

The flowers in worship today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of his mom, Peggy Struthers, by Michael Struthers and Emily Edmundson.

Sympathy to Beth Hendrix and family at the death of her husband, Jim Hendrix, on September 9th. Beth was the choir and handbell director here at Level Creek UMC from 2003-2006.

Please pray for church members, their friends and families

Church Family

Brianna O'Rouke Bill Donnell John Konsowitz Sheila Fraser-Derfler
Marylee McKim Sue Rector Dot Gallagher Dean & Jeri Grant
Henry Henderson Janis Urban

WELCOME to worship at Level Creek UMC!

We are glad you are here. Restrooms are located out the doors to the right of the front altar. Worship activity bags are available for children who stay in worship and a loving nursery is always provided. Children's Sunday School is offered during the 11:00 am worship hour.

PAVE THE WAY. Construction has begun and we are making progress on our Parking Lot Improvements! We expect work to continue through this week and possibly into next week. Please pay attention to your email in case of cancellations or changes to church activities and worship.

Be in prayer for our 3rd- 5th Graders. We sent 13 children on retreat to Camp Glisson for a weekend of fun and faith formation. They return today at noon. Many thanks to Ray Daniels, Todd Davis, Lisha Mendez and Crystal Barnes for chaperoning the weekend.

Fall Bible Study. Join Rev. Elaine for discussion about James Bryan Smith's book, "The Good and Beautiful Life: Putting on the Character of Christ." We'll focus on what it means to live out Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount. Cost of book is \$15. RSVP on your connection card or www.lcumc.net.

- **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am;** October 3 – November 14 (skipping October 31).
- **Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm;** October 3 – November 14 (skipping October 31).

Learn more about Level Creek UMC. Are you new to the church? Have you been visiting for a while? Join Rev. Elaine on Sunday, October 1st at 12:00 pm in the Fireside Room to learn more about our church, our values and how you can get connected. RSVP on your connection card.

Student Ministry continues on Sunday evenings! Dinner is included for all ages.

- **Confirmation** for 6-7th graders: 5:00 – 6:30 pm
- **Small Groups** for 8-12th graders: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

