



June 13, 2025

## The Weekender

### VBS: A week to anticipate and remember

Rev. Kaylen Short

What a wonderful week we had at Vacation Bible School! I'm still humming our Road Trip song and I know Scout, our mascot, would be proud.

This year's theme took us on an exciting road trip filled with stories, songs, crafts, and laughter. Each day, we "traveled" to a new destination that reminded us of God's love, faithfulness, and direction in our lives. I had the absolute joy (and occasional chaos!) of leading a group of 13 energetic kindergarteners alongside my fellow leader Vicki. Let me tell you, those kids can ask lots of questions—and they have a lot of energy to spare. I learned very quickly that five-year-olds don't walk anywhere. They bounce, hop, spin, run, and occasionally roll their way from one activity to the next. They kept me on my toes and filled my heart with joy.



One of my favorite moments of the week (and probably theirs too) was celebrating that my class and another brought in the most school supply donations which meant getting to help dump slime on poor Drew—who was an excellent sport about it! The squeals of delight and laughter from the kids made it totally worth the cleanup. And maybe, just maybe, I had a little too much fun doing it!

But more than anything, as I look back on the week, my heart is full of gratitude. I'm thankful for the laughter, the learning, the sunshine (and the air conditioning!), and the joy that filled every hallway, classroom, and corner of our church. I'm thankful for the parents who brought their children, the teens who stepped up to lead, and the folks who made sure snacks, crafts, songs, games, and story times ran like clockwork.

Most of all, I'm thankful for you—the amazing volunteers who gave your time, energy, patience, and love to make this week so special. Whether you led a group, organized supplies, handed out snacks, or offered a warm smile to a nervous child, or prayed for us from a distance—you were the heart of VBS.

Thank you for helping plant seeds of faith, joy, and community in these young hearts. I'm looking forward to hitting the road again next summer. I know Scout and I will be ready!



## TRINITY SUNDAY

JUNE 15, 2025

8:45 AM (Chapel)

11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

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

Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5

"I Hope So"

The Rev. Kaylen Short

## CURRENT NEWS

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### SAGE visits Commemorative Air Force Airbase June 17

Senior Adults Going Everywhere (SAGE) will be going to the Commemorative Air Force Airbase at Falcon Field in Peachtree City on Tuesday, June 17. This museum features vintage aircraft and aviation artifacts. There is no cost for the tour, only \$2 for transportation. Gather at the church office at 9:15 AM for a 9:30 AM departure. Our tour begins at 10 AM and we will enjoy lunch at Palmers Restaurant in PTC around 11:30 AM. Contact the church office to place your name on the list.

*Upcoming trips: July 10 - Peach Trip! August 21 - Details soon*



### You're Invited: Farewell Reception for Rev. Allyson Lawrence

Please join us as we celebrate and send off Rev. Allyson Lawrence with love and gratitude! As she prepares to begin her new appointment as Senior Minister at Watkinsville UMC, we will gather to share parting blessings and well wishes.

A reception in her honor will be held on her final Sunday with us:

Sunday, June 22 at 12:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Come help us thank Rev. Lawrence for her faithful ministry among us and surround her with encouragement for the journey ahead.



### A Concert of Hymns and Gospel Songs

Sunday, June 22, at 7 PM

Featuring the combined choirs of Fayetteville First UMC and Central Baptist Church, Newnan

Dr. Ronnie Oliver, Conductor | Charles Higgs, Organist

Henry Lee, Accompanist | Nicholas Bowden, Conductor and Host

[Share this invitation with friends, family ... everybody!](#)

*Reception to follow concert in Fellowship Hall*



## Drivers and runners needed for Summer Lunch program

Our yearly Summer Lunch program has begun. It's our chance to serve more than 300 families, including over 450 sandwiches, who receive free or reduced lunch during the school year. Lunches are prepared and picked up in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays. Volunteers are needed.

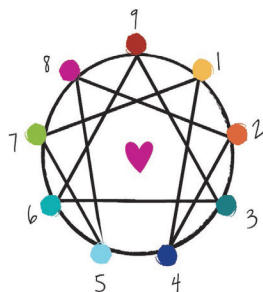
**We have an immediate need for more drivers and driver helpers** (someone to run the meals to the door of the recipients. Ideally, two people would deliver together, one driver and one "runner." High school students on summer break would make ideal runners! For questions, more information, or to sign up, please contact Faye Livingston.

Donations of homemade cookies and apples are deeply appreciated. Please package cookies 2 to a bag and leave all donations in the Fellowship Hall kitchen clearly marked for Summer Lunch.



## Celebrations! Then and Now with Judge Arlene McGruder, Ret.

Join the United Women in Faith for dinner on Thursday, June 19, at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall as they welcome Judge Arlene McGruder, Ret., as the guest speaker. Dinner by Chicken Salad Chick – \$10 per person (payable at the event). Nursery available upon request. Donations of gently used women's clothing, toiletries, or kitchen utensils are gratefully accepted to benefit Arlene's Domestic Survivors. All are welcome! Please contact Deb Cole for reservations by Monday, June 16.



