



June 2009

### Staff Happenings

By now you have heard that Bishop Mike Watson will appoint Rev. Charlie Marus as Associate Pastor to McEachern next month. Charlie is married to Alice and together they have two daughters, Jessie (22) and Carly (16). Charlie is currently the pastor of Liberty Hill UMC in Canton. Prior to this appointment Rev. Marus served as Associate Pastor at Mt. Bethel UMC in Marietta giving leadership in a number of areas, including missions and youth. A graduate of Candler School of Theology at Emory University and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlie worked as Regional Manager of Training and Development for Coca Cola before entering the ministry. Rev. Marus' primary responsibilities at McEachern will include congregational care, discipleship, and worship leadership.

I would like to encourage you to send the Marus family a welcome before they come to us on Sunday, June 28. You can email Charlie at [cmarus1@aol.com](mailto:cmarus1@aol.com) or send a card to 3615 Saxon Way, Marietta, GA 30062.

Make sure to mark your calendars for June 14. On that Sunday we will honor Rev. Jerry McCurdy for his years of service to McEachern and the North Georgia Conference. As you know, Jerry entered incapacity leave status on March 1. If he feels up to it Jerry will preach our 11:00 traditional worship service. A reception will be held in the Great Room of our Christian Life Center from 3-5 p.m. that afternoon. We encourage you to contribute to a love offering to be presented to Jerry. Make your checks out to McEachern Memorial UMC and mark the memo line and envelope "McCurdy Love Offering". Every congregation Jerry has served since 1961 has been invited to participate in the offering and reception.

Thank you for what you do to make McEachern a wonderful place to worship and serve Christ.

God Bless,

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## Missions

### Bibles in the Hands of Children

In our Bible Adventure Camp last summer, over 30 Hispanic children participated. Not only did we have fun with games, music, and crafts but we also spent time introducing them to the word of God through scripture reading. For many of these children, it was the first time that they had actually held a bible in their hands! We borrowed the bibles from various classrooms and then, unfortunately, the children had to return them at the end of the week. How fabulous it would be to keep those bibles in the hands of those children! You can help accomplish that by sponsoring a bible for a Hispanic child in our congregation! We would like for each child to have their own bible during the camp this year and then be able to take it home. With a total of 40 bibles needed, your donation of \$24 will make that happen! We will present the bibles in a special way to the children and your name will appear on a bookplate in your bible. Drop your donation marked "Hispanic Child Bible" in the offering plate. You never know if your bible will make a difference in the life of that child! Questions - please contact Rhonda Eberhard at [cropamemory@bellsouth.net](mailto:cropamemory@bellsouth.net)

### Español (Spanish) Camp

July 7-10: Español (Spanish) Camp: For all English-speaking children to learn in a fun way, words, short sentences, songs, and culture in Spanish!

Ages: Completed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Cost: \$ 40

Info: 770.943.3008, ext. 6025, Lucy Morales

Register now on the website, [www.mceachernumc.org](http://www.mceachernumc.org), or stop by the church office and pick up your registration form.

### Testimonies from the Mission Field.....

Visiting the Czech Republic was the most phenomenal experience of a lifetime. For a week I got to know some of the most passionate Christians I've ever met. The language barrier wasn't an issue at all; we all spoke the language of God's love. We built relationships with the people from the church, relationships that I will never forget. By far the worst part of the entire trip was saying goodbye. Growing to know and love a culture so different and people so loving was ultimately indescribable.

-Katie Koopman

My experience was great the people there (Czech Republic) were so welcoming and open. They would share openly about their walk with Christ and I thought that it was a great eye opener for me just to see how privilege we really are.

-Eric Hearn



### "Taste the McEachern's Latino Flavors"

Come and be a part of this fundraiser luncheon to support the Hispanic Ministry. The luncheon will be in Oaks Hall on Sunday, June 7 at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. You don't want to miss this delicious Latino meal!

### RUN for Missions

Well, the 2009 RUN for Missions is over. This year we raised over \$2800 which went to our international Mission partners (Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Czech Republic, Kenya). The first place 5K male winner was Kevin Figlewicz, the first place female winner was Sherri Hintz, the first place 1 mile winner was Drew Seabase, and the first place 1 mile female winner was Emily Koopman. Without the support of our runners and corporate sponsors, this event would not be possible. Thank you!!

