

The Hollydale Herald



Keeping up With Happenings at Hollydale UMC

Vol. 1 Issue 1, February 2010

Upcoming Events

Project Light to Make its Marietta Home at Hollydale!

Project Light is a computer-based, one-on-one English as a second language course. The lessons are biblically based, so the course not only helps with English lessons but also gives an opportunity for Evangelism.

We will be looking for **tutors** to give one hour a week to work one-on-one with students. There will be a tutor orientation class here at Hollydale on Tuesday, Feb. 2 or Thursday, Feb. 4 at 7 pm (you only need to attend one).



Classes will begin in mid-February. You can learn more by visiting the website: www.projectlight.org/

Youth Sunday: The next youth Sunday is Feb. 7 from 4-6 pm. We will also meet on Sunday, Feb. 21 from 4-6 pm. Come check out the new Youth Room as it looks great!!! We are beginning a new session as we talk about current day issues from a Biblical Perspective. Our first topic will be Prayer in School.

Game Day: Join us for food, fellowship and games right here at the church on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 11 am.

United Methodist Women: Will meet again on Monday, Feb. 8th at 7 pm at the church. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. If you can, please bring a snack to share.

Ash Wednesday Service: Feb. 17 at 7 pm

Hollydale United Methodist Church
2364 Powder Springs Road
Marietta, GA 30064
(770) 943-2273

Rev. Akers email: leonard.akers@ngumc.net
We're on the Web!
Visit us at www.hollydaleumc.org

A Note From Our Pastor

By Rev. Leonard Akers

Welcome to our first edition of the Hollydale Herald!!! We are hoping that this monthly newsletter will keep you up to date with all that is going on at Hollydale UMC. Thanks so much to Lori for her willingness to get this new ministry started! We all want this newsletter to be informative and helpful so please do not hesitate to contact Lori or myself with any ideas.

Ash Wednesday falls on Feb. 17 this year and begins the season of Lent in the life of the church. In today's diverse religious climate, there are many churches that do nothing for Lent and many that celebrate all the possibilities that Lent provides. Hollydale is one of those churches that has reclaimed Lent, and I invite you to join us during this time of preparation for Easter. Prepare to receive God in a new and fresh way this Lenten season and then keep your eyes and heart open!

Blessings, Leonard

Please keep Hollydale's financial situation in your prayers.

Outreach Opportunities

Spring Upward Soccer at Hollydale UMC: Join us this spring as we begin our inaugural season of soccer! Upward sports promote character and fun for every child. Every child plays. Every child learns. Every child is a winner! Practices begin week of March 1.



Ages: K – 5th Grade (Coed Teams Divided by Age)

Cost: \$80

Registration/Evaluations: (MUST attend one)

Sat., Feb 6 from 10 am – Noon

Thurs., Feb 11 from 5-7 pm

Sat., Feb 13 from 10 am-Noon

Come by and register your child or grandchild, and let your friends and neighbors know!

Visit our website at www.hollydaleumc.org for more information and to download registration forms.

We need help with registration. **Please let Leonard know ASAP if you can help.** No experience needed!

Confirmation Classes to Start Soon

This is open to all youth in sixth grade or higher. Confirmation is a 6-8 week class that helps our youth to learn about what it means to make a personal commitment to Christ.

If your youth has not gone through this class, I encourage you to pray about this and consider allowing them to join us. At the end of the course, each person will be allowed to make a personal decision and if they are ready, they can make this commitment in front of the congregation sometime in May.

Opportunities to Serve Through Your Gifts

Talent Money: We have received over \$2,100 back from your willingness to use your gifts and graces over the past few months! We will certainly have a church-wide event like this in the future. However, if you have gifts and graces that you would like to use again, please contact Leonard Akers or Kathleen Semke. The church would be happy to provide you with some seed money so that you could have your own personal fundraiser to help Hollydale.

Youth Room: The painting is finished! It was very messy but also very fun. Come check out the youth room the next time you are in the fellowship hall. Now we could use your donations. A couch or two and some bean bag chairs would help fill in the place!

Church Needs: To help manage the church's expenses, we will begin listing specific items you could donate. Our current needs are:

Paper towels

Toilet tissue

Copier/printer paper

Small diapers for nursery (sizes 1-3)

**Over \$2,100 was turned back
to the church during the
Talent campaign!**

Food Pantry: Our food pantry is very low. Don't forget to check the giving tree or routinely bring items when you are doing your grocery shopping. We could use macaroni and cheese, pasta, sauce, soup and canned goods.

Giving Tree: Stop by and grab an item off of our giving tree. Pick up the item the next time you are at the store and bring it by the church. These go to our local missions and help in our local community.

Flood of Help and A Prayer Answered

By Lynn White Reynolds

By now, September 21 has probably become just another day, another Monday with no important news. But for many folks in Atlanta, especially the Austell area, the day is still in the minds of many of us.

September 21 was the day the Atlanta Flood hit. We still can see the destruction left from the raging waters. In the midst of all this, we have heard more bad news than good. Cobb County was not prepared to help that many people and FEMA tends to work very slowly. I have been trying to keep the faith knowing that all of us in this were victims of differing degrees.

I go back to the night of September 21 -- just after I fed the cats, we lost power. What a helpless, awful feeling. I thought about a hotel room, but no; power would be right back. It wasn't. We still had no power Tuesday morning. After daybreak, neighbors told us parts of the subdivision were flooded but we had no idea.

Audrey and Gene are great across-the-street neighbors and have been for 14 years. Audrey has been a leader of the HOA and one to get things done. So, later that day, I naturally thought of her when our Pastor, Leonard Akers of Hollydale UMC, asked if any help was needed. I made sure I passed along her name; Audrey knows the neighborhood. The pastor made contacts with Audrey and then the North Georgia Recovery Team of the United Methodist Church, which helped with flood buckets delivered by Bob Slaton of Hollydale UMC.

Over the next weekend, Audrey was helping with FEMA, trying to get people with shelter. Later, she was involved in getting those folks to apartments.

This week, I got a call from Audrey all excited. She had been working with Christian Ministries, a group of Mennonites who work on disaster relief all over the world. This group was connected to her through the North Georgia Recovery Team. These workers are going to set up base camp in our subdivision of Ewing Downs, helping with the rebuilding for nothing but the cost of materials!

I was excited as well! Much is still to be done and will take months, but I feel hope there.

Praises to God!



This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:16-18

Hollydale United Methodist Church
2364 Powder Springs Road
Marietta, GA 30064