



March 10, 2023

## The Weekender

### Taking time

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

Time like an ever rolling stream...

This weekend is the weekend of the time change, Daylight Saving Time. I have a love/hate relationship with DST. As a kid, I loved the longer spring and summer nights. I remember getting together with friends after church on Sunday nights and playing basketball two hours later than we normally would on that second weekend in March. I loved Daylight Saving Time.

As an adult, I find myself getting more and more curmudgeonly when it comes to changing the times. Recently, however, I learned that the original proposals for DST began during World War I as an effort to conserve energy and get a collective spirit about sacrifice and supporting the soldiers. The idea was that less energy would be used for heating, cooling, and lighting at home and that those finite resources could be put to supporting efforts in the battlefield.

In its origins, there were the ideals of collective sacrifice for the greater good, a vision for something other than one's own needs. Putting personal preferences behind the needs of other individuals.

When we frame Daylight Saving Time in that light (pun intended), it changes perspective on things. But that is lost on us if we don't take the time to learn about the history, precedence, and intent.

Too often we can put on our curmudgeon hat and complain about something without ever really taking the time to learn, grow, or understand. This is a lost art of empathy in our world today. There is a lost kindness when we rush to conclusions and make up our mind without ever really thinking through things from another person's perspective—walking a mile in their shoes. Instead, we make up our minds, set our clocks ahead, and complain about the hour of sleep we will lose.

I hope that I can do better in the future to take time to learn from someone else. I hope that in the future I can take time to learn the intent of something rather than thinking I know what should be done. I don't have to agree with it, but it is worth taking the time to learn and to grow. I know I can do a better job... even if I do lose an hour of sleep.



### THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

8:45 and 11:00 AM

**Reminder: Daylight Saving Time Begins!**

[Online link active at 11 AM and after](#)

*Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-14*

Rev. Allyson Lawrence

# CURRENT NEWS



## EGG your neighbor! A Lenten community outreach

Kits available Sunday: Give the gift of fun to families in your neighborhood. This Lenten and Easter season we're EGGing our neighbors (in a nice way) with our Egg Your Neighbor kit. **Kits will be available beginning March 12** in the Welcome Portal behind the sanctuary. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence, [alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com), or Allie Hansen, [ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com), with questions.



We need your blood!

Sign up NOW  
for March 19  
Blood Drive!

## Give blood at FFUMC: Sunday, March 19

Did you know that most of the donors at our blood drives are now from this congregation? Options for donation sites have increased in our community, which is a good thing. This opens up space for YOU to donate in a familiar setting at Fayetteville First UMC!

Go directly to the American Red Cross site at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and choose our drive ... and encourage others to donate here at FFUMC. **Please sign up to donate in advance if at all possible.** Email [ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com) for questions or assistance.



NOTE: We have hosted 57 drives at FFUMC and collected 4236 units of blood. You can be part of the 58th drive! The coffee and food table returns for all donors. We hope to see you there!



Without you, the  
directory won't be  
complete.

**Schedule  
NOW!**

## Schedule your NEW directory photo session now!

### Photography sessions NOW OPEN for May 4-7

We are ready! A new church directory will be produced by The Portrait Cafe this summer. What to do now? Schedule your photography session!

**[Schedule your photo session now: follow this link.](#)**

Session options are Thursday, May 4, through Sunday, May 7. (*Monday, May 8, and Tuesday, May 9, may be added by The Portrait Cafe for sessions if May 4-7 slots are filled.*)

Each family unit photographed by The Portrait Cafe will receive a free 8x10 photo and a free directory.

**[Follow this link for complete information at FayettevilleFirst.com.](#)** See what to wear and why we should avoid green, how to change an appointment and more. If you still have questions, contact Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com), or Karen Powell or Michelle Burch at the church office for assistance at 770-461-4313 or [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com).



## Make a difference through Fayette Samaritans

We can help others in our community through Fayette Samaritans. How?

Make a **regular tax-deductible financial donation**. Projected needs for 2023: \$408,000.

Give **food**. Donations may be placed in the hallway cart near the gym or dropped by the church office. **New March Most Needed List:** Canned Beef Stew, Hamburger Helper, Canned Fruit, Jelly, Jello, Bar Soap, Deodorant for men and women, Feminine Products

Donate **clothing**. **Critical needs:** New underwear for men and women, especially larger sizes; New or gently used girls and women's socks; Men's shirts (button up or Tee-shirts) sizes S and M

**Volunteer**. The average number of weekly volunteers is 41.

**Find out more** from the president of Fayette Samaritans, our own Linda Ladd, at 770-363-1909 or [lladd941@comcast.net](mailto:lladd941@comcast.net).



## High School Seniors: Apply for Ed Travis Scholarship NOW

A \$2,500 scholarship is available to a graduating senior at FFUMC entering an accredited college, university or technical school for the upcoming school year. [Get instructions and an application at FayettevilleFirst.com](#). **Completed applications are due March 31 in the church office.**



## Serve at SafeHouse Outreach on March 30

Want to help serve a meal at SafeHouse? Thursday, March 30, is our next service to the homeless in downtown Atlanta. Please contact Randy Riddell for details if you'd like to help serve at [randyhr8@gmail.com](mailto:randyhr8@gmail.com).

*The FFUMC bus will leave for SafeHouse on March 30 at 4:30 PM and returns by 8 PM. Let Randy Riddell know if you want to be on it!*



## SAGE goes to Fresh Air Bar-B-Que March 17

Go to Jackson, Georgia, with SAGE and enjoy a good time and some of the best slow-cooked BBQ around at Fresh Air Bar-B-Que.

**Sign up:** Call church office at 770-461-4313

**Bus departs:** Friday, March 17, 10:33 AM

**Cost:** \$5 transportation plus lunch

Questions? Contact Rev. Joe Watson.



## Worship and Welcome updates

You are invited to stay in the sanctuary after 11 AM worship postlude on Sunday, March 19, to hear updates regarding our spaces of Worship and Welcome. We have several needs for improvements to our facilities and want everyone to have the chance to listen and learn about the work the Trustees and a special sub-committee are part of. If you have questions, please let Thomas know.





## Life Line Screening comes to FFUMC March 18

Did you know that 80% of strokes are preventable (according to the American Heart Association)? Life Line Screening provides valuable screenings to detect the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease. You can sign up for the complete stroke screening package and more to be held at FFUMC on March 18. Pre-registration is required. Call 1-844-591-7160 or visit <https://llsa.social/HC> to register.



## Wednesday Night Supper: March 15, 5:15 PM

### SAINT PATRICK POTLUCK

Let's celebrate St. Patrick's Day early with a potluck on Wednesday, March 15. What to do to join the celebration?

- **Make reservations.** [Meat and desserts are provided, so you need to reserve your place to let us know how much to prepare.](#) There is no cost, but we need to know you're coming.
- **Bring your favorite side dish to share.** There is no charge for the potluck except for your dish. Bring a salad... veggie... any yummy side dish to share (meat and dessert provided).

Reserve your place. [Use this link](#) or call the church office. Bring a side dish. You're sure to have good LUCK at this POTLUCK. It will be a deliciously good time!



## Preschool applications accepted for 2023-2024

Pass the word ... Fayetteville First Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year. Little ones from age one to four are welcome to come learn, play and grow together. Make sure your spot is reserved.... And pass the word along! Contact director Kerry Bleil for more information.

[Fayetteville First Preschool Facebook](#)

[Information Brochure](#)

[Information Webpage](#)



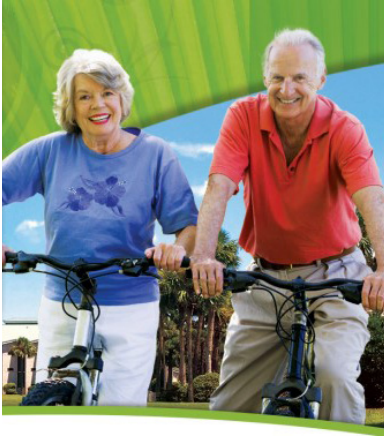
## Yes! I'll help at Family Art Night

Looking for an opportunity to get a glimpse into preschool life? Now is your chance! On Wednesday evening, March 22, Fayetteville First Preschool is hosting a Family Art Night for our students. We would **love your help** in making the evening run smoothly. Having volunteers from the church will allow preschool grown-ups to enjoy the evening with their children. [Please click on the Sign-Up Genius link to view available volunteer opportunities.](#) You just show up! Art stations will be set up with instructions and materials when you arrive. Guaranteed fun! Questions? Contact Kerry Bleil, director, at [kbleil@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:kbleil@fayettevillefirst.com).

**PARDON  
OUR  
PROGRESS!**

### **Working on the Workroom: Pardon our progress!**

The church workroom near the elevator is getting an overhaul over the next few weeks to make the space more functional for all our church-wide needs. During the re-do, the copier will remain available. If you can't find something else you need, contact Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com), in the church office for help.



### **SAGE Retreat planned at St. Simons Island**

Want some time away on an adventure? Come with SAGE to "Adventurous Adult Retreat: Living Life to the Fullest" at Epworth By the Sea on beautiful St. Simons Island.

Date: May 15-18, 2023

Speaker: Rev. Keith Elder

Entertainment: Andy Offutt Irwin, storyteller

Workshops: Adults in Motion, Writing Your Legacy, Storytelling, more

Cost: \$390-\$460

[Retreat Information](#) [Retreat schedule](#)

Contact Rev. Joe Watson and let him know you're interested.



### **"Can I please bag carrots?"**

Virginia Pope, our leader for the summer lunch program last year, would like to be an expert carrot bagger this year. Can you help make that happen for her? Our summer lunch program provides meals during June and July for those who receive free or reduced price lunch during the school year. Can you volunteer as a helper? Would you serve as leader for the program? Contact Virginia Pope, 678-361-1722, with your questions or to let her know she can count on you!

## **FFUMC KIDS NEWS**

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### **CELEBRATE with palms on Palm Sunday, April 2**

Let's celebrate on Palm Sunday, April 2, in the palm processional. All children are invited to gather at 10:45 (after Sunday school) in the courtyard to receive fronds and prepare to wave palms in the sanctuary at the beginning of the 11 a.m. worship service.



### **It's Coming ... Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, April 2**

April 2, Palm Sunday, is a big day! Worship at 11 AM and wave palms in the Palm Sunday Processional. Following the service, come to The Field for fun with a bounce house, food, and cotton candy. The FFUMC Egg Hunt will begin at 1 PM.



## iRespond To God's Grace, March 22

At FFUMC Kids we create an environment for children and families to grow in awareness of God, to experience God's love, and to respond to God's grace. One of the ways we respond to God's amazing grace is in service. Our next iServe event is Wednesday, March 22 from 5-7 p.m. and we will be helping our preschool families as they hold their annual Art Night event. Plan to be here to support our preschool and expand your understanding of service. Email Pastor Allyson, [alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com), or Ms. Allie, [ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com), and let us know you are coming.

## FFUMC Youth NEWS

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### Support youth missions

Want to support a youth (or several) individually on their summer trips to Appalachia? You can **purchase a "bond certificate" in \$25, \$50 or \$100 (or larger) amounts.** The certificates are available in the Welcome Portal behind the sanctuary or or you may print one from these links. Just complete the certificate and take it to the church office by May 1 with cash or check attached. Individuals or small groups are invited to participate. Could your Sunday school class, UWF group, or other small group pool resources to support one or several youth volunteers?

[\\$25 Bond Certificate](#)

[\\$50 Bond Certificate](#)

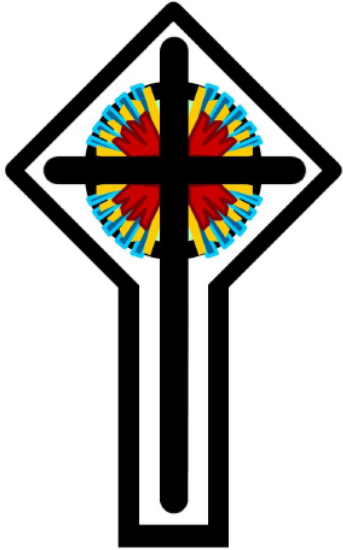
[\\$100 Bond Certificate](#)



Some youth may be able to help with your personal house projects to earn donations toward their trip costs (no guarantees on dates/availability, but requests can be made and we will try to work out the details). Questions? [Contact Hannah Vickery, youth director.](#)



You can **give online!** Just go to [www.fayettevillefirst.com](http://www.fayettevillefirst.com), scroll to the bottom of the page, click on the "Donate" button, and be sure when submitting your contribution to memo "Youth Summer Missions."



## March 8, 2023 Financials

### Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$231,631.93
Year to Date expenses	\$229,662.38
Difference	\$1,969.55

### Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week: \$1,605.60  
27 benevolence clients assisted year to date for a total of \$7,487.49

### You can continue your financial support in many ways:

Online giving: [Click here.](#)

Mail check to church or place it in the drop box at the church office.  
Use electronic funds transfer with your bank.

### Regular Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m. lunch)  
Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214  
770-461-4313 [FayettevilleFirst.com](http://FayettevilleFirst.com)

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM;  
Wednesdays through Saturdays 7 PM  
NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM



**We go together these 40 days**

[See the schedule of Lenten opportunities at FayettevilleFirst.com](#)  
[or access a PDF here.](#)

We can "punch holes in the darkness" throughout this season.



# inspired ...

## Youth continue raising funds for missions

Thanks for your encouraging support of our youth. In February you showed up in force for the FFUMC and Inman UMC Youth at their Potato Bake Fundraiser. The group provided a nutritious meal and fellowship in the Family Life Center and shared stories and photos from last year's Appalachia Service Project (ASP) trip along with helpful prayer guides. All proceeds went to trip costs of FFUMC and Inman UMC youth.

What was the result of this one effort by 12 youth?

\$2,071 donated

Approximately 75 people in attendance

The fundraising efforts continue. See the youth section of this newsletter or the [FFUMC Youth Page](#) on our website for how you can continue your support.

Questions? Contact Hannah Vickery, youth director.



*Thanks to your support, our youth are closer to their fundraising goals for summer missions. Working with Inman UMC youth, the group presented their mission in worship and then headed to the kitchen to prepare the spread. Ask Davis Martin who wore the disguises beside him. You might be surprised!*

