



Every four years, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church gathers to do the work of the world-wide denomination. Methodists from across the world will gather this year in Portland, Oregon to work, to worship, and to set a course for our church for the next four years by changing, amending or upholding each section of *The Book of Discipline* (which is the governing legislation of the denomination: only General Conference can alter the Discipline).

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, believed that it was a means of grace when the church gathered for meetings like this: what he called "holy conferencing." Sometimes the work of General Conference is financial and administrative, sometimes it is theological and political—always it strives to be holy.

That does not, however, mean that General Conference doesn't have moments of deep contention and disagreement. The most polemical items on the agenda this year center on the church's stance on human sexuality. Since 1972, the church has simultaneously affirmed that all individuals regardless of orientation are of "sacred worth" and welcomed in the church, and the church has also stated that homosexuality is "incompatible with Christian teaching," and that marriage is only permitted in a monogamous, heterosexual union. There are 99 pieces of legislation that will come before General Conference on issues related to ordination of, marriage between, and ministry to homosexual individuals.

We are not always of one mind across the global church or even across one local congregation. And yet, we are called to be one body: Christ's body for the world. We invite you to pray for the fruit of the Spirit to be evident in Portland as our church seeks to live into Wesley's invitation: in essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity. And we also invite you to join this congregation on April 17 at 3:00 pm as we prayerfully engage this topic with Dr. Brent Strawn.

## THE BIBLE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

**On Sunday, April 17, from 3:00 pm until 5:30 pm,** Peachtree Road will host a forum entitled "The Bible and Human Sexuality." The forum will be led by Dr. Brent Strawn, professor of Old Testament at Candler School of Theology.

No subject has been more complex or divisive for the church in recent years than homosexuality. When people form their opinions, they often are influenced by many different factors: family of origin, the culture in which they grew up, the media, as well as their own experiences. What about the Bible? Does the Bible influence your opinion? And just what exactly does the Bible say about homosexuality?

The United Methodist Church's stance on homosexuality will be considered again at the General Conference set for May 10 - 20 in Portland, Oregon. In the time prior to that meeting, Bill Britt believes it will be helpful for members of our church to meet together to study the scriptures, listen for God's voice in them, and pray together as we seek God's direction.

Bill also believes we could have no better guide than Professor Strawn. In addition to teaching at Candler, Dr. Strawn conducts research in ancient Near Eastern iconography, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Israelite religion, legal traditions of the Old Testament, and Old Testament theology. Within the Old Testament proper, he works in the Pentateuch and poetry, focusing especially on Deuteronomy, the Psalms, and theological exegesis. According to Bill Britt, "Dr. Strawn is an outstanding scholar, inspirational teacher, and absolutely the best person I know to help us deal with this complex subject." Please mark the date and plan to join your fellow members of Peachtree Road for this important gathering in Grace Hall.



### Rising Stars! Eastman Organists Recital

**Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary**

Hear these young and talented organists from the Eastman School of Music, the premier music school in the U.S. for organists. Derek Remes, is a D.M.A organ and Ph.D. theory student and Caroline Robinson is a Masters student in the studio of David Higgs. Composers include Brahms, Elgar, Howells, Wagner, and Widor. \$10 suggested concert donation. Contact Ruth Sommerville at 404.240.8212 or ruths@prumc.org for more information.

### Voices in Bronze: A Handbell Concert

**Sunday, April 17, 3:30 pm, Moore Chapel**

Adult and Youth Bell choirs from Buckhead will combine for the concert Voices in Bronze. Hear "The Sanctuary Bells of Northside Church", from Northside UMC, directed by Gwyn Bacon, "The Chancel Bells" from Peachtree Presbyterian Church, directed by Jim Wood, "The Peachtree Youth Bells" directed by Heather Ellison and from PRUMC, "Peachtree Carillon" and the youth bell choir "Sunday Peachtree Ringers", directed by Nicole Marane. Works written by and arranged by well-known handbell composers Cynthia Dobrinski, Kevin McChesney and more. Contact Ruth Sommerville at 404.240.8212 or ruths@prumc.org for more information.

