#### Newsletter of Inman United Methodist Church

# July, 2022



#### Connection Group

Be on the lookout for a new ministry to kickoff in August.

As part of Pastor Whitney's Ordination project, Inman UMC will be having monthly activities to get to know our neighbors on Hills Bridge Road and throughout the community.

If you are interested in helping to coordinate and/or plan these meetings, please reach out to Whitney.

### From the Pastor

As I finish up my first full year here at Inman, I can't help but sit grateful and amazed at the heart of this congregation and the work of God's hand over the last 12 months. My heart is bursting with love for all of y'all. I am constantly amazed at how this congregation is so willing to serve, so quick to love, and so deeply in love with Jesus. To look back over the last 12 months, to see the ways this congregation has been the hands and feet of Jesus to the community and to one another is inspiring. From the excitement over serving at the UMCOR warehouse, to the outpouring of love at funerals, to the energy and passion at Impact and ASP, to connecting with the community at Farm Heritage Days, we are actively involved in spreading the hope that Jesus brings. We've added new faces to our community, we've lost several dear members, and we've continued to adapt to the new challenges of post-pandemic life.

I also was so encouraged when I attended the North Georgia Annual Conference for the first time. It was so refreshing to be gathered together with clergy and laity, to worship together, to discuss the business of the church. And yes, as we gathered together, we all did not agree on all things. It absolutely broke my heart to witness 70 churches disaffiliate from the UMC. And yet as a body, we prayed for the fruitfulness of their ministry, sending them off with blessing and with continued prayers that

God would use them in mighty ways.

One of the moments that sticks out the most in my mind are the words of Bishop Sue from opening worship. At the beginning of the conference, she preached on John 21, reminding us of Jesus' appearance. Standing on that stage, she reminded each of us that our job is to haul people to Jesus. We are to bring people to Jesus, that we are to draw people to Jesus' table, bringing them into the Kingdom.

Nothing else we do matters if we aren't doing that. We can debate all day long about theology, but we cannot lose focus of this fact. Our job is to bring people to Jesus. In the words of Bishop Sue, "This is only about Jesus. This is All about Jesus!"

Later this month, we will gather together as a community to celebrate 190 years of hauling people to Jesus, of bringing people to His table, of shining as a light in the Fayetteville community. We'll gather for Homecoming, where we remember God's faithfulness throughout the years. And amid it all, my prayer is that this will not simply be a celebration. Instead, this will remind us of our mission and our ministry, re-energizing us for what God has in store in the years to come. May we always keep Jesus at the center of all we do.

> Yours in Christ. Whitney

Homecoming

### This year marks the 190th anniversary of our congregation!

Liberty Chapel, the predecessor to Inman UMC registered their first deed in 1832.

To celebrate, we will be having Homecoming service on Sunday, July 31st. Rev. Royeese Stowe will be preaching that day! We will have one worship service at 11:00am with a church provided meal to follow.

#### Please RSVP by Sunday, July 17th

We need to plan accordingly for seating and for the meal. Please RSVP by going to: **inmanmethodist.org/homecoming** and follow the link to RSVP -or-scan the QR code with your phone and go to the Homecoming web page.



Liberty Chappel now Inman United Methodist Early Documents, Sara Jane Overstreet, Church Historian

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#### LIBERTY CHAPPEL 1832 FAYETTE CO GA DB C P 152

#### Liberty Chapel/Inman United Methodist

Sources for church history include:

The History of Fayette County: 1821-1971, Fayette County Historical Society, 1977. Article by Methodist Preachers in Georgia 1783-1900, by Harold Lawrence, Boyd Publishing, 1984. Methodist Preachers in Georgia 1783-1900: A Supplement, by Harold Lawrence, Boyd Publishing, 1995.

History of Methodism in Georgia and Florida, From 1785-1865, by Geo. G. Smith, Jr., Jno. W. Burke & Co., Macon, GA, 1877.

Liberty Chapel/Inman United Methodist registers and church conference minutes. Conference Journal

Digital Library of GA, Historic Newspapers of GA Newspapers.com

## Do you have pictures to share? Would you like to help compile some photo albums?

Please let us know! Please let us know you want to help with photo albums or send photos to

secretary@inmanmethodist.org

### Would you like to bring a dessert to share at the meal afterwards?

Please get with Joni J. or Kathy B. & let them know.

