



April 19, 2024

## The Weekender

### Holy Ground

Rev. Kaylen Short

All I could hear were the waves crashing and birds flying overhead. All I felt was the sun shining and my feet on the cool sand. My mind was blessedly clear. For those of you who don't know me all that well yet, my mind being clear is a rare thing. My mind races around from one thing to the next and is always planning for the future. Daily I try to take time to sit in the silence, clear my mind, and pray. Yet, those moments of true quiet remain fleeting. Which made me even more grateful for the miles I walked down the beach last week peacefully present.

Kiawah Island is a place that just brings that sort of experience out of me ... those little magical moments that I don't realize how much I need until I receive them. Alli and I had our honeymoon in Kiawah nearly 10 years ago. Since then, we go back periodically and experience those little life-giving moments. On our trips, we've seen dolphins at sunset and found sand dollars galore. More than anything, every time we are there, we find rest. For us, Kiawah Island has become holy ground.

Which makes sense because one of the earliest definitions of "holy" is that for something to be holy it is set apart for a purpose. Holy Week is a week that is set apart for remembering the journey of Christ. Holy Communion is a time that is set apart for gathering at the table and feasting upon God's grace. For us, Kiawah Island has become holy ground because it is set apart for holy rest. Similarly, Camp Glisson is holy ground for me because it's a place that is set apart for listening for God.

I suspect God gives everyone certain holy ground places. I hope that you'll take some time to consider where you might have holy ground. Maybe like me, it's a place set apart for rest or listening. Maybe it's set apart for service or renewal. It may be a place far away or even close by. Wherever those places are, I hope you'll identify your holy ground, and plan on spending some time there soon. You may find you needed it more than you realized.



### 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:45 AM (Chapel)

11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

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

Psalm 23, Acts 4:5-12

"Rejected"

Rev. Kaylen Short

## CURRENT NEWS

---



### Hope and a Future Capital Campaign is underway

We have an opportunity to help everyone touched by Fayetteville First UMC both now and in the future.

[Follow this link to learn more about our capital campaign.](#)



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 20 — Kid's Day Excursion to CHaRM

April 20 — Spring Plant Sale at Education Garden near library

April 24 — Wednesday Night Supper Zero Waste Presentation

April 27 — City "Shredding & Recycling Event"

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



### Wednesday Night Supper, April 24

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

Sign up 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 24 Menu: Olive Garden Lasagna

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

Special for Earth Month: Hear a presentation on Zero Waste goals



### We celebrate graduates on Sunday, May 19

We will be celebrating graduates of high school, college, and graduate school on Sunday, May 19, in worship and at a churchwide potluck luncheon.

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!



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

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS! Camp Firelight runs June 24-28  
**Capacity is limited, so register right away!**

[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 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.**

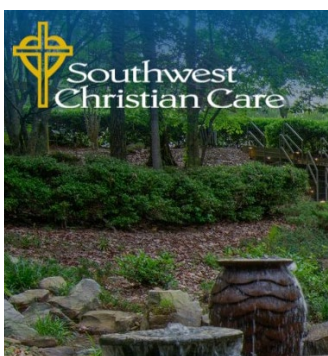


May 9

SAGE TRIP

### SAGE to visit Biblical History Center in May

On Thursday, May 9, SAGE (Senior Adults Going Everywhere) will visit the Biblical History Center in LaGrange. Ancient Middle Eastern life is depicted through archeological replicas, daily life artifacts, and lectures. Take a walk through the Archaeological Replica Garden. Gather at 9:15 AM, depart at 9:30 AM. The tour begins at 10:30 AM at the Biblical History Center. Tickets for the Center are \$33.00/person; transportation is \$2.00/person. The group will stop for fast food on the return trip to Fayetteville; lunch 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.



### Southwest Christian Care donations due April 29

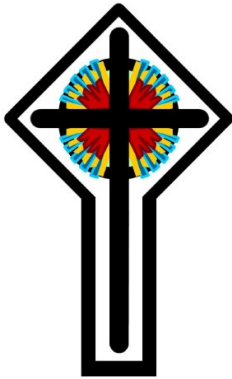
The United Women in Faith are helping Southwest Christian Care with donations for their wish list. You are invited to help with a variety of needs like hand sanitizer, napkins, dryer sheets, sugar, coffee and more. See the details here and place any donations in the collection bins located in the Welcome Portal and the church office by April 29. Questions? Contact Susan Burch, [showburch@gmail.com](mailto:showburch@gmail.com).

[Southwest Christian Care Wish List](#)



### **Shawl Ministry**

Thank you very much for the beautiful shawl. I really do appreciate it.  
— Martha Trice



## **April 17, 2024 Financials**

### Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$352,487.17
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$352,122.58
Difference	\$364.59

### Benevolence

55 families assisted for a total of \$13,185.88

### **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:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 7 PM

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214

770-461-4313 [FayettevilleFirst.com](http://FayettevilleFirst.com)

# inspired ...

## UWF Executive Board helps at Bloom

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...." Hebrews 10:24*

Leaders are showing the way, living out this year's scripture for United Women in Faith. Putting their hands to work, the UWF Executive Team served at Bloom last week sorting clothes and meeting needs as volunteers. Bloom Our Youth is a local non-profit serving children in foster care and helping the families who care for them. Through the work and dedication of volunteers, Bloom helps thousands of foster children every year.

"Bloom is always grateful for volunteers as individuals or groups," said Lauren Davis, Co-Vice President for UWF and a long-time supporter of Bloom in various capacities. Since many children in foster homes arrive with very little, supporting them through clothing needs is always helpful. New socks, underwear, and pajamas as well as very gently used clothing are all sorted and then provided to children through the Bloom Closet and Bloom Closet Express, a mobile distribution unit. "We can help," reminds Lauren. "especially now. As you sort your clothes for warmer weather, remember that Bloom can use what you no longer need regardless of the season."

[Get more information about Bloom here](#) or ask one of these ladies about their volunteer experience.



*Pictured:*

*Some of the United Women in Faith Executive Board members helping at Bloom recently (l-r) —*

*Susan Burch, Janet Baileys, Tami Kemberling, Deb Cole, Nancy Ricciardi, Cindy Hall, Lauren Davis, Nancy Dennis, Kathy Milner*