

MARCH 2025

The Prospector

Dahlonega Methodist Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When dealing with difficult people in our lives, many of us resort to anger, resentment or isolation – we don't appreciate how we are being treated by persons and our "fight or flight instinct" is triggered. Yet if we don't learn how to deal with conflicts with others in a healthy way, our lives become agitated as animosities build up in our souls. As a Christian, I have tried over the years to remind myself that every person is created by God in His image and that all persons are someone for whom Christ died. That has helped me in my behavior towards difficult people in my life, but it was lacking in helping me to love these persons. After all, Jesus commanded us, "*You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in Heaven. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect.*" (Matthew 5:43-48).

This perfection seems an impossible standard -- we are merely human after all -- therefore many people make no attempt to move toward Jesus' command of relating to difficult people with love. The truth is that it is impossible for us to do so as human beings, but there is a power that can help us go beyond politeness to difficult people toward actively loving them -- Christ in us.

In my recent studies, I discovered a passage of scripture that has provoked my thinking and given me a new understanding of how to better love my enemies. When we confess that Jesus is Lord, we receive the Holy Spirit within us and "*where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*" (2 Corinthians 3:17-18). When we react with anger, resentment and isolation toward difficult people, we are like the Apostles James and John as they became violently angry with the Samaritans after a conflict, and like James and John we "*do not know what kind of Spirit*" we have within us. (Luke 9:55). We need to realize that how we relate to people is not dependent on their character or actions, but on who we are -- children of a Heavenly Father who pours love on the righteous and unrighteous alike. He has given us His Spirit to transform us into His likeness throughout our lives. Selah.

In Christ,
Steve



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Ash Wednesday Service

Join us for the Ash Wednesday service on March 5th at 7:00pm. For anyone who would like to receive the ashes before work or school, there will be an abbreviated Ash Wednesday service at 7am.

DLCMA Community Lenten Service

All Services at Dahlonga Methodist Church
12 noon—With a light lunch following the services

Series Theme: *Finding Hope & Love Within the Shadow of Lent*

March 11th—Hope in the Wilderness: Matthew 4:1-11 (Temptation of Jesus)

March 18th—Love that Transforms: John 3:16-17 (God's Love, Gift, and Purpose)

March 25th—The Hope of Redemption: Romans 8:18-25 (Suffering, Longing, & Hope in the Unseen)

April 1st—Abiding and Active Love: 1 John 4:7-12 (God's Act of Love that is Active & Abiding in the hearts and lives of His children)

April 8th—Finding Hope & Love at the Cross: Luke 23:32-46 (The crucifixion of Jesus)
Rev. Robin Parr will be speaking.

Opportunities to Serve the Community

We are going to have 2 Disaster Response training sessions, provided by the North GA Methodist Disaster Coordinator. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bob Wilde 470-736-4979 or robertwilde@bellsouth.net.

Here is a brief summary of the training:

The initial training session is basic Disaster Response and covers topics like types of disasters, phases of disasters; team roles and organization; who, what (including how to for tarping, cleaning out flooded homes and debris removal), when, why (emphasis on working with survivors); safety; equipment and safe sanctuaries. This training is scheduled for Saturday March 29th 8:30-4:30p at Dahlonga Methodist Church.

The second session will be Chainsaw training and consist of a classroom portion of around 3 hours +/- with the outdoor practical part taking 2 - 3 hours depending on the number of participants. This training is scheduled for Saturday April 5th 8:30-12p at Dahlonga Methodist Church with the 2-3-hour outdoor session at a site to be determined.

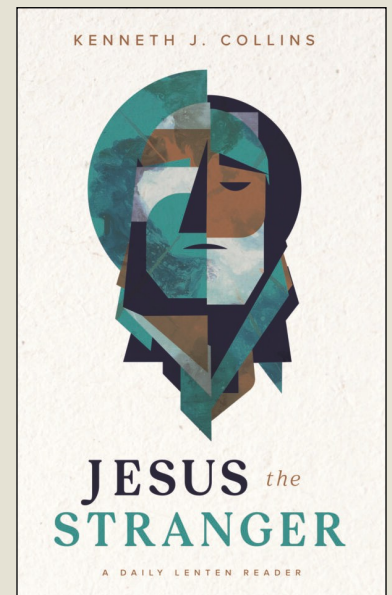
Baby Recognition Day 2025

The Circle of Faith will have a baby recognition for the past year on Mother's Day, May 11th. We are thankful for these little ones and welcome them into our church family. We will honor each child and family during the Mother's Day services. Each child will receive a missions donation in his or her name along with a special book dedicated to the child and another to the children's preschool program. The Circle of Faith believe in striving to love and care for our children. Babies born between April 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025 will be honored. Parents should notify Vanessa at vanessa@dahmc.org or the church office with contact information. For more information contact Linda Herman at lhherman@windstream.net or 706-974-5694.

