

Hill United Methodist Church

The Messenger

Volume 11-Issue 1

January 6th, 2017

'No Waiting Period'

Not too long ago as I was upgrading my cell phone, I was told that I would have to wait several months to receive a \$100 credit towards a new phone. When I asked how long I'd have to wait to take advantage of that specific deal, the salesperson said, *'It looks like that offer will be available to you in about six months.'*

I was disappointed because I didn't want to wait that long. I wanted to make a change right then and there. An offer that would only be available to me six months down the road really didn't help me at all.

That's what I love about the Christian faith. God's offer to change us and to give us new life begins the instant we accept His Son as our Lord and Savior. We don't have to try to clean our lives up first before He'll accept us. We don't have to prove that we're good enough or that we're worthy of what He wants to give us. The life that God offers us begins the moment we let Him know that we believe in his Son. There is no waiting period.

It frustrates me when Christianity is reduced to a way to obtain eternal life. Some people will lead you to believe that's all there is to it. You know, simply saying 'yes' to God just so you can get a 'ticket to heaven'.

While eternal life is very much part of the deal and definitely something we can look forward to, there's also much more to God's offer. You see, He doesn't just offer us 'fire insurance' when we die, He offers us abundant life while we're still in this world.

Jesus said, *'I have come that they have life and have it to the full.'* (John 10:10). Notice that Jesus didn't say, *'I have come so that you will be able to get into heaven'*. Notice that He didn't say *'I have come so that you will have a great afterlife'*.

Jesus wanted us to know that the life He offers us doesn't begin when we die. It starts now! That's the amazing good news of the Gospel.

The Apostle Paul once wrote, *"Godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come"* (1 Timothy 4:8). That sounds like good news to me because most of the people I know want more from their faith than simply a ticket to heaven that they cash in when they check out! Most people I know want something that will sustain them along the way. They want life, abundant and eternal.

The good news is, that's exactly what God offers. And if you haven't claimed it, you can. All that you have to do is let Him know that you believe in His Son and seek His forgiveness for your sins. That's it. There are no more requirements or fine print. God offers us life and there is no waiting period.

Grace and Peace,
Jay

PRAYER LIST



Al & Denton Nuckolls, Kathyne Middleton, Jane Griffin, Margaret Doyle, Ernest Edwards, Judy Lusk, Jan Reed, Dottie Griffin, Toppi Griffin, Cathy Griffin, Mildred Dreschel, Sis Damron, Thomas Blackwell, Ray Anderson, Macoy Griffin, Dot Rann, Keith Griffin, *Hub Griffin
Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
Brooks Lansing-Jim Lansing's brother
Kathy Hedrick-Vicki Hedrick's sister-in-law
Sue & David Broome-Friends of Janice Helton
Terry Corcoran-Erin Middleton's dad
Lee Hogan-Friend of David Clark
Agnes Sutton-Kay Henderson's mother
Rose Reinhardt -Dawn LaChapelle's mother
Kenneth Tatum-Veda Nuckolls' Brother
Gene & Edna Blevens-JoAnna Wells' aunt & uncle
Scott LaChapelle-Dawn LaChapelle's brother
Linda Corn-friend of Susie Webb
Raya Owens-Friend of Jada Barton
Susan Wells-Chris Wells' aunt
Sarah Brindle-Friend of Jo Anna Davenport Wells
Robert Green-friend of Jo Anna Davenport Wells
Gabarb Vaughn Summers
Breanne Locklear - Jo Anna Wells' niece
Don Gribble
Gladys & Jasper Rogers-Friends of Gwen Maddox
Marge Fox-Cindy Fehd's mother
Robin Faith-Friend of Dawn LaChapelle
Brantley Dean-Friend of Julie Frisbee
Peggy Cochran-Friend of Amy Roberts
Whitley Brooker-Friend of Lindsey Roberts
Orallia Hernandez-friend of the Middletons
Richard Sharp-Friend of Stephanie Loggins
Jerry Alberson-Friend of Butch Middleton
Jackie Neel - Anne Monk's Sister
Nathan Gaddy - Friend of Dawn LaChapelle
Kinslie Marie Flowers-friend of Julie Frisbee
Jim Orr-Friend of Mike Hampton
Reese Rivera-(10month old w/spinal cancer)-
Friend of Susie Webb
Bobbie King Hogan
Dolly Hamby-friend of Kay Jernigan
Heather Stiles-friend of Susie Webb
Eddie Mac Sanders-Friend of Kenny Gowin
Ricky Reed-friend of Amy Roberts
Sue Rogers - Ron Houston's sister
Catina Lough-Friend of Stephanie Loggins
Bobby Harris-Friend of Steve & Randy Reed
Kyler Bass-Friend of Wendy Voiles
Maryann Fowler-Friend of Susie Webb
Glen Dean-Friend of Susie Webb
*John Lofty

(*Denotes new additions)

**Please contact the church office at 706- 673-4022
or thumc@optilink.us to add/remove a friend or
loved one from the Prayer List. - Thanks!**



Sunday, January 8

10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
5:00 PM Choir Practice

Monday, January 9

12:00 PM Young at Hearts (old Fel. Hall)

Tuesday, January 10

5:30 PM Brownies (YR)
6:30 PM Daisies (CH. Room)
6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CB)
7:00 PM Boy Scouts (FH)

Wednesday, January 11

5:45 PM Family Meal (F.H.)
6:30 PM Adult, B&B & God Followers

Thursday, January 12

6:00 PM Sr. High Worship/Bible Study (F.H.)

