



# THE MESSENGER



DULUTH FIRST UMC'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

## The Lenten Season Is Upon Us

“Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray”.<sup>1</sup> The Lenten season is upon us once more—forty days, excluding Sundays, of preparation for the Easter season. But what does this mean for us? Are we to fast and pray as Jesus did? Well, perhaps.

**Pray ... absolutely.** Use these days to focus on your prayer life. Pray more regularly. Seek a prayer partner. Journal your prayers. Memorize a new prayer. I particularly like this one:

New every morning  
is your love, great  
God of light, and all  
day long you are  
working for good in  
the world. Stir up in  
us desire to serve you,  
to live peacefully with  
our neighbors, and to  
devote each day to  
your Son, our Savior,  
Jesus Christ the Lord.<sup>2</sup>



**And fasting ... yes, that too.** I have tried it many times – sweets, bread, coffee (Boy that was a mistake!) But maybe fasting doesn't mean consuming less food, or food that we really love. Perhaps it means finding space—decluttering our lives to make room for Christ and for others, both in ways we have never before considered.

My prayer is that Duluth First United Methodist Church might make more room for daily conversation with God, and that we might remove obstacles that separate us from God and our from our neighbor. As we grow closer in our walk with Christ, may we walk with each other.

May Christ “abide with us,” not only throughout these forty days, but “through this life,” that “an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last”.<sup>1</sup>

APP lovers: try **PRAY AS YOU GO**, available for free on all platforms. It makes my commute so much better!

Whatever you do, do something more. To borrow from our formula for financial stewardship, grow one step in your prayer life.

God's peace,

*David Daniel*

Minister of Music & Worship Arts

<sup>1</sup> Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days. Text: Claudia Frances Hernaman, 1873. The United Methodist Hymnal, 269.

<sup>2</sup> New Every Morning. “An Order for Morning Praise and Prayer”. The United Methodist Hymnal, 877.

### INSIDE THE MESSENGER

News & Announcements.....1-11    Prayer Requests.....3    Finances.....3    Attendance.....3



## Duluth First United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 699, 3208 Duluth Hwy. 120,  
Duluth, GA 30096  
Phone: 770-476-3776  
website: [www.duluthumc.org](http://www.duluthumc.org)

## Sunday Worship Services

8:30 a.m.—Traditional Worship service  
with Communion in the Sanctuary.  
11:00 a.m.—Contemporary Worship service  
in Hinton Hall.  
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship service  
in the Sanctuary.

## General Conference

Regarding the recent special called General Conference of the United Methodist Church, some are pleased with the outcome and some are displeased with the outcome. Here at Duluth First UMC, we will welcome all with open hearts, open minds, and open doors, and we will abide by The Book of Discipline, which guides United Methodist policy and polity.

Our disagreements are not as powerful as our oneness in Christ. We will be in ministry to and with and for all people. We will seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Thanks,  
**Terry Tippens,**  
Senior Pastor



## Daylight Saving Time Begins:

### March 10<sup>th</sup>

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday evening. This is also an excellent time to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.



## Mardi Gras Pancake Supper:

### March 5<sup>th</sup>

Make plans to celebrate Mardi Gras with your family and friends by attending a **FREE** pancake supper on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will also be sausage, bacon, coffee, juice, milk, and water. Supper is **FREE**, but donations are appreciated! Proceeds will benefit the Duluth First UMC Music Ministry.

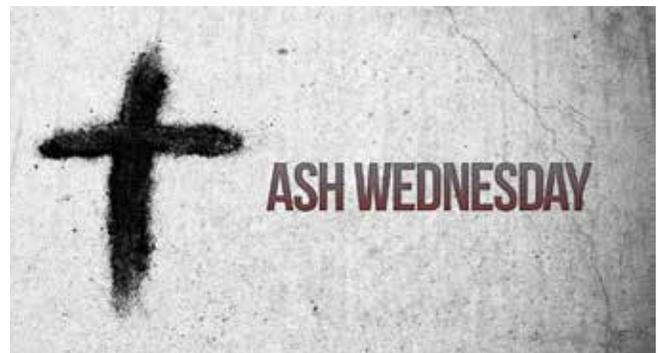


## Ash Wednesday Service:

### March 6<sup>th</sup>

Ash Wednesday will be observed on March 6<sup>th</sup> with a short service, led by Rev. C. Kay Fuino, Associate Pastor, beginning at 6 p.m. in Hinton Hall, located in the Family Life Center. During the service ashes will be placed on foreheads as we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within our community of faith.

