



At Bright Star, we will be a beacon of light  
so that we might bring people to

**Jesus Christ**

and live a life that magnifies



**Bright Star Beacon**

create disciples,  
share and develop  
our spiritual gifts.



**God**

*The Light of Love and Hope in Our Community*

A Publication of Bright Star United Methodist Church, Douglasville, Georgia 30135-3223

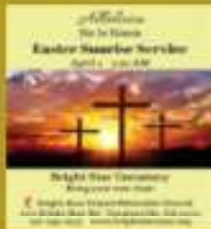
**April 2018**

**Volume 31, Issue 4**

*Easter is a time to rejoice,  
be thankful, be assured that  
all is forgiven  
so life extends beyond  
the soil of earth.*

*Happy  
Easter*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE - 4/1 at 7:30 am** in Bright Star Cemetery. Bring your lawn chairs.

**EASTER BREAKFAST - 4/1 after Sunrise service.** In Driskell Hall. Breakfast served until 9:15 am.



**CONTEMPORARY EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE - 4/1 at 9:30 am.**

**TRADITIONAL EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE - 4/1 at 11:00 am.**



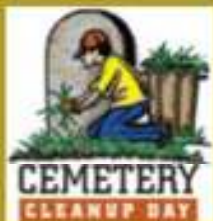
**CHURCHWIDE YARD SALE-APRIL 13 & 14, 9am-2pm** One man's junk is another man's treasure! Come shop the yard sale for your treasures! **RENT AN OUTDOOR SPACE - \$15** for one day, \$20 for both. Registration forms available on the website. See Matt Holloway.

**OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP DAY - 4/21 at 8:30 am.** Bring your yard tools and join us.



**HOWARD-RUMPH ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE - 4/21 10 am to noon.**

**DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT - 4/21 at dusk.** Details to come.



**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY - 4/28 at 8:30 am** in Bright Star Cemetery.

**SHOEBOX PROJECT -** Support homeless, men, women, & children. Donate filled shoebox, items for shoebox, or \$ to purchase items. **Deadline is April 22.**



**The Starfish Players present "JUNIE B. JONES IS NOT A CROOK". 4/27 & 4/28 at 7 pm. 4/29 at 3 pm.** Tickets are \$2 at the door. Concessions will be available for purchase. Based on the books by Barbara Park. Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, inc. [www.playscripts.com](http://www.playscripts.com).

# HAPPY EASTER, EVERYONE!!

I don't know what we would have done without the great Easter miracle in our lives. I suppose we would have been stuck with and in the shadows of our sin and shortcomings. But thanks be to God for the gift of His glorious and undeserving grace.

And so, in response to God's undeserved gifts or grace, I just want to give thanks to God for every one of you and especially for your faithfulness, your generosity, your gifts and talents and prayerful support for Bright Star UMC.

This church, like any other part of the body of Christ, can and will never be the church that it is and has been without the dedicated support, witness and presence of all of its members. So, let's celebrate the gifts and graces God has given us to keep this church, your church, so alive and vibrant. We do a lot. But we can do so much more.

Therefore, we can and must never forget the important part that we play in reaching out to others whether it is in our homes, our neighborhoods, and yes, even the members in our own congregation. Why? Because our Christian responsibility is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Hence, it is our call and commitment to empower and to equip those whom God has placed in our path so that they too may know the joy of the Lord that we have come to know and in turn reach out to those around them.

After all, isn't that what Easter is all really all about? The incredible fact that Jesus, God's beloved son came into our world to give his life, as a ransom for all, so that whosoever believed in who He is and what He was all about may experience and live their lives abundantly as well.

So why don't we do that? Why don't we decide to live 'abundantly' whatever that might mean for us and help enable others to do the same? After all there is no scarcity in God. The scarcity we see in the world seems to be in and around us.

I mean just think about it. Just look back to where we were and to where we are now. Haven't we been blessed with new things happening in and around us? The opportunity to host a home school program; to see the use of our gym for basketball training; the blessing of potentially having two United Methodist deacons be part of our life and ministry here at Bright Star; the Bill Arp Art Show that was one of the highlights of our life together this year and we saw about 300 people from the community pass through our facility; the Boy and Girl Scout clubs participating in our worship; and just last week, the exciting new Glow in The Dark Easter Egg hunt and the incredible children's Easter walk through program led by so many dedicated and gifted members of our faith community. Thanks be to God. And then there was the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ron Rand, the Sunday night live ministry and I am sure that there are many other ministries that you can add to this long list.

All I know is that God is not finished with us yet and as an Easter people we need to be open to the new and unexpected things that God will still be doing. Let's not be like Mary who got stuck in the past and wanted to hold on to what she had. No, let's be good United Methodists who know that by the grace of God, "best is yet to be" and with that faith and that determination let us continue to build each other up.

Have a wonder Easter and may this be your best Easter ever.

