

Skyland United Methodist Church  
 1850 Skyland Terrace, N.E.  
 Atlanta, GA 30319

Address Service Requested

**Making Disciples  
 of All Nations**

**CHURCH STAFF**

*John Freeland, Pastor*

*Andy Hammer, Director of Children & Youth*

*Janet Walsh, Minister of Music*

*Jose Garcia, Pianist*

*Kimberly Thomas, Church Secretary*

*Eleanor Flanagan, Comptroller*

*Ini Emmah, Fellowship Dinner Chef*

*Melissa Freeman, Nursery Attendant*

X



- 3/5 Yvonne Norman
- 3/8 Jenny Morgan  
Jodi Holt
- 3/9 Nella Jones  
John Dennisson
- 3/10 Marilyn Webb
- 3/11 Sarah Bryson
- 3/14 Joan Iddins
- 3/15 John Upchurch
- 3/17 Jean Bennett
- 3/18 Lucy Mendoza
- 3/20 Mary Mullennix
- 3/23 Harold Burrell  
Phyllis Day
- 3/29 Victoria Salosky



**REQUESTS  
 FOR  
 PRAYER**

Martyne Gilleland, Carolyn Mull, Helen Buffington, Lois Ellis, Margaret Barnwell, Dave & Evelyn Smith, Velma Jackson, Rhoda Hall, Pam Johnston, Sgt. Benjamin Stewart, Jinnifer Hoyla, Shirley Bryant, Jan Boehn, Jeenece O'Donald, Chris Barber, Kay Whaley, Lois Horner, Doc Pirkle, John & Mary Turner, Dolores & Ose Stephens, Mikel de la Cruz, Edna Williams, Jodie Holt, Winnie Zink, Beth Ryan, Faye Freeland, Jack Cooke, Kim Miles



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**ARTICLES FOR  
 APRIL SKYWRITER  
 DUE MARCH 14**



**SKYWRITER**

**From the Pastor's Desk**

*by Rev. John Freeland*

This month we continue our preaching series on the fruit of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5:22. The theme for March is peace. The Hebrew word is shalom. It is nice to think of peace in terms of an absence of strife, but peace is more than that. I recently saw a bumper sticker that said, "Imagine Whirled Peas." Our idea of peace is about as close to the biblical understanding as "Whirled Peas" is to "World Peace." What did Jesus really mean when He said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful" (John 14:27)? Did Jesus mean that life would be just grand? Did He mean to say that once you become a Christian all your difficulties would be over? I don't have to tell you that if this were true, Christianity would be much more popular than it is today. Unfortunately, I don't have enough time or space to tell you everything the Bible says about peace, but over the next four weeks I hope we will all come to understand this passage more fully.

The Hebrew word for peace, shalom, has more to do with wholeness and completeness than it

has to do with the absence of strife. In Jeremiah 50, "shalom" is actually used to describe how completely Judah was taken captive by Babylon. There's nothing peaceful about that? So, we have this misunderstood word in the Old Testament that is most often translated "peace." What do we do with that in the New Testament book of Galatians when the promise of the fruit of "peace" is given? Does Galatians really mean "completeness" or "perfection" rather than "peace?"

Just in case you are not confused enough about the Biblical understanding of peace, shalom also means welfare, health, and prosperity. It can even mean friendship or relationship. I can't help but think of the song, "It is Well."

When peace, like a river, attended my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

**Continued on next page**

**From the Pastor's Desk cont'd.**

You may know the story of when these lyrics were written. Horatio G. Spafford had tragically lost his family in a shipwreck. He alone remained. As he sailed the sea alone following his incredible loss, he wrote those words. Spafford had an understanding of peace that we have lost today. Peace and love, and all the fruit of the Holy Spirit, have this in common: they are not dependent on external circumstances. In January we discovered that joy resides deep within and runs far deeper than trials or tribulations can touch. In February we learned that love is a decision and not an emotion. Unconditional love demands an unwavering commitment in spite of external circumstances or even the actions of the object of our love. Why would we think that

peace would be any different?

Peace is something God gives the Holy Spirit-filled believer that transcends our circumstances and surroundings. It is that fruit inside us that causes us, even in the most difficult circumstances, to cry, "It is well with my soul!"

Your servant,




**Spread the Good News!**

Missions/Outreach is launching the bilingual "Good News" newsletter to witness to others about Jesus Christ. Testimonies will be themed along Pastor John's monthly sermon series. We are now accepting submissions for March, which has a theme of PEACE. Your story can be about how you've experienced God's peace, possibly in regards to a job, relationship, trial or illness. Please keep stories between 200-500 words. Please email your submissions to Jenny at [jennyzhangmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:jennyzhangmorgan@gmail.com) or place them in the Missions mailbox.



The Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Walter Murphy Class will be held on **April 3 at 2:00p.m.** for children ages 3 - 6th grade. If you would like to donate individually wrapped Easter eggs, please bring them to the outer office by April 2. **No Chocolate Please!**

**UNITED METHODIST MEN**

The UMM will collect used eyeglasses (all types and sizes) and hearing aids for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation during the month of March. The Georgia Lighthouse Foundation provides vision and hearing care to Georgians in financial need and have nowhere else to turn for eye surgeries, artificial eyes, low vision aids for children, eyeglasses and hearing aids. You may bring your donations to the collection box located in the dining area.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Across the United States, UMW members (including several women from Skyland) are knitting, crocheting or sewing prayer shawls and baby blankets. The shawls and blankets will be on display in the Experience Hall area of UMW Assembly 2010 in St. Louis, MO. At the end of the Assembly, the shawls and blankets will be distributed to those in need of compassion, warmth and love.

**Weekly Attendance**

Date	Small Groups	10:00 Service	11:00 Service
1/31	62	46	45
2/7	56	51	54
2/14	47	42	59
2/21	72	55	68

**Designated Funds**

Haiti/UMCOR	504.80
Homeless Offering	10.00
Property Maintenance	32.87
Good Samaritan	20.00
Flowers	125.00
Choir	10.00
Postage	10.00

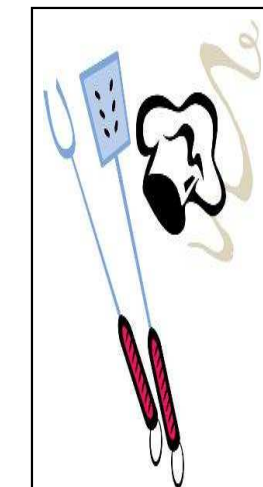
**Offerings**

Date	Mile of Pennies	General Funds	Designated Funds
1/31	10.00	4,197.20	292.87
2/7	6.30	7,655.50	292.80
2/14	4.60	3,444.54	20.00
2/21	4.90	5,726.62	107.00

Gideons from all over Georgia will be coming to Atlanta for the 2010 State Convention (March 11 - 14) Please come to worship with us on Sunday, March 14 to hear about the great work God is doing in this ministry.



Our next Prayer Walk is Tuesday, March 2 at 6:00p.m. Join the Witness Committee to pray and intercede for the needs of our neighbors. Please meet at the chapel doors, dressed for the weather. We will proceed rain or shine.



**Young Adults B-B-Q**  
**March 13 - 6:00pm**  
**Andy Hammer's Home**  
**1479 Ashford Place**  
**Atlanta, GA 30319**  
 For more info, please call Kristen Wages at (404) 323-7221



The Sky Angels will meet on **Thursday, March 11 at 11:45am in the Dining Area & Fellowship Hall** Come and listen to some great gospel singing by The Stella Bass Group

