



Monday Morning in North Georgia

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Week of September 12, 2005 - Vol. V, Issue 37

SHARING WEEKLY NEWS WITH NORTH GEORGIA METHODIST



A Letter From Bishop Davis

The Sunday before Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast Jennifer and I were in Mobile, Alabama where I was preaching at Christ United Methodist Church. As the third service concluded that afternoon and the storm was moving closer to the coast, Jennifer and I decided to forego lunch and some visiting with friends in order to return to Atlanta. On my way back home my primary concern was for my nephew, Mike. Mike is my brother's

oldest son and he has lived in New Orleans for the last 5 years. Mike is a Marine Biologist who works for the Aquarium of the Americas. The last word that I had received from him was that he planned on riding out the hurricane in one of the downtown hotels close to the aquarium so that he could continue to assist in the care of the animals in the aftermath of the storm. I called my brother and found out that our entire family had been pleading with Mike to leave New Orleans as soon as possible. Jennifer and I added our voices to that chorus and I was greatly relieved Sunday afternoon to know that he was driving out of the city.

It took Mike 15 hours to drive from New Orleans to a hotel in Albany, Georgia. From there the next day he made it to our home here in Atlanta and then on to Kentucky to stay with our family. Like so many people who've been evacuated from New Orleans, Mike has lost everything in his apartment and his job. The future is very uncertain for him as it is for thousands of others. But my nephew Mike is blessed. He has his life and his health and a supportive family network that will try to care for his every need in these days to come.

There are literally thousands of persons displaced from the Gulf Coast who are not as fortunate as my nephew. Churches all over the United States are reaching out to assist those individuals and to try to somehow address their needs. Watching the television coverage the other day I saw a man pushing a shopping cart down a flooded street loaded with what was left of his worldly possessions. I couldn't help but wonder what life was going to be like for him in these days to come. Did he have anybody who cared enough to provide for him? Did he have any family that could rally around him? Was the rest of his life going to be earmarked with poverty and despair? I don't know what happened to him, but I do know that because of the caring of our churches the future will be much brighter for thousands of individuals affected by Katrina.

Natural disasters like this hurricane have a way of putting everything in perspective. When faced with life and death we discover that what really matters is our relationship to the Lord, and our relationship to the people we love and who love us. Life is really, in so many ways, that simple. Life is not about what we accumulate within the walls of our homes. It's not really about our jobs, even though those are important. Life is really about our faith, and our family, and our friends.

Continue to pray for all of those who have been evacuated and are now living in temporary situations. May we be instruments of God's healing in their lives.

In Christ,
Lindsey Davis

Needs Among Those Who Arrived in North Georgia

The response to calls for help in the aftermath of Katrina has been astounding. We want to thank all who have assisted. Now, we are seeing needs among people who have arrived here from the disaster areas. They range from medicines which must be purchased to short term costs after hospitalization to the expense of shipping and delivering to storing and collecting etc. Simply said, the North Georgia Conference Disaster Relief fund is not big enough to sustain the level of response we are being asked

This Week's Calendar Event

- **Monday, September 12**
Rome Carrollton District Clergy Me - Cave Springs - 9:30 AM
- **Monday, September 12**
New Church Leadership Academy - Orchard Church - 9:30 AM
- **Tuesday, September 13**
Atlanta Emory District PPR, SPR, ar Finance Committee Training - Briar Church - 7:00 PM
- **Wednesday, September 14**
Church Development Exec. Commi Retreat - United Methodist Center 9:30 AM
- **Thursday, September 15**
Committee on Existing Church Development - United Methodist C - 9:30 AM
- **Thursday, September 15**
Housing and Homeless Council Meeting - Owl Rock Church - 10:00
- **Thursday, September 15**
Election Task Force Listening Sessi Greensboro First - 10:00 AM
- **September 15 - 17**
Worship Connection Conference fo Small Worship - Lake Junaluska Re Center - 8:30 AM
- **Saturday, September 17**
Bilingual Hispanic Celebration - Su Hill Church - 5:00 PM
- **Saturday, September 17**
Atlanta Roswell District Lay Speaki Institute - Midway Church - 9:00 A
- **Sunday, September 18**
Consecration Worship Celebration Isaiah Church at Shiloh High Schoc 10:00 AM
- [Complete Calendar](#)

Archived Articles / Issues

- [2001 Archives](#)
- [2002 Archives](#)
- [2003 Archives](#)
- [2004 Archives](#)
- [2005 Archives](#)

Contacts and Links of Interest

- [Click here for the retired clergy and spouse birthday listing](#)
- [Email Ed Tomlinson](#)
- [Job Openings Here](#)
- [Print this Edition Here](#)
- [DS Spotlight Archives](#)

Lectionary and Bible Reading

Daily Bible Reading
Click here for readings that will take you through the entire Bible in a Year

Lectionary Scriptures NIV Sunday September 18th - 18th Sunday After Pentecost - Green

- Scripture Readings**
- [Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45 or Psalms](#)
 - [Exodus 16: 2-15](#)
 - [Phil. 1: 21-30](#)

to offer. If you would make a contribution to help locally, please make your check to the North Georgia Conference and mark it "Fund 34" (which is the North Georgia Disaster Relief Fund). Then, mail it to our treasurer. Thank you in advance for any assistance you can give.

● [Matthew 20: 1-16](#)

Children's Home Workday

September 18, next Sunday, is Children's Home Workday. Please receive a generous offering.
