

# Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

*The Messenger*

*Volume 12- Issue 16*

*December 18, 2018*



## ***'Who Started This Christmas Stuff Anyway?'***

A woman was out Christmas shopping with her two children. After many hours of going from store to store and fighting mobs of people everywhere they went, and after hours of hearing both her children asking for everything they saw, she and her two kids finally made it to the elevator.

She loved Christmas and her children deeply but she was feeling what so many of us feel during the holiday season, STRESS. She was feeling the overwhelming pressure to get the perfect gift for every single person on her list and wondering how they were going to pay for it all. She was thinking about all of the cooking that she needed to do and all of the cards that needed to be mailed.

With each day that passed, as Christmas drew closer, the stress grew.

So, there she stood with her two children, in an elevator with eight complete strangers, at her breaking point. They only had to travel down three floors but the elevator stopped on each floor and as it did, more people got on. Finally, no more people would fit and there were so many people crammed into the tight space that she could hardly breathe.

They only had to travel down one more floor when it happened. When the elevator doors closed, she couldn't take it anymore and she blurted out, *"Good grief, this is pure craziness! Whoever started this whole Christmas thing should be strung up!"*

From the back of the elevator, a calm voice said, *"Don't worry ma'am, that's been taken care of. He was crucified two thousand years ago."* It was so quiet that you could have heard a pin drop.

This year, as we prepare to celebrate again and as things get hectic, may we all remember that the One who started this whole *'Christmas thing'* never intended for this to be a stress-filled season. After all, Jesus came into this world to give us His peace which passes all understanding.

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*  
(Isaiah 9:6)

May the peace of Christ fill your heart and home as you prepare to celebrate His birth again.

Merry Christmas,  
Jay



## PRAYER LIST

Al Nuckolls, Kathryn Middleton, Margaret & Jim Doyle,  
Sis Damron, Mildred Dreschel, Ray Anderson, Barbara  
Vaughn, Shirley Gribble, Norma Griffin, Vera Nations,  
Smokey Lusk, Butch Middleton, Ellen Dreschel, Jane Griffin,  
Tammy Balsler, Maurice Moody, Marilyn Martin, Vera  
Nations, Mary Helen Jolly, Denton Nuckolls, Ray Sharp

THUMC's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts  
Brooks Lansing-Jim Lansing's Brother  
Sue Broome-Friend of Janice Helton  
Terry Corcoran-Erin Middleton's Dad  
Agnes Sutton-Kay Henderson's Mother  
Kenneth Tatum-Veda Nuckolls' Brother  
Raya Owens-Friend of Jada Barton  
Gabarb Vaughn Summers  
Breanne Locklear-Jo Anna Davenport's niece  
Marge Fox-Cindy Fehd's mother  
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  
Jackie Neel – Anne Monk's Sister  
Kinslie Marie Flowers-friend of Julie Frisbee  
Dolly Hamby-friend of Kay Jernigan  
Eddie Mac Sanders-Friend of Kenny Gowin  
Ricky Reed-friend of Amy Roberts  
Kyler Bass-Friend of Wendy Voiles  
Glen Dean-Friend of Susie Webb  
Agee Martin-Valerie Cleaver's brother  
Alyssa Talley  
Chet Dreschel  
Brecklynn Allgood  
Doug Mitchell  
Tina Taylor-Val Cleaver's Sister  
Carl Hooper-Friend of Amy Roberts  
Trish Phillips-Friend of Jeanine Clark  
James Breeden-Friend of Butch Middleton  
Virginia Campbell  
Teresa Evans-Friend of Amy Roberts  
Scott Hannah-Friend of Todd Middleton  
Betty Fetzer-Tammy Horne's mother  
Jack Rhodes-Grandson of Linda & Gerald Pack  
Arlene Hooker-Friend of Gwen Maddox  
James & Lynda Quarles-Friend of Gwen Maddox  
Marilyn Brown-Friend of Gwen Maddox  
Ali & Jase Carter-Friend of Susie Webb  
B.J. Jarrett-Nancy Hampton's nephew  
Mr. Andrew Martin-Valerie Cleaver's uncle  
Erin Middleton-Jamey Middleton's wife  
Cheryl Quarles-Friend of Julie Frisbee  
Mrs. Barbara (Bobbie) Phillips-Mickey Reed's sister  
\*The family of Mrs. Ruth Tacy-Joel Kauffman's sister

(\*Denotes new additions)

To add/remove a friend or loved one to the Prayer List,  
please contact the church office at 706- 673-4022 or  
[thumc@optilink.us](mailto:thumc@optilink.us). Thanks!



### Sunday, December 23 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM Choir Practice (S)  
9:15 AM Intercessory Prayer (Library)  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship

### Monday, December 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE

(Church office closed.)  
6:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Candlelight  
Communion) (S)

### Tuesday, December 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

(Church office closed.)

### Wednesday, December 26

No mid week meal or activities

### Sunday, December 30 – First Sunday after Christmas

9:00 AM Choir Practice (S)  
9:15 AM Intercessory Prayer (Library)  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship

### Monday, December 31 – NEW YEAR'S EVE

(Church Office closed.)

