

The Herald

A Publication of Harmony Grove United Methodist Church

November 18, 2008

Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow, Where Your Heart is at Home!

Spot Light On:

Parents' Night Out!

The Young Adults take care of children up to 5th grade on Saturday, December 6, 2008. Drop off starting at 5 PM and pickup no later than 9 PM. Cost is \$15 for one child and \$20 for two. Proceeds and your donations will go to Young Adult Ministry. Please sign-up in advance by contacting Kim Landis at superkimmie42@aol.com or Steve in the church office.

United Methodist Men: Mark Your Calendars

The Harmony Grove United Methodist Men will be meeting at the Eagle's Landing West restaurant (Mountain Park) November 22nd at 8:00 AM.

23rd Annual Holiday Concert by FORSCOM's Army Ground Forces Band

December 14, 2008
Georgia World Congress Center
Craig Knowlton has eight tickets to the Forces Command annual Holiday Concert. If you are a group have an interest please contact Jim Landis.

Did You Know?

The money left on the communion rail is put in a separate account and sent to the Lilburn Co-op



Holiday Schedule

Sunday, November 23: Harmony Grove Thanksgiving Dinner

Following the 11:00 AM service in the Berrier Building

Please bring two side-dishes (either two vegetables or one vegetable and one salad). The church will provide turkey, dressing, gravy, and rolls. The Inner Circle class will provide the desserts. Come and invite a friend.

Sunday, November 23: Site Dedication for the Outdoor Labyrinth

As you proceed to the Berrier Building for Thanksgiving Dinner stop by the Labyrinth site for the dedication.

Sunday, November 30: First Sunday in Advent

Poinsettias will go on sale today. Order forms will be available at the Welcome Center and in your Order of Worship.

Sunday, December 7: *Season of Wonders* Cantata and Music Program - 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

Saturday, December 13: Breakfast with Santa in Pollard Hall

9 AM - 11 AM - Cost: \$3 -Children, \$5-Adult, Family limit \$15

Wednesday, December 17: Wednesday Night Christmas Supper

Plan to join us for the last Wednesday Night Supper of 2008. Sign up by Tuesday December 16 at 11:00 AM

Sunday, December 21: Wassailing Party in Pollard Hall

During the Sunday School Hour

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Service

6:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Fair Trade Coffee

Fair Trade coffee and tea are still on sale across from the elevators between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM. The coffee is almost gone so stop by and pick up your coffee today.

Prices are: \$6.00 for regular coffee; \$7.00 for decaf coffee; and \$2.50 for tea.

Harmony Grove United Methodist Women Christmas Banquet December 8, 2008, 6:00 PM Speaker: Ruth Manning

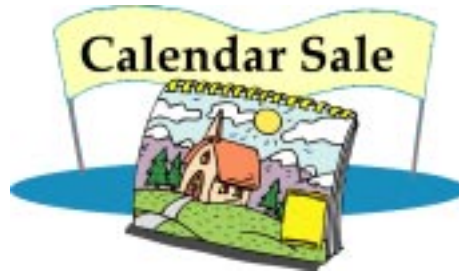
This Christmas Celebration sponsored by the United Methodist Women at Harmony Grove is open to any who would like to attend. Join us, and bring a guest, for this special time of fellowship. Dinner is catered (\$12.00) per person, and is waiter served. Special live music from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM will be provided by John and Mary Alice Rhodes.

Registration forms are available through the UMW, in the Narthex and Church Office, and online at www.harmonygroveumc.com.

Tour Hindu Temple and/or King Tut Exhibit

One adult Sunday School class has expressed an interest in touring our neighborhood Hindu Temple. Please let Steve Thomas, 770-921-7747, know if you are interested in joining a tour either as a group or an individual.

Also, the King Tut Exhibit is now at the Atlanta Civic Center. Egypt plays a prominent role in the Old Testament and this exhibit has several connections to the Bible.



Calendars & Flavoring

Look for the Friendship class at the Welcome Center. There are only 13 two-year calendars left. Calendars are \$5.

They also have flavoring. The holidays are almost here and time to stock up for baking.

Aldersgate Homes

Last month we received an offering in support of Aldersgate Homes. Thank you for the \$358 you contributed. Aldersgate Homes is a ministry of our Church. It provides residences for persons with developmental disabilities and helps them live as independently as possible. Aldersgate Homes operates entirely on individual gifts. If you missed the first opportunity to make a gift, or if you'd like to make another gift, please mark an offering envelope with the word "Aldersgate" and place it in the offering plate. Your support is and will be deeply appreciated. Thank you.

You're Invited

Cokesbury is having a Christmas Open House on November 20-22 from 9:30 AM-5:30 PM. Refreshments will be served.



Bruster's Coupon Books

Enjoy a favorite treat and help to raise money for Harmony Grove Weekday Preschool. Each coupon book sells for \$10 and contains 10 buy-one-get-one free coupons for ice cream cups or cones. The coupons are good for single, double, or triple dips of Bruster's delicious ice cream. See Renie Johnson or Kathy Benson for your coupon book today. They make great stocking stuffers for ice cream lovers.