## A Path to God: The Enneagram as Spiritual Practice

The Enneagram is growing in popularity as a personality typing tool, but it is so much more! In fact, the Enneagram is a wonderful tool for spiritual formation. Learning our Enneagram type can help us identify specific ways in which we are invited to share God with the world, the patterns that get in the way of our doing that, and the spiritual practices that return our focus to God and our true calling. Join us as we explore this fascinating tool. Questions? Contact Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com).

Saturday, August 23 10 AM to 4 PM FFUMC Fellowship Hall

FREE — Reservations required

This course will be taught by Kristen Vincent. [Learn more and register here.](#)



## Messy Church for June and July

### Water Day Messy Church: June 28 11 am -1 pm

Be sure to wear clothes you can get wet and bring a towel. Get ready for a day of adventure outside.

### Back to School Block Party: July 26 3-5 pm

Join us as we celebrate the end of summer and prepare for a new school year. Outdoor fun, games, and music!





## Basic Lay Servant Class: June 18 and 25

Increase your knowledge and effectiveness in ministry by taking the Basic Lay Servant Class on June 18 and 25 in the FFUMC Fellowship Hall from 4:00 to 9:00 PM. [Sign up online at this link](#) and choose "Basic, 6/18, 6/25; 4-9 pm; Fayetteville First UMC." The registration cost is \$40. You will also need to purchase your book: *Lay Servant Ministries: Basic Course*, by Sandy and Brian Jackson. Upon completion of the two-day, 10-hour course you will receive your certification through The UMC Discipleship Ministry. [Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence](#) with questions.



## Let's Do Lunch: Saturday, August 9

It's time to make reservations for our 4th Annual Let's Do Lunch! And remember to bring friends, neighbors and family with you. Don't wait! You have until July 26 to reserve your seat.

This year, we are delighted to have Diana Cowan as our special guest to share her incredible story about "The Lost Sheep", which has motivated women all over the country. Come prepared to be entertained, encouraged and inspired.

Guests will enjoy a tri-salad plate for lunch, as well as the chance to browse all the uniquely decorated dining tables in the Fellowship Hall.

**Event: August 9**

**Reservations due July 26**

There is no cost to attend this event, but reservations are required. There are 3 easy ways to make your reservation:

**Online:** [Click this reservation link](#), fill in the form & hit Submit.

**Email:** Send an email to Lauren Davis or [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com) with your name, email address, phone number, and the names of any guests coming with you.

**Phone:** Call the church office at 770-461-4313.

You may make reservations for you and your friends at the same time. If you made a reservation but can no longer attend, please be sure to contact Lauren to cancel.



## June pantry needs at Fayette Samaritans

Donations are one way to help those in our community 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 Mixed Vegetables, Canned Corn, Dried Pasta (not spaghetti), Chicken and Beef Broth, Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Pancake Syrup, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Tea Bags, Feminine Products

**Clothes Closet Needs:** Girl's Socks, Men's White Crew Socks



## Photographs are in Welcome Center Sunday!

Did you have a photography session for the new church directory? Your photos are here! You may pick up your prints in the Welcome Center this Sunday or in the church office throughout next week. **Please mark the pickup sheet** by the photo box to let us know you got yours!



## School supply collection continues through June

The **VBS Mission Focus** was to help one of our local Fayette county elementary schools. And you are invited to join in the effort! Purchase some or all of the following and bring your donations to the church office or Narthex for the month of June.

Items needed:

Composition notebook	Spiral notebook
Pencils	Erasers
Glue sticks	16-count Crayola crayons
Wide-rule notebook paper	

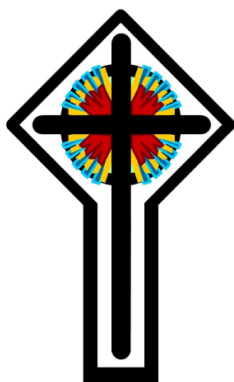


## Flower Ministry

What a lovely surprise awaited me the other day when I came back to my room. The roses are just beautiful and I have enjoyed them more than I can say. Thank you so much for sharing them with me! — Louise Leonard

## United Women in Faith

We would like to thank the United Women in Faith for their Gift for Missions on behalf of our grandson, Noah James Gonzalez. We are honored and appreciative. — Randy and Jane Riddell



## June 9, 2025 Financials

### Operating Budget 2025

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$502,224.31
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$500,719.50
Difference	\$1,504.81

### Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week: \$210

82 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$19,077.11

### 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, Wednesdays,  
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM; Thursdays 7:30 AM

**NA Meetings:** Thursdays 7:30 PM

# inspired ...

## VBS was a Road Trip adventure!

Enjoy more VBS memories from the week and our Sunday celebration. Notice Rev. Allyson Lawrence's stole crafted by the VBS kids and sewn by Charlotte McAdams ... and the exuberance of Rev. Drew West as Chase Leonard gets a face full of cream after the service. We appreciated the student snacks delivered by youth Nicholas and Mickey Robinson and the volunteer treat display presented by Jim and Gerri Haymans. Youth volunteers were all over: in classrooms and activity rotations including recreation with Jay Travis. Our Traveling Troubadour Praise Team led us all week in dynamic assemblies. And Scout, our dog friend voiced by Jack Travis, was a crowd favorite. VBS becomes a generational family experience for many as the fun times and meaningful lessons keep coming. We look forward to VBS 2026 already!