Sunday, January 15

7:30 AM UMM Breakfast meeting (F.H.)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
5:00 PM Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 17

5:30 PM Brownies (YR)
6:30 PM Daisies (CH. Room)
6:30 PM Cub Scouts (CB)
7:00 PM Boy Scouts (FH)

Wednesday, January 18

5:45 PM Family Meal (F.H.)
6:30 PM Adult, B&B & God Followers
6:30 PM Oasis Christmas Party (FH)
7:35 PM Administrative Board meeting (F.H.)

Thursday, January 19

6:00 PM Sr. High Worship/Bible Study (F.H.)

FH-Fellowship Hall

CB-Church Bldg.

FEL CL-Fellowship Classroom

FC-Friendship Classroom

S-Sanctuary



Weekly Gatherings

Oasis Café – Sundays 10am – Fellowship Hall
Journey Groups – Sundays 6pm – Fellowship Hall
Mid-Week- Wednesdays 6:30pm – Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING OASIS EVENTS

February 24th -26th - Disciple Now Weekend. D-Now is a youth weekend hosted at Heritage High School in Ringgold . Ten other church youth groups are taking part. There will be youth praise and worship services Friday night and Saturday.

March 26th - Winter Jam Chattanooga – Winter Jam is a Christian Concert at UTC McKenzie Arena. Cost is \$10 and can be paid at the door.

May 20th – JFest - JFest is a Contemporary Christian Festival by J103 in East Ridge.

June 11th-16th Epworth by the Sea (Tentative Dates) – Summer Retreat in St. Simons, GA.



THUMC's Wednesday Night Meals and all activities have resumed.
Meals are served from 5:45p.m. – 6:30p.m. and all age groups meet from 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

“CASE FOR FAITH” STUDY

Jeanine Clark is currently teaching an 8-week study on *“The Case for Faith”* by Lee Strobel. In this study, Strobel looks at several issues that both believers and non-believers struggle with including: the natural inclination to wrestle with faith and doubt, the troubling presence of evil and suffering in the world, and the exclusivity of the Christian Gospel. He also tackles the question, *“Can I doubt and still be a Christian?”*

This study takes place at 6:30pm – 7:30pm each Wednesday in the Fellowship Classroom.

Cost for the study is \$12 which includes the book and study guide.

You do not have to sign up for this study, just show up on Wednesday evening.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

The Administrative Board will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 7:35 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Chairpersons are asked to bring the dates for their committee's meetings and events so that they can be placed on the church calendar. All Board members are urged to attend.

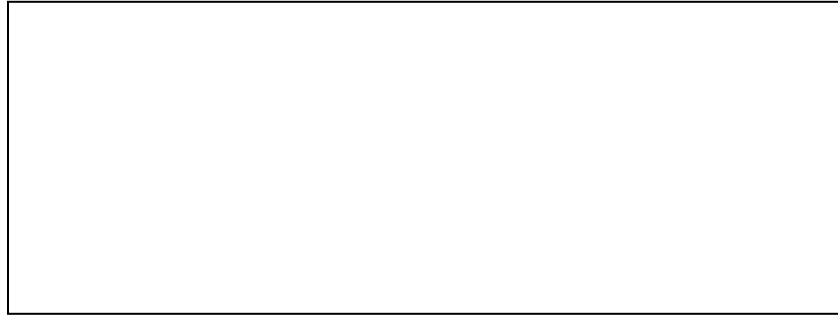
Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 146
Tunnel Hill, Georgia 30755

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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SERVING ON SUNDAYS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

USHERS: Justin Barton, Gene Henderson,
Chuck Davidson & Kevin Braden

NURSERY: Tammy Horne

OFFERING TEAM: Vicki Kauffman &
Kim Amos

GREETERS: Becky & Ken Gowin

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

USHERS: See Sunday, January 8

NURSERY: Ellen Dreschel

OFFERING TEAM: See Sun., Jan. 8

GREETERS: Valerie Cleaver &
Marilyn Martin

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

USHERS: See Sunday, January 8

NURSERY: Gidget Griffin

OFFERING TEAM: See Sun., Jan. 8

GREETERS: Edward & Beverly Bates

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Budget Needed: \$5,094.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 11

GENERAL BUDGET: \$3504.10

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$602.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 18

GENERAL BUDGET: \$2000.00

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$830.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 24 & 25

GENERAL BUDGET: \$2877.00

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$20.00

GIVING FOR JANUARY 1

GENERAL BUDGET: \$3393.00

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$26.00

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 11

Sunday School - 71

Worship Service - 147

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 18

Sunday School - 58

Worship Service - 151

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 24 & 25

Christmas Eve Service - 141

No Sunday School

Christmas Day Worship Service - 76

ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY 1

Sunday School - 62

Worship Service - 83