



July 2009

The Story

www.druidhillsumc.org

Dr. Rex Kaney, Pastor (rexkaney@druidhillsumc.org)

Rev. Melinda Holloway, Minister of Youth and Children

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Mark Lamback, Minister of Music (mark@druidhillsumc.org)

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From Katie & Jamie Heffelfinger

Dear Church Family,

It was so wonderful to see and catch up with so many of you when I was home for a visit in May. Thank you all so much for your warm hospitality and the enthusiastic way you celebrated our impending new arrival with us. We have always treasured the warmth and love of the Druid Hills family. It is certainly one of the special gifts of this congregation. We thought you might enjoy a little update on how the Heffelfingers are faring over here.

Jamie arrived May 28th, and we are delighted to be back to being on the same side of the Atlantic. His first week was my scheduled vacation so we spent that week away together in the west of Ireland which really is very beautiful. We have been able to do a little bit more exploring of the island since then. We spent a weekend in Waterford and will visit Northern Ireland for a couple of days as well.

We have already gotten quite involved in our new congregation. Jamie helps with the homeless ministry on Tuesday evenings. The homeless ministry here involves carrying sandwiches and soup around the city to homeless people wherever they are. We are also getting involved with the music. There is no choir in our new congregation, but we did sing with the worship leadership team this past Sunday. Jamie has even volunteered to substitute teach children's Sunday School one Sunday in July.

Work at the Theological Institute is keeping me quite busy. In the fall I will be teaching two sections of Introduction to the Old Testament to master's degree students and one section of Biblical Interpretation for Preaching to undergraduates. The big task for the summer is to get my lectures planned so that I won't be too busy in September when the baby is due.

We are anxiously awaiting little Evelyn's arrival. I am definitely getting rounder now but am still feeling quite good.

We love hearing from the folks back home. If you are on e-mail, we can be reached at jkheffelfinger@hotmail.com. For those who prefer traditional mail, we are happy to write and receive letters as well. Our address here is:

Jamie and Katie Heffelfinger
118 Pugin House
Loreto Abbey
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May God continue to bless you as a congregation as you continue to serve God and offer Christian hospitality and love to those around you.

Love in Christ,
Jamie and Katie

Adopt-A-Highway

Thank you to those who have been involved with our first and second quarter Adopt-a-Highway outreach project in 2009: Joyce Catrett, Will DeLuca, Dave Miller, Pat Ziebart, Steve Spetseris, Emily and Richard Newman, Mike Griffin, Jamie Heffelfinger. Over the years our stretch of Moreland Avenue has gotten easier to clean due to more attention from property owners along the way. The field near the bridge still takes some time! The neighborhood folks we encounter are very appreciative of the church's efforts to improve the area! Mark your calendar for the third quarter cleanup on Saturday, September 13. Contact Janie Alexander with questions at janiejoynalex@yahoo.com.

Stewardship Corner by Mary Lynn Merkle
It's the Fourth of July—the time we think of patriotism and fireworks! I'd like to think about Stewardship in terms of fireworks. The core is the unexploded powder. The powder is the potential that is within each of us because we have faith in God, we love Jesus as our example of goodness, and we believe in the power of faith to change the world.

Something has to set the fireworks off, and something has to put our potential into action. Perhaps it's a sermon, a sunset, the faith of another, a hymn. Perhaps it's because someone believes in your ability to fill a particular position—altar guild, choir, lay leader, finances. And perhaps it's because of your personal enthusiasm and willingness to serve — as a trustee or a Sunday School leader or a maker of magnificent lemon pies.

When fireworks are set off, the color fills the sky. The sparks may appear as tiny stars or as those little squiggles or something else, and those sparks travel far and wide. And when fireworks are set off several at a time, they continue to thrill us as the different colors mingle.

At Druid Hills UMC many men, women, youth and children are working on tasks to allow the love of God to be felt among us and to be felt by others outside our ever-widening circle. Potential becomes action!