### Music and Arts Sunday

**Sunday, May 1, 2016**

**8:45 & 11:15 am, Festival Worship**

**9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Art Showcase**

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Congregational Luncheon**

Join us for a celebration of Music and Arts at PRUMC! Enjoy glorious music with all choirs and festival brass. Rev. Don Saliers, Prof. of Theology and Liturgy, Emeritus, at Candler School of Theology will design and lead us in worship again this year. Enjoy a congregational luncheon and arts showcase featuring our own *Seeds of Light* Studio class artwork, PRUMC guilds, and the fine arts of many of our fellow members. Contact Ruth Sommerville at 404.240.8212 or ruths@prumc.org for more information.

## MUSIC AND ARTS

### Children's Musical:

*What Happens When Jesus, Two Contrary Sisters and a Lot of Sheep Show Up at a Party?*

**Saturday, April 23, 6:00 pm, Harp Center Stage**

Find out when our children's choirs present "Life of the Party: The Story of Mary and Martha." This year's Children's Musical will be onstage in the new Harp Youth Center for the first time, and addictive pies from Darden's Delights will also appear! The performance is free, and pie sales will benefit Darden's disabilities empowerment program and our own Children's Music Department. For more information, contact Kathy Fletcher at 404.240.8290 or kathyf@prumc.org.

### An American Songbook:

**Music from Across the Country**

**Sunday, April 24, 3:30 pm, Sanctuary**

Join Clarke Harris, countertenor and Jeremy McElroy, organist as they present a program of songs written by American composers. They will explore landscapes from around the country, see how memories are commemorated in American song, visit the American church, and describe what makes this land of ours so great, both from a cultural and patriotic standpoint. Composers to be included are Barber, Bolcolm, Copland, Hoiby, Heggie, Rorem, Diamond, Meecham, Ives, and others. \$10 suggested concert donation. Contact Ruth Sommerville at 404.240.8212 or ruths@prumc.org for more information.





## ABOUT US

### Welcome New Members

Welcome to our newest members! We are glad you are a part of our church family. Photos can be found in our online album "New Members 2016" at [www.facebook.com/prumc](http://www.facebook.com/prumc).

### Joined February 21

Lydie & John Anderson, Sarah Green, and Lane & Charlie Yates.

### Welcome Classes

#### Sunday, April 17, 24 & May 1, 10:00 am, Hospitality Suite

Are you considering joining or have you recently joined Peachtree Road? Plan to be a part of our spring Welcome Classes to learn about ways to connect, serve and grow in our community. Class topics include a campus tour, the Methodist faith, and Bill Britt's vision of PRUMC's future. For more information contact Mimi Brunson at 404.240.8221 or [mimib@prumc.org](mailto:mimib@prumc.org).

## LEARN

### *Seeds of Light* with Mary Carpenter

**Saturday, April 9, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, The Art Room**

Reflect on the theme "Christ Among Us" and learn how to create your own hand-lettered work of art with calligrapher Mary Carpenter. \$20 per person. Register online at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register).

### Fall Holy Land Trip Information Meetings

**Sunday, April 10, 12:30 pm, A101**

**Tuesday, April 19, 6:00 pm, A101**

Julie Wright and Jamie Jenkins invite you to join them on the trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land September 19 - 30, 2016 through Educational Opportunities. Brochures with details are located at the front desk and kiosks throughout the church. Early registration discounts apply. For more information, contact Jamie Jenkins at 404.771.7031 or [jamielj1943@gmail.com](mailto:jamielj1943@gmail.com), or Julie Wright at 404.240.8203 or [juliew@prumc.org](mailto:juliew@prumc.org), or visit [www.eo.travelwithus.com](http://www.eo.travelwithus.com).

### Spring Book Club

**Mondays, April 11 and 25, 10:30 am, B118**

Join Karla Daniel and Tricia Walker for discussion of *For the Love* by Jen Hatmaker. All are welcome.

