



August 29, 2025

The Weekender

"The Cracking Ground of You" Rev. Drew West

After Jeremiah 2:4-13

I think—
no, I know—
we are all searching
for what can sustain.

You know
what it's like
to be on the road nearing empty,
that anxiousness simmering
and panicked thinking.

Too quickly,
I turn toward my own makings,
believing they will hold
but they split
leak, and collapse.

I am like a grape
seeking to survive
apart from branches and vine.

Isn't that you?
Removing yourself from Source
and expecting to thrive?

But—
what if?
What if we saw God rightly?
Not as the means
to whatever we imagine we need,
but as the fountain
that knows our thirst
before the lips are dry.

The Living One,
whose essence is motion,
creation,
faithfulness,
love,
truth—
always flowing,
always continuing,
always being.

We are weary.
I am worn out.
Are you?

Turn again
to the One who heals,
who fills,
who quenches
the cracking ground of you.

We are not Source.
We are more like
receptacles,
meant to be filled
and to overflow.





12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - AUGUST 31, 2025

8:45 AM 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

Online link active at 11 AM and after

Psalm 81:1, 10-16 and Jeremiah 2:4-13

"What Can Sustain Us"

The Rev. Drew West

CURRENT NEWS



Called to the Next Generation

Nurturing children and younger members is essential to the life of the church. Here at FFUMC, we are blessed with an incredible team of volunteers in both Children's Ministry and our Sunshine Ministry, which serves children and young adults with special needs. As the saying goes, many hands make light work, so Rev. Drew West and Jami Maguire are hosting a Lunch and Learn "Called to the Next Generation" right after the 11:00 am service on Sunday, September 7 (free lunch included!). Children, parents, and guardians are invited to join us as we get an overview and share lots of ways to get involved. Safe Sanctuary training (required every two years) will be offered.

[Sign up here to attend](#) (and ensure we have a lunch ready for you).

Contact [Rev. Drew West](#) or Jami Maguire for more information.



Great Day of Service: Pick your project!

It's time to pick your service project for the Great Day of Service on Saturday, September 20. We'll enjoy an early breakfast and communion together before heading out to sites to work from 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Volunteers are provided childcare for children six months to 5 years of age during the event. Look for the display at worship entrances or the Welcome Center to sign up manually or follow the [QR code on the card or sign up online \(click here\) for your favorite project!](#)

Saturday

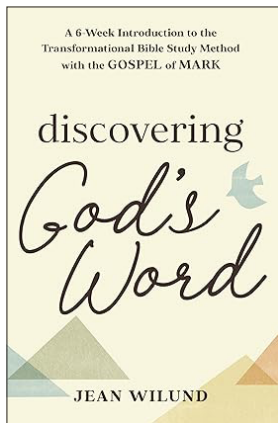
September 20

**Great Day
of Service!**

These are **some** of the places we'll be serving. Choose where you'll get out and do good!

Joseph Sams School
Pregnancy Resource Center
Square Foot Ministry
Midwest Food Bank
The Gathering People

Southwest Christian Care
Card Ministry
Fayette Samaritans
Promise Place
I-58 Mission



Discovering God's Word: Transformational Bible Study Method with the Gospel of Mark

Join with others in an introduction to a method of Bible study that leads past information to transformation. A six-week study led by Florence Prine and Karen Dunn takes you through the gospel of Mark using Jean Wilund's book "Discovering God's Word" on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5 PM. September 10 - October 15. Get your book [from Amazon](#) or another bookseller. You are requested to read the short overview and the gospel of Mark before the first class meeting in Room C240 on September 10.

[Register here and contact Florence or Karen with questions.](#)



**Hear Patsy Kent
September 18**

UWF Salad and Sweets Luncheon features Patsy Kent

You're invited to a Salad and Sweets Luncheon sponsored by the United Women in Faith. Please bring a salad or sweet to share. No reservations are needed; however, UWF members are requested to let their group leaders know what dish they are bringing to ensure a variety is offered. All are welcome!