Of special note in this year's race was eleven year old Brody Hollar from Thomaston, GA. Brody has just recently started running in races and feels that he can do this to honor his Dad. You see, his father was killed in Iraq three years ago, and this is one way that Brody can still somehow feel connected to his father. Brody did very well in the race and although he did not win in his age category, his mother is still very proud of him. Congratulations, Brody! We are proud of you too.

Thanks again for all who helped make this a success. See you in April 2010 for our next RUN for Missions!

### Feed My Sheep

With summer upon us and students being home from school, the food need in our community is great. On your next trip to the grocery store, please consider picking up a few items for our food

pantry; the Feed My Sheep ministry. Suggested items are: Peanut Butter/jelly, pancake mix/syrup, pop tarts, spaghetti/spaghetti sauce, canned spaghetti/ravioli/pasta, canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.), stews, soups, snacks, cereal, juice, complete meals with meat, canned beans & vegetables and canned fruit. Thank you for your support of this ministry.



## Discipleship

### Women's Retreat 2009: *Got Hope?*

A special time is awaiting you at this year's McEachern Memorial UMC Women's Retreat. As we all are feeling the pressures of this world and this time, God reminds us to put our "hope in Him". This year's theme, *Got Hope?*, will lead us down a path with God to renew our spirits once again.

Details:

- September 18 – 20
- Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Georgia
- Price is \$150.00
- Tickets go on sale in May

For questions, contact Joni Richburg 770.713.0422 or Lynn Hayes 678.908.5431.

## Senior Adults

### Macland Seniors

This month the Macland Seniors will meet on June 5. Our program will be music provided by David and Linda Galloway. Bring a covered dish and join us for some great food and fellowship.

## Nursery

### Special Deliveries

Special Deliveries - This has got to be the most exciting of all the ministries here at McEachern!!! The ladies of this ministry not only deliver storks and place an altar rosebud in the baby's honor; they also act as liaison between our church and parent's that are expecting. They call and check on the expectant mom throughout her pregnancy and keep the church posted if there are any specific needs. Not to mention, it always helps a first-time Mom to know someone is praying for them and to talk to someone who has the voice of experience. Each year our babies are recognized and given their 1st Bible and afterwards their parents are treated to a reception where they can relax and meet other families that have experienced the same joy. As soon as you know of anyone who is expecting please contact Trisha McMichen at 770.883.1619 or [t\\_mcmichen@comcast.net](mailto:t_mcmichen@comcast.net).

### Nursery News

Nursery News - As the school year winds down and some Bible Studies are on hiatus, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the parent's for allowing us to watch over their little ones as they have entrusted us with their most precious possession. It is always a pleasure to share the love of Christ with children.



- There is a Nursing Room located in D004 on the MMO hallway during Sunday Services. Please see an usher or Susan Koopman if you need directions.

- Many have asked how they can help with snack contributions, and the best answer would be to place a check in the offering plate or to bring to the nursery. We are very specific on the brands we use and we are limited with space, but a monetary donation can be used as needed.

- We offer nursery purchased snacks not only as a convenience to our parents, but also to ensure that food allergies are always taken into consideration. Young children love to share food and we want to ensure that every child in our care is as safe as possible. Ingredient lists are posted outside each classroom. If your child should have a life threatening allergy please make sure to let their teacher know, and place a yellow wristband on your child. If your child needs to carry an Epi-pen please see me to give you a form for your child's file.

- For Classes/Bible Studies/etc during the summer nursery goes up through completed 5th grade. We just ask that you sign-up ahead of time.

- We are missing quite a few pagers. If you have one in your possession please return it to the Nursery Department.

*If you have any questions or would like to take a tour of our nursery please contact Susan Koopman, Nursery Director, at 770.943.3008 ext 5006 or [susan@mceachernumc.org](mailto:susan@mceachernumc.org). As always it is a pleasure to serve you and your family.*

## Discipleship

### Children's Ministry

Contact Beth Barclay, 770.943.3008, ext 6008 or Jackie Gibbins, ext. 5018 for any Children's Ministry information, questions, to volunteer or visit the Children's Ministry section of the church website at [www.mceachernumc.org](http://www.mceachernumc.org).



