



# THE TENNILLE TESTIMONY

Mark 16:15 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 1, 2007

Leona Rogers 478-552-7838 or [rhonie@washemc.net](mailto:rhonie@washemc.net)

Reba Barlow 478-552-7883 or [pereb@bellsouth.net](mailto:pereb@bellsouth.net)

## **Nurture Committee Meeting March 5, 2:00 pm WB Smith Bldg**

Nurture Committee will meet on March 5 at 2:00. Selwyn May, Chairperson, is asking for your help if you are interested in furthering the growth of our church. Do you have ideas about something you would like to see us do? Are we neglecting to do something we should be doing? Is there a ministry you would like to be active in? Would you like to see a Bible Study or Prayer Group planned? Would you like to see a historical committee formed? Do you want to be involved in planning, but haven't been asked? If you have answers or suggestions then come to the meeting and share with us and be part of the new beginning of ministries in the Tennille United Methodist Church.

## **Sunday School**

### **Why should we attend?**

Last Sunday, in the Seekers Class, I asked the class members why they attend Sunday School. I received as many different answers as there are members. As we continued to discuss our responses, the consensus was that we attend Sunday School because of the example set by parents who believed Sunday School was an important part of going to church on Sunday. It is a place

where we learn about Christ and how He would have us to live. We are filled spiritually and energized for another week of serving Christ. We learn how to be disciples so that we can share Christ with others. This is a place where we are among other Christians and if we don't understand something, we can ask questions and nobody laughs at us. If we don't agree with something in the lesson, we can discuss it with others in the class and even if we don't agree, we can still be friends. We have discovered that what we learn in Sunday School is what builds and strengthens our faith—it's what sustains us in our everyday life; it's what gets us through the tough spots; it's what gives us hope for life eternal.

A new SS quarter begins Mar 4. The writers for this quarter, Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas and Doug Wingeier, team up to interpret the meaning of God's love for today and to explore the new community in Christ and how that community will live in God's new world. Our topics for this quarter will be: March—Known by Our Love; April—A New Community in Christ; May—Living in God's New World. We are familiar with Dr. Kalas, having recently completed his **Grand Sweep of the Bible**. I thoroughly enjoyed that study, so I am looking forward to these lessons. We

hope you will join us for SS at 10:00 am on Sunday. We have two Adult Classes available—The Seekers, led by Leona Rogers; The John Wesley Class, led by Mary Moye. Both use the same Bible Study Series. A children's class is led by Dwight and Suzanne Irons.  
*Leona Rogers*

## **Tennille UMW News**

### **Wed. March 7, 7:30 pm:**

**Annie Lou Hodges Circle** will meet in the home of Helen Chapman.

### **Sat., March 10, 10:00 am:**

**Dublin District Mission Study** 'Globalization: It's Impact on our Lives', led by Dr. Charlene Black, Dublin First UMC.

### **Sun., March 11, 11:00 am:**

**South Georgia Conference United Methodist Women Day.** Our Tennille UMW will be assisting with the morning service. Mrs. Betty Freeman will be our speaker. As is our tradition, someone will be honored during the service with a special recognition pin and gift to missions.

### **Wed., March 21, 10:30 am:**

**Erin Holder Smith Circle** will meet at the home of Doris Patrick.

**Christian sympathy is extended to the family of**

**Guy Merton Johnson**

Tennille United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 265  
Tennille, GA 31089

Rev. Peter Barlow, Pastor

Church Website: [www.tennilleumc.org](http://www.tennilleumc.org)

Office 478-552-7811  
Parsonage: 478-552-7883  
[tennilleumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:tennilleumc@bellsouth.net)

## Church Council Meeting A Great Success

by Mary Moye

After voting in 2005 to embark on the new council structure of the United Methodist Church, our members have been trying to understand and employ this new organization of ministries. This year we are having Quarterly Council meetings following worship services on a designated Sunday in February, May, August and November. On Sunday, February 18, we enjoyed our first Church-wide Council meeting. Attendance was great, the food was spectacular, and the reports were positive. In fact, our treasurer, Jean Bevill, gave us the best financial report we have enjoyed for some time.

