

Offering hope and encouragement everyday!

We believe the church belongs to God and that the church is, in the words of the Apostle Paul, the body of Christ. The church is to be the physical presence of Christ in the world. As such, our primary aim is to do God's will.



# Woodlawn

United Methodist Church

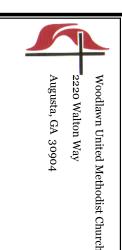
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> Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm



**Preschool Hours:** Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 6:30 pm

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Issue 5 June 2013

## **Our Staff**

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## Come Holy Spirit Pentecost makes all the difference

"Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this [Jesus] meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. (John 7:39-39)

May 15 is Pentecost Sunday-- the birthday of the church.

For some of our United Methodist churches in North Georgia, Pentecost Sunday will reverberate with excitement and joy! For others, Pentecost will be observed only casually. For still others, no mention of Pentecost will be made at all.

It was not that way in the early church! For the first 200 years of the Christian faith, there was only one major season of celebration -- and it wasn't Christmas. Instead, it began around Easter and culminated 50 days later with the festival of Pentecost!

Pentecost was a day to stand amazed at the grace of God. It was a day to embrace a new Spirit -- a time to allow the Holy Spirit of God to energize all their worship and their living.

For the early church, Pentecost was a highlight of the year -- a day of excitement and sheer joy.

### The Outpouring of the Spirit

It was the same way on that first Pentecost, when the disciples of Jesus gathered in Jerusalem.

Acts 2 tells us they experienced a dynamic outpouring of God's presence that day that all but catapulted them into ministry -- witnessing, proclaiming, loving, caring, teaching, baptizing, and sharing with one another.

That first Pentecost was God's trumpet blast to the world, birthing the church of Jesus Christ.

### Wind-and-flame faith

The kind of wind-and-flame Christianity that flows from Pentecost isn't safe. It is radically unsafe -- and uncomfortable. It will cost you everything.

What difference did He make in the lives of the early believers to have the Spirit upon them?

Read about it in the Book of Acts. They sold whatever they owned so they could make sure that each individual need was met; they followed a disciplined routine of worship, prayer, and Bible Study; they lived together in wonderful harmony. And everyday God added to their number those who were being saved.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses," Jesus proclaimed to His disciples. To be a witness for Him is to be a "Christ-bearer" -- to bear the image of Jesus Christ at the deepest roots of who we are, what we do, and where we go.

To that end, may God's Holy Spirit come and fall afresh on us

Rev. Jim

# Anniversaries & Birthdays

#### **Anniversaries**

7: Chris & Carolyn Cannon
8: Mark & Liz Riches
11: Chad & Emily Griffin
13: Ash & Audra McEuen
14: Shane & Jennifer Prince
29: Mike & Danette McGee

#### <u>Birthdays</u>

- 1: Allen Kemp
- 4: Vauda Shea
- 6: Tracey S. Teasley III
- 7: Beth Degner
- 11:Jenny Herrington
- 15: Trevor Reese
- 16: Kasee Jones
- 16: Jasmine Hauling
- 25: Amy McCollough 25: Adam Seaborn
- 27: Isabella Cato
- 28: Beverly Wooten
- 30: Jenny Rinck

Sunday	Team		
June 2nd	Carolyn Cannon Michelle Hertel		
June 9th	Jackie Wiggins Mandy Wiggins		
June 16th	Amy McCollough Bobbie Wilcox		
June 23rd	Fumiko Malave Debbie-Joy Agee		
June 30th	Youth Sunday		

## Member Service Schedule

#### Lay Liturgists

Mandy Griffin Sue McKenney Jenny Herrington Jennifer Love Christa Meliezer

Larry Wiggins Gene Staulcup

Usher Captains

Greeters

# Preschool Update



#### Preschool graduation is May 24, 2013 at 9:45am.

The excitement is building as we prepare for the 2nd annual preschool graduation at Woodlawn. The teachers and children have worked hard all year to make sure the students are prepared to attend the kindergarten of their choice. Audrey Baldwin has already taken the test and she has been accepted to Charles T. Walker for kindergarten. Julianna Rodriguez has submitted an application to Heritage Academy and is expecting to hear from them soon. The time is now! Don't wait and miss out on the opportunity for your child to attend the school of your choice. If you have any questions feel free to stop by the office and speak with Ms.Brenda. Summer Camp starts May 27th. Don't miss out on the fun. We will be offering lots of exciting activities this summer. Last year you where charged only for the weeks you signed up for. We are offering the same opportunity again this year. Summer calendars will be available May 10th. Please return your calendar to Ms. Brenda, Ms. Mary-Anne or Ms. Fumiko no later than May 17th. Availability is on a first come basis.

Spread the word about camp and receive a **free** week of child care if you refer a child to summer camp.



#### Youth News KNOW YOUR STORY...CONFIRM YOUR FAITH... LIVE YOUR COMMITMENT...

May 5 will be a very special Sunday for our church. Five youth: Jacques Nipper, Adam Kiss, Kennedy Smith, Lyndsey Willcox, and Noah Willcox will be Baptized. Then they will join Amanda McCollough and Nicholas Ellington in Confirming publicly their Baptismal vows. According to "By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism and Confirmation,"

"Deliberate preparation for[Confirmation] focuses on the young person's selfunderstanding and appropriation of Christian doctrines, spiritual disciplines, and life of discipleship. It is a special time for experiencing divine grace and for consciously embracing one's Christian vocation."

This past year, we have explored what it really means to be a United Methodist and a disciple of Christ. We, as a group, have grown closer together through Christ during this journey: asking tough questions, supporting each other, studying the Bible, and praying for our community. I feel so blessed to have worked with these youth and I'm also so excited to see these seven proclaim their love for Christ! Thank you to the congregation for lifting them up during their spiritual journey and celebrating this special occasion!!

#### God Bless!

# **Rethink Church...**



Join us! Contemporary Worship Sundays @ 9:06am

- What if every person was really welcome in every church?
- What if the expression "We never did it that way before" was never heard again?
- What if our hearts, our minds, and our doors were truly open?



## Worship Caravan is coming to Woodlawn!

The Worship Caravan in a group of youth in middle school and high school. They are from West Heights UMC in Wichita, Kansas, and they travel across the country every year leading worship in different churches. This year their message is titled "The Things I Stand For". Don't miss out on this awesome message these youth have come to share with us!





PreschoolHigh SchoolCollegeJulianna RodriguezTanner CatoAudrey BaldwinKinnidy WilliamsAudrey DurhamLarue HicksJayana TaylorElliot Glendon



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