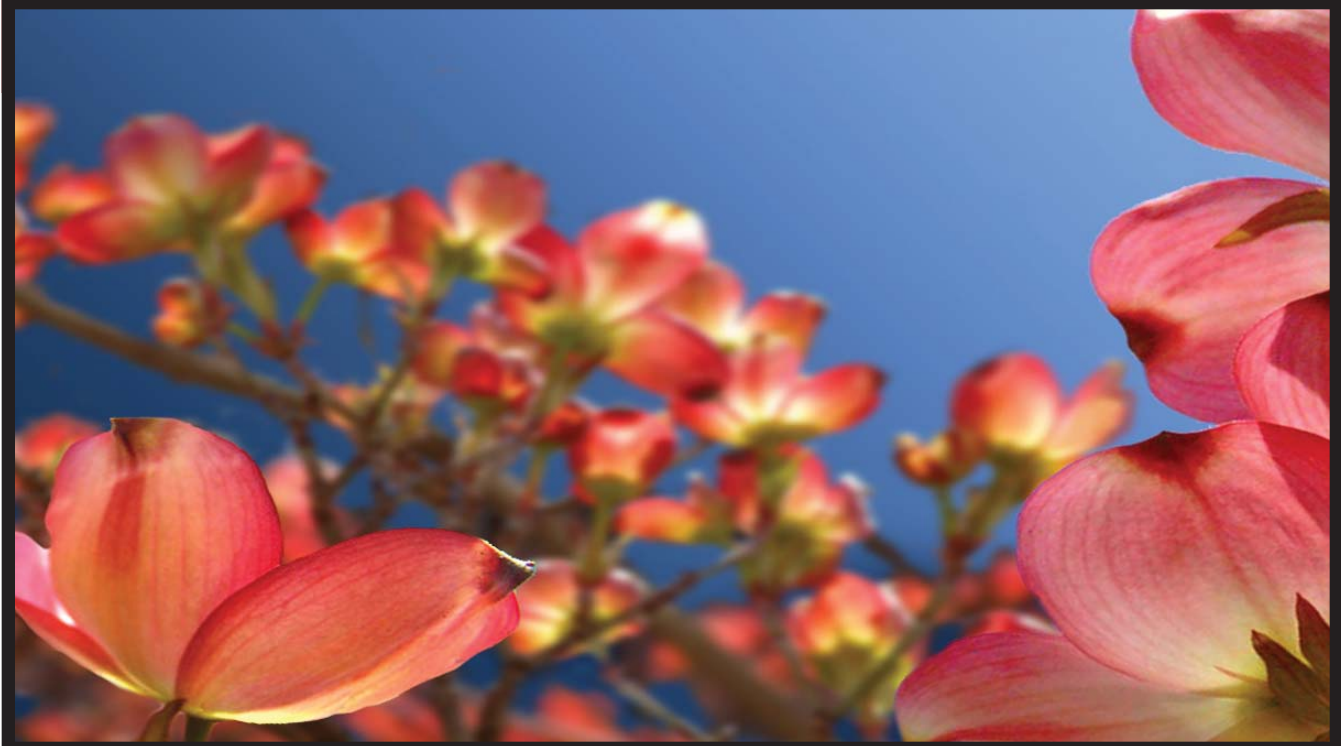


March, 2011

McKendree United Methodist Church



*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58*



### “The Tale of the Three Trees”

by Allen Pote and Tom Long

Presented by McKendree K - 6th Grade Choirs

6pm, Wednesday, March 23rd

Amazing songs and story based on a modern-day parable that reminds us how God's plans for us are always the very best!



original script by Scott Piehler

7pm, Wednesday, April 27

How do you get through the tough times? What difference do you make just by being you? And do angels really like to rock? Join us on campus, and find out.



## McKendree UMW's Children's Consignment Sale

Saturday, March 26th from 9 am – 3 pm  
(Half Price 1-3 pm)

We would love for you to participate in this event by volunteering, becoming a seller, and shopping for terrific clothes at greatly reduced prices. Twice a year we raise \$4-5,000 to benefit many worthy missions.

It's a great time to meet some of McKendree's finest members while you help raise money for missions. Also, workers buy before anyone else and get the best selection. If you would like to volunteer, contact Stephanie Griffin at [madbriar@bellsouth.net](mailto:madbriar@bellsouth.net) or 770-237-8050 or fill out the form on the narthex table. If you would like to be a seller, contact Karla McHugh at [kemchugh@bellsouth.net](mailto:kemchugh@bellsouth.net) or 770-965-4985.



