

October 2018



Dear Young Harris Memorial UMC,

There is a struggle happening in our society during our time. An old, old struggle that runs far deeper than our understanding of the innocence or guilt of leaders in our land, the perceived blurring of objectivity from divergent parties, or which group of people are "more right." Anyone younger than 50 years of age may have to rely on history books and word-of-mouth stories to capture some understanding of the struggles we are experiencing presently.

We have not experienced political tensions like these in a long time, but, during the two thousand years of church history, they have happened with regularity. What we are experiencing is more accurately a struggle among powers and principalities of the world and humankind's sinful curse. Do not misunderstand these key elements. The political discord and the emergence of violence is far larger than the narrative that we are told in the mainstream of information. Despite where our political affiliations lie, we must remember that we are children of the living God, shown the Way by the life of Jesus, and made manifest through the Holy Spirit in our fellowship as one body!

The Apostle Paul tells the church in Ephesus that our struggles are "against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (Ephesians 6:12) He also wrote that "having disarmed the powers and authorities, (Jesus) made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the Cross" (Colossians 2:14).

The world needs Jesus now and we are commanded to be his ambassadors now, not encouraged! The world has needed Jesus since the fall of humanity in the Garden. That has always been the plan of God - that Jesus would intervene as The Savior of the World. The Church of Jesus Christ can point the world toward The Way! Jesus Christ has used His Church throughout the millennia to do this. May we remember that "His intent was that now, through the Church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Ephesians 3:10-11).

In Christ alone,
Pastor David

What's Happening at Young Harris UMC



Homecoming Sunday is October 14:

We welcome everyone to invite your friends and family to celebrate 109 years of ministry and life in Athens, GA!

Following our combined worship service at 11 a.m. with former minister, Reverend Carey Gibson preaching, we will have a covered dish luncheon following the service.

Everyone is invited!



Each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Susan Clark and Chuck Clark have been cooking tasty meals for YOU! We want you to be here, too!

Pastor David will be leading us with a simple Bible study from the text, "Experiencing God," by Henry Blackaby. Some folks stay for our Bible study and some eat and then go home happy and full!

Please RSVP this week and share in the tastiest meal you will eat all week long by emailing or calling Patti in the church office.

2020 VISION TEAM

Young Harris Memorial UMC is a congregation called to "Grow with God." We are, therefore, "Growing with God" and seek to invite others to do so! This congregation believes she is being sent out to cultivate, nurture, and harvest with God for His Glory! We are called to share the Love of God with anyone and everyone! We believe that this is our task: to Grow with God by making disciples of Jesus Christ, to care for people, to be Gods witness to people, and to serve

God and God's people accordingly. We believe we are being sent into the world to do this. We believe Athens is the starting place that we do this, but we believe God is not calling us only to Athens, but, instead, to both Athens and beyond. We believe Young Harris Memorial UMC to be our home, our base, from where God is sending us out in ministry and mission. We love this congregation, but it is not the end all, be all. It is God's and not ours to hold.

We believe our **Mission**, moving forward, is to plant and to nurture Spirit-filled relationships in God through Christ-centered Prayer, Fellowship, Discipleship, Worship, and Service.

We believe our **Vision**, moving forward, is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by loving caring, serving, and witnessing through Athens and the world, to the Glory of God!

Church Council Meeting - October 15, 6 p.m. (in the FLC Dining Hall)

Our final scheduled church council meeting of 2018 will this Monday at 6 p.m. We will discuss and elect our YHMUMC Leadership for 2019 in preparation for our Charge Conference on October 21. This is an open meeting for members to attend.

2018 Charge Conference - October 21, 5 p.m. (at Chapelwood UMC)

We will participate in an "Area Charge Conference" with the Athens Area of our District on Sunday, October 21 at 5:00 p.m. Last year, Dr. Clark chose to make it his priority to have individual charge conferences at EVERY congregation. However, with almost 90 congregations in our Athens-Elberton District, this can be daunting.



Young Harris Memorial UMC's 2018 Charge Conference will take place at a location to be named alongside our sister congregations in the Athens Area, who include Chapelwood, Oconee Street, St. James, Tuckston, Resurrection (formerly Gateway), and Athens First. This will be a time of celebration for the ministry of 2018 and a time of prayer and preparation for the work before us during 2019.

youth **MINISTRY**

Remaining Summer Activity Calendar for 2018

October 14- Nerf War and supper w/ Oconee Street and Chapelwood UMC's (The cost will be \$10/youth).

October 28- Movie Night: *Hocus Pocus*

December 9- Movie Night: *Home Alone*

December 16- Ice Skating at the Classic Center with First, Chapelwood, Oconee Street, St. James and Tuckston UMC's. (SO COOL!)

One of the most effective ways to impact the life of a youth in our congregation and our community for Jesus Christ is to offer them your real presence.

If you are interested in serving in this way, please speak with Pastor David or with Blake for more information.



