



The Weekender

September 4, 2026

What a Weekend of Intergenerational Ministry!

This past weekend, we had the joy of seeing children, youth, and adults learning, worshiping, serving, and growing together.



Saturday brought Emotional Messy Church, where 30 people joined us as we explored our emotions and learned the simple but powerful truth: “Whatever I’m feeling, I can bring it to God.” We even discovered that Jesus had big feelings too!

On Sunday, we gathered for our 5th Sunday Together Breakfast, hosted by Children’s, Youth, and Adults in Action. We shared a potluck breakfast, studied Scripture together, and were blessed to have our youth lead us in some of our favorite hymns. A special thank-you to Caroline and Ethan for leading our music!

We then had an interactive retelling of Noah’s Ark, bringing generations together to experience the story in a fun and meaningful way.

None of these events happen without the many people who give their time and talents, from planning and setup to meals, music, teaching, and welcoming others. Thank you to everyone who helped make this weekend possible!

I am so proud of our congregation for supporting and investing in intergenerational ministry. Weekends like this give me hope for what the church can be, and excitement for where we are going.

By Chase Leonard



15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

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

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

Matthew 18:15-20

"Honest Dialogue"

The Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS

Church Office Closed for Labor Day

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.



United Women of Faith Fall Unit
Gathering

Join us for the United Women of Faith
Fall Unit Gathering on Thursday,
September 10, 2026, at 11:30 AM in the
Fellowship Hall!

Enjoy a delicious Soup Smorgasbord
with mini croissants, dessert, and a
beverage. No reservations are needed—
just come and enjoy!

Our program will feature the Healing
Bridge Clinic. We hope you'll join us for
a wonderful time of fellowship, food,
and inspiration!

Join our community as we gather to remember and honor those affected by the events of September 11, 2001, on the 25th anniversary of this historic day.

The commemoration will be held on Friday,
September 11, from 6:00–7:30 PM
at City Center Park.

We are honored that Rev. Kaylen Short has been asked to give the invocation as part of this special time of remembrance and reflection.

Protect Yourself from Fraud and Scams

The Second Sunday Seminar Series kicks off Sept. 13 after the 11:00 am service with Sgt. Scott Israel of the Fayetteville Police Department. This 1-hour seminar will deliver practical tips to protect you and your family from scams and fraud, online and offline. Sergeant Scott Israel serves in the Community Activity, Resource & Education Unit of the Fayetteville Police Department. Sgt. Israel has spent nearly 35 years in law enforcement including his experience with the Fayetteville Police Department and Fayette County Sheriff's Office. At the Fayetteville Police Department, Scott served as patrol officer, juvenile detective, gang investigator, crime scene technician, school resource officer, community resource officer, chaplain, and now in the Community Activity, Resource & Education Unit. He also runs the Citizen's Police Academy which includes sessions on fraud and scams.

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

Please consider attending this important educational event to safeguard you and your family against the rising tide of fraudulent activity. For additional information, contact the church office at 770-461-4313.



METHODIST — MEN'S — MEETING

The Methodist Men are meeting on Tuesday, September 8, in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be provided starting at 6:15 PM and the meeting will begin at 7:00 PM. Come enjoy an evening of food, fellowship and connection. All men are invited to join us!



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



September SAGE Trip!

Our September SAGE outing is Thursday, September 17! We'll travel to Oakland Cemetery for a guided tour, followed by lunch together at 6 Feet Under.

We have reached our first 25 participants and have started a waitlist!

If you have already signed up, **please pay your \$10 to reserve your spot.** The \$10 covers the tour and transportation.

If you have questions or need to make your payment, please contact the church office.



Love in Action

Love in Action

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



Where do you find joy in your life? Do you have joy in your life? Can you find joy not only when life is going good and all seems right with the world, but also in the pain and struggles of life? Join us for our new Bible study on the “Epistle of Joy”.... the New Testament book of Philippians. This 6-week study will meet on Tuesday afternoons, from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. in the upstairs Classroom C-260, beginning on September 15. Barb Combs will be leading our discussions each week. If you are interested in this study, please contact Barb at 419-680-2103 or bcombs220@gmail.com for your study book. Come and see what it’s all about as we “Rejoice in the Lord always.” (Philippians 4:4)



Wednesday Nights:

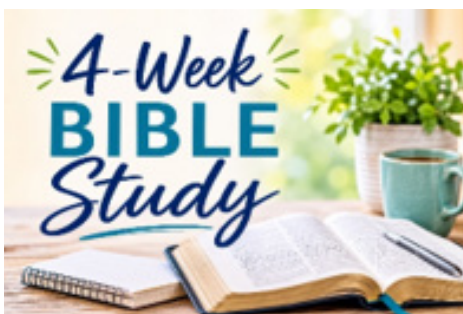
The Sermon on the Plain

Four-Week Bible Study With

Rev. Kaylen Short

September 9, 16, 23, 30 | 5:30 P.M.