### Attention Graduates

We need your help! If you (or your child) will be graduating from high school or college this year, please let us know! Please, do not assume that we have this information. We want all of our graduates to be recognized on Graduate Recognition Sunday (May 23).

E-mail [dlucas@mckendreeumc.org](mailto:dlucas@mckendreeumc.org) by April 30, 2010, with the following information...

**Name, Parents, School graduating from, Activities involved in, Honors, Plans for the future** (include the college you plan to attend and your major, or your future employment plans).

### Are you a woman who's been searching for a prayer group to join? Then look no further.

A Moms In Touch International (M.I.T.I.) church-based group will be meeting Wednesday evenings from 6:45pm to 7:45pm in Room 315 of the Educational Building. Come, join us as we lift up our children and schools in prayer. For more information, contact Bonnie Hunsaker at (770) 271-8697 or by e-mail.



### Ladies of McKendree!!!

Please join us for a **SPRING BRUNCH** on Saturday, March 12th from 10am - 12pm. The

cost is \$7.00 and includes **FREE** childcare. Come, enjoy great food, music and fellowship with other McKendree ladies. Tickets on sale now. You can sign-up in the Fellowship Hall, Sunday mornings or contact Michelle Covell ([craftycovell@gmail.com](mailto:craftycovell@gmail.com), 678-546-1007) or Darlene Eades ([demw378@yahoo.com](mailto:demw378@yahoo.com), 678-714-0826) for more information.

Please Note: This month's Angel Food order deadline is March 14. Orders can be picked-up, March 19.

✦ The deadline for article submission for the April newsletter is March 11. ✦

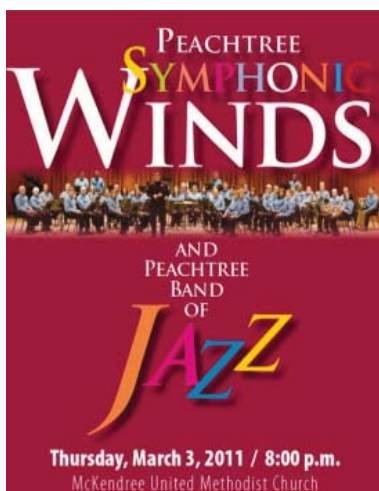


While planning their Spring Break, Dominican Republic Mission Trip, our youth learned that many people in the DR do not have shoes, and many, particularly children and youth, develop parasites, that can cause medical difficulties, from walking barefoot. A box will be in the Narthex through 3/2 for your used tennis shoes. Any shoes, our youth cannot take will be shipped. Remember that teenagers can wear adult sizes. While you're Spring Cleaning, why not pass along your good fortune.



Please join us for a fantastic, Spirit-led, fun-filled weekend at beautiful Camp Glisson in Dahlonaga, 7pm, Friday April 1st through Sunday April 3rd, We'll have praise music, singing, learning, praying, lots of fun, of course, lots of eating, and a fire (we're MEN, right!!) More info to come soon. Please reserve your spot asap by e-mailing

[peter.sternberg@ironmountain.com](mailto:peter.sternberg@ironmountain.com), or contacting Pastor Diego in the church office.



McKendree UMC will host a fund-raising concert for the Lawrenceville Cooperative food ministry on Thursday night, March 3rd.

The Peachtree Symphonic Winds Orchestra and Jazz Band will perform after a 7pm reception with light hors d'oeuvres. Donations of \$10.00 or more per ticket plus canned goods! The Co-op will receive 100% of the proceeds. Actual concert starts at 8pm in the Sanctuary.



### Stephen Ministers - The "After People"

I recently watched a video about Stephen Ministry. It described Stephen Ministers as "After People." After the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life. After you arrive home from the funeral service and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you. After you find the pink slip inserted with what's now your final paycheck. After the doctors have said there is nothing more we can do. After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are After People. We are ready to come alongside you and provide comfort and support for as long after as we are needed. If you are going through a difficult time and would like a caring Christian friend to help you through, please contact Pastor Diego Orsini at 770-339-9801 or Karen Hubbard at 678-985-6991.

## Help Bring Clarkston Refugee Children to Our Vacation Bible School

Did you know that Clarkston, Ga, has one of the highest concentrations in the country of refugees from all over the world? Did you know that each summer our youth spend a week in Clarkston "being Jesus" to 80-100 kids who attend a camp there? I bet you didn't know that this year during Vacation Bible School we are going to bring as many of these kids as possible to our evening program!



