

**Support the Good Samaritan Fund** The Good Samaritan Fund is used to support the emergency benevolence needs of members and neighbors in the community. Funds are used to provide Kroger gift cards that can be used for food or gas and emergency hotel stays. Currently, the funds have been depleted and we are unable to provide this assistance to those in need. Please consider supporting the fund. Donations can be placed in the labeled box found in the narthex or you can give online or in the church office.

**Our Future with The UMC – Information Sessions** As a follow-up to our spring conversations, Tucker First UMC will hold three informational sessions on the options available to congregations in the midst of the ongoing denominational divide regarding the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy and congregants. These sessions are intended to provide clear information about the policies and procedures laid out by the North Georgia Annual Conference and the full range of possibilities for Tucker First as a local congregation.

Sessions will take place on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. We will have guest speakers offering different perspectives at the first two sessions. The third session will be a wrap-up time facilitated by our church leadership.

August 25th – Rev. Dr. Byron Thomas, District Superintendent for the Central South District

September 1st – Dan Parr, Lay Member at Dahlonega United Methodist Church

September 8th – Summary and Next Steps

Church congregants are invited to submit questions ahead of time for our guest speakers to consider and respond to during their presentations. No additional questions will be taken from the floor after the presentation from each speaker. Please submit your questions by email to Stephanie Shanholtzer at [sshanholtzer@tfumc.org](mailto:sshanholtzer@tfumc.org), by dropping them off at the church office, or by placing them in the drop box located in the narthex.

**Red Cross Blood Drive – Volunteers Needed.** Show the best of yourself and human kindness by donating blood at our next blood drive on Thursday, August 11 from 2:30 – 7:30 pm in the Wesley Center.

As part of the blood drive, we need volunteers to greet donors and manage the snack table. We are very low on volunteers during the summer and throughout the year. You only have to sign up for a two-hour shift and you can sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/TFUMCBloodDriveVolunteers>.

Blood donors can sign up at <http://redcrossblood.org> and use the site code TUCK1UMC. You may still donate blood, platelets, or plasma after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Knowing the name of the manufacturer of the vaccine is important in determining your blood donation eligibility.

Questions? Contact Evelyn Burkett at [ehburkett@comcast.net](mailto:ehburkett@comcast.net) or 404-727-1582 if you have any questions.

**Meal Train for Lynn Urda** Lynn Urda has recently been in the hospital and is recovering from a lung procedure. If you would like to provide a meal for the Urdas as Lynn recuperates at home, please sign up using the Meal Train link <https://tinyurl.com/MealsforLynn>.

**Summer Heat Got You Low?** Lift your spirits by attending the 2022 Women's "Mini-treat" Retreat on Saturday, August 13, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in Jenkins Hall. The study's focus is 1 John 3:1, "Walk With God's Love and Know You're Are Beloved".

The program agenda includes fun moments, hymn singing, and sharing with those who care. We will eat lunch together, and we invite you to bring a salad to share. Please register by contacting Patti Rioux at [patti.rioux@comcast.net](mailto:patti.rioux@comcast.net).

**New Book Discussion** You are most welcome to join the Open Door Sunday School class (9:45 am in Rm. 209) for book review of "Jesus, the Stranger; The Man from Galilee and The Light of the World". This book is a laity focus on Jesus' humanity in a way that looks at the numerous oppositional characters and groups reported in the gospels, the hometown folks, family members, religious leaders, and politicians. We'll take a close-up view of the parts and, on the whole, the grand theme. Questions? Please contact Joe Kilpatrick at [jkcpa71@gmail.com](mailto:jkcpa71@gmail.com).

**Acolyte Training in August** On Sunday, August 21, there will be an acolyte lunch in Jenkins Hall following the 11:00 am worship service. We invite all current acolytes and those wishing to become an acolyte to attend (rising 6th thru 12th graders). Following lunch, there be training in the Sanctuary which will include baptism, communion, and gospel procession procedures.

