

NOVEMBER 2023

The Prospector

Dahlonega United Methodist Church

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP LOVE * SERVE * GIVE * GROW

LOVE - 1 John 4:7-8 says, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

SERVE - Matthew 5:16, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven."

GIVE - Deuteronomy 15:10, "You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake."

GROW - Colossians 2:7, "Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

The Bible teaches us that stewardship begins with strong faith in God and his plans for us. By trusting in the Lord, we will become good stewards of the gifts that God has blessed us with; including our time, riches, and talents. Our church has witnessed generations of virtuous stewardship, which has resulted in God's work being done through our ministries.

Over the next several weeks, let's continue to be in prayer, asking the Lord to show us how we can be good stewards of the blessings he has bestowed upon us and how he can use our gifts to further his Kingdom. We pray the Lord's blessing on our congregation and that each of us will submit to God's will in making our commitment to the 2024 Stewardship Campaign.

The Stewardship Committee

Ryan Kiefaber, Chair
Maggie Moers
Deb Simmons
Jane Osley
Linda Carr

Chuck Bell
Russ Wallace
Troy Johnson
Zack Tumlin



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Announcements

Dahlonega United Women in Faith

All ladies from the church are invited on the first Tuesday of each month, 10AM, in the Fellowship Hall

November 7th: Donnie and Kathy Carder will talk about their ministry of many years, *Kentucky Outreach Christmas*, reaching children who would have so little in the small town of Closplint, just outside Harlan. Small Bibles, pillows, blankets, personal items, and toys are provided to the children by the loving generosity of others.

December 5th, noon: Ecumenical Advent Services will be in our sanctuary, with a light lunch afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Half Cake Bake Sale

United Women in Faith are holding a bake sale on Sunday, November 5th in the Fellowship Hall after each service. We are asking everyone to join our mission by baking a cake, cutting it in half, place on separate paper plates, then cover them with see-through wrap. Other options are ½ dozen brownies, cookies, bars, etc. We will be asking for a \$5 donation for each item. These funds will go toward two missions:

- 1) Kentucky Outreach Christmas—*This Christmas mission is to reach children who would have little to no Christmas with Bibles, pillows, blankets, personal items, and of course, toys. Our ambassadors are Kathy and Donnie Carder.*
- 2) Wesley Foundation Outreach—*This foundation encourages and supports Christian outreach toward our college students.*

Baked goods may be brought on Sunday morning, or dropped off the day before, Saturday November 4th. Someone will be in the Fellowship Hall between 10AM – 4PM. Please enter through the Fellowship Hall outside door.

New Wesley “Dinner Bell” Ministry!

Want to connect with some amazing young people? This new ministry is looking for anyone (individuals or groups, committees, small groups) willing to help provide a “truly home-cooked” meal once a month, for approximately 40 Wesley students. Those providing the food are encouraged to eat with them & get to know them. Coordinator is Kara Martina: text 706-300-4210 or email karamartina45@gmail.com. **We need a group or 7 individuals to step up for the Friday, November 10th date.**

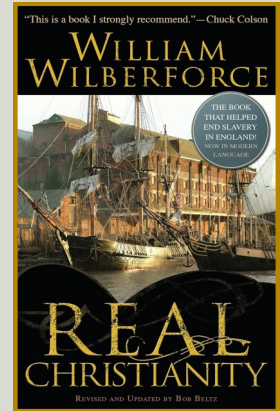
In honor of Veterans’ Day

We would like to recognize all who have served in the armed forces. If you or someone in your family is a veteran and would like to participate, please bring a framed photo of your loved one to the church office. Please include name, what branch they served in and approximately when they served and YOUR name is on it as well, so we can return it to you. Don’t worry if you don’t have a frame, we will find one for you. We will need all the photos BEFORE Saturday, November 11 so that we might display them on Sunday, November 12.

Sportsmen’s Group - Faith, Fletching, Flintlocks and Fly Rods

Please join the Sportsmen for a meal and fellowship at the Church Pavilion Monday, November 20th at 6pm. (Location TBA) Please email Ray at repolk175@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Book Club December Reading Selection



The Book Club will be discussing *Real Christianity*, by William Wilberforce on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 pm in the Library. Follow this link to purchase the book: <https://a.co/d/6kTREdf>

Just in time for the release of *Amazing Grace*, the movie about the life of William Wilberforce. This edition of his classic book from 1797, *Real Christianity*, is paraphrased in modern language and made more accessible to contemporary readers. This is the book that helped abolish the slave trade in the United Kingdom and called Christians to live a more authentic life of faith more than two hundred years ago. The timeless truths it contains will speak to readers in fresh ways today. Christians who eschew cultural Christianity in favor of a real faith in Christ, will find the principles here thought-provoking and applicable. The social justice orientation will appeal to readers of Jim Wallis, Os Guinness, Charles Colson, Shane Claiborne, John Perkins, Bono, and Nancy Pearcey. Readers will also find the book is a good litmus test of the authenticity of their own faith.

Announcements

Come Celebrate Christmas

Hanging of the Greens

Wednesday, November 29th at 6:30p.m.

