a Prayer Force Team that prays together on Wednesdays. Clearly, we don't want to hinder our prayer ministry, since any growth of the church requires prayer support before, during, and after!

And so **AMP!** was born—a night for **Arts, Music and Prayer.**

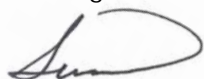
Our Wednesday schedules will be much the same as before and we will have programming for all ages, 0-100+. Come and try us out and be a part of God's movement here among us.

- 5:00-5:30 pm Senior's Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 5:30-6:15 pm Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:15-7:15 pm Angel Choir, Room 108  
Junior Choir, Chapel Building  
Youth Choir, Choir Room  
Chancel Choir, Sanctuary  
Prayer Force, Chapel Building Room 103
- 7:15-8:15 pm Nursery (3yrs/4yrs)  
Parables (K-2nd), Room 104  
Kid's For Christ (3rd-5th), Room 108  
Youth "Combine", Youth Building  
Worship Choir, Sanctuary

**Seniors:** We are beginning a new "Senior's Dinner" on Wednesday nights. Our new **AMP!** Program starts with you! We hope that you will come at 5:00 and enjoy about 30 minutes with your friends before the crowds arrive. Shelby and the Kitchen crew would love to have you, and will make you feel loved and downright spoiled. So come on out for the fellowship, and let Shelby know you appreciate the effort!

I'll be here for **AMP!** I hope to see you, too.

Standing in the Presence,



## Church Photo Directory



- Our new directory will be available beginning September 7. The cost is \$5.00 for a printed copy, or if you would like yours emailed, it will be free.
- If you have not had your picture taken for our pictorial directory please see Eddie Ashe by August 10.
- The directory will be available for review August 17 and August 24 at The Welcome Center. Please stop by to ensure that your information is correct.

## Putting Our Children First Initiative

As you know, we have moved our children's ministries into our best space possible—our new building. Our trustees have put in countless hours as they continue the day to day upkeep and decision-making for our church, at the same time as they clean and paint and move furniture to get everyone settled in their new space. If you haven't seen the improvements, come on by and see us as we prepare for God's children here.

Soon, you will also be able to come by the new youth center, as we will be preparing the Atlanta Street property (the former Preschool Building) for our student population.

Why are we doing this? Because here at Powder Springs First United Methodist Church, we believe in "Putting our Children First" and that includes ages 0-18. With clean, well prepared space, we are ensuring that families will feel at ease and confident when they bring their children here, thus enabling us to share the love of Christ with them.

I hope you feel a deep joy about what your church is doing. I hope you are a part of it. If you haven't been thus far, it isn't too late. We will be painting and getting furniture into our youth center within the month. Please find a couple of hours for us or a few dollars to enable it to happen. You will feel great about it when you do—we're sure of it.

## Important Promises

When we joined PSFUMC, we promised God that we would not only be loyal to the United Methodist Church, but that we would "uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service." I don't know about you, but I confess that I don't often think about that promise. What does that promise look like?

- Our prayers: Pray daily (or whenever you think of it) for our pastor and church staff, both paid and volunteer. Also pray for our ministries and programs.
- Our presence: Show up – just be there. We are not as strong when you are absent.
- Our gifts: Your tithes and offerings enable your Church to move forward with its mission of sharing God's love and the Good News of Jesus Christ!
- Our service: There are many opportunities to serve your Church. Are you good at administration? Do you have a way with kids? Have you been told you're a good listener? Your church needs you to serve in your area of giftedness. Upcoming opportunities: Preparing our Youth Center, running sound board, shepherding another family, leading a small group, helping Trustees with maintenance. Anything you can help with? Tell us!

*Julie Banks, Stewardship Committee*

## A Conversation on Immigration with Roy Barnes, Former Governor

On **SEPTEMBER 13** in the atrium at the Conference Office Building at Simpsonwood, we will have a CONVERSATION ON IMMIGRATION. We will converse from **10:00 am until 3:00 pm**. Details will be forthcoming, and you are invited.

