



October 27, 2023

The Weekender

Where your treasure is...

Dr. Thomas Martin, Senior Minister

For some reason, people clam up when giving, pledging, and tithing come into the conversation. Throughout the years, I have begun to see it less as a way in which people feel about it but rather the sheepishness comes from people not wanting to seem uninformed. For example, I once had a member of the church offer to donate a microphone to the church for use in worship. The cost was around \$100. He said, "I'd like to buy this for the church and let it count as my tithe for the year."

I replied to him, "That's good, but a tithe is a biblical principle of giving 10% of your income to the church. Are you saying that you make \$1000 a year?" (I felt safe asking that question because while I did not know what he made, I knew it was over \$1000 a year.)

That led to a great discussion on giving, tithing, and an understanding of giving to God what is God's to begin with.

What is it that we will give to the ministries of the church to extend God's kingdom? That is the question of our hearts that we ask daily as Christians, but especially as we consider the gifts we will give to the mission and ministry of Fayetteville First UMC. This year, we are asking for you to consider two separate gifts or pledges. First, your annual pledge to the operating budget of the church for 2024. Second, an over and above pledge for our capital campaign which will address much needed deferred maintenance to areas of worship and welcome.

On All Saints day, you will have the opportunity to share in communion together, but also to lay your pledge card for the operating budget and capital campaign on the altar. You will notice it is two separate forms. I hope you will prayerfully consider your commitment to Christ through your giving to the mission and ministries of this church.



22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 29, 2023

8:45 and 11:00 AM

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

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Rev. Charles Robinson

CURRENT NEWS



33rd Annual Christmas Marketplace is almost here!

November 4, 9 AM to 3 PM

We can use your help!

Christmas Marketplace is almost HERE. Our church's largest fundraiser is poised for another record-breaking year. We can use your help! Donate, Bake, Volunteer, Shop and Share!

How you can help:

DONATE your gently-used, sellable donations to the Fellowship Hall starting on Monday, October 30.

[Timeless Treasures Donation Guidelines - Someone else can use what you no longer need!](#)

BAKE your favorite homemade cookies, breads, cupcakes, brownies, muffins, or cakes for the Gingerbread House and bring to C-140 (the nursery) by noon on Friday, Nov. 3.

[Gingerbread House Donation Guidelines - Bring on those homemade goodies!](#)

VOLUNTEERS are always needed to help sort donations in Timeless Treasures, make lunch in the Grill, greet guests, and cleanup.

[Contact Lauren Davis, lauren-davis@comcast.net. She'll find the right job for you!](#)

SHOP for early Christmas gifts, unique handmade items from over 90 vendors.

[These vendors have reserved a booth and more are coming. Just look at the variety!](#)

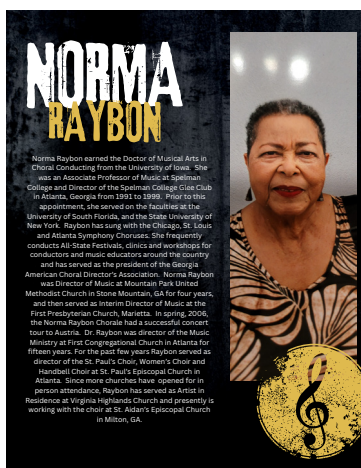
SHARE the event with family, friends & neighbors.

[Share this flyer on social media or print to share with neighbors and friends.](#)

Hope to see everyone there!



Vendors are getting ready for this BIG event.



Welcome guest conductor Dr. Norma Raybon this Sunday

Our worship this Sunday will be enhanced by the gifts of Dr. Norma Raybon as she directs the Chancel Choir at the 11:00 AM service. The group will present "Swell the Full Chorus" from **Solomon** by George-Frederick Handel as well as "Under His Wings" with soloist Luanne Harms.

Dr. Raybon earned her Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of Iowa. After serving on several university faculties, she was Associate Professor of Music at Spelman College and Director of the Spelman College Glee Club. Since that appointment, Dr. Raybon has conducted festivals, clinics and workshops across the country and served in numerous churches. [Read more about her distinguished career](#) and share a moving worship experience with her this Sunday.



Pecan Time!
Holiday Baking
Gifts
Freeze and Enjoy All Year

Pecans! Still only \$8 per bag!

It's pecan time! You pay \$8 for each 12 oz. bag of pecans: that's no price increase from last year ... what a deal! All profits are donated to our UWF charities

Only need a few bags? Buy them at the Christmas Marketplace on Saturday, November 4.

Want to place a larger order for personal use and gifts? [Complete this order form or get one on Sunday next to the bulletin stations.](#)

Then drop the form along with your **exact payment** in an envelope marked "Pecan Sales" in the church office or in the collection plate (remember the envelope!) by **Sunday, November 5**. Pecans will be available for pickup in the Fellowship Hall on November 7 and 8 from 1 to 2 PM and after the 11 AM worship service on November 12. Make out checks to **United Women in Faith or UWF**.

