



November 3, 2023

The Weekender

Saints and sinners

Dr. Thomas Martin, Senior Minister

I have a colleague who greets his congregation every Sunday with these words, "Good morning, Saints. Good morning, Sinners." Two polar opposites of what we look like at our best and at our worst. Yet every Sunday we gather to worship, every time we come together to fellowship or serve, this is who we are as the people of God. We are sinners saved by grace and we are saints—members of a royal priesthood through Jesus Christ. The church is not perfect and neither are its people. We are all sinners and saints.



On this Sunday, in particular, we remember that fact as we name the names of saints of the church—those who have received their eternal crown this year. We do so by reading their names in worship and remembering the names of other saints in our hearts. What if naming a name isn't enough? What if there was something more that we could do?

As we have done in the past few years, we will come to the altar rail for communion to remember Christ's work in our lives. We remember the words of the hymn, "O blessed communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine for all are one in Thee and all are thine."

As you come to the altar table, you are invited to be sainted as you take and eat of the bread and drink of the cup. We are also placing our commitment cards onto the altar rail. These pledges to both the operating budget and the capital campaign are different this year. It represents two different opportunities. Most importantly, it provides a chance for us to draw close to God by coming to the table as he draws close to us.

The purpose of the local church is the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world. When you give financially to the operating budget and capital expenses of this church, you are helping fulfill the purpose. A purpose with hope and a future. I hope to see you on Sunday for a glorious time of worship and edification, you saints and sinners of Fayetteville First UMC.



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

8:45 and 11:00 AM

REMINDER: Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday

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

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



33rd Annual Christmas Marketplace is tomorrow

November 4, 9 AM to 3 PM

Shop! Eat! Bring friends!

Start the holiday season at Christmas Marketplace! Find unique gifts and food from nearly 90 vendors, get homemade treats from the Gingerbread House, enjoy lunch at The Grill, take home some found treasures. You'll have a great day and help raise funds for 9 local charities.

VENDORS you'll see tomorrow:

[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!



See "White Christmas" with SAGE on November 11

Begin the holiday season with a great show at The Legacy Theatre in Tyrone. Our Senior Adults Going Everywhere will enjoy a matinee there on Saturday, November 11. We have tickets for the first 25 who reserve and pay.

Gather at church by 12:45 PM; Bus departs at 1 PM; Show begins at 2 PM

Cost: \$34 (payable in advance at the church office),

plus dinner after the show at Carrabba's Italian Grill



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.



Pecan Time!
Holiday Baking
Gifts
Freeze and Enjoy All Year

Pecans! Still only \$8 each! Order/Pay by November 5

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!



Check-in Lunch
November 12

Messy Church Check-in Lunch, November 12, noon-1:30

Now that we have had three Messy Church services we would like to check-in and hear team members' ideas and thoughts. How do you think it is going? What are our celebrations? What are our concerns? What have we done well? What needs work? What do we need to drop? How can we plan better? Do better? You are invited to a free lunch on November 12 in the Fellowship Hall from noon to 1:30 p.m. to share our collective thoughts and address any questions. We will have Broadway Diner's chicken fettuccini, salad and desert. Who's invited? Anyone who has helped with Messy Church, prayed for Messy Church, or has any lingering questions about what Messy Church is. [Please RSVP here so we can plan enough food.](#)



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](#).

Dear God,

As we approach the end of these forty days, help us to look back with gratitude for the times when your presence has sustained us. Help us to look ahead to the promises you made for us, to prosper us and not to harm. Help us to look to this moment we have now as a gift of your divine holy presence in our midst. Give us strength. Give us courage. Give us peace. In the name of the resurrected Christ we pray. Amen.



G3: Good Grief Gals meet November 9 in Fellowship Hall

G3 will be having a Friendsgiving Celebration in the Fellowship Hall at FFUMC at 5:30 PM on Thursday, November 9. Please plan to attend and bring a favorite appetizer or side dish to share. A main entree will be provided, as well as sweet tea, lemonade, and water. It will be wonderful to “Gather Together” and share a few Thanksgiving stories. Looking forward to seeing you on the 9th! Questions? Contact Janet Baileys at jkbaileys11@gmail.com.



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.



Want to serve as an acolyte?

