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**INDIAN SPRINGS
HOLINESS CAMP MEETING**

Camp Meeting 2022

Many at Burns have made the journey down to Flovilla, GA for the annual Indian Springs Camp Meeting. The dates this year are July 14 – July 24. Evangelists are Dr. Gary Bond, Rev. Burt Jones and Rev. Dave Smith. Bible Teachers are Dr. Timothy and Mrs. Julie Tennent. (Dr. Tennent is the President of Asbury Theological Seminary and is an excellent teacher.) For more information see their webpage at:

<https://indianspringscampmeeting.org>.

The Flame

of Burns Memorial United Methodist Church

July 2022

On Fire for Christ

Issue Number 198

From The Pastor

I have been asked several times, “John, what’s going on with the United Methodist Church?” Well, I’ve heard it described as a “slow motion split.”

One side, known as the “Progressives” is supported by most of the United Methodist Bishops. They are pushing for a big tent, all-inclusive church; a church for gays and straights, conservatives and liberals. So the official theme of the 2022 North Georgia Annual Conference was “A Place for You at The Table.” Specifically, Progressives advocate for the removal of homosexual prohibitions from our Book of Discipline and would like to see these paragraphs deleted.

¶ 304.3 The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church

¶ 341.6 Ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our churches.

On the other side, there is a group known as “Traditionalists.” They believe that all people have sacred worth and that all are welcome in church. But they urge the keeping of the above paragraphs in the Book of Discipline. They believe that United Methodists should hold fast to the traditional beliefs and understanding of the Bible.

The battleground for much of the conflict has been at the General Conference (GC). This group normally meets every four years with delegates from around the world. The GC makes policy for the whole UMC and has the authority to affirm or change church positions. The last regular meeting of the GC was in 2016, during which the traditional values were affirmed. There was a Called Special Session of the GC in 2019, in which the bishops pushed for an all-inclusive “One Church Plan.” This was voted down, and the traditional values of the church reaffirmed.

Also at the 2019 Special Session, a temporary provision was added to the Discipline, known as ¶ 2553. It allows churches to leave the denomination and keep their property, if they follow certain stipulations, including a 2/3 vote of professing members present at a called Church Conference, payment of two years apportionments and payment of their portion of any unfunded pension liabilities. Those leaving are called “disaffiliating.” According to the 2019 Special Session of the GC, the ¶ 2553 exit provisions expire at the end of 2023.

In preparing for the 2020 General Conference, there was legislation created and supported by many Progressive and Traditional leaders called the “Protocol for Separation.” This would have guided a peaceful division of the church. However, due to the Covid closures, the 2020 General Conference was postponed until 2022, and then this meeting was also postponed. The General Conference is not

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expected to meet again until 2024. In the meantime, many of the Progressive leaders have said they no longer approve of the Protocol.

So with the Protocol in doubt, and the expiration date coming up for ¶ 2553, several hundred UM churches across the US voted to disaffiliate this year. In the North Georgia Annual Conference 70 churches left, including 12 churches from our district. This was covered in newspapers in Atlanta and Augusta. And, since the ¶ 2553 provisions extend through 2023, it is expected that there will be another wave of disaffiliations in 2023. Many of those departing are joining a newly formed organization called the Global Methodist Church (<https://globalmethodist.org>).


That in brief, is as I understand it, is the state of the church.


Grace & Peace, Pastor John




HAPPY BIRTHDAY
MRS. MARGARET THIGPEN!

On June 11 we hosted a 100th Birthday Party for Mrs. Margaret Thigpen. Her family did a wonderful job of organizing and decorating, and Mrs. Margaret’s smile when she came through the door was precious!





Once again it is time for our summer outings with the United Methodist Men. This month we will be going to Sconyers on July 28 and next month, Goolsby’s on August 25. Please mark your calendar and make plans to have dinner out with everyone on these dates!