Sewing Hearts Circle

Sewing Hearts Circle are women who join for a time of sharing, friendship, fun, talking, and praying, while all the time making and stuffing "Heart Pillows". You don't have to know how to sew to make a "Heart Pillow". You can cut out the pattern and/or only stuff the pillows at the same time enjoy Christian fellowship. The pillows are distributed to children, teens, and adults, who need something to touch as a reminder that "God Loves Them"! We meet once a month on a Friday morning. For more information contact Candy Trowbridge at hctrow@gmail.com or Betty Fisher at bettyfisher5262@msn.com.

Churchwide Study



**Book will be available after the
Ash Wednesday service on
March 5th.**

We invite you during Lent to walk with Jesus and see him in a new way during this season of Lent. *Jesus the Stranger: A Daily Lenten Reader* leads us on this journey, offering a fresh lens through which to see Christ. Focusing on his humanity—especially his experiences of suffering, rejection, and isolation—this Lenten reader helps us relate our own struggles and humanness to his. As we journey with Jesus toward the cross, we are met by our Savior, who lived and fully understands our pain and sorrow—who offers healing, the healing of holy love.

Monday Night Bible Study will resume March 10th, at 6pm, in Room 308. We will be studying the Lenten Devotional, *Jesus the Stranger*. Pick up your book at the Ash Wednesday Service on March 5th.

Announcements

Sportsmen's Group—Faith, Fletching, Flintlocks and Fly Rods

The Sportsmen's Group will meet at 6pm on March 17th in the Ivie Lodge on Camp Glisson for a meal and fellowship. Please contact Ray at repolk175@gmail.com if you plan to attend so we can have a close headcount for the meal.

Globetrotters

Globetrotters Ever wonder about the landmark Indian mound with the gazebo? Want to see the Anna Ruby's bedroom--the namesake for Anna Ruby Falls? Join the Globetrotters as we learn about local history at a **tour of the Hardman Farm Mansion on Thursday, March 20**. We will meet at the **Walmart** parking lot and **depart at 9:15 am**. All participants need to be able to walk a gravel road from the Visitor's Center to the Mansion and manage stairs. The cost of the tour is \$10 per person. After the tour we will eat lunch and then return to Walmart.

RSVP to Deena Rankin 678-923-1034 or Cindy Williams 706-973-9272 by March 10th. Check out <https://gastateparks.org/HardmanFarm> for more information.

Globetrotters

DMC Women's Circle of Faith

All women are invited! (*Now meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month*)

A heartfelt 'Thank you!' to all who brought baby gifts for the baby shower for Well Root sponsored children and families on February 18th! Our speaker filled her car with all of your gifts and is so very thankful and grateful!

March 2nd, Sunday, 9AM – 1PM: Ministry Fair in the Fellowship Hall.

Discover ways this church and this community fill the service of Jesus Christ. You may discover a ministry that can help you and find a good fit for your service to the Lord.

April 15th – Field trip to Murphy Harpst in Cedartown and lunch.

Join us in front of DMC to gather in the church van. Seating is limited. Text Kara Martina at 706-300-4210 to reserve your seat (no charge except a love offering for our driver).

Departure time about 8:30, to be announced later. Expect to return to Dahlonega around 3PM.

Community Helping Place Food Pantry Needs



The Food Pantry could use the following items: instant grits, canned fruit, vegetable oil

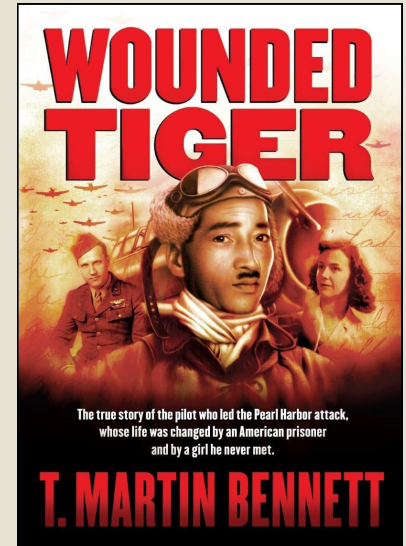
It's time for the 3rd annual Grocery Grand Prix to benefit the Community Helping Place food pantry. This year's race will be Saturday, March 1 at the Lumpkin County High School from 9am—12pm at LCHS. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry. Admission fee is food. It will be a fun

morning of grocery cart races by teams in costumes, food and entertainment. We hope you will join us to help our neighbors in need. Oh, and Chase Elliott's car will be there. In whatever way you support the event, you will be helping the more than 330 Lumpkin County households, or nearly 800 people, who receive food from the pantry each month. In 2024 the pantry distributed a total of 356,000 pounds of food. About 45% of the food distributed was donated; the remaining 55% was purchased. The need for food pantry services is increasing and the gap is widening between donations and demand. All income from the Grocery Grand Prix will go directly to funding the pantry.