Thursday, September 18 11:30 AM Fellowship Hall

Patsy Kent presents "Great Is Thy Faithfulness: A Missionary Story"

"What if God invited you to go to another country to live and build friendships with people who don't know Jesus? Would he show you how? Would he help you learn their culture? Would he take care of your kids? Yes! He would and He did." Patsy Kent, Deb Cole's sister, loves to share stories of how her family experienced God's faithfulness over 28 years in East Africa and in Laos.

A love offering will be collected to benefit REI (Resource Exchange International).



SAGE heads to monastery September 5

September 5 - Monastery of the Holy Spirit tour in Conyers and lunch

Gather at church office at 8:15 AM for 8:30 departure

What's life like in a Trappist monastery? Would you like to ask questions about faith in another tradition? Go with our Senior Adults Going Everywhere (SAGE) to the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers on Friday, September 5. After a tour and visit with a docent at the museum with a Q&A session, the group will enjoy the excellent gift shop and a boxed lunch from Honey Baked Ham. Questions? Contact Rev. Charles Robinson.

Register in church office by Wednesday, noon, on September 3.

Cost: \$2 transportation payable on September 5.

Reserved Honey Baked Ham boxed lunch payable at monastery. Cost is about \$15.



Titus II resumes September 2: Storyteller Carol Cain

Enjoy lunch together and be inspired as Titus II resumes at noon on Tuesday, September 2, in the Fellowship Hall. The year kicks off with a presentation by storyteller Carol Cain from LaGrange.

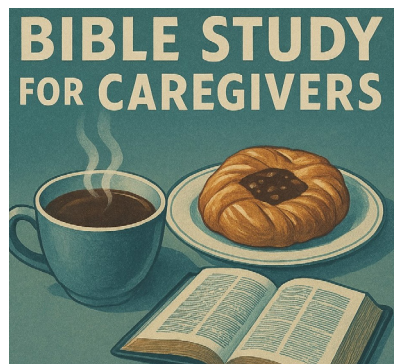


NEW! A Midweek Creative Pause

On Wednesday nights, gather in a welcoming space to explore scripture, allowing individuals to engage in their chosen creative outlet. Each week features a Bible passage paired with optional art activities such as painting, collage, simple crafts, or journaling. No artistic skills are required—just an openness to experiment and reflect. The group is open to all ages and offers a restful midweek pause, especially for those seeking to slow down and explore new methods of connecting with God and each other. Together, we'll create, connect, and discover how the arts can deepen our prayer and spiritual life.

Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 PM Room C200

Contact leader [Rev. Drew West](#) for details.



Bible Study for Caregivers begins September 5

Join Jami Maguire, Director of Special Needs Ministry, for a weekly Bible Study every Friday in September. Come to sip on a cup of coffee or tea, snack on a treat and study together. Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10 AM. Questions? Contact Jami Maguire.



Support the Preschool AND get Anthony's Pizza!

Grab some slices and support our sweet preschool on September 9! Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us!

A portion of all sales will be donated to FFUMC Preschool.

When: September 9 Time: 5 to 7 PM

Where: Anthony's Pizzeria Fayetteville



September 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, Tuna, Dried Beans, Pasta Sauce, Oatmeal - single serving, Grits - single serving, Corn Soup, Bar Soap, Jelly, Feminine Products*

Clothes Pantry Needs: *Socks for girls and boys, Boy's undershirts, Men's undershirts*



Wednesday Night Suppers 5 PM in Fellowship Hall

Let's eat together! Time: **5 PM** Fellowship Hall

Adults: \$10; Children under 13 - \$7

Sign up for the weekly meal by noon each Monday. Contact the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com.

September 3 - Tim's Country Kitchen

Grilled/Fried Pork Chops, Dressing/Gravy, Broccoli Casserole, Rolls, Apple Cobbler



Love in Action: Items needed

Thank you for your generosity toward those in our community who need a little help. What is currently needed? **Washer and Dryer**

Contact Cindy Hall with donations and questions.



Medicine bottle collection **ends this weekend**

Have you emptied some medicine or vitamin bottles? They can be reused! Here's how:

- Clean bottles, remove labels, keep lids on.
- Mark bottles as "Pill Bottle Collection" and leave them inside the Welcome Center cabinet or in the marked collection bin at the gym stairwell.