Your Visionary Leader

Pastor Edwin

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/1 Mary Vinnacombe  
4/3 Tim Constien  
4/4 Emily Dubransky  
4/4 Dakota Warner  
4/6 Hannah Bowman  
4/6 Bev Vaughn  
4/7 Danielle Milhollin  
4/9 Kassidy Walthour  
4/10 Madeline Bramblett  
4/12 Tracy Meek  
4/13 Brenda Allen  
4/13 Trannell Stanford  
4/13 Karla Wheeler  
4/14 Arthur Durley  
4/14 Daniel Munday  
4/15 Nevaeh Meek  
4/16 Joyce Briggs  
4/16 Deborah Owensby  
4/16 Tim Plumley  
4/18 Carol Holland  
4/19 Helen Cowan  
4/20 Chuck Baird  
4/20 Cliff Daniels  
4/20 June Hinson  
4/21 Bethany Wheeler  
4/22 Doris Anderson  
4/23 Barbara Cochran  
4/29 Michelle Thomas  
4/30 Laura Frank  
4/30 Luke Willis

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4/12 Marcos & Linda Mercado  
4/17 Jill & Tommy Pillow  
4/18 Kim & Cliff Daniels  
4/20 David & Bev Vaughn

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/2 Teresa Mackey  
5/7 Alesa Constien  
5/7 Whitney Constien  
5/8 Barbara Chapman  
5/9 Linda Long  
5/10 Mike Hughes  
5/10 Becky Porter  
5/11 Drew Milhollin  
5/13 Deborah Wofford  
5/15 Kelly Bowman  
5/17 Brody Harlow  
5/19 Cindy Buff  
5/19 Barbara O'Dwyer  
5/21 Pam Landers  
5/22 Allison Hogan  
5/22 Stephen Warner  
5/23 Randy Bowman  
5/23 Betty McLemore  
5/24 Kevin Clodfelter  
5/24 Ella Pillow  
5/25 Mahaley Hallmark  
5/25 Vianne Warner  
5/26 Eddie Dubransky  
5/26 Meredith Warner  
5/27 Jacob Holloway  
5/29 Gary Turner  
5/30 Don Shadix  
5/31 Melba Brock  
5/31 George Chapman

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5/1 Gary & Glynette Lanier  
5/5 Bryson & Connie Tallant  
5/19 Clyde & Shirley Hopkins  
5/20 Tim & Katie Plumley  
5/24 Stan & Deborah Copeland  
5/27 Don & Betty Graham  
5/30 Ron & Anne Robinson



**Girl Scout Troop #14405**

**sold 4008 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies**



**Thank you, Bright Star, for your participation !**



The **2018 PRC Medical Banquet** was held on March 15 at the Church at Chapel Hill. Over 400 people heard our speaker, Gianna Jessen, bless us through tears and laughter as she shared with us some of her testimony. Gianna's incredible story started when she was born alive at 7.5 months after a failed saline injection abortion. Her message was one of affirmation and encouragement for the men and women in the audience in our roles as men, women, parents, and children of God. You can read more about Gianna and her story at [www.giannajessen.com](http://www.giannajessen.com).

Sincere thanks to those who attended and to all of the Bright Star members who support PRC Medical in so many ways.



These pictures are from one of the PRC Medical clients featured in the rolling video prior to the start of the Banquet.

### Here's a little of her story:

My name is Kenya, I'm 22 years old, married to my wonderful husband, and was blessed with the most handsome baby boy ever. We were full-time college students and being pregnant wasn't part of our life plan. But when I realized I was, I chose PRC Medical because I needed somewhere that I felt my situation would actually be respected. As I walked in, I felt a very calming and reassuring atmosphere; a woman at the desk greeted me with the kindest smile, a "it doesn't matter what you're going through but it'll be okay" kind of smile. My client advocate was kind and understanding; she kept it real. We were truly undecided about our future – abortion, adoption, parent? My advocate did not pressure me into telling her what I would do or anything, she just prayed with me. I went back the following week for an ultrasound. I cried when I saw my son, but I didn't know if it was because I felt like I wasn't ready or because I was excited to love what my husband and I created. And as he sat next to me, I realized he couldn't stop smiling at me. He wiped my tears and said "we're gonna do great."

**Douglas County Pregnancy Resource Center**  
3030 Chapel Hill Road, Douglasville, 30135  
[www.partnersofprc.com](http://www.partnersofprc.com)  
[volunteer@partnersofprc.com](mailto:volunteer@partnersofprc.com)

*Jesus* said to her,  
"I am the resurrection and the life.  
He who believes in me will live,  
even though he dies;  
and whoever lives  
and believes in me  
.....will never die."  
- John 11:25-26.

365greetings.com



The Sewing Ministry will not have a regularly scheduled time to meet from April to Sept. If you have a need for a prayer blanket, please contact Connie Tallant. Thank you!