**PLEASE NOTE: The service will take place during our regular Wednesday evening supper format, so plan to arrive early and receive your food before the service begins.** Dinner is served beginning at 5 p.m. Food service will be stopped while the Ash Wednesday service is taking place. It will resume at the conclusion of the service.





**Prayers Needed for...**

- Jeff Campbell • Charlotte Clark
- Carol Curry • Lorraine Day
- Bill Flynt • Ella Martha Gamble
- Amalie Harvill • Greg Hodges • Bruce Houston
- Mandy Houston • Kelly Kelkenberg
- Katherine Knox • Nelson Murdoch
- Claudia Orr • Herb Schlubach
- Jeff Schulz • Michele Stotter
- Tommy Summerville • Max Valentin
- Jim Waid • Nezzie Wilson
- Peggy Woods • Amy Worthington
- The family of Sarah Gearing in her death.
- Kay Hawkinson & family in the death of her mother.
- Bud Knox & family in the death of his brother-in-law.

**Need Prayers?**

You can submit your prayer requests online at [www.duluthumcprayers.org](http://www.duluthumcprayers.org). Members of the Prayer Network will pray for you, a family member or friend throughout the week. Requests can be general and made anonymously.



**Church Operating Fund**

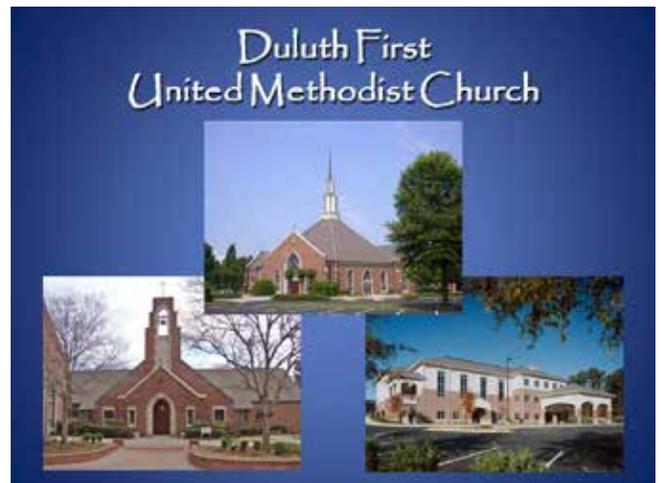
Received on February 3	\$40,919.25
Received on February 10	\$78,112.40
Received on February 17	\$38,096.31
Received on February 24	\$21,690.60

**Year-to-Date, 2019**

Received as of February 24	\$307,014.22
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**Building Fund: Year-to-Date, 2019**

Received as of February 24	\$35,777.51
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**Worship Attendance:**

February 3	515
February 10	464
February 17	438
February 24	517

## United Methodist Women's High Tea:

March 9<sup>th</sup>

The United Methodist Women invite all ladies, ages 6 and up, of the church to join us, along with their guests, to their second annual **High Tea**, being held on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your mothers, daughters, granddaughters, neighbors and friends to attend this fun and fabulous event. Tables will be set with beautiful tea services and scrumptious goodies will be served by gracious and skillful gentlemen in black bow ties. Wear your hats, gloves and lovely spring attire, but hats and gloves are not required.



There is no charge for attending the **High Tea**, but a love offering will be collected to benefit Wellspring Living in their fight against human trafficking. Please sign up in the Gathering Room or outside Hinton Hall. Space is limited, so get your reservation in early. You will not want to miss this marvelous, fun-filled event!

