



A Place to Call Home

Tuckston

United Methodist Church

4175 Lexington Road • Athens, Georgia

January 31, 2012 Issue

Upcoming Events for February

- 1 WNS & L.I.F.E. Groups
- 2 Senior Fun and Games
- 4 **Fish Fry**
- 6 Red Cross Blood Drive
UMW
- 8 J.O.Y. Club
WNS & L.I.F.E. Groups
- 13 Administrative Council
- 15 WNS & L.I.F.E. Groups
Lenten Festival
- 17 Young Family and
New Member Social
- 18 Pathmakers Dinner
Becomers Dinner
- 19 Children's Council
Reduce the Risk Training
- 20 TLC Council
- 22 WNS & L.I.F.E. Groups
- 25 **Brazil Yard Sale**
Scout Pancake Breakfast
- 26 Scout Sunday
- 29 WNS & L.I.F.E. Groups

KIDS

- 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 MPK
- 10 5th Grade Retreat
- 15 Lenten Festival

YOUTH

- 5, 12, 19 & 26 Harbor
- 10 **Youth Winter Ball**

The Yellow Butterfly And You

You may think you make no difference to yourself or others but you do. Last season Jo and I attended a Gwinnett Braves game. It was a fun afternoon. We sat in the shade and there was a breeze most of the time. And the Braves won the game.

Looking around, I noticed several groups. There were the players on the field. They were prepared and ready for the game. There were those players on the bench. Each of them was also prepared and ready to play if called upon.

Then I noticed us spectators. We were absolutely of no value to the game. We were not prepared to play if called upon. We were just there for our own enjoyment. We really had no impact on the game. The players made the difference. Without them there would have been no game. It could have happened without us but not without them.

As the game progressed I noticed a yellow butterfly. It came onto the field at player level somewhere between home plate and first base. It flew between first and second base; moved into outfield between right and center field. As it got to the outfield fence it fluttered and lifted up over the fence as if to say to the batter, "This is where you need to hit the ball!" None of them did.

I'm not sure but I think that butterfly wanted to be in the game. In fact it came around and did the same thing again. And then third time it came and this time with a friend. I know it wanted to be in the game and was showing even someone else how to do it.

We are now in the season of Lent, preparing for Easter. This is one of those times of the year that people are receptive to an invitation to church. It would be a good time for you to invite someone to church. Look around and think of someone. That is what happened for you. Most people are in church because someone asked them to go with them. There is someone now waiting for you to do the same for them.

Also, if you are not involved in a ministry look around and find where it is that you can be involved. Be a player, on the field or on the bench. Just being a spectator doesn't make the game happen and it has no value to yourself or the Kingdom of God. You could at least be like the yellow butterfly. Get out on the field and find a place you can make a difference.

continued

The yellow butterfly did make a difference. When it entered the field people turned their attention to it. Many people pointed to it and told their neighbor in the seats with them to watch. It was beautiful and persistent as it did the best it could to be in the game. It added to the game and gave the spectators additional enjoyment.

I'll remember several things about that afternoon but I will always remember that yellow butterfly that did its best to be in the game. Who will remember your role in the game of the Christian life?

May God be with you as you get in the game!

James

YOUTH NEWS

Fish Fry

When: February 4th, from 5:00-7:00pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

What: The Youth/Brazil Mission Teams are joining together for our annual Fish Fry Fundraiser and Cake Auction. Come and enjoy some great food and cakes and support a great cause! This years summer mission trip is to Hinton, NC to help repair homes and bring Jesus to a starving community.

Cost: Donations are greatly appreciated.

Winter Ball

When: February 10th, 7:00pm-9:30pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

What: Come and dance the night away at the winter wonderland with your friends and significant other. Come and dance to the coolest music, eat some great food, take pictures in the photo booth and hang out with the coolest people ever!

Cost: FREE -BRING A FRIEND!!!

M2WI Series

Sunday nights at the Harbor we are hosting our very own version of NBC's Minute to Win it T.V. show and adding a special series based on 60 Second-Your Life. Come and join one of our teams and compete for the GRAND PRIZE!!! You won't want to miss a Sunday!!!

Life Group/Parents Group

We are starting something new on Wednesday nights. Starting February 1st, we'll kick off two new groups. The first group will be a discussion based group for students that will cover major topics like conflict, family, relationships, school, texting and driving, etc... The second group will be a parent only group where parents can come together to discuss major issues going on in their lives and the lives of their children. For more information on these new groups, please email David Benson.

YC Meeting

February's meeting will be February 19th at 8:30am. Please if you would like information about joining the Youth Council, contact David Benson. 706-353-1311 or david@tuckston.org

David <><

BRAZIL MINISTRY

OPPORTUNITIES

Here's your chance to select Tuckston's 2012 Sweetheart. Cast your vote in the fellowship hall. The winner will join this illustrious group. Carolyn Gaines 2009, Fred Matthews 2010, Jo Sink 2011. All proceeds go to the work of the Brazil team.



