

**February 2**

**MEETINGS**

**Staff —Mon., Feb. 3,  
9:30am**

**Weekday Board Mtg.  
Wed., Feb. 5, 6pm**

**Worship Com.—Sun.,  
Feb. 9, 12pm**

**UMM--Sat., Feb. 15,  
8am**

**Effie Ford Circle—  
Wed., Feb. 19, 10am**

**Finance Mtg.—Thurs.,  
Feb. 20, 7pm**

*"Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude."*

*--A.A. Milne,  
Winnie-the-Pooh*



# COMMUNICATOR

## ***Pastor's Message...***

At first glance February seems like a strange month for Christians. It is the month in which we recognize both Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday. Two important days that are filled with emotions and feelings that are completely opposite from one another. During the years in which both events fall on the same day their differences really become apparent. So much so that many churches will often move Valentine's day events to another day and a few well-meaning Christians have even suggested moving Ash Wednesday to another day or not to celebrate it at all on years where both are on the same day. Thankfully this year Valentines Day is on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> and Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Taking a closer look at these two important days we see that on Valentine's Day our hearts are fluttering with joy, excitement and good cheer as we take time to express our love to those closest to us with chocolates, flowers,

balloons, special dinners, cards with hearts on them and other fun things. While on Ash Wednesday our hearts are heavy with contriteness and woe as we face our sins and brokenness through prayers that plead for forgiveness, ashes on foreheads and somber music.

Again, our first impression is that these two special events have nothing in common. But I want to suggest that these two events have more in common than we realize. First, why do we go all out making an extra effort to express our love to those around us on Valentines Day? Of course, the greeting card and florist companies tell us we should go big on this special day. But I believe that somewhere in our hearts we feel guilty for not expressing our love adequately enough during the rest of the year to those around us, so Valentine's day offers us the opportunity to make up for those missed moments during the year. So, in one sense, celebrating Valentine's

day is an act of repentance and strengthening our relationships with those around us.

Likewise the rituals and prayers that we do on Ash Wednesday are done because we recognize that during the previous year we have sinned, we have failed to express our love for God through actions and words and thus we are in need of forgiveness. So, participating in Ash Wednesday is in act of repentance and strengthening our relationship with God.

In short, both days are about love. Love of family and neighbors and love of God!

And Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, Love your neighbor as yourself." All the law and Prophets hang on these two commandments.


Your Friend and Pastor,  
*Steven*

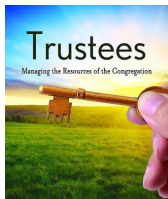


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We're on the web!  
[www.countylineumc.org](http://www.countylineumc.org)



We love   
 because he loved  
 us first  
 -1 John 4:19



Facility Walk-Thru  
 Saturday, Feb. 1, 8am  
 Please contact Dave Wilkins if you  
 are unable to attend.

**MISSION OPPORTUNITIES...**



**April 5-11**  
 Sign-up now!  
 Celia Jernigan  
 770-815-9161



**The Sager Brown  
 Mission Trip  
 (UMCOR)**

**September 27--October 2, 2020**  
 The cost of the Mission trip to Sager Brown is  
 \$255.00 per person  
 \$25.00 Non refundable deposit  
 \$120.00 for meals  
 \$110.00 Lodging

The \$25.00 deposit is due when you sign up  
 and the rest will be collected in two  
 installments between now and August. See  
 Pastor Steven to sign-up.



**6:30-9am Receiving of  
 the Ashes only**  
**6:30pm Ash Wednesday  
 Service**

**Our Staff...**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Steven Riddle (ext. 102)	<a href="mailto:steven@countylineumc.org">steven@countylineumc.org</a>
<b>Admin. Assist.</b>	Sherry Wiman (ext. 101)	<a href="mailto:sherry@countylineumc.org">sherry@countylineumc.org</a>
<b>Custodian</b>	Linda Lamine	
<b>Financial Admin.</b>	Mary Paris	<a href="mailto:finadmin@countylineumc.org">finadmin@countylineumc.org</a>
<b>Music Director</b>	Ted Brown	<a href="mailto:theodoreebrown@bellsouth.net">theodoreebrown@bellsouth.net</a>
<b>Pianist</b>	Jan Stedman	
<b>Weekday Director</b>	Vicki Jenkins (ext. 105)	<a href="mailto:vicki@countylineumc.org">vicki@countylineumc.org</a>



On February 11, we  
 will be hosting a HOA  
 meeting for a local  
 neighborhood. Please  
 consider volunteering  
 to greet our  
 neighbors! Please  
 arrive at 6:15pm.

Email [steven@countylineumc.org](mailto:steven@countylineumc.org) to  
 volunteer.



Ladies Bible Study will begin *The Walk* by Adam Hamilton on Thursday, March 5, 9:45am.

Our next Effie Ford Meeting is February 19, 10am.

All women are invited to come join us in the Conference Room for both or either gathering.



**April 24 - 26, 2020**

Mark your calendars! We will be traveling to Blueridge for some food, shopping, and relaxation!



**You're Invited:** Town Halls with Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson. March 1 | Hillside UMC | 3:00pm | Clergy and laity are invited to attend a town hall meeting with Bishop Sue on the future of The United Methodist Church here in North Georgia and beyond.

**CHOIR NEWS...**



Practice begins Wednesday February 5th, 7:30pm for the Easter Cantata. Everyone is invited to come sing with us for this special Sunday.

**WEEKDAY MINISTRIES...**

Winter Break: February 17-21



**FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Thank you, thank you for including the church on your Christmas list and increasing your giving in December. Because of your monetary gifts to the church and the Christmas Eve offering, we were able to end the year with a deficit of \$10,563; because of the increased giving in December and expenses for the entire year were 15% underbudget. This is significant since at the end of November, the YTD deficit was \$23,078. We pray that God will bless CLUMC in 2020 with not only the finances to grow, but our witness, service, prayers, worship, inviting and showing love to take God's word to others.

**Gracious God, We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Amen**



2020 BUDGET: The average giving needed to meet 2020 budget: \$23,500 per month or \$5,500 per week.

**January 2020 Giving:**

1/5	\$5,240
1/12	\$2,861
1/19	\$3,894
1/26	\$2,776

Total	
Jan	\$14,771

**As of 12/31/19:**

2019 Budget	\$300,000
Year End 12/31/19:	
Funded	\$258,598
Unfunded	\$ 41,402
Under Budget	14%

FLC	
Mortgage	\$218,073

If you have any questions about the finance reports, please contact Deborah Bentley, Finance Committee Chairperson



## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

**Electronic giving** is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Please visit our website ([www.countylincumc.org](http://www.countylincumc.org)) click on the Stewardship and Giving tab, then scroll down to the **DONATE NOW** icon and click on the button to set up your online recurring giving. Please contact the church office if you have any questions about the online giving.