ENOPION
THEATER

Enopion Theater claims to be “Georgia’s only Bible Theatre Company.” They seek to bring the Gospel to life on stage! This July there are 4 more showings of their play, “**Cain & Able**” which is based on Genesis 3:21-4:15. The dates are July 8, 9, 11, & 14. Reservations are required. Tickets are Adults \$12, Seniors & Groups \$10, Children \$8. They are purchased through their web page at www.enopion.com. For more information call 706-771-7777 or email info@enopion.com.






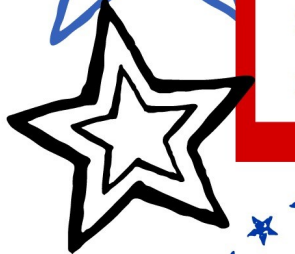
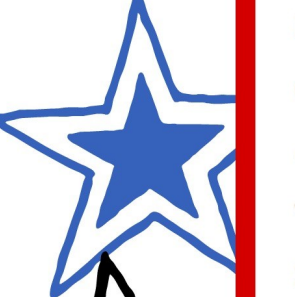

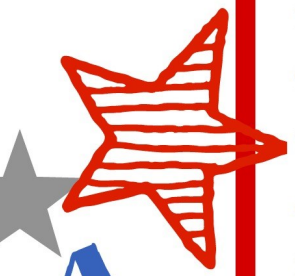

NEW
PLAYGROUND
EQUIPMENT

The Trustees and Daycare have worked together to purchase a new piece of equipment for our playground. The unit has two slides, two climbing areas, a tunnel, and more! The kids love it! (The appearance will change a little bit soon, we are still waiting on a load of mulch to finish the area up.)






July 4th word search



J	O	X	U	Z	T	Y	Q	V	G	X	F	Z	J	B	V	L	J	E	J
K	G	Q	X	H	D	A	J	Q	L	T	Q	X	S	A	W	L	P	C	U
D	U	I	G	N	I	D	N	U	O	F	R	W	R	Q	G	X	S	J	W
Y	F	N	M	E	J	E	Y	I	A	P	K	K	I	P	R	X	L	T	A
T	L	I	I	U	A	C	A	T	A	T	F	E	M	V	N	Y	J	G	S
Y	P	C	R	T	M	N	H	C	T	K	J	I	U	A	N	J	D	Z	G
J	B	M	O	D	E	E	R	F	I	U	L	J	T	O	B	J	M	U	U
I	N	A	K	Y	R	D	Q	I	Y	T	G	I	S	I	Q	Z	L	Y	W
U	F	R	R	S	I	N	S	F	X	C	O	B	N	H	Y	E	K	A	S
W	J	F	H	H	C	E	N	T	E	N	N	I	A	L	V	V	S	D	P
D	E	L	G	N	A	P	S	R	A	T	S	K	R	O	W	E	R	I	F
P	A	B	S	T	N	E	F	L	X	T	K	F	E	T	L	K	N	L	H
L	G	T	S	O	P	D	A	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y	A	B	X	O	I
Q	P	Q	P	I	C	N	I	C	M	F	T	S	E	P	O	P	N	H	I
K	U	U	R	L	T	I	A	J	C	U	S	M	V	H	W	O	P	O	L
O	C	T	Q	H	Q	W	V	X	H	Q	K	Z	I	I	R	E	A	Q	D
J	S	M	E	H	F	H	S	I	C	Q	U	Z	T	Y	F	W	P	V	Q
V	Q	M	G	U	Z	D	C	U	C	S	F	N	S	P	G	Y	J	J	N
X	N	W	I	N	U	H	R	B	W	B	M	N	E	S	B	K	J	U	E
B	M	E	X	H	R	J	K	Z	D	N	P	S	F	I	C	R	G	Z	Q

words to find



AMERICAN FATHERS FOUNDING HONOR NATIONAL ANTHEM STARS UNITED STATES	CENTENNIAL FESTIVE FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE DAY PATRIOTIC STRIPES VETERANS	CIVIC FIREWORKS HOLIDAY LIBERTY PICNIC STAR SPANGLED
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