## Hands of Christ Duluth

### Cooperative Ministry

### in Need of Donations and Volunteers

**Hands of Christ Duluth Cooperative Ministry**, a local missions ministry supported by Duluth First United Methodist Church, is in need of peanut butter and jelly donations, as well as volunteers, in the month of March. **Hands of Christ** provides emergency assistance to the needy in our area. Volunteers assist in packing bags of food for clients, receiving donations, and stocking shelves.



Donations of peanut butter and jelly can be left in the **Hands of Christ** collection bins located at the rear entrance of the Family Life Center, and in the Narthex (the main entrance to the Sanctuary). Volunteers can sign up for a 2 hour shift (either 10 a.m. to noon, or noon to 2 p.m.) on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. Sign up electronically on SignUp Genius for the Hands of Christ March 2019 Pantry Volunteers at [www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044BA5AD29ABF49-hands](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044BA5AD29ABF49-hands).

If you need assistance, please contact Annette Pierce by e-mail at [apierce60@bellsouth.net](mailto:apierce60@bellsouth.net), or Wynn Hickam by e-mail at [whickam@bellsouth.net](mailto:whickam@bellsouth.net). For additional information about the **Hands of Christ Duluth Cooperative Ministry**, please visit their website at [www.duluthco-op.org](http://www.duluthco-op.org).

## Updates on the New Air Handlers and New Lights for the Sanctuary

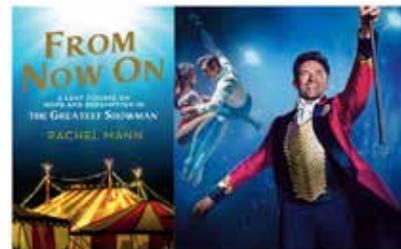
The new air handlers for the Sanctuary will be installed beginning March 18<sup>th</sup>. There will not be heat in the Sanctuary for 2 to 3 weeks beginning March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please bring a jacket for worship if it is cold outside on March 24<sup>th</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, Norman Circle will be blocked on the west side of the church on March 19<sup>th</sup> and March 21<sup>st</sup> for the crane to lift the new air handlers into the building.

The new lights for the Sanctuary will be installed in the spring. There will be two Sundays where we will not be able to use the Sanctuary and will meet in Hinton Hall. We will also announce the exact dates as soon as we are informed.

## Preparing for Lent with *The Greatest Showman*: Study Begins March 13<sup>th</sup>

Lent is the preparation we do to receive Christ on Easter Sunday. There are always options for us as to how we prepare, study or simply glide through the season. This year one option, a study based on the popular movie ***The Greatest Showman***, is **From Now On: A Lent Course on Hope and Redemption**, by Rachel Mann.

Taking the film ***The Greatest Showman*** as a starting point, the course explores ways in which themes of faith, hope and redemption run through all our lives.



It examines how each of us, like P. T. Barnum and the members of his circus, face and can overcome doubt, temptation and prejudice, and how we can begin to live authentic lives.

We will begin by watching the movie together in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m., or you may watch it on your own at some time prior to our first class. The five-week study, led by Rev. C. Kay Fuino, begins on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 7 p.m. in room F-145. Books for the study are \$10 and are available on Amazon or we can order one for you.

Please contact Tracy Brinker by e-mail at [tbrinker@duluthmc.org](mailto:tbrinker@duluthmc.org), or at 770-476-3776, to register for the study. Let her know if you want to attend the movie on March 10<sup>th</sup> and if you will need childcare that day. Please let her know if you want the church to order your copy of the book. Please contact Rev. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at [ckfuino@duluthmc.org](mailto:ckfuino@duluthmc.org) or call 770-476-3776, ext. 117, for additional information.