### Women's Book Study

**Mondays, April 11 - May 16, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, C103**

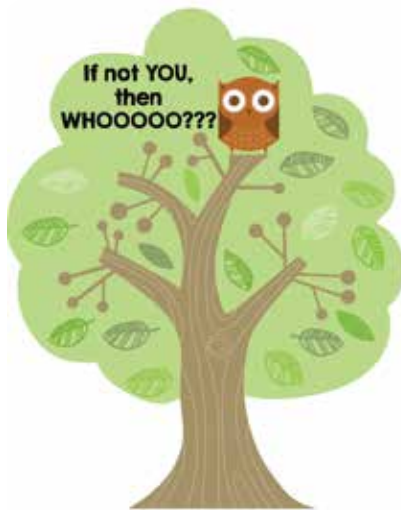
Join Leslie Watkins for reflection and discussion of *Wearing God* by Laren Winner. RSVP at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register). Books available in The Dogwood Shop.





**The Loft | Sundays, 9:45 am - 12:15 pm, Third Floor Rollins Bldg.**  
 "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52

Our newly renovated space for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders has opened! Each week our children join together to learn and experience God's amazing story. More additions to The Loft will be taking place in the coming months to inspire and welcome our kids. Stay tuned for more stories of faith!



**If Not You, Who?!**

Who will help build a firm foundation of faith for our children? The answer is You! We have many flexible opportunities for you to be an important part of our children's faith development. For if not YOU, then WHO? To volunteer, contact Martha Christopher at 404.240.8243 or marthac@prumc.org, or Jordan Black at 404.240.8255 or jordanb@prumc.org.

**Available teaching opportunities are:**

8:45, 10:00, 11:15 Sunday School, Young Worshipers, W.O.W. Worship Classes, or Worship and Praise service (every other Sunday during school year)

Summer Sunday School, Young Worshipers or Bible Olympics (flexible scheduling during summer months)

Vacation Bible School (June 27-30)

Nursery Volunteers (once a month)

**TEACHER INVITATION**

**UMKF - Grand Finale and 5th Grade Celebration**

**Sunday, April 24, 5:00 - 6:30 pm, The Loft & Soccer Field**  
 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders - let's honor our "graduating" 5th graders with a fun send-off, complete with cool water games (weather permitting)! \$10 includes taco dinner. RSVP online at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register).



**Summer Camps Registration**

Join us for Family Mission Camp and VBS this summer sponsored by Children's & Family Ministries! Register online at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register). For more information, contact Martha Christopher at 404.240.8243 or marthac@prumc.org.

**Family Mission Camp**

**June 6 - 8, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm**

For children who have completed K - 5th grade AND a parent or other adult. Each day is sure to be a blessing to those we serve and to those of us who are serving others! You will enjoy special time with your child and with other PRUMC friends as well! \$40 per family (includes lunches and supplies for the agencies we serve.)

**Vacation Bible School**

**Surf Shack...Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love**

**June 27 - 30, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

For ages 4 (as of 6/1/16) through completed 4th grade.  
 • Special activities for our 3rd & 4th graders in The Loft  
 • 5th graders can be Youth helpers  
 Many adult volunteers are needed, so come join us for 4 days of fun! \$30 per child/\$75 family maximum.

**Camp Glisson |** If you are searching for an amazing Christian camp experience for your kids this summer, check out our very own Camp Glisson! Glisson is a ministry of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church that offers Summer Camp experiences in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Dahlonega. Since 1925, this place has become holy ground as thousands have had their faith strengthened through God's presence here in creation and Christian community. Visit their website at [www.glisson.org](http://www.glisson.org) for more information.

## Baby Day is Sunday, April 10

On this special day, all babies born to church members between March 1, 2015 and February 29, 2016 will be honored at the 11:15 am worship service. Immediately after the presentation of babies, families are invited to join us in Grace Hall for a special brunch and program, which will begin at approximately 11:40 am. The program will include information about the Nursery ministry, Drop-In, our weekday Preschool, and UMW. Registration is online at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register) for the worship presentation and for brunch. We look forward to celebrating with you!