**Former Governor ROY BARNES** will be the first speaker. Governor Barnes is a United Methodist layperson active at First Methodist in Marietta. He is also a Bible scholar, the resident authority on the Apostle Paul and a leader of Disciple groups. He will bring together the political and biblical aspects in addressing immigration. Speakers to be selected will speak to biblical implications and other aspects of our response to the needs of these people. Hopefully, some ways of speaking as the church and some action items will be identified.

Our actions toward and on behalf of documented and undocumented immigrants in the United States will probably be a defining moment in our witness as the Body of Christ in our time. How our church responds to this controversial issue may determine whether post-modern and post-Christian people in our society view us as authentic bearers of the God's Love or not, regardless of their views on undocumented immigration.

*North GA Conference of the UMC*

## Welcome to our newest members!



Doug & Beth Branan, pictured here with their grandson, Kyle, who was baptized.



Rev. Grafton & Carol Pressley.



Michelle Puckett, pictured here with her husband, Landy.



Bill & Kim Smith.

## Our New Staff



Dave Griffith, pictured with his wife, Sue, and their son, Chris.

**Dave Griffith is our new Director of Children's Ministry** (a newly created position). Dave comes to us with his wife, Sue, and their son, Chris, who is 19 years old. Dave will serve 10 hrs a week including directing our Angel Choir. Dave has served in the United Methodist Church in music as well as program ministries and has a heart for children's ministry. Please give Dave, Sue, and Chris a warm welcome.

**Scott Sienkiewicz is our new Youth Minister** and he comes to us with his fiancé Carrie Ann Saville. (They are to be married in May 2009). Scott graduated from Truett McConnell, is 25, and feels called to youth ministry as his life's vocation. Please welcome Scott and Carrie Ann warmly.

**Mary Tillberry is our Bookkeeper, a newly created but long awaited part-time position here.** Mary is the Financial Secretary at Orange Hill Baptist and sees her work as a ministry. Mary lives in Powder Springs and her children attended McEachern High School. Let's give Mary a warm Powder Springs welcome.



Scott Sienkiewicz, pictured with his fiancé, Carrie Ann Saville.



Mary Tillberry

## Vacation Bible School

We've had a wonderful week in VBS!! We put fliers on 350 mailboxes and had 83 children in attendance. Barbara Guthrie gave awesome leadership to a great team of volunteers, and a wonderful time was had by all!

The children are donating school supplies for our mission "pool" for Sweetwater Valley Community Action Program (CAMP). It's not too late for you to help fill it to the rim for this worthy mission.



## Preschool

Wow! I can't believe it is August already. Did the summer fly by for you as well? The preschool begins this month with an extra air of excitement as we begin classes in our new classrooms. They are fabulous! I want to extend thanks again to all who helped with the move. A special thanks goes to Russell Wood for making our new cubbies, and to my husband, Mike, for all the hard work assembling furniture and all the other odd jobs I could find for him.

We are looking forward to a great year ahead as our preschool children learn songs, listen to stories, walk to story time at the Cobb County Library, create art projects, learn the alphabet and so much more. We have teachers who truly love working with children and showing them the wonder and joy of God's love.

We still have a few openings so don't forget us when talking to family members, friends, and neighbors. You may plant a seed for Christ that we will all see grow!

*Rene' Dae*

## A Farewell from Kristine

It has been my pleasure to have served as the Director for the Angel's Nest Playschool for the past three years. I have met so many wonderful people and have enjoyed watching babies grow into beautiful children. All the teachers for both Angel's Nest and the Preschool have made each day a joy. I cannot believe that three years have gone by so quickly.

I wish I could explain to you what it feels like to watch a new child entering our program with some expected fear and apprehension one day, and then soon later, seeing their smiling faces as they giggle into a place they love. I can only proclaim it as a Blessing from God. A big thank you to all the teachers, you are the heart of Angel's Nest: I love all of you and will miss you the most. I also would like to say that I will truly miss seeing Betty, Willie, Jennifer and Rev. Susan; they have become so special to me.

