



The Weekender

September 25, 2026

By Jami Maguire

Come to church- bring your burdens with you

Last week, I had to drop off my car for service. I had no idea where I was supposed to go to check in, so I went into the waiting area and then into the service bay where the check-in counters were located. A rather impatient older lady followed me from the waiting area into the bay. When the service technician saw me, I deferred to the lady since she had been there first. She explained that she had brought her car in for an oil change, but it still wasn't ready. She had been there for five hours waiting for her car! I felt terrible for her, but I also wondered why she had gone that long without asking for help?

That experience put me in mind of something that happened the previous Sunday.

I'm sure many of you know Helena, my friend with special needs, who you have probably seen bouncing around the halls with me on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Her mother has been going through a difficult time health-wise and has been in the hospital.

As we arrived on Sunday morning Helena told everyone about her mom and, not only that, she asked them to pray. As we went from person to person, group to group, folks stopped their busy rush into Sunday school to hold hands with Helena and pray for her mom.

It was a beautiful example of church in action.

It made me wonder, though, how many of us walk into our church carrying burdens and concerns that we are too nervous to share? Like the lady who sat in the waiting room for five hours without asking anyone for help, we may be hurting, worried, overwhelmed, or afraid, but we don't want to bother anyone so we simply carry it all alone.

Sometimes our burdens are so heavy we prefer to leave them at home. We might even feel we need to have everything together before we walk through the doors of the church. But, as Helena showed us, the folks you sit with in your Sunday school classes and church pews are ready and willing to come alongside you and carry those burdens to the Father.

All you have to do is ask.

Galatians 6:2, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."



18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

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

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

"Stone and Rock"
The Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS

Giving with Purpose: Faithful Strategies for Lasting Impact

The Second Sunday Seminar Series continues October 11 following the 11:00 am service with special guest Jennifer Camp of Edward Jones. This 1-hour seminar will educate us on high-impact tools like donor-advised funds, qualified charitable distributions, and charitable gift annuities.

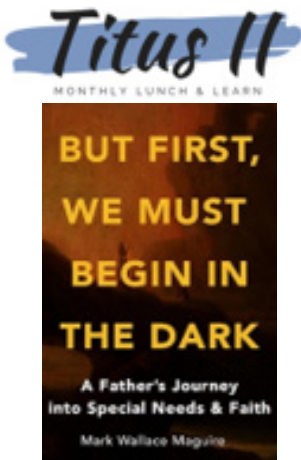
Jennifer Camp is a financial advisor with Edward Jones. She is a Chartered Financial Consultant, Accredited Asset Management Specialist, and recently received the Certified Financial Planner designation, the gold standard for financial planning. Jennifer became a general partner of the firm in 2020 and today leads over 56 Edward Jones branch teams in south metro Atlanta. Life experience, professional experience, education, and compassion are the bedrock of her success. Jennifer is a Fayette County native, currently living in Senoia with her husband, Scott.

A light lunch will be provided in Fellowship Hall starting at 12:15, with the seminar beginning as soon as people are seated. Reservations are not necessary.

Titus II – Tuesday, October 6 at Noon

Join us for Titus II on Tuesday, October 6 at noon! Our guest speaker will be author Mark Maguire, who will share from his book *Father & Special Needs Children*. Lunch will be provided from a local restaurant and is \$8.00.

Please RSVP by noon on Tuesday, September 29 by calling the church office or contacting Martha Turner.



Save the Date



**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 11TH
8 AM – 1 PM**



SAGE Trips –

Upcoming Adventures!

Thursday, October 8 – Apple Gathering
in Ellijay.

Meet at 8:15 am and Leave at 8:30 am

Transportation fee: \$2.00

Monday, November 16 – Tour of the
Arthur Blank Soccer Center

Cost: \$20.00



Coffee & Conversation

Do Sunday mornings call you to relax? Want some coffee and a little talk time?

Whether you're running too late for Sunday School, a bit early for 11:00 worship or simply want to hang out, just drop by the Fellowship Hall any Sunday between 9:45 and 10:45. Join Rev. Kaylen Short for a cup of coffee, a light nibble, and some good conversation before heading to your next thing.

Come as you are, stay as long as you like, and enjoy a little time to connect.



El Salvador Mission Trip April 3-10, 2027

Over the past 30 years, a thriving Evangelical Methodist Church has developed programs of worship, education, and community outreach in Ahuachapán, El Salvador. Salvadoran Mission Projects has been working with the Church in El Salvador since 2010. Fayetteville First UMC has been participating in this mission since 2014.

You can participate in this ministry by joining us as we:

- Worship and pray with people in the community
- Conduct Vacation Bible School for 50-60 elementary school-age children
- Distribute essential food supplies and connect with local families
- Support the expansion of the church's school facilities



You can also participate by providing financial support for the team. Team fees cover the following. Any amount you can provide toward these expenses is greatly appreciated.

- Team member room and board - \$60 per day
- Interpreters - \$20 per day
- Bag of staple food items - \$16 per bag
- VBS Supplies - \$500-\$600 for the week

Secure your spot with a \$250 deposit by November 1, 2026.

Make checks payable to and send to:
Fayetteville First United Methodist Church
175 East Lanier Avenue
Fayetteville GA 30214



Need a New Name Tag?

If you need a new name tag or a replacement, please contact Kelly Anderson admin@fayettevillefirst.com or Jennifer Hickman officemanager@fayettevillefirst.com in the church office. Name tags are \$12.00 each.



Pill Bottles

Our pill bottle ministry is an ongoing ministry, but we would like to make a delivery at the end of November. The bottles will go to Matthew 25 in Ohio. We are looking to collect as many as possible in these next few weeks. Please leave them in the right side of the cabinet in the Welcome Center, or in the marked bin in the cabinet behind the Samaritan cart near the gym, or in the church office.

For more information, please contact Virginia Pope or Faye Livingston.



Love in Action
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Love in Action is currently helping a family in need of a washer and dryer. If you have either item to share, please contact Cindy Hall. Thank you for helping us put Love in Action!

Wednesday Night Suppers

September 30th 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 30th - Piccadilly -

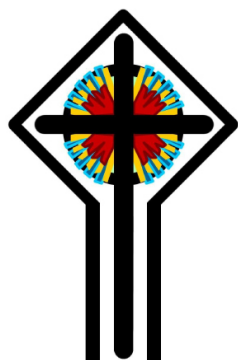
Fried Chicken, Potato Casserole, Mixed Roasted Potatoes, Rolls and Dessert.



September Needs!

As we head into September, Fayette Samaritans Inc. is especially in need of the following pantry items: Peanut butter, Canned green beans, Canned mixed vegetables, Canned corn, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Tea, Jelly, Hamburger Helper, Pasta Sauce, Feminine Products.

The Clothes Closet also has a need for new women's socks.



September 21, 2026 Financials

Operating Budget 2026

Annual Operating Budget Receipts	\$920,288.29
Annual Operating Budget Expenses	\$898,834.29
Difference	\$21,454.00
Benevolence	
Benevolence funds received this week:	\$100.00
140 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed	\$36,238.61

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.

Publication Deadlines

Have information to share? Send your submissions for consideration to Jenn Hickman at officemanager@fayettevillefirst.com by noon on Mondays for inclusion in The Weekender weekly e-newsletter.

Regular Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM (closed 12-1 PM 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!!!

UWF Sunday