Our faith will keep the “fireworks” going—one by one, group by group. The economy is in the pits; we are all immersed in busy lives. Still, we continue sending our sparks—to 6 Star Refugee, to our favorite non-profit, to all those projects we accomplish because we believe they will make a more Christian family, a safer community—and a more peaceful world.

We can't forget that it takes dollars to make Druid Hills do what it does best—show love through action. We know that our dollar balance is currently teetering between positive and negative numbers. And we know that each of you loves this Church, this congregation and what it does in God's name. We also know that each of you gives what you can to keep all the programs going.

Everyone loves fireworks!! Let's think about the many sparks needed to fill a sky with color and to allow the work of DHUMC to continue.

June Church Council Meeting Information

by Joan Cain

The Sexton interviewing process has been completed, and Rex and Jean Hilyard are now checking references for the two final candidates. We anticipate that the new Sexton will start work in July.

Rex and Beth Corrie, our new Lay Delegate, attended the N. Ga. Conference the week of June 15th where they met and were impressed with the new Bishop and his style of leadership. We are all looking forward to working with him. The N. Ga. Conference did not approve the “All Really Means All” resolution, opening church membership to **all** people, as Rex mentioned last Sunday. However, since the resolution must still be voted on by all conferences, there is still a possibility that it will pass.

Special Conference Offerings for the Children of Africa received \$250,000, and the Central Conference Pension Initiative received \$1,500,000 (consisting of \$500,000 through the Ministries Pension contribution and \$1,000,000 from special offerings), for a total of approximately \$17,000,000 collected worldwide.

The APS Contract still has not been signed. Some of the Trustees will meet with the engineers on Wednesday, July 1st to address APS' proposed revisions to the Gym. At this time, all negotiations with APS regarding use of the parking lot have BEEN TAKEN OFF THE TABLE. DHUMC simply CANNOT ASSUME any liable for the safety of children as a result of school busses traversing our parking lot. However, teachers will still be allowed to rent parking spaces.

Supper Program On Hold Until September

The second Wednesday supper program is on hold until September. We'll see you on September 9th for our next supper and program!

Caring Corner Prayer List as of 6/30/09

Hear, O Lord, my righteous plea;
listen to my cry. Give ear to my prayer. Psalm 17:1
Larry Ashmore
Loretta Ashmore, Larry Ashmore's mother
Betty Brown, Pete Stigers' grandmother
Evelyn Coleman
David Jones
Jennifer Jones
Stan Jordan
Beth Luton
Ken Murphy
Frank Smith
Ashley Weaver, Alexa Crosby's sister

Have You Heard?

Dale Merkle will represent PFLAG Atlanta (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) in accepting the "Champions for Equality Award from Georgia Equality at its 2009 Evening for Equality on June 27th. This recognition is the result of all the efforts of Dale and PFLAG Atlanta to make schools safer for all children.

Natalya Shulgina and Mark Kunze (long-term visitors of DHUMC) will be married during the worship service on August 2nd. All members and friends are invited to witness and celebrate their martial vows. They will celebrate with "glorified Narthex refreshments", including wedding cake, and fellowship following the service. Natalya and Mark invite you to visit their wedding website at www.natalyaandmark.weddingwindow.com.

Bob Windom, CEO of Windom Construction Co., Inc., was recently honored by the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association in its Summer 2009 publication, *Remodel*. His remodel of an EarthCraft home built in 1890 in the Grant Park area was one of the homes that won the 2008 Obie Award for outstanding remodeling construction and was one of the homes featured in the magazine. Congratulations Bob!

Support Youth's MAP Mission

We can all support our youth on their MAP mission project in July! You may donate sunscreen, work gloves, carpenter's pencils and tool belts (apron style). Please bring items to the church office by July 9th.