### TreeHouse Kids Mission Project for April — June

The Children's Ministry will be collecting monetary donations during this quarter for missionaries around the world. We will also make cards, write letters and pray each week for the missionaries. If you have gone on a mission trip or served as a missionary, please consider sharing your experiences with our children. Contact Jackie Gibbins or Beth Barclay to set a time on a Sunday morning to share.

### VBS 2009: Camp E.D.G.E.

Join us July 12 – 16 as we head to CAMP E.D.G.E. We will enjoy an exciting adventure camp where children Experience and Discover God Everywhere! CAMP E.D.G.E. VBS is an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition that teaches kids their strength and might come from God. Through rockin' contemporary music, larger-than-life recreation games, mind-boggling science activities, extreme sports videos, and cool, challenging crafts, kids learn how to live on the E.D.G.E. in their faith. Registration forms are available throughout the church and online. Family snack supper will be from 5 – 6 p.m. in Oaks Hall and VBS is from 6 – 8:30 p.m. Open to ages 3 years to completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade. If you would like to volunteer, you may indicate on the registration form, register online, or contact Beth Barclay, ext. 6008 or Jackie Gibbins, ext. 5018. Parents, please dress your child for messy crafts.

## SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION eXtreme Summer 2009!

Registration for summer camps is open at this time. You may register online at [www.mceachernumc.org](http://www.mceachernumc.org) or contact the children's ministry at 770.943.3008 ext. 5018. More information is available on our website or you may pick up a brochure located in the clear literature displays through out the church.

### eXtreme Summer Camp Dates:

#### Sonshine Camp

**June 1 – 5, June 8 – 12, June 15 – 19 & June 22 – 26**

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sonshine camp is a fun, Christian-based educational play time where children learn through centers, outside play, crafts, snacks, games and other special activities. Parents provide lunch. Must be potty trained. Each week is filled with different Bible-based fun!

Ages: Four (as of 9/1/09) through rising Kindergarten  
Cost: \$85

#### Sports Camp June 1-5

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

This is a Christ-centered camp that emphasizes success for each camper. This camp is designed to introduce beginning athletes to multiple sports to help both beginning- and intermediate-level athletes build sound fundamentals and techniques. The focus of this camp is to give young athletes a fun, non-competitive experience. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Completed K, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Cost: \$75

#### Adventure Camp June 22-26

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Come and join us for exciting adventures in the world that God created. Campers will enjoy a fun filled week of outdoor activities. Water sports and scavenger hunts are part of the adventure. Find out what other surprises are in store! Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Completed kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Cost: \$135

#### Cooking up God's Word June 15-19

**Completed K, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade ; June 29-July 3 Completed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Bring your appetites for a week of food, fun & fellowship. Campers will have hands on opportunities to learn food preparation, kitchen safety, cooking techniques and table etiquette. Tasting is not only allowed...it's required!

Cost: \$100

**SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION (cont.)****Science Camp June 8-12**

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Needed: Lab Assistants!! Bring your lab coat, goggles and beaker for a week full of fun learning about God through Science. Children will participate in hands on activities and experiments learning about our world that God created. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Completed 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Cost: \$95

**Upcoming Children's Opportunities:**

- eXtreme Summer Camp Registration ongoing
- VBS : Camp E.D.G.E. : Experiencing & Discovery God Everywhere

July 12 – 16 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Ongoing Children's Opportunities:****Sunday School**

° Meets at 9:30 a.m. for all ages

**Beginning Believers**

° Program for Pre-K and Kindergartners

° Meets during 11 a.m. worship services

° Meets in room F151 of CLC

**Faith Builders**° Praise and Worship for 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders

° Meets during 11 a.m. worship services

° Meets in Lula Dobbs Hall

**Student Ministry****SUNDAY NIGHTS IN JUNE....6-8 PM**

June 7 - Vertical 6 pm

June 14 - Vertical 6 pm

June 21 - His Story/Your Story Night

June 24 - Wild Wednesday - Games galore.

