

APRIL 2024

THE GOOD NEWS

The Newsletter of Winder First United Methodist Church
280 N. Broad St. Winder, GA 30680 -- (770) 867-4594

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HAPPY APRIL
WINDER FOLKS,

Rev. Dr. Geoff Murphy



This month is a pretty big deal in a few ways. First, the baseball season is now fully underway and I'm excited to see what my Red Sox will do and I'm going to root for the hometown favorites, the Braves, as long as they aren't playing my guys.

We have just experienced a wonderful Easter celebration. There are entirely too many people to thank. However, know that if you helped or attended then you have my thanks. You have set up our year to be a great one. Speaking of great, April 21st is our Missions Sunday with so many of our mission partners presenting to help you see all that Winder supports with your mission givings.

There is a great new ministry to those ladies who have lost a spouse and want to fellowship with others who have experienced this grief called *Kindred Spirits*.

Finally, I turn 50 on April 9th. Probably not a big day to most but one I'm looking forward to. My girls will meet Tina and me for a late lunch and we are watching the Red Sox game as a family. Been a while since it was the original 5 together.

Happy April!



KINDRED SPIRITS

LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH - 12:30PM

RSVP by April 5th by sending text
or voicemail to 706-389-8507

Kindred Spirits is a monthly ladies luncheon for women who have lost their spouse, be it years ago or recently. Come be served a delicious lunch and enjoy the fellowship with women who all have a common bond.

This event is open to the entire community! If you know someone who is also a Kindred Spirit, please invite them as well.

*Winder First United Methodist Church
280 N. Broad St. Winder, GA
Across from Ingles*

54 & More Lunch & Program

NOON
WED. APRIL 17, 2024

54 & More will meet in the Fellowship Hall at noon on April 17 for lunch, fellowship, and a program.

Please bring a dish to share and join us for the program, which will highlight services and service opportunities for older adults in our area.

GUEST SPEAKER FROM:

ACCA

ATHENS COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON AGING
Age Well. Live Well.

You are invited to

Wednesday Night Supper

APRIL 10TH, 2024

05.30 PM - 06.30 PM

RSVP BY APRIL 5TH BY TEXTING OR LEAVING
A VOICEMAIL AT (706) 389-8507

\$9 for Adults / \$5 for Kids / \$30 Maximum per Family!

Menu: Chicken Casserole, Roasted Veggies, Chicken Bites for the kids,
Rolls & Butter, Salad Bar, Tea, Cherry/Pineapple Crisp for Dessert



WINDER FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE MISSION IS A MOVEMENT

Acts 8:26-40

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dave Allen Grady

Sunday April 21, 2024

**Light Brunch @ 9:30am / Worship @ 10am
FELLOWSHIP HALL - ONE SERVICE ONLY**

Mission Expo Includes:

Visiting non-profit Exhibit Hall

Door Prizes

Engaging mission activities including:

UMCOR: Sanitation Kits

WFUMC: Cookie & Casserole Teams

All are invited, welcome and encouraged. Please pre-register for your Mission Activity by using this QR code.



Questions? tinabmurphy02@gmail.com OR chris.strickland@ngumc.net

MISSIONS UPDATE



During 2024, Winder First UMC is collaborating with our local Department of Family and Children Services to sponsor "Birthday Boxes/Baskets" for all 80+ Barrow County Foster Children. Since January, we have provided over 12 "Birthday Surprises" for our little ones! The kiddos have been so thankful to know someone in their community loves them and is thinking of them on their birthday.

We are grateful to our Missions Team for supporting this outreach effort Quarter 1 and would like to open this up to our congregation to join us in this blessing. There's no set agenda on what the box/basket should look like. I have a few suggestions from the foster family, depending on the child, to share with those wishing to participate. We also have a small cake kit (which includes cake mix, icing and candles) from the Girl Scouts to add to each one box/basket. Tina Murphy will be coordinating drop off for each gift.

