

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*

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>8/2</b> Chris & Karen Baumann   | <b>8/12</b> John Stroud           |
| Raymon & Leah Sanders              | <b>8/16</b> Bob Rose              |
| <b>8/3</b> Austin Flanagan         | Raymon Sanders                    |
| <b>8/4</b> Mildred Martin          | <b>8/22</b> Mildred Bryson        |
| <b>8/7</b> Bob & Penny Rose        | Barry Walsh                       |
| Nonie Morton                       | <b>8/26</b> Andy Hammer           |
| <b>8/8</b> Ken & Geraldine Freeman | <b>8/28</b> Iris Meaders          |
| <b>8/11</b> Cathy Wages            | <b>8/29</b> George & Jean Bennett |
|                                    | <b>8/30</b> Tom Foster            |

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Martyne Gilleland, Hugh Jackson, Carolyn Mull Helen Buffington, Blackie Black, Faye Freeland, Lois Ellis, Bonnie Ellis Dave & Evelyn Smith, Mildred Holt, Margaret Barnwell, Velma Jackson, Rhoda Hall, Van Smith, Pam Johnston, Sgt. Benjamin Stewart Jinnifer Hoyla, Shirley Bryant, Bill O'Donald, Jan Boehn, Jeenece O'Donald, Chris Barber, Jean Bennett, Margo Kilpatrick, Edna Williams, Kay Whaley, Winnie Zink, Maude O'Donald, Michelle Barnette, Daniel Ross, Lois Horner, Doc Pirkle



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**ARTICLES FOR  
 SEPTEMBER  
 SKYWRITER**

# SKYWRITER

## From the Pastor's Desk

by Rev. John Freeland

John Wesley first balked at the idea of open air preaching. He originally thought that preaching was something that was to be reserved for inside the church building. After a lengthy debate, George Whitfield prevailed, and John Wesley began an open air preaching campaign. It was said that you shouldn't stand under the trees when John Wesley preached. John Wesley drew large crowds and people would climb up into the tress to get a better view. Some would become overcome by the power of the Holy Spirit and fall on those who stood on the ground beneath them. Many experienced healing while Wesley preached. This is our legacy as United Methodist – the power of the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps the 1700s were a different era. Of course there was no TV, cell phones, or automobiles. Life must have gone at a slower pace. What takes us seconds took them days. We can send a document through the phone line and across the world in a matter of seconds. John Wesley had to send such a document by boat, and it took months. Maybe this slower lifestyle gave people a chance to reflect and ponder spiritual things. I have wondered how John Wesley and those before him and shortly after him

ever prepared a Bible lesson. I use two Bible software programs, the internet, and a word processor program. As I write this, I am preparing for vacation at the beach. I hope to take that time to slow down. I'm taking my computer but hope to use it on rare occasions. I will have my cell phone with me, but I hope it won't ring. My goals are simple: ride my bike, read my books, and spend time with my family.

Slowing down during vacation is one thing, but how do we slow down when we are at home. The demands of life cannot be so easily escaped in our everyday lives. How do we keep up the pace and insure that we spend time with God. A few suggestions are in order. Designate some time as prayer time even if it is just a few minutes a day. Talk, and listen, to God everyday. Designate some time for Bible reading. Even a chapter a day is good. Designate some time for worship everyday. Don't wait until Sunday to worship. God intended for worship to be a constant practice.

Continued on next page

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

I recently had a conversation with someone about worship. They felt that worship was something to be lived. We have defined worship with music and tradition. We should define it as honoring God. When we honor God in every area of our life, worship will come naturally and frequently.

John Wesley ministered with the power of the Holy Spirit because he had an intimate relationship with Jesus. His entire life was devoted to God. Virtually everything he did, he

did for Jesus. Sure he had moments like the rest of us do; those moments when "self" gets in the way. John Wesley didn't just have faith; he worked his faith. What he believed he put into everyday practice. He rose early every morning to pray. He closed everyday by journaling all of its activities. He fasted two days a week until he was well into his nineties. John Wesley designated God as number one in his life.

Even in our busy lives we can make God number one. Begin

each day by asking God what He would have you do. Begin each task by asking God to help you complete it. Begin each conversation by inviting God to be a part of it. Enter every relationship under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Make every commitment a commitment to God. Honor God in everything you do. And, here's to hoping that people will say of you, "Don't stand under the trees when he/she talks about Jesus!"

Your servant,




*After School Tutoring will resume August 11th from 2:30pm - 4:30pm*

*If you're interested in being a tutor, please call Andy Hammer at (404) 634-6209*

**Rekindle the Flame Conference**  
**August 13 - 15, 2009**

Join Pastor John in Athens, GA for the Rekindle the Flame Conference presented by Rick Bonfim Ministries. There will be several workshops. This year's theme is very appropriate: "Do You Believe There is Still Hope for Us?" In the midst of our continuing economic crisis, now is an excellent time to seek the Lord. For more information, please see one of the ushers or greeters.

Weekly Attendance & Offerings					Designated Funds	
	6/21	6/28	7/5	7/12		
Small Groups	61	66	62	60	Children's Home	162.00
10:00 Service	65	49	79	55	Meaders Mission House	100.00
11:00 Service	44	57	35	40	Property Maintenance	198.26
Mile of Pennies	28.87	9.80	8.50	5.70	Choir	10.00
General Funds	5,033.50	4,986.77	9,319.80	6,992.77	Good Samaritan	123.00
Designated Funds	262.00	62.60	176.06	311.39	Postage	10.00
					Global Ministries	158.79
					Utilities Donation	50.00
					Mission Trip - Andy	300.00
					MOP Interest	344.67



You are invited this fall to gather for the 47th Annual Men's Spiritual Retreat at Rock Eagle. (September 25-27). Bill Glass, founder of Bill Glass Ministries will be the keynote speaker and will deliver a powerful message encouraging men to be the fathers and sons they have been called to live. To prepare for the weekend, we recommend reading Champions for Life - The Power of the Father's Blessing is for sale for \$5 (plus shipping) at [www.ngcum.org](http://www.ngcum.org). For more information, please call John Holt at (770) 452-7307.



The United Methodist Women need your help with making health kits for the Atlanta Women's Day Shelter. Please start bringing the health kits to the church. You can leave them in the dining area or in the outer office during the month of August. If you do not have a shoe box, we have extras in the dining area on the clothes rack with a list of items to include. If you do not want to decorate it, please bring it and we will decorate it for you. If you do not want to shop for the items, you may donate \$10 or more and we will fill it for you.

**United Methodist Men President's Cookout**  
**Saturday, August 15 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**John Holt's Home - 3523 Vanet Rd, Chamblee**  
**Please bring a side dish to share**