## **Ready, Set, Go to Buffalo with Friends**

Are you ready to join the fabulous adult Buffalo Mission Team on July 13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> for service this summer? The team serves the Seneca-Babcock neighborhood through Seneca Street United Methodist Church by supporting a reading camp, leading the first week of a Reading Camp for children in 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Camp is held Monday through Thursday each morning, and afternoons include activities around the church and a Bible study/spa day for the mothers of the neighborhood. We serve dinner for the neighborhood on Sunday after attending worship at the church. We will also purchase and pack school supplies for about 100 children who attend and support reading camp.



Prior to the start of reading camp the team explores parts of Buffalo and surrounding areas, such as the locks on the Erie Canal, or Frank Lloyd Wright's homes. There is plenty of time to get to know other team members and share in the joys of Christian fellowship. This trip is a great time to meet new people, serve a sister church and share the love of Christ.

**Rev. Brian Rotach, Pastor at Seneca Street United Methodist Church, and his wife Cheryl will be at our church on March 17<sup>th</sup> to share about Seneca Street and to answer questions about the reading camp.** Join them in the Fellowship Hall after the 11 o'clock services for sandwiches and cookies, and they will talk more about this wonderful opportunity to serve. For any questions before that time please contact Rev. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at [ckfuino@duluthumc.org](mailto:ckfuino@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 117.

## **Easter Egg Hunt: April 20<sup>th</sup>**

Come join us on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, for an Easter Egg Hunt at Duluth First UMC! It will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and all children from preschool through elementary age are invited to participate. Children in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be painting an Easter canvas with a special artist from our congregation. Everyone will meet in the Fellowship Hall before the hunt begins.



Donations of candy are needed to fill the plastic eggs. Candy can be dropped off in the Easter Egg Hunt drop boxes located in the Fellowship Hall and outside of Hinton Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Yokeley by e-mail at [lyokeley@duluthumc.org](mailto:lyokeley@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 38. Come and join the fun as we hunt for eggs together!

## **Join Us for Wednesday Night Dinners in Hinton Hall**

### **March 6<sup>th</sup>**

Fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, fried okra, biscuits, dessert  
For the kids - the same

### **March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Pot roast with gravy, buttered noodles, carrots, broccoli, biscuits, dessert  
For the kids - grilled cheese sandwiches & fries

### **March 20<sup>th</sup>**

Chicken parmesan, pasta with marinara sauce, English peas, zucchini, garlic bread, dessert  
For the kids - pizza

### **March 27<sup>th</sup>**

Chicken fried chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, collard greens, fried okra, corn muffins, dessert  
For the kids - chicken tenders & chips

The Dinner Belles and Beaus prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Dinner is served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Hinton Hall of the Family Life Center. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends.

We are also offering a salad bar special. For only \$4 you can enjoy a fully stocked salad bar, a baked potato/sweet potato, dessert and drink.

Prices are: adults - \$7;  
seniors (age 60 and up) - \$6;  
children ages 11 years and under \$4;  
children under 2 years eat for free;  
no family (immediate family members only) pays more than \$19.

**You can now pay for your dinner(s) with a credit card or debit card.**

**NOTE: Menus are subject to change.  
For the week's menu please visit the church's website at [www.duluthumc.org](http://www.duluthumc.org).**



## **“SOS” Adult Sunday School Class to Study “Discipleship and Mission”**

### **Beginning in March**

In the month of March, the “SOS” Adult Sunday School class will begin a 3-month series of lessons focusing on what it means to be a disciple, and how we can put what we learn from Jesus Christ into practice, to follow where His voice leads and to make a difference in the world. Entitled **“Discipleship and Mission”**, the series comes from The Standard Lesson Commentary, the nation’s most popular Bible study resource for more than twenty years.

In March, each lesson will highlight the **“Call to Discipleship”**, using passages from the Gospel according to Luke to illustrate the lessons Jesus taught us. During April, the study covers **“Call to Ministry”** and focuses on the Book of Matthew to reveal what we are called as Believers to do. Finally in May, the **“Call to Life in Christ”** lessons mine the Apostle Paul’s letter to the new church in Rome (Romans) to fully reveal the doctrine of the church and our ultimate calling as disciples of Christ.