We are committed to raising funds for others. With pecans, everybody wins!



Treats for Troops - Leftover candy for a cause

To show our troops how much we care, this Veteran's Day the United Women in Faith is taking up a collection of unwanted, leftover candy to donate to Treats for Troops, a collection organized by Soldiers' Angels, an organization dedicated to assisting military and their families in a number of different ways. If you have extra leftover candy that you would rather

donate than throw away, please simply drop it in the box in the welcome portal near the Sanctuary by Sunday, November 19. If you would like to contribute but have no candy, please consider donating a few dollars to help pay for shipping costs. Make your donation directly to "United Women in Faith" and designate "Treats for Troops" in the memo. You may place it in the offering plate or deliver it to the church office.



Charge Conference November 7 at Peachtree City UMC

You are invited to attend a District Charge Conference with other Fayette county churches at Peachtree City UMC on Tuesday, November 7, at 6:30 PM.



Fasting and Prayer

North Georgia United Methodists are invited to take part in 40 days of prayer and fasting from October 1 to November 9 in a spirit of Consecration for Renewal. [A list of times and emphasis for prayer and fasting can be found by clicking here.](#)

If you would like to be part of an accountability group for this season of fasting and prayer, please contact [Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin](#).

O God, you have created within me a desire for want. I want the better house. I want ease of life. I want control over my day to day activities. I want healing. I want release. Through this season of prayer and fasting, when my desire for want turns to the things of this world, help me to pause, reflect, and pray. And above all else, help me to want more of you rather than more of the world's things. Amen.



Wear costumes!

Event is Saturday!

Trunk or Treat is tomorrow, October 28!

This year's Trunk or Treat will help our kids celebrate a fun holiday, teach them the story of Joshua, and remind them to take courage, even in the face of fear (Joshua 1:9). You can help make it all happen. Here's how:

- [Reserve a spot for your decorated trunk. Sign up here.](#) Please plan to arrive by 10:30 and the event will end at 1 p.m.
- Bring a cake for our fabulous Cake Walk. You can drop off your cake in the Family Life Center Kitchen anytime up to the day of the event.
- You may still donate individually wrapped candy for the event. Just leave it in Family Life Center Kitchen with the Cake Walk contributions.
- Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbors and friends! Let them know what to expect. Lunch is provided. We'll have games, a cake walk, music and a really great time together.



Children go to Azalea Estates, October 29

All children welcome. Wear costumes!

Gather in Children's Room at 9:30; Church bus departs 9:45 and returns after the 10 am service at Azalea Estates by 10:45

Our children's ministry will share some smiles at the Azalea Estates service on Sunday, October 29. Rev. Charles Robinson will lead the service, our children's choir will sing, and all children are invited to "Reverse Trick-or-Treat" as they hand out a special treat prepared in advance by our children's ministry. Questions? Contact [Rev. Allyson Lawrence](#).



Acolyte Training and Refresher Event: Wednesday night, November 8

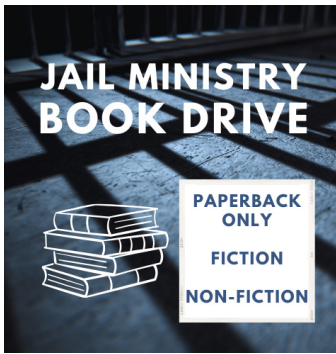
All youth and children, third grade through twelfth, are invited to explore our acolyte ministry. Acolytes lead worship each Sunday by assisting the pastors, lighting the altar table candles, assisting the ushers during the offering, and leading the entire congregation out of the sanctuary as we become the light of Christ in the world. [Let Pastor Allyson know you are interested.](#) Beginners will walk through all the details beside our more seasoned servants on Wednesday, November 8, from 6 to 7 PM. You will be trained in leading the service, fitted for your robe and gloves, and learn to navigate our scheduling system.



Titus II features Penny Miller on November 7

Enjoy a good lunch and entertaining program with friends at our next Titus II on November 7 at noon in the gym. Penny Miller, a singer from First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, will present the program. Menu: Turkey, Dressing & Gravy, Green Beans, Sweet Potato Casserole, Pecan Pie.

Make reservation by Thursday noon on November 2. Call church office or Martha Turner at 770-461-2802.



Share books with jail ministry - Due this Sunday

The book drive sponsored by our Jail Ministry has been extended until this Sunday, October 29. Please place any books you wish to donate in the church office or welcome portal collection bins.

Why donate? Locked in their cells all but three hours each day, inmates read a lot for information, entertainment, and growth. We are collecting books to donate to the jail library.

