



# the View from the Pew

Vol. 19, Issue 7  
July, 2010

For the people of Waleska United Methodist Church

## Bring the Children

I believe I had more fun this week than I have had in a long time. This was the week of Vacation Bible School here at Waleska UMC. In the past I have had opportunities to mingle and help out where needed, but this week I was assigned to be the crew leader of rising first graders. I was a little apprehensive about leading the group before the week started. Would they listen to me? Would they pay attention? Would they participate? Would the week be an exhausting battle to get them to get all they could out of VBS? Let's just say that by the second night all those questions were answered and I was having the best time with children that were soaking up God's love and even sharing it with me.

So many churches put everything into adult worship and adult programming, but don't realize the need to be intentional about children's ministry. I guess it is too easy to think that children will want to be part of

the church in the future, but would rather do other things right now. I have discovered that children want to know that God loves them and they want to love God back now, not in the future. In fact, we know that at least two of the tweeners at VBS prayed to receive Christ and accept him as their Lord and Savior this week. They said, "I want Jesus now!" I am so glad that Waleska UMC is not falling into the category of churches that don't see the importance of children's ministry.

Jesus knew that the children were important. His was a society that did not place much value on the children. In Matthew 19:14 he said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." We often say that the children are the future of our church and society, but Jesus showed us that the children are not just for the future, they are part of the now. To say that the children are our future is to say that they are not important until they become

adults. Jesus thought otherwise and this week's VBS was a great example of the children being invited to participate in the Kingdom of Heaven now.

I had a blast with my first grade crew this week. They taught me how to laugh and how to learn the sign language of the songs we sang. They shared from their lives and talked a lot about the love of Jesus. I will not forget spending a great week with Britney, Caydance, Eli, and Sean. I know that they were filled with Christ's love because they shared it with me.

I can't wait to see how God continues to work through Waleska UMC to share the Good News with children and youth in this community. I hope you will jump on board and experience the exciting children's ministries taking place through this church family. I am glad that we have decided that the children are part of the now rather than only important to the future. Let's continue to let the children come to Jesus without hindering them. What a blessing they bring!

Be Blessed,

*Sam*

Pastor Sam

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The **New Adult Sunday School** is studying the New Testament book of Acts on Sunday morning at 9:15 in the Brides Room. For more info: Dr. Rick Whiteside, 770-826-8702.

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The **Seeker's Discussion Class** meets at 9:15 in the Seeker's Room in the Education wing. For more info: Bruce or Martha Ayer, 770-479-6303.

## The Pastor's Message



Meet the newest member of the Hamby family, Anna Kathryn, as she lies in the lap of her mother, Laura. Also pictured, from left to right, are Aaron, Aiden, Pastor Sam, and Ashlyn.

## Tithing

Oooh, that dreaded word! Does it really mean 10%? Is that 10% before or after taxes? Does it apply to my bonus? What about the tax refund that I got back, do I have give 10% of that? Unfortunately, I can't answer that question for you. Giving back to God what He has so freely given to you is a personal matter and only you can decide for yourself.

The Hebrew word, *ma'aser*, is translated as "tenth part" and "tithe". The Greek word, *dekate*, is translated as "tenth" and "tithe". Both words simply mean a tenth. "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord. (Lev.27:30) "You shall truly tithe all the increase of your seed that the field brings forth year by year. (Deut. 14:22) But, you say, this is Old Testament laws...this doesn't apply to me today. Friends, you and I walk thru this world by the grace of God. All that we have is given to us by Him; we are just caretakers of His many



blessings. God calls us to give from our "first fruits" not from our "leftovers". We need to be the best stewards that we can be for God's creation. Best stewards put God first in all things. We are to be the best stewards of our time, our presence, our service in the church and our gifts to our church.

As a Methodist, I look to John Wesley for answers about giving. In his sermon "The Use of Money" came this rule for the use of money...Gain all you can, Save all you can, and Give all you can! No percentages are involved. God offers us a different perspective on giving when we give all that we can. It no longer becomes a burden or a last resort effort filled with guilt, but a feeling filled with abundance, freedom and joy! You are achieving a God-honoring balance with your financial resources. You are placing a greater level of trust in God when you make giving your first decision. You are saying, "Thank you God for all the blessings that you have bestowed on me". What peace of mind!

Still in doubt about how much to give...pray about it!

