

2018

Hand Book and Program Calendar



Union Chapel

United Methodist Church

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Our Pastors Message

Union Chapel 2017 Recap

What a journey we have been on this past year! Like our personal lives, our church life has been full of “ebbs & flows” – “ups & downs” – but through it all God has shown himself to be the Faithful One. I’ve noticed over the years the human tendency, when faced with challenges, is to look back on the “good old days” forgetting that “good old days” had their challenges as well. So as followers of Christ we recognize that there will always be highs & lows – mountain tops & valleys; and so it has been for Union Chapel in 2017. As we look over the life of the church this past year we find the tremendous joys of ministering together in Jesus’ name – through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit; but we also have found unfathomable heartaches. Through it all: GOD IS WITH US!

From a personal perspective, 2017 completed our second year and began our third year together here at Union Chapel (for those unfamiliar with the United Methodist Church, pastors work on a yearly appointive system, we are appointed to a church from one June to the following June. So, for the pastoral appointments we don’t mark January to December – but June to June). From a personal and family perspective it continues to be a blessing getting to know you, the Canuel’s individually and as a family unit are better people for having known you and serving side by side with you.

A passing look at the ministry highlights of this past year include: 1) The youth having very fruitful mission trips, serving together in Jesus’ name and loving their neighbor as self. They also continued to feed those in need on a monthly basis in Athens, and they represented the church well as they assisted with the regional loading of shoe boxes at Operation Christmas Child (just to name a few of their highlights) - 2) We started a new Sunday School class which is helping many of our parents navigate the challenges they face today in raising children - 3) During summer we had a fantastic VBS in which the gospel was presented in the popular genre of superheroes (can you guess who the real & true Super Hero is?) - 4) We also had a very well attended and powerful set of revival services during the month of July in which folks were invited to enter into or to deepen their relationship with the most high God; we look forward to another series of powerful revivals this summer - 5) This summer UCUMC came together to support the FISH-For-Kids summer feeding program both financially, as well as having a number of members personally volunteer at FISH in both preparing meals and delivering them! - 6) This fall UCUMC hosted another fruitful turkey shoot in which over \$11,000 was raised to help children and families in our community: Praise God! - 7) UMW supported a number of ministries this year and has helped Union Chapel immeasurably - 8) During November we once again collected a number of shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, the simplest of ways to demonstrate the love God has for every individual in every place on this earth thru the gift of Jesus Christ! - 9) We experienced an amazing Christmas Cantata from the choir (thank you Becky & thank you choir!) - 10) Union Chapel moved the Children’s Christmas Program to our 11:00AM Worship time, and boy aren’t we glad we did! It was a wonderful program that breathed life into our congregation as only children can do (thank you Cindy & Kenneth, thank you parents / grandparents, & thank you Becky!) - 11) Union Chapel initiated a “Blanket Ministry” & a “Mat Ministry” (the “playrn” mats for the homeless) - 12) The Long Range Planning committee continues to implement their five year plan, as a part of this Union Chapel adopted a new Mission Statement which – if considered properly – will help us focus our efforts and outreach in the future - 12) The pastor went on two mission trips which focused on evangelism – in two drastically different cultures / contexts (I am told he is thankful for Union Chapel’s support in these endeavors, he has grown from it, and the ministry he brings to Union Chapel has also been enriched by them).

Friends this is simply a passing look over the past year at UCUMC, so many more things have taken place, so many more lives have been impacted, yet we just do not have the space to include them all. As we look forward to the coming year (2018) Union Chapel will continue to minister to one another and to our community; helping one another grow in our faith. We will continue to grow through our worship together, study, fellowship, the sacraments, outreach, and service; we also look forward to a renewed focus on prayer in the coming year.

In closing, according to our new Mission Statement, Union Chapel exists for a very simple reason: To Share The Good News of Jesus Christ, Who Is The Way, The Truth, & The Life! That's it! To know Him and make Him known. May we at Union Chapel be found faithful in 2018 – Amen!

God's peace & blessings,

Pastor Roger

Ps. 6:9

As you know, we have many ways of keeping you informed about upcoming events. Please remember to check the bulletins, announcement screens, monthly newsletters, the website and Facebook page for upcoming events. Included in the back of the handbook is a program calendar also. Also remember to listen for announcements from the pulpit, voice calls from One Call Now, text messages and/or e-mails. We will try to keep you informed.

