



THE TOWER

A Publication of Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church

June 2011

A word from James.....

At the traditional service on Mother's Day, Bill Martin, chair of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, announced that I am being reappointed as pastor of Cahaba Heights UMC for another year at this year's annual conference. For three years I have enjoyed the privilege of serving as your senior minister.

Hopefully, the coming year will be a productive one because it will certainly be a challenge. Just as we were poised to refinance the church mortgage and enjoy the progress we had made toward financial solvency, unexpected damages occurred when the church and other church owned properties were hit by the early morning tornado on April 27. Although that storm temporarily took "the wind out of our sails," we are not defeated! We will overcome the destruction and eventually clean up all the debris left in its wake.

John Gates, pastor of Pleasant Grove UMC and volunteer coordinator for North Alabama Methodists, and I have discussed the damage CHUM suffered. I am pleased to report that John is working to identify volunteers that will help us clear away storm damage that the insurance policy does not cover. According to John there are a lot of groups that are anxious to work, and hopefully he will identify one or more that will help us continue the cleanup we started the first Saturday after the storm. On the second Saturday after the tornado a group from Mountain Chapel came and helped us. I wrote a letter to their pastor and thanked him for helping us in our time of need.

A question on the minds of many is, "How will we proceed to repair damages that are not covered by insurance?" Under the direction of the Administrative Council, Finance Committee, and Board of Trustees, CHUM will prioritize repairs and raise funds to pay for them before authorizing work to be done by outside contractors. Prioritizing repairs will ensure that the most critical needs are met first and that repairs do not result in additional indebtedness to the church.

Again, it is a big challenge, but we are up to it!

The work continues ...

Peace,

James

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Contemporary Worship Leader
Drake Roberts
Youth Director
Drake Roberts
Children
Jana Cook
Preschool/MDO Director
Laura Goatley (969-3149)
Bookkeeper
Jadell Dunn

"Cahaba Heights UMC is called to share God's message of love and grace with all people in our community and beyond, by using our gifts and our resources in each ministry opportunity to make disciples of Jesus Christ."

Our CHUM Family ...celebrating & serving for the month of



- 1 Jack Brasher, Caitlin Burkhart
- 5 Mary Maze
- 6 Tom Marshall
- 13 Dwight Crisson, Mary Claire Daniels
- 14 Kate Dismukes
- 18 Amy Scarbrough, Jesse Ponder
- 19 Anita Bolding
- 20 Peggy Haywood
- 21 Bill Martin
- 28 Jennifer Boyle, Sue Ellen Mohney

Praise ItemMary Catherine Cochran, great niece of Reita Davis, has been selected to be a Cheerleader for Auburn University for next year.

SERVANTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Usher/Greeters</u>
6/5	Ginger Dismukes	Bobby Williams, Bill Maze
6/12	Bill White	Marla Monk, Gerald Gann
6/19	Susan Maxey	Mike Mizerany, Lewis Eberdt
6/26	Don Harbison	Bill Maze, Freddie Huey

A Very Special Thank-You...

...to everyone who helped with Breakfast with the Easter Bunny this year. We had a great turnout and everyone had a wonderful time! Thank you to the Men's Club who prepared breakfast for all to enjoy. A special thank you to Kate Dismukes who had the most important part of all as the Bunny for this year!

Ms. Jana

PreSchool/MDO



The last day for PreSchool/MDO will be May 27. Summer Play Days will begin June 6 and go through August 19. There are still openings for this summer with hours the same as our regular session. Call 969-3149 for more information.

Ms. Laura

...until everyone had plenty...



Sunday, April 10, was a particularly special Sunday for our youth. I, along with Ginger Dismukes and Bill White, traveled with seven of our youth to Birmingham Southern College where we participated in an event called ...until everyone had plenty... where our group teamed with other youth groups from around the state and packed 25,083 meals to be shipped to schools in Haiti where they will serve to feed the many people there who are in need of nourishment. God truly showed, through this project, what can be done when the Youth come together to do His work. I am proud to be a part of the youth here at CHUM and truly love seeing how God is working in their lives.

Drake Roberts

Rethinking Prayer (copied from the Church of the Reconciler Newsletter)

Who are you praying for? Is it your mother, your brother, your neighbor or your friend? Odds are that you are not spending time in prayer for a stranger you have never met.

Why is that? Could it be that no one has told you just how much this person desperately needs you to intercede for them.....or that your prayers could change this stranger's life? If you're like most of us the idea of spending time on your knees in prayer for someone you may never meet is pretty far out of the box. Then if someone suggested you get a group of people together praying for total strangers each week we would really be **way** beyond your comfort zone.

That's exactly what we are suggesting: taking prayer beyond your comfort zone. We are asking you to begin a mission project in your local church. It is simple and requires no budget, which in today's world should make it very popular! We want you to gather with others in your church to pray in groups for individual homeless people who have asked for your prayers.

Jesus was very clear about the power we have to change things when two or more people gather and pray in His name. He also said that we have not because we ask not. Is there a group gathering in your church asking for healing and transformation in the lives of homeless people? Odds are we will not receive the things we fail to pray for. The odds are even better that we will receive the things we do take the time to lift up in prayer. What do you think? We believe prayer is an investment in people's lives. Is this mission project worth investing your time?



Mark your calendars now!
Vacation Bible School
Scheduled for
July 11 - July 15, 2011
Theme this year

"Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street!"

Announcements from Ms. Jana

KFC ended our Winter program on May 20th. We had a movie night with pizza and popcorn & games at 6:30 pm. Be on the lookout for **A Summer Fun Brochure** for all children's activities. They will be on the table in the Narthex soon.

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