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# The Tower

Cahaba Heights UMC

November 2012

## Letter from the Pastor

“Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. **Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.**”

-Psalm 116:5-7, emphasis added.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The holidays are upon us! Although the holiday season, beginning with Thanksgiving, is a wonderful time to celebrate and reconnect with family and friends, it can also be stressful, hectic, and chaotic. Between shopping and

making preparations, attempting to plan schedules with family, and becoming overwhelmed with holiday advertisements and marketing, it can be easy to feel like we are not in control of our lives anymore. Add on top of that some very important football games, and it can seem that there is absolutely no time left.

We are in control of our time and schedules, though, and there are things we can do to prevent and combat the holiday exhaustion. One is to put first things first and make God our first priority (yes—even ahead of family!) by taking time to worship and learn about God. As coun-

terintuitive as it may seem, taking time out of your schedule to put God first can make the rest of your time more peaceful and enjoyable. This is because we find rest and comfort in the presence of God. If you don’t believe me, try it! Start this holiday season putting first things first, God ahead of everything else, and see what happens. See our calendar on page 3 of this newsletter for ways that you can connect with God this season, including worship, fellowship, and even a retreat with the youth. And after you’ve tried it, let me know how it goes. May you find peace and rest in gratitude to God this season.

-Rev. Kelsey Johnson

## November Events

November begins the holiday season so please anticipate several changes to our regular schedules.

Our Wednesday Night Dinners and Activities will wrap up this month, with our last meeting on November 14th. We will then take a break until the new

year, but watch your calendar for special events on Wednesday nights in December.

The church office will be closed for holidays on November 12th, 21st, and 22nd. If you need to get in touch with a minister during that time, please use

the phone numbers listed on our website.

The UMW will be meeting at alternate times to accommodate Thanksgiving, while the M-Team will be moving permanently to the first Monday of every month beginning in November.



A Helping Hand  
Can Change the World

*“Holiness does not consist in doing extraordinary things. It consists in accepting, with a smile, what Jesus sends us. It consists in accepting and following the will of God.”*

*-Mother Teresa*

## Missions Update

Last month, CHUM participated in the following missions:

\*13 members participated in Magic City Miracle Day, joining over 1,000 other Birmingham-area residents in making the city a better place through service.

\*Members gave \$429 to help the Gideons furnish hotel and hospital rooms with New Testaments.

\*Members brought piles of shoeboxes to prepare for Operation Christmas

Child (see below for more details).

\*CHUM continued to support foreign missions, including the Wiegert family in Peru and Water282 (Jacob Eubanks) in Zambia.

\*10 members formed the Cahaba Mamas and participated in Race for the Cure in downtown Birmingham.

\*Members collected canned food for the Preschool can drive (our goal is 300 cans!)

### Servants Needed!

CHUM is in need of workers for God to support the Maintenance Team (M-Team) one day a month in keeping the building and grounds around the Lord’s house clean and in proper repair. Please see Tom Marshall (Men) or Delane Paris (Ladies).

## Christmas Shoeboxes

We are sending shoeboxes full of Christmas goodies to children in need as a part of Operation Christmas Child. We will wrap our shoeboxes at October’s Fourth Sunday Lunch, but they still need to

be filled. Be sure to get a list of items needed to fill your box and turn it into the church for our dedication on November 18th. You can also donate money to help fill

boxes; just send \$20 with an empty shoebox to the church office. Please see Jeanette Mizerany with any questions.

## Retreat with the Youth

You are invited to join the youth for a very special retreat November 16-18 at Camp Sumatanga.

“Centered” is a retreat sponsored by six Birmingham-area churches whose goal is to build a community of young Christians who are ‘centered’ around what is important. The

retreat is designed to help youth from these six churches become closer and form bonds beyond the local church. Staff and chaperones will help the youth become centered on the love of God.

This event will be held at Camp Sumatanga and will cost only \$50 per

youth. Kelsey and Lora will both be accompanying our youth but we need other chaperones as well. This is a great opportunity to get to know the youth, serve the church, and become centered yourself as well! Please contact Kelsey or Lora if you are interested in retreating with the youth on November 16-18.



# NOVEMBER 2012

## November Birthdays

- 1 Jeanette Mizerany
- 3 Patrick Heckathorn
- 4 Julie Beavers
- 5 Anita Livingston,
- Rebecca Cook
- 9 Ronnie Saenz
- 11 Dick Humphrey
- 14 Michael Daniels
- 17 George Ponder
- 18 Pam Newton
- 19 Pauline Darche
- 22 Faye May
- 25 Rebecca Cook
- 26 Ruth Peer
- 28 Catelin Harrison

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 10:00 am Sunday school 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Youth/Children/ Young Adults 6:00 pm Choir Practice	5 8:00 am M-Team Meals on Wheels (all week)	6 7:00 am Man's Prayer Group 6:00 pm Trustees	7 9:00 am Women's Prayer Group 5:15-6:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Activities	8 6:00 pm Charge Conference	9 10:00 am Staff Meeting	10
11 10:00 am Sunday school 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Youth/Children/ Young Adults 6:00 pm Choir Practice	12 Church Office and Preschool closed (Veterans Day Observed) 6:30 pm Men's Club	13 7:00 am Man's Prayer Group 10:30 am Senior Adults	14 10:00 am UMW (Faith Circle) 5:15-6:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Activities (*Last Wed. Night Dinner of	15	16 Youth leave for Centering Retreat	17
18 10:00 am Sunday school 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Youth/Children/ Young Adults 6:00 pm Choir Practice	19	20 7:00 am Man's Prayer Group	21 Church Office closed	22 Church Office closed Happy Thanksgiv- ing!	23	24
25 10:00 am Sunday school 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Lunch 5:00 pm Youth/Children/ Young Adults 6:00 pm Choir Practice	26 6:30 pm UMW (Spirit Circle)	27 7:00 am Man's Prayer Group	28	29	30	



**Return Service Requested**

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Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church

## November Servants

### Readers:

11/4: Susan Maxey

11/11: Bill White

11/18: Richard Barrow

11/25: Lora Parker

### Hosts/Greeters:

11/4: Freddie Huey, Lewis Eberdt

11/11: Bobby Williams, Bill Maze

11/18: Mike Mizerany, Lewis Eberdt

11/25: Freddie Huey, Bobby Williams

Thank you to our church family who supported the Barrows during the time of Richard's surgery.

Thank you for the food, telephone calls, cards, emails, and all the love that we received from our church family.

-Richard and Sylvia

### Welcome, New Members!

This month we welcome Brandy Davis and children to our church family! Please take time to introduce yourself and welcome Brandy as well as Cooper (7), Lily (5), and Charley (1).

We are so glad to have you with us and we look forward to getting to know you better!