November 6, 2026

The Weekender

What a Few Weeks at Fayetteville First
By Rev. Kaylen Short

If you've been around Fayetteville First for any length of time, you know we like to talk a lot about the sweet, sweet Spirit in this place. These last couple of weeks, the Spirit has been really obvious.

We began with our Dare to Dream stewardship consecration service, and the early results are definitely promising. We'll have more to share soon, but for now, know that this congregation's generosity and faithfulness continue to speak volumes about who we are and who we want to become.

Then came our annual charge conference, and we were honored to welcome our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Julie Boone, for the evening. If you weren't there, you missed something special. The turnout genuinely surprised her, and it was a proud moment to show her the kind of lay leadership that defines this church. While we will change districts soon, and receive a new D.S., I am always excited when anyone in the conference gets to see just a glimpse of what I see all the time.

This past Sunday, All Saints, we paused to remember 20 saints from our congregation who have gone on to glory and who have joined the Church Triumphant. I personally shed a few tears before services even began as I was greeting one family of a saint. It is always one of the most sacred services of the year, and this year was no different. We called their names, we lit candles, and we gave thanks for the ways their lives touched ours.

Out of that remembrance came an announcement. Thanks to a generous posthumous gift from one of those very saints, Dick Webb, we were able to share the creation of two new Legacy Funds: the Julia Webb Educational Fund and the Rev. Charles Robinson General Fund. These funds will carry Dick's generosity, and the impact of those the funds are named for, forward in lasting and meaningful ways, and we are deeply grateful for them.

And we're not done yet. This Sunday, we will welcome three new members into the life of the church and with them, we will cross the 100 new member mark since January 2024. More than one hundred people who have said yes to being a covenantal part of this community.

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit at Fayetteville First. And I am so grateful to be here with you bearing witness to it.

TWENTY-FORTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 8, 2025
8:45 AM 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)
Online link active at 11 AM and after
Psalm 78:1-7
Matthew 25:1-13
"Burnout"
The Rev. Allison Keith

CURRENT NEWS



Christmas Marketplace is next Saturday!
Nov. 7 from 9 am - 3 pm
Please join us:