During the month of April, Winder First UMC will be sponsoring 4 foster children. If you can assist with the "Birthday Box/Basket" please let Tina Murphy know asap (770-713-2920 or tinabmurphy02@gmail.com), and she will provide additional details for each child:

MS (female) who will be 7 years old on April 4

DA (male) who will be 3 years old on April 6

TW (male) who will be 17 years old April 14

KS (female) who will be 16 years old April 29

Again, there's no set agenda on what the box/basket should look like...just so that the little kiddos know someone in their community loves them and is thinking of them on their birthday.

Kindly,

Tina Murphy



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

A minute to thank you for your generosity. We appreciate all the financial support you are providing Winder First United Methodist Church. Perhaps the greater thanks should go for your unseen gifts of prayers and hands-on work. A list of these gifts would take more than a minute, but they are known and are a true blessing to many.

A minute to share the status of our capital campaign projects. In light of the improved boiler situation, the Trustees & Church Council reprioritized the projects. With the current funds on hand of approximately \$275,000, the following five projects have been launched:

1. The front yard sign will receive electronic capability, yet retain its classic appearance. The directional interior and exterior signage will be revamped to provide a clearer map for everyone to navigate on our campus, a critical factor for visitors, new members & emergency personnel.
2. The 1966 single pane windows: 77 of them will be replaced with energy efficient double pin Solar LO-E vinyl windows, a great improvement to help maintain our indoor climate, safety, all while saving on electricity.
3. A survey of the 58 boiler wall units is being performed to develop a three-phase plan of replacement. The critical units will be phase one. Phase two and three would be in the future and provide for the replacement of the boiler.
4. The Parlor is being refurbished. As we grow our children's ministry, it will primarily be a young adult Sunday School class and gathering place.
5. The parking lots will be repaired, repaved, sealed & striped.

As pledge funds come in, we look forward to completing more projects.

A minute to close: The capital campaign is alive. It is operating on a referral basis. If you speak to anyone or know of someone that would like more information on how to participate, let us know via a phone call, letter, note, e-mail, etc. to the church office. Positively looking forward to seeing our new sign proclaim, "Pardon the mess, God at work. Please join us."

Thank you for your three minutes. Amen.

Robert Stansell

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



As I celebrate my third anniversary here at Winder, I am reminded every day about God's love and grace through the faces of our children! Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, Thursday afternoons and every day I walk the preschool's halls, I am thankful for being a small part in the lives of our children. Our Easter Egg Hunt was a fun filled afternoon hunting eggs and visiting with the Bunny. A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this event a hit! You are appreciated more than you know. The next few months will be busy with an End of School Splash Party scheduled for May 19th and don't forget about our VBS June 3-7! More info will be shared soon.

Blessings,

Cindy



APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 12p - AA 7p - Yargo Community Band	2 10a - Tues AM Bible Study 5:30p -Weight Watchers	3 7a - Prayer Group 10a - Women's Bible Study 12p - AA 6:30p - Grief Group	4 8:30a - Weight Watchers 6p - Kiwanis Meeting	5 6:30a - Men's Study Breakfast 12p - AA	6 10a - AA
7 See Sunday Schedule	8 12p - AA 5:30p - Missions Meeting 6p - SPRC Meeting 7p - Yargo Community Band	9 10a - Tues AM Bible Study 1:30p -Winder First Women 5:30p - Weight Watchers 6:30p - Trustees Meeting	10 7a - Prayer Group 10a - Women's Bible Study 12p - AA 6:30p - Grief Group	11 8:30a - Weight Watchers	12 6:30a - Men's Study Breakfast 12p - AA 12:30p - Kindred Spirits Lunch	13 10a - AA
14 See Sunday Schedule	15 12p - AA 7p - Yargo Community Band	16 10a - Tues AM Bible Study 5:30p - Weight Watchers 6p - Finance Committee Meeting	17 7a - Prayer Group 10a - Women's Bible Study 12p - 54 & More 12p - AA 6:30p - Grief Group	18 8:30a - Weight Watchers 6p - Kiwanis Meeting	19 6:30a - Men's Study Breakfast 12p - AA	20 10a - AA
21 10a - Missions Single Service 3p - Birthday party (LMR)	22 12p - AA 6:15p - UMM 7p - Yargo Community Band	23 10a - Tues AM Bible Study 5:30p -Weight Watchers	24 7a - Prayer Group 10a - Women's Bible Study 12p - AA 6:30p - Grief Group	25 8:30a - Weight Watchers	26 6:30a - Men's Study Breakfast 12p - AA	27 10a - AA 12p - Birthday rental FH
28 See Sunday Schedule	29 12p - AA 7p - Yargo Community Band	30 10a - Tues AM Bible Study 5:30p -Weight Watchers				