This Spring series promises to be a refreshing exploration of New Testament Scripture, and it encourages true life change! Our class provides the lesson book free of charge, and each lesson contains printed Scripture, verse-by-verse explanation of the Bible text, detailed lesson background, and discussion starters. The SOS Class is a fun-loving group that will welcome visitors who may want to join in this lesson series! We sit “in circle” in a relaxed environment, we value each other’s differences, and our goal is to help one another to better know Christ. The class meets during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour in room F-150, located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Family Life Center, toward the back corner.

## **New Scouts BSA Program at Duluth First UMC**

For the first time in its 100+ year history, the iconic program of the Boy Scouts of America will be open to young women. **Scouts BSA** is a year-round program for boys and girls in 5<sup>th</sup> grade through high school that provides fun, adventure, learning, challenge, and responsibility to help them become the best version of themselves. In **Scouts BSA**, young men and women go places, test themselves, and have one-of-a-kind adventures that can’t be found anywhere else. Scouting builds character and instills values for a lifetime.

We will be starting a new **Scouts BSA** program aimed at young women in the Duluth area at Duluth First United Methodist Church. If interested or have any questions please contact James Dykes through email at [jamesd02@msn.com](mailto:jamesd02@msn.com).

## **Christian Beginnings Wins “Best of Gwinnett 2018” Award**

Christian Beginnings, Duluth First UMC’s weekday Preschool and Kindergarten program, has won **“The Best of Gwinnett 2018”** award! We are thrilled to have received this award for the second year in a row! We are thankful to be able to serve Duluth First UMC and our community. A special “thank you” to all who have supported this wonderful ministry for children.



## **Register for the Christian Beginnings Preschool and Kindergarten 2019-2020 School Year**

Our registration for the **Christian Beginnings Preschool and Kindergarten 2019-2020** school year is underway. What better way for your child, or a friend’s child, to learn their ABC’S, numbers, shapes, God’s love for us and so much more, than in a caring, loving, Christian environment.

They will have fun and make friends while attending our accredited, award winning school: in 2017 and 2018 we won the **“Best of Gwinnett”** award. We hope you will come join us! If you know of anyone looking for a wonderful preschool, please send him or her our way.



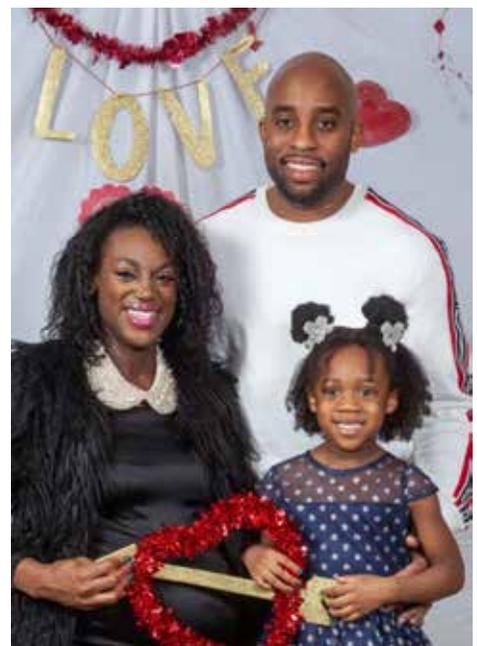
Our Preschool and Kindergarten program is for children ages 6 weeks (by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019) through kindergarten. Registration is underway and the registration fee is \$180.00 per child.

If you would like more information regarding **Christian Beginnings Preschool and Kindergarten**, or if you would like to schedule a tour, please contact Pat Szathmary by e-mail at [pszathmary@duluthumc.org](mailto:pszathmary@duluthumc.org) or call 770-497-1743.

# Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten: Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance.