**Womens' Ministry**  
**Bright Star UMC**  
*Recipes*

**Share Your Recipes**  
Deadline for Entry April 15th

## Finance/Stewardship

Monthly Operating Budget Required .....\$34,246  
 Fiscal YTD Operating Budget  
 required thru March .....\$308,214

### Report thru March, 2018

Operating Budget Received MTD .....\$24,761  
 Operating Budget Received Fiscal YTD .....\$268,124  
 Average Sunday School Attendance .....46  
 Average 9:30am Worship Attendance .....31  
 Average 11:00am Worship Attendance.....97

### Mortgage Account Activity (2/16-3/15)

Principal paydown .....\$200  
 Monthly mortgage pymt .....\$8,110.21  
**Principal Balance as of 3/12/18.....\$1,515,402**

# THANK YOU

*You ladies are amazing. Thank you so much for the prayer blanket. It's beautiful.*

*George Chapman*

*Thank you so much for bringing dinner for our family. It means so much to feel the love of our Bright Star Family. Thank you again!*

*Love,  
 Meredith Warner*



*Our song is in God.  
 It lifts us up beyond death.  
 It is our very life.  
 By Barbara Matthews*



# Bill Arp Juried Art Show

Bright Star hosted the Bill Arp Elementary Juried Art Show on March 15. What an amazing success! The walls in the Children's Department were lined with 105 entries. Multiple awards were given.

## 1st, 2nd, 3rd PLACE OVERALL

**1st Overall - Dominic Harmon**, Kindergarten, won \$20 gift card to Hobby Lobby. The unanimous decision of the judges. Beautiful composition, color, technique...it's an abstract with great balance and harmony.

**2nd Overall - Aidan Gray**, 5th grade, won \$15 gift card to Hobby Lobby. Beautifully drawn faces in chameleon marker.

**3rd Overall - Tiana Malloy**, 4th grade, won \$10 gift card to Hobby Lobby. It is an image of a child and her dog.

## JUDGE'S EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Each Judge was able to pick two special pieces that showed incredible talent. The pieces were chosen for different reasons such as incredible technique, creating emotion, composition, color, best use of theme. As you can imagine, this was a tough decision.

Allison Edmonson, Nyla Asha, Amarie Baker, Liam Hix, Alexyx Fugate, Mrs. Ruhl 4th & 5th grade Art Club)

## HONORABLE MENTION

Amazing representation of your media and grade level.

Kaci Stewart, Hugo Olvera, Mason Ruhl, Reece Vaughn, Valeria Garcia, Willow Bradley

## PEOPLE'S CHOICE

All who attended were able to vote for their favorite while raising money for Bill Arp Art Department. A total of \$319 was raised!

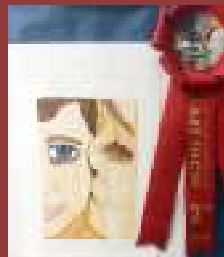
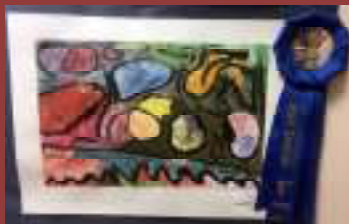
## OUR DISTINGUISHED JUDGES:

Linda Britt - Curator of CDC, Courthouse Gallery, Dog River Gallery, President of Douglasville Art Guild

Natasha Stansel - Professional Artist / Art Educator

Diane Yancey - Professional Art Photographer

Many thanks to the congregation of Bright Star who pulled together to make this a phenomenal event! There are so many, but special thanks must be given to Cathy Clodfelter for coordinating everything. Thank you, Cathy!



**Do you like seeing the photos of people at Bright Star?** While I love putting together the photos for the newsletter, it is very time consuming, **SO I HAVE A SOLUTION!**

I have created a Shutterfly Share Site just for Bright Star congregation to share and look at photos. **It is a private website and you must be invited to join.**

If you would like to see photos from our events here at BSUMC, **send me an email to [news@brightstarumc.org](mailto:news@brightstarumc.org)** and I will send the link to you. Once you are a member of the site, you will be able to upload photos, too!

Current photos on there are Palm Sunday, Celebration Sunday, Children's Easter Events, Art Show, and more!

Thank you, Kim Daniels



# The Bright Star Beacon

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**Bright Star United Methodist Church**  
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[brightstarumc.org](http://brightstarumc.org)

## **BRIGHT STAR STAFF - *READY TO BE OF SERVICE TO YOU!***

**Rev. Dr. Edwin Jones, *Pastor***

Kim Daniels, *Office Manager*

Sara Denham, *Nursery*

Matt Holloway, *Youth Director*

Richard Jacobus, *Stephen Ministry Referrals*

Pam Landers, *Children's Director*

Josh Lowery, *Custodian*

Katie Plumley, *Director of Music/Drama*

Ivan Winslett, *Assoc. Director Of Music*

# (770) 949-2555

### **Sunday School and Worship**

**9:30 - 10:30** "Generations" Worship Service

**9:45 - 10:45** Sunday School

**10:45 - 11:45** Sunday School

**11:00 - 12:00** Traditional Worship Service



### **OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday - Friday**

**8am - 12pm**

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next newsletter is

**April 20, 2018**

### **OUR PURPOSE**

*As a beacon of light, we will bring people to Jesus Christ, create disciples, share and develop our spiritual gifts, and live a life that magnifies God.*



BSUMC is a Stephen Ministry congregation