Confirmation - All Saints Service, November 4, 11 a.m.

Fall Confirmation will be on All Saints Sunday during a COMBINED 11 o'clock worship service on November 4. There will be 4 or 5 youth to be confirmed this year.

They have been in one-hour intensive classes each Sunday, before MYF since August. They are really engaged and they are making great progress. Please continue to pray for them as they are learning more about the Doctrines of the Church as well as better understanding their personal relationship with Christ.

Women and Men at Young Harris UMC



Men's BBQ was a fun-filled success

On October 3 the Fall UMM BBQ was held here at Young Harris UMC. A lot of people came out to support the cause.

The Men's Club thanks everyone for all you did in support of this ministry.



Women's Circles for UMW are held the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Em's Kitchen for Circle 1 and 2:00 p.m. for Circle 2 in the Family Life Center. The 2nd Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Circle 3 meets in the Family Life Center. For more information contact Geneva Milliner.

Women's Prayer meeting at Em's Kitchen 1st Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Exceptions will note on calendar.

UMW Circle 3 are asking everyone at YHMUMC to consider packing a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child! If you want to help out, there are boxes available in the Fellowship Hall, next to the Sanctuary. They have set a goal to collect 50 boxes!

Let's support Circle 3 in their AWESOME mission to children who might otherwise not receive a Christmas gift.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets each Wednesday mornings at 7:00 a.m. in the FLC, Dining Room.

We are back and in full swing! We invite YOU to attend our Wednesday morning breakfast! You will be fed twice! Once with an amazing breakfast and again with the Word of God!



Friday Evening's at 7:00-8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join the Prayer and Worship group that meets in the Ebenezer Sanctuary. Rev. Angela Baza leads the group in Spanish.

Missions Opportunities & Updates

The Following Sundays will include giving opportunities to these organizations:

October 21 - Aldersgate/Collinswood Offering
December 24 - Our Daily Bread's "Christmas Eve Offering"



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. Praise God for our Young Harris faithful servants.

One Community Garden volunteers will be working 2-4 p.m. Sundays and 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

If you enjoy gardening or if you would like to learn a little bit about gardening, we would like to help you become involved in this ministry. To sign up, email Mike (caidaz@gmail.com) or Allison afloydwriter@yahoo.com)



Special General Conference Called

The Council of Bishops have called a special General Conference to be held February of 2019 to discuss a way forward for the United Methodist Church amid disagreements regarding the UMC Book of Discipline's definition of Christian marriage and the stated

qualifications for the ordination of United Methodist clergy. Both issues stem from the long-standing debate regarding human sexuality.

The called General Conference will include those delegates who were elected to attend and participate in the 2016 General Conference that was held in Portland, Oregon. This General Conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri.

The purpose of this General Conference will be "to receive and act on a report from The Commission of a Way Forward based on the recommendations by the Council of Bishops. Please pray for The United Methodist Church as we inch closer toward this special General Conference. For more information or to read the proposals being presented to the General Conference go to **[CLICK THE WEBSITE HERE.](#)**

Please contact the church office with prayers and praises so we may pray! Many members of our church need your special prayers.

Prayer for the following:

Faye Lester, Peg Christian, Mildred Edwards, Betty Mann, Joann Escoc, Pat Osley, Gwen Holmes, Evelyn Echols, Roy and Jean Welch, Lluana Brown, Gwen Aaron, Sherry Bowie, Chuck Clark.

- Pray for the Contemporary Service at 9:00 a.m.
 - Pray for the Latino Ministry as we come upon our first year of Hispanic worship YHMUMC.
 - Pray for our members and friends who are "shut-in" presently.
 - Pray for the ministry to children and youth at YHMUMC.
 - Pray for Christ to be known in the world.
 - Pray for our nation and other nations.
 - Pray for God's hand to be upon our leaders.
 - Pray for the United Methodist Church's Way Forward.
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Birthdays
of the Month

October Birthdays

- Jackie Lunsford - 10/1
- Maria Urillas - 10/1
- Ruby Field - 10/6
- Cynthia Nunnally - 10/7
- Willa McElroy - 10/9
- Faye Lester - 10/10
- Louise Dunn - 10/12
- Michael McLaughlin - 10/13
- Geneva Milliner - 10/14
- Gerald Bowie - 10/15
- Christine Harmon - 10/18
- Mike Lester - 10/27
- Kathryn Spratlin - 10/29
- Nancee Tomlinson - 10/30



October Pictures of the Month!





Last month we had our first Cub Scouts, Pack 310 meeting, led by Pack Leader, Daryll Victorio. It was 9/11, so they invited Athens-Clarke County Fire, Police, and EMS to show off their neat equipment!



Ellie Wofford is our Young Harris Memorial UMC trailblazer of the month! She is officially the first female scout in the

Submit your favorite Young Harris UMC pictures to dwofford@yhmumc.com or psimpson@yhmumc.com. It may just get chosen!
