

Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

The Messenger

June 2020

Plans to Reopen

I hope that you and your family are doing well. Even though we've been required to stay at home over the last few weeks, lots of things have been happening at THUMC. Our Administrative Board and many of our committees have continued to meet using Conference calls and Online video meetings. Even though these groups could not meet in person, THUMC's leaders have done a great job making sure the work of the church continues. We want to keep you up to date on this work, so inside this newsletter you'll find several updates on things that have taken place at THUMC over the last few weeks.

One of the main questions that THUMC's Board and I have been considering is, when can we reopen and safely worship together in the sanctuary again? While we are all eager for this to happen, all North Georgia United Methodist Churches are being told by the Bishop and Cabinet not to reopen for onsite worship before June 22nd. This determination was recently made after consulting with experts in public health and the medical field here in Georgia. THUMC's Administrative Board plans to abide by this guideline and therefore will not reopen for worship until late June or early July. The Board will continue to monitor the situation over the next couple of weeks and will announce a definite "Re-Open Date" soon.

To ensure that we proceed safely and deliberately as a church, we have developed a very detailed "Reopening Protocol" that contains all of the precautions we plan to take as a church when we reopen and begin to gather onsite again. Here is a summary of the plan:

Phase I - Worship Only with Limited Capacity - Date to be Determined

Families will be asked to Follow Safe Distancing Precautions by sitting together and to safely distance themselves from other individuals/families. We plan to add an additional worship service at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Adding this service will give our church family more space to spread out as well as another opportunity to worship.

Phase II - Worship & THUMC Small Group Meetings Allowed - Date to be Determined

(Sunday School, Choir Practice, Committee Meetings, Ministry Team Meetings to Resume)

Phase III - All Other Groups/Rentals Allowed - Date to be Determined

(Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall Rentals to Resume)

Even when our church does begin to reopen in the phases listed above, individuals with health concerns and those who are at high risk of contracting respiratory illnesses will still be encouraged to worship with us online instead of onsite.

Know that I have been incredibly proud of our church family as we have gone through this unprecedented and uncertain time together. You have continued to lean on God, you've continued to love and serve each other, and you've also continued to be faithful in your financial support of all the ministries of THUMC. Know that I love you and that I look forward to worshipping God with you in our sanctuary soon!

Grace & Peace,
Jay

Trustees Update

THUMC's Trustees recently became aware that the columns on the front porch of the church have significant water damage and need to be replaced. Bids for this work have been received and all four columns as well as the concrete bases will be replaced soon. The Finance Committee was able to secure the funds for this project so that they would not have to come out of the church's general account. In addition to this work on the church's columns, all of the trim work around the outside of the church will soon be repainted. Many thanks to the Trustees for coordinating this much needed work!

THUMC Volunteers Deliver Meals to Storm Victims

We want to thank all of the volunteers from our church who prepared and delivered a total of four meals to over 50 individuals in Murray County who were displaced by storms in April. Please continue to pray for these families as they continue to transition into new places to live.



THUMC continues to offer its Sunday worship service online on the church's website (THUMC.org) or on our Facebook page (Facebook.com/TunnelHillUMC). We also realize that everyone doesn't have access to a computer, so if you don't have a computer but you have a DVD player and would like to request a DVD of our service, please let Pastor Jay know by emailing him at jay.tenney@ngumc.net.

Staff Updates

THUMC's Staff Parish Committee has met several times online over the last eight weeks to interview candidates for the Secretary and Youth Pastor Positions. We are excited to share that we are currently in conversation with a youth pastor candidate and are working towards bringing him on the THUMC staff.

As previously announced, Becca Robertson is needing to step down from her position as church secretary because of a promotion that her husband is receiving. She has done an exceptional job for our church and has graciously continued to work remotely for THUMC over the last six weeks. Her last day with us will be May 29th. Becca will be missed dearly by our church family so please join us in expressing our appreciation to her over the next couple of weeks.

THUMC's Garden is Growing!



Many thanks to THUMC's Garden Committee and to all those who are currently working on their plots!

Congratulations 2020 Grads !!!