Director of Christian Education



Bail Out, Rescue Plan, Stimulus Package Steve Thomas

Bail Out

Matthew 8

²³Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

²⁶He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

²⁷The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

- God bails us out when life's waves overwhelm our boat.

Rescue Plan

From our communion service:

While we were yet sinners Christ died for us, this proves God's love for us, in the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven...

- God rescues us from sin.

Stimulus Package

II Corinthians 9

⁶Remember this saying, "A few seeds make a small harvest, but a lot of seeds make a big harvest."

⁷Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel that you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give. ⁸God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others. ⁹The Scriptures say, "God freely gives his gifts to the poor, and always does right."

¹⁰God gives seed to farmers and provides everyone with food. He will increase what you have, so that you can give even more to those in need. ¹¹You will be blessed in every way, and you will be able to keep on being generous. Then many people will thank God when we deliver your gift...

Continued 

Recess Used to Be a Happy Word

by Dr. Richard C. "Rick" Long, Senior Pastor

Remember when you were in elementary school? "Recess" was the happiest word of the day. It meant that we were free to go outside and run around, climb on the monkey bars and swing on the swings. It was a break from the quiet work of school. It was a time of carefree play. I have fond memories of the word "recess."

Unfortunately, "recess" is also the root word of the word we've been hearing a lot about lately, "recession." This is a specific term to describe two consecutive quarters in which the economy does not grow, but actually retreats from previous levels of activity. It is important to remember that an economy in recession is not an economy that has stopped! People still go to work and earn a living, there may be somewhat fewer people with jobs, but most folks still have jobs. Right now 93.5% of America's workers have jobs.

It seems that economies need a recess every now and again because they sure do take them. In America, our economy hasn't taken a recess for eight years. Prior to that time we had a really good economic run for sixteen years. We can get so used to the times of consistent growth that we are surprised, even anxious, in times of recession. (I sure am!)

The way out of a recession is to buy and sell, to make and build. The way of growth is the way of investing our resources in productivity. But, the more anxious and fearful we become the less we are willing to invest of our now reduced or uncertain wages. If we're scared to invest in anything, then the next phase is depression. Like the psychological use of that word, depression is more attitude than anything else. But, if we take careful stock of the circumstances, reorder our priorities and spend and invest wisely for future growth, prosperity follows. It does it every time!

Right now, many people are just plain scared. We've seen our pensions lose incredible amounts of money. We are fearful and anxious about the future. Many folks are just not laying out any money for anything that isn't absolutely essential to sustain life. One of the first things to go from the personal budget when times are "recessing" is the purely voluntary contributions we make to charities and to the Church. My ministerial colleagues report similar decreases in giving that we have had here at Harmony Grove. Ministries such as Aldersgate Homes, (please see the article elsewhere in this copy of the Herald), are in great need of funds to continue their vital ministries.

The solution isn't to stop giving! The solution is to take honest and accurate stock of our situation. Look for the positive as well as the negative. Prices are decreasing for many things, especially gasoline. Most of us are still working and at wages close to or even above what we were paid a year or two ago. Now is a great time to buy a house or a car; prices won't be this low again ever.

But, most of all, God is still God. When we live as we've been called to live the way forward will become clear and the resources to do God's Will will become available. Now would be a great time in which to remind ourselves of our priorities and our values, what really matters to us. Now, in this time of recess, when everything seems to be at the bottom, is the time to invest. Now would be a great time to invest in the Church and its many ministries. Let's make "recess" a happy word again!

Steve's Article Continued

...¹⁵Thank God for his gift that is too wonderful for words! (*Contemporary English Version*)

•God's stimulus package works.

Some are looking to government to do what only God can do. May we trust in the One who can be trusted!

Angel Tree

Once again we will be helping the Lilburn Co-op by having an "Angel Tree." The tree will be in the Narthex on November 23 and gifts should be in by December 7. The presents will be for teens only and gift cards for the items are encouraged.

Thankful...

Jim Landis, Associate Pastor

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name." Psalm 100:1

Last year I did a sermon on the things that I am most thankful for and this year I would like to add to that list. God continues to bless me and my family. As we near Thanksgiving I pause to give God the thanks and praise for all the blessings He has bestowed upon me. I am thankful:

- that I have people that care about and for me
- for Harmony Grove UMC – the congregation, the staff, the mission, the outreach, and the love shown by our church
- that my health is good and I'm still active
- for my time spent on the golf course
- for Sheila, Adam, and Kim
- for all those walks on the trail in Lilburn
- for God's beauty all around me
- for turkey and dressing (for at least a week)
- for a restful nights sleep to be able to face the day
- still for peanut M&Ms
- that God called me to help spread His Word – it is an absolute joy in my life

I am so thankful that God sent his son for us that through him we would have life eternal. There are so many things to be thankful for and so little space... Take a moment this Thanksgiving to take an inventory of all those things you are thankful for and then give thanks to God. Amen.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER



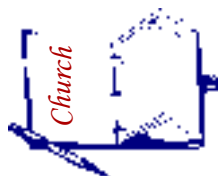
Dan Baudo
Carolyn Bomar
Martha Fernandez
Debbie Gay
Barbara Goddard
Gail Grove
Linda Hart
Mary Lee
Roger Miller
Fran Mitchell

Bob Orr
Mae Petticord
Julia Tripp
Bert Tuttle
 Butch Bailey
 Jane Bennett
 Lance Blanton
 Abbey Boone
 Paris Bynington
 Deborah Ann Caner
 Sherrie Connel
 Jim Dunkin

Meredith & Tom Dunn
 Fred Flowers
 Lisa Grasse & Donor
 Rickie Keener
 Stephen Martin
 Angela Massey & family
 Jessica Phipps
 David Rigby
 Sharron Sanchez
 Maureen Smith
 Angie Samuelson
 Karen Sanderlin & Matthew

Ashley Walton
 Hannah Wood
 Helen Anderson
 Naomi Andrews
 Jennifer Bandy (& baby)
 Dave Burnett
 Susan Chewning
 Linda Crumpton
 Fran Fuller
 Frances Gordon
 Brad & T Grove
 Sissy Keplinger

Mary & Bob Hiers
 Mary Therese Neville
 Lester Rickerson
 Noemi Rivera
 Sandra Sandy
 Janet Sproul
 Ronnie Strong
 Brian Swanson
 Andy Vickery
 Juanita Watson
 Lilburn Elem. School
 Lilburn Middle School



Sunday, November 23, 2008

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service-S
 9:00 AM-2:30 PM Ghana Worship-PH
 9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages
 11:00 AM Morning Worship-S
 11:15 AM Outdoor Labyrinth Site Dedication
 11:15 AM Thanksgiving Dinner-BB
 1:00 PM Pack 100
 2:00 PM Girl Scouts-A104
 2:30 PM Grief Support Group
 4:00 PM Girl Scouts-A104
 5:00 PM Teens and Tweens-BB
 5:00 PM Administrative Board-A105

Monday, November 24, 2008

10:00 AM JOY Exercise-BB
 6:00 PM Troop 100-BB
 8:00 PM Alanon-A112

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

No Wednesday Night Activities
 Church Office Closed after 1:00 PM

Thursday, November 27, 2008

Happy Thanksgiving!!
 Church Office Closed

Friday, November 28, 2008

Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 29, 2008

6:00 PM Ghana Prayer Service-A104
 7:00 PM AA-A112

**November 26 - No Wednesday
 Night Supper or Activities**



O taste and see that the Lord is Good; happy are those who take refuge in Him. Psalms 34:8

HARMONY GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

50 Harmony Grove Road
 Lilburn, Georgia 30047

Dated Material

(USPS 885-240) Periodical Postage Paid Lilburn, GA 30047, published twice monthly. **POSTMASTER** send address changes to Harmony Grove United Methodist Church, 50 Harmony Grove Road, Lilburn, GA 30047. Tele #: (770) 921-7747; Fax: (770) 921-1998; Preschool (770) 564-0135; Email office@harmonygroveumc.com; Website http://www.harmonygroveumc.com

Miracles Happen

Remember Our Military

Steven Benson (Iraq)
 Carl Boggs (Iraq)
 Scott Brenton (Iraq)
 Gary Chesney (Calif.)
 James Derrick (Calif.)
 Peter Desmond, Jr. (VA)
 Ryan Donahoe (Germany)
 Andrew Hamilton (England)
 Mike Ivy (Iraq)
 Craig Knowlton (Atlanta)
 Norman Kofford (Ft. Hood)
 Christopher Leandro (Ft. Hood)
 Monica Llamas (Ft. Hood)
 David McAdams (Bahrain)
 Garrett Miller (Cheyenne, WY)
 Eric M. Musgrave (California)
 Warrick Nichols (New Mexico)
 Matthew Parrish (Afghanistan)
 Carmen Reyes (Indiana)
 Stewart Ross (Kuwait)
 Andrew Sanders (Iraq)
 David Seaman (Iraq)
 Alan Throop (Wash., D.C.)
 Meryia Throop (Wash., D.C.)



Sunday Morning Servants November 23, 2008

Acolytes: Leah Hall, Kelsey Hall

Altar Guild: Kathy Davis
 Priscilla Hicks

Children's Church:
 Nancy Bradley, Christina Rogers

Greeters: ALL Members

Head Usher: Silas Holden

Sunday School Secretary:
 Kathy Benson

Trustee: Craig Knowlton

Visitation: Mary Alice Rhodes
 Betty Spencer

**The flowers for the sanctuary on
 November 23** are in loving memory of
 Leola and Roland Nobbe, our parents,
 by Jim and Kathy Davis

Flower Calendar, 2009

The 2009 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board outside the church office. You may sign up to place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one.