*Photographs courtesy  
of John Barfield at  
Barfield Legacy  
Photography  
in Duluth, GA.*



## Save the Dates!

### Vacation Bible School 2019:

June 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

Mark your calendars and save the dates for the “Roar” 2019 Vacation Bible School at Duluth First United Methodist Church, being held Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Registration will begin Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

Vacation Bible School, held from 9 a.m. to noon each day, is for kids ages pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The cost is \$30 per child with a maximum of \$70 per family.



All participant registration forms, as well as volunteer forms for “Roar” Vacation Bible School, will be available on the church’s website - [www.duluthumc.org](http://www.duluthumc.org) - beginning March 17<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Leslie Yokeley, Director of Children’s Ministries, by e-mail at [lyokeley@duluthumc.org](mailto:lyokeley@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 138

### Check Out the New Books in the Library

New books have arrived for the United Methodist Women reading lists and are available in the library for check out. New titles include:

- [One-Unity in a Divided World](#)
- [Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography-The Faith of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century’s Most Influential Woman](#)
- [The Same Sky](#) (a novel)
- [The Feathered Bone](#) (a novel)
- [No One Else Like You](#) (children’s)
- [Nobody! A Story About Overcoming Bullying in Schools](#) (children’s)
- [Ahimsa](#) (youth)
- [Step Up To The Plate, Maria Singh](#) (youth)

Please stop by the library and check these new books out. The church’s library is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Family Life Center. Library hours are Sundays, 10:30 to 11 a.m.; Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to noon; Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon; Wednesdays, 4 to 5 p.m.



## Duluth First UMC Has a Heart for Children

*Train children in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6*

All of us believe in the power of a good education. A good education is a high priority for parents. Where we live is often based on the merits of the local school system. Many families have a savings account just for college. We desire to give our children the best education possible.



Duluth First UMC also strives to give your children the best **Christian** education possible. There are many examples of learning opportunities at the church, but primary is Sunday school. Each week our children can learn the stories of the Bible and grow in their faith. Excellent curriculum is taught by loving adults who are there to invest in your child’s life. Sunday school is an important part of your child’s Christian education.

Duluth First UMC has a heart for children and has many resources to provide children with the best Christian education. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m.

### Eucharistic Ministry

Come and experience the presence of the Holy Spirit as you offer the sacrament of Holy Communion to homebound members of our church. We are looking for a few volunteers to join a ministry where you will see first-hand the joy of a visit that is fruitful in so many ways. The amount of time is minimal as you take the communion elements that have already been consecrated to the home of our members who are not able to participate in Sunday worship at the church. Taking this gift to them allows you to show they are included in worship and realize they remain members of a congregation that cares deeply for them.



As with any of our ministries that involve one on one contact with adults or children, a simple background check is required and may be completed online at no cost to you. Please consider being a part of this wonderful ministry of caring. For more information please contact Debbie Corser by calling her at her home phone, 404-474-7458, or her cell phone at 470-214-3920.

## **Administrative Council, Part II:**

### **Helping You to Know More**

Last month you learned some basic information about our church's Administrative Council and we provided a list of the "At-Large delegates. As a reminder the Administrative Council includes the leaders or chairs of program committees such as Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Missions Committee, Ministry of Care, Worship Committee, United Methodist Women and other areas for nurture, and outreach. It also includes the chairs of Finance, Staff Parish Relations, Trustees, Lay Representative and Lay delegates to Annual Conference.

The Staff Parish Relations (SPR) committee is made up of Charlie Anderson, Chairperson, and other members who work with the Senior Pastor on matters relating to the personnel issues of the church. They meet on a regular basis to address any staffing matters. They work with the District Superintendent on annual evaluations for the appointed clergy and whenever there are changes in appointments to make known the needs of the congregation. They are the committee that is responsible for setting the salary levels for the church staff, including clergy and submitting that budget item to the Finance Committee. Current members of SPR in addition to Charlie Anderson include: Susan Baker, Glenn Cornell, Tom Martin, Mary Ellen Cleveland, Bill Evans, Tom Haas, Debbie Patterson, Jennifer Taylor, Jane Fitzpatrick, as Lay Delegate to North Georgia Annual Conference, Clara Truesdell as Lay Leader, and Rev. Terry Tippens, Senior Pastor.