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### Confirmation Sunday is April 24

All 6th grade students who choose to declare their faith in Jesus and join Peachtree Road will be confirmed during the 8:45 am or 11:15 am service. There will be a brunch honoring confirmands and their families prior to the service in the Fellowship Hall starting at 9:45 am. Space will be reserved in the Sanctuary for proud parents and family! Please RSVP for brunch at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register). For more information, contact Luke Massee at 404.240.8238 or [lukem@prumc.org](mailto:lukem@prumc.org).

### Kingdom Journey Interest Breakfast

Sunday, April 24, 9:00 - 10:00 am

#### Harp Center Confirmation Room

Bring the Scriptures to life by experiencing comprehensive study of the Bible, mission work, field trips, guest speakers and an 8-day trip to the Holy Land. Open to rising 9th and 10th graders and their parents. Join us to learn more. The first group is forming this spring. Questions? Contact Matt Nelson at 404.240.8207 or [mattn@prumc.org](mailto:mattn@prumc.org).



## STUDENT MISSION TRIPS

### Student Summer Mission Trips

Join us on one of our awesome mission trips this summer! We'll serve others in need and make lifelong friends and memories. Information and registration online at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register).

#### High School Trip: June 5 - 12, Nicaragua

We'll partner with El Ayudante to build houses and teach VBS for those in need.

#### Middle School Trip: July 10 - 16, Asheville, NC

We'll partner with ReCreation Experiences to serve a family in need through home repair.

## STUDENT SPRING RETREATS

### Girls Retreat | April 16/17

Join us for a "staycation" at the Harp Center! We will spend the weekend in one big slumber party! The weekend will include visiting some fun local attractions, eating great food and hanging out with friends. \$50 covers transportation, food, activities, and lodging. All 7th - 12th grade girls welcome! Sign up at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register).

### Boys Retreat | April 16/17

We are heading back to Burge Plantation for a weekend of hanging with the guys. The weekend will include skeet shooting, fishing, cookouts, campfires and so much more! We will also take time to discuss our journey as men in this world. \$100 covers transportation, food, lodging and the targets. Shot guns are optional, but if you plan to shoot we are asking that everyone bring their own 12 or 20 gauge shotgun shells. Don't miss out on this awesome weekend! Sign up at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register).

## THE PRESCHOOL

### The Preschool Partners with Feed My Lambs

The Preschool proudly announces our partnership with *Feed My Lambs*, a Christian organization that serves the impoverished population of Atlanta, empowering at-risk children spiritually, academically, physically and socially. *Feed My Lambs* has four preschools and daycare centers in Atlanta and five outside of the U.S. where they educate children and their families about a better way of life.

By mentoring teachers, donating materials, sharing best practices and continuing education, we hope to share our blessings and experience to make a positive and lasting impact on the at-risk community in Atlanta. We are proud that our qualified teachers and staff enthusiastically embrace this project.



## WOMEN

### Coming Soon!

#### UMW Southern Summer Sampler

August 2016, 6:30 pm, Red Brick Brewery

United Methodist Women present Southern Summer Sampler. Mix and mingle with your friends, men and women invited! We will have a pig roast, low country boil, sides, desserts and fun beverages. Evening includes silent and live auction, live entertainment, and more! Contact Leslie Watkins at 404.240.8248 or [lesliew@prumc.org](mailto:lesliew@prumc.org) for more information or register at [www.prumc.org/register](http://www.prumc.org/register) in May.

## ADULTS

### Our Senior Adults Rock!

At their weekly gathering in Seasoned Saints, PRUMC Senior Adults stuffed over 3000 eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! They are *egg-cellent* examples of all ages and stages of our church family working together for each other. We love them!

