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*Connections*

to fayetteville first united methodist church

Vol. XI #8  
 August, 2009

**Chancel Changes Coming In August**

Rev. Mark Westmoreland

If you were at church last Sunday, you saw the plans, now approved, for changes to the chancel area of the sanctuary. A change like this is big. For 20 years the front of our sanctuary has looked the same; it's home; it's familiar and comfortable; and it is connected with significant and holy memories. Now the chancel area will look a bit different, but, fear not, it will still be home, and, soon enough, it will gather holy memories of its own.

The product of hard work by our Board of Trustees and others, the new design offers, I believe, a cost-effective arrangement that will enhance our worship while maintaining the integrity and traditional beauty of our sanctuary. The enlargement of the chancel area allows our orchestra to be seated in front of the choir, making possible anthems and hymns that will blend more beautifully voice with instrument. The new worship space also offers more flexibility for special presentations such as our annual Good Friday service and Christmas concerts, along with other seasonal and musical presentations. On Sundays throughout the year the larger chancel area will allow more space for our children's choirs, youth choirs, and Seasoned Singers.

The split chancel arrangement places the altar at the center of our worship, framed by the lectern and pulpit. And so it is with our worship: Christ's gracious presence is at the heart of all we do, remembered and made real through the sacraments, proclaimed and shared through the Word read and interpreted.

The old arrangement wasn't perfect, and the new will soon enough reveal its own flaws, objective and subjective. As with any change, our prayer is that the enrichment of our shared experience will outweigh any offenses to our personal preferences. As with any change, our prayer is that the enrichment of our shared experience will outweigh any offenses to our personal preferences.

The financial cost of this project is being covered by funds from the J.J. Jackson Trust, a wonderful gift to the church that provides for facility improvements and repairs. Memorial gifts are also being sought for new chancel furniture (pulpit, lectern, altar, paraments, orchestra chairs). Those changes will be added as gifts allow.

Late summer offers us a narrow window to complete this work and avoid conflicts with weddings and worship events, so we are moving forward quickly with construction. Our plan is to begin work August 13, allowing three weeks for the work and necessitating a move in our morning worship for two Sundays. On those Sundays, the worship schedule will remain the same; only the settings will change. Our 8:30 and 9:45 services will be in the chapel, and our 11:00 service will move to the Family Life Center (Some of you will remember some air conditioning problems that forced the same moves a few years ago). Those services will be a bit more informal, with a definite camp meeting feel to them.

Please be in prayer for the work ahead. Change, challenging and exciting, is no stranger to a church 161 years old. In fact, I think it's safe to say we've learned what can be changed and what must be held onto. What we hold onto is each other, the truth of Jesus Christ and the promises of God, even as the Holy Spirit holds onto us and moves us forward—possibility to possibility, day to day, grace upon grace.

**Note of Thanks**

Thank you for the cards, calls, visits, and many other acts of kindness during my two surgeries and recuperation at my daughter's. Especially I thank you for your prayers. It is wonderful to be back home and in church.

- Gaye Anderson

I have been blessed to have FFUMC for my church family. Thank you so much for your prayers, beautiful cards, concerns, calls, and wonderful food during the illness and passing of Buddie, my husband. Your love, support and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.  
 - May God bless you, Catherine and Michael Drew

**What's for Supper?**

August 19 Welcome Back! Fried Chicken Creamed Potatoes Broccoli Rolls Dessert	August 26 Beef Stroganoff Green Beans Salad Bread Dessert	September 2 Bar-B-Q Chicken Baked Beans Salad Texas Toast Dessert
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Fayetteville First United Methodist Church  
 175 East Lanier Avenue | Fayetteville, GA 30214-1655  
 p: 770-461-4313 f: 770-719-0125 w: www.fayettevillefirst.com

## Welcome New Members

Rick & Cheryl Gullickson  
225 Summerfield Place  
Fayetteville, GA 30215  
Rick serves in the US Army and has recently been reassigned to Georgia. We are happy to welcome the entire Gullickson family back to Fayetteville & Fayetteville First UMC. Rick, Cheryl and daughters Hannah & Rebecca transfer their membership from First UMC in Killeen, Texas.

Bobby, Michelle, Allison & Rachel Hamil  
270 Old Plantation Way  
Fayetteville, GA 30214  
We welcome the Hamil family from Bridgeport United Methodist Church, Bridgeport, West Virginia.

