



A Place to Call Home

Tuckston

United Methodist Church

4175 Lexington Road • Athens, Georgia

September 27, 2011

***Upcoming Events for
October***

- 3 Women's Bible Study
UMW
Stephen Ministry
- 4 Beth Moore Bible Study
- 5 WNS and L.I.F.E Groups
- 8 **TLC Yard Sale**
- 11 Youth Council
- 10 Women's Bible Study
- 11 Beth Moore Bible Study
- 12 Joy Club
WNS and L.I.F.E Groups
- 15 Power Soccer Regional
- 17 TLC Council
Women's Bible Study
Stephen Ministry
- 18 Beth Moore Bible Study
Finance Committee
- 19 WNS and L.I.F.E Groups
- 24 Women's Bible Study
- 26 WNS and L.I.F.E Groups

KIDS

- 2, 16, 23 Children's Choir
- 5, 12, 19, 26 MPK
- 16 Children's Council

YOUTH

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Harbor
- 5, 12, 19 & 26 WND

WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR

Fall is a great season of the year. With the beautiful changes of colors there comes a feeling of excitement! In our church there will be some exciting happenings this fall. You can look inside this newsletter and see most of them. Let me lift up some others.

Sunday, **October 30**, will be an **All Worship Sunday**. That means that we will all worship together at one service. Sunday School classes will be at 9:30. Worship will be **10:30-11:30**. After worship we will have lunch together in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great time to be thinking about someone you can invite to worship with you!

October is **Disability Awareness Month**. You may not realize it but there is a group that meets on Tuesday nights in our gym for indoor soccer. They are the **Athens Power Dawgz Wheelchair Soccer Team**. They meet to play, have fun and practice for competition with other teams. Power Soccer is the first competitive sport team designed specifically for people using power wheelchairs. The team is a part of the National Power Soccer Organization.

On Saturday, **October 15, 10:00-1:00**, our church will host **Power Dawgz Disability Awareness Day**. There will be a game against a team from Atlanta. There will be food and fun. The event is open to the church and the public. Make your plans to join in this important event!

Our annual **Stewardship Emphasis** will be **October 23-November 13**. You will see and hear more about this as we move toward **Decision Sunday, November 13**. Be in prayer about the decision you will make as you **Step toward God as you Grow toward a Tithe**.

Last Saturday your **Church Council** met for a planning and visioning session. It was a good session. One of the realizations that came from the session is that we are just like so many other churches. Average church attendance across the nation is approximately 30% of membership. We are about average. We need to be better than average! It was decided that we would begin to reclaim our own members. People become non-active for various reasons. Sometimes they do not even feel that they are missed. We are going to let people know that they are missed!! Starting this month we begin an emphasis called **Reclaiming Our Own**. Contacts will be made to **Non-active members** to let them know that they **matter to God and to us!**

These are exciting times for our church! Please join me in prayer that we can fulfill God's desired purpose here at Tuckston!

James

YOUTH NEWS

Hello Tuckston,

I am so excited to be your new youth pastor and have truly felt blessed over the past several weeks getting to know everyone here! I'm excited to see how God is going to work in and through each one of us this year as we partner in ministry together! We're making one major change to our youth program so make sure to see the New Harbor schedule below for that revision. Again, I'm excited to be a part of this amazing church family!

NEW Harbor Schedule

5:00 Open Gym
6:00 Dinner
6:20 Worship/Lesson
7:00 Small Groups
8:00 Dismissal

Please take note of the new schedule and plan accordingly. We will have our new Youth Worship Band practice from 5:00-6:00 every Sunday as well. If you would like more information regarding the Youth Worship Band or any of our other youth programs, please email David at david@tuckston.org.

Julia's Kids Corner

Needed: Coordinator for Children's Sabbath. The Children's Ministry needs someone who is willing to organize and coordinate the Children's Sabbath on November 20th. The Children's Ministry will be in charge of all three worship services that day and we need someone who is able to make sure everything runs smoothly. Please contact Julia (Julia@tuckston.org or 706-353-1311) if you feel led to be involved in this ministry.

Mission Possible Kids Update: Things are going great with MPK on Wednesday Nights. We have done several fun projects to reach out to the community around us! We want to say a big thank-you to everyone who donated food for the food pantry. On **October 26th** we'll be going reverse Trick-or-Treating to Whispering Pines. Please wear a church appropriate (non-scary) costume on that night.