In an effort to learn together how best to implement the newly defined ministries into our church, we are focusing on how they function. We are discovering that the organizational structure of existing administrative committees has not changed. The committees appointed and approved by District Charge Conference such as Board of Trustees, Finance, Pastor-Parish Relations, and Lay Leadership have not changed in form. Instead, these committees have been given an added opportunity to insure that the resources of the church—facilities and property, human and fiscal resources—be used to promote the newly defined ministries of the church.

## The Tennille Testimony

These newly defined ministries are referred to as the NOW ministries—an acronym for Nurture, Outreach, and Witness. Nurture ministries focus largely on the internal needs of the congregation helping members to grow in spiritual maturity as we prepare to live as Jesus would have us live. The Nurture committee is much like the Council on Ministries format we have used for many years, with subcommittees such as Worship, Sunday School, United Methodist Women, Feed My Sheep, and Church Family Fellowship continuing to function as they have in the past. Selwyn May serves as chairperson for the Nurture committee and meets with all subcommittee chairs to coordinate these programs.

The Outreach ministries involve the congregation in programs that address the needs of individuals and families outside the church in the broader community. The Bread of Life program is an example of an outreach ministry of compassion in the local community. The mission offerings of the United Methodist Women and the conference and district mission and benevolence apportionments are one way in which we show compassion for the needs of others in the broader global community. Martha Taylor serves as the chairperson of the Outreach committee.

Witness ministries give the people of the church the opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus with unchurched and

unfaithful persons in such a way as to bring about commitment to the Christian faith. Thomas Smith serves very ably as the chairman of the Witness Committee and solicits the help of other church members in this effort.

Serving God by serving on one of these committees may be what God is calling you to do. Working in the NOW ministries is not by appointment. Don't wait to be "invited"! We need the support of all church members in these areas of service. Choose which of these three areas you would like to work with, call the chairperson and get involved. You will be blessed!

### Bread of Life

The 2nd Wednesday evening each month Tennille United Methodist Church is participating in the *Bread of Life* program. This mission provides an evening meal to almost 60 needy persons in our community. The menu for March 14 is Chicken Pie, corn, fruit, dessert, and milk. If you would like to help, contact Mary Moye at 552-7703.

### TUMC Website

#### Changes occur daily

Thanks to Selwyn May, the TUMC has a web site. Visit at [www.tennilleumc.org](http://www.tennilleumc.org) and click on the links to explore the site. I think you will love it. Her newest upgrade to the site makes it possible for you to hear the Pastor's Sunday sermon online by Wednesday.

**The Tennille Testimony**  
**Organ Rededication and Concert**

By Mary Moye

On Sunday April 15 Tennille United Methodist Church will celebrate and dedicate the restoration of the church pipe organ with a special ceremony and an organ concert. The pipe organ was originally given to the church in memory of William Holder Smith, and the newly restored instrument will be rededicated in memory of Charles Vestus Smith and Charles Vesus Ouzts. The organ restoration was made possible by generous and loving donations from a number of friends and benefactors. The rededication ceremony will be held at 3:00 PM in the church sanctuary. There will be a reception to follow in the W.B. Smith Social Hall.

In addition to our pastor, Peter Barlow, a number of guest ministers will be present to participate in the rededication ceremony. We are delighted that Dr. Hamby Barton will take part in the program of rededication and will also preach for us at the 11:00 AM worship service on that Sunday. Other ministers who will participate in the ceremony are: Rev. Richard Varnell, Rev. Don Youmans, Rev. John Irwin, Rev. Ramus Freeman, and Dr. Dwight Irons.

Noted organist, Robin Hensley, will be our guest organist for this occasion and will provide a variety of musical selections during the ceremony. Mrs. Hensley is a professor of music at Agnes Scott College and serves as one of the organists for the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta. We will all be blessed by her expertise as she celebrates with us the restoration of this wonderful musical instrument.

Invitations are being mailed to all friends outside our congregation who so graciously participated in the restoration effort. We expect a crowd in the hundreds for that Sunday. We trust that all members of Tennille United Methodist Church will be present for this auspicious occasion and we urge you to be in prayer for this special event in the life of our church.

