

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 ordination and marriage 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 as well as via live stream. 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, Head of the Clergy Delegation to General Conference
- September 1st – Dan Parr, President of the Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) for North Georgia, North Georgia General Conference Delegate, and 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, by dropping them off at the church office, or by placing them in the drop box located in the narthex.

Chancel Choir Open House The members of the Chancel Choir of Tucker First UMC invite you to their annual Open House on Wednesday, August 17, from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Come and meet the choir members and Tom Moore, our Director of Music & Arts, and stay for snacks and a little singing.

The Tucker First Chancel Choir is for any adult who wishes to serve the Lord through singing. The choir sings for the 11:00 am Sunday worship service and performs special concerts throughout the year. We sing a variety of music, including classical, traditional, spiritual, gospel, and contemporary. Additionally, there are opportunities for solos, duets, and trios. The Chancel Choir participates annually in the Christmas at Tucker performance with a full orchestra and a dramatic stage presentation. We have also sung Requiems by Fauré, Hayes, and Mozart and *Hodie* by Vaughan Williams.

Come and join us, and you will find a group that loves to sing as well as have fun and laugh. There is something for everyone, and we have a seat waiting for you - no experience necessary. Contact Tom Moore, Director of Music & Arts, at tom_moore@tfumc.org for more information. Childcare will be provided on request.

Pioneers are Back Together Again! Pioneers is Tucker First UMC's group for senior adults interested in friendship, fun, and faith. The Pioneers have not met since before the COVID-19 pandemic and it's time to gather once again! Join us for a catered lunch and a time to reconnect. We will fellowship and discuss plans for the Pioneers going forward. Thursday, September 8 at 11:30 am in Jenkins Hall. RSVP to Rosemary Rose at 770-279-0147 or Doris Latimer at 404-906-2313.

St. Hildegard Night – Thursday, September 22nd 7:00 PM in Jenkins Hall St. Hildegard von Bingen was a 12th-century writer, composer, theologian, preacher, herbalist, healer, and mystic. Come learn about this incredible woman and let her inspire your faith life. We'll listen to Hildegard's music, taste one of her recipes, create a special Hildegard craft and leave with some Hildegard-inspired spiritual practices. To RSVP, please contact Pastor Anne at anne.cumings@ngumc.net or (678) 325-4033.

Bible Study on Romans Pastor Anne will host an 8-week Bible study on the book of Romans. The group will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM in Room 206 starting on September 6th. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please contact Pastor Anne at anne.cumings@ngumc.net or (678) 325-4033.

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study Celebrating 15 Years! We are excited to begin another Bible Study this Fall. Our next study will be "The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi" by Kathie Lee Gifford. With Rabbi Jason Sobel, the book takes you deeper into understanding the Bible through Hebrew culture, language, and the means of connection that opens up an understanding of faith and heritage. This six-week study begins on September 19. We will meet at 10:00 am in Room 202. Participants should purchase their own book and study book. Questions? Contact Kathryn Jackson at kakicpa@comcast.net.

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.

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.

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 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

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.

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 or Mimi Sanders at mimi_sanders@tfumc.org.

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 (5th thru 12th graders). Following lunch, there be training in the Sanctuary which will include baptism, communion, and gospel procession procedures. Questions? Contact Mimi Sanders at mimi_sanders@tfumc.org.