Children's Choir: All kids from Pre-K to 6th grade are invited to come to Children's Choir, Sunday Nights from 5pm-6pm in FLC 102. Anna Crook and Kim Fuller do an amazing job leading our kids in music. There will be no choir on October 9th or 30th and November 13th. Our kids will sing in church on November 13th for Children's Sabbath and perform a Christmas Musicale on December 17th. So mark your calendars!

TUCKSTON'S NEW MEMBER

Billy and Callie Moss, 1243 Hull Road, Athens, Ga. 30601, 706-654-6071/706-318-8447.

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sym-pathy to Norm Fuller and family in the death of his brother, Gerald Fuller.

CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to Rex and Lacey Coffeen on the birth of their daughter Callie Marie, bom September 16, 2011. Grandparents are Lamar and Lynn Coffeen.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

We are so blessed to be part of such a loving church family. Thank you for your prayers and the wonderful meal from "HUGS" as mom recovers from her fall. Karen & Charly Pou and Martha Kelley.

The sweet words, prayers, tight hugs, delicious meals, precious cards, memorials, gorgeous plants, and the miles you drove for visitation has affirmed what a wonderful church family Tuckston is. Thank you! Randy, Mary, Kayla and Kyle Yeargin

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENUS

October 5

Fish/Hush Puppies
French Fries/Coleslaw
Cake

October 12

La sagna/Garlic Bread
Green Beans
Salad/Dessert

October 19

Chili
Baked Potato
Salad/Dessert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TLC Yard Sale



Saturday, October 8, 8am to noon.
To rent a table (\$15) please contact the church office. Set up will be at 5:30pm on Friday, October 7. Any donations you'd like to make for the TLC table is tax deductible. Please contact Connie Bowen to make item donations.

The next JOY Club meeting will be on Wednesday, October 12th @ 11 AM. Rev. Steve Hartman will provide the program. Please call Gloria Mullins @ 706-208-1250 to place your lunch reservation. Cost of lunch is \$7.50.

The JOY Club will be going on our annual apple trip to The Mercier Orchard in Blue Ridge on Thursday, October 27th. If you are interested and would like to go with us, please contact Brenda Smith @ 706-583-8954 or Doris Dawson @ 706-742-8360.

Tuckston Learning Center began their fall school year on August 15th. There are still some student openings. Many thanks to Jason and Mary Sledge for providing our sandbox with beautiful white sand for all the children to play in. Also, many thanks to the Rapid Response team, Mary Hancock and especially **David Beeson** for cleaning up our playground. If anyone is interested in donating trees to plant on the playground we have someone who will help install them.

WNS - Wednesday Night Supper

Just for some clarification, we no longer have standing reservation for **Wednesday Night Supper**. You will need to make reservations preferably with the prepay envelopes in the sanctuary pews or on the tables in the fellowship hall.. You can reserve for one night or a month at a time. We are asking that you prepay so we can be assured of how many folks to prepare for. This is a change from what we've done in the past and has been implemented in order to have enough food and/or not waste food. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated. Remember, **reservations need to be in the church office by Monday at noon** so we know how much food to purchase. Thanks for your understanding on this change.



Stephen Ministry Gifted to Care

Spiritual gifts are gifts to give a way. God gives them to us, and we can use them to serve others. How are you using your gifts right now? Are you looking for a new way to use them? If your spiritual gifts include one or more of the following—leadership, faith, mercy, teaching the faith, helping or encouragement, --consider Stephen Ministry, our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. This may be just what you've been looking for! Tuckston's Stephen Leaders are looking for people who feel that God may be calling them into this type of ministry. Please contact any one of our Stephen Leaders (Karlene Lawrence 706-540-3163, Judy Williams 706-549-8597, David Fletcher 706-548-5633, Ron Seerley 706-296-7970, Anne Morrison 706-296-7971, Bill Howard 706-549-6902) for more information



TUCKSTON FINANCES - AUGUST 2011

Budget	August 2011	Y-T-D
Received	\$ 54,363	\$ 499,747
Spent	\$ 74,240	\$ 520,502
Receipts over (under) Spending	\$ (19,877)	\$ (20,755)
Building Fund		
Paid on Loan Principal	\$ 12,000	\$
Interest & loan expenses	\$	\$ 37,667
Loan Balance, End of June		\$1,086,817

A NOTE FROM J. T.

The Tuckston Chef Team and Kitchen Crew are doing an awesome job! We have heard so many great comments about the meals being colorful and extremely tasty, as well as healthy. We've also heard your positive comments about our using real plates & utensils now, so hats off to our terrific team of dishwashers and dryers. We are still working on a rotation for set up and clean up, so we want to say "Thank You" to all of you who are helping each week.