Contact Faye Livingston if you have questions.



Better Together with Small Groups

We are better when we are together, and small groups are strong at FFUMC. Check out these offerings for this fall and make a new connection!

A Midweek Creative Pause NEW!

Share time with others to explore scripture alongside a time for individuals to engage in their chosen creative expression. No artistic skills required. For all ages. Leader: Rev. Drew West. Wednesdays 5:30 to 6:30 PM in Room C200.

Bible Study for Caregivers NEW!

Gather with Jami Maguire to sip, snack, study and share with a focus on the joys and challenges of caring for others. Friday mornings during September at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall.

Disciple I NEW!

34 week program for a comprehensive overview of the entire Bible. Leaders: Barb Combs, Jeff Hansen. Now - May 2026, Wednesdays 3-5 PM and 6 to 8 PM in Room C260.

Discovering God's Word: Transformational Bible Study Method with the Gospel of Mark NEW!

Be introduced to a method of Bible study that leads past information to transformation through a six week study on the Gospel of Mark. This study uses Jean Wilund's book "Discovering God's Word." (See article for more details.) Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5 PM. September 10 - October 15 in Room C240. Leaders Florence Prine and Karen Dunn.

Men's Bible Study

Go deep in study as you read aloud books of the Bible and discuss using commentaries and books alongside The Bible Project posters (provided). Leaders Randy Riddell and Chuck Grayson. Wednesdays 6 - 7 PM.

Sunday Morning Small Groups

Find a place for all: children, youth, special needs, and young adults, adults, and senior adults on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:45 AM. Groups offer a variety of approaches to study and fellowship.

Weekly Lectionary Study Groups: See and Seek, Table Group, Table Talk

Take a look at the weekly scripture reading for the upcoming Sunday and discuss where you see God in your life. Wednesdays (Women's group) 10 AM, Thursdays (Men's group) 10 AM, Fridays (Mixed group at Gremlin Growlers) 10 AM.

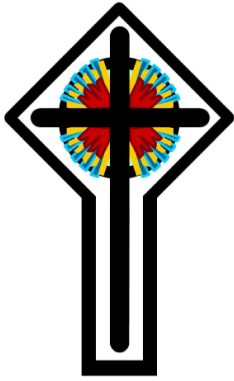
Other groups meet regularly including United Women in Faith, United Methodist Men, GriefShare, Good Grief Gals, SAGE, seniors, and more. Contact the [church office](#) for details or phone numbers/emails of leaders for more information.



Shawl Ministry

Your kindness and caring are a reflection of God's love. Thank you for the beautiful lap robe.

— Sharon Webb Morehart (Dick Webb's daughter)



August 25, 2025 Financials

Operating Budget 2025

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$757,237.01
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$63,864.78
Difference	-\$6,527.77

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week: \$163.00

119 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$29,001.28

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

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-461-4313 FayettevilleFirst.com

Happy Labor Day Weekend!

Church office closed Monday, September 1.

Let's Do Lunch Outtake!

Nick Bowden served up salad and humor at Let's Do Lunch as he and Diana Cowan shared "the look."

We like it, Nick!



inspired ...

"Let's Do Lunch": Inspiration, Creativity and Connection

Earlier this month, more than 150 ladies gathered for the fourth annual "Let's Do Lunch" event—an uplifting time of community, creativity, and encouragement sponsored by the United Women in Faith. The highlight of the event was Diana Cowan's inspiring presentation on "The Lost Sheep."

Each of the 19 tables was beautifully and thoughtfully decorated, with unique themes crafted by our generous hostesses. These creative table settings set the stage for meaningful conversations and heartfelt connection with old and new friends.

Guests enjoyed a delicious trio salad plate, presented and served by a team of 14 men. Their behind-the-scenes effort created a warm and welcoming environment.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the entire "Let's Do Lunch" team for envisioning and making this special day possible. Their dedication and hospitality created a space full of shared joy, kindness, and community spirit.

[Did you miss the presentation or want to see it again? Click here!](#)