Kurt & Alison Miller  
135 Platinum Ridge  
Fayetteville, GA 30215  
Kurt transfers from Rock Springs Baptist Church in Milner, Georgia and Alison from Stanford Memorial Church in Stanford, CA. We welcome Kurt & Alison along with their daughter, Addison.

Mike Nichols & Connie Congo  
855 Highway 54 East  
Fayetteville, GA 30214  
Mike joined by profession of faith. Connie transfers her membership from Peoples Baptist Church in McDonough. We welcome Michael and Connie along with their sons Mike, Greg & Brandon.

Andrew Rose  
265 Gaelic Way  
Tyrone, GA 30290  
Andrew transfers his membership from Peace Christian Church.

Cynthia Wilson  
330 Pendleton Trail  
Tyrone, GA 30290  
We welcome Cynthia from Smyrna First UMC.

Margie Wilson  
330 Pendleton Trail  
Tyrone, GA 30290  
Margie joins by transfer from Thomaston First UMC in Thomaston, Georgia.

## When to Expect our New Pictorial Directory

All submissions have been made to Olan Mills and we are looking forward to having the new 2009 Pictorial Directory available mid October. We will let you know when they arrive!

### Attendance:

June 28 Worship: 586 Sunday School: 272	July 19 Worship: 625 Sunday School: 250
July 5 Worship: 557 Sunday School: 203	July 26 Worship: 537 Sunday School: 279
July 12 Worship: 528 Sunday School: 278	Church Membership: 2011

### Our Giving for July:

Budget: \$102,743.48  
Building Fund: \$3,524.00  
2009 Budget: \$1,424,006.00  

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Shortfall: \$77,301.17

## About Our Church Family

### In Memoriam:

Pauline Butler  
July 25, 2009

### In Sympathy:

Nancy Ricciardi and family upon the death of her father, George Schafner, on June 23.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Robinson upon the death of Jill's brother, Herman Todd, on June 28.

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Walton upon the death of Ann's mother, Maynor Strickland, on July 2.

Mr. & Mrs. Steve McAdams and family upon the death of Charlotte's father, Thurman McDaniel, on July 3.

### Keep Them In Your Prayers

Millie Arnold	Herman Miller
Joe Byers	Mary Pierson
Carolyn Croft	Jack Roberts
Dorothy Day	Bill Smith
Charlie Evans	William F. Smith
Annis Harrell	Connie Warren
Frank Hays	Bill Weinmeister
Tim Horner	Jim Wilkes
Robert Kyzer	Lynne Wood

Sonshine Singers  
4 Year Olds-Kindergarten, C-270

Melody Choir  
1st-2nd Grade, B-225

### Discovery Club:

Preschool through 1st grade children are invited to join Pastor Kristin in room C-160 as we discover together the amazing foundational stories of our faith. Each month we will focus on a different story, using storytelling, drama, and art to explore and discover the wonderful stories of the Bible.

### Kids FLIP:

Children in Preschool and Elementary are welcome to join us for a time of Fellowship, Learning, Imagination, and Play! Each week we will have time for fun and games with a mix of craft activities that allow children the time and place to just be kids with one another. We meet in room C-280.

Signups will be available Wednesday, August 19 and Wednesday, August 26 with the programs beginning September 2. Contact Joan Aycock or Kristin Scarboro for more information.

## YOUTH NEWS

### Student Life at the Beach

Our students had an outstanding time at this camp as they got to worship with 7,000 other teenagers. We were led in worship by Chris Tomlin, Leeland, and the David Crowder Band. Louie Giglio served as the teacher for the week. He challenged our students to really understand the presence of God and to focus on the unseen rather than the seen. We spent a lot of time in prayer over the week as we prayed for our church, our leaders, and those that have lost loved ones in the past few months. Our kids sponsored 5 children through Compassion International over the week immediately changing the lives of families in need. We also spent a lot of time at the beach, enjoyed good food, and even caught the premiere of the new Harry Potter movie. It was a great week that I know our kids will remember forever.

### Summer Concert Series at It's a Grind

We kicked off our summer concert series on Sunday, July 19th as we enjoyed Jason Gridley and The Museum. It was a packed house with standing room only! On Sunday, July 26th, we enjoyed our own Carson Thaxton and Evan Trivett! Our last concert will be on August 2nd featuring Reuben Bidez and Dalton. Doors open at 6 p.m. with music starting around 7 p.m. and ending around 9 p.m. Bring a chair if you want a seat as the seats go fast!