This is an exciting and challenging undertaking, but we are up for it! With that said, we are going to need some help because we have been told that we will have 50 kids from Clarkston joining us for

"PandaMania." We will be transporting the children to McKendree and home again, as well as feeding them each evening, for the entire week. Does this sound like something you would like to help with? Here are some things you can do to be a part of this awesome project: Donate to the Clarkston VBS program (whatever amount you are called to give); Sponsor a child or two (\$30 each); Volunteer to drive one of the vehicles to pick up and drop off the kids (1pm pick-up, 8:30pm leave the church to take the kids home); Volunteer to help with VBS, mainly as a crew leader; Pray for this mission.



Please contact Susan Rowe or Lisa Engberg if you are interested in any of these areas, or if you have an idea we haven't considered! We know we haven't thought of everything for this brand new venture!

## Music Ministries

Shannon Freaney, Director of Music Ministries

Eileen Straw, Asst. to Music Ministries

Devon Patrick, Worship Leader

Kim Steinke, Admin. Asst. to Music Ministries

Phone: 770.339.9801

### Important Dates:

#### Children's Choirs

##### MARCH

6, 13, 20 \* – Sun rehearsals (4:45/5:45pm)

6 – Hosanna/Eagles Wings (Gr. 2-6) sing 9:30 worship,

6 – Sonshine/Cherub + Eagles Wings/Hosanna sing 11am worship,

2, 9 – Wed. Rehearsals with Dance group (5:30-6pm) – Choir Room

16 – Wed Dress rehearsal (6-7:15pm) – Sanctuary; All choirs Gr. K-6 participate

20 – Sun. Dress rehearsals - All choirs Gr. K-6 – regular rehearsal times

23- Wed. Tale of Three Trees Musical/Drama 6pm (Children's Choir Recognition in Sanctuary immediately after the musical, followed by refreshments in the Fellowship hall)

6pm Praise'ntations end of year celebration

#### Children's Handbells

March 27 - Hallelujah Chimes ring at 9:30 worship SROG ring at 11am worship

Handbell year-end celebration (time to be announced)

#### Sharper Image & W.O.W.

March 6, 13, 20 \* – Sun rehearsals

March 20 - sing in worship services

#### Orchestra:

March 6, 13, 27 \* – Sun rehearsals

March 13 - participate in worship at 11am

March 20 - Tentative rehearsal after 11am service



## Praying First Thing in the Morning

*“This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.”*

*Psalms 118:24*

Message – Last month we discussed the importance of Prayer in Worship at Church. This month, we will discuss prayer at home. What a way to begin each day by thanking God for watching over us at night and providing another beautiful day! Before we even get out of bed, we should praise God for His love of us. We can ask God to look after each of our family members. We can ask God to help us show His love to our neighbor.

Prayer – Lord, we are so grateful that we can talk directly to you. You love to hear from us. You know our needs. Help us to take time each day to acknowledge your presence and guidance. In Your precious name we pray. Amen

## Prime Timers (50 and over) for Fun, Faith and Fellowship

Thursday, March 3 – Thank you, PrimeTimers, for providing desserts for the 7pm reception in the Fellowship Hall for the Peachtree Symphonic Winds & Peachtree Band of Jazz Concert to benefit the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry. Program starts at 8 pm in the sanctuary.

Friday, March 4 – 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend & your favorite potluck dish. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Wu of the Chinese Methodist Church who conducts church services every Sunday at McKendree.

Friday, March 25 - Leave by church bus at 6:30pm for the Gwinnett Men’s Ensemble performance at the Lilburn Christian Church. Admission is \$5 at the door. Sign up by e-mailing [nancy.m.rowland@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.m.rowland@gmail.com) or phoning 678-618-8735.

We always promote Fellowship, Faith and Fun. For more information, contact Jay & Nancy Rowland at 678-618-8735 or 770-904-2420.

### FaithBooking

Saturdays, 1-9pm/Room 317

Join us for scrap-booking and crafting.

March 19; April 9; and May 7

Contact Kathryn Tyrrell  
at [nlinc1@yahoo.com](mailto:nlinc1@yahoo.com)



### Support the McKendree Brick Walk “Pay Down our Debt”

The sale of bricks for the Commemorative Brick Walk has been extended through March 27th. Bricks are on sale Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall.