*Submitted by Judy McCay*

## Family Celebrations



### July Birthdays

- 4th Ron Meihofner
- 6th Harold Bagley  
Bobby Jordan
- 7th Judy McCay
- 9th Chris Dunham
- 13th Jim Roberson  
Ali Wiggins
- 15th Nathan Robertson
- 19th Sylvia Robertson  
Pat Summers
- 21st Loy Warwick
- 22nd Heather Smyth
- 26th Larry Cissa
- 27th Donna Masters
- 29th Donnie Lamb  
Geoff Smith
- 31st Margaret Jackson  
Stacey Miles



### July Anniversaries

- 9th Wendell & Kay Abernathy
- 13th Terrell & Ouida Wiggins
- 14th Harold & Lois Brown
- 22nd Bobby & Diane Jordan
- 27th Eddie & Elizabeth Smith

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# Success on the High Seas

## Wonderful Volunteers Help Avoid Shipwreck

The June 20-24 Vacation Bible School at Waleska UMC sailed along smoothly, with rather calm seas, due to the efforts of many chiefs and a captain or two. Around 35 children enjoyed the evenings of learning from the Bible and sharing with each other, good suppers, laughing and singing. What an inspiration!

The innovative ship.....



Special suppers prepared by galley cooks Mary Helen and Donnie Lamb. One evening they even had snakes (spaghetti) for supper.....



Learning and sharing



**A Case of the Chiggers**

If you have never had a case of the chiggers you just haven't lived. You know, those almost invisible demonic little bugs that attach themselves to you and just chew and chew and chew. You first discover them when you begin to itch incessantly and vigorously.

I got a case of them this summer, the first in a long time and was reminded again how utterly miserable they can make you. The medical advise says, "**Scratching the bite will NOT help or expedite the healing process.**" Right! Just try and stop! But they are right, the more you scratch, the more they itch. And the more they itch, the more you think about it. And the more you think about it, the more they itch until that is **All** you can think about. Sometimes applying a healing lotion can help to ease the irritation, but mostly, it is time that completely heals it.

Isn't that just like those irritations or problems in life that just keep "bugging" us? Sometimes the problem hits us with full force with a "bang" and almost knocks us off our feet but sometimes it creeps onto us so quietly that we don't notice it at first. We begin to notice it when the irritation grows and it begins to "itch". We start to pay attention to it and to scratch it. The more we scratch the worse it seems to get. Over and over we think about it, scratching the bite, until it grows and grows becoming much worse than it was to begin with. Pretty soon we can't think of anything else and it seems to just take over our life.

**Scratching the bite will NOT help or expedite the healing process.** Does that sound familiar? The same thing applies to our life problems and irritations. When we continually scratch the itch, keep bringing it to mind and keep it irritated it just seems to get worse. It can take over our lives, temporarily or long term and can lead to other problems such as depression, overeating, over buying, irritability, etc. Then the depression or irrita-

bility creeps into other parts of our life until we just "itch all over".

One thing we can do is to remind ourselves that this condition or our reaction to it, as miserable as it seems, is temporary and that it won't last forever. As we begin to pay less attention to it, it begins to heal and get better. We can also apply the true "healing balm" and go to our Lord for healing, lay it all out before Him and trust in Him to heal us over time.

*If you fear the Lord, trust the Lord  
He is your helper and your shield.*

*Psalm 115:11*

—Carolyn Burkholder

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**Member Spotlight**



*The purpose of this feature of The View is to help members get to know each other better. So, let's meet ...*



**Susan and Ernie Jarvis**

Say, who is the big guy who sings bass in the choir? Also, who is the lovely lady in the congregation that he sits with every Sunday? I would like to introduce you to Susan and Ernie Jarvis. They live in the Soleil Subdivision. They joined Waleska UMC about a year ago and we have been so blessed to have them as part of our family.

Susan is a native of Georgia and grew up within 50 miles of the Atlanta area. Her father lives in Kennesaw and he is an influencing part of her life as well as Ernie's. Ernie is a native of North Carolina where his mother still lives and being the good son that he is he visits her often. And he still says, "Yes, Ma'am" to her!

Susan is still employed and is eagerly awaiting the time for her retirement. She is a fantastic tennis

player...her team has won 2 city plates! During this past spring season they won the city championship! Way to go! Ernie retired December 2009 and spends his free time playing golf and tennis. Both of them are superb athletes and enjoy their individual sports immensely. Ernie moved to Georgia in 1968 after his discharge from the Air Force and worked for Lowe's. He was the first Lowe's salesperson to work in the state of Georgia.