June 28 - Vertical 6 pm

For more information, contact Andy Smith at

[andy@mceachernumc.org](mailto:andy@mceachernumc.org) or

770.943.3008 ext. 5021.

[www.mceachernumc.org/jrhi](http://www.mceachernumc.org/jrhi).**MESSAGE FROM JASON...**

On Sunday, May 17, twenty six graduates participated in our graduate recognition service. What an incredible time of celebrating with our students and their families! I want to thank all of those who served and participated in the celebration. The summer months are here and with them comes an opportune time for our students to put their faith into practice through summer mission trips. In June, our New Creation choir will be going on tour to Brunswick, Georgia and our Senior High students will be heading to the beach at Panama City. Please keep us in your prayers as we embrace and embody the good news of Jesus Christ to others.

In Gratitude to Christ,  
Jason



*Seeking the things above... Colossians 3:1*

**SUNDAYS ~ 6-8 PM @ HIGHER GROUND**

A place of grace. A place of change.

A place to connect with God and His people.

Join us as we come together for food, fun, and worship.

**UpComing Events:****MOVE – Let's Be Mobile Senior High Bible Study****Thursday nights in June****June 4, June 18, June 25 6-8 pm****RIVER OF LIFE MISSION TRIP – July 8-12****See Jason for details.**

“Where love and service come together in one great expression”.

**Sunday Nights in June...6-8 PM**

June 7 – Elevation 6pm

June 12-16 BIGSTUF

June 14 – No Elevation (Big Stuf Camp)

June 21 – His Story/Your Story Night

June 24 – Wild Wednesday – Games Galore.

June 28 – Elevation 6 pm

For more information, contact Jason Jordan at  
[jason@mceachernumc.org](mailto:jason@mceachernumc.org) or 770-943-3008 X5004.

You can download all paperwork from  
[www.mceachernumc.org/srhi](http://www.mceachernumc.org/srhi).

## Evangelism

Greetings,

As you read this we will have had all the graduations, the kids are registered for Summer Camps and the craziness of summer will be in full swing. I know it is hard to think about the fall right now but all of us here on staff are making plans for what we hope will be an amazing fall and our hope is that each of you will actively seek out a place to be involved in ministry this fall.

**I need your help!** This fall there are many activities that will need volunteers if we are to accomplish all we hope to in the area of **Radical Hospitality**. We are in need of additional **Greeters** to help with the new **Information Center**. We also need help on Sunday Mornings to help set up chairs for the Transformation Service.

It is my hearts desire that we will put together an amazing Worship Team to brainstorm and discover all the new and exciting adjustments we can make in the Transformation Service to reach more individuals with the Good News of Christ.

We are also trying to put together as many teams as possible to help serve Wednesday night suppers, so if you can put together a team of eight to ten individuals who would be willing to serve one Wednesday night please let me know as I can use all the volunteers I can find.

I also wanted to thank all of you who have so faithfully supported all of the ministries our Lord has allowed me to be involved in here at McEachern for without your diligence and sacrificial giving it would not be possible.

In conclusion I want each of you to know what a privilege it is to serve here and I so look forward to hearing from many of you as you diligently seek out a place to use your gifts and graces in the kingdom of God.

Allen

## Worship

### Fine Arts Summer Camps

To sign-up for any of the Fine Arts Camps, sign-up on the website or stop by the music office to pick up a form and leave it in the box outside Tanya Ghoreishi's office. For more information on the camps, please contact DeAnna Byrd at 770.943.3008, ext. 6041.

### Elementary Art Camps

Session 1: (completed K-2) June 8—12

Session 2: (completed 3rd-5th) June 1—5

9 am to 1 pm

Calling all art lovers! Enhance and develop your artistic skills in an enjoyable and creative way. Projects include drawing, painting, 3-D art, viewing and critiquing art work, and creative problem solving. Parents are invited to tour our art gallery on the last day of camp. Join us for a wonderful week of artistic expression! Parents provide lunch.