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



APRIL 1 - Dean Chase, Morgan Kate Keller

APRIL 2 - Toni Boldin

APRIL 3 - Greta Bradberry

APRIL 4 - Robin Kristal

APRIL 5 - Jacob Goldstein

APRIL 6 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

APRIL 7 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

APRIL 8 - Kimberly Richardson

APRIL 9 - Rev. Dr. Geoff Murphy

APRIL 10 - Paula Reagin

APRIL 11 - Tommye Stewart, Sylmarie Quinn

APRIL 12 - Janet Segars, Matthew Ruffino

APRIL 13 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

APRIL 14 - Fred Richard, Rae Skinner, Ceci Sikes

APRIL 15 - Lily Boldin

APRIL 16 - Meg Loggins, Hannah Smith

APRIL 17 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

APRIL 18 - Bob Loftin, Pamela Wilkes

APRIL 19 - Ron Saunders, Spencer Smith

APRIL 20 - Melanie Reavis

APRIL 21 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

APRIL 22 - Robert Petree

APRIL 23 - Kathy Hall

APRIL 24 - Gary Wolfe

APRIL 25 - Sam Stewart

APRIL 26 - Evelyn Hix, Monica Keller

APRIL 27 - Ridley Parrish, Tyler Maloof, William Soliman

APRIL 28 - Marilyn Lee

APRIL 29 - Jon Carroll, Greg Duffey

APRIL 30 - *NO BIRTHDAYS*

Remember in Prayer

Recent Updates & Concerns:

Carroll Eddleman - Recovering at home from fusion of 3 back vertebrae

Rich & Patty Boyd's Friend's Granddaughter - Chemo treatments. Pray for healing, guidance & peace.

Monika Foresteire's Son-in-Law - Sonny Tom doing remarkably well after emergency open heart surgery. Released from rehab this past week.

Paul Innecken - at NEGA hospital for rehab

Steve Palmer - Had 2nd chemo round and is managing well. Still in need of meals.

Lee Goldstein's Friend - Keith Marcos, who has hairy cell leukemia

Peggy Rary - Recovering from fall; subdural hematoma

Greg Marr's Mom - Linda, has lost vision in one eye.

Christina Marr's Dad - Recovering from knee surgery on April 3rd

Allen & Haley Sue Williams - IVF transfer cycle failed; no longer pursuing fertility treatments

Ongoing Concerns:

Rich Boyd - He is not cancer-free.

Kelly Channell - Medical Issues

Connie Cash - Post-transplant treatments and follow-up

John & Cindy Ferguson's Brother-in-law - Wayne Lockett; in hospital and not doing well.

Vicki Couch's Sister-in-law's Son - Hospitalized w/ level 2 heart failure

Jean Davis - Fell; broken femur; at The Oaks for rehab

Linda Elrod - Fell and broke her shoulder

Monika Foresteire - Macular degeneration in right eye

Monika Foresteire's Nephew - Bill Cresswell; cancer

Joyce Grabau's Son - Michael Grabau, chemo

Jerry Hartman - Athens Heritage for rehab

Bob Hill - Recovering from back surgery

Inez West - Recovering from surgery for a serious infection that set up on hip replacement that she had 2 years ago; at The Oaks for rehab.

Karen Thompson's Uncle - Prostate cancer among other issues.