Paperback books only (no hardbound or magazines)

Fiction or non-fiction

Also needed: Plastic reading glasses of any strength



Let's eat together on Wednesday Nights - IN GYM 11/1

Enjoy meals on Wednesday nights together at 5:15 PM.

On November 1 we will meet in the gym due to Christmas Marketplace setup.

Adults \$10, Children under 13: \$7 (pay at door)

Sign up by noon each Monday. Contact the church office, 770-461-4313, admin@fayettevillefirst.com, or fill out a Fellowship Dinner pew card.

November 1: Olive Garden

Lasagna, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert

Gratitude



Thank you, Flower Ministry:

Thank you so much for bringing me flowers following my recent surgery. They are still beautiful and enjoyed every day. I also enjoyed having a nice visit with Karen and Yvette. They were so kind to spend their Sunday afternoon working in this ministry. It was most appreciated. — Sara Reams

Thank you for the beautiful flowers you shared with me. — Yvette Elliott

Thank you for the flowers you gave me during my illness. — Anna Hargis

Thank you, Shawl Ministry:

I would like to thank the Shawl Ministry for the amazingly beautiful shawl that they gifted to me during my time of grief. — Lynn Porter

Thank you, Church Family:

Thank you all for the many outpourings of love I have received this past month after my fall. Mostly your prayers, which have surely been heard by our Lord. Also all the cards, plants, flowers, meals, visits, and my "shawl of many colors" from the Shawl Ministry. I am very blessed to be a part of this church family.

— Nancy Dennis

Thank you so much for the prayers, flowers, calls, and the prayer shawl. Joe and I miss seeing everyone and look forward to coming back to activities at church. I have finished chemo and surgery. I start six weeks of radiation the first of November and go to Emory Clifton Road five days a week for the radiation. You are all in our prayers. Thank you for everything. — Julie & Joe Watson



Let's help through 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.

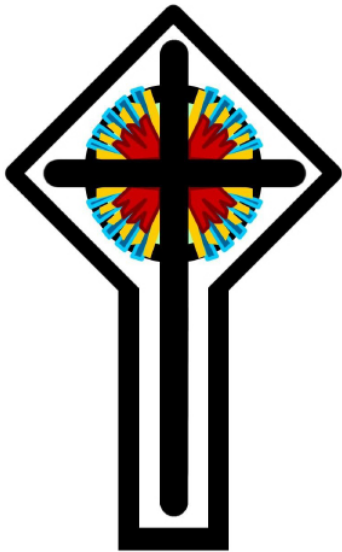
Most Needed List: Canned Chicken, Canned Green Beans, Canned Corn, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Canned Pasta, Boxed Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Jelly **Other needs:** Men's boxer-style underwear all sizes, boys underwear all sizes, socks for men, women, boys and girls, laundry detergent



Church Office on Fridays

Beginning this Friday, the church office will be closed on Fridays for the time being. I appreciate your patience and apologize for any inconvenience.

-Thomas Martin



October 25, 2023 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$989,208.70
Year to Date expenses	\$992,128.34
Difference	-\$2,919.64

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$1,983.00

143 benevolence clients assisted year to date for a total of \$42,904.68

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)

Closed Fridays until further notice

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-461-4313 FayettevilleFirst.com

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM; Wednesdays 7 PM;
Fridays 7 PM; Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

inspired ...

Wednesday nights together - Let's eat!

What's for dinner on Wednesday nights? It's something different all the time! Each week 40 to 50 folks enjoy a delicious meal from a local restaurant. It's easy! Someone else cooks it, presents it, and serves it up. You just sign up and show up. For \$10 for adults and \$7 for kids, you get an entree, sides, bread, dessert and drink without lifting a finger! Come give it a try!

Reservations are due each week by noon on Mondays. Complete a pew card, call the church office or email admin@fayettevillefirst.com. Pay at the door. Then enjoy a good meal!

Ucoming meals plus dessert and drink!

November 1: Olive Garden - This night in GYM due to Christmas Marketplace Setup

Lasagna, Salad, Bread Sticks

November 8: Speedi Pig

BBQ Pork Sandwiches, Coleslaw, Baked Beans

November 15: Thanksgiving Pot Luck

Special night! Bring a side dish to share.

November 29: Tim's Country Kitchen

MeatLoaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls

December 6: Broadway Diner

Chicken Alfredo, Salad, Rolls

December 13: Anthony's Pizza

Christmas Caroling night

Sign up and show up - it's that easy



Our amazing hospitality team serves with a smile!

*Shown left to right: Lauren Davis, Lea Agnew, Carolyn McKinley
Not pictured: Marilyn Harris*



FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
175 East Lanier Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-461-4313 fayettevillefirst.com