If you have an announcement that you would like to include please notify the office by phone or e-mail by Wednesday of each week for the bulletin and before the last week in the current month for next month's newsletter. Announcements can be put on the screens with less notice.

Early Worship Service is held each Sunday at 8:30. Communion is observed each Sunday. Music is Contemporary with our praise band, Uplifted. Dress is usually more casual and Pastor Roger does the same sermon.

Sunday Breakfast is provided free of charge for all beginning at 9:15 AM unless announced. Donations to offset the cost are always appreciated.

Sunday School is held weekly at 10:00 am for all ages, except on Easter and Homecoming

Traditional Worship Service is held at 11:00 AM. (On special occasions such as Easter and Homecoming, 8:45am and 11am worship services are joined at 11am.)

Men's Mid-week Meeting meets in the fellowship hall at 7:00 AM for prayer and Bible Study. Men you are welcome to join in anytime your schedule allows.

Family Meal is Wednesday nights at 6pm. (January thru May and September thru December) everyone is invited (cooked by Kenneth and Cindy Little or anyone that volunteers). A donation is suggested plus helping to serve and pitching in to help clean-up is always welcome. The meal is followed by Bible Study or special biblical learning activities for all ages at 7:00 pm.

Choir practices each Wednesday night at 7:00 PM. (sometimes a schedule change is necessary). Becky Pentecost is the Choir Leader. You don't have to be able to read music, just have a joy in your heart for singing for the Lord. In December the Choir performs the Annual Christmas Cantata.

United Methodist Men meet at 7:00 PM the 1st Thursday after the 1st Sunday each month. They meet and have a meal at their meetings. They do not meet in July. In November the UMM host the Annual Turkey Shoot. The December meeting includes a Christmas party usually at a local restaurant and is subject to change.

United Methodist Women meet at 7:00 PM the 2nd Tuesday after the 1st Sunday each month. They do not meet June, July and August. In October, the UMW host a special Service in Pink to honor and remember the women who have battled breast cancer. December's meeting includes a Christmas party and is usually moved up a week.

A 3 **Sunday Revival** is held the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays in July. Service on Sunday is held at 6:00 pm. Complete with guest Speakers and Guest Singers.

Homecoming is held the 3rd Sunday in September with a combined 11:00 AM worship service with a covered dish lunch following. (No Sunday school or Breakfast or Early Service)

The **Children and Youth** are actively involved in the church. They have activities planned each week of each. Details for there are opportunities to participate and/or help at Winter Mission Retreat, Summer Mission Trip, Vacation Bible School, Wednesday night Bible Study, Wee and Junior Worship. Special activities for Jr. Worship age and Wee Worship age are held throughout the year, usually after the 11:00 am worship service. A meal is usually provided. Jr. Worship is held 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in the Choir Room. Wee Worship is provided following the Children's moment during the worship service in their room next to the choir room.

One Call Now is currently the way that we reach our members when we need to spread the word of a committee meeting or arrangements for a person that has passed. We are now incorporating texting to this along with phone calls. We also put information out by mass emails and on our Facebook. Our website is updated on a weekly basis to keep information current. All of this handled by the Church Administrative Assistant.

A church-wide **Prayer Chain** is also available. If prayer request come in that need immediate attention, you can call Pastor Roger, James Johnson or Administrative Assistant Julia Adams to have request sent out through One Call Now. If you are not currently on the Prayer Chain and would like to be you may also contact the church office or any of the above listed to be added.

***Union Chapel United Methodist Church
2017 Lay Leadership & Nominations Report
(Beginning January 2018)***

Pastor	Roger Canuel
Lay Leader	James Johnson (Member of all committees by virtue of office)
Assistant Lay Leader	Cindy Elsmore
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Ken Sherwood
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference	Hannah Jones
Certified Lay Speaker	Cindy Elsmore
Local Lay Servant	Don Jones
Local Lay Servant	Anita Jones
Local Lay Servant	Trey Jones
Local Lay Servant	Braxton Jones
Local Lay Servant	Hannah Jones
Sunday School Superintendent	Gina Canuel
Membership Secretary	Jane Peters
Associate Membership Secretary	Carol Johnson
Administrative Council Chairperson	Glenn Barton
Administrative Council Recording Secretary	Delores Barton
Church Historian	Kay Hannay
Co-Church Historian	Janet McGaughey
Church Treasurer	Nicholas Peters
Communion Stewards	8:30 Service – Jane Peters 11:00 Service – Martha Jordan

