

Rev. John Donaldson—Pastor
Dee McDaniel—Administrative Assistant

Mike Kelley—Music Director
Ashley Hammac—Preschool Director

Delon Hampton—Custodian

Church Phone: 706-798-1454 Daycare Phone: 706-798-9843 Daycare Cell: 706-836-4765 (Secondary Number)

Church E-mail: burnschurch@comcast.net Church Website: burnsmemorial.com

Pastor's Cell Phone: 706-421-6339 Pastor's Email: pastor@burnsmemorial.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Burns Memorial UMC
P. O. Box 5157
Augusta, GA 30916

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The Flame

of Burns Memorial United Methodist Church

September 2023

On Fire for Christ

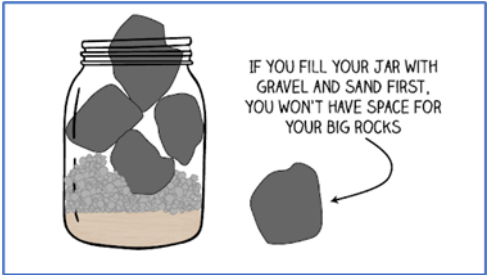
Issue Number 212

From The Pastor

In his book *First Things First*, Stephen R. Covey (1932-2012) shares this story of a business professor speaking to his class.

As this man stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz." Then he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouthed mason jar and set it on a table in front of him. Then he produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class said, "Yes."

Then he said, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. Then he dumped some gravel in and shook the jar, causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks. Then he smiled and asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was onto him. "Probably not," one of them answered.



"Good!" he replied. And he reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in and it went into all the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is this jar full?" "No!" the class shouted.

Once again, he said, "Good!" Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked up at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?"

One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard, you can always fit some more things into it!"

"No," the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all."

I love Covey's analogy. Notice, a key part is identifying what is what. What things are crucial for your happiness? (Rocks.) What items are not really crucial, but still fun, and you want to do? (Gravel.) And what items bring little joy or fulfillment and can threaten to take over your life? (Sand.) If the jar represents a limited period of time, like 24 hours in a day, the warning from Covey is that we have to be careful not to let the sand take all of your time and leave no room for the rocks. What are your rocks? For your long-term happiness, how can you prioritize them more each day?

Grace & Peace, *Pastor John*

Children's Church

HELP WANTED:

Pass this on if you know people who might be interested!

We are looking for a **Part-Time Children's Ministry Director**. The position would start with simply leading the children of the church in "Children's Church," an age-appropriate multi-faceted Sunday morning worship experience. Qualifications: The Applicant must be a sincere Christian, able to pass a background check, with current certification in CPR and first aid for children, with education and/or experience in Christian Education and worship leadership. To apply: please call the pastor, John Donaldson, at 706-421-6339 to schedule an interview.

The Flame Deadline: September 21st

IT'S TIME FOR FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER AGAIN!

The Family Night Supper this month is **September 20 at 6 PM**. The menu is **Chicken Fried Steak with White Gravy, Homemade Mashed Potatoes, Butter Beans, Tomato-Cucumber Salad, Dessert and Beverages**. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 4-12, and children 3 and under are free. Please RSVP with the form in the bulletin or call the church office. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



Labor Day
word search

Words may be horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

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

WEEKEND
COMMUNITY
AMERICAN
OFFICE

LABOR
SEPTEMBER
TRAVEL
WORK

BARBECUE
DAY
PROFESSION
MONDAY

EMPLOYMENT
HOLIDAY
BREAK
PARTY

AND THE NAME WILL BE:

By unanimous vote at the August 21, 2023 Administrative Council meeting, our new official name (should the disaffiliation be certified by the Annual Conference in November) will be **“Burns Memorial Methodist Church.”** The Council also approved the new nonprofit board. (Both the name and board members are required in our reincorporation as a nonprofit.) In other decisions: further funding to complete the renovation of the Corry Kitchens home was approved, funding for a part time Children’s Ministry Director was approved, and we had a lengthy discussion on church denominational options post disaffiliation – basically the choice seems to be join the Global Methodist Church, or stay independent, this discussion was tabled. Thank you to all who participated. We will have another meeting of the Administrative Council on September 24, following the worship service. This meeting is specifically to approve documents required by the district for this year’s Charge Conference



PRAYER WALK

As the new school year begins, several faith communities of South Augusta are coming together for a “prayer walk” around school campuses. The purpose is simply to ask God to protect and bless the schools, the students and the teachers, all through this coming school year. We will be meeting at Hillcrest Baptist on Saturday morning, September 2, at 9 AM to get organized and go to the schools. This event is sponsored by St. Joseph’s Catholic, Hillcrest Baptist, the Alleluia Community, and Burns Memorial Methodist Church. All are welcome!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Master’s Table Soup Kitchen (702 Fenwick St, Augusta, 30901) serves a free hot lunch every day from 11 AM to 12 PM to more than 300 guests with the help of volunteers. All are welcome. Guests include families with children, veterans, and disabled and homeless neighbors. They have a need for food servers on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month. The shift would be from 10:15 to 12:30 PM. Please call the pastor if you would like to be part of the Burns Master’s Table volunteer team.