Cost:\$80

### Preschool Art Camps

Session 1: July 13—17

Session 2: July 20—24

9 am to 1 pm

Preschoolers LOVE to explore paints, crayons, and more! This camp enables children to use that creativity to create a wide array of art projects, including drawing, collage, painting and 3-D work. Parents view art gallery at the end of the week. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Four by 6/1/2008 - rising Kindergarten

Cost \$80

### Cherub Music Camp

July 6—10

9 am to 1 pm

This camp, especially designed for our youngest music-makers, is full of music and fun. Children will experience a variety of music, make instruments, and learn how to make music themselves. This camp encourages children to listen to music, participate in musical activities, and develop their own means of self-expression. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Four (as of 9/1/09) - rising Kindergarten

Cost \$75

# Worship

## Fine Arts Summer Camps (cont.)

### Angel Music Camp

July 20—24

9 am to 1 pm

This fun week of music, crafts and games will delight our campers. The children will learn to develop their natural musical instincts through joyful participation in making music, discerning listening, and moving

to music. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Completed K, 1st & 2nd grade

Cost: \$75

### Jr. Music Camp

June 15—19

9 am to 2 pm

During this action-packed week, campers will learn an amazing Christian musical, including songs and speaking parts. They will also participate in building sets to use during their remarkable performance on Friday evening. Parents provide lunch.

Ages: Completed 3rd,

4th, 5th & 6th grade

Cost: \$85

### Drama Camp

Session 1: July 6—10

Session 2: July 27—31

9 am to 1 pm

Acting, role playing and telling jokes are just part of the fun that will take place this week. Join us for a fun-filled week! Parents provide lunch.

Ages:

Session 1: Completed Kindergarten - 2nd

Session 2: Completed 3rd - 5th

Cost: \$80

## Calendar of Events

### June

- 1 Trustees Meeting
- 3 Missions GIC Planning Meeting
- 5 Macland Seniors
- 7 Taste the McEachern Luncheon
- 9 Missions Team Meeting
- 10 5 Practices Steering Committee Meeting
- 14 UMM Breakfast
- Reception for Rev. Jerry McCurdy
- Venezuela Mission Team prayer service
- 22 Rebekah Circle
- 28 Kenya Mission Trip Fundraiser Luncheon

#### June 1-5

- Art Camp (3-5th grade)
- Sonshine Camp
- Sports Camp

#### June 8-12

- Art Camp (K-2)
- Science Camp
- Sonshine Camp

#### June 15-19

- Cooking Camp
- Fine Arts Camp
- Jr. Music Camp
- Sonshine Camp

#### June 22-26

- Sonshine Camp
- Adventure Camp

#### Jun 29- July 3

- Cooking Camp
- Hispanic Camp



### Capital Debt Reduction at a Glance

There are 191 families participating in the three-year capital debt reduction.

**The amount pledged is \$1,259,426**  
**The amount received to date is \$630,731**

Thank you for your support of the Capital Debt Reduction program.

**Church Office: 770.943.3008**

**Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday**

**Fax: 770.943.9664      www.mceachernumc.org**

**Key Staff and Extension Numbers**

Dr. James Higgins, Senior Pastor.....	x5000
Rev. Cindy Blocksidge, Executive Pastor.....	x5012
Rev. Donna Goff, Missions Pastor.....	x5002
Rev. Allen Richburg, Evangelism Pastor.....	x6037
Rev. Hur & Rev. Lucy Morales, Hispanic Pastors.....	x6025
Rev. Jason Jordan, Pastor to Students.....	x5004
Tanya Ghoreishi, Director of Music & Fine Arts .....	x5005
Andy Smith, Director of Middle School Ministries.....	x5021
Shaun Nguyen, Director of Recreation Ministries .....	x5014
Jackie Gibbins, Elementary Children’s Director .....	x5018
Beth Barclay, Early Childhood Children’s Director .....	x6008
Susan Koopman, Nursery Director .....	x5006
Carolyn Black, Administrator of Finance .....	x5003
John Spain, Director of Facilities.....	x6038
Denise Register, Director of Weekday Preschool.....	770.439.7110

***Submissions for The Vine: Submit material no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for the following month’s issue to kimberly@mceachernumc.org.***