Lay Leadership Development (Chaired by pastor)

2018	2019	2020
Harry McGaughey Steve Sargent	Rita Peters Nancy Snell	Linda Rowe Sandra Callaway

Staff Parish Relations (Chair, Don Jones)

2018	2019	2020
Bruce Wright Elaine Towler Jim Bridges	Don Jones	Ken Sherwood Sherrell Malcom Denny Malcom

Board of Trustees (Chair, Harry McGaughey)

2018	2019	2020
Phil Aycock Cindy Elsmore	Steve Sargent Ricky Towler Jeff Peters	Don Oakley Penny George Harry McGaughey Frank Elsmore

Committee on Finance (Chair to be voted by Committee)

2018	2019	2020
Frank Elsmore	Barbara Weekly Nicholas Peters	Patsy Wright Cindy Harris Gene Lissemore

Church Grounds

Kenneth Peters	Greg Adcock	David Malcom
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Long Range Planning (Chair, Cindy Elsmore)

2018

Ricky Towler
Patty Aultman Wright
R G Baker

2019

Kyle Peppers
Nicholas Peters

2020

Cindy Elsmore
Destiny Wright

Worship (Chair to be voted by committee)

2018

Phil Hannay
Brandy Peters

2019

Sherri Rollins
Beth Adcock
David Malcom

2020

Margaret Peters
Sandra Stargel
Becky Pentecost

Sunday School (Consists of Sunday School Teachers)

Cindy Little
Clay Harris
James Childs
Cindy Harris

Sherrell Malcom
Phil Hannay
Tammy Childs
Gina Canuel (*Chair*)

Penny George
Jane Peters
Kenneth Little

Children's Ministry & Youth Ministry

(Children's Committee & Youth Committee in process of being reorganized)

*(Pastor & Lay Leader serve on every committee)

Composite Reports

Staff – Parrish Relations

Union Chapel had no personnel changes during the year. Roger Canuel began his third year of service in July. Julia Criswell-Adams continues to serve as our administrative assistant and Becky Pentacost continues to serve as both our piano musician and director of our choir. Carol Ashford began playing the organ this year.

Kenneth and Cindy Little continue to serve as our Children and Youth ministers.

SPR committee chair transitioned to Dr. Don Jones mid-way through the year, and he will continue to serve in this capacity in 2018.

Our church faced multiple challenges this year and with God's help and faith, we continue to persevere.

Submitted by: Don Jones & James Johnson

Long Range Planning

Long Range Planning continues to pray for the Lord to give us wisdom and guidance for the future of Union Chapel. 2017 was the first full year of our spiritual plan. The committee reviews this plan at every meeting. This year we focused on the vision of the church by creating a new mission statement. We hope to have the mission statement on all printed materials and on the screen at the Sunday Services. We are also working on relationships in the church. We held a fellowship night at Panera Bread on November 5. It was well attended and members asked for us to do it again. We will plan more events like this in 2018.

We created an information center in the fellowship hall and in the church, made it easier to locate information about our church.

Our church was blessed to have wonderful members working on the LRP committee this year and we look forward to a blessed future at Union Chapel United Methodist Church.

Submitted by: Cindy Elsmore

Finance Committee

The following is a list of accomplishments and activities for the 2017 Finance Committee:

The committee met quarterly to review the financial reports as prepared by the church treasurer.

The treasurer presented financial reports quarterly to the Administrative Council on the finances of the church.

The finance committee approved a 2018 budget and presented to administrative council for approval at charge conference.

The church paid apportionments for the North Georgia Conference in full for 2017.

Submitted by the Finance Chairperson, Cindy Harris

Trustee

Harry McGaughey (Trustee Chair) and Board of Trustee member Nicholas Peters, church treasurer, are responsible for the maintenance and up keep of UCUMC facilities. Some of the improvements and repairs this past year included:

