



May 3, 2024

The Weekender

Extending the Table

Rev. Kaylen Short

This Sunday, we will come to the table to receive Holy Communion as we do every first Sunday. We will all be served by our Confirmands so that their first official act as members of our church will be to serve this holy meal. In this we will be reminded once again of the timelessness of gathering at the table to share a sacred meal with others.

In the UMC, we acknowledge that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a holy mystery. We acknowledge the mystery of this meal. It is a meal in which we receive a bite and a sip and yet call it a great feast. It is a meal in which we gather with those physically in a room, but also believe that we are connected across time and space with all the saints past and present. It is a meal that we believe sustains us spiritually and socially even more than physically. It truly is a mystery, and such an important one.



One of the reasons I first fell in love with the UMC was because of our belief that *all* should be invited to the table because during Communion anyone can encounter Christ. We should never stand between someone and a possible encounter with our Savior! However, unfortunately sometimes our siblings in Christ don't get to receive Holy Communion. Specifically, those who are not able to physically get to church on that first Sunday have often gone without a chance to receive the elements and feel that connection to the church and to Christ. This has never sat well with me. During the in-person worship services, we offer gluten-free elements and we offer to bring the elements to those who cannot come forward. We do this so that all can participate without exception. Yet, outside the walls of our church on these Sundays are members of our church who aren't able to participate because they can't get here. It's an inconsistency that just doesn't make sense.

It's in this spirit that I am happy to say that this Sunday we are officially beginning a ministry of bringing Holy Communion to those who cannot get here on Sundays. The elements they receive will be the same ones consecrated during our in-person worship, and will be taken out after the service to those who desire to have Communion brought to them.

This first month will be a learning experience of sorts, so we are utilizing a small number of volunteers to take Communion to a small number of people. However, we hope to serve more in future months. If you would like to serve or you know of someone who would like to receive, please let me know.

I hope when we gather for Holy Communion this Sunday, we will be reminded of the blessing of receiving that holy meal with those physically present AND with those who aren't.



**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
8:45 AM (Chapel)
11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)**
[Online link active at 11 AM and after](#)
John 15:9-17
"So It Begins"
Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS



Wednesday Night Supper: Potluck on May 8

Enjoy a POTLUCK at our **last regular Wednesday Night Supper** on Wednesday, May 8, at 5:15 in the Fellowship Hall.

What to do:

Sign up by noon on Monday so we'll know how much seating to provide. Contact the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com.

NO CHARGE!

Bring a SIDE DISH to share (meat and dessert provided)



Summer Delights on Wednesday Nights

Beginning May 15, you're invited to gather at Line Creek Brewing Company on Wednesday evenings at 5:15 PM to meet with your FFUMC friends. Be sure to wear your nametag (if you can) to help newcomers find you. Pack a meal from home or pick up some delicious food or a treat on site and stay connected through the summer until Wednesday Night Suppers resume at the church in September.



Deadline May 6
for special bulletin
recognition

UWF Bethany Circle recognizes Mothers May 12

A special bulletin insert on Mother's Day will recognize our mothers and those who mother others. The United Women in Faith's Bethany Circle with assistance from Friendship Circle will have a flower in the courtyard on Mother's Day for all those who are recognized. To donate to missions and recognize those who mother us, **please use the form and envelope in Sunday's bulletin** and return it to the church office by May 6. Proceeds will benefit Bloom, Promise Place and UWF missions. Please **make checks to Bethany Circle** and include names for "In Honor Of" and "In Memory Of" and who is placing the recognition. Questions? Call or text Leslie Wade at 770-633-3296.



Graduation info due May 8

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 by **May 8** to be included.

We look forward to celebrating the Class of 2024!



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 eat at the Lemon Tree restaurant in LaGrange after leaving the Biblical Museum. Lunch cost is on your own. Please call the church office at 770-461-4313 or email admin@fayettevillefirst.com for reservations.



Limited Capacity
Register NOW!

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 for details.

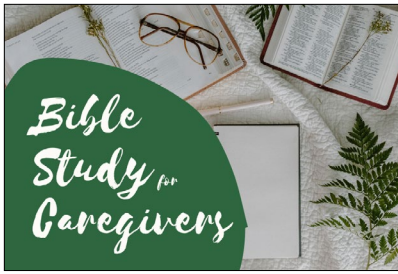


May Pantry needs from Fayette Samaritans: NEW LIST

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, Canned Beef Stew, Mixed Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Jelly, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Feminine Products

Clothes Closet: Women's clothing size extra large



Bible Study for Caregivers, Special Needs Ministry

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. Final meeting for this session is Friday, May 3, at Fayetteville First UMC in The Foundry, Room C280, at 9:15 AM. Contact Jami for more information at 470-878-7610 or jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com.

Titus II

LUNCH & LEARN

May 7

Next Titus II is May 7

Join with friends for a meal and fellowship at the next Titus II on Tuesday, May 7, at noon in the gym. Wanda Hicks will present "Star Spangled Banner" - a history of the flag of the United States of America.

Lunch (\$8): Fried Pork Chops or Fried Chicken, Sides, Chocolate Cake



Enjoy a cup of cheer throughout the week

Would you like your very own FFUMC mug? Now's the time to get one ... or two ... or more! They are \$10 each or two for \$15. Just stop by the church office and get yours any time.

Idea: Put a little bouquet of flowers or small coffee or tea supplies into a mug for a cute Mother's Day or friendship gift!



Wesley Woods offering is May 12

Wesley Woods was founded in 1954 by The North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church to provide affordable housing for older adults. Each year churches receive a Mother's Day offering to help provide financial assistance for meals and housing to residents who have the gift of a long life but may have outlived their resources. In addition, the Mother's Day Offering supports on-site chaplains and an innovative wellness program. Donations may be sent directly to Wesley Woods with check payable to "Foundation of Wesley Woods" and mailed to 1817 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. Donations online are through this link: [Wesley Woods Mother's Day Offering at wesleywoods.org/donate](https://wesleywoods.org/donate).



We can put LOVE in action: Gently used furniture needed

We have the opportunity to help create a home for someone on the margins.

Needed: living room furniture, kitchen table and chairs, bed, dresser, nightstand. [Contact Cindy Hall at harvecin@charter.net](mailto:harvecin@charter.net) with donations or questions.



The 37th Annual Rose Show comes to FFUMC May 18-19

Come see, smell and photograph roses of all varieties and enjoy beautiful arrangements as the South Metro Rose Society presents the 37th Annual Rose Show at Fayetteville First UMC on Saturday and Sunday, May 18-19, in the gym between 1 and 4 PM each day. Get answers to your rose questions from ARS Consulting Rosarians. FREE admission and parking. Rose bouquets will be sold. Raffle prizes include restaurant gift certificates, rose bushes, gardening items, and more. Questions? Call the Rose Society at 770-631-3885.

YOUTH NEWS



High School Beach Retreat May 31 – June 3

High Schoolers (rising 9th graders through graduating seniors) -- Your beach retreat is here!!!! Save the date: May 31 through June 3! Cost per student will be \$250 plus some spending money for two meals on the road. We will be going to Port St. Joe, Florida. We will have beach time and shopping time; we will cook together, play together and worship together. If you have any questions, contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com. You can [sign up at this link](#).



Youth Summer Mission Trip to Appalachian Service Project

FFUMC Youth are excited as they prepare for our youth summer mission trip in Appalachia June 9 – 15. Last year, teams from FFUMC and Inman UMC served in Breathitt County, Kentucky, which had been damaged from major flooding. Two teams repaired floors and put in a new kitchen while another team installed a new roof for a family. This year's projects have not yet been assigned, but the youth are eager to again partner with Inman UMC as they experience and share in God's gracious love. Please pray for them as they prepare to serve.

GRATITUDE



Shawl Ministry

I cannot begin to adequately express my gratitude for all the prayers and expressions of love given on my behalf over the last 4 months following my December accident. So many of you have driven me to doctor's appointments, tests, and church activities. It appears that we are finally at the end of all the heart tests which despite all the uncertainty and fear along the way have all come back with wonderful results. Medication changes have made my daily life safer and less stressful. I'm ready for a much calmer journey through the remainder of 2024. For those of you who know me well you know I need constant prayers to keep my feet solidly under me to prevent falls. Don't we all need constant prayers from our friends for so many reasons? Knowing we are in the prayers of others brings us closer to God on this journey we Methodists call sanctification. Thanks to each and every one of you for shepherding all of those in our midst and even beyond our church doors. — Nancy Ricciardi

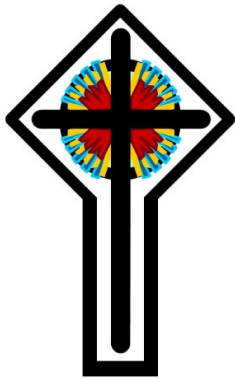


Hope and a Future Capital Campaign is underway

We have an opportunity to help everyone touched by Fayetteville First UMC both now and in the future. Follow these links to learn more.

[See the Capital Campaign Case Statement](#)

[View the Capital Campaign Presentation](#)



April 30, 2024 Financials

Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$397,917.58
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$409,913.58
Difference	-\$11,996.00

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$375.00

65 families assisted for a total of \$15,894.36

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

inspired ...

Ms. Derryll is home thanks to Square Foot

This past Saturday Ms. Derryll Anderson was welcomed to Church Street and has moved into her new home next to our church parking lot A. Built by Square Foot Ministry in partnership with Trilith, City of Fayetteville employees, and other volunteers, this special two-bedroom home was dedicated last Friday, April 26. Rev. Kaylen Short offered the invocation at the ceremony while FFUMC members Tim Aycok, Square Foot Ministry President, Doug Higgins, Square Foot Ministry founding member and board member, and Rick Halbert, Trilith, and others presented Ms. Derryll the keys to her home. "I'll be spending lots of time on the front porch in a rocking chair. Come visit!" said Ms. Derryll. You also may find her in the backyard tending a stand-up garden built especially for her as a Scout Eagle Project. Feel free to stop by, introduce yourself, and welcome Ms. Derryll to the neighborhood!



Ms. Derryll Anderson was welcomed to her new home last Friday. Come say, "Hello!"