My plan is to return to my previous career as an auditor, since my youngest child will be attending a full day of school in the fall. I will miss all the special people who have been a part of my life these past years. I pray for your Church, Children's Ministry and all the children your church will have the opportunity to serve in the many years ahead. Thank you for the wonderful memories.

*With Blessings, Kristine Bowman*

## Dearest Children from the Preschool Sunday School Class, Ms. Guthrie and to all Angels at FUMC in Powder Springs.

Thank you so much for your wonderful gift to *Bless My Sole!* It was like Christmas opening up your box and many of the socks and other items have been put to use already helping our friends on the street to feel more comfortable and loved. They were thrilled to hear that their needs are being looked after by children from far away (with loving adult help). Also, thank you for the card of cheerful and uplifting stickers. It will grace our *Bless My Sole* bulletin board.

*God Bless You All, Polly*

## YOUTH

### NEW BEGINNINGS...

## WORDS FROM SCOTT



Hey guys. I am finally settling in and realizing more and more what a special place this is. There are new things on the horizon for the PSFUMC Youth. We are starting fresh with a new fall program, a new building, and a new Youth Minister. I am looking forward to what God has in store us. I am trying to get some plans finalized for some pretty awesome events and trips so stay tuned.

- Scott Sienkiewicz

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Braves Game 8/3
- Back 2 School Bash 8/9  
Meet at church at 7 pm.  
Wear clothes that can be messed up.
- Youth Parents Meeting 8/24 at 6:30 pm.



## FALL PROGRAM

**Combine:** is the Wednesday night program that will combine all aspects of worship including: Visual Art, Drama, Music and Writing. We will be exploring worship through new avenues.

**The Source:** is the Sunday night filled with games, worship, and scripture. Our goal is ignite a passion for Christ so that we can share our light with those around us.



Summer Sunday at Stone Mountain

## Summer Sunday at Laser Tag



**Our Faithfulness**  
**Year to date through July 27**

Total Received to Date for Budget    \$ 266,584.61

Total Needed to Date    \$ 261,502.00

**Contributions made in memory of:**

**Irene Keyes**

*Mr. & Mrs. Manning Hatcher; Mrs. Mary Knight; Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Preston ; Mr. & Mrs. John Skelton*

**Jimmy Meadows**

*Mr. & Mrs. Manning Hatcher*

**Bob Smith**

*Ms. Peggy Chastain; Mrs. Mary Knight; Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Preston ; Mr. & Mrs. John Skelton*

**From the Mission Committee**

At a combined meeting of adult Sunday School classes on May 25,2008, Mrs. Dorothy Mutambara, from Zimbabwe, disclosed the devastating conditions in her country. Incumbent President Robert Mugabe was seeking re-election and those who opposed him were undergoing horrendous persecution. Mugabe had banned all outside relief agencies from the country, stopping aid on which the people had relied. His troops entered into villages, destroying homes and beating the people with sticks, even women and children. One woman from Dorothy's village was in the hospital, and even after the rigged election from which the opposition withdrew in an attempt to stop the violence, an elderly man and friend of Dorothy, was beaten to death. Even if the people had money, there is no food. There is a desperate need not only for food, but medicines and hygiene items.

Dorothy told how she had organized local women in the community to care for orphans in their homes, so the children would not be sent to orphanages. In order to attend school, children must pay school fees and wear uniforms. The women are able to sew the uniforms but need materials, and, of course, money for the fees. \$150.00 would pay for one year of schooling.

At the conclusion of Dorothy's talk, Jim Morris of the Fellowship Class asked for a response from that class, and they pledged ten boxes, which will be sent by Priority Mail at a cost of \$38.95 per box; however, they have far exceeded that amount. The remaining adult classes pledged two boxes each. Dorothy was also given "Penetecostal handshakes," where money was slipped into her hands, along with hugs. It was a heart-rending presentation, and we were touched by Dorothy's testimony and her bravery.