#### Homecoming Workday Sat., July 30th at 9:00am

There will be lots to do inside and outside the church to get ready for Homecoming.

Please, make plans to join us and help get the church ready for our big day.

For more info, please see Ed R. or Linda W.

### A Message From Frank Stembridge

When my sister was 8, she began to take piano lessons. A beautiful piano appeared in our house. She took piano lessons for a couple of years and I asked if I could take lessons, too. My parents were concerned that I might be what is now referred to as "over programmed" so there were rules set down about practicing every day. My smart mother set up a schedule for us. We set our alarms to 6:00am. One of us would practice for 30 minutes while the other prepared for the day. Then we would swap.

Music runs in my family. My uncle Chip (Jerry Stembridge) grew up with Joe South and Jerry Reid and was in bands with them. He ended up in Nashville as a studio session player and played on most of Elvis Presley's albums. He created and plays the opening guitar riff on Dolly Parton's "Joleen". Lots of cousins are musical, from organist and praise bands to country and punk/Goth. A musical bunch.

I grew up singing/playing hymns and I have always tinkered with arranging. I guess the engineer in my head can't leave good enough alone. My teacher (and Carolyn's) was the Minister of Music at East Point First UMC, Bob Fraumann. He improvised hymns and encouraged us.

I studied Electrical Engineering at Georgia Tech. I attended the Wesley Foundation where they had an early incarnation of a praise band - three guitarists leading songs from Dylan to Kansas. There was a piano in the corner and I asked to join. I played there for the next 4 years. The Rev. William (Bill) Landiss was a wonderful campus minister and mentored many engineers into seminary. He was instrumental in shaping my adult understanding of what it means to be a Christian. I am forever grateful for that experience.

Lucy has constantly taught Voice, Piano, and Guitar since we've been married, as well as teaching all levels of school, while serving churches around Atlanta as the Music Director. In 2012 I played/directed at Antioch UMC in



Fairburn. I took a pianist position at Friendship UMC and played there until August 2021. Last year the North Georgia Conference merged Friendship with North Fayette UMC. NFUMC has a longstanding wonderful music program with talented staff. Let me say that I love the folks at Friendship and the folks I met at North Fayette. There was no issue with my resigning and Lucy is presently playing the piano there.

One evening last July, as I was checking out the latest from my widespread cousins and friends on Facebook, an Inman UMC ad popped up for a pianist. I had heard of Inman because Carolyn had told me she played here. So I applied. I am grateful to share my gifts, celebrate your gifts, and see what I can learn from each of you. Jolynn is wonderful to work with, picks great anthems and hymns, and leads me to push my abilities while allowing me to improvise and perform the wide range of styles I love.

### Do You Have a Favorite Hymn?

If you have a favorite hymn, write down the name and give it to me.

I will endeavor to include that in future service music.

From the Choir

#### Summer Choir Schedule

Choir will meet every other week on Wednesdays at 6:30 in July and August.

Practice Dates: July 13th & 27th and August 10th & 24th

#### Singers Needed!

The choir and I welcome all that would like to sing with us on Sundays at the 11:00am services to come join us in preparing for the services on Wednesday evenings.

Seats are available, smiles are needed, and voices are welcome.

Come help us make a joyful noise,

Jolynn

### North Georgia Annual Conference Report 2022

The 2022 North Georgia Annual Conference session was held June 2-4 at The Classic Center in Athens, Georgia, with Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson presiding. After two years of virtual sessions due to COVID, 1,800 United Methodists gathered for a conference under the theme of "A Place for You at The Table."

In the Service of Licensing, Commissioning, and Ordination, the North Georgia Annual Conference licensed 11 new local pastors, commissioned 11 provisional elders, and ordained 5 full connection deacons and 13 full connection elders. Rev. Tommy Ross was one of those that were ordained in this service.

**Disaffiliations:** In a solemn moment, members of the North Georgia Annual Conference ratified the disaffiliation agreements of 70 churches. The process for disaffiliation was established by the 2019 General Conference of The United Methodist Church.

"Bless these congregations as they depart," prayed Bishop Sue. "I pray that we will be partners in ministry and you will do your mighty work of healing division and overcoming rifts."