Joe Palmer, Director of High School Ministries  
 Susan Rowe, Director of Family Ministries  
 Ashley Fitzpatrick, Director of Middle School Ministries  
 Paula Anderson, Admin. Assist. to Family Ministries  
 Phone: 770.339.9801

## WTL – Sunday Youth group for 7 – 12 grade

4:30pm - snack and gathering time 5pm - Praise and Worship  
 5:30-6:30pm - split off for middle school & high school programs.

### This month we will be talking about:

- March 6: High School & Middle School: Blessed are the Meek w/Lennox
- March 13: High School & Middle School: w/Nathan
- March 20: High School: Myth Busters  
 Middle School: Soul Food and Confirmation Sunday  
 (6th grade with Alan Neal)
- March 27: High School: Myth Busters  
 Middle School: Doing Big Things

## Confirmation Sunday & Practice

Confirmation practice will be at 10:30am, Sat, 3/19 in the Sanctuary. Confirmation Sunday is 3/20. Those being confirmed at the 9:30 service, please arrive at 9:10am. Those being confirmed at 11, please arrive at 10:40am. There will be a luncheon following the 11am service. Please e-mail your questions to Paula or Ashley.

### Local Spring Break Mission Trip

Monday, April 4 – Friday, April 8

Carole Phucas is leading an overnight (staying at Sugarloaf UMC) mission trip focused on local missions. This trip is open to 7th – 12th graders. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact Carole Phucas or Paula Anderson. Cost: \$100, due by 3/16



### Dominican Republic Information

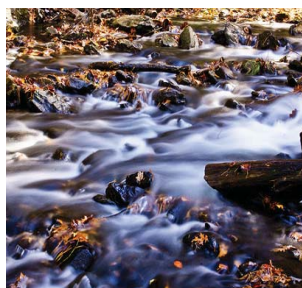
There will be a packing party at 7pm Fri, 4/1. On Sat, 4/2, we will meet at 5:30am for a 6am departure to the airport. The mission team needs volunteers to drive the church bus or their own vehicles to the airport to drop the team off and to pick them up the following Sat, 4/9. If you are interested in helping in this way, please contact Joe or Paula.

### Hillsong United Concert 7:30pm, March 7 Gwinnett Arena

The youth ministry has 50 tickets for sale on a first come/first serve basis. Adults purchasing tickets need to plan on driving and chaperoning the event. Registration information is outside the youth office.  
 Cost: donations if possible.

### Youth Camping Trip

Join us for a weekend of camping, hiking, fellowship, and fun at Vogel State Park in Blairsville, GA. The cost is \$30, due by April 13.



### 2010 Important Dates

- |          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 3/7      | Hillsong United Concert         |
| 3/19     | Confirmation Practice           |
| 3/20     | Confirmation Sunday             |
| 4/1      | Dominican Packing Party         |
| 4/2 – 9  | Dominican Republic Mission Trip |
| 4/4 – 9  | Local Mission Trip              |
| 4/29-5/1 | Camping Trip                    |

# The Children's CORNER

Lisa Engberg, Director of Children's Ministries  
 Susan Rowe, Director of Family Ministries  
 Phone: 770.339.9801

**Vacation Bible School** VBS Planning is in full swing! PandaMania VBS is scheduled for 6/19 - 23 for evening and 6/20 - 24 for morning and Extreme. 3/6 the Planning Team will meet with all Area Leaders over a homemade Chinese lunch provided by Lisa and Susan in the Fellowship Hall after the 11am service. Upcoming in April; VBS Registration beginning on the 17th!

## Preschool

Registration continues for the 2011-2012 school year. Sign up soon to guarantee a spot. For more information, contact the Preschool office at 770-339-7040.

## Son Shine Camp

Son Shine camp is returning this summer for kids 2 (by 9/1/11) - rising 3rd grade. Camp runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-12 for 5 weeks beginning 7/5 and ending 8/4. You can come to as many weeks as you would like. Cost is \$35 a week and registration begins with VBS next month. Hope to see you there.

**Fun Fourth** - will meet at Flight 56 this month on the 20th instead of the 27th. This is our first night of 4th graders visiting Flight 56 to get a quick taste of their new youth group. On this evening we will not be studying the "Created by God" curriculum, but instead will be going up the hill to worship with "The Way."

## Angel of the Month

The Hunter Family - Morie, Cherie, Matt, and Brent Hunter jump in to serve wherever they can for children and youth. They teach Children's Church, help out with Fall Festivals and other events, and even VBS. This family puts volunteering first and we are grateful for them. Thanks Hunter family, you are all angels.