## Projected Preaching Schedule

March 4	I Believe in the holy Catholic Church, part 1
March 11	UMW Day, Mrs. Betty Freeman is our speaker
March 18	I Believe in the holy Catholic Church, part 2
March 25	I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins
April 1	Passion/Palm Sunday, Dramatic Reading of the Passion of Christ
April 8	Easter Sunday, I Believe in the Resurrection of the Body
April 15	Dr. Hamby Barton preaching at 11:00 am; Organ rededication at 3:00 pm
April 22	I Believe in the Life Everlasting
April 29	Amen, last part of the Apostles' Creed series
May 6	Family Day, Mr. Chris Alexander is our speaker
May 13	Mother's Day

**The Tennille Testimony**  
***Pastor Pete's Pondering***

**What do you think it takes for someone to get to heaven?** Is it luck? Good deeds? Nothing at all? Or is there something more?

"God's Blessing for You" one of the two small books handed out at the beginning of Lent discusses this question. You were asked to read it and then give it to someone you would invite to our worship service on Easter. I hope you are prayerfully seeking someone to invite and give the book to.

But what about the question: **What do you think it takes for someone to get to heaven?**

Have you given much thought? How would you answer if the one you gave the book to asked you? The Bible has the real answer to this question. It's a matter of FAITH.

**F stands for FORGIVENESS.** We cannot have eternal life without God's forgiveness. Ephesians 1:7a says, "In Him (Jesus Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins."

**A is for AVAILABLE.** Forgiveness is available for all. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." But forgiveness is not automatic. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven," says Matthew 7:21a.

**I is for IMPOSSIBLE.** It is impossible for God to allow sin into heaven because of who He is and because of who we are. God is loving and just, but His judgment is against sin. James 2:13a says, "Because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful." We are sinful people. Romans 3:23 tells us, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

**T is for TURN.** To turn means to repent. We can repent - or turn - from our sin and from ourselves. "But unless you repent, you too will all perish," Luke 13:3b says. We can also turn to someone. Trust Christ alone. Romans 10:9 tells us how: "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

**H is for HEAVEN.** Heaven is eternal life. Here, that means life "to the full:" "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10b)." In the hereafter, it means the promise of heaven: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am (John 14:3)."

**So how can a person have God's forgiveness, heaven and eternal life, and Jesus as personal Savior and Lord?** By trusting in Christ and asking Him for forgiveness. Take the step of faith described by another meaning of FAITH: Forsaking All I Trust Him.

You do this through a simple prayer reflecting your desire for Christ to change your life. You don't need fancy words - only an honest heart. You can pray something like this:

**Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and have displeased You in many ways. I believe You died for my sin, and only through faith in Your death and resurrection can I be forgiven. I want to turn from my sin and ask You to come into my life as my Savior and Lord. From this day on, I will follow You by living a life that pleases You. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me. Amen.**

Accepting Christ is just the beginning of a wonderful adventure with God! Get to know Him better in a number of ways:

Follow Christ's example in baptism.

Join a church where you can worship God and grow in your faith.

Get involved in Sunday School and Bible study.

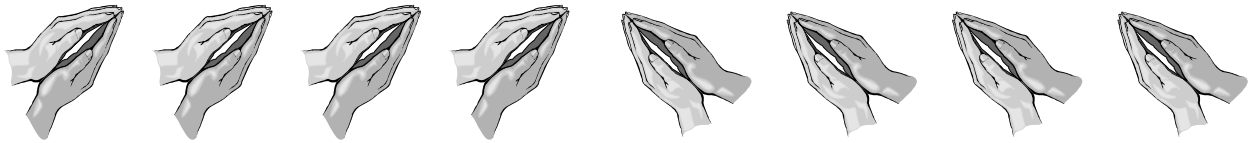
Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray. *Pastor Pete*

