



THE NEWS

STONE MOUNTAIN FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5312 WEST MOUNTAIN STREET
STONE MOUNTAIN GA 30083

Phone: 770-469-9767

Website: www.stonemountainfirst.org
Email: stonemountainumc@att.net

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

STONE MTN. GA
PERMIT NO. 16

MAILING ADDRESS

Book Club On Zoom—October 13 at 7:30 p.m.
(7:30 meeting time so folks at work can join)

The Stone Mountain First United Methodist Church Book Club has chosen for its next book *Follow the River* by James Alexander Thom. The story begins in 1755 when Mary Ingles, twenty-three and pregnant with her third child, is kidnapped by Shawnee Indians from her home in Virginia. As the *Indianapolis News* wrote, “It takes a rare individual not only to see that history can live, but also to make it live for others. James Thom has that gift.” The book is available on Google Play as an EBook, Thriftbooks.com (used for \$3.99), Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and Apple Books. Neither the DeKalb or Gwinnett libraries have copies.

After *Follow the River* we have decided to read *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate.

If you are interested in joining the Stone Mountain First Book Club, please send your email address and phone number to Susan Dietz at sjdietz4@gmail.com.



We appreciate your generous contributions that have made the way for us to re-open the Sanctuary and ensure our building is safe for all.

Your faithfulness is amazing, Church!



**Daylight Saving Time Ends
On November 1, 2020**

THE CO-OP NEEDS FOOD
For Our Neighbors

The Stone Mountain Co-op Ministry

New Fall Hours:
Monday and Wednesday 10:00—1:30 p.m.
Friday—10 a.m.—12 Noon

The following items are needed : *Soups
*Jelly *Peanut Butter *Canned veggies
*Canned fruits *Canned meats, *Toilet paper,
*Toothpaste *Soap, *Dried beans/peas,
*Any other non-perishable items.



*We have created an email account for
Prayer Requests:*

prayersstonemountainfumc@gmail.com

*It will be checked continually and
emailed to the prayer team.*

Budget Report—August 2020

Receipts: \$19,313.38
Expenses: \$22,246.67
(-\$2,933.29)

THE NEWS
STONE MOUNTAIN FIRST UMC

Issue 200

October 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message From the Pastor's

Desk.....1
Birthdays & Anniversaries.....2
Bible Study Schedule.....2
Book Club.....4
Budget Report..... 4
Co-Op Food Needed.....4
Photos.....3
Prayer Call.....2
Sermon Series.....2
Worship.....2



SMFUMC STAFF

Dr. Ellen Shepard	Pastor
Rev. Joel Wiggins.....	Assistant to Pastor
In Community Engagement & Youth Ministry	
Rebecca P. Ball.....	Director of Music and Worship Arts
Porter Draughon.....	Organist / Accompanist
Sandy Seabury.....	Administrative Asst.
Daisy Williams.....	Office Manager and Financial Secretary
Savanah Hawkins.....	Children's Nursery
Mary Finley.....	Children's Nursery
Vivian Robinson.....	Worship Team
Rev. Lahrona Little.....	Worship Team
Molly Bagley.....	Candler Intern
Amy Lazzaroni.....	Candler Intern
Sharee Wyatt.....	Custodian

A Playful Walk in the Park

When I walk in the Park in the mornings, I often listen to podcasts. I was surprised this morning when Brene Brown was focusing on the article that I shared with you in our September edition of The News. It was the article about our diminished surge capacity because of the pandemic. She likened it to being in a hurricane with the windows blown out of your house and you were only half way through the storm. You can't go back and you can't seem to move forward. Your feet feel like they are 40 pounds of concrete. Yep, life in the Corona.

Dr. Brown connected our wellbeing to the ability to play. Play is restorative. I did a little research of my own to understand the qualities of play and why it helps restore us. Play is: Active ...Adventurous and Risky ...Communicative ...Enjoyable ...Involved ...Meaningful ...Sociable and Interactive ...Symbolic...Therapeutic and Voluntary. Play can transform us and heal us. Play is time spent without purpose. Like listening to music, cutting the grass (if you enjoy it), gardening, movies, something creative like knitting or weaving or canning.

Now for a quick story. Kelly and I have been spending some Fridays with our youngest grands who are 3 and 6. Most of what we do is swim, picnic and play. This last Friday, it was all about Shep trying to catch a frog, play with the frog, and talk his Mom into letting the frog, named Rose, come home. It was hours long. There was a picnic with really great food. Kelly Ann was just as involved, but a little “scared.” We were playing together. We then played several matches of tetherball. The day was so restorative. There was also a fair amount of hugging which helped tremendously. It seems we were already working on restorative behavior.