They have been married for 33 years. I guess you could say that Susan married Ernie for his money! They met at the bank! Ernie was a customer at the bank where Susan worked. Each week he would come in for his company's business. Susan couldn't help but notice how handsome he was and as they say in the movies..."the rest is history"! All the bank employees at that branch were in the wedding party! See, you just never know who you might meet at the bank!

When Ernie isn't on the golf course or on the tennis court, he is in the kitchen cooking and baking! Oh, how lucky Susan is!

Susan and Ernie had the honor of going to the Holy Land in May 2009. What an experience that was for them!

They described themselves as dull and boring homebodies, but I don't think so. They are both exciting and full of life. The next time you see them, say hello and take the time to the chat.

*Susan and Ernie Jarvis  
315 Puckett Creek Court  
Canton, Ga. 30114  
770-704-9287*

(article and picture by Judy McCay)  
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WUMC is a family of faith that serves others. The **Summer Lunch Mission** for Waleska children meets every summer Monday at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. If you can help, call Brandi Grogan at 404-723-7844.

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**Summer Camp** food and drinks for campers and coaches at Reinhardt University are made available various evenings throughout the summer. For more info call DeDe Reilly at 404-493-1683

**July Sunday Servants**



**Ushers**

- 4th Ken & Sarah Laird
- 11th Bobby & Diane Jordan
- 18th Jim & Lucy Roberson
- 25th Robert & Karen Brannum



**Lemonade on the Lawn**

- 4th Chris & Heather Robinson
- 11th Rog & Barb Hague
- 18th Randy & Donna Golder
- 25th (someone volunteer, please)

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**Dick Dowis's Book Signing Rescheduled for July 10**

WUMC's favorite author, Dick Dowis, will be signing his new novel, *The Tender Leaves of Hope*, at Yawn's Books and More on Main Street in Canton on Saturday, July 10, from 2-5pm.

His previous works include four books on the craft of writing, two mystery novels for children, and another novel for adults. Let's all show up at Yawn's on the 10th and wear out Dick's pen.

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**DeDe Reilly**  
*Director of Family Ministries*

**Dan Burkholder**  
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Church hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-noon  
 Sunday School, 9:30 each Sunday  
 Worship, 10:30 each Sunday  
 Nursery provided

**Blessed Freedom**

Oh, blessed Freedom  
 Hard won through the years,  
 From the spilled blood of many  
 And streams of shed tears.

Freedom coming from that inner  
 longing,  
 That basic desire placed in each  
 breast,  
 That spark that burns inside of  
 each,  
 The courage to put it to the test.

To be free from oppression  
 And slavery to another  
 To determine one's own destiny  
 Shoulder to shoulder, brother to  
 brother.

May we be ever mindful  
 Of the freedom we have today.  
 For many gave their lives  
 To win it in the battles of yester-  
 day.

*Carolyn Burkholder  
 May 2010*

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 On Independence Day, Sunday, July 4,  
 let us remember those who have died  
 to keep us free. Let us pray for the safe  
 return of our military personnel sta-  
 tioned around the world. Let us thank  
 God that we are, indeed, free.



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 Waleska United Methodist Church  
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**Our Waleska Family Wrist bands?**

You might have noticed that some of our WUMC families are wearing wrist bands of various colors, although all are imprinted with "Waleska UMC Family." Families that participated in Fitness Camp wear green. Those who went on the Sunday afternoon mission trip are wearing brown. Students and volunteers alike are wearing blue if they sailed on the High Seas of God's love at Vacation Bible School. There will be many more opportunities and colors to communicate that you are an active part of the WUMC family.

**The next opportunity?** The Sunday afternoon mission trip after worship on July 18. It's \$10 for lunch, or brown bag it, and meet in the Fellowship Hall. Club 456, jr./sr. high youth, and adults will return by 5pm. For more information contact DeDe at 404-493-1683 or dbr@reinhardt.edu.

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**The Beth Moore Bible study on the Book of Revelations** continues on Mondays from 7-9pm.

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**Twisted Lunch and Learn** continues on Mondays from noon-1pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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**Club 456** will be on a **Journey to Egypt with Joseph** June 27-30, beginning at 5:15.

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The Trustee BBQ fund raiser was a **HUGE** success thanks to the planning of Chris Robinson, Brad Fowler, and spouses. Many others lent a hand.



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