



# the View from the Pew

Vol. 19, Issue 3  
March, 2010

For the people of Waleska United Methodist Church  
*A family of faith that worships God, grows in faith, and serves humanity*

## The To-Do List

Last summer it seemed like I had more projects to do around the house than I could possibly do. There was the weekly lawn mowing, cleaning out the garage, spreading pine straw, gardening, and power washing to name a few. If I skipped a week on the lawn mowing, I had to borrow someone's riding mower because the grass would get too thick. It seemed like the list of things to do never ended and I never seemed to get caught up. This is just a small example of the things in life that keep us busy. Do you ever say to someone, "I will get around to it as soon as I can," but you never get around to it? My wife knows not to hold her breath when I say something like that. I never did get all my projects done last summer and the fall and winter haven't been much better.

Did you know people were just as busy in Jesus' day as we are today? We might have a lot more gizmos and gadgets to keep us busy, but things haven't changed much. One day Jesus was talking to a crowd about following him and a disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father and I will follow you." Do you know how Jesus replied to this man's excuse to keep from doing what he said he would do? He said, "Let the dead

bury their own dead, you follow me." There are just some things in life that you have to put at the top of your to-do list if you are going to get it done. Following Jesus is that thing that needs to be first and foremost on the list. If we make excuses and say we will get around to it, life will get in the way and we will never get around to it.

### The Pastor's Message

What about your to-do list? Is following Jesus something you have penciled in at the bottom of the list with the words, "I'll get around to it?" When will you get around to it? Maybe following Jesus and walking with him daily shouldn't even be on the to-do

list. It should be something we are doing regardless of any lists. I think you and I would see just how well other things in life start falling into place when we put Christ first in our lives.

The weather is slowly getting warmer and my wife is already making out another to-do list for me. I hope I have better success this year than last. Regardless of the list and how much I get done, with Christ at the center it will be a great year. How about you? Where will following Jesus be on your list this year?

Be Blessed

Pastor Sam

### Busy, Busy, Busy

"Do what I say, not what I do," is a saying I feel like so often as I am writing. I need those lessons and words more than anyone else who reads them. This is true of the following excerpt from a devotional that I found by Pastor Bill in the "Christian-Weekly-Devotion":

***We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing. We heap up wealth for someone else to spend.*** Psalm 39:6

Satan called a worldwide convention. In his opening address to his evil demons, he said, "We can't keep the Christians from going to church, reading their Bibles and seeking the truth of Jesus. So let them go to their churches, let them live a conservative lifestyle, but let's steal their time. Our number one goal is to keep Christians so busy it prevents them from a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ."

"How shall we do this?" shouted his demons. He answered. "Tempt them with addictions and encourage them to feverishly spend and borrow. Persuade husbands and wives to work long hours so they can afford an empty lifestyle. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their family fragments -- soon their home will offer no escape from the pressures of this world!"

"Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear the Holy Spirit. Entice them with TV, IPODS, CD's, DVD's, Video Games and PCs constantly. Jam their heads with senseless noise."

It was quite a convention, and the evil demons went eagerly to their new assignment causing Christians everywhere to get busy.

**Think on these things!**

—Carolyn Burkholder

**Building Better Marriages**  
**A Couple's Day Out**

Why not take a couple's day out? Small towns or neighborhoods in cities hold possibilities for refreshing getaways from daily responsibilities and make chances for married people to reconnect with their spouses. They are the kind of time all couples need. But, to happen, they have to be planned.

Last spring, we spent a day in a nearby small town. We parked at our favorite used book store, walked our hour, looped the town, explored old homes and admired the Bleeding Hearts in full bloom at the Veteran's Memorial; we greeted other walkers, stopped to mail a letter, and found the old elementary school. Backtracking by the retired grain elevator Garden Center, we bought a flat of impatiens. Relaxing over coffee and scones gave us a second wind to rummage in the book store to replenish the summer supply. It was not a day for serious conversation. It was a day for holding hands. "Look at that," "I'm glad to be with you!" What ideas to you have for a couple's day out? Share your ideas with your spouse *knee to knee*. Get busy and plan a Couple's Day Out.

*(Eddie and Sylvia Robertson are a Certified Leader Couple with Better Marriages)*  
[www.bettermarriages.org](http://www.bettermarriages.org)

**Prayer Shawl**

When our daughter, Dixie, was first diagnosed with cancer, Carolyn Burkholder knitted her a beautiful teal blue prayer shawl. This was a very thoughtful gesture on Carolyn's part. Dixie treasured it and when she died I became its owner. It has been a comfort to me during the long period of grieving.

Now that almost a year has passed, I would like to pass it on to someone else.

Barbara Wehunt is still having quite a time coping with her illness, and I am (with Carolyn's permission) taking it to Barbara on her birthday. I have told her to use it and then perhaps in a year pass it on to someone to whom it might afford some comfort during a time of death, or some other personal problem.

I think Dixie would like to share the shawl with other people who have problems.

*Submitted by Ouida Dowis*

**Notes, Notes and More Notes**

**Book Club**

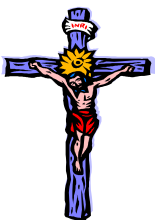
Interested in reading good books and discussing those books with others who enjoy reading? We have a group for you.