**Quarterly Statements Update From the Church Office** In an effort to save money and some trees, the church office will begin emailing quarterly statements to those whose email we have on file. If we don't have your email on file, we will send your statement via regular mail. You can expect your second quarter statement in the next week or so. If you prefer to receive your statement via regular mail or have any questions, please contact Cindy Petersiel at [cpetersiel@tfumc.org](mailto:cpetersiel@tfumc.org) or 678-325-4035.

## **TUCKER FIRST YOUTH**

**Youth and Parent Planning Meeting** All parents and youth are invited to attend a planning meeting on Sunday, August 16 at 6:00 pm in the Wesley Center. We will discuss programming, retreats and missions for the upcoming school year.

**2022-2023 Confirmation Class** Another Confirmation season at Tucker First UMC is quickly approaching with classes beginning on September 18. We have a scheduled Confirmation Parent meeting on Tuesday, August 9 at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be provided. Parents will meet at Enzo's Pizza.

Confirmation preparation is the act by which persons make their first public profession of faith. In this sense, they confirm their faith. Confirmation classes offer students time to learn more about the Christian faith and the United Methodist denomination they are a part of.

At the end of the Confirmation season, they will have an opportunity to make that public profession. If your student has not been baptized, this is a great opportunity to do so before they receive full membership into the United Methodist Church.

All middle school youth who have not been through confirmation are invited. Questions? Contact Chris Moss at 770-883-3095 or [cmoss@tfumc.org](mailto:cmoss@tfumc.org).

## **TUCKER FIRST CHILDREN**

**NEW! Children's Welcome Center** Beginning Sunday, August 7, a Welcome Center will be open from 9:30-9:45 am in Room 116 of the Children's Wing. Children can enjoy a few minutes of play—Legos, building blocks, board games, and coloring activities—before the start of Sunday School.

**Sunday Mornings (9:45 am In-Person; 10:00 am on Facebook Live)** As we study *We're Digging Into...The Heart of God*, we will learn how to reflect God in our everyday life.

August 7 - David Celebrates - 2 Samuel 6

August 14 - David is Kind to Mephibosheth - 2 Samuel 9

August 21 - God Provides Food for Elijah - 1 Kings 17:1-6

August 28 - A Widow Shares her Last Bread - 1 Kings 17:8-16

**Fall Retreat for 3rd-5th Graders** All 3rd-5th Graders are invited to go on retreat to Camp Glisson September 16-18. The cost is \$150.00. Scholarships are available. If you have questions, want to register, or chaperone, contact Mimi Sanders at [mimi\\_sanders@tfumc.org](mailto:mimi_sanders@tfumc.org)

**Let's Go Camping!** October 7-10 is a school holiday for many area schools. So let's have fun together on a Family Camping Trip. The trip is scheduled from Friday, October 7 to Sunday, October 9 at Hard Labor Creek State Park off I-20. Early Bird Special of \$30 per person if paid before September 5. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/TFUMC-camping>. Questions? Contact Mimi Sander at [mimi\\_sanders@tfumc.org](mailto:mimi_sanders@tfumc.org).

**Preschool Teachers Needed for 2022 -2023 School Year** Our Weekday Preschool has several paid positions for the upcoming school year. If you or someone you know would consider serving, please get in touch with Marti Coleman at 770-938-3030 or [preschool@tfumc.org](mailto:preschool@tfumc.org) or Mimi Sanders at [mimi\\_sanders@tfumc.org](mailto:mimi_sanders@tfumc.org).

**Pre-K Spaces Still Available** The Tucker First UMC Weekday Preschool has a full enrollment this year, and the only spaces still available are in Pre-K (4 yrs. old)! You can find out more information and registration forms at <http://www.tuckerfirst.org/weekday-preschool.html>. Please contact the Preschool Director, Marti Coleman, at [preschool@tfumc.org](mailto:preschool@tfumc.org) or 678-325-4020 to schedule a tour or if you have any questions.