Come to our training event on Wednesday, November 8, from 6 - 7 PM. This training is for anyone that is currently 3rd - 12th grade. If you are already an acolyte, your presence is requested. You will help train and also experience a bit of a refresh of your own skills. Meet in the Sanctuary at 6 PM and contact [Rev. Allyson Lawrence](#) with any questions.



New November needs from 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: *Laundry Detergent, Canned Fruit, Soup (not Cream of Chicken or Mushroom), Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Tuna, Pasta Sauce, Rice - 2 lb. bags, Coffee, Feminine Products, Jello*

Club 555

Our children’s ministry, named Club 555 because we start Wednesdays at 5:55 (clever, isn’t it!?), has had an amazing fall. Our Kindergarten through 5th graders have music club, game club, Bible story club, craft club and service club. Music club happens every week. The other clubs rotate through so we have each one once a month. During September, all our club nights focused on prayer. October’s focus was on service. And now, November is focused on giving. We will meet each Wednesday in November (except for the week of Thanksgiving). We will talk about giving through service, kind words, food, sharing our belongings, and giving of our money. Our scripture for the month is Matthew 25:35-40. Hope you’ll join us as we continue to learn to respond to God’s grace through prayer, service and giving.





Let's eat together on Wednesday Nights

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

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 8: Speedi Pig

BBQ Pork Sandwiches, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Dessert

Coming November 15: Thanksgiving Potluck. See details next week!



Save the date for Christmas Caroling...Wednesday, December 13

It's almost that time again. Save the date for Christmas caroling and spreading cheer. More details will be coming soon.



December 2 is our Christmas Messy Church

Sign up to serve at Messy Church on December 2 from 11 – 1 p.m. You won't want to miss this great fresh expression of church as we share in the birth story of Christ with old and new friends alike.

[Click here to see where you can serve.](#)

Also, if you would like to donate to the meal, we are looking for **Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes**. These sweet treats can sometimes sell out quickly during the holiday season and we want to have enough of them to offer as our dessert on December 2. If you find some, you can bring them to the church office. Contact Rev. Lawrence with any questions.



Reminder: Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday

Just a reminder to FALL back an hour this weekend as Daylight Saving Time ends.

Gratitude



Thank you, Flower Ministry:

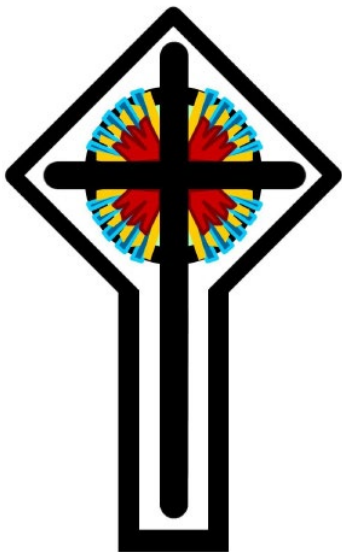
Thank you so much for the beautiful vase of flowers that were so kindly given to me by the Flower Ministry. It was so nice to be remembered in such a lovely way. — Camille Franklin

Thank you, Shawl Ministry:

I am so grateful for the beautiful shawl and the healing prayers of those who made it. What a treasured gift that will continue to give comfort to me during this time at home! — Margaret Whitaker

Thank you, Church Family:

The staff sends sincere gratitude for all the kind expressions of appreciation during this past month. Serving here with you is a privilege for which we are grateful! — FFUMC Staff



November 1, 2023 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$1,008,427.75
Year to Date expenses	\$1,025,941.19
Difference	-\$17,513.44

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$471.00

146 benevolence clients assisted year to date for a total of \$43,493.68

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 ...

What in the world is Messy Church??

Messy Church is FFUMC.

Messy Church is for all ages.

Messy Church is for everyone.

Messy Church is centered on Christ.

Messy Church is a worshipping community.

Messy Church is about building relationships.

Messy Church is building relationships with God.

Messy Church is building relationships with one another.

Where are relationships built and strengthened?

Around the table – and the trunk!

Saturday we had crafts, games and a cake walk. We had worship and celebrated the truth of Jesus being with us even when we are scared. We had decorated trunks and gracious treaters. We had BBQ, fellowship and prayer. We had joy and celebration. We had Messy Church Trunk or Treat.



FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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