The PSFUMC family is invited to a prayer reception in honor of Rev. Dorothy Mutambara on Sunday, August 3 at 3pm at the Acworth UMC Family Life Center. She will be returning home to Zimbabwe on August 4 and would like to thank you personally for your generous support.

**Please be in prayer for:**

*We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to Dale & Judy Westmoreland in the loss of his aunt, Margaret Gay.*

*May God hold you in the palm of His hand during this time of grief.*

**Our Church Family**

Katherine Arnold, Libby Beem, Ron & Bobbie Bennett, Martha Bright, Carmen Cobb,  
Al & Ann Connally, George & Linda Crusselle, Kevin Dae, Susan Davis, Rev. Jimmy & Sally Ford,  
Jim Groover, Roy & Elaine Harcourt, Bill & Debbie Harrison, Imodean Hunter, Dick & Sylvia Huber,  
William James, Mildred Kellett, Lavinia Lindley, Cale Long, R.E. Long, Angela Moon & Family, Cathy Moore,  
Heather Norton, Margaret Pulk, Wilbur & Ruth Reid, Pattie Rich, Mary & Steve Shallenberger, Maria Vinhateiro.

**Our Extended Family**

Gervace Adams, John C. Atcheson, Paul Bailey, Brody Bates, Hailey Bennett, Tyler Blevins, Cindy Bodiford,  
Shane Everett, Sherlon Freeman, Patsy Grayson, George Hall, Becky Hansen, Larry & Martha Hardison,  
Jo Ann Landers, Emery Ann Patterson, Don Piper, Emily Piper, Stephanie Rakestraw, Lee Shallenberger,  
Mallory Smith, Shelly Waite, Kynsley Westmoreland, Gary Wiggins, Kenneth Williams.

**Our Military Personnel & Families**

Jarrod Bailey, Daniel Van Buren, Joe Crane, Andrew Fulton, A. Hopkins, Cale Long, Robert Rish, Clay Stokes.

## Are you ready to experience Financial Peace?

The next Financial Peace University will start on Sunday, August 24, and will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the Chapel Building. There will be two free previews: Sunday, August 3 at 12:10 pm, and Sunday, August 10 at 2:00 pm. For questions or information, email [fpu@powderspringsfumc.org](mailto:fpu@powderspringsfumc.org).

- Dear Church Family, Thank you all for being so loving and caring during my recent illness and hospitalization. Your prayers and thoughts, cards, calls and visits have meant so much to Linda and me. May God continue to bless us all. In love and gratitude, *George Crusselle*
- Kevin Kozee graduates from University of Georgia on Saturday, August 2. Kevin will be immediately beginning a graduate program in counselor education at Clemson University.
- A HUGE THANK YOU to all of those that helped move the Preschool from the back forty up to our new home. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule on Saturday to get this done. Also, a HUGE THANK YOU to those that took time out of their busy schedule to paint and get the rooms ready for the move. We are excited about our new school rooms and can't wait until the children and parents see them. *The Preschool Board*
- Thank you to everyone who has helped us wrap a deserving child in a *Blanket of Love*. To date in 2008 we have wrapped our love around 58 babies and children with blankets donated to *Project Linus*. Hove much more love can we share?
- The next UMW unit meeting will be August 16 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Brooke Cowan will speak with us about her two mission trips to Tanzania and Must Ministry. Members are asked to bring lunch meats or chips. All are invited.
- Promotion Sunday is August 10. Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders will receive Bibles at the 10:55 am service. Please let the Church Office know if your child is a rising 3<sup>rd</sup> Grader. We don't want to miss anyone!
- If you or your group would like to cook for Wednesday Night Dinners, please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions and would like more information, contact Shelby Morris at 770.943.3648.



