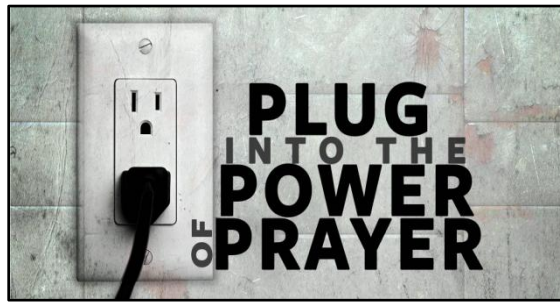


# Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

*The Messenger*

*September 2020*



In James 5:16, we're told that *"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."* That's a bold statement isn't it? The question is, do you believe it? Do you believe that your prayers are powerful and effective? I'm here to tell you that they are. If you are a believer, you have been made righteous by Jesus Christ and therefore your prayers are always heard by God and they are always powerful and effective.

The problem is, we don't always feel like our prayers are powerful. The reason I say that is because, at some point, we've all prayed for some situation to change and it didn't seem to change at all. At least, not in the way that we wanted things to change. However, the truth is, we just might be looking for change to come in the wrong place.

In other words, you might be praying for a certain situation and it seems like nothing on the surface changed but everything underneath and behind the scenes did. Maybe the change actually came in you. Or maybe, the way that you were looking at the situation changed. Maybe how you were dealing with it changed and maybe that's what was needed the most.

And I've got to tell you, that's why I believe in prayer. I believe in prayer not just because I always see immediate changes in the situations that I'm praying about. I believe in prayer because I've seen how it has changed me and my heart toward those situations. And honestly, I've come to realize that in many situations that's what I need the most.

So it can be said, our prayers aren't powerful and effective just because of what they accomplish on the surface in any given situation. They're also powerful and effective because of what they change in us.

For example, if someone has hurt me and I'm angry at them, the best thing that I can do is pray for that person. That's the best place for me to begin. I need to ask God to help them and bless them. Then, if I'm willing to pray for them in that way, over time God will begin to soften my heart toward them. The truth is, the person that I'm angry at may never change. However, if I'm willing to pray for them, then my heart will change and that may be exactly what's needed the most.

So, do you believe that your prayers are powerful and effective? They are. Your prayers may not always change every situation in the exact way that you want them to change but I can promise you, your prayers are always bringing some type of change and they are definitely changing you. And maybe, just maybe, that's what's needed the most.

Grace & Peace,  
Jay



## **Oasis is Back on Wednesday Nights!**

Oasis is excited to announce that starting September 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be getting back to our normal schedule. We will have Youth Worship and Bible Study on Wednesday evenings from 6:15pm – 7:30pm. Hope to see you there!

- Adam

## **Special Offering for Wesley Woods**

Wesley Woods, a ministry founded by the United Methodist Church has been serving older adults for over 60 years in 10 communities across North Georgia. More than 70% of the residents live at or below the poverty level and need financial assistance to make ends meet. Wesley Woods relies on the support of the churches in the North Georgia Conference to support its ministry.

Tunnel Hill UMC has been a significant supporter of Wesley Woods for many years. However, this year because of the pandemic, our church did not receive its annual Mother's Day offering. We would like to still give you an opportunity to help support Wesley Woods so we will be receiving donations now through Sunday, September 13th. If you would like to give, please make your check payable to THUMC, write "Wesley Woods" in the memo section and place your gift in the offering plate on Sunday morning or mail it to: THUMC, P.O Box 146, Tunnel Hill GA, 30755.

Thanks in advance for your support of Wesley Woods!



You're invited to join Pastor Jay online for prayer each Wednesday evening at 6:30pm using the Zoom Website/App. This is a great opportunity to share what's on our hearts with God and with each other. This weekly meeting typically lasts around 30 minutes.

To participate go to <https://www.Zoom.us> and sign on with this info:

Meeting ID: 981 361 7195 / Password: 816365

Hope you can join us!

The Friendship Class sponsors an online Sunday School lesson every Sunday at 10am using the Zoom Website/App.

To participate go to <https://www.Zoom.us> and sign on with this info:

Meeting ID: 729 7056 5806 / Password: 012815

Everyone is invited to take part!



## **Mailing Address for Tithes & Offerings**

We are thankful for the faithfulness and generosity of the THUMC family. Your gifts are enabling us to continue all of the vital ministries of our church. If you need to mail your tithes and offerings, please mail them to: Tunnel Hill UMC, P.O. Box 146 Tunnel Hill, GA 30755. Automatic monthly contributions can also be set up. If you prefer to give in this way, please contact Karen Chesser, THUMC's Financial Secretary. Thanks!

## **Opportunities to Worship at THUMC**

9am in the Fellowship Hall (Using Masks & Social Distancing)

11am in the Sanctuary (Using Masks & Social Distancing)

Or you can watch online using Facebook Live at [Facebook.com/TunnelHillUMC](https://www.facebook.com/TunnelHillUMC)



**Please note:** Beginning September 2020, prayer requests will remain on the list for four weeks. If a request needs to stay on the list longer than four weeks, please let us know. To add or remove a friend or loved one, please contact the church office at (706) 673-4022 or [thumc@optilink.us](mailto:thumc@optilink.us).

*Thank you!*

THUMC Family:

Butch Middleton, Ginny Horne, Maribelle Richardson, Hub Griffin, Becky Gowin

THUMC's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Extended Friends & Family of THUMC:

Robbie Allen – friend of Valerie Cleaver  
Daemon DeCamp – grandson of Melissa Columbia  
Rev. Carl Stall – friend of Valerie Cleaver  
Charlene – friend of Frank & Carol Dubee  
Marla Barbaree – Bill & Carolyn Watkins' daughter  
\*Ken Sumner – friend of Suzie Webb  
\*Sue Rogers – Ron Houston's sister  
\*Rebecca Nottingham – friend of Jeanine Clark  
\*Elizabeth Morales – friend of Liz Dennis  
\*Jim & Joann Middleton – Butch Middleton's aunt & uncle  
\*Hubert Marsh – Ron Houston's friend

(\*Denotes new additions)

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Weekly Budget Needed: \$5,130

**Total Giving for June**

GENERAL BUDGET: \$13,755.59  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$200

**Total Giving for July**

GENERAL BUDGET: \$17,430  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$100

**Total Giving for August Thus Far**

GENERAL BUDGET: \$11,858.59  
DESIGNATED GIVING: \$445

