



January 19, 2024

The Weekender

Know Thyself

Rev. Kaylen Short, Senior Minister

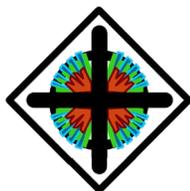
On Monday I was watching my first MBA course lecture of the semester when the professor described a common mistake many leaders make. My heart sank when I heard it. "Oh no, I do that," I thought. Now that I know, I can work to fix it. If I never knew it was a problem, I would just keep making the same mistake.

Socrates famously wrote that "to know thyself is the beginning of wisdom." I believe there's a tremendous amount of truth in that. The more you know your strengths, the more you can refine those. The more you know your weaknesses, the more you can surround yourself with others who can fill the gaps you leave.

When you learn more about negative patterns you can work to fix them and when you know what gives you life, you can lean into the things you love when the going gets tough. Self-reflection is the key to self-improvement because you can't fix a problem you don't see.

I think this is also true of a church. In order to discern what God is calling us to, we need to know who we are. We need to have a collective sense about what we love about our church and what worries us. We should reflect on who our church has been over the generations, who we are today, and what we aspire to be in the future.

In the next couple of weeks you'll begin to hear about informal opportunities to get to know me better. These will be times for "Coffee with Kaylen" where we can sit down one-on-one or in a small group and you can ask me any questions you have. In turn, I'll have two questions for all of you: "Who are we at Fayetteville First United Methodist Church?" and "Who do we want to be?" I hope you'll reflect on these before we gather.



3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8:45 AM & 11:00 AM

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

"Go Fish" Psalm 62:5-12; Mark 1:14-20

Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS



The Practice of Letting Go

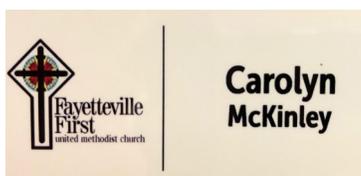
Sunday nights at 6 PM starting January 21

Do you desire more freedom and peace in 2024? Let's learn more about a few spiritual practices to help us release unnecessary and unhelpful things and patterns that may stand in our way. Each session will introduce a discipline, prayer, or practice and offer a time of unpressured exploration. Join Joan Aycock on Sunday nights from 6 to 7 PM in the chapel on January 21, January 28 and February 4. [Sign up here.](#) Also, please let us know if you are interested but need a different meeting time.



SIX or SEVEN for Supper - Sign up by Monday, January 22

Meet new people over a meal and get to know your church family better through Six or Seven for Supper. Groups meet three times over a three-month period beginning in February. Why participate? Here's what Rebecca Stevens shared: "We had a wonderful time with Six for Supper. It was amazing how easily conversation flowed and how quickly the evenings passed. We had the chance to get to know folks who, we now realize, we frequently cross paths with and it's fun when we have those quick moments along the way to catch-up." [Sign up right away using this link](#) to be included. You may get to share a meal with Rev. Kaylen Short as he participates with the various groups.



Order name badge by Monday, January 22

Would you like a customized name badge? Did you lose one you may have had previously? Let us know if you want one by contacting the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com.

The deadline to place your order is **Monday, January 22**. Cost is \$10.



SOUPER BOWL III has started!

SOUPER Bowl III is underway to collect soup for healthy meals for those in need. Bring any variety of 16.3 - 18.8 ounce ready-to-eat soup, **not condensed**, to the Welcome Center and join the friendly competition.

Mark your donations:

Mark the bottom of each can with the first letter of YOUR last name. A Sharpie will be available at the donation site. Those with A-J will

be credited to TEAM ALLYSON and K-Z will go to TEAM KAYLEN. Any cans that are received without letters will be divided between the two teams. Who will win? We will find out on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, when either Allyson or Kaylen will be presented the Souper Bowl III championship trophy.

Financial contributions to support this project should be marked as "United Women in Faith Souper Bowl III" in the memo line.



Let's eat together on Wednesday Nights

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

What's the draw?

Friendship! Be with people you really like.

Hassle Free! Enjoy meals from local restaurants.