### Tuesday, January 1 – NEW YEAR'S DAY

(Church Office closed.)

### Wednesday, January 1

No mid week meal or activities

### Sunday, January 6 – Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 AM Choir Practice (S)  
9:15 AM Intercessory Prayer (Library)  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship / 2019 Leadership Commissioning

FH-Fellowship Hall

FC-Friendship Classroom

CB-Church Bldg.

S-Sanctuary

FEL CL-Fellowship Classroom



As we wrap up this year, we look forward to next year. 2019 is going to be a big one. God is moving in our group, growing our numbers, providing for us a new location, and making changes within hearts and lives. My one hope for the congregation, a resolution if you will, is that you all get to be part of this amazing ministry in some way. Oasis would be blessed by your participation, and I promise you will be as well! Our first Oasis Lunch of 2019 will happen on January 13th. It will also be the first chance for the congregation to view the new Oasis Youth House. Can't wait to show off all the hard work!  
Merry Christmas to everyone from Oasis! Garrett Teems, Youth Pastor



### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**

Please invite your friends and neighbors to worship at THUMC at 6pm on Christmas Eve. This is always a special time of worship so we hope that you will be able to join us!

### **"CHRISTMAS IS MORE"**

By Garnett Ann Schultz

Christmas is more than the tinsel. It's more than the gifts that we share,  
It's more than the wreaths and the holly or snowflakes that dance in the air,  
More than the gladness of children or the lights and the sparkle we see,  
The joy and the moments of sharing the trimmings and beautiful tree.

Christmas is more than the shopping. The hustle and hurry and haste.  
More than the street corner Santa or the goodies we so love to taste.  
More than the heavenly music though surely it touches each heart.  
It even is more than the magic the season will surely impart.

Christmas is faith and believing. It's trust and it's hope ever there.  
A miracle, peace everlasting. The beauty we find in a prayer.  
It's keeping our hearts ever loving the Christ child we know and adore,  
It's angels, it's God, it's eternal but always Christmas is more.

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL SCHEDULE**

THUMC's Wednesday Night Dinners and all activities will resume on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.



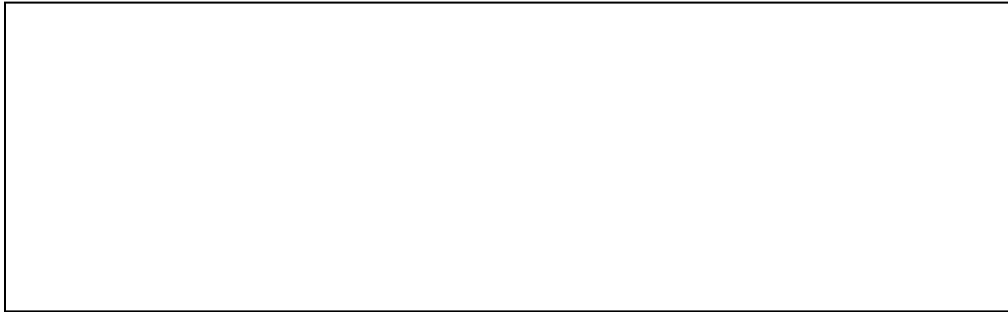
- Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> Leadership 2019 Commissioning
- Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, Trustee's Meeting, 7pm
- Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday Night Meals & Activities Resume, 5:45pm
- Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 9-11am, Leadership Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 12pm, Oasis Luncheon and Open House,
- Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm General Conference Info Session

P.O. Box 146  
Tunnel Hill, GA 30755

U.S. Postage  
Tunnel Hill, GA 30755

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PAID  
Permit No. 5



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

USHERS: Ken Gowin, Bill Chesser,  
Matthew Blackwell & Thomas Blackwell  
NURSERY: Sydney LaVelle  
OFFERING TEAM: Chuck Davidson &  
Brenda Hampton

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

USHERS: See Sunday, Dec. 23  
NURSERY: Volunteer Needed  
OFFERING TEAM: See Sunday, Dec. 23

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

USHERS: Justin Barton, Gene Henderson,  
Mark Teems & Chuck Davidson  
NURSERY: Delilah Sharp  
OFFERING TEAM: Ellen Dreschel & Vicki Kauffman

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

USHERS: See Sunday, Dec. 6  
NURSERY: Jennifer Bollwerk  
OFFERING TEAM: See Sunday, Dec. 6

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

USHERS: See Sunday, Dec. 6  
NURSERY: Tammy Horne  
OFFERING TEAM: See Sunday, Dec. 6

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Budget Needed: \$5,130.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 2

GENERAL BUDGET: \$6707.00  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$337.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 9

GENERAL BUDGET: \$2674.68  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$125.00

GIVING FOR DECEMBER 16

GENERAL BUDGET: \$4688.25  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$425.00

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 2

Sunday School – 71  
Worship – 139

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 9

Sunday School – 89  
Worship – 141

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 16

Sunday School – 85  
Worship – 151