

McKendree United Methodist Women

CyberGals

October 2008

Devotion

It is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

-Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

On an early autumn day, I looked up from my morning prayer to see myriad colorful leaves falling lazily to earth. As I gloried in and marveled at God's wonderful handiwork, I realized that the falling leaves could symbolize God's grace.

This grace comes to us freely, in God's own time and independent of our merit. The leaves fall because of the properties God has mysteriously given the trees and the earth. Grace comes to us because of the mysterious purposes of God. The twists and turns and shapes and colors of the falling leaves are like the infinite variations of God's grace. Grace manifests itself in us and through us in surprising ways.

The far distance shimmered with ever-changing colors and depth. My mind knew what my eyes could not distinguish, that individual leaves were falling there, just as they were nearby. In a similar way, a heart familiar with God's grace knows that it is everywhere. Infinite, endless, and timeless, grace falls on all of us to change our lives.

From The Upper Room, 2003

IMPORTANT!

Servers Needed for Laity Dinner

October 23, McKendree will host a dinner for the bishop of the North Georgia Conference and lay leaders and Annual Conference lay delegates from around the Atlanta Emory District. This is a great honor for our church.

About 25 servers are needed to make this sit-down dinner a success. Board of Stewards, UMM, and UMW have been asked to help; we were hoping for at least 3 ladies per circle. Dinner begins at 6:00, and servers should arrive at 5:30. Dress is black pants and white or black shirt.

If you can help with this important event, please contact Ginny Sternberg at Ginny@cranebrandwork.com.

Chicken Q

Keeping with tradition, UMW is supplying desserts for the Chicken Q, which is this Saturday, October 18. If you can, please be "sweet" and provide a dessert—whether homemade or store-bought (does not have to be individually wrapped). You can drop off desserts in the fellowship hall on Friday or on Saturday before noon. UMM will start serving at noon and go until 6:30 pm. Please label items "Chicken-Q" and put them on the tables marked "drop spot."

Women's Retreat

It's not too late—You can still sign up for the Women's Retreat, Friday, 10/24, through Sunday, 10/26, at Camp Glisson in Dahlonoga. Ladies can also come for Saturday only 9am-4pm; the church bus will leave at 7am (limited availability; reservation required). The discussion will center on the book *Walking with God* by John Etheridge. Open to high school juniors through prime timers. Cost is \$80 (\$30 for Sat only). But don't delay—this Sunday is your last chance!

Consignment Sale Proceeds

The fall consignment sale netted \$4200. Monies will go to support the following ministries and activities: House of Mercy orphanage (Mexico), UM Children's Home, Lawrenceville Co-op, the Chinese Outreach Ministry, a Beth Moore study, and the Amazing Collection Bible Study. Some proceeds were also set aside for the UMW discretionary fund.

Mark Your Calendar

The UMW Christmas brunch will be held at Karla McHugh's home on December 13 (this is a new date). You don't want to miss the fun, fellowship, and tasty food. This event also serves as the last 2008 gathering for Cybergals. Watch for more details in November.

Prayer Requests

When prayer needs arise, don't forget your Cybergals sisters. Just "REPLY ALL" to a newsletter notice, or email carolecraft@bellsouth.net so we can all share your concerns and praises.