Another thing I am excited about is in-person worship at Stone Mountain First. I know that being together, hearing Porter on the organ and listening to Becky sing in person, having communion, and worshipping our Lord will all be restorative. I hope you will consider joining us. We can take 22 family units – it will be a bit tedious as we get used to new precautions. But so worth it. Restorative.

Let me know if you are playing. See you in church! Ellen+



Our Stone Mountain First Church Community

October Sermon Series - Preaching the Parables as found in Matthew's Gospel: Oct 4—Parable of the Tenant Farmers
Oct 11—Parable of the Wedding Party
Oct 18—A Question About Taxes
Oct 25—The Great Commandment

New Bible Study
The Lion, the Mouse and the Dawn Treader: Spiritual Lessons from C.S. Lewis's Narnia
Wednesday Mornings at 10:30 - Noon.
Facilitator: Lori Surmay (on Zoom format)
See Website or Facebook page.

~ Sunday School at 10:00 ~
Sunday School each week on Facebook Live “chat” with your church family. For access to Sunday School together - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82738720413> or to listen on our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SMFUMC>
~ Worship at 11:00 - In the Sanctuary ~
Must register online or by calling the church office (770-469-9767) by each Thursday at 4 p.m.
You can also worship thru Facebook live at 11:00. Links will be available on our website as well.


*** *Prayer Concerns* ***
Gerald Williams “The Village Church”
Mary Craft Churches that are re-opening
Vivian’s sister, Carolyn The North Georgia Conference of the UMC
Ruth Richards The Sanders, Fleming, and Croke Families
Baby Caleb Uvalyn Patterson, Zoeann Drumand’s
Isis Springer Mother.
Lowell & Ann Abel,
Rebecca Beacham’s brother and sister-in-law.

~ *In Sympathy* ~
Our church family extends sincere sympathy and prayers to the family and loved ones of Don Bogue, Kathleen Bogue’s brother, who died on September 15, 2020.
Don was the Drum Major Emeritus of Atholl Highlanders, USA, Pipes and Drums Stone Mountain, Georgia, and a dear friend of Stone Mountain Church, and his band met here for over 20 years. You might like to know that Don installed our porch light timers so we’d be extra safe.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday! 

- 2 Cathy Ledbetter
 - 4 Lance Little
 - 7 Betty Tucker
 - 8 Paula McCullough
 - 10 Tom Cooper
 - 17 Rebecca Beacham
 - 19 Kevin Hawkins
Jackie Hicks
 - 20 Damali Monagan
 - 22 Barbara Spivey
 - 23 Edna Autry
 - 25 Carolina Bonelli
 - 26 Kathy Thorne
 - 27 Mike Sanders
 - 28 Sue Burton
Chere’ Funderburg
 - 29 Daisy Williams
- *****
~ No Anniversaries in October ~



Please Join Us
for Prayer
Each night at 7 p.m.

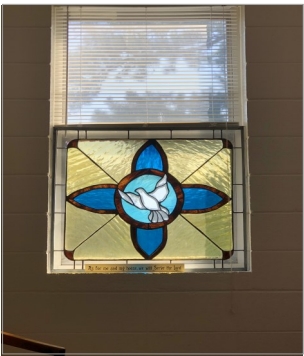
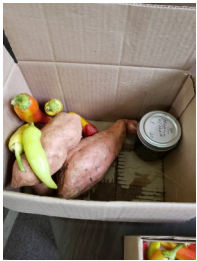
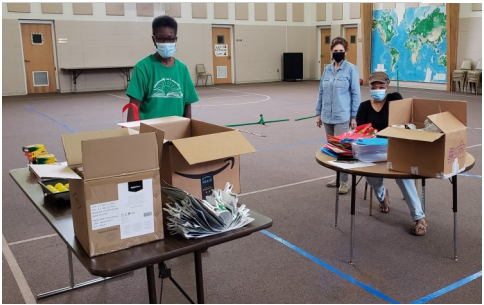
We are using the zoom platform (www.stonemountainfirst.org) for computer.
The number for phone is 1-929-205-6099, and meeting id: 488 474 720.

Project Transformation Fall Ministry
September started the first ever fall programming for Project Transformation N. GA! Sept 19th was our first fall distribution day. Throughout the fall PTNG will be supporting 12 families (24 kids) in the Greater-Stone Mountain area with school at home supplies, fresh produce, and children's books. If you would like to volunteer you can sign up online at tinyurl.com/volunteerptng
(be sure to pick the option for Stone Mountain Distribution).

The Church in Action . . .



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Hawkins!



Our Candler Interns

