



## Signin' In My Soul

In my struggle to decide on a topic for my “debut” article in our newly expanded PRINTS OF PEACE format, the thought occurred to me that I should just stick to the subject I know best: church music! I recently came across a book I had filed away years ago. The book, entitled *Somebody’s Got My Robe*, by John Yarrington, is a lighthearted look at choir directors and volunteer church choirs. Perfect for me!

As a director who has joyously spent the past 44 years leading volunteer singers, I strive to put myself in the place of those I conduct. I want to stand with them. Cry with them. Listen to their stories. Laugh with them. Encourage them. Help them find the song they need for their season of life.

An interesting checklist Mr. Yarrington included in his book which spoke to me about what volunteer singers need is: **C**hallenge, **H**umor, **O**pportunity, **I**nterest, **R**ehearsal, **S**ecurity. As you have noticed, these six

components spell the word “choirs.” This may seem obvious, but I find the “obvious” not always so.

Example: Stack of music with sign reading: “Music for February 4.” Choir member’s question: “Is this for February 4?”

Example: Please hold your candle in your right hand and folder in your left. Choir member’s question: “Which hand does my folder go in?”

Example: Agenda for rehearsal on board – Sunday’s anthem in red, marked with asterisk. Choir member’s question: “What’s for Sunday?”

Okay, my friends, let’s remember that laughter is the best medicine. If we directors wouldn’t take ourselves too seriously and turn laughter towards our podiums occasionally, what is serious would become easier to accomplish (spoken by the director who fell off her perch of three boxes in front of 175 people at the Easter play!). —Diane McBride, Director of Music



## Welcome New Members

We welcome Ben and Kim Helms who joined our church on Sunday, January 7th. Ben and Kim received the sacrament of baptism and joined by profession of their faith in Jesus Christ. Please extend a warm Lyons First UMC welcome to Ben, Kim and their 3 children: Carter, Davis, and Murphy!

## Children’s Ministry News

This past month we focused on strengthening our foundations. In between stories they shared about vacations and their favorite moment from Bubble Guppies we got the chance to talk about their faith. The children have practiced and discussed different ways to grow in their faith.

Every week I would ask them what are things we can do to strengthen our faith and their first answer almost every time is PRAY. They know that talking to God is an important part of Faith. Our relationship with Him is stagnant if we aren’t communicating with Him.

When I get in the groove of life and let myself get out of the habit of praying daily I feel distant from

God. Our children feel the same way! I’m trying to teach my kiddos to pray when they think about it. Not just at bedtime or before a meal but also on the playground and in class. When their feelings are bursting out of them they can tell God about. When they get a really good report card or a really bad report card they can tell God about it. When they are worried about something big or something small they can tell God about it.

I hope that when I feel like my relationship with God is stagnant that my first response is to pray! And when I have something I’m worried about I will tell God about it! Sweet Blessings, Amanda Morrow

## Announcements

**The New, Expanded Prints of Peace.** Welcome to the new, monthly edition of the Prints of Peace! Our goal is to provide you with all the information you need to make love God, love each other, and love outside the walls! You’ll find expanded articles from our ministry staff, new features, and our monthly calendar. Periodically, we’ll include various features, quarterly financial reports, and more! Let us know what you think!

**Boy Scout Troop 939 News** Thanks again for giving our Troop 939 a home. The requirements to join are, you must be 11 years old or have completed the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We will meet on Mondays at 6:45 until 8:00 pm in the youth building. We camp 1 weekend a month at different locations, our theme changes from month to month. There is a 1 week summer camp at different locations. This years is Camp Rainey Mountain in Clayton, Ga. The only cost will be the scout shirt, neckerchief, and slide. You will also get a subscription to the Boy Scout life magazine. Please contact Kim Stephens for any youth applications or questions at 912-293-2723.

**Wings of Hope Thrift Store.** As a reminder, we are still

in need of household goods, decorative items, kitchen items including small appliances, Linens, bedding , etc. Please bring donations to the store between 10:00 am - 1:00 pm on Thursdays & Fridays. Thank you for all the support of our mission.

**Ash Wednesday Service.** The season of Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday. Join us on February 14th at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday worship service. We will share in scripture, song, and receiving the imposition of ashes. We will not have regular Wednesday activities on the 14th, including Wednesday Fellowship and Children’s Ministry.

**Confirmation 2018.** Becoming a Christian is the most important decision a student can make. Confirmation, a season of exploration for students in the 5th-12th grades, is designed to help them make that choice. Students will learn about what it means to be a Christian, a United Methodist, and what it means to be a member of the church. We’ll kick off with a retreat at Epworth on March 2-4. Contact Pastor Jim to sign up!

## Prayer Requests



Brandon Webster, Teresa Mosely, Harry Brown, Bill Sikes, Linwood & Sherry Calhoun, Darrell Nobles, Cliff Cheney, Vince Edwards, Lewis Van Dyke, Jean Brogdon, Cheryl Clifton, Sheldon Smith, Billy Willet, Betty Jo Thompson, Aries Haygood, Fred Brogdon, Eddie Wright, Johnny Jones, Charles Lee, Rachel Thompson, Jim Kight, Merle Wilkes, Fran Williams, Charles James, Mary Ann Kavakos, Jess Inman, Eugene Joyner & Family, Connie Anderson, Marion Franklin, Betty Gray, Betty Grimes, Kate Kennedy. **We are honored to be in prayer for the needs of our people.** If you would like to add your request to our prayer list, please call the office or fill out the prayer request slip on Sunday mornings. If you would like to receive additional prayer from our prayer chain, please call Jane Benton at (912) 293-6543

## Attendance & Stewardship

“And let us not neglect our meeting together...” Hebrews 10:25

	1/7/18	1/14/18	1/21/18
Morning Worship	121	103	128
Evening Worship	18	15	17
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>145</b>
Sunday School	80	69	72
Tithes & Offerings	\$12,322.00	\$5,889.00	\$4,046.00
<b>Total Receipts YTD:</b>	<b>\$22,257.00</b>		

At the end of each quarter, we will publish a detailed financial report.

## Four Ways to Give

Offering: Simply place your offering in the offering during worship

Online: Visit [www.lyonsfumc.org](http://www.lyonsfumc.org) & click on “Online Giving” to make a one-time donation or a recurring gift.

Mail: You can mail your gift any time by sending your gift to our office at Lyons First UMC, P.O. Box 71, Lyons, GA, 30436.

Automated: Automate your giving by setting up bill pay through your checking account.