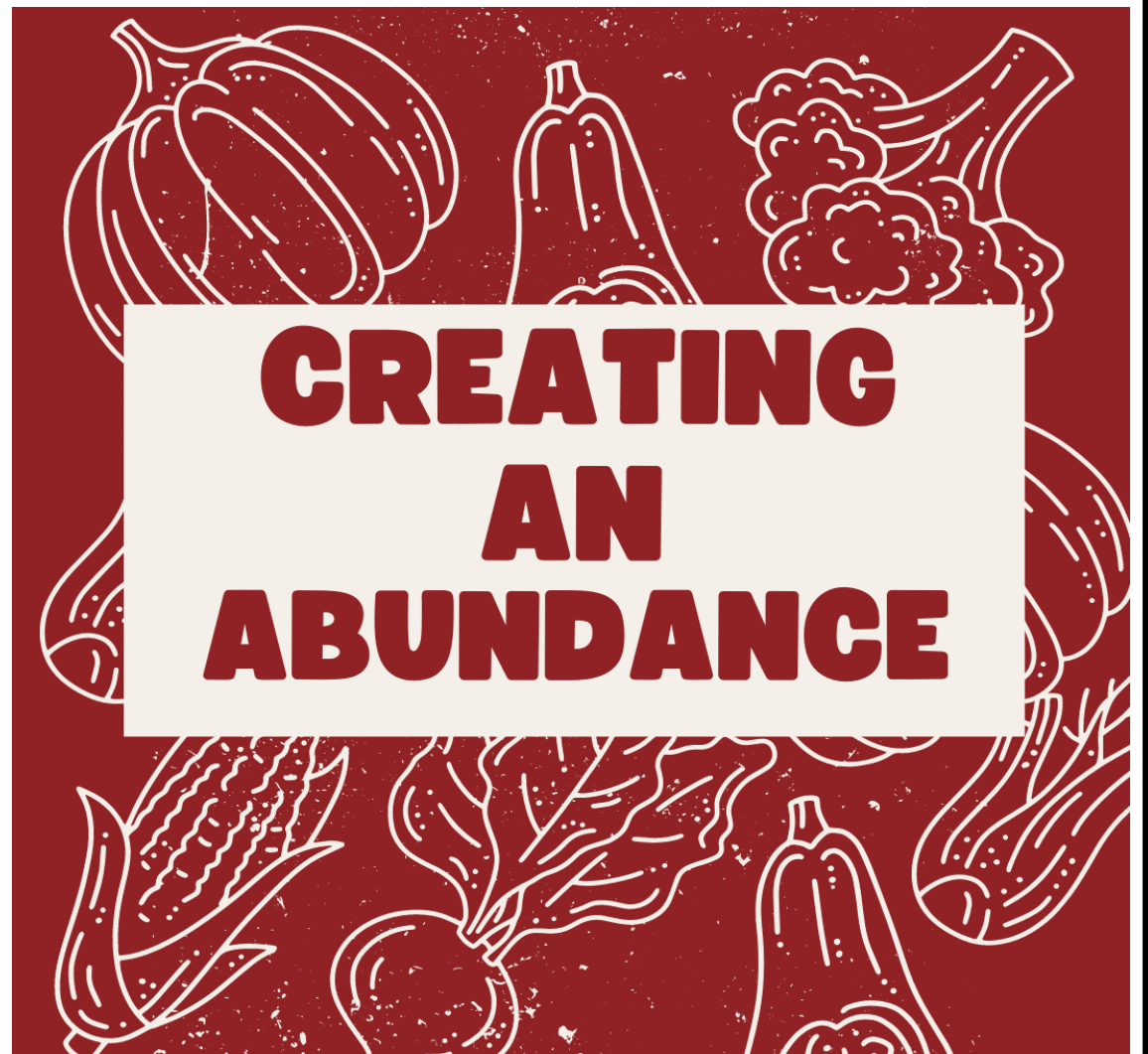
Come Sing with Our Adult Choir! All voices are welcome as we sing in worship and fellowship together. Ability to read music is not required. Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7:30 – 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Help make Coffee + Connection a success! We need volunteers to assist with our Coffee and Connection time. You provide a friendly face and we will train you in the details. Each week, 2 people help with set-up and 2 people help with breakdown. Links to sign up are at www.lcumc.net and in the weekly church email.

Electronic Giving During Worship. To make a financial gift to Level Creek UMC, text any dollar amount to 770-637-8941. You will receive a link to enter your card information.

Level Creek UMC • 770-945-0205 • www.lcumc.net

LEVEL CREEK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WWW.LCUMC.NET

Rev. Elaine Wilder, Pastor
Crystal Barnes, Family Ministries
Rev. DeDe Leetch, Pastor Emeritus

Tracie Ginsberg, Music Ministry
Andrei Gitan, Musician
Beth Ann Wise, Musician

Paul Ellis, Finance Administrator
Tracie Ginsberg, Office Administrator

Order of Worship

Level Creek UMC | September 17, 2023

Prelude Beth Ann Wise

Welcome and Announcements Tracie Ginsberg

Entrance of the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

Friends, let us worship today, for God is great –

God has blessed us with life, with faith, and with community.

Let us worship today, for God is good –

God forgives us, and encourages us, and loves us.

Let us worship and give thanks for the miracles of Jesus.

For from our little, God is able to make much.

This is the day the Lord has made!

We have come to rejoice and be glad in it! Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** “Love Divine All Love’s Excelling” (vs 1 & 3) UMH 384

*Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Gloria Patri** “Glory Be to the Father” UMH 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Special Music “Kumbaya/Peace Like a River” Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Stacey Rushing

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

***Hymn** “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” (vs 1-2) UMH 581

Scripture

Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Sermon

“Creating an Abundance”

Rev. Stacey Rushing

Today we welcome the Rev. Stacey Rushing as our guest preacher. Stacey is the Director of the North Georgia Housing and Homeless Council. Before taking this position, she served as pastor at various United Methodist Churches around Atlanta. She is married to the Rev. Dalton Rushing and they have two daughters. Welcome to Level Creek, Rev. Stacey!

***Response to the Word** “Lord, Whose Lord Through Humble Service” (vs 3-4) UMH 581

***Benediction** Rev. Stacey Rushing

***Recessional** “May the Road Rise to Meet You”

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face. May the rain fall softly on your fields.
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

*Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

Join us for Coffee + Connection at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center.