You may click on the links below to View/Print forms for your sponsorship and/or team registration or find the forms online: <https://communityhelpingplace.org/grocery-grand-prix/>

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will be discussing *Wounded Tiger*, by T. Martin Bennett
Wednesday, March 26th
at 6:30pm in the Library.



Check Dahlonega's local library for check out availability or click here to purchase on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/0991229088/?co-libid=12V2FNX2SD3BLU&colid=3PS5DNI1UX5N1&psc=1&ref=cm_sw_r_ud_lstpd_83KNA0X2WR5N8V9NWMAN_1

Wounded Tiger is the true story of the pilot who led the Pearl Harbor Attack, whose life was changed by an American prisoner and by a girl he never met. Three incredibly different people have their paths cross in ways so remarkable as to almost be unbelievable if it weren't so well documented.

This massively updated 3rd edition contains new content, information, and over 300 historic photographs and documents, some of which have never before been published!

Children's Ministry, MMO & Preschool, Youth



Sun, Mar. 2 **No Kidz Church (K-5th Grade)**
Worship with families in service.
Classes still available for babies – PreK

Tues, Mar. 4 **Shrove Tuesday Family Pancake Party - 5:30 pm**
All families are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for a dinner of pancakes as we kick off the season of Lent!

Wed, Mar. 5 **Wednesdays in the Word – 5:45-7:30 pm (3rd-5th Grade Bible Study)**
We will eat dinner, have a short Bible study, and then go to the Ash Wed service which begins at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary.

Sun, Mar. 9 **Kidz Church & Lil' Kidz Church at 9:30 am**

Wed, Mar. 12 **Wednesdays in the Word – 5:45-7:30 pm (3rd-5th Grade Bible Study)**

Sun, Mar. 16 **Kidz Church & Lil' Kidz Church at 9:30 am**

Wed, Mar. 19 **Wednesdays in the Word – 5:45-7:30 pm (3rd-5th Grade Bible Study)**

Sun, Mar. 23 **Kidz Church & Lil' Kidz Church at 9:30 am**

Wed, Mar. 26 **Wednesdays in the Word – 5:45-7:30 pm (3rd-5th Grade Bible Study)**

Sun, Mar. 30 **Kidz Church & Lil' Kidz Church at 9:30 am**
Family Pop-Up Event – Rise Up! (Family Easter Event) 4– 6:00 pm
We will have an Easter Escape Room, crafts, and food! Come join us!

Save the Date!

VBS is June 16-19 from 9am-12pm. Online registration will open up on April 1st!



March will open registration to the public. Remember first come, first serve. Contact if the preschool office if you are interested at dmcmmopreschool@gmail.com or 706-864-8521.

Thank you to our sponsors, race participants, and volunteers for making our 14th Annual Chasing Away Winter 5K/Fun Run a great success. The cool weather made for a great race! We had 117 participants. What a great start to next year's scholarship & preschool fund. Thank you again!

Youth Ministry

DMC Youth strive to live **LIFE**.
Love Everyone
Inspire Many
Fulfill God's Call
Empower Others

SPRING SCHEDULE

Sunday

MS Worship & HS Small Group
 Sunday Afternoons 4—6pm
 Meet at DMC field/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday

HS Worship & MS Small Groups
 MS Dinner & Small Groups-5:45-7:30pm
 HS Dinner & Small Groups-5:45-8:00pm

March

March 2nd—Youth
 March 9th—Youth
 March 14th—16th— Converge Retreat
 March 23rd—Youth
 March 30th—Youth

Contact Information

Bailey Tam, *Director of Youth Ministry*
bailey@dahmc.org
 706-962-2614

One Child El Salvador

2025 - A YEAR OF MIRACLES IN LA MAGDALENA!



What miracles you ask? The miracle of the first graduating class in the history of the school, which will occur this year! The miracle of an enrollment of 260 children for 2025! The miracle of 260 kids in a poor, rural village having the opportunity to have true choices in their lives, impacting themselves, their families, and their community!

2025 marks the 19th anniversary of our call to partner with Pastor Mauricio to build a school for the poor children in the village of La Magdalena. It started with faith, prayer, very little in resources, and partnering with the people of La Magdalena to build a school, giving the children an opportunity for a high-quality, Bible-based education, in a safe and loving environment (so very different than the public schools). In 2014, the school opened with only three classes of Kindergarten - K4, K5, and K6 Preparatory. We started with a few dedicated teachers and Pastor Francisco and his wife as staff. We then added one grade per year, as we worked to raise funds to pay salaries and for building infrastructure.