**United Methodist Center Relocation Task Force:** The Trustees presented the recommendation of the United Methodist Center Relocation Task Force to buy property adjacent to

College Park UMC to build a 5,400 sq foot headquarters utilizing designated funds that are projected to adequately cover the costs. Conference members voted to approve the recommendation to purchase the property on E. Main Street, College Park, Georgia, and build a new conference headquarters.

Church Closures: The Conference recognized the closure of seven churches. Bishop Sue lifted up a prayer for the closed churches: "We thank you for the witness of these churches in ages past. We thank you that resurrection always follows death, and we pray that the legacy of these churches will be used to build new churches that will introduce people to Christ."

**Resolutions:** The North Georgia Conference adopted two resolutions, both related to Native American Ministry.

These and more are detailed in the North Georgia Annual Conference Report 2022 found at:

https://www.ngumc.org/newsdetail/north-georgia-annual-conference-report-16519407

Blessings,

Brad



### United Women in Faith Love & Fellowship Circle

#### **UMCOR Christmas Shoeboxes**

This year, as in previous years, there are specific needs for each shoebox. We will again do the shopping and offer an opportunity for our members to:



#### "Build a Christmas Shoebox"

Each member has an opportunity to help with this mission:

- 1. Purchase a shoebox for \$25.00 (\$20.00 for filling shoebox and \$5.00 for shipping)
- 2. Chose male and/or female; ages 2-4, 4-6; 6-8; 8-10 and 10-12
- 3. Members are welcome to come and fill the "Shoebox" they bought at our July Packing Party with items already purchased for them.

If members would like, we welcome donations to help with our expenses in filling shoeboxes and cost of shipping.

#### Packing Party for Christmas Shoeboxes

Saturday, July 23rd at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.
All are welcome to come and "Build a Christmas Shoebox".

Blessings,

Joni Janssen, President

### Technology Committee

We have heard from a few members that emails from the church have been going into their Spam and Junk Mail Folders, making them miss notices of funerals and announcements from the church.

To fix that, we suggest you try the following:

- Reply to the message with a brief note, saying that you got the note or perhaps sharing what you like from the livestream that it told you about. This might be the least complicated of all the solutions.
- Add the sender of the message to your contacts so that your email program knows it is from someone you know. Typically, church emails sent to you come from secretary@inmanmethodist.org, technology@inmanmethodist.org, or pastor@inmanmethodist.org.

 Finally, many email programs have a "Not Junk" or "Not Spam" button that you can hit, once you find the message in your spam folder. You can also move the message from the Junk or Spam folder to your Inbox and that will do the same thing.

In any event, if you find that you are not getting messages from the church, and would like to, please reach out to the church office, or by email to technology@inmanmethodist.org and we will be happy to help you get it working again.

Similarly if we are sending them to the wrong email address, or you would like to be added or removed from certain emails, please let us know as well.

### United Methodist Men

The UMM had a wonderful dinner meeting on June 15th at Ed & Judy Roehm's house. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend and a special thank you to Patsy Elliott for preparing two wonderful & delicious desserts!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 13 at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall. A light breakfast will be served.

### Children & Youth

<u>Due to summer vacation, there will be not be regularly scheduled Youth Group on Sunday night, but please make plans to join us for these special events!</u>

- **July 3 Pool Party:** 4:00-6:30pm at Judy & Ed Roehm's house. Girls bring a salty snack to share, boys bring a sweet snack to share. Dress code: Girls: 1 piece swimsuit or tankini, Boys: swim trunks (no speedos).
- July 23 Serve & Play Day: 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Come support the United Women In Faith and help "Build a Christmas Shoebox".
- August 7 Back to School Bonfire: 5:00 7:00pm at the Youth House.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the children & youth program, please let us know by signing up on the bulletin board outside the Children & Youth Director's office!

### Missions & Outreach

#### Altar Rail Offerings for the month of July are for Murphy-Harpst Childrens Center

Murphy-Harpst Childrens Centers is an independent not-for-profit organization committed to meeting the needs of abused and neglected children. The core of Murphy-Harpsts is to provide a safe and nurturing residential environment along with treatment, placement in specialized foster care, and community programs that will allow them to thrive and heal.

It is only through your generous donations that give Murphy-Harpst the ability to provide critical services that truly heal the children and allow them to achieve their potential and lead successful lives.

