



# The Methodist Message

A Newsletter from the First United Methodist Church, Hawkinsville, Georgia  
September 7, 2011

## Our Dwelling Place



As we approach the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, it is comforting to know that we can continue to turn to our help and our hope. Our help and our hope is God our Father. In Psalm 90, the psalmist writes, "Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

In these days of remembrance of the events of 9/11, the hymn that seems most comforting is one written by Isaac Watts in 1719. The hymn is "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." It is known as Watts' most bracing hymn. It was played on the radio by the BBC as soon as World War II was declared, and was later sung at the funeral service of Winston Churchill. Some of the original verses have fallen into disuse, but as you read them, think of the ailing hymnist, sitting at the desk in his room on the Abney estate, pouring over Psalm 90 and penning these words:

*Our God, our help in ages past,/Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,/And our eternal home.*

*Under the shadow of Thy throne/ Thy saints have dwelt secure;/  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,/ And our defense is sure.*

*Before the hills in order stood,/ Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,/ To endless years the same.*

*Thy Word commands our flesh to dust,/ "Return, ye sons of men:"/  
All nations rose from earth at first,/ And turn to earth again.*

*A thousand ages in Thy sight/ Are like an evening gone;/  
short as the watch that ends the night/Before the rising sun.*

*The busy tribes of flesh and blood,/With all their lives and cares,  
Are carried downwards by the flood,/ And lost in following years.*

*Time, like an ever rolling stream,/ Bears all its sons away;/  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream/ Dies at the opening day.*

*Like flowery fields the nations stand/ Please with the morning light;/  
The flowers beneath the mower's hand/ Lie withering ere 'tis night.*

*Our God, our help in ages past,/ Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,/ And our eternal home.*

Having personally visited "Ground Zero" in May with my family, my heart goes out to the families that lost loved ones on that day ten years ago. May God continue to comfort the families who will never forget the day they lost their loved one in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in that field in Pennsylvania. Let us pause this week to thank God for those who continue to serve faithfully in our Armed Forces and our First Responders (police, fire, ambulance). We are so blessed to have America's best protecting us and our interests around the world.

See You on Sunday,

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

**1st Lt. Joshua Campbell**

**Jay Childs**

**Spc. Nick Coloma**

**Nano Corona**

**Liz Eller**

**Robert Harper**

**James Hicks**

**Bobby Iannuzzi**

**Sarah Janelle**

**Cpl. Tony Mullis**

**Billie Ormsby**

**Carrie Schaarschmidt**

**Pauline Kinard Sims family**

*We welcome Harris & Judy Churchwell  
who united with our church in August.*

**Bishop's Hour for 2011**  
**Cordele First United Methodist Church**  
**Sunday, September 11, 2011**  
**4:00 PM**

Bishop King and Dr. Wayne Moseley cordially invite the leadership of Hawkinsville First United Methodist Church to join them for a time of enrichment and teaching by our bishop. The bishop is asking that everyone serving in a leadership capacity in the local church be present for his presentation. I hope that you will mark your calendar with plans to attend this very important session on September 11th. If you would like to ride on the church van we will leave at 3:15 P.M. from the church parking lot.

**Youth Council meeting**  
**Sunday at 4:00 pm**

## UMW DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

**Attention all Ladies:** The Americus District United Methodist Women will hold their annual meeting at Byromville United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Registration begins at 9:30 am, followed by the meeting at 10:00 am, and then lunch at 12:00 noon. Registration fee is \$5.00 (will be collected at the door) and cost of the lunch is \$8.00 per person. Guest speaker for the meeting is Rev B.J. Funk, Associate Pastor of Central UMC in Fitzgerald. B.J. was the guest speaker at our 2010 UMW Sunday and, as we all know, she is a fantastic speaker. District awards will also be presented during the meeting.

Rather than designating just one agency as the special mission project for the meeting, three agencies have been designated. Attendees are asked to bring items, such as baby wipes for Wesley Community Centers in Savannah, Wal-Mart gift cards for Vashti Center in Thomasville, and feminine hygiene products for Open Door Community Center in Columbus. Also, there is going to be a silent auction to help increase the district's pledge for this year. So bring some extra cash and start your Christmas shopping early.

If you plan to attend, please let Lynn Harper know by September 9, 2011 so she can notify Byromville UMW as to the number of attendees. All UMW ladies are encouraged to attend. We would love to have a large group from our church attend.

## UMW SALAD SUPPER



The Anna Rachel and Mary Culler White Circles will hold their annual Salad Supper/Combined Meeting at 7:00 pm, Monday, September 12th in the Social Hall. The Mary Culler

White Circle is in charge of the program and the Anna Rachel Circle are the hostesses. Ladies, prepare one of your delicious salads and come join us for an evening of food and fellowship. You don't have to be a UMW member to attend. Visitors are always welcome!

## Youth News

Please do all you can to be at youth each Sunday and Wednesday evenings. We are working on Youth Sunday and we need EVERYONE to be a part of this great day. We meet each Sunday evening at 6 p.m. in Cochran Hall and every Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. following the evening meal. Youth Sunday is set for September 18th. We will conduct both the 9 and the 11 a.m. worship hours.

## Children's News

Our After School Children's Program is off to a great start. We have 27 children participating in this ministry. We are still in need of volunteers to help with the after supper hour. We are asking for our parents to each take a turn during this hour.

Our older children's choir (2nd through 5th grades) will sing at the 11 a.m. service on September 25th. Please mark your calendars to be present at this service.

**REMINDER:** If you are planning on going to KIDZQUEST at Epworth September 30—Oct. 2nd, please get those registration forms into the office. This event is for all 3rd through 6th graders. Registration is due by September 11th.

## DOOLY CAMPGROUND BOSTON BUTT SALE \$25.00

Last day to purchase—September 24th  
Cash or check payable to Dooly Campground

Delivery/Pickup at FUMC  
October 1st 10:00-12:00PM

Contact: Larry Harper 478-892-3123

### OUR STAFF:

John A. Walker, Pastor

Barbara Lawson, Choir Director

Grace Daniel, Organist

Kara Bearer, Director of Children & Youth

Laurie Obert-Thorn, Office Manager

Pearlie Mae West, Nursery Attendant

Bobby Carter, Custodian

*First United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 434 - 44 Merritt Street  
Hawkinsville, GA 31036*

*Phone: (478) 783-1856  
Fax: (478) 892-8353  
E-mail: hawkinsvilleumc@comsouth.net  
Website: hawkinsvilleumc.com*

«FullName»  
«Address1»  
«Address2»  
«City» «State» «Zip»