- Chapel Roof leak was repaired in February and the old vent pipe was removed.
- The Carpet was removed from the church office and copy room and replaced with vinyl flooring. Harold Palmer, Don Oakley, Phil Aycock, Steve Sargent, Glenn Barton helped with this job.
- The roof at the parsonage was replaced due to storm and wind damage.
- Phelps Heating and Air replaced the AC in the Chapel and hooked up the natural gas for heating. Phelps was the best of the total 3 bids that were received.
- A hot water heater was purchased for the cook shed in April.
- The sprinkler systems were serviced throughout the year by Central Fire Protection.
- Alpha Fire updated the fire extinguishers.
- Phelps Heating and Air serviced the AC units at the church and the parsonage.
- Light bulbs were replaced on the side and rear of the church.
- Storm damage to the phone lines at the church and fire alarms. Alpha Fire and Windstream repaired accordingly.
- Tom Googe brought in the scaffling to change out the 10 light bulbs in the sanctuary.
- Issues with the ice machine leaking in the fellowship hall were covered under warranty.
- Tropical Storm Irma hit in September. Kenneth Peters came and helped Harry with cleaning up the water that had blown in around the main entrance of the church. Shingles were blown off the chapel and fellowship hall and power was lost there also.
- Tim Arnold came out and checked for an electrical problems and located the issue. Walton EMC was notified and came to repair immediately. Lamar Harwell came to repair the roofs the same week.
- Clean up for Homecoming consist of purchasing and putting out pine straw, pressure washing, shampooing carpet in the basement. Many members gathered together to make this happen. We are thankful for each of them.
- Steve Sargent replaced the leaking water line underground in front of the fellowship hall.
- In late September, Phil Aycock and Steve Sargent began replacing the windows in the basement of the Chapel. This was completed Mid October. We are thankful to all who assisted on this job.

We continue to have two BBQ and Brunswick stew fundraisers a year with the proceeds going to offset the cost of maintaining and upgrading the facilities. We are very thankful to all the members of the committee and church members for their hard work during 2017. We look forward to another great year in 2018.

Submitted by: Harry McGaughey

United Methodist Women

UMW had a very busy, productive and blessed 2017.

Missions:

Donated \$1,000 to a Social Circle middle schooler's mission trip to Bahamas.

Donated \$1,000 for Preacher Roger's mission trip to New Zealand

Purchased \$1,220 worth of supplies to make UMCCOR cleaning kits / buckets to assist with Hurricane cleanup

Donated \$200 to Murphy-Harpst children's home to assist with Christmas

UMW:

Assisted local family that suffered house fire by purchasing \$230 worth of clothing / supplies

Paid for replacing the floor in Administrative Assistants office

Donated \$300 to Murphy-Harpst children's home
Purchased new swing & bench for children's playground area

UMW Fundraisers:

Chicken Stew in January raised \$1900
Soup Luncheon after church in March & after UMW Sunday in October

Church Activities:

UMW replaced tablecloths and table settings seasonally in the Fellowship Hall and placed flowers in the Fellowship Hall for Homecoming, Fall and Christmas (along with Christmas wreaths on the doors).

In May, UMW assisted with Harmony Elementary School's teacher appreciation luncheon and we provided fried chicken for our Graduates' Luncheon.

UMW provided 2 meals during the week of Vacation Bible School in June.

UMW cleaned the basement of the Fellowship Hall in preparation of Homecoming. UMW provided the fried chicken for Homecoming.

October 15th, the UMW Worship Service was led by members of the UMW, with a retired breast surgeon & coordinator with the American Cancer Society providing information along with a local cancer survivor sharing her testimony.

We sent flowers to our shut-ins on their birthdays and also put together & delivered Christmas baskets to them containing different items such as cookies, socks, coffee cups, lotions, etc. that we felt they might enjoy.

UMW assisted with the Turkey Shoot by selling coffee and biscuits and donating the money to UMM.

We ended the year with our annual Christmas party on Dec 5th enjoying a wonderful meal at Blue Willow Inn with 23 ladies in attendance.

We ended the year with a balance of \$5,535 in matching mission funds and \$4,041.77 in the UMW account which will be used to continue our international and local mission work and church projects.

UMW continues into the New Year with Patty Wright as our president, Genie Lissemore as vice-president, Vickie Sargent as our secretary and Kaye Hannay as our treasurer.

Submitted by: Patty Wright

United Methodist Men

2017 was a very busy and blessed year for UCUMM.

Missions:

Donated the money to purchase the fuel for both the Winter and Summer Youth trips.

Purchased water for Special Needs day at Walker Park Elementary.

Provided the funding for FISH to purchase lunches for 10 children during the summer.

Provided \$635.00 for Wildlife Wonders to visit with Davis Street Ministries.

Donated \$1,000.00 for Pastor Roger's mission trip to New Zealand.

Donated a \$1000.00 love gift to Ricky Hawk.

UMM:

Provided the meal for one night during VBS.

Provided a Sunday Night Revival meal.

Paid several utility bills for needy families with children.

