

February 2018

Dearest Young Harris,

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The Athens-Elberton District offers Lay Servant courses for those interested in enhancing their experience and leadership. No preaching is not required. Leadership UMC from the North Georgia Conference provides leadership training for Methodists with any gift. The United Methodist Church needs membership to invest our gifts in the continuation of our mission: making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

God asks all of us whatever our gift to offer our individual contribution. Start a Bible Study or a mission. Offer to turn on the heat/air on Sunday morning. What ideas do you have? What's on your heart? What gifts can we bring to enhance the life and community of Young Harris and Athens? I encourage you to pray and meditate on your spiritual gifts.

Nancee Tomlinson
Latino Council Team Member

What's Happening at Young Harris UMC

Ash Wednesday Service (February 14, 5:30 p.m.) - Dinner Following

Palm Sunday (March 25, 11:00 a.m.)

Maundy Thursday Service (March 29, 5:30 p.m.)

Good Friday Service (March 30, 12:00 p.m.) - Lunch Following

Easter Sunday (April 1, 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service & 11 a.m. Combined Service)

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Young Harris UMC will begin our journey to the Cross of Jesus with a 5:30 p.m. worship service on Wednesday, February 14.

Following the service, we will share in a simple dinner of soup and salad will follow in the FLC Dining Hall. A variety of soups prepared by Young Harris UMC members will be served. A free-will offering will be collected.

Please let the office know if you plan to attend.

Ministerios Ebenezer during 2018

We will be continuing our Sunday services at 11 a.m. We continue to meet on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. in the Whittemore Building.

On Fridays we meet to worship and praise the Lord at "Preparing Your Lamp," beginning at 7 p.m.

You are invited to participate in all of our gatherings!

Here are some of our projects *In The Oven*:

1. Spanish Classes are planned to begin in February. You may not believe it, but most immigrants cannot read or write in Spanish or in English. We plan to open the doors for ministry by offering Spanish literacy classes to the community!
2. Way to serve the community inside and outside the community of Faith
3. Jesus Lynch within our community of Faith (She need a wheelchair ramp at her house). We plan to help build this for her.
4. Josefina and Juan outside our community of Faith (waiting for address to visit them).

Each step we take in our personal discipleship and as a congregation is an achievement for the Kingdom of God because it is a sign that we are understanding the mission of being a disciple of Jesus.

God bless Young Harris UMC for continuing to be faithful to the Gospel call to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World!

New YHMUMC.com Website - Coming Soon!

Progress is being made on the new website. Thank you all for being patient

The new website promises to be new, improved and interactive!

Bible Study reaching UGA Students

Kyle Haney and Audrey Mitchell, members of Young Harris UMC and students of UGA, continue to lead a new Bible study group. Let us pray for their ministry to UGA students.

If you would like to participate in this Bible study OR if you would like to provide snacks for it, speak with Kyle and Audrey, or contact Pastor David.

Children's Sunday School - Expanding!

Our Children's Sunday school class has now become "classes!" As a result of growth and a need to meet our older elementary aged children in a better way, we have split our growing children's Sunday school class from one class into two classes. The early children's class will be for children ages pre-K through grade 1. The new older elementary class will be for children from grade 2 through grade 4.

Ellen Jones continues to teach the early elementary children. Dawn Church has enthusiastically taken on the older elementary children! We are grateful for their essential ministry to the community for Young Harris UMC.

Eventually, we suspect that we will have three children's Sunday school classes that will divide between Pre-K - 1st Grade, 2nd Grade - 3rd Grade, and 4th Grade - 5th Grade. Pray with us that God will grow our children's ministry and take our ministry to the city to the next level!

Spring 2018 Events for MYF!

February 24: Atlanta Motor Speedway day at the races

March 24: MYF Bowling Night

April 28: Athens Y-Camps (Tallulah Falls, Georgia) High & Low Ropes Course

May 20: Summer Break Kick-off / BBQ

More details will be forthcoming! Stay tuned, Young Harris UMC.