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

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

January 24 menu: Piccadilly

Fried Chicken, Sides, Dessert



Let's chat: "Coffee with Kaylen"

Get to know our new senior minister, Rev. Kaylen Short, and let him meet you at "Coffee with Kaylen." You'll find Rev. Short sipping a hot brew at Gremlin Growlers on the downtown courthouse square on Thursdays starting February 15 through March 21 from 1 to 3 PM. Come as individuals or as a small group. Got questions? Just ask! Kaylen may also ask two questions of you: "Who are we at Fayetteville First United Methodist Church?" and "Who do we want to be?" No appointment is needed.



Go to the Cyclorama with SAGE on January 25

On Thursday, January 25, our Senior Adults Going Everywhere will be visiting the Cyclorama at the Atlanta History Center. We will gather at the church office at 8:45 AM and depart at 9:00 AM.

The cost is \$15 a person if 65+ and \$19 for those under 65. Lunch will be at The Varsity. Please bring \$2 for the bus ride. Sign-up and pay in the church office or call 770-461-4313 to reserve your space. This should be another great trip! Call Rev. Charles Robinson, 770-855-6433, for more information.



Titus II will meet February 6

The next Titus II will meet on Tuesday, February 6, at noon in the gym. Bill Webb & Friends will present a musical program. Reservations for lunch may be made with Martha Turner at 770-461-2802 by noon on Thursday, February 1. Lunch (\$8): Fried Chicken, Fried Okra, Vegetable, Bread, Dessert



We're Hiring

Fayetteville First UMC is looking for some part time help with administrative duties at the front desk. If you are interested, please email Rev. Kaylen Short at kshort@fayettevillefirst.com.



New 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 Beef Stew, Canned Fruit, Tuna, Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Pasta Sauce, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Boxed Mac- and-Cheese, Canned Beans (Black, Pinto, Navy, Black-eyed Peas, etc.), Jelly, Feminine Products, Bar Soap, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste



Walking with others through grief

GriefShare is a program where caring individuals walk with others through the journey of grief. Facilitated by Carol and Bill Webb, classes meet Mondays February 12 through May 6 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Room B350. All are welcome. For more information on the program or to sign up, contact the Webbs at 404-234-1056 or visit GriefShare.org.



Get moving with Pickleball!

Have you wondered what Pickleball is all about? Come find out! Our gym is now equipped with Pickleball nets, paddles and balls. Just come in comfy clothes and shoes and try out the game with a group of enthusiastic and supportive players.

Currently playing: Most Wednesdays, 7 PM
Other times as gym is available

Info Option: Pickleball Group Texts - contact Lauren Davis
lauren-davis@comcast.net, 770-846-4652



With Gratitude

To the Flower Ministry:

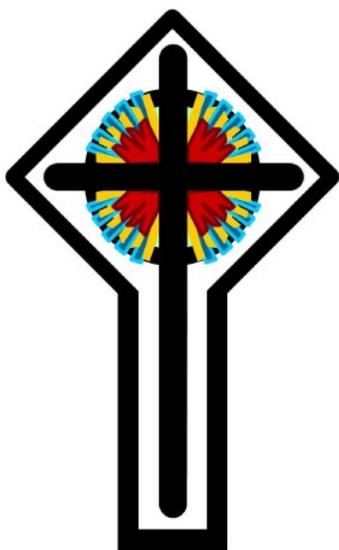
Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia brought to us by Faye Livingston. It really brightened up our day(s) and spirits. — Carol & Tom King

Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement you made for me during my last week in the office. I have been so blessed by my time working for FFUMC and getting to know all the wonderful church members and staff. Wishing you all many blessings in the new year ahead! — Michelle Burch



2023 Year-End Giving Statements

2023 year-end giving statements will be sent via email by the end of January. You may check your giving statement at any time using your individual Realm account.



2023 End-of-Year Financials

Operating Budget 2023

2023 receipts	\$1,338,051.72
2023 expenses	\$1,172,287.54
Difference	\$165,764.18

Benevolence 2023

Benevolence funds received \$55,131.61
171 families assisted for a total of \$49,782.03

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

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

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

inspired ...

Midwest Food Bank got some helping hands last week from our youth and youth shepherds as they sorted, packed, and moved supplies. This organization opened its doors in 2011 and now serves 260 agency partners located in over 56 counties spanning six states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Volunteers like our youth allow Midwest Food Bank to fight hunger and food insecurity in this area and readily provide disaster relief. Thanks for lending a hand!