Buy Your Ticket TODAY! (from any youth or Brazil team member) The annual fish fry/cake auction, to raise money for missions, will be February 4 at 6:00pm. Chicken nuggets will also be available if pre-ordered. All profits go to Youth and Brazil mission trips. Invite your friends and come have fun! ***Also,*** Charlotte Swink will be there with her hand-crafted jewelry. 20% of your purchase will go towards Brazil missions.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ollie Pearl Cooke, daughter of Chase and Hope Cooke was born on January 24.

SYMPATHY

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Mo Flexner and family in the death of his father, Dr. John Flexner, on December 27.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of my family, I would like to express our thanks for the words of comfort that we've received from so many at Tuckston UMC. We have sincerely appreciated your kindness and prayers. God bless you! Pierre Oulevey

Thanks to everyone who responded to the Wellness Georgia Seminar. The Winter class is full. Due to the great response, Stephen Ministry will sponsor another seminar later in the Spring or Fall.

Thank you to the Becomers Sunday school class for providing the youth and their parents a delicious dinner. Jeni Pringle

I want to thank my church family for all the prayers, calls, food, love and concern sent my way during my surgery and recovery time. It's a real blessing for Sandy and I to be a part of Tuckston's church family and to experience God answering prayers through his believers. God Bless you all. Love - Bob Mulford



SCOUT SUNDAY

February 26

Julia's Kids Corner

Mission Possible Kids (K-6th)

We're starting back up for the spring on Feb. 1st! We have fun projects lined up, so come on Wednesday Nights from 6:15-7:30 pm in the Family Life Center to about how to serve God through serving others.

Fifth Grade Leadership Retreat

We're going to Glisson for the weekend of Feb. 10-12. Call the church and sign up today, we've extended the deadline to February 5!! The retreat cost \$125 but there are scholarships available, so everyone should be able to come!

Lenten Festival

The Lenten Festival is scheduled for Feb. 15 from 6:15-7:30 pm. It's a night of activities for the whole family centered on Lent and preparing for Easter. We need lots of adult help, so please let Mrs. Julia know if you would like to volunteer!

Living and Loving Together

Children's Ministry T-Shirts! We're ordering t-shirts with the new Children's Ministry logo on them! They are available for pre-order now. We have sizes from 2T and up, so everyone in the family can get one! The shirts are only \$8.50 each (adult XXL and up are \$10.50) so email or call Julia with your order today. They will be available for payment and pickup February 26th!

Julia



Wednesday Night Suppers

February 1—Chicken Pot Pie/Broccoli/Rice/Cake

February 8—Pork Loin/Green Beans/Potatoes/Apple Crisp

February 15—Spaghetti/Salad/Garlic Bread/Cake

February 22—Parmesan Chicken/Limas/Carrot Soufflé/Salad/Brownie

February 29—Fish/French Fries/Hush Puppies/Slaw/Banana Pudding

Reservations are a necessity by using envelopes in the sanctuary pews. PLEASE NOTE! Registration is due by Monday noon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Save the date! March 31 is the next Great Day of Service. This year's theme is "Caring for the Nations" Please contact Mary Sledge at 706-769-7831 or jasonandmary@hotmail.com if you have a service project idea or if you feel God leading you to coordinate a service project this year.

Are you interested in joining Tuckston? Have you wondered if this is the church for you? On Sunday, February 12, there will be a class called **Inquiring Into Belonging**. You can learn about Tuckston. What we believe; the history and structure of the church. You can decide if it may be time to join or wait until another time. You do not have to join if you attend. The class will be right after the 11:00 worship service. It will start with lunch (on us) followed by a class session taught by our Pastor. There will be child care provided for those who need it. You can sign up by contacting the church office or using the form available at worship.

Join Up Now!

It's fun. It's great for your physical and spiritual wellness. It's Bible Boot Camp. This fun exercise session is held every Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30 pm in the gym, with Nathan Elder, St. Mary's Wellness Center personal trainer, as instructor. You can do it; give it a try. FREE for St. Mary's Wellness members, \$5 everyone else. Sponsored by Tuckston's Health and Wellness Ministry.

Each Sunday night Harbor includes a meal for our youth and Wesley leaders. If your small group or Sunday school class would like to bless our youth and their college leaders with a meal, or the funds to purchase one, please contact Jeni Pringle at 706-215-5010.

Seniors Fun and Games, Thursday, Feb. 2 at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Red Cross Blood Drive is Monday, February 6, 2-7pm in Fellowship Hall.