The Book Club meets the last Thursday of the month, 6:30pm, at the Gordy. We would love to have you join us. Following is a list of the books we will be reading for the remainder of the year:

- March "Here If You Need Me" by Kate Braestrup
- April "Traveling With Pomegranates" by Sue Monk Kidd and Ann Kidd Taylor
- May "Same Kind of Different As Me" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore
- June "The Big House" by George Howe Colt
- July "The Art of Racing In The Rain" by Garth Stein
- August "The Indifferent Stars Above" by Daniel James Brown
- September "True Blue" by David Balducci
- October "The Lacuna" by Barbara Kingsolver
- November "The Lost Symbol" by Dan Brown
- December "Christmas Tea" by Ferrol Sands



**Stations of the Cross**



Join us for this self-directed discovery through the Stations of the Cross the week of March 29<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week, the Sanctuary will be set up for you, your family, and the community to visit each station and spend some time in meditation, prayer, and consideration of the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Check the weekly bulletins for more information.

(notes continued)

**Home Warranty?**

The Parsonage Committee has obtained a home warranty on the parsonage to cover expenses and for just about all electrical items in the parsonage from the heating and air conditioning to ceiling fans. As a result of this endeavor, the company, Fortress Home Warranty, out of Raleigh, NC is offering Waleska UMC church families a 10% discount. The Parsonage Committee, led by Dr. Ric Whiteside, chose this particular home warranty company for many reasons including their A+ Superior Rating through the Better Business Bureau, as well as the \$30 service call for a local vendor to evaluate, then to repair or replace. If you'd like more information, please check out their website at [www.fortresshomewarranty.com](http://www.fortresshomewarranty.com).

Walk To Emmaus Gathering, Friday, March 12, 7pm in the Sanctuary

If you have ever participated in a 3-day weekend spiritual retreat within the Emmaus, Tres Dias, Walk to Emmaus, please join us at Waleska UMC as we host the North Georgia Walk to Emmaus Gathering in the Sanctuary. Childcare is provided. Please bring a dish to share following the Gathering. For more information, please see Pastor Sam.

**Preschool News**

**Margaret Frye Teacher of the Year**

The preschool staff recently attended the Georgia State Preschool Annual Conference. During the conference, Margaret Frye, lead teacher for our 3 year olds, was recognized by the Georgia Preschool Association as the Teacher of the Year.

The staff was taught and challenged by 25 outstanding national teachers specializing in offering the very best educational and spiritual environment for young children. Over 1,000 other Early Childhood professionals were in attendance.

As a Certified Preschool Program of Excellence for Young Children, we have had several Atlanta area weekday preschools visit and observe in our classrooms over the last several months to bring ideas and teaching skills back to their preschools.

## Spotlight On Non-Members



*We normally spotlight members of WUMC. However, we do have non-members who attend regularly when in the area. So let's meet ....*



**Bill and Marilyn Majest**

Now we see them – now we don't. But wait a few months and we'll see them again.

Bill and Marilyn reside on their four acres in Wolf River, Wisconsin from May to December and near Waleska from December to May. They have been following this schedule for the past eight years. Marilyn indicates that her preference would be to live in Wisconsin even during the frigid winters, but Bill won't hear of it.

The Majests took several trips around the south as they sought to find an area where they might feel comfortable for six months of each year. A friend living in Lake Arrowhead showed them around our area and they decided to build a home in the Cagle Shoals subdivision just outside of Waleska.

Marilyn has been a life-time Lutheran, but since there are no Lutheran churches in the vicinity, she visited the WUMC and decided it would be her church away from home.

Bill and Marilyn met while both were employed at the same company and have been married for 57 years. They have a son, two daughters, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Youngest daughter, Judy, lives close by in Salacoa, while daughter Sandra and son Billy live in Wisconsin.

Bill was employed at Johnson Control for 42 years. After retiring from the

company he, by popular demand, went to work with the Forestry Commission. He often drove snowmobiles in the winter and trucks in the summer.

Marilyn was a stay-at-home mother, raising their three children. Her hobby is doing beautiful beadwork. All of the decorations on their Christmas tree, including the garlands, are made of her beadwork. She also collects teddy bears and hummingbirds.



Some of Marilyn's beadwork on their tree

Bill says he keeps more than busy with woodworking and the restoration and showing of antique automobiles. He has built many of the cabinets and other pieces in their homes in Georgia and Wisconsin. Both Bill and his son in Wisconsin have restored several antique cars and won many awards in various shows. He is currently restoring a 1955 Ford Crown Victoria at his Georgia location and I am sure he would welcome anyone who has an interest in antique cars.



Bill's restored 1955 Ford Crown Victoria

We welcome these "snowbirds" and enjoy their presence during their time in Georgia.

