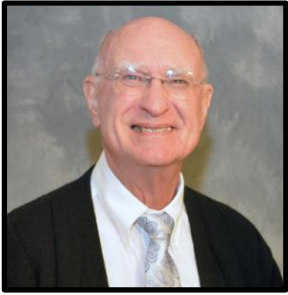


Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church

The Messenger

October 2020

Celebrating Over 70 Years of Music Ministry This Sunday



Hiram Griffin started training to play the piano here at Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church between the age of 12 and 13. His mother, Mrs. Toppi Griffin, quickly realized that Hiram was gifted musically, so she made arrangements for him to begin receiving piano lessons.

The church purchased a new Hammond organ around 1950 and Mrs. Mary Smith began playing it. It was around that same time that Mr. Herschel Bates asked Hiram to start playing the piano in worship. Over the next few years, Mrs. Smith encouraged Hiram to begin playing the organ instead of the piano. He decided that he would make that transition and he has never stopped playing the organ since that time.

Hiram turned 83 last December and he has been volunteering to serve in the Music Ministry of this church for over 70 years! Obviously, this is an amazing feat and a real testament to Hiram's love for God, for this church, and for the worship that takes place here each week.

Hiram recently let us know that he will be unable to continue to serve in this capacity for much longer due to his eyesight not being what it used to be. This has made reading music increasingly difficult. Even though we're going to deeply miss Hiram's music as well as seeing his smiling face each week in the choir loft, we completely understand and respect his decision.

This Sunday, September 27th, during our 11am Worship Service, we are going to celebrate Hiram's dedication to this church and all of his years of service playing the organ. We hope that you will either be able to attend in person or take part in this celebration online. We love you Hiram and we thank you for all that you've done for this church over the years!

THUMC Now Offering Three Opportunities to Worship

9am Contemporary Worship in the Fellowship Hall - This is an upbeat praise service that is designed for those who prefer contemporary music in an informal setting. We are excited to offer this service because it is helping THUMC accommodate more people in worship while also enabling us to reach out to our community in a new way!

11am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary - This service is designed for those who prefer the traditional music and hymns of the church, along with traditional prayers, responses, and creeds. We love offering this worship service to our community because it allows us to worship God while also celebrating the rich heritage and traditions of our faith.

11am LiveStream on THUMC's Facebook Page - THUMC is now Live Streaming the 11am Worship service for those who are not yet ready or able to return to 'in person' worship. These weekly videos also remain on THUMC's FaceBook page so that you can watch them anytime! To tune in, simply go to www.facebook.com/TunnelHillUMC.

Your Health & Safety is Important to Us!

THUMC continues to make every effort to provide a safe environment.

Therefore, we are currently requiring everyone who worships in person at 9am or 11am to wear masks, social distance, and to watch online if you have any symptoms of Covid 19.

OASIS NEWS

It's good to be back! We continue to take slow steps to return to what we consider normal. OASIS begins at 6:15pm on Wednesdays in the OASIS House with food and fun followed by worship and Bible study from 6:30pm-7:30pm. We would love to have all of our students from 6th-12th grades join us.

October 7th we will have a hotdog/marshmallow roast in the backyard at the OASIS house for students. Invite your friends for fun, food, and fellowship. Hope to see you soon! - Adam



Time to Start Packing Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!

Believe it or not, it's time to start gathering items and packing shoeboxes that will bring smiles, hope, and the good news of the gospel to children all over the world.

Suggested items to Pack: Small Toys, Hygiene Items (toothbrush, comb, washcloths, etc.) You can also include socks; ball caps; sunglasses; hair clips; toy jewelry and a note wishing the child a Merry Christmas;

Please Do Not Include: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items (toy guns, knives, or military figures); chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications, vitamins; breakable items, glass containers; aerosol cans.

How to Pack Your Shoebox: Once you have the items collected, please place them in any large sized shoe box or plastic box. Just make sure the lid can be removed and mark your box for either: 2-4 Year Boy/Girl / 5-9 Year Old Boy/Girl, or 10-14 Year Boy/Girl.

Financial Donations: If you wish to make a donation instead of filling a shoebox, \$9 is required to ship each box. If writing a check-please make it payable to THUMC and mark it OPERATION SHOEBOX. If giving cash, place it in an envelope in your Shoebox.

Drop off Deadline/Location: We are not going to have a "ShoeBox Packing Night" this year. You're asked to drop off your shoeboxes in the Friendship Classroom (The Classroom on your right as you enter the side door of the main building) by Sunday, November 1st so they can be shipped.

Packing a Box Online: This year, there's also the option of completely packing a Shoebox online. To do this, go to www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/. Contact Ann Kuzniak at 706-581-8231. Thanks!

WEEKLY ONLINE PRAYER MEETING

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!



SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLINE

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!



Please note: Beginning this month, 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.

Thank you!

THUMC Family:

Butch Middleton, Ginny Horne, Maribelle Richardson, Hub Griffin, Becky Gowin, Sharon Polk & family

THUMC's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Extended Friends & Family of THUMC:

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

*Mike Nuckolls – Butch Middleton's cousin

*Robin Green – family member of Adam Tankersley

*Bobby Balsler – Vanessa Clack's cousin

(*Denotes new additions)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Budget Needed: \$5,130

Total Giving for July

GENERAL BUDGET: \$17,430

DESIGNATED GIVING: \$100

Total Giving for August

GENERAL BUDGET: \$16,655.59

WESLEY WOODS: \$100

OTHER DESIGNATED GIVING: \$495

Total Giving for September Thus Far

GENERAL BUDGET: \$16,982.96

WESLEY WOODS: \$175

OTHER DESIGNATED GIVING: \$678

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

*his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.”*

-Lamentations 3:22-23