Here is a glimpse into the menus our Wednesday Night Supper chefs have put together for you in October:

October 5: Fish (Tilapia) with hush puppies, slaw and fries

October 12: Lasagna with garlic bread green beans & salad

October 19: Chili with bake potato and salad

October 26: Fried Chicken

Smiley meals have been replaced by "Oodles of Noodles," where each week there will be a different paste shape for kids.

Let's help continue to make Wednesday Night Suppers the best they can be by prepaying for Wednesday Night Suppers by using the new **prepay pew envelopes** (you can pay for selected nights or pay for the entire month if you like) Thanks!

Our **Wednesday Small Group Life** (the new name for "Discipleship Institute") is going well with two short term topical studies—*Methodism 101* and *God's Answers for Life's Difficult Questions*—four new L.I.F.E. Groups, who meet in various places around the church—as well as a Disciple One course.

A word about **Methodism 101**—I will begin leading a 6 week study on what we believe (theology) as Methodists beginning in October, and we will be using Bishop Will Willimon's book **This We Believe** (cost: \$12.00). I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to brush up on their UM Theology to come and join us, even if you have missed the first part of the study the Rev. James did on UM History and Polity. Just let me know.



Also, a word about **L.I.F.E. Groups (Love in Fellowship Extended)**, our new small group initiative designed for prayer, bible reading and discussion, discipleship (accountability in our walk with Christ), fellowship and mission. As I said before, there are 4 groups who are meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM—two women's groups, one men's group and one regular mixed group. There are two new LIFE Groups just beginning the first part of October who will meet on Tuesday nights—one in Watkinsville and one in Hoke and Linda Howard's home. Let us know if you are interested in joining one of these or if you are interested in starting a L.I.F.E Group of your own. If there are college students who would like to start a group on campus or at the church, let me know—that would be awesome! Remember: a L.I.F.E. Group may meet on any day you all decide is best. Yet, there will be child and youth care on Wed. nights.

Finally, we will be introducing a few Wednesday Night Talks on various issues from "Dementia: What It Is and Caring For Someone Who May Have It" to "Blood Pressure: Problems and How To Keep It Healthy." These talks will be church-wide (anyone who is interested—come!) and will be directly following Fellowship Supper. Stay tuned to dates and topics!

Grace and Peace, *John T.*

Weekly Events

Mondays

9:00am Senior Aerobics
10:30am Women's Bible Study
1:00pm Bridge Group
6:30pm Christian Believers

Tuesdays

6:15pm Beth Moore Bible Study
6:30pm Disciples 2

Wednesdays

1:00pm Bridge Group
6:00pm Disciples 1
6:15pm Handbells
7:30pm Chancel Choir

Thursdays

7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:00am Senior Aerobics
9:30am Crochet Group
6:00 pm Boot Camp (Exercise)
6:30pm Men's Bible Study
7:30pm Worship Band Practice

NEWSLETTER:

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4175 Lexington Road, Athens, Georgia 30605
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For more information on upcoming events,
please visit

www.tuckston.org

NURSING HOMES/RETIREMENT CENTERS

Christine Fair	<i>Family Life Enrichment</i>
Luna Chandler	1260 Hightower Trail, Apt 218 Atlanta 30350 - 678.461.9706
Hilda Hancock	<i>Morningside of Athens</i>
Barbara Barton	<i>Morningside Gainesville</i>
Johnnie McGarity	<i>Quiet Oaks</i>
Lois Bryant	<i>St. Mary's Long Term Care</i>
Linda Brown	<i>University Nursing Home</i>

Be joyful always; pray continually;
give thanks in all circumstances,
for this is God's will for you in
Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18/NIV

Tuckston Staff

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Parsonage Phone: 706-549-7072 Email: james@tuckston.org	
John Turlington	Associate Pastor
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Julia Norman	Children's Pastor
Office Phone: 706-353-1311 Email: julia@tuckston.org	
Herb Owen	Pastor Emeritus
Kathy Tasker	Administrative Assistant
Phil Lomax	Bookkeeper
Todd Ferguson	Music Director
Matt Moskal	9:30 Worship Leader
Nancy Robertson	Organist
Connie Bowen, Director	Tuckston Learning Center
TLC Office: 706-548-8400 www.tuckstonlearningcenter.com Email: cebown2001@yahoo.com	
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