*Bill and Marilyn Majest  
221 Paul Cagle Dr.  
Waleska, Ga. 30183  
678-493-0335*

## Member's Celebrations



### March Birthdays

2nd	Sean McGee
4th	Brandi Grogan
6th	Jaye Fitts Joe Love
7th	Samantha Robinson Matthew Smyth Carl Wellborn
8th	Bruce Ayer Robert Trautz
9th	Teresa Gregory
10th	Avery Cissa
12th	Ed Stickler
17th	Tricia Robinson
18th	Lee Lamb
19th	Tom Grogan
20th	Patti Duncan
23rd	Tom Isherwood
26th	Ray Anthony
27th	John Gregory
28th	Aaron Golder Amy McGee
29th	Ann Cagle Ursula Rhodes Anslee Tzimenatos
30th	Judy Allen Sam Smith
31st	Bill Hyde



### March Anniversaries

2nd	George & Penny Koebel
22nd	John & Carole Christian Dick & Pat Summers
28th	Bruce & Trisha Robinson

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### Great Waleska Garage Sale

Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8am-12noon. Garage sellers may purchase a parking space for \$25 per space, with proceeds to benefit the Wallace Memorial Family Ministry. Whatever the garage sellers sell, they keep the proceeds. Garage sellers may set up after between 7am-8am the morning of the event. The Trustees will be providing food concessions to benefit the Family Ministry, as well. For more information, please contact DeDe at dbr@reinhardt.edu.

**Sunday Servants  
for March**



**Ushers**

7th Chuck & Stacey Knight  
14th Joan Poole & Steve McCay  
21st John & Carole Christian  
28th Tom & Brandi Grogan



**Coffee  
in the  
Corner**

7th Joan Poole & Nicole Lawton  
14th Ernie & Susan Jarvis  
21st Open  
28th Tweeners & DeDe Reilly

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The United Methodist Women's meeting for both circles will be on Tuesday, March 2, 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Doris Warwick will present our Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program for the year. All women of the church community are invited

Waleska United Methodist Church  
Hagan Chapel at Reinhardt College  
7340 Reinhardt College Parkway  
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770/479-4428  
Web site: www.waleskaumc.com

**The Rev. Sam Hamby**  
*Pastor*  
wum1@reinhardt.edu

**Patti Drago**  
*Administrative Assistant*  
wum2@reinhardt.edu

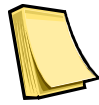
**Dennis Waldrep**  
*Director of Music*

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

**Ashley Peterson**  
*Director of Youth Ministry*

**Dan Burkholder**  
*Editor*  
danburk@windstream.net

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



**March  
Calendar of  
Events**



- 1 Beth Moore Bible Study in Seekers room 7-9pm
- 2 Beth Moore Bible study in Seekers room 1-3pm  
Joint UMW Circles Call to Prayer in Sanctuary at 7pm
- 3 Family Supper at 5:45pm  
Who Stole My Church? adult drop-in study 6:45-8pm  
5 Love Languages adult class 6:45-8pm  
Club 456 at 6:45pm  
Chancel Choir 7:30pm
- 5 Multi UMC Church Confirmation  
Young Ladies Sleep Over 10pm through 8am
- 6 Breakfast preparation for the Confirmation Young Ladies
- 8 MOPS 9:30-11:30am  
Beth Moore Bible Study 7-9pm
- 9 Preschool Chapel 9:30am  
Beth Moore Bible Study 1-3pm  
Wesley Fellowship 5-7pm
- 10 Family Supper at 5:45pm  
Classes as on the 3rd at 6:45pm  
Chancel Choir at 7:30pm
- 11 JULIET'S luncheon 11:30am
- 12 N. Ga. Emmaus Gathering in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall at 7pm
- 15 Beth Moore Bible Study 7-9pm
- 16 Beth Moore Bible Study 1-3pm  
Wesley Fellowship 5-7pm
- 17 ROMEO'S luncheon 11:30am  
Family Supper at 5:45pm  
Classes as on the 3rd at 6:45pm  
Chancel Choir at 7:30pm
- 20 Church wide cleaning 8am-noon
- 21 Vacation Bible School Leadership Meeting at 4:30pm  
Trustees Meeting at 5pm  
Admin. Council at 6pm
- 22 MOPS 9:30-11:30  
Beth Moore Bible Study 7-9pm
- 23 Beth Moore Bible Study 1-3pm
- 24 Family Supper at 5:45pm  
Classes as on the 3rd at 6:45pm  
Chancel Choir at 7:30pm
- 25 Book Club meets at the Gordy at 6:30pm
- 28 Palm Sunday—all children meet in the Brides Room before worship
- 29 Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary (self-directed) 10am-noon  
Beth Moore Bible Study 7-9pm
- 30 Beth Moore Bible Study 1-3pm  
Stations of the cross in the Sanctuary (self-directed) 4-8pm
- 31 Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary (self-directed) 10am-noon  
Family Supper at 5:45pm  
Classes as on the 3rd at 6:45pm  
Chancel Choir at 7:30pm

**24 Hours That Changed the World**

Come at 9:15 on Sunday mornings to the "Brides Room" for an exciting new Lenten study. Complete with DVD, the study is lead by Rick Whiteside. Experience the final day in the life of Jesus Christ.

*The View from the Pew*  
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Waleska, GA 30183

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