The Tennille Testimony

**Tennille United Methodist Church Financial Report January, 2007**

<b>Conference and District Apportionments</b>	<b>2007 Budget</b>	<b>Paid to Date</b>		
World Service Fund	1,278	106.50	<b>Other</b>	<b>Paid to Date</b>
Conference Benevolence	1,755	146.25	Human Relations Day	10.00
Clergy Support	1,658	138.17		
Pre-1982 Pension & MPP	1,320	110.00		
Comprehensive Protection Plan	619	51.58		
Health Flex (retired clergy)	1,026	85.50		
Health Flex (disabled clergy)	110	9.17		
Administrative Exp.	839	69.92		
State Cooperative Fund	69	5.75		
Christian Higher Education	710	59.17		
SEJ Mission Ministry	106	8.83		
Africa University Fund	39	3.25		
Black College Fund	175	14.58		
General Administration Fund	111	9.25		
General Episcopal Fund	329	27.42		
Interdenominational Coop Fund	34	2.83		
Ministerial Education Fund	440	36.67		
District Parsonage Fund	437	36.42		
District Work Fund	1,748	145.67		
<b><u>Buildings and Grounds</u></b>				
Church and Parsonage Maintenance	2,400	65.00		
Insurance	3,368			
Utilities	9,000	739.67		
Yard	2,000			
Termite Control	600	40.00		
Parsonage Committee Improvements	3,300			
<b><u>Operational Expenses</u></b>			<b>Month of January</b>	
Janitorial Service	2,000	275.13	Contributions	8,604.40
Janitorial Supplies	50		Disbursements	7,597.01
Office Supplies	700	141.52		
Social Hall Supplies	150			
Annual Conference Expense	800			
Musical Instrument Maintenance	500		<b>Check Book</b>	
Miscellaneous	1,000	311.53	<b>Balance as of 12/31/06</b>	<b>13,264.99</b>
Contingency Reserve	3,000	250.00	Deposits:	
<b><u>Program and Ministry</u></b>			Pledges	8,554.40
Prayer Ministry	600		Basket	50.00
Family Ministry	150	39.70	Disbursements	7,597.04
Worship	300		<b>Balance as of 1/31/07</b>	<b>14,272.38</b>
Evangelism	500			
Missions	800	50.00	<b>Golden Savings Balance</b>	<b>7,574.03</b>
Pastor's Continuing Education	500			
Music	500	101.00		
Media Ministry (WEB/Newsletter/Radio)	3,480	240.95		
<b><u>Ministerial Support</u></b>				
Salary and Expense	44,712	3,726.00		
Ministerial Pension Plan	6,292			
Health Flex (Blue Cross-Blue Shield)	6,000	549.58		
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>105,505</b>	<b>7,597.01</b>		

## The Tennille Testimony



### Our Prayer Concerns and Praise Reports

Name	Name
Pete and Reba Barlow	Elizabeth Burgess Lemon
Bob and Margaret Northington	Tom Mingledorff
Rubye Brantley	Lucyle Ballentine
Billie Sweat	Marie Hagood
Velma May	Mary Marshall
Estelle Webb	Traci Mizelle
Phillipa Denny	Monty Rose
Elsie Marchman	Audrey Cook
Otis Davis	Diane Haywood
Lamar & Nicole Belew	Helen Chapman
Bess Freeman	Sol Thomas (Praise God for healing)
Roger Deem	Louise Cook
Alma Deem	Patsy St. Blanc
All Disaster Victims	Billy Bowers
Soldiers & their families	Betty Barlow
Wilbur Archer	Steve & Jennie Johnson
Billie Jean Wofford	Anne Bazemore
Frankie Frost	Amelia McAfee
Dr. William Taylor	Susan Redwell
Mercedes Youmans	Mr. & Mrs. Verne Borders
Amos Tanner	Sheila Godfrey
Ken Etheridge	Suzanne Irons
Georgia Hughes	Ethan Rachels
Ruth Ann Johnson	Rev. Dale Andrews
Buddy Ouzts	Edith McMaster
Family of Guy Johnson	Cliff Dalrymple

**Prayer Alert:** Please pray for these people daily as you pray. Please help us keep our prayer list up to date. If you ask us to put someone on the list, let us know when their prayers have been answered and they can be removed. We realize some on our list have ‘chronic conditions’ and need much prayer. Many are going through a time of crisis and need ‘extra prayer’ to help them through. When God has answered prayers and brought you through a crisis, let us rejoice with you. Beginning next month, we will remove all who have been on our list more than 6 months unless told otherwise—some have already told me of the need for continued prayer. When you need prayer or know someone who does, please contact Reba Barlow, 478-552-7883 or [pereb@bellsouth.net](mailto:pereb@bellsouth.net) or Leona Rogers, 478-552-7838 or [rhonie@washemc.net](mailto:rhonie@washemc.net).