Our Lay Delegates attend Annual Conference in June in Athens to represent the laity of the church on issues of the North Georgia conference. They vote on legislation that impacts our conference and the annual budget of the conference. They also serve on committees in the local church and occasionally on conference or district committees. We have an equal number of laity and appointed clergy so our church has four Lay Delegates to annual conference: Jane and Jeff Fitzpatrick, Sherry Ferguson and Elizabeth Marcus.

As you see these people in the church let them know how much you appreciate the work they do to help our church in so many important areas.

Blessings and joy,

*Rev. C. Kay Fuino*



## **Senior Fellowship Program & Luncheon:**

### **March 12<sup>th</sup>**

The **Senior Fellowship** will meet for its monthly program and luncheon on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way for senior adults to come together for food, fun and fellowship. The guest speaker for the program will be Greg Whitlock.



The meeting begins at 11 a.m. and the program starts at 11:15 a.m. Lunch begins at noon. A donation will be accepted for the lunch. All senior adults are welcome to attend the program or the lunch or both. For more information, please

call the church office at 770-476-3776.

## **The Roadrunners to Visit**

### **The Rock Garden: March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**The Roadrunners** will visit The Rock Garden in Calhoun, GA, on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. The Rock Garden was created to promote community, provide a place of healing and respite and enjoy the beauty which God has created.

**The Roadrunners** will leave the church's front parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and return back to the church by 4:00 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$10 per person. Lunch on your own will be at Christian and Jake's Bistro in Calhoun. Please make your reservation for this trip at the Senior Fellowship gathering on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Bonnie Tinnell at 770-476-8680.



## Bereavement Support Group:

### March 11<sup>th</sup>

The **Bereavement Support Group** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in room F-151, located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Family Life Center. Everyone who has had a loss is welcome to attend.

The group is led by Stephen Ministers. For more information please contact Brenda Bridges at 770-476-5126, or the church office at 770-476-3776.



## Order Flowers for Worship Services in the Sanctuary and Hinton Hall

Our Flower Guild creates beautiful flower arrangements for Sunday morning worship services in both the Sanctuary and Hinton Hall. Teams of talented, eager-to-serve Flower Guild members create these arrangements each week. As always church members and friends are invited to purchase flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, or to mark a special event, such as a birthday, anniversary, etc.

The cost for each arrangement is \$100 for three vases (2 vases in the Sanctuary/1 vase in Hinton Hall). Flower designations will be listed in the church bulletin for the Sanctuary services, and displayed on the screens for Contemporary Worship in Hinton Hall.

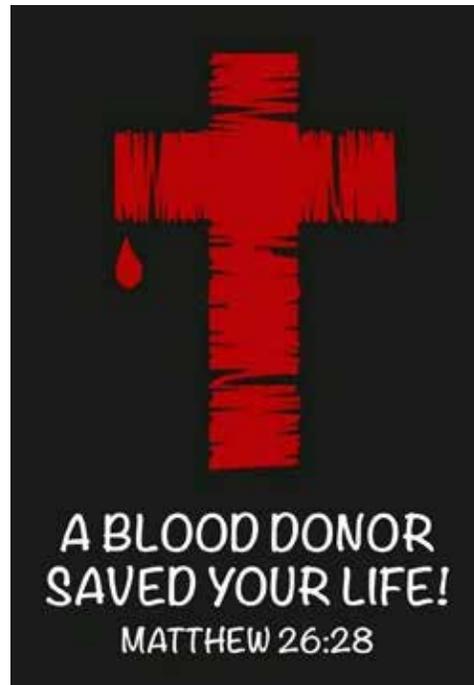
Please place your orders at least one week in advance. Your completed forms and payment must be received in order to reserve a date. For more information or to see if a specific date is available, please contact Tracy Brinker at the church office by e-mail at [tbrinker@duluthumc.org](mailto:tbrinker@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776.