Your donations help support vital programs such as: equine and art therapy, education and technology, spiritual and character development, life skills and vocational services as well as many others.

So, big or small; any and all donations are welcome and very much appreciated.

#### Reflection of Sarah Murphy and Ethel Harpst (founders):

"The love in your heart wasn't put there to stay.

Love isn't love till it's given away."

'Children are God's love-gift; they are heaven's generous rewards.' Psalm 127:3

Blessings,

Deborah Morris

#### 2022 Altar Rail Offerings

*July* Murphy Harpst

August Golden Cross

<u>September</u> Wellroot

<u>October</u> Aldersgate Homes

November
Homeless
Offering

**December**AIDS Awareness

### Fayette Samaritans

#### Food Pantry Needs for July

- Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- Laundry Detergent
- Cookies
- Pop Tarts
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Shampoo

#### Clothes Closet Needs for July

Women's underwear size extra-large and all sizes of men's boxer shorts.

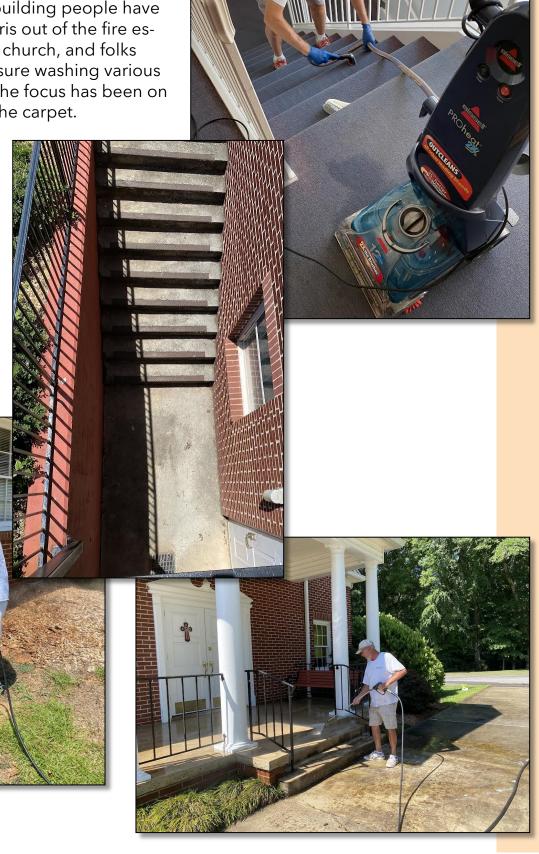
### Trustees

#### Clean Up, Clean Up, Everybody Clean Up!

As usual, the Trustees are not without plenty to keep them busy. This past month the Trustees have focused on cleaning up inside and outside of the church. Outside the building people have cleaned the leaves and debris out of the fire escape on the east side of the church, and folks have been working on pressure washing various surfaces. Inside the church the focus has been on spot treating and cleaning the carpet.

#### Homecoming Workday Saturday, July 30th 9:00am - 2:00pm

Make plans to join us to get the church ready for our big day!
We have projects inside and outside, large and small.
A light lunch will be provided.



### Opportunities to Serve

#### **Grass Cutting**

We need a volunteers to help with cutting the grass and taking care of routine lawn maintenance such as weed trimming, edging & blowing off the sidewalks. The church has the necessary equipment. You can sign up on the bulletin board outside the Pastor's office. Please see Ed R. or Herm J. for more information.

#### We still need people for:

- July 17 23
- July 31 August 6
- August 14 20
- August 28 September 3
- September 4 10
- September 11 17
- September 25 October 1

#### Homecoming Workday

**Saturday, July 30.** We will need all the help we can get to take care of projects inside and outside of the church to get ready for Homecoming. **We will start at 9:00am.** 

#### Children & Youth

We need volunteers to help with teaching Sunday School (starts at 10:00am) and to help with programming for children and youth. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the Youth Directors office.

#### Small Projects

There are a number of small projects around the church that we could use some help on. The list is posted on the bulletin board outside the Pastor's office. *Please see Ed R. or Linda W. for more information*.