The JOY Club will meet on Wednesday, February 8 @ 11am. Please be sure to make your lunch reservations. Cost of lunch is \$7.50. Jim Shermann (pianist) will provide the program.

Tuckston Men's Basketball Schedule

(all games are being played at Tuckston FLC)

Jan 30 6:30pm	.Feb 13 8:15pm	Mar 1 6:30pm
Feb 6 7:15pm	Feb 20 6:30pm	Mar 5 7:15pm

The women's Tuesdays with Beth Moore Bible Study will begin a new DVD series: "David- Seeking a Heart Like His." 1 Samuel 13:14 "... the LORD hath sought him a man after His own heart."

We want hearts after God's own heart!

Join us, ladies, on Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Tuckston Fellowship Hall March 6th to May 15. Beth Moore will teach weekly DVD lessons with small group discussion to follow. Study manuals are available to purchase (\$18) for individual instruction.

Register by Sunday, February 19th if you wish to order a manual. Please contact the church office (706-353-1311) or by email to Barbara Cornelius: b.cornelius@charter.net. Please include needs for childcare which will be provided.

Prepare to be blessed as the LORD Himself prepares our hearts to know Him.

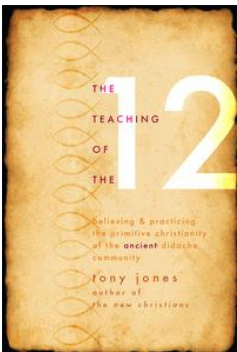


A NOTE FROM J. T.

Our New Year Kick-Off Suppers were so much fun this past January. Anita and I enjoyed winning the Newlywed Game and beating the rest of the pastoral staff. Maybe we need to have a couple's retreat for the pastoral staff—just kidding! With our Men's Chili Cook-off, we raised \$1000 for new worship equipment and small kitchen needs and tasted some wonderful chili's. You men need to get your chili recipes into the UMW's cookbook. With our "Stopping by the Church on a Snowy Evening" fundraiser supper for our Tuckston Learning Center, we raised \$1200 for scholarships and other needs there, but, most of all, we got to meet and love on the children and families of the TLC.

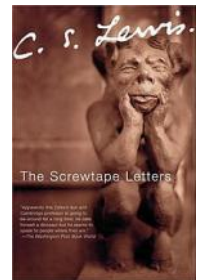
Our regular Fellowship Suppers will begin on February 1. Please see the insert elsewhere in this newsletter for the menus for February Wednesday nights. And remember: *Reservations must be made by Monday noon of each week for Fellowship Supper. Call the church office (706-353-1311) or sign up and pay with the pew envelopes on Sundays.*

Small Group Life on Wednesday Nights Starting February 1st



***The Teaching of the 12: Believing and practicing the primitive Christianity of the Ancient Didache Community* by Tony Jones.** How did the first Christians practice their faith? The Didache, an early handbook of an anonymous Christian community, "is the most important book you've never heard of," says Tony Jones, the theologian-in-residence at Solomon's Porch in Minnesota. Likely written before many of the New Testament books, this little-known text can enlighten how we Christians do and live church today. Our study of this recently rediscovered small document will help us see the early church in a fresh new way and equip us to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to us, the church today. Taught by Rev. John Turlington. Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm in room AE134 (conference room).

***The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis.** The word is out, and we were not supposed to know about it—the word on the art of temptation. If you were challenged by Dr. Mooneyhan's sermon series on temptation, you will definitely want to consider joining this short term small group study of C. S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*, lead by Nancy Knapp, who is a C. S. Lewis enthusiast. *The Screwtape Letters* is C. S. Lewis' creative look at temptation: a senior devil, Screwtape, instructs a junior devil, Wormwood, in the art of tempting humanity. Very insightful and will increase your understanding of our spiritual lives while challenging you to a closer walk with Christ. Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm in room C 151 (Co-Workers) beginning.



Youth L.I.F.E. Group & Youth Parents L.I.F.E. Group. We are starting something new for youth and for their parents on Wednesday nights. Starting February 1st, we'll kick off two new L.I.F.E. groups. The first will be a discussion-based group for students that will cover major topics like conflict, family, relationships, school, texting and driving, etc. The second group will be a parent only group where parents can come together to discuss major issues going on in their lives and the lives of their children. Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in rooms FLC 115 and FLC 114 respectively—gym classrooms.



Sign up for the study of your choice in the Fellowship Hall or outside the worship center.

John T.

Weekly Events

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

6:00 pm Holy Yoga
6:30 pm Disciples 2
6:30 pm Bible Boot Camp

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

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

For more
information, please go to
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>

The 2012 calendar is posted outside the church office if you would like to sign up for Sunday morning altar flowers.
Cost is \$50



NEWSLETTER:

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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: cebowen2001@yahoo.com	
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