### 1|99 Welcome Event!

Join us on Friday, August 14th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall as we welcome everyone to a new year of 1|99 and specially welcome our rising 6th graders and families. Get a chance to meet other families in youth, hear from some of our student leaders, meet our adult leadership team, play games, see some drama, and have some great food!

### Rising 6th graders

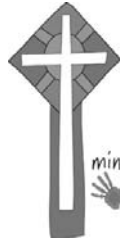
We want to welcome you to youth and be able to keep you up to date with everything that is going on. Please send an email to Chris with your name, parents' names, phone numbers, emails, address, school, etc. This will insure that you get added to our database!

### Keep up with our youth ministry

Check out our photos and videos through the youth page of the church website. Pictures are up from all summer activities including the concert series and Daytona!

### Kristin's Kids Korner

During the month of July, we have been exploring one of the foundational stories of our Christian faith: Noah's Ark. Through storytelling, crafts, and games, children in Ridin' the Ark day camp have heard this story through a variety of lenses, allowing them to see how God provides for God's people and to hear the promise God makes to God's people. While reading the story directly from the Bible is a great place to begin learning our faith stories, there are many outside resources that help the stories come to life for children of all ages. Here are a few of my favorite adaptations of the Noah story for you to share with your children:



- Noah's Ark by Mary Auld – This book is filled with beautiful illustrations to accompany the biblical story. Complete with a brief history as well as glossary to help with some of the larger words, Auld stays very close to the original text in her retelling.
- Little Scraggly Hair, A Dog on Noah's Ark by Lynn Cullen – If you can get past the country-twang writing style, this is a great book about how dogs became man's best friend all because of some happenings on Noah's Ark.
- Noah's Ark by Isabelle Brent – This version of the Noah story is beautifully "illuminated" by the author/illustrator through more abstract drawings. A good book for older elementary children in the mood for a picture book with depth.
- The Lost Zoo by Christopher Cat and Countee Cullen – This chapter book is the perfect blend of silliness and storytelling geared towards older elementary children. Told by the author and his cat, this book tells the tales of how the animals arrived on the ark and those who we have not heard of because they "missed the boat."

### Sunday School and Wonders of Worship Begin August 2

Sunday morning children's programs will begin again on August 2. Wonders of Worship will be available for all children in preschool through 2nd grade following the children's moment in the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Grade-level Sunday School will also begin August 2nd with some new opportunities as Kindergarten through 5th grade will be entering the rotation model. 3rd – 5th grades will continue to meet in the Youth Lounge for Jubilation Station before returning to their classrooms for the weekly rotation. Kindergarten – 2nd grades will meet in room C-120 for their own music gathering time before returning to their classrooms for the weekly rotation. Classroom locations for each grade will remain the same each week. Preschool will continue to use the Rock Solid curriculum each week.

### Wednesday Night Programs Begin September 2

You are invited on Wednesday nights to participate in a variety of activities for children in Preschool through 5th grade.

#### Wednesday Night Schedule:

Choirs (ages 4 through 5th grade) – 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Discovery Club, Chimes, Handbells - 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Kid's FLIP and Ensemble – 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

#### Children's Music Program: Strong Tower: Knowing My King

Join us on Wednesday nights for music, games, and fun as we learn about Jesus, our King. Our music this fall will broaden our understanding of God's role in our lives and how to connect to him. His many names will help us learn more about his relationship with us.

### Nursery Attendants Needed

The nursery is seeking to hire two new attendants. We are looking for someone who is courteous, prompt, outgoing, and good with children. You must be at least 18 years old to apply. The days and hours are Sundays from 8:15 a.m. or 9:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m., Wednesdays, 5:45-7:30 p.m., and holiday services. There are other opportunities to work throughout the year as well. If you are interested, please contact Drew Greenberg at 770-719-9421, ext. 101, or e-mail [dgreenberg@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:dgreenberg@fayettevillefirst.com).

