

THE TOWER

A Publication of Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church

March 2011

A word from James.....

Because of the generosity of people in this congregation, CHUM is slowly but steadily emerging from the deep financial crisis that has hindered the progress of this church for years. Regrettably, strategic planning was pushed to the back burner so that we could focus all our efforts on just staying afloat. The situation drastically improved, however, with the sale of the SACC. Monthly mortgage premiums were reduced from approximately \$7,300 to about \$2,800 per month. The approximations are used because the payment is based on the outstanding balance, and a portion of each payment reduces the principal on the loan.

While struggling to pay the mortgage on the SACC, the congregation got behind on just about every bill incurred. Additionally, we stopped paying conference apportionments, and just recently started paying the minimum amount. Unfortunately, we are still not paying conference apportionments, and it is unnecessary for me to say that this will not be allowed to continue. It is time to set new priorities so that we can get back into the ministry of making disciples. We have done a good job of paying interest to banks and repair bills to HVAC companies, but ministry to the community has been shelved.

In all meetings with administrative boards and committees we will continue the policy of making all decisions known to the congregation. Further, I will ask committee chairs to utilize the Newsletter and Tower to keep congregants informed about decisions made and financial resources expended. Perhaps now is the time to start asking questions about the vision and future of our church and to resolve that we set priorities to make sure our goals are achieved.

It is a joy to serve as pastor of this congregation.


Peace

James


3139 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, Al. 35243
(205)967-0470
Email:
cahabaheightsumc@bellsouth.net
Pastor:
Dr. James Calhoun
jwcalhoun1@bellsouth.net
Adm. Assistant
Gwen Johnson
Choir & Traditional Worship
David Busby
Organist/Pianist
Dr. Ginger Dismukes
Contemporary Worship Leader
Drake Roberts
Youth Director
Drake Roberts
Children
Jana Cook
Preschool/MDO Director
Laura Goatley (969-3149)
Bookkeeper
Kasie Nimm

“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



March Birthday




3 Frances Cobb, Freddie Huey, Stephen Maxey
 14 Maddie Goatley
 16 Elizabeth Burleson
 18 Lisa Busby, Carroll Gardner
 20 Vickie Martin
 22 Debbie Ponder
 24 Brandon Busby, Sylvia Barrow
 27 Caroline Calhoun
 29 Gracie Stewart
 30 Faye Hall



Don't forget to bring items to be sent to our service men and women. List of items is posted on the bulletin.


Canned goods and non-perishable items are needed for Urban Ministries. There is a box in the hall to place items .



Thank you,
Missions Team


<u>Readers</u>	<u>Ushers/Greeters</u>
March 6 Ginger Dismukes	Bobby Williams, Bill Maze
March 13 Bill White	Marla Monk, Gerald Gann
March 20 Susan Maxey	Mike Mizerany, Lewis Eberdt
March 27 Brandon Busby	Freddie Huey, Bill Maze

Spring Forward



March 13, 2011 at 2:00 am Daylight Saving Time Begins....at last.

A Word of Thanks.....
 Thank you for the many cards, prayers, calls and visits that were shared with our family at the time of our Sister, Betty's death. The meal that was prepared for us was done with such love and care. Betty cared so much for our church and especially for her Sunday School class and for United Methodist Women. Richard and I are blessed to part of such a caring church family. Please accept our gratitude from Betty's daughters, Janet and Kathy and her husband Curt, our daughter's Dawn and Heather and other family members who were blessed by our church's generous outpouring of sympathy.
 Richard and Sylvia Barrow.




The amount raised from the Valentine Luncheon is \$1300. A big 'thank you' to every one that did the cooking and also a big 'thank you' to every one that brought desserts! We could not have raised this amount without CHUM's participation.
 Thank you,
 Men's Club


KFC News

We all seem to be getting spring fever so the children and I have spent a lot of time outdoors lately. They are having a great time with each other. In between all the fun though they are working hard to learn all the books of the old Testament. We will have a presentation Sunday soon to acknowledge their achievement. So kids keep up with your practice
 With love, Ms. Jana

PreSchool/MDO News



The preschool classes are gearing up for our annual Preschool Program/Spring art show. The date is set for Friday, April 15 @ 10:00 am. We would like to invite our church family to attend too! Fall registration forms are now due for the 2011-2012 school year. We only have a few spots left! I would like to thank everyone for telling your friends, neighbors about our preschool and MDO program! We have been consistently adding new families to our program each month! What a GREAT PRE-SCHOOL and MDO program! I think we have the best teachers and parents around.
 God Bless,
 Laura Goatley



Save the Date

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny will be **April 16 at 9:00 am**. Look for more information in the April Tower.

Opportunities for Service at CHUM

As members of Cahaba Heights UMC, we are aware of the special close family we are part of. There is never a more important time to share that love than when a member of our church family dies. Often church members would like to help provide food for a family meal, but do not know how to volunteer. I am the new chairperson for the Bereavement Committee. I will be contacting the family to make arrangements for help for the family from our church family. If you would like to volunteer to help with a family meal, please call me at 979-0433 or sign up on the list I've left in the narthex. Thank you so much for the many offers that I am certain to receive.

Sylvia Barrow

ATTENTION ALL CHUM WOMEN

The North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women Executive Committee invites you to join us at "Refresh & Retreat: A Spiritual Experience" at Camp Sumatanga, Gallant, AL on April 8 and 9, 2011. The theme of the spring retreat is "Finding Peace," the title of our Program Book for the year. Can we truly find peace? What is peace?

Friday Registration: 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Session begins @ 6:45 p.m.

Saturday Registration: 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Sessions begin @ 9:45 a.m.

Meditation/Walk @ 9:00 a.m.

Pre-Registration Deadline: March 25, 2011

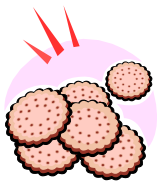
No Refunds after April 1, 2011(Substitution Permitted)

Price: \$65 to \$74

Here is the url so you can read more about it and make a reservation if you would like to attend. Select Horizons Spring 2011.

<http://www.gbgn-umc.org/northalabamaumw/>

Anyone is invited to attend. If you are interested please contact Marla Monk at 967-3903 or email: marlamonk@bellsouth.net and we will plan for our group to go together.



Girl Scout Cookie Time

Cookies are on sale now!! We have 3 Girl Scout Troops meeting at our church. See Jana Cook, Sue Ellen Mahney or Michelle Hamrick for more information or to buy cookies.

On March 5, 12:00 noon until 4:00 pm we will have a Cookie Booth set up in the parking lot. We will be waiting for you to stop by and purchase GS cookies.

Thank You.... Ms. Jana, Ms. Sue Ellen & Ms. Michelle

Upper Rooms for March - April are in the Narthex.

Cahaba Heights UMC
3139 Cahaba Heights Road
Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35243

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BIRMINGHAM, AL.
PERMIT NO. 1710