### Finance Committee

#### Financial Report for January - May, 2022

Income		Jan May		YTD Budget	
Gifts & Tithes	\$	5	93,289	\$	88,333
ASP	\$	5	13,990	\$	-
Other Designated Fund	ds \$	3	4,374	\$	4,167
Grand Total Income	\$	5	111,653	\$	92,500
Expenses		Jan May		YTD Budget	
ASP	\$	5	4,825	\$	5,000
Committee Expenditu	res \$	ò	3,699	\$	3,688
Operational Expenses	\$	ò	20,129	\$	13,975
All Other Expenses	\$	<u> </u>	58,353	\$	69,812
Grand Total Expenses	; \$	5	87,006	\$	92,474

### For Our Prayers

#### For Healing From Health Concerns

Carlos Allen (Gloria Reid's brother)

Roger Barnhill

Glenda Berman (Dixie Berner)

Jack Brannon (Jeff Wedge)

Darleen Cornelison

Charles Harp

Don Harp

Kenny Harp

Nicole Henry

Leigh Ann Hicks

John Kozisek

Griffin Lunceford

Sarah McCart (Jane St. Amour)

Pat Parker (Nancy Allgood)

Ken Sandberg

Miriam Schmidt

Lisa Spears (Nancy Allgood)

Jane St. Amour

Marvin Tidwell

Patricia Vaughn

Julie Ward (Joni Janssen)

Luz Webster (Gloria Reid)

Jeff Wedge

Rhonda Wheeler (George & Lynn Wheeler)

Chance Whittington (Will Chance)

Kathey Young

#### For Healing From Cancer

Roger Allgood

Denise Anderson (Joni Janssen)

Amanda Bennett (Linda Wagner)

Justin Bennett (Ruth Sitton)

David Booth (Martha Kozisek)

Jackie Clayburn

Walter Delia (Martha Kozisek)

Dan Dudley (Pat Pratt)

Mary Lee Giddings

Bill Haleday

Leigh Hawkins

Daniel Houghton (Martha Kozisek)

**Burl Hurley** 

Matt Kirkindall

Joey Shelton (Deborah Morris)

Bobby Smith (Tammy Cox)

Diane Tankersley (Donald Whiteside)

Brent Taylor (Jim & Karen Blue)

**Ruth Williams** 

Bobby Williams (Rick Minter)

Louise Woods (Ann Hembree)

Penny Wofford

Kay Young

### For Those Mourning the Death of Loved Ones

Charles & Kay Cox

Kendall Burton (Jerry & Marie Large)

Jerry Mask

Wendy Heller (Jack Price)

Sue Swain (Judy Roehm)

Bill Stembridge (Frank Stembridge)

Bill Harp

#### Other Concerns

For the children/youth programs of Inman UMC

Unspoken prayers of the congregation

### Birthdays & Reminders

Pat Pratt	July 1
Preston Scurry	July 7
Jerry Wagner	July 7
Sue Mahaffey	July 11
Kenny Corley	July 13
Debi Creel	July 18
Jolynn Stevens	July 20
Linda Price	July 22
Moody Elliott	July 23
Leigh Ann Hicks	July 24
Gayle Harp	July 26
Darleen Cornelison	July 27
Karen Millman	July 30

If you see a birthday is missing, please notify the church office so we can update our records.

#### Offering Counters

July 3
July 10: Brenda N. & Helen B.
July 17: Donna M. & Jerry W.
July 24: Nancy A. & Joni J.
July 31: Ed R. & Linda W.

### Grass Cutting Volunteers

*July 3 - July 9*J. Haygood

July 10 - July 16
Forrest B.

\*\*Volunteer Needed

<u>July 24 - July 30</u> Moody E.

\*\*Volunteer Needed

### Office Information

#### Summer Office Hours

#### **By Appointment Only**

To schedule an appointment, call 770-461-2123 or email secretary@inmanmethodist.org

Volunteers will be checking the mail, email and phone for messages and following up accordingly.

#### Our Staff

Rev. Whitney Hair, Pastor | pastor@inmanmethodist.org

Jolynn Stevens, Director of Music music@inmanmethodist.org

Frank Stembridge, Pianist pianist@inmanmethodist.org

Office Volunteer, Secretary secretary@inmanmethodist.org

**The Informer** is a publication of Inman United Methodist Church 151 Hills Bridge Road | Fayetteville, GA 30215 (770) 461-2123 | www.inmanmethodist.org