



April 12, 2024

## The Weekender

### It's the little things

FFUMC Green Team

So many things in our lives are influenced by the small choices we make each day. Should I brush my teeth? Can I exercise? If I mess it up, should I clean it up? A continued practice of saying "yes" to the little things over time lays a foundation for health and well being for ourselves and those around us.

During this Earth Care Month, your FFUMC Green Team reminds us of the LITTLE things in our control that can make a BIG difference in our community and in our children's future as well. Tami Kemberling, our very own environmental prophet, says that we can all make choices to do something. "Even the seemingly small ways add up," she says. "When we refuse to take things we don't need, perhaps a straw, plastic grocery bag, or unnecessary packaging, we save materials and waste and show others there is a thoughtful, intentional way that saves resources." Tami says her efforts are intended to make people aware, not guilty. "I want to encourage others to think differently and change little habits. That's the key."



Believing that the church should be a model for the community, the Green Team invites us to celebrate Earth Month and participate in events at FFUMC and in the community. [Follow this link for details on special events](#) like attending Kids Day at the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM), getting some plants at the Fayette Extension Education Garden plant sale, or taking used electronics and paper to the Fayetteville "Shredding & Recycling Event" at City Center Park. Find out ways to move toward zero waste at a short program presented on April 24 at Wednesday Night Supper or support the Earth Day Market in the park. We can even [take a short survey](#) to communicate our hopes and desires within our community.

We can listen for the chorus expressed in Psalm 98, "Let the voices of all people blend in harmony, in unison let the people magnify the Beloved! ... For Love reigns over the world with truth and justice, bringing order and balance to all creation." Yes! We hear it ...



### 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:45 AM (Chapel)

11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

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

1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

Rev. Allyson Lawrence

# CURRENT NEWS

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**Messy Church  
April 13**

## **Messy Church is Saturday, April 13, 11 AM to 1 PM**

Celebrate the beauty of the earth with the community at Messy Church. It's church, just not as you know it! We'll explore Psalm 98 on April 13 with games, crafts, and worship. This month's meal will be provided by The Family Class: Thank YOU for ALL the groups who are making our community always feel welcome with a meal and a smile!

[Volunteer here and get ready for THE BEST CHURCH EVER!](#)

We're loving this expression of [Psalm 98 - Check it out!](#)



**Caring for this  
EARTH**

## **April is Earth Month**

*"Look at the world, everything all around us."* The FFUMC Green Team is making us aware of many opportunities during Earth Month to take care of this big, beautiful world. Here are just a few plans by FFUMC and our community partners:

April 13 — Messy Church Earth Day focus

April 14 — Contemplative Nature Retreat in Hampton, GA

April 20 — Kid's Day Excursion to CHaRM

April 20 — Spring Plant Sale at Education Garden near library

April 27 — City "Shredding & Recycling Event"

[Check out the Event Calendar and details here.](#) For more information, contact [Tami Kemberling](#) or [Joan Aycock](#).



**Contemplative Nature  
Retreat  
April 14**

10 minutes takes  
you away!

## **Be in Nature for 4 hours, 10 minutes AWAY ... FREE retreat**

Did you know the Contemplative Nature Retreat is

- This weekend — Sunday afternoon, April 14
- 4 hours away — offering 4 hours at the scenic Calvin Center
- 10 minutes away — in Hampton, a short 10 minute drive from here

Are you ready for a time of renewal? A few hours in nature? A guide to discover nature as a gateway to the Divine? Come to an afternoon Contemplative Retreat on Sunday, April 14, from 1:30 to 5:30 PM. Experience the blessings of nature and learn new practices to enrich your life. Bring your own lunch. Light snacks provided. The session will be guided by Ron Reams, certified in both Spiritual Direction and Spiritual Formation. It's **FREE**, but please let us know you're coming. [Register here](#) or contact Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com), for more information.



## Capital Campaign update

## Capital Campaign Informational Meeting

Wednesday April 17 at 5:45 PM

During our Wednesday night supper on Wednesday, April 17, our Capital Campaign team will be presenting the future of our FFUMC capital campaign begun in 2023. We will talk about each of the various projects that are included in the campaign, what the needs are, anticipated expense, and answer questions. If you would like to submit a question ahead of time you can do so by emailing Rev. Kaylen Short at [kshort@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:kshort@fayettevillefirst.com).



## VBS 2024 at Camp Firelight - June 24-28

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS! Camp Firelight runs June 24-28

[Select your preferred volunteer spot here!](#)

[Register your VBS campers here!](#)

**Praise Team returns this year!** Are you a rising 3rd grader or older? You're invited to be on the VBS Praise Team. This group will learn music before VBS and be our on-stage leaders during VBS group times. Contact Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com) for details.



April 20  
"A Time to Kill"

Coming in May  
Biblical History  
Center

## SAGE goes to the theatre April 20 - 3 tickets left!

On April 20, SAGE (Senior Adults Going Everywhere) is going to the Southside Theatre in Fairburn to see "A Time to Kill," a play based on the John Grisham novel by the same name. The play is a gripping adaptation of John Grisham's novel about race, crime, and family in small-town America that asks the question: when is it right to take justice into your own hands? Gather at 1:15 PM, depart 1:30 PM for a 2:30 curtain time. The group will eat together following the play. Tickets for "A Time to Kill" are \$17.00; \$2.00 for gas. Dinner cost is on your own. Please call the church office at 770-461-4313 or email [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com) for reservations. **More tickets have been purchased. Of those, only 3 tickets remain to sit with the group. Reserve your space right away!**

SAGE will visit the Biblical History Center in LaGrange in May. Ancient Middle Eastern life is depicted through archaeological replicas, Biblical meal presentations, daily life artifacts, lectures, and other personal experiences. More information on the May SAGE trip to come.



## Bible Study for Caregivers, Special Needs Ministry

You're invited to join Jami Maguire, Director of Special Needs Ministry, and other members of the special needs community to share God's word and life concerns over coffee and muffins. A group of caregivers will meet for a four-week Bible study on Fridays from April 12 to May 3 at Fayetteville First UMC in The Foundry, Room C280. Contact Jami for more information at 470-878-7610 or [jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com).



## Southwest Christian Care presents at UWF on April 18

Come and bring a friend to the next United Women in Faith Unit Meeting on Thursday, April 18, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We'll learn about Southwest Christian Care and what it offers our community from Paul Leslie, the executive director. Dinner: Olive Garden Lasagan, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert. Reservations due Sunday, April 14. UWF members should reserve with their circle chairs. All others, please contact Lauren Davis, [lauren-davis@comcast.net](mailto:lauren-davis@comcast.net). \$10 per person payable at the event.



## Wednesday Night Supper, April 17

How about another Wednesday Night with friends and good food?!

Signup for the weekly meal by noon each Monday. Contact the church office at 770-461-4313 or [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com).

### April 17 Menu: Piccadilly's Fried Chicken and sides

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



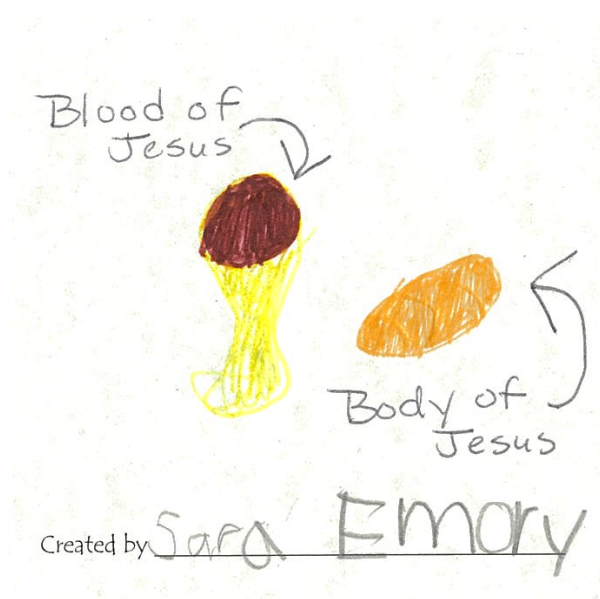
## April needs from Fayette Samaritans: It's our month!

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, Hamburger Helper, Pasta Sauce, Rice (2 Lb. bags), Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Jelly, Feminine Products

**Clothes Closet:** Women's socks and all sizes of boys underwear

**April is Fayetteville First UMC's month to make special contributions to Fayette Samaritans. Please give what you can.**



## Holy Doodle March Winner

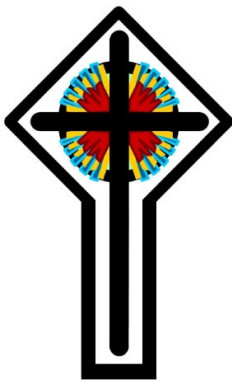
The winner of the March Holy Doodle is Sara Emory. Thank you for sharing your art, Sara! Look for a prize coming your way from Pastor Kaylen!



## Graduation Sunday coming May 19

We will be celebrating graduates of high school, college, and graduate school on Sunday, May 19.

Graduates will be featured in the May 19 Order of Worship, and we want to recognize graduates in our church family. Please send your graduate's name, school, degree earned, and a photo to [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com) by May 8 to be included. We look forward to celebrating the Class of 2024!



## April 10, 2024 Financials

### Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$306,313.23
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$329,885.86
Difference	-\$23,572.63

### Benevolence

53 families assisted for a total of \$12,583.98

### 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

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

**NA Meeting:** Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

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

# inspired ...

## Serving in El Salvador

— Maggie Clarke

*"And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?" Matthew 25:38*

When? You don't remember doing this? Over the last few weeks, this church has once again shown itself to be the hands and feet of Christ not only in this community, through the Benevolence Committee, but also internationally in the small city of Ahuachapán, El Salvador. The United Methodist Missionaries there put out a call saying that they needed clean, fresh, new underwear for the clothes closet the Evangelical Methodist Church in El Salvador operates for the school and for the community.

Four other churches purchased only boys' and men's items or some of both. Our church responded with donations used to buy the following for girls and women.

- 460 pairs of underwear
- 218 pairs of socks
- 23 training bras
- 8 T-shirts

Some of the money was also used to buy an assortment of men's underwear and some to pay the baggage fees for delivery during our trip April 6-13. When combined with purchases by Cornerstone UMC, Inman UMC, Sunnyside UMC, and McDonough First UMC, the mission team delivered about 12 suitcases of much needed items.

*Thank you for your support of this trip. Smiles are all around - from FFUMC members Maggie Clarke, Wayne and Nancy Musselwhite, other team members, and the grateful people in El Salvador. Your love traveled far!*