Please join us for a wonderful musical service to prepare our hearts and minds for the Advent season and to watch the Sanctuary come alive with its Christmas décor! The offering at the Hanging of the Greens will be for CHP Spirit of Christmas.



Musical Benefit Concert Benefitting Connectability

December 3rd—Holiday Music of Chuck Bell

Welcome Reception: 4:00-4:30pm

4:30-6:00pm—Holiday Music and Sing-a-Long

Featuring Musicians: Chuck, Lucy, and Blakely Bell

Accompanied By: Matt & Lauren Stephenson, Will & Jack McKinney, & Davis McEntyre

Advent

Location: DUMC

Time: 12:00 noon

Dates: December 5, December 12, December 19

Luncheon: Soup, Salad & Dessert will be provided immediately following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Live Nativity—Outside in front of Sanctuary

December 9th—6:00-8:00pm

DUMC Christmas Lessons and Carols Service

Sunday, December 10th—4:00pm

The DUMC Choir and Handbell Choir will be presenting the first annual Lessons and Carols service on December 10th at 4:00 pm. The Lessons and Carols service guides the listener through the story of mankind from the fall to the birth of our Savior. This story is told through readings of Scripture (the Lessons) that are accompanied by hymns and anthems (the Carols). The tradition of the Lessons and Carols service began well over a century ago and is one of the most popular Christmas services today. If you are interested in being involved in the service, either as a reader or a singer, please contact Zachary Futch at zachary@dahlonegaumc.org.

Blue Christmas

December 17th—3:00pm

Blue Christmas is a gentle, contemplative service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration.

MMO Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 13th—5:00pm

ONE Service Christmas Eve Morning at 10am.

Christmas Eve Services

Time: 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 11:00pm

Christmas Day Meal—11:30—3:00pm

Volunteers are needed to decorate, serve, kitchen crew, cleanup, welcome table. If you can help please text/call Brenda Elrod at 678-577-1639 or email at brenda@dahlonegaumc.org.



Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

Since 1993, Samaritan's Purse has partnered with local churches around the world to deliver 157 million Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts to children in need in 160 countries. Each one-packed full of fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items by a family or individual and sent with prayer that the child who received it will experience God's love through their simple gifts. Many of these children have never before received a present or heard the true meaning of Christmas until they open a gift-filled shoebox from a person like you.

Please take a box from the foyer, fill it, and pray for the child who will receive it.

Directions will be inside the box.

For more information on gift suggestions click on link below:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

The deadline to turn in boxes at the Church is November 12th.



Announcements



Spirit of Christmas is the Community Helping Place's holiday outreach program which provides eligible families food to make a Christmas meal, vouchers for clothing & books, and gifts for the children (ages birth to 18). Last year our average families served per month was 533; this year, so far, our average is 810 families per month. So this has grown a lot since last year. Financial uncertainty has moved beyond those whose situation is already fragile to include those who have not had to worry about financial insecurity. Your donation of food, toys and

money will go a long way in providing a special Christmas for these families.

Below is a list of food items that each family will receive this year, along with some cold items CHP will provide on the day of distribution. There is also a suggested toy list below; this is not an inclusive list. You are welcome to use your own creativity; we just ask for no clothing as we do not get sizes of each child.

Please drop off your donations at CHP (not DUMC), 1127 Highway 52 East, Dahlonga in the red building in the lower parking lot by November 30th. Call Debi at 706-967-9621, ext. 303 to schedule your drop-off. You can also call her with any questions. They will accept donations up until December 23rd for those late registrations.

Food List for the Spirit of Christmas:

2 can corn	1 box cornbread mix
2 cans green beans	2 cans cranberry sauce
1 box stuffing	2 cans of fruit
1 can chicken broth	1 can yams
1 box instant potatoes	1 cake or brownie mix
2 boxes of mac & cheese	1 container frosting

Suggested Toys for Spirit of Christmas

Baby's—Pull-ups all sizes, Wipes, Teething Toys

Young Girls—Easy Bake Oven, Anything Frozen

Girls Age 8-12+ - Art Sets

Boys Age 8-12+

Legos, Nerf guns, Football, Baseball glove, Art sets, Board games, fishing poles

Teen Girls—High school reading books, brain teasers

Teen Boys—Good dart boards, high school reading books, brain teasers

Middle School age—Science type things

General—Action figures (like the multi packs)

Board games for all ages but especially for older children and outdoor games for all ages but especially older children.

This is a list of suggested items based on what we already have and the areas with the greatest need. You are not limited to only these items, they are suggestions.



Red Bird Mission Beverly Kentucky

We invite you to join us on a Christmas Mission of Love. On November 27th Ed Wright will lead a team to take 100 canned hams, 100 fresh hams and 100 turkeys to Appalachia at Beverly Kentucky for Christmas suppers in support of families in need. The area was supported by coal mining but now has no mining jobs due to mine closures. The Red Bird Mission, a Methodist organization, has a food pantry that supports the community. They have support for Thanksgiving but lack any support for Christmas. The cost for this Mission last year was about \$6,400 but this year it will be higher due to the rise in food cost. Most of the cost is funded but donations are still appreciated. On the 27th the trip to Red Bird will be made up and back in one day. If anyone has any connection with food suppliers, i.e.. meat suppliers, please contact Ed Wright at 770-561-3143 or the church office.