## Blood Drive: April 24<sup>th</sup>

Now **YOU** can save a life! and donate blood at the American Red Cross Blood Drive being held at Duluth First UMC on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To schedule an appointment:

- Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter the sponsor code **dufumc**;
- Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767);
- Contact Tracy Brinker by e-mail at [tbrinker@duluthumc.org](mailto:tbrinker@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 112.
- Last, but not least, be a “walk-in” on Blood Drive Day.



## Sesquicentennial

*(Relating to the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of a significant event)*

The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Duluth First United Methodist Church will happen in 2021. Celebration plans are underway. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please let Rev. Beth Brown Shugart know by contacting her by e-mail at [bshugart@duluthumc.org](mailto:bshugart@duluthumc.org), or calling 770-476-3776, ext. 128.

# 150 YEARS

## The Passion Play at Oberammergau in 2020

The Passion Play has been held once every ten years in the town of Oberammergau, Germany since 1634, and is regarded as the most important Passion Play in the world. Located at the edge of the Bavarian Alps, the town of Oberammergau expects approximately 500,000 visitors for the passion play, over half of which will be international guests.

A special law is in effect to insure that all actors of the world's largest amateur dramatic performance come from the village.

All participants, from actors playing the big speaking parts such as Jesus, Mary or Judas, through members of the choir, orchestra



members, firemen and ushers, must have been born in Oberammergau or lived there for at least 20 years. Over 2,000 Oberammergau villagers will participate in the 2020 Passion Play.

You have a unique opportunity to attend the Passion Play and take a riverboat cruise on the Danube River on June 8-19, 2020. Rev. C. Kay Fuino will host a group for this wonderful event and travel with Educational Opportunities as the tour company on the AmaWaterways AmaSerena. There will be visits to Munich, Innsbruck, Linz, Vienna, Oberammergau, Slovakia, Budapest, and more!

Brochures with full information about the cruise are available on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Family Life Center, and on the bulletin board near Hinton Hall. The river cruise ships only hold about 120 passengers so it is important to sign up as soon as possible. The June 8, 2020 departure was added in February to accommodate this group but is also open to other EO travelers. Most other River Cruises for the Passion Play are already sold out. For more information, please contact Rev. Fuino by e-mail at [ckfuino@duluthumc.org](mailto:ckfuino@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 117.

## Deadline for the April 2019 Edition of “The Messenger”

The article deadline for the April 2019 edition of *The Messenger* is Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m.

## Introducing Wellroot Family Services: Well-Rooted and Firmly Planted

Home is a special place. Not just a roof over our head, but a safe, secure, loving environment shared with those we care about most. It might be easy to take this concept for granted, but there are thousands of children and young adults in the state of Georgia who don't know what a stable home feels like.

Like all organizations that have navigated over a century of change, The United Methodist Children's Home has long embraced, and effectively responded to changes in the child welfare field through many creative innovations to our ministry. These innovations have not been driven or shaped by whim—they have been driven and shaped by a steadfast focus on our mission to serve children, young adults and families in need.

As we look toward our future, we are proud to introduce a new name that reflects both our tremendous growth and our unlimited potential, while preserving our deep foundations in The United Methodist Church. This new name, **Wellroot Family Services**, was borne out of the same steadfast focus on our mission, and was the result of an intense process of research and planning. To be well-rooted is to be firmly planted, to feel stable, and to feel taken care of and secure. To be well-rooted is to have the support and love you need to become the person God intends for you to become.

Now, as **Wellroot Family Services**, The United Methodist Children's Home continues to grow with a name that embodies our commitment to the children, young adults and families we serve together as an agency of the The United Methodist Church's North Georgia Conference—a commitment that has not wavered since the day we opened our doors. **Wellroot Family Services'** programs are designed to change this reality through faith-centered service. With a focus on supporting youth from infancy through early adulthood, they help people reach their God-given potential through the encouragement and love of a healthy home.

For additional information about Wellroot Family Services, please visit their website at [www.wellroot.org](http://www.wellroot.org).