Cassie Mathis - Recovering from gallbladder surgery

Cassie Mathis' Stepdad - Dave; Stage 2 kidney disease

Dot McAlvin's Nephew - Chris Whitaker; recovering at home from bone marrow transplant.

Bobbie McMichael - Recovering at home, PT

Rev. Dr. Geoff Murphy - Recovering from foot surgery; PT

Cynthia Norman - Stage 4 pancreatic cancer; chemo

Jenni Overbey - New cancer treatment going better

Bill Nunnally - Doing well. Able to eat soft foods and is healing.

Nancy Paulos - Being evaluated to see if she can go home for in-home care

Ellen Petree - Had first solid food since mid Dec and still continuing TPN for IV infusion of nutrients.

Pam Sharpton's Friend - Stefanie Bean Berger; colon cancer

John Sheats - Atypical Parkinsonism with probable MSA

Betty Taylor - Fell; broken leg, rehab @ Winder Healthcare

CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

Winder First UMC Year-to-Date Financial Position

Total contributions for
February 2024 were
\$51,725.91



On Sunday, March 31, 2024, I celebrated my first Easter at Winder First United Methodist Church. It was a great Sunday. I hope you heard the message of "Freedom" that Dr. Murphy preached that morning. If not, I encourage you to go back and listen to it, because this month, our church is going to invite you to use that freedom with our MissionExpo.

MissionExpo will take place on Sunday April 21, 2024. On this day, the Rev. Dave Allen Grady will be our guest preacher. The Rev. David Allen Grady, along with his wife Susan, serves as co-pastors at Simpsonwood United Methodist Church. In addition, Rev. Grady is the mission specialist for our Central East District. I am enthusiastic to welcome him to Winder to preach on "The Mission is a Movement" (Acts 8:26-40.)

What can you do? I am so glad you asked that question. First, let's pray. Everyday this month, I would like you to pray that God would lead us in our mission endeavors. Pray that others who are looking for a place to plug in will be present on that Sunday. As you pray, let us read. Take time out of your day to read the Scripture of Acts 8:26-40. Finally, let's find you a place to plug in to mission. On that Sunday, non-profits from the United Methodist Church and others that we support in the Winder community will be present for you to find ways to volunteer. Also, in this month's newsletter, you will see a QR code that will allow you to volunteer for two amazing teams. We will be making casseroles for foster families and baking cookies for people in our community. In addition, each table will put together hygiene kits to support our work with the United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR).

There is one other way for you to be part of this exciting Sunday. A few weeks ago, I spoke to you about the need to form relationships. As we prepare for April 21st, choose someone to invite to church with you that morning. The service will start at 10:00 am. There will be a brunch meal provided. Being there will change your life and possibly someone else's eternity.

With Love,

Rev. Dr. Chris Strickland

Gifts have been given to our church in memory of:

- **Henry Mays:** by Paul & Dot Hutchison, Dot McAlvin
- **Paul Klein:** Dot McAlvin
- **Steve McMichael:** Dot McAlvin
- **Betty Clark:** Jennie & Dick Mitchell

Please be in prayer for those serving in our military:

Louise Bradberry's grandson - *Robert Davis*; Sally Brown's nephew - *Lucas Cahoone*; Barbara Clark's grandsons - *Griffin & Garrett Longino*; Rose Higgins' grandson - *Alan Cupps*; Jill Murphy's boyfriend - *Chad Courtney* (AIT training); Jill Murphy's friends - *Lando Turner & Brayden Ritenour* (completed US Marine Basic Training); Pete & Nancy Paulos' daughter and her husband - *Vanessa Paulos Guest & Colin Guest* (who are Diplomatic Foreign Service Officers for the US State Dept., serving a three-year post at the US Embassy in Beijing, China); Dottie Reynolds' grandson - *SSGT Troy Mayfield*; Fred & Peggy Richard's son-in-law - *Carl Schindler*; Hardy & Phyllis Warmack's son - *Ryan Warmack*

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Return Service Requested