### VBS Mission Project

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our VBS mission project to benefit Noah's Ark Children's Home and Animal Rehabilitation. We collected toilet paper, towels, and pillows for the children's home, dog and cat food for the animals, and copy paper for their office supply needs. We also took up an offering totaling over \$550 that will go towards the Ark's ongoing wish list for future educational and habitat projects. Thank you for your support of this organization and your heart for taking care of God's Good Green Earth!

### Tour of Faith

Come enjoy a day of fun and service as Fayetteville First UMC joins with other area churches and Bicycles Unlimited to sponsor the Tour of Faith, Saturday, August 15, 2009. The Tour of Faith is a bike ride through Fayette County that benefits Fayette Samaritans. If you are interested in riding please visit Bicycles Unlimited at [www.bicyclesunl.com](http://www.bicyclesunl.com) or call 770-486-9252. As a sponsor of the ride, our church will provide refreshments as well as friendly faces at a rest stop located on the corner of Huckaby Road and Rising Star Road the day of the race. If you are willing to provide baked goodies (finger friendly), pretzels, finger sandwiches, water or help greet during the day of the ride, please contact Julie Harp. We will staff our rest stop from 9:00 am until 4:00 p.m. What a great opportunity to help Fayette Samaritans and meet others in our community! Come share your time and be a friendly FFUMC face in the crowd.

## Announcements and Special Events

### Wednesday Night Programs Begin September 2

Adult class offerings include Stephen Ministry Training, Disciple Classes, Love and Logic, Conversation Peace, and Financial Peace University. Registrations are now available at the church office, at the Welcome Center and at the kiosks around the church. Sign up soon so we can get classes formed and facilitators in place.

### Church Family Picnic

Bring a favorite dish and join us on Sunday, September 20 for a church family picnic at Lake Horton from 4 – 6 p.m. Directions will be available at the Welcome Center and church kiosks. Due to park rules, if you are not a Fayette County resident, please consider riding with a resident to avoid a parking fee. Contact Kristin Scarboro or Laura Cox with any questions.

### Go Green and Receive the Connections via Email

The Connections is now available via email. Visit the church website, [www.fayettevillefirst.com](http://www.fayettevillefirst.com) to request your newsletter via email. In the top right hand corner of the home page is the option to sign up for an e-newsletter. Simply fill in your name and email address and submit your request. Please be aware if you request an e-newsletter it will take the place of your mailed copy.

### Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners Resume August 19

We will begin Wednesday night dinners on August 19 at 5:15 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Signups for Wednesday night programs will be available for all ages leading up to the start of programs on September 2. We are now taking names for the permanent dinner list. The cost is \$6 per adult and \$3 per child (10 and under) with a family maximum of \$20. If you would like to be on the permanent reservation list, please fill out the registration card in the pew and drop it in the Sunday offering plate or you may call the church office or sign up online at [www.fayettevillefirst.com](http://www.fayettevillefirst.com). If you were previously on the permanent list, you still need to renew for this year. Remember, you must call to cancel if you will be unable to attend one week. Reservations and cancellations are due in to the church office by Mondays at noon.

Following dinner on August 19 and August 26, we will transform the space into our very own FFUMC Game Show Studio! All are invited to participate, or be an audience member, in 'Church Family Feud' and 'Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader.' We hope everyone will join us for a great time of fun, laughter, and fellowship as a church family.

### Stephen Ministry

Has anyone ever told you, "trust me," and then let you down? Our Stephen Ministers really are someone you can depend on. They are committed to providing the best confidential Christian care possible. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from one-on-one Christian care giving, please call 770-719-9421 ext. 102 to get more information. If you are blessed with the gifts of compassion, faith, and encouragement and are interested in serving as a Stephen Minister, contact Laura Cox or speak with one of the Stephen Ministers within our congregation about the training classes starting in September.

### Sunday School Available on DVD

Several of our adult Sunday School classes use the Adult Bible Study lessons. Cokesbury now makes them available on audio CD. If you or anyone you know might be interested in purchasing them for their class to share or to purchase for a member that is homebound, contact Laura Cox to place your order. One set of 3 CDs is \$12. September begins the next session.

### Methodism/Membership Class Forming for September

New to Fayetteville First UMC? Want to know more about the United Methodist Church and this congregation? Plan to join us for four Wednesdays in September as we explore our history and uniqueness as United Methodists and what Fayetteville First has to offer (and what you have to offer the church).

