



# The Good News

Newsletter of First United Methodist Youth Fellowship, Henderson, NC

July 2006

*“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.”*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

## A Time for Everything . . .



There is a riddle you may have heard of— *“This thing all things devours; Birds, beasts, trees, flowers; Gnaws irons, bites steel; Grinds hard stones to meal; Slays king, ruins town, And beats high mountain down.”* (J.R. Tolkien) What is the culprit? Time.

This riddle makes time seem like the enemy—and to some of us in a constant race against the clock, it is. For others of us, time is the enemy in the other way—we have too much of it. Yet, all of us are given the same amount. Whether we are rich or poor, young or old, we all are given twenty-four hours a day in which to live. And despite all our genius inventions, we humans have not been able to figure out a way to change time.

In this fast paced culture full of time-saving devices, time may very well be our most precious commodity. Yet, at the same time, we serve a God who says several times in Scripture to “Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10). To add even more confusion to the mix, we also have Jesus teaching in the parable of the talents about a master rewarding servants who had invested what the

master had given him. So, God has given us time, shouldn’t we invest it? How are we to invest time into the work of God, be still, and get everything done our crazy lives demand us to?

None of us are perfect in this arena, and very few of us have hours a day to “be still.” So where does that leave us?

Perhaps it is how we go about our daily activities that matters. Do you sit in traffic jams angry at the cars around you, or do you spend that time praying for your family, your friends, or the drivers around you (with your eyes open of course!)? Do you spend your days worrying about how you will afford that item you need, or do you spend time praising God for all the items you already have? Perhaps the way we can invest our time is to practice being still and knowing God is God *in the midst* of our daily activities.

While I admit I do not do this as often as I should, I have found an amazing difference when I practice this discipline of putting myself in the presence of God throughout the day. I find that worries that keep me up at night no longer seem as all consuming. Taking those little moments to check in with my Heavenly Father makes all the difference in the world. There is no better way to spend our precious time than with our Lord!

This summer as you go about your activities, try taking those small moments in the car, in line, or wherever you are to pray. It can change your life!

### Mark Your Calendars

We will be having a fall retreat September 8-10. We will be going to the Master's Inn Retreat Center in Alta Vista, Virginia (about 2 1/2 hours a way) . This will be a weekend filled with fun activities, community building, and time with God. This will be an awesome chance to hang out together as we start a new school year! Since we raised \$500 at the June luncheon and are planning a carwash for sometime in August, we're hoping to keep this retreat affordable enough that everyone can come! Watch for more details to come.

### Let's Pray . . .

- For our lives to be Christ-centered.
- For safety on our mission trip.
- For a life-changing experience in Tampa
- For us all to have safe and God-honoring summers.
- For the people we minister to through soup kitchen.
- For those in our midst who are hurting
- To offer thanks for our loved ones and all the blessings God has so graciously given to us!

## Happy Birthday! July Birthdays

- 7 JoEllen Nowell
- 9 Mark Falkner
- 14 Morgan Allen
- 24 Evelyn Hedrick



### Mission Trip Meeting

The mission trip is coming up fast, and we need to get together to prepare. This year the organization we are going with is asking us to decorate a tire to exchange with another church youth group. I've never painted a tire before, and I'm not sure any of you have either, but I think it'll be a fun experience ( we need *all* of you there if possible to at least sign your name)! We'll also have some time to talk about what we'll be doing, and hang out. Please come Monday, July 10 from 5:30-7:00. Bring \$3.00 to help with the cost of supper. It'll be a lot of fun—I can't

### July Events

#### Sunday, July 2

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship
- 12:00 PM Red, White, & Blue All Church Celebration Lunch

#### Sunday, July 9

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship

#### Monday, July 10

- 5:30-7:30 PM Mission Participant Meeting including supper

#### Sunday, July 16

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship

#### Saturday, July 22

- 11:00 AM Leave for Mission Trip

#### Sunday, July 23

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship

#### Saturday, July 29

- Return from Mission Trip!

#### Sunday, July 30

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship
- 12:30 PM Soup Kitchen

### UMYF Wish List

*UMYF is in need of some special items. Since these are large items that we don't need to buy very often, we don't have enough in our budget for them. So, if you have any of these items, or would like to make a donation beyond your normal tithes and offerings, please think of us!*

- A 26 inch (or bigger) TV that will hook up to a DVD player
- A digital projector (that will show power-point presentations and movies).
- A cart to use to transport our equipment.

*If you would like more details, please contact Kimberly at the church office.*