Luke tells the story of Jesus' most well-known sermon differently. Jesus comes down from the mountain and stands on a level place, and what he says there is blunt: blessed are you who are poor, you who are hungry now, you who weep. Four evenings in Luke 6:17-49, from the blessings and woes to the two builders. Bring a Bible. Come for one week or all four.





PAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FFUMC Youth
2026–2027 Schedule

Grades 5–12
 August 2026 – August 2027

The Default Week

WEDNESDAYS
 8th Period After School
 After school until 5:00 p.m.
Church Dinner
 5:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Free Time
 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Youth Group
 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAYS
Sunday School
 Breakfast at the Foundry
 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Dungeons & Dragons (DND)
 Hosted by Nick Hansen
 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Missions & Special Events

Oct 17	Local Retreat (Fall) – Saturday
Jun 16	ASP Commissioning Service
Jun 20–26	Appalachia Service Project (ASP)
Jul 12–16	Vacation Bible School
TBD	Spring Retreat – Beach Trip
TBD	College & Young Adult Mission to El Salvador

Special Dates & Exceptions

Aug 12	Parent Meeting (Tonight!)
Aug 19	First Youth Group of the school year – 8th Period begins
Oct 7	Bonfire Night with the Sunshine Group
Oct 14	NO YOUTH – Fall Break
Oct 28	CHARGE Conference Night – regular Youth Group; all youth welcome at CHARGE
Nov 25	NO YOUTH – Thanksgiving Break
Dec 9	Christmas Pageant
Dec 16	Christmas Caroling
Dec 23 & 30	NO YOUTH – Christmas Break
Jan 6	Youth Group resumes – first Youth Group of 2027

Feb 10	Ash Wednesday Service
Feb 17	NO YOUTH – Winter Break
Apr 7	NO YOUTH – Spring Break
Apr 28	Bounce House Night – bring friends!
May 12	Last Youth Group of the year
May 23	Youth/Children's Sabbath + Graduation Sunday



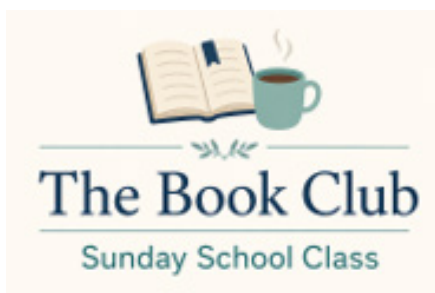
All dates subject to change. Please be on the lookout for emails, text messages, and Discord posts from Caroline and Austin regarding schedule announcements throughout the year.

Benevolence — team —

Spanish Speaker Sought

The Benevolence team is seeking a fluent Spanish speaker in the congregation who would be available on occasion to interpret for a client.

The need comes up rarely, but when it does, we would utilize your skill to make sure there is clear communication and understanding between the client and our team member who is on the case. Please be in touch with Lea Agnew at leaagnew@bellsouth.net.



The Book Club Sunday School Class will begin a discussion of *Simply Jesus* by N. T. Wright on Sunday, September 13, 2026. In this accessible and thought-provoking book, Wright explores who Jesus was, what He came to do, and why His life and message continue to matter today.

The class welcomes anyone interested in thoughtful conversation about faith, Scripture, history, and the person of Jesus. You do not need to be an expert or agree with every viewpoint to participate—questions, differing perspectives, and respectful discussion are encouraged. Skeptics are warmly welcome. Room C260.

Wednesday Night Suppers

September 9th 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.

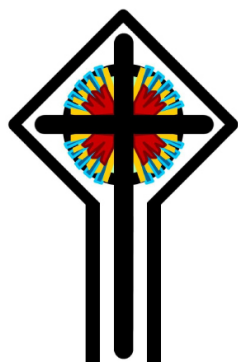
September 9th - Olive Garden Lasagna, Salad, Bread Sticks, and Dessert.



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, Hamburder Helper, Pasta Sauce, Feminine Products.

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



August 31, 2026 Financials

Operating Budget 2026

Annual Operating Budget Receipts	\$844,882.16
Annual Operating Budget Expenses	\$852,699.31
Difference	\$7,817.15
Benevolence	
Benevolence funds received this week:	\$525.00
124 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed	\$32,410.70

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!!!

Wonderful time at
Messy Church
and
5th Intergenerational Sunday