How Can You Support MYF?

Here is a short list for how you can be a part of the excitement that is our RENEWING Youth Ministry to Athens:

- Become a Prayer Warrior and Encourager of our Youth. If you are interested in Praying for one of our youth and encouraging them in various ways.

- Volunteer to COOK a meal on Sunday nights! Contact Erin McElroy at ERINBAILEY20@GMAIL.COM to get plugged in.

- Support Your Church with funding for each youth to attend events throughout the year.

- Volunteer to be a Sunday School teach or a small group leader for youth. We will soon be creating age & gender specific small groups. WE NEED YOU! VOLUNTEER TODAY!

- Spread the word about our MYF! If you know a youth who may like to join in the fun, we'd love to have them come along!

Thanks for being a valued part of MYF at Young Harris UMC during 2018!

Psalm 98:4 tells us to "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!". If you can be joyful, and you can make noise, we want you in our choir! Don't worry if you can't read music, we'll teach you what you need to know!

(And you can learn a lot of what we sing by ear.) This is the perfect time to join our choir, as we're getting ready to start work on our Easter Cantata. If you have questions, please see Jenn LaRue, or email jlalrue@yhmumc.com

Women and Men at Young Harris UMC

Women's Circles for UMW are held the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and the 2nd Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Linda MacKean at lindamac@gmail.com or [404-556-0361](tel:404-556-0361)

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets each Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m. in the FLC, Room 308. We promise a great breakfast and a good Bible Study. All men are welcome. It's a new year, let's start it out right!

Missions Opportunities

Sweetheart Luncheon - February 14 - Make sure to attend the Sweetheart Luncheon on Sunday, February 14, to support our mission trip to Nicaragua this summer! Following worship we will have auctions for desserts and other gifts! If you have questions, please speak with Mike McLaughlin, Penny Clark, or Misty Crowley.

As a celebration gift, the Nicaragua Mission team is assembling a Praise Banner for Arc de Noah in Salinas Grande. Please pick a favorite scripture, prayers, and/or inspirational message that you would like to share with the congregation in Salinas Grande. Quilting squares will be available at the Sweetheart Lunch for you to write your contribution on. The squares will be assemble prior to our June 23 trip.

Serve Meals at Our Daily Bread - If you are interested in volunteering, we would like for you to participate! Every month a group of volunteers get together to serve a meal to the less fortunate of the Athens Community. This past month of January, Jean Welch, Annelle Nelms, Liz and John Winn, and Dawn Church served 52 people. Praise God for our Young Harris faithful servants.

The following are YHUMC's Special Giving Sundays for 2018:

February 25 - The Housing and Homeless Council of North Georgia

March 11 - Athens Prayer Network

April 1 - One Community Garden Easter Offering

May 13 - Wesley Wood's Mothers' Day Offering

June 3 - NGUMC's Annual Conference Appeal from Bishop Sue

July 15 - Murphy-Harpst Special Offering

August 26 - The UGA Wesley Foundation Special Offering
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Faye Lester, Peg Christian, Mildred Edwards, Mavis Allgood, Sara Phillip, Joann Escoe,

- Pray for the ministry and impact of Young Harris UMC to the city.
 - Pray for the Latino Ministry.
 - Pray for our members and friends who are "shut-in" presently.
 - Pray for the Youth Ministry that is happening at Young Harris UMC.
 - Pray for the peace and justice in the world.
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February Birthdays

Liz Winn 2/4
Aly Richt 2/5
Gwen Holmes 2/5
Kathy Phillips 2/5
Gwen Aaron 2/11
Shannon Flahery 2/11
Joseph MCarthy 2/13

Bryan Craft 2/14
Jean Welch 2/17
Jana Richt 2/19
Daniel Self 2/20
Sara Tabb 2/24
Claire Ullrich 2/26

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