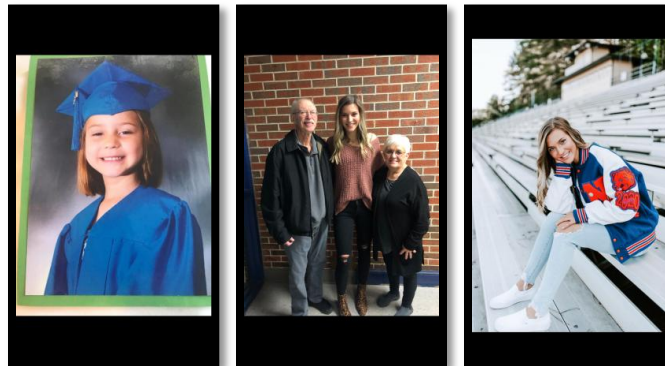


Jack Jackson McRae

Jack is the son of Jason and Jennifer McRae. He is graduating from high school and plans to go into the military to serve his country.

Nicholas Henderson

Grandson of Gene and Kay Henderson. He is graduating from High School in Gwinnett County. He will be attending Kennesaw State University and majoring in Computer Science.



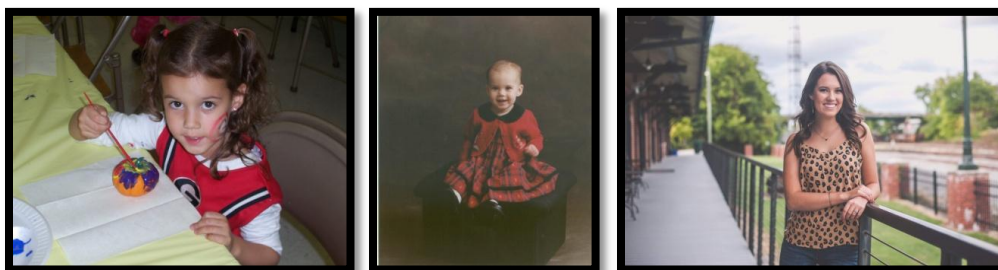
Molly Middleton

Molly is the daughter of Todd and Haley Middleton and granddaughter of Butch & Judy Middleton. Molly is graduating from Northwest High School. She plans to attend Dalton State University to pursue a degree in nursing.



Joseph Taylor

Joseph is the grandson of James and Margaret Doyle. He is graduating from Ringgold High School and will be attending Liberty University majoring in Music Education and Business Administration.



Maddie Tenney

Maddie is the daughter of Jay & Joni Tenney. She is graduating from Christian Heritage School and will be attending the University of Georgia majoring in education.



Margaret & Jim Doyle, Pat Anderson, Barbara Vaughn,
Shirley Gribble, Vera Nations, Frank Moody
THUMC's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
Agnes Sutton-Kay Henderson's Mother
Raya Owens-Friend of Jada Barton
Gabarb Vaughn Summers
Breanne Locklear-Jo Anna Davenport's niece
Marge Fox-Cindy Fehd's mother
Orallia Hernandez-friend of the Middletons
Richard Sharp-Friend of Stephanie Loggins
Dolly Hamby-friend of Kay Jernigan
Eddie Mac Sanders-Friend of Kenny Gowin
Kyler Bass-Friend of Wendy Voiles
Doug Mitchell
Scott Hannah-Friend of Todd Middleton
Mrs. Barbara (Bobbie) Phillips-Mickey Reed's sister
Jack Rhodes-Grandson of Linda & Gerald Pack
Ray & Leona Trotter-Friends of Macoy Griffin
Ronnie Burgess – David Helton's Brother-n-law
Gerald Watkins- Friend of Janice Helton
Zack Webb – Susie Webb's Son
Donna Hooper – Jerry Hooper's wife
Ed Bates
Beth Powell
Joy Bryson
*Ron Page – Susie Webb's Friend
*Johnnie Bogozan – Susie Webb's Friend
*Pam Cook – Brenda Hampton's Sister
*Belinda – Frank & Carol Dubee's Friend

(*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. Thanks!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Budget Needed: \$5,130.00

Total Giving for March

GENERAL BUDGET: \$23,396

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$2,449

Total Giving for April

GENERAL BUDGET: \$14,202

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$2,610

Total Giving for May Thus Far

GENERAL BUDGET: \$41,208

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$600

Be kind and compassionate
to one another, forgiving
each other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.
Ephesians 4:32



Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

Non-Profit

**P.O. Box 146
Tunnel Hill, GA 30755**

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