2025 also marks the year that we will complete the construction of all needed classrooms, offices, and other required spaces (computer lab, science lab, library, staff and teachers' offices, infirmary). There are still some infrastructure needs (multi-purpose athletic field, replacement of a section of old, collapsing wall, replacement of a broken cistern), but construction of buildings will be complete!

It takes a lot of financial resources to support the school - currently \$14,600 per month to pay salaries and operating expenses. Plus the funds for construction and other school needs. For the past 19 years, many of you at this church, and other supporters in this and other communities, have faithfully supported this ministry and the children of La Magdalena. Please know that **YOU ARE MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THESE CHILDREN!**

But we continue to need financial support to keep these miracles happening. Please consider the following:

- * Becoming a Sponsor of a child for only \$30 per month per child (\$360 Annually)
- * Becoming a Monthly Supporter by setting up a recurring monthly donation in ANY AMOUNT (no amount too small or too large)!
- * Making a one-time donation to our General Fund (for school operation), Construction, or other specified needs.

Sponsorships can be set up and Donations may be made online at www.onechildelsalvador.org.



You may also donate by check to One Child El Salvador, Inc. and mail to PO Box 274, Dahlonega GA 30533. Be sure to notate your desired intent. We thank God for the continuing generosity of DMC in supporting this mission that will have lasting impact for the children, their families, and community, and, most importantly, the Kingdom of God.



SKIP THE STARBUCKS - ENJOY HIGH-QUALITY COFFEE AT HOME WHILE HELPING CHILDREN IN EL SALVADOR



OCES debuted our newest coffee in October, roasted from our newest shipment of coffee beans from our local farmer in El Salvador, Francisco Fuentes and his family-owned farm, Finca la Providencia! This is our high-quality medium and dark roast coffees grown high in the volcanic mountains of El Salvador. We also now have a small batch of extra premium coffee from the Caceres family farm. All of our coffee is roasted and bagged locally, as needed, at Because Coffee in Dawsonville for maximum freshness.

WE NOW HAVE K-CUPS

One Child Coffee comes in medium and dark roast, drip grind, whole bean, and now K-cups. Something for everyone!

Proceeds from your One Child Coffee purchases make it possible for children in El Salvador to receive the blessing of an excellent Christian education and to have a better future!

www.onechildcoffee.myshopify.com



Sunday Worship

Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:00 am

Worship in the Sanctuary at 9:30—Children's Ministry available

Worship in the Sanctuary at 11:00 am

Live Streaming 9:30 and 11:00am Service

<https://dahmc.org/services/#watch-live>

Daylight Saving Time
begins Sunday,
March 9th.
Move clocks forward
one hour.

Communion Rail Offering for March

The Communion Rail offering for March will support the work of Side by Side. Side by Side is a one day event uniting Lumpkin County churches of all denominations together in Christ to serve this community. The hands-on mission blitz meets the physical and emotional needs of our community. It offers a range of projects from the highly skilled to simple projects and is open to all ages. **Side by Side is Saturday, May 3rd.** *Loving in deed and in truth... I John 3:18"*

Note: Our communion bread is gluten free, vegan and contains no dairy, soy, peanuts, tree nuts, fish/shellfish or eggs.

Want to know more about the ministries of DMC? There is an informational booklet available in the sanctuary foyer.

Wesley Dinner Bell Ministry

We are so grateful to those groups who have supported the Wesley Dinner Bell ministry. At this time all meals through April 2025 have been spoken for! Planning for the future dates will start after the summer break. Love these college students! Wesley Dinner Bell is an opportunity to connect and form lasting relationships with this younger generation. It's demonstrating brotherly love by treating strangers as we would beloved family members. We serve food as an act of compassion and being generous with our time shows our love for one another and faithfulness to God. It's our desire to be a light of hope and a blessing of love to each student we meet.

Sunday Adult Growth Groups—Third Floor, Education Building

9:30 a.m.

Primetime Class—Room: Library—Facilitator: Chris Buice

11:00 a.m.

11th Hour Class—Room: Library—Facilitator: Jeff Ramsland

We are studying in the Book of Acts. New folks always welcome and bring a friend.

Assisted Listening Capabilities

DMC is now offering assisted listening capabilities through Listen Technologies. Please download the app "Listen Everywhere" from the APP or Google Play Store to your smart phone and pair your Bluetooth hearing aids or headphones to your device. Connect to the wifi "Listen" (Password – canyouhear.me). Open the app and select "DMC Sanctuary". For more information, contact Chuck Bell @ chuck@chuckbellmusic.com or stop by the audio booth on Sunday morning.



Honor a loved one in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or in remembrance with flowers. Sign up table is outside of Fellowship Hall or you may call the church office. The cost is \$95.00. Please make certain that your check is clearly marked "Altar Flowers".