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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CFUMC Christmas Bazaar 2016**

**October 14, 2016 – CUMMING, GEORGIA** – Each year, Cumming First United Methodist Church (CFUMC) hosts a huge Christmas event driven by a group called the CFUMC Bazaar Ladies. This group of women from the church work tirelessly throughout the year to create beautiful, handcrafted items to sell at the Bazaar to support local missions.

Mary Jones has been a part of the Bazaar group since 1996. Each year, she creates stain glass angels, Methodist crosses, and ornaments which people line up to purchase. This year she has made around 75 stained glass ornaments and figures to be a part of the sale.

Long standing member, Sally Merck has been a part of the Bazaar Ladies group since it began in 1993. The idea for a Bazaar was conceived by church members Mary Inghram and Shirley Schnake. Merck and several others were involved in the establishment of the Bazaar.

The Bazaar proceeds go to purchase non-budgeted items for our Church as well as the Food Pantry, Eagle Scout Projects, Music Camps, Arts Festival, Military Care Packages and much more!

Merck makes several different items but her more popular item in recent years are her tiny, hand-stitched mice which range from characters such as Santa, ballerinas, Little Drummer Boy, The Night Before Christmas, School Mouse, and more. When asked why she is apart of this very special ministry, Merck replied, “My favorite part of this ministry is the time I spend at workshops with all these wonderful, talented ladies who have become my very special friends. We share each other's joys and sorrows and each week we solve all the problems of our world!”

The community is invited to join us for the CFUMC Christmas Bazaar which will take place on Saturday, November 12 from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm in the Family Life Center. The event will include quality handmade gifts, a children’s shop, a bake sale as well as Breakfast with Santa. If you would like to register your child for Breakfast with Santa, please visit [www.cfumcga.com/breakfast-with-santa-2016](http://www.cfumcga.com/breakfast-with-santa-2016)

Cumming First United Methodist Church is a member of The North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

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