Children's Ministry, MMO & Preschool, Youth



Book Launch Party

All families (and the whole congregation) are invited to attend the book launch party for Vanessa's newest book, *Wondering to Bethlehem!* The party will take place **Sunday, Nov. 5 at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. This is an Advent devotional for kids and families. We will have food, a passport photo booth, wondering stations, and some giveaways! You will also have an opportunity to purchase a copy of the book! If you have kids or grandkids between the ages of 4-11, this would be a great book for them to read with their family during Advent!

Thanksgiving Feast

We plan to have our annual Thanksgiving Feast on **Sunday, November 12 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm**. All children ages **3 years – 5th grade** are invited to come! We will provide the main dish and drinks. **Parents are asked to help provide food by bringing a side dish or dessert for the meal. Please do NOT bring any dishes with NUTS OR POTATOES.** We have kids with these allergies, and we want make sure we keep them safe while they are here. You will drop-off and pick-up your children in the classrooms on the first floor as normal.

KidVenture

For the month of November, KidVenture will only have a regular meeting on Nov. 12th. We will NOT meet on Nov. 5 due to Vanessa's book launch party, and we will NOT meet on the 19th or 26th due to the Thanksgiving Break.



"Thank you for your support of our MMO & Preschool through our "Giving Tree fundraiser," Amazon Wishlist, and Rail offering. It is such a blessing to have such a wonderful, supportive church body. If you haven't turned in your apple yet, you may bring it to the church office or pre-school. Also, if you didn't get a chance to check out our Amazon Wishlist, it will remain up all year.

Here's the link to purchase items from the wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2F9JK1182GKLV?ref=wl_lfu_nav_2

Your support of the MMO/Preschool program helps us provide an amazing year for many new and returning families.

Thank you for blessing and supporting the children of MMO-Preschool.

Youth Ministry

DUMC Youth strive to live **LIFE**.
Love Everyone
Inspire Many
Fulfill God's Call
Empower Others

FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday

MS Worship & HS Small Group

Sunday Afternoons 4—6pm
Meet at DUMC field/Fellowship Hall
MS Worship & HS Small Group

Wednesday

HS Worship & MS Small Groups
MS Dinner & Small Groups-5:45-7:30pm
HS Dinner & Small Groups-5:45-8:00pm

November

5th—Youth Worship
12th—Youth Worship
19th—NO DUMY
26th—Trampoline Park

Middle School Ski Trip

December 29-31
Sign ups will CLOSE on December 6th
Cost: \$225

High School Ski Trip

January 12-15/Cost is \$225

Contact Information

Chris Davis:
chris@dahlonegaumc.org
404-693-5387

Bailey Tam:
bailey@dahlonegaumc.org
706-962-2614

Sunday Worship

Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:00 am

Worship in the Sanctuary at 9:30—Children's Ministry available

Worship in the Sanctuary at 11:00 am

Live Streaming 9:30 and 11:00am Service

<https://dahlonegaumc.org/services/>

Remember....

Daylights Saving Time

Ends November 5th.

Move clocks back 1 hour.

We will have special
Veterans day services on
November 12th.

Communion Rail Offering for November

Sunday's communion rail offering is for Jeremiah's Place.

Jeremiah's Place is a transitional housing community that provides families with a clean, safe, and stable place to live while they are taught how to start new, prosperous, and productive lives.

Sunday Adult Growth Groups—Third Floor, Education Building

9:30 a.m.

Primetime Class—Room: Library—Facilitator: Chris Buice

Primetime class will begin a new study called Acts A-12 weeks study. This guide explains the biblical text with clarity and passion—helping us understand the history-shaping events that took place in the years following Christ's resurrection and ascension.

11:00 a.m.

11th Hour Class—Room: Library—Facilitator: Jeff Ramsland

The 11th Hour Class invites you to join with them as they study 1 Corinthians.

Assisted Listening Capabilities

DUMC is now offering assisted listening capabilities through Listen Technologies. Please download the app "Listen Everywhere" from the APP or Google Play Store to your smart phone and pair your Bluetooth hearing aids or headphones to your device. Connect to the wifi "Listen" (Password – canyouhearme). Open the app and select "DUMC Sanctuary". For more information, contact Chuck Bell @ chuck@chuckbellmusic.com or stop by the audio booth on Sunday morning.



Honor a loved one in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or in remembrance with flowers. Sign up table is outside of Fellowship Hall or you may call the church office. The cost is **\$95.00**. Please make certain that your check is clearly marked "Altar Flowers".

Study Group Educational Meetings



In an effort to provide the congregation with requested resources, we have decided to put together a website to help organize the information. To watch the videos of the study group educational meetings click here: <https://sites.google.com/view/dumc-study-group-resources/home> or go to DUMC website www.dahlonegaumc.org. Please do not hesitate to continue to reach out to members of the Study Group or your pastoral team with any questions or concerns.
In Christ, The DUMC Study Group