Provided clothes for a family with children displaced by fire.

Provided memorial flowers for several UMM members that passed during the year.

The Annual Turkey Shoot was a great success. The total raised was \$11,001.00. This money was used over the Christmas season to help 39 families with 77 children. Any remaining funds will be used during 2018 to help families with children that are in need.

We have truly been blessed for our efforts for Our Lord in 2017 and look forward to an even greater 2018!

Submitted by Glenn Barton

UCUMC Children

In 2017 the emphasis for our children ages newborn to 5th grade was the Bible is true. We also reinforced how much Jesus loves us all the time, even when we are bad. We worked on prayer being for all ages. We had several events throughout the year. In February we attended the circus. We had an Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday with a meal for everyone. We had VBS led by Mrs. Rachel Peters. We provided a pumpkin patch with a hayride and meal in October. We had trunk or treat. The children performed a wonderful Christmas program with instruments and reading of the Christmas Story during the 11:00 AM Service. We look forward to 2018 with prayerful expectations of family growth.

UCUMC Youth

In 2017 the youth embarked on several subjects of Spiritual study. The main emphasis is making wise choices. Videos were used with examples and discussions on the subjects. The youth went to Winter Jam in Atlanta in February. This is a wonderful concert of many of the famous contemporary Christian artists and only cost \$10. The youth also went to Winterplace for the winter retreat. During the retreat studied Max Lucado's *Anxious for Nothing*. The youth continue for the 11th year to serve each first Sunday at **Our Daily Bread**. The youth prepare 80 sack suppers and distribute them to the homeless of Athens. We enjoy a time of fellowship by attending movies, *RUSH*, whitewater rafting and eating out. We served in Gatlinburg Tennessee for the summer mission trip. We look forward to 2018 to be even more mission oriented as we start our Love where you Live missions.

See Youth and Children Calendar Dates on following page.

Submitted by: Cindy Little

2018 Youth and Children Dates

Change for the children every 3rd Sunday.

January

21st – youth and children’s planning meeting 4:00PM

28th – Youth work day at youth house

Wednesday Youth Bible Study

January 17 – I Hop, January 24 – Hot Rods, January 31 – Zaxbys

February

3rd – Winter Jam - \$15 – leave from church at 3:00pm

10th - Youth Steak Supper

24th - 1:00 Disney on Ice – children

25th – Youth love where you live project

Wednesday Youth Bible Study

7 – Pizza hut, 14 – Ash Wed Service, 21 – spring break, 28 – I HOP

March

4th – RUSH – Youth

18th – Youth Love where you live project

25th – Children – Lunch and Easter egg hunt after church

Wednesday Youth Bible Study

7 – Pizza Hut, 14 – Zaxbys, 21 – Hot Rods, 28 – I Hop

April

14 – Children Outing

22 – Youth Love where you live project

Wednesday youth bible study

4 – Pizza hut, 11 – Zaxbys, 18 – Hot Rods, 25 – I Hop

May

6 – Youth Love where you live project

20 – Church-wide picnic at Lake Rutledge

Wednesday youth Bible study

2 – Pizza Hut, 9 – Zaxbys, 16 – Hot Rods, 23 – I Hop

June

**Church wide Love where you live is to serve at FISH4Kids as a group each Friday
VBS TBA**

July

**Church wide Love where you live is to serve at FISH4Kids as a group each Friday
Youth mission trip July 15 – 21
29 – Blessing of Backpacks and back to school party after church**

August

**4 – Youth White water rafting
18-25 - Kenneth and Cindy on vacation**

September

**8 – Stone Mountain Laser Show
23 – Love where you live project
Wednesday Bible study
5 – Pizza Hut, 12 – I Hop, 19 – Zaxbys, 26 – Hot Rods**

October

**5-14 Kenneth and Cindy on vacation
27 – Trunk or treat and pumpkin patch 4:00
Wednesday Bible Study 17 – I Hop, 24 – Zaxbys, 31 – Pizza Hut**

November

**14 – Church-wide Thanksgiving/Dessert Auction
Operation Christmas Child – TBA
Wednesday Bible Study
7 – I Hop, 14 – Church-wide thanksgiving, 28 – Pizza Hut**

December

**8 – Youth Drive thru Chicken Stew
15-Snowman Frosty Pancake Breakfast Practice 10:00AM
16 - Youth Children's Christmas program during 11:00
26-29 Youth Winter Retreat**

No Wednesday Bible study during December