The classes, led by Mark Westmoreland, will meet in Room C-260, 6:15-7:15 p.m.  
 September 2: John Wesley and the Methodist Revolution  
 September 9: Our Methodist History and Beliefs  
 September 16: Our Uniqueness as a Denomination  
 September 23: Finding Your Home at Fayetteville First  
 For information or to let us know you are coming, contact Julie Harp at 770-461-4313, ext. 14, or [jharp@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jharp@fayettevillefirst.com).

### Our Journey of Hope

Sunday School and Beyond is an Annual Christian Education Event provided by the North Georgia Conference and it is located at Peachtree City UMC this year on Saturday, August 15 from 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. We will explore the theme "Our Journey of Hope". Teachers, leaders, and all clergy are invited to participate in learning experiences that focus on the traditional Sunday School ministries as well as ministries of Christian education that move beyond Sunday morning, as we address teaching and learning in the broader context of church and community. If you would like to attend, the church will pay your registration fee. You can find registration forms at the church office, the Welcome Center and kiosks around the church. Contact Laura Cox if you have any questions.

### Disciple Class

Disciple Bible Studies have been influential in transforming the lives of 1.5 million people. These studies were developed to strengthen people in their faith through the in-depth study of scripture. Disciple I: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study provides an overview of the entire Bible. The other studies are Disciple II: Into the Word / Into the World; Disciple III: Remember Who You Are; Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life; Christian Believer; and Jesus in the Gospels. We would like for you to prayerfully consider enrolling in a long-term study. Classes will be limited to 12 people. Classes will be assigned space once classes form.

## August @ Fayetteville First UMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 (See left for normal schedule) AA-3	3 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 Alanon: 6	4 Summer Lunch Program: 9 Walking Group: 1 Seasoned Singers: 1:30 Sq. Ft. Ministries: 6:30	5 Intercessory Prayer: 9 Ch. Music: Sum. Evs. Reh: 10:30 Body Recall: 10:30 Ch. Music: Var. Show Reh: 11 (See left for night schedule) AA:8	6 Walking Group: 1 AA:8	7 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 AA:7	8 AA:8
9 (See left for normal schedule) Educ. Council Meeting: 11 AA:3	10 Friendship Circle: 9 Walking Group: 1 Emmanuel Board Meeting: 6:30 Alanon: 8	11 Walking Group: 1 Seasoned Singers: 1:30 Faith Circle: 7 Trinity Circle: 7	12 Intercessory Prayer: 9 Ch. Music: Sum. Evs. Reh: 10:30 Body Recall: 10:30 Ch. Music: Var. Show Reh: 11 (See left for night schedule) AA:8	13 Walking Group: 1 Precious Open Houses: 5 Sq. Ft. Ministries: 6:30 AA:8	14 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 1/99 Welcome Event: 9 AA:7	15 AA:8
16 (See left for normal schedule) AA:3	17 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 Alanon: 8	18 Shaw Ministry: 9:30 Senior Advisory Event: brown bag pharmany: 1:30 Walking Group: 1 Seasoned Singers: 1:30 Sq. Ft. Ministries: 6:30	19 Intercessory Prayer: 9 Body Recall: 10:30 8th Period: 4 (See left for night schedule) AA:8	20 Walking Group: 1 AA:8	21 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 AA:7	22 AA:8
23/30 (See left for normal schedule) AA:3 Unity Exercise and Meeting: 3 (8/20)	24/31 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 Alanon: 8	25 Walking Group: 1 Seasoned Singers: 1:30	26 Intercessory Prayer: 9 Body Recall: 10:30 (See left for night schedule) AA:8	27 Faith Circle: 10 Walking Group: 1 AA:8	28 Body Recall: 10:30 Walking Group: 1 AA:7	29 AA:8

### Normal Sunday Schedule

- Choir Practice: 7:50
- Worship in Sanctuary: 8:30
- Wonders of Worship: 8:30
- Sunday School: 9:40
- Worship in Chapel: 9:45
- Orchestra Practice: 10
- Choir Practice: 10:15
- Worship in Sanctuary: 11
- Wonders of Worship: 11
- Worship Team Rehearsal: 2
- Open Court Basketball: 2

### Normal Wednesday Schedule

- Gen. Youth Choir: 5 (Begins 8/19)
- Wed. Night Dinner: 5:15 (Begins 8/19)
- YOGA: 6:30

Chancel Choir: 7:30