### Seasoned Saints

Lunch, 12:00 pm, Grace Hall, \$7.50

Program, 1:00 pm, C106

Apr 6 Spring Bingo - Bring wrapped \$5 gift

Apr 13 Melanie Johnson - Refugee and Immigration Services

Apr 20 Outreach

Apr 27 *One Night With The King* movie at 12:30 pm

### Day Trip to Gainesville Botanical Gardens

Tuesday, April 26, Depart 9:00 am Tour & Lunch \$35

You will see apple blossoms, orchids, jade vines and much more during the self-guided tour of these botanical gardens. Lunch at Linton's in the Garden. Walkers and/or canes recommended for multi-level ground areas. Contact Julie Gohring at [julieg@prumc.org](mailto:julieg@prumc.org) or 404.240.8332. **Wait list only.**

## YOUNG ADULTS

### Young Adult Social

Saturday, April 23, 12:00 pm, Top Golf Midtown

Join the Young Adult Ministry for fun and fellowship at Top Golf in Midtown. Contact Leslie Watkins at 404.240.8248 or [lesliew@prumc.org](mailto:lesliew@prumc.org) for more information.

## GLOBAL MISSIONS

### Rollout has begun!

Water filter roll out in Lanet has begun! In just one week, the PRUMC Kenya mission team led by Clint Smith, in partnership with Chief Francis and Start with One's Bill Coble, Chat Coble and Sam Kariuki have done the following: 3,000 text books given to Gitumaba primary school, 625 Uzima filters distributed, 580 School uniforms provided, 560 streamers made, 500 marti gras beads distributed, 100 pair of shoes provided, 60 polar fleeces donated, 18 backpacks given, 15 futbols provided. Lives impacted including our own – countless. Thank you Kenya, thank you Start with One, and thank you PRUMC!



### Dogwood Shop Open Through May 22

Sundays, 9:30 am-1:30 pm

Mondays, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Wednesdays, 9:30 am-6:30 pm

Local artisans, global gifts, sustainable shopping - come see all the new and inspirational gift ideas for children and adults. All proceeds go towards PRUMC's mission work - it is the gift that gives twice!



### Thank You from Georgia!

When we wrapped up our on-campus Sponsor a Child initiative, 227 of our children in the country of Georgia had been sponsored. The team – both near and far – are so grateful for your support. Thanks to careful planning and programming, \$315 of aid can stretch out over a full year. If you would like to learn more, or sponsor a child (individually or as a group) please visit [www.georgiamissions.org](http://www.georgiamissions.org) today!

## FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

### April Weekly Wednesday Meals

Cost includes entree, side, beverage and dessert.

Lunch: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, Grace Hall, \$7.50

Dinner: 5:00 to 6:45 pm, Grace & Heritage Hall, \$9 / \$5

**April 6** Lunch: Chicken or salmon wraps, potato soup  
Dinner: No dinner this evening

**April 13** Lunch: Chicken salad, pimento cheese, soup  
Dinner: Roasted chicken, steak fries, veggie, fruit

**April 20** Lunch: Chicken enchiladas, rice, beans  
Dinner: Taco bar, rice, beans, fruit

**April 27** Lunch: Grilled chicken, rice pilaf, veggie  
Dinner: Baked meatball ziti, salad, fruit

## PASTORAL CARE

### Caregiver Support Groups

**Third Tuesday, 2:00 pm, C101**

For loved ones of people with dementia. This group is open to all ages. Contact Kathy King at [queen93king@gmail.com](mailto:queen93king@gmail.com) for more information.

### Movers and Shakers

#### Parkinson's Support Group

**Second Wednesday, 12:00 pm, B152**

The Movers and Shakers Parkinson's Support Group meets for lunch with special guest speakers each month. Please join us for an enlightening time. Contact Sherry Wright at 404.842.1016 or [donnwright@earthlink.net](mailto:donnwright@earthlink.net) for more information.



## CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK

Over the past month, we've embarked on some exciting journeys together here at PRUMC. From the Glennon Doyle Melton event (attended by 1,500 women, more than half of which were non-members!) to the Women's Mission Trip to Nicaragua, we have so much to share with one another and our community. In addition to our Light on Peachtree newsletter, weekly eblasts, campus promotions and website, we want to help you continue to stay connected and engaged via our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/prumc](http://www.facebook.com/prumc).

Below are some highlights we've had the pleasure of sharing over the past month. We hope you will visit and "like" our page, comment, and share as one more way to stay in touch with your church family.

Selections from our Facebook albums - Glennon Doyle Melton, Doxology Broadway Review, Women's Mission Trip to Nicaragua, New Members 2016.