### Happy Birthday to:

Aug 2 Kelly Dae  
Caroline Edwards

Aug 3 Sally Brock  
Eric Skelton

Aug 5 Kim Piper

Aug 7 Kim Adams  
Sam Dunn

Aug 8 Anne Storrs

Aug 10 Mike Dunn

Aug 11 Chase DeCoux  
Maynard Piper

Aug 13 Frank Boyd  
Zach Haynes

Aug 16 Cindy Abbott

Aug 19 Scott Long

Aug 27 Rhett Lott

Aug 31 Patrick McCollum

Sept 1 Gerad Simpson

Sept 3 Mary Knight

Sept 4 David Arnold  
Tylan Shallenberger

Sept 5 Whitney Beem  
Danny Willis

Sept 6 Mike Edwards

Sept 6 Dennis Korwek  
Michael Korwek  
Madison Seagraves

Sept 8 Katherine Arnold

Sept 13 Pam Bailey  
Chuck Haynes  
Emily Nieuwstraten

Sept 16 Pat Cole

Sept 17 Dana Willis

Sept 19 Will Moore

Sept 20 Cole Daniels

Sept 21 Todd Freeman

Sept 22 Edie Mach  
Katie Toth

Sept 23 Kevin Hanson  
Niko Moore  
Cathy Moore

Sept 24 Myrna Nell James

Sept 26 Julie Banks  
Libby Beem  
Zach Rainwater

Sept 27 Tony Ooten

Sept 28 Robert Brock  
Rene' Dae  
Kim Smith

Sept 29 Beth Branan  
Chuck Miller

### Happy Anniversary to:

Aug 9 Robert & Sally Brock

Aug 14 Mike & Cindy Dunn

Aug 15 Doug & Beth Branan

Aug 17 Connie & Heather Arnold

Aug 18 Bill & Mary Honiker

Aug 21 Wilson & Pat Cole

Aug 24 John & Brooke Skelton

Aug 25 Landy & Michelle Puckett

Aug 26 Bill & Nancy Arnold

Aug 27 Larry & Roxy Cupp  
Kevin & Sifa Hanson

Sept 3 Alan & Heather Westmoreland

Sept 5 Jim & Carolyn King

Sept 8 Chuck & Angie Haynes

Sept 11 Dave & Julie Beem  
Dick & Sylvia Huber  
Grafton & Michelle Pressley

Sept 12 Bobby & Misty DeCoux

Sept 20 Jim & Meling Mercier

Sept 21 Mike & Dot Lott

Sept 25 Roy & Elaine Harcourt

Sept 29 Grant & June Rainwater  
Herb & Nancy Rish

**Rev. Susan Gary Ashe, Senior Pastor**

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

## Sunday Worship

Traditional worship is held at 8:30 am with a contemporary service at 11:00 am Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. Holy Communion is served the first Sunday of every month. A nursery is provided for your convenience during these services. Each service has its own style of worship and we encourage you to visit them both.

## Worship Forecast:

Sunday, August 3

*"And All Ate"*

Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday, August 10

*"You'll Never Walk Alone"*

Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 17

*"No Crumbs"*

Matthew 15:21-28

Sunday, August 24

*"Who Am I to You?"*

2 part series

Matthew 16:13-17

Sunday, August 31

*"The Keys"*

series final

Matthew 16:18-20

Sunday, September 7

*"Kingdom Connections"*

Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday, September 14

*"Kingdom Forgiveness"*

Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday, September 21

*"The Chosen"*

Matthew 20:1-16



The Church Council's next meeting will be September 9.

Our Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 at 3:00 pm. Mark your calendars.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME and all Council members are urged to attend.

The Childrens Ministry is

sponsoring a

End of Summer Party on

Saturday, August 9

from 5:00 -7:00 pm

for Kindergarten through 5th Grade.



We'll have hot dogs, ice cream,

inflatables, and fun games!

Please contact the Church Office for information or email Dave Griffith, Childrens Ministry Directory, at [childrenpowderspringsfumc.org](http://childrenpowderspringsfumc.org).