**Kidz Klub** - will be "on again, off again" this March. We will meet on the 2nd for a mission project, be off on the 9th for Ash Wednesday. Those who are not at the Children's Musical Rehearsal on the 16th will come to Kidz Klub, but we won't meet on the 23rd so we can all enjoy the Children's Musical. We do meet on the 30th. Last month we made 10 "Birthday Bags" for the Lawrenceville Co-op to have on hand for families whose children have birthdays but can't afford to celebrate. Bags included cake mix, icing, candles and small party favors.

## Important upcoming dates:

- Wed, 3/2 - W.O.W. 5pm, Dinner & 6pm, Kidz Klub
- Sun, 3/6 - noon, VBS Planning & Area Leaders Flight 56, 5:30-7:15
- Wed, 3/9 - No Kidz Klub, 6pm Ash Wednesday Service
- Sun, 3/13 - Flight 56, 5:30-7:15
- Wed, 3/16 - W.O.W. 5pm, Dinner & 6pm, Kidz Klub for any child not in choir
- Fri, 3/18 - Flight 56 FNL, Lifetime Fitness
- Sun, 3/20 - Flight 56, 5:30-7:15. 6th graders visit WTL (4:30-6:30); 4th graders visit Flight 56.
- Wed, 3/23 - No Kidz Klub. Enjoy "The Three Trees" Children's Musical with your family!
- Sat, 3/25 - Flight 56 Bake Sale, 9-1
- Sun, 3/26 - Flight 56, 5:30-7:15
- Wed, 3/30 - W.O.W. 5pm, Dinner & 6pm, Kidz Klub
- Sun, 4/3 - No Flight 56 due to Spring Break

**Flight 56** - will meet every Sunday in March, since the snow make-up day on the 14th is now a school day. On the 20th, 4th graders will visit Flight 56 and 6th graders will visit WTL. Our FNL (Friday Night Live) will be held at Lifetime Fitness on the 18th. We will go rock climbing, swimming, play some relay games and eat pizza. Sign-up forms are available outside Susan's office. Flight 56 will hold our semi-annual Bake Sale during the UMW Consignment Sale on March 26. All proceeds will benefit the United Methodist Children's Home.



March 2011

### McKendree United Methodist Church

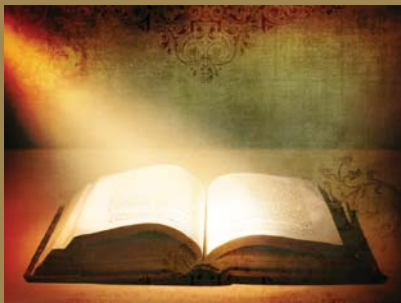
1570 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road Lawrenceville, GA 30043

770.339.9801 office 770.339.7040 preschool 770.339.4561 fax mckendree@mckendreeumc.org www.mckendreeumc.org

Senior Pastor: Dr. Ed Wadsworth ☩ Minister of Discipleship: Rev. Diego Orsini ☩ Minister of Family & Administration: Tom Balog

## *"Facilitating the Facilities"*

Tom Balog  
Minister of Administration



*"So ... every skilled person to whom the LORD has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the LORD has commanded." Then Moses summoned ... every skilled person to whom the LORD had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work. They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning.*

*Exodus 36:1-3*

This month's special thanks goes out to all the volunteers who give an hour (or more) each Wednesday night to work on projects around the church. This group is called "Helping Hands" and because of them, many projects have been completed saving us money in the process. Helping Hands is not a huge time obligation and folks can come as their schedules allow. If you are interested in getting on the e-mail distribution for this team, please contact me at - [tbalog@mckendreeumc.org](mailto:tbalog@mckendreeumc.org).

I am also putting a call out to all the small groups that call McKendree UMC home. If your group has ever considered doing some sort of project together, I ask that you think about a team project at the church. We have plenty of work that needs to be done. Your group can help save the church some money.

Lastly, I am looking for volunteers who love gardening. We have several areas around the church that could be enhanced with the right touch and vision. Unfortunately, I was born with no green in my thumb! Perhaps someone might come forward and be willing to lead a gardening group here at the church. If you feel this is something you would like to be a part of, just let me know.

"God and angels don't get paid even though theirs is some of the most important work around. Ditto for volunteers."

Your Brother in Christ,  
Tom