



July 7, 2023

## The Weekender

### Rest

Dr. Thomas Martin, Senior Minister

In our world, it is a luxury. It is expressed in time away. Vacation. Taking a break. It comes in many forms to us but it is seen as a luxury and a commodity.

Yet one of the Ten Commandments has to do with rest. *"Honor the Sabbath and keep it holy."* How do we keep a holy Sabbath?

I think it has to do with what Sabbath means. Yes, it means rest. Yes, it means time away. But it is better to be thought of as time set apart. Time set for the worship of God. Rest is something that we are commanded to do because God himself rested on the seventh day.



Yet here is the trick to rest — it involves work. We must plan if we go out of town to have someone watch our dogs, check our mail, move our trash can. It is not something that just happens. You don't just go away on vacation. You have to plan, prepare, and execute a plan. But all the work you put into the planning and preparation is designed for you to enjoy the very thing that you have been given.

So how do you plan for rest? What provisions do you make so that you can honor the Sabbath — the worship of God — and keep it holy?

As you wrestle with that question, you may be thinking "How can I ever take a break? I am needed everywhere I go! Who understands the luxury of time away from all the burdens I am carrying?"

It might do us well to hear again the words of Jesus that we will reflect upon this week in worship: *"Come unto me, all of you that labor, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart. And you will find rest unto your souls."*

May we find rest and peace in knowing that Jesus bears our burdens, for his yoke is easy, and his burden is light.



**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 9, 2023**

**8:45 and 11:00 AM**

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

*Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

## CURRENT NEWS

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### Give blood at FFUMC: Sunday, July 16

Donate in a familiar setting at Fayetteville First UMC on Sunday, July 16, from 8 AM to 1 PM in the gym.

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.



### Experience a Messy Church

Have you heard about Messy Church and want to know more? A small group is invited to travel to Aldersgate UMC in Augusta on July 16 to experience and participate in Messy Church – Augusta. If you are interested let Rev. Allyson Lawrence know and she will give you the details. There are only a few spaces available so an RSVP to [alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com) by July 14 is required.

### Acolyte Party

Let us celebrate you! All Acolytes are invited to come to a party in their honor at Royal Lanes Social for DuckPin on July 26 from 4 – 5 PM. When we finish bowling we will take the church van to the City Center, eat pizza and hang out there till 6:30 PM. Parents can drop off at the church at 3:15 PM and pick up in front of Hog Pit BBQ and Scoops at 6:30 PM. DuckPin and pizza is free!



### Dickey Farms & Blackbird Cafe: July 13

Join with friends for a visit to Dickey Farms and lunch at The Blackbird Cafe on Thursday, July 13. Senior Adults Going Everywhere will meet in the church office lot for a 10:30 AM departure. After lunch and a "peachy" good time together at the farm, we'll return around 3:30 PM. Cost: \$2 transportation, plus lunch and any Dickey Farms purchases on your own. Questions? Contact Rev. Charles Robinson, Minister of Nurture. Sign up in the church office at 770-461-4313 or [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com).



## New! July "Most Needed" List for Fayette Samaritans

Donations are one way to help those with food insecurity and other needs. Food and clothing donations may be placed in the hallway cart near the gym or dropped by the church office.

**Most Needed List:** Canned Chicken, Canned Green Beans, Canned Corn, Boxed Mac and Cheese, Hamburger Helper, Peanut Butter, Soup (no Cream of Chicken, please), Dried Pinto and Black-eyed Peas, Rice, Cookies, Feminine Products

**Clothing needs:** Men's boxer-style underwear all sizes, boys underwear all sizes, socks for men, women, boys and girls



## General music reading and theory

Would you like to read music well enough to play a variety of instruments or sing? Join us this summer on the 2nd and 4th Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 PM for a music reading and basic music theory class. The class will meet during June and July. Questions? Contact Judy Hames, [jhames@bellsouth.net](mailto:jhames@bellsouth.net).



## Singing through the summer - Try it out!

Want to experience singing in the Chancel Choir? Summer is a great time to give it a go! Rehearsals through the summer are on Sunday mornings only at 9:45 AM from June 11 through September 3. Questions? Contact Justin Maxey, [jmaxey@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jmaxey@fayettevillefirst.com).



## Let's Do Lunch - Saturday, August 12

We are now accepting reservations for our 2nd Annual Let's Do Lunch! And don't forget to bring a few friends, neighbors and family with you. Don't wait! You have until July 29 to reserve your seat.

This year, we are delighted to have author Pat Elsberry as our special guest. You will be blessed to hear her inspirational story.

Guests will enjoy Chicken Salad for lunch, as well as the chance to browse all the uniquely decorated tables in the Fellowship Hall.

There is no cost to attend this event, but reservations are required.

3 easy ways to make your reservation:

**Online:** [Click this reservation link](#), fill in the form & press SUBMIT.

**Email:** Send an email to Lauren Davis at [lauren.davis@comcast.net](mailto:lauren.davis@comcast.net) with your name, email address, phone number, and the names of anyone coming with you.

**Phone:** Call the church office at 770-461-4313.

You can make reservations for you and your friends at the same time.

If you made a reservation but can no longer attend, please be sure to contact Lauren to cancel.

**Donations are accepted to offset the costs of this event. Mark any donation as "UWF-Let's Do Lunch."**





## United Women in Faith mission project continues

You are invited to participate in the United Women in Faith Southwest District mission projects for this year which include UMCOR and Rushton's Hope.

**UMCOR disaster relief needs** boxes of 33-45 gallon heavy duty trash bags and bottles of concentrated liquid household cleaner, 16-40 oz.

**Rushton's Hope** is a ministry serving the impoverished, homeless, rejected and hurting people in the area of Griffin. They provide for physical needs through food, clothing, toiletries, household items, and furniture, and will take used mattresses as well as monetary donations. They also minister to spiritual needs through a worship service, jail ministry, a crisis pregnancy ministry, and special events through the year.

Rushton's Hope needs jelly, crackers (any kind, either individually wrapped packs or short stacks), microwavable cups of Rice-A-Roni and Mac & Cheese, but other items will be accepted. For more information on Rushton's Hope or for pick up of large items, please call Faye Livingston at 770-401-9761. If you have furniture to donate, Cindy Hall and Faye Livingston will coordinate with the Summer Lunch Families and Rushton's Hope so that needs are met where they are the greatest.

A box will be in the Welcome Portal to collect for these two projects through September 1.



## Summer Delights on Wednesday Nights

Enjoy food and fellowship throughout the summer. Meet at the Bus Barn Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Bring a dinner of your choice or order from Hog Pit BBQ right there at the City Center. We can enjoy the nice summer evenings, the ice cream shop, the playground, inside/outside dining, and simply being together all summer long.

## School supply drive for local students

School supplies have become increasingly more expensive and we are wanting to help families curtail some of that cost. Would you begin collecting school supplies so we can give them out at our back-to-school event on July 29? [To see example suggestions of needed school supplies check out this local school's list.](#) Please place donations in the Welcome Portal bin or church office by July 21.



## Hello! I'm .....

Would you like a customized nametag to help you greet others? Did you lose one you may have had previously? We are placing another order. Let us know if you want one by contacting the church office at 770-461-4313 or [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com). The deadline to place your order is Monday, July 17. Cost is \$9. Mark your payment in any form as "Nametag" in the memo line.

# Notes of Gratitude

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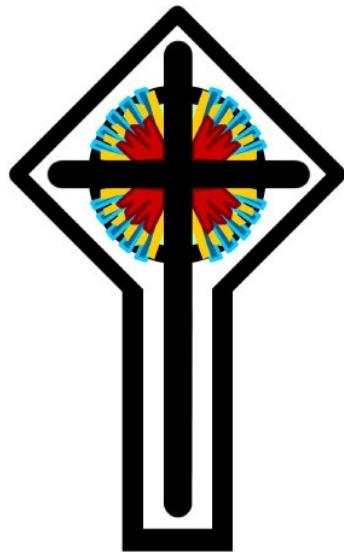
*Thank you for all of your hard work during the week you volunteered with Appalachia Service Project. We appreciate you all and the opportunity we had to get to know you. Enjoy the rest of your summer! — Rebecca, Bella, Matt, Adam from Appalachia Service Project*

*To Shawl Ministry:*

*Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl you made me during the time that I was battling a systemic staff infection. I love the shawl. I'm very fond of browns and beiges and the yarn is so very soft! Thank you for both the shawl and your prayers. — Sharon Rugg*

## June 28, 2023 Financials

*Financials will be updated next week*



### Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$598,983.61
Year to Date expenses	\$598,775.65
Difference	\$207.96

### Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week: \$103.00

77 benevolence clients assisted year to date for a total of \$23,705.77

### 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 7 PM;  
Fridays 7 PM; Saturdays 7 PM

# inspired ...

## Angels among us

A group has been quietly working since January 2023 to improve the church campus in little and big ways. Who are they? The Jackleg Angels Group (JAG Volunteers)!

What's a Jackleg? Here's a description by coordinator and Trustee Chair Bob Dunn:

*Jackleg: as in amateur; an endearing, but affectionate term for a self-motivated, capable, hands-on, good 'ol boy or girl, who is unafraid to tackle almost any task....as long as power tools are involved.*

Our JAG is at work saving the church significant dollars by doing projects with member volunteers whenever possible rather than hiring contractors. The group takes on projects from the Trustees' Capital Replacement, Projects, Maintenance list and other requests to help carry the maintenance supervisor's load and help out as needed. Direct requests have also been taken for upgrades to campus facilities.

Projects completed over a four-month period have saved the church a conservative estimate of \$5,500 had the church hired outside contractors or labor. A growing list of projects remain on the agenda to be completed during the next four to six months with an equivalent future cost savings.

Would you like to contribute to this group? Contact Bob Dunn, [radunn14@gmail.com](mailto:radunn14@gmail.com), and you too could sprout some wings as an amazing Jackleg Angel!

*Photos show a few of the completed projects: new door hardware installed in Bride's Room, moving playground equipment to make way for new mulch, repair to dumpster fence, fresh stripes to parking lots, new shelves in orchestra room, landscape at church office and more.*