Vacation Bible School 2009

Growing as GOD's People!

by Rev. Melinda E. Holloway

This year VBS was a fun-filled time of learning and growing as people of God. Over the course of three evenings, eight children learned the stories of Esther, Joseph, and Miriam, who were courageous, forgiving, and caring. We heard and participated in story-telling. We made beautiful crafts. We sang songs about the amazing love of God. We planted seeds to watch flowers bloom and grow, just as we do when we learn about God and participate in the great story of God's people. I would like to thank Blair Glass and Lisa Martin-Hansen for their loving preparation and planning for VBS this year. I would like to thank Mark Lamback for being our song leader. I would like to thank Betty Jones for being a VBS Volunteer all three nights! I would like to thank Jason Glass for volunteering AND being a story-teller, and Pat Ziebart and Janie Alexander for being wonderful story-tellers as well. Thanks to the congregation for participating in our fundraiser for VBS - all those who bought Chico bags! VBS is an important part of the spiritual formation and education of our children. Let's all find ways to encourage them in their faith in God, and to teach them about loving God and neighbor!

The Interfaith Disability Connection (IDC)

IDC will present its second annual educational conference on Sunday, August 9th from 1:00 - 6:00 PM at the Sloppy Floyd Building in Atlanta. The "2009 Interfaith Disability Connection Summit: Pursuing Inclusion Beyond the Ramp" is a one day event that focuses on how religious communities can make their houses of worship and programs more accessible and welcoming to people with disabilities and their families. Topics will go beyond physical barriers and discuss creating services and programs that are inclusive to all members of the community. For more information or to register please visit www.interfaithdisability.org. Register before July 10th to receive the early bird rate of \$35!

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1</p> <p>Outreach Team 6pm (Y) Weight Watchers 6pm (Q) Women's AA 8pm (Q)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (W) Violin Lessons 2pm (Q)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office Closed for 4th of July Holiday Alanon 7:30pm (Q)</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Sunday School Classes 9:45am NO DISCOVERY CLASS Worship 11am Basketball 3pm Volleyball 5pm NO YOUTH</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (Q)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Weight Watchers 6pm (Q) Women's AA 8pm (Q)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (W) Violin Lessons 2pm (Q) SPARK meeting 2:30pm (FH)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Violin lessons 2:00pm (Q) Youth Mission Trip Wedding rehearsal 7:30pm (S) Alanon 7:30pm (Q)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Wedding 4pm (S)</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Sunday School Classes 9:45am Worship 11am Basketball 3pm Volleyball 5pm Youth Mission Trip - NO YOUTH</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Cello Lessons 11:30am (Q)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Agape Circle out for summer</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Weight Watchers 6pm (Q) Finance Team 6:30pm (MTS) Women's AA 8pm (Q)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Cello Lessons 11:30am (W) Violin Lessons 2pm (Q)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Violin Lessons 2pm (Q) Alanon 7:30pm (Q)</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Sunday School Classes 9:45am Worship 11am Basketball 3pm Volleyball 5pm Youth Group 5pm (Y)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (Q)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Teresa Circle 7pm (TBA)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Weight Watchers 6pm (Q) Church Council brown bag supper 6pm (FH) Church Council 6:45pm (FH) Women's AA 8pm (Q)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (W) Violin Lessons 2pm (Q)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Violin Lessons 2pm (Q) Alanon 7:30pm (Q)</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Sunday School Classes 9:45am Worship 11am 4th Sunday Lunch 12:15pm (FH) Basketball 3pm Youth Group 5pm (Y) Volleyball 4:30pm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Story submission deadline Cello Lessons 11:30am (Q)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Weight Watchers 6pm (Q) Women's AA 8pm (Q)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Cello Lessons 11:30am (W)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Alanon 7:30pm (Q)</p>	
<p>B=Blue Room C=Chapel</p>	<p>CS=Children's Suite FH = Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>G=Gym L=Library MTS=Room next to office</p>	<p>Q = Quillian Room</p>	<p>S = Sanctuary</p>	<p>W = WORECO Room</p>	<p>Y = Youth Room</p>