

OUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For: Joe Earl Rentz (Cancer), (Elaine McCall's Dad), Rev. Hamp Watson, Elizabeth (Libby) Girand, Ollie Wilson, Barbara Pace Carter.

OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, May 20, 2007

Sunday School.....91
Morning Worship165

OUR GIFTS

STEWARDSHIP REPORT For the week May 20, 2007

General Budget Received—\$3,899.88
Total for Special & General Accounts—\$4,079.88
Total Paid on 2007 Apportionments—\$3,040.00

LIVING MEMORIALS

To Margaret Bryant by Charles Dennard.

To Ruby Jones by Charles Dennard.

To Boats Land by Charles Dennard.

To Alma Jean Spell by Charles Dennard, Buck & Jane Elder, Jeff, Melisa, Grant, Megan & Jesse Pace, Mills and Ray Families, Carroll & Gloria Girtman, Winton & Betty Lacey, Shirley Smith, Buddy & Louise Spann, E.M. & Patricia Wilkes, Dianne Crosby Martha Lolley & Marvie Rentz, Wyatt & Emily Spann, Modeen Knox, A.B. & Margaret Cochran, Gwen Bragg, Wayne & Carolyn Fountain.

To J.E. (Bo) Hutto by E.M. & Patricia Wilkes.

To Louise Hammock by Carroll & Gloria Girtman, A.B. & Margaret Cochran.

To Eloise Crowe by Wayne & Carolyn Fountain.

To Nan Lu Creech by Wayne & Carolyn Fountain.



ASSISTING IN WORSHIP May, 2007

USHERS: Buck Elder, Gerry Hancock, Steve Sellers, E.M. Wilkes III

OFFERING STEWARDS: Gerry Hancock, Chuck Coleman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forever Young - taking the summer off. Will start back up again in September.

Children's Program (Gospel Light) - ends for the summer months on May 23rd.

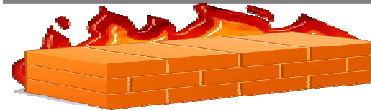
THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

We would like to **"thank everyone"** for your thoughtfulness and kind support the past few weeks during the intensive care hospital stay and passing on of my mother, Alma Jean Spell. The phone calls, the visits, each card sent, flowers, food, the Music Ministry floral arrangement, the contributions made in Mom's memory, each prayer offered up and words of encouragement, and many other kind gestures was very much appreciated and meant so much to us. We feel very blessed to be part of such a great church family. Keep my family in your prayers as we know we have the blessed hope of seeing Mother again one day.

In Christ Love,
Jeffery and Lynn Spell and family

Fuel for the Fire



New Job Title: Minister to Students and Families.

Grades K-5 25% of time.

Grades 6-12 50% of time.

Families 25% of time.

K-5 - will be overseeing all activities, working to coordinate volunteers to run the various programs as well as working hands on with the children.

6-12 - will continue with current responsibilities of Minister of Youth.

Families - Minister to Students and Families and partner with parents in ministry. Provide programs and resources for the entire family.

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

I want to write to you the members and friends of a troubling trend at Hazlehurst FUMC. We have been studying the giving trends and comparing them to past years and some interesting things have stuck out. For instance: In March 2006 \$30,472 was given to the church while only \$23,852 was given in March of 2007. In April 2006 \$29,056 was given while only \$24,615 was given in April 2007. Even though we have not completed May of 2007 it appears that this same trend is continuing. Interestingly enough – we began the year 2007 with increases in giving over 2006 in both January and February by around \$2,000 per month.

I've been thinking about what might be causing this change. I'm sure it could be a combined multiple of factors but one factor that seems clear is that the downward trend began when we learned the facts of the Frazier bequests given to Hazlehurst 1st UMC. So if you will, please allow me to make a few points about this bequest. Even though on paper we did receive over \$1 million dollars, it's important to know that this money was set up in CD's, as required by the will, so that we will receive the income each month. While it is true that we are receiving around \$85,000 per year from these CD's it's also noteworthy that the will specified how these monies should be distributed. 50% of the money goes directly to the youth program, 25% goes directly to the music ministry and the last 25% percent goes into the general fund for maintenance problems throughout the church.

So the long and short of what I want to say here is that while the gifts given to us is a blessing, (1) it isn't enough to fulfill our yearly budget requirements, and (2) it shouldn't take away from the blessing you receive when you give to God's church. I've said before that it's important to remember that "it isn't about the churches need to receive, it's about the persons need to give."

Please remember the church during the summer months and the years ahead – there are many ministries that are counting on your support.

Rodney

WEEKLY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, May 25, 2007

OFFICE CLOSED

6:45 am — Promise Keepers

SUNDAY, May 27 2007

9:45 am — Sunday School

11:00 am — Morning Worship

6:00 pm— Evening Worship

MONDAY, May 28, 2007

OFFICE CLOSED (Memorial Day)

7:30 pm - UMW Circle 5 (Brenda Merritt)

TUESDAY, May 29, 2007

7:00 pm - UMW Circle 1 (TBA)

WEDNESDAY, May 30, 2007

5:30-7 pm—Crossfire (All Youth)

7:15 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, May 31, 2007

10:00 am—Senior Prayer

FRIDAY, June 1, 2007

OFFICE CLOSED

6:45 am—Promise Keepers

UMW Meetings:

Circle 1 - Meets Tuesday, May 29th at 7 pm. Place TBA.

Circle 5 - Meets Monday, May 28th at the home of Brenda Merritt at 7:30 pm.

2007 Flower Calendar—is being printed. If you would like a particular Sunday, please fill out the form and mail to church office or call at 375-4555. Sunday's available for August & September. 8-19, 8-26, 9-2, 9-9 & 9-16.

Sunday _____

Given by _____

In Honor _____

In Memory _____

THE INFORMER

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OUR CHURCH STAFF

- Ministers.....Congregation
- Minister of Music & Senior Adults.....Jeffery Spell
- Minister to Students and Families.....Jared Middleton
- Office Manager.....Martha Lolley
- Nursery.....Jessica Miller
- Organist.....Janice Cole
- Custodian.....Elaine McCall
- Pastor.....Rodney Porter



The Informer
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HAZLEHURST, GA

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Vacation Bible School



Get ready for the ride of your life as you twist and turn your way through this water park adventure! You'll soak up thrilling Bible stories where God uses the very common element of water to teach some uncommon lessons. Best of all, you'll find the coolest place to be is **in the Sun!**

When: Monday-Friday
Date: 6-4 to 6-8
Start Time: 6 pm

On Friday night June 8th there will be a church wide cook out for the whole church to enjoy. Make plans now to come and enjoy this GREAT church event.