



October 25, 2024

The Weekender

Different

Rev. Kaylen Short, Senior Minister

I began working in the church at 19 and received my first pastoral appointment at 24. In the time since, I have led well over 500 worship services, participated in thousands of committee meetings, and made countless hospital visits. Yet, last week for the first time I stepped into the role of pastor differently. For the first time, I stepped into the role of pastor AND dad.

In anticipation of returning, I talked to a pastor friend who has children of his own. His advice was simple, and clear: "When you return, you will not be the same pastor as you were before. That's because you're not the same person. You can't be the same as you were, but if you take this to heart, you can be better." I believe he's right.

So I am coming clean from the beginning. I will not be the same pastor as I was just a few months ago. I am sure there are evening meetings that in the past I would have attended that will now be missed in favor of not missing bedtime. There will be times I would have rushed over to the church to fix some problem where now I will need to rely on others to solve the issue. I'm certain there will be days I'll show up to the church not even realizing I have a spit-up stain on my shirt.

However, I hope that I will gain a lot in return for what will be lost. I hope that being dad helps me to be a more thoughtful and caring person and pastor. I know it will teach me to be more patient as my schedule is no longer my own and everything seems to take longer than before. It has already reaffirmed the importance of rest as a not only physical, but spiritual need. I'm sure there are countless other ways being dad will change me for the better than I can't even imagine yet.

So I'm not the same I was, but I am grateful to be back home at FFUMC and to see how we can grow together.



23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: OCTOBER 27
8:45 AM (Chapel) 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

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

Psalm 34:1-8; Mark 10:46-52

"Which Voice?"

Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS



Christmas Marketplace 2024: Only one week away November 2

Christmas Marketplace is coming up fast! Our church's largest fundraiser is poised for another record-breaking year. We can use your help! Donate, Bake, Volunteer, Shop and Share!

DONATE your gently-used, sellable donations beginning Monday, Oct 28, through noon on Thursday, Oct 31. [2024 Guidelines](#)

BAKE your favorite homemade cookies, breads, cupcakes, brownies, muffins, or cakes for the Gingerbread House. Bring to C-140 (the nursery) by noon on Friday, Nov. 1. [2024 Guidelines](#)

VOLUNTEERS are always needed to help sort donations in Timeless Treasures, make lunch in the Grill, greet guests, and cleanup.

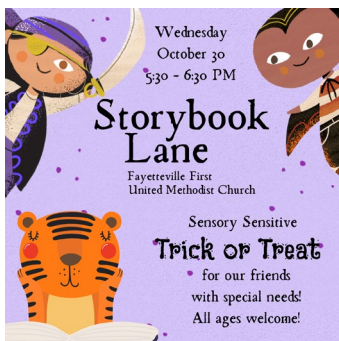
SHOP for early Christmas gifts, unique handmade and household items from over 90 vendors.

SHARE the event with family, friends & neighbors. [Here's a flyer to print and share on social media.](#)



Cleaning Kits (aka Flood Buckets) for UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief provides cleaning kits to help individuals and communities recover from disasters. [See how you can help out by preparing a cleaning kit!](#) Check out the supplies list on the link to make sure your kit has the most needed items or pick up a bucket with a list inside from the Welcome Center. Valued at approximately \$75, the buckets can be filled by individuals or groups and delivered to the church office or Welcome Center by Sunday, November 3. Questions? Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence or Maggie Clarke. Donations for a kit cost and/or financial contribution for delivery costs may be made to FFUMC with "UMCOR Cleaning Kits" in the memo line.



Storybook Lane: Wednesday Night, October 30

A Sensory Sensitive Trick-or-Treat Experience

October 30, 2024 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Sunshine Trick or Treaters:

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church is presenting an opportunity for individuals with special needs to experience door to door trick or treating without all the stress! Have you been looking for a special experience like this? Join us in the upstairs hallway of building C where each door will be decorated in a storybook theme. All ages are welcome!

Volunteers and candy still welcome!

Would you like to help provide this unique experience for our community? **We could use more donations** of non-chocolate and non-nut candy, individually packaged pretzels, crackers or other non-sweet treats, and party favors. **Can you help pass out treats?** We need volunteers to simply stay at the doors and hand out goodies to guests. If you can help, please contact Jami Maguire at jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com.



Pecan Time!
Holiday Baking
Gifts
Freeze and Enjoy All Year

Pecans! Still only \$8 per bag!

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!

Only need a few bags? Buy them at the Christmas Marketplace on Saturday, November 2.

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 3**. Pecans will be available for pickup in the Fellowship Hall on November 6 and 7 from 1 to 2 PM and after the 11 AM worship service on November 10. Make out checks to **United Women in Faith or UWF**.

We are committed to raising funds for others as proceeds from the sale go to a worthy cause. With pecans, everybody wins!



Messy Church Tomorrow! Saturday, October 26 Trunk-or-Treat and Spooky Church

"Spooky Church" comes to Messy Church tomorrow, Saturday, October 26, from 11 AM to 1 PM with our theme from II Timothy 1:7: "For God gave us a spirit, not of fear, but of power and love and self-control." This event includes Trunk or Treat!

If you are helping with the Trunk-or-Treat event, please have your vehicle in place by 10:45 and decorated by 11 AM. **You can still join in!** The more trunks, the more fun! Trunk-or-Treat providers are encouraged to engage in the full Messy Church experience and get to know this part of our church family. Bonus: People's Choice for best trunk will be awarded. [Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence.](#)



Flower Ministry encourages others

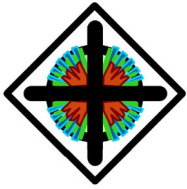
Each week our Flower Ministry volunteers share arrangements with our church family, extending both cheer and encouragement and often passing on the flowers used in worship. **YOU** can be a part of this!

Supplies Needed Leave donated supplies in the newly established Flower Ministry room located in the hall behind the chapel, Room B240

Wired ribbon (all colors and designs)

Medium size vases (no bud vases needed)

Worship flower donations are another way to enhance the sanctuary experience any Sunday while honoring a loved one or celebrating a special occasion. One or both arrangements may be donated to the Flower Ministry to extend their beauty to someone in our church family. Two arrangements are \$150 and may be scheduled with the church office. **To volunteer** with this ministry, please contact Marilyn Harris.



Charge Conference set for Saturday, November 16

Meet new District Superintendent Rev. Byron Thomas as we celebrate the work of Fayetteville First and elect leadership for the coming year. Join in our churchwide Charge Conference on Saturday, November 16, at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited.



SafeHouse Outreach
Providing a hand-up not just a hand-out

Serve at SafeHouse Outreach on October 31

After 14 years of service at SafeHouse Outreach in Atlanta, FFUMC will be providing our last regular "Fifth Thursday" Impact Meal on October 31. After this meal, we will continue to participate in the Thanksgiving Chili Outreach and provide clothing, etc. as needed. Contact Randy Riddell or the church office to volunteer for this night of service.



Disaster Response: Work Teams, Volunteers, and ERT Needed

UMCOR Early Response Teams, work teams, and individual volunteers are needed now in the greater Augusta area. Groups are deploying out of United Methodist White Oak Camp Ground in Columbia County. The North Georgia Conference is working with Inspiritus, a trusted disaster response partner, to schedule teams and individuals in this area. Go to [North Georgia Conference disaster relief](#) for more information. [Sign up here with Inspiritus.](#)



Safe Sanctuary Training offered November 7

Safe Sanctuary Training will take place Thursday, November 7, at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This training is for church staff and volunteers working with children, youth, and vulnerable adults. Questions? [Contact Rev. Drew West.](#)



Renovation continues in restrooms behind sanctuary

Women's restroom ready soon ... Men's still in process

Our restroom renovation project behind the sanctuary across from the Welcome Center is nearing completion. Please use the restroom in the bride's room off the Narthex, the restroom in the music suite (Nick Bowden's office), restrooms in Building B behind the Chapel, restrooms adjacent to the gym kitchen, and restrooms upstairs in the C building near room C-270 during this project. The women's restroom should be available by Christmas Marketplace.



New Needs List: Pantry 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. Volunteers are also needed in the food pantry, clothes closet, receptionist area, and as interviewers with a 3 hour commitment each week.

Most Needed List: Canned Chicken, Canned Beef Stew, Canned Green Beans, Canned Corn, Hamburger Helper, Soup, Cereal, Jelly, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste, Feminine Products (Pads), Laundry Detergent



Wednesday Night Suppers at 5 PM IN GYM

Enjoy meals on Wednesday nights together!

New time: **5 PM** Temporary location: **Gym**

Advantages: **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.

October 30 Menu: Chili Baked Potatoes

Wear your favorite costume on October 30!



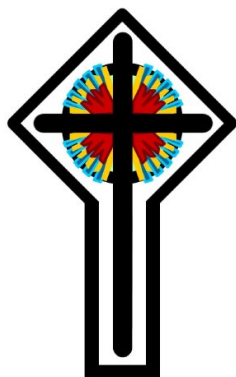
Titus II is November 12: **NOTE DATE CHANGE**

What is our next Titus II all about? It's a MYSTERY complete with a MYSTERY GUEST! Come be surprised -- but note the new date: November 12.

Tuesday, November 12 at Noon, Gym

Lunch provided by local restaurant, \$8 per person

Make lunch reservations with Martha Turner or the church office by Thursday, November 7.



October 21, 2024 Financials

Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$898,462.89
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$908,712.30
Difference	-\$10,249.41

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$169.00

150 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$37,565.40

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, Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meetings: Thursdays 7 PM

inspired ...

Assisting at Azalea Estates

Our church reaches out to the residents at Azalea Estates Assisted Living by providing a worship service at 10 AM every 1st Sunday of the month and also when a month has a 5th Sunday. Rev. Charles Robinson regularly provides a message. Sometimes others help him (Thanks, Danny Beck, Jan Purcell, and others) by sharing a devotion during this time. You can assist by greeting guests, handing out bulletins, providing special music, or simply sharing a hug and smile. [Contact Rev. Robinson](#) for more information on our upcoming offering on November 3.



Share a smile, hug, or a song!
Bill Webb and Danny Beck often
provide the music at Azalea Estates.
The children's choir, McCall Martin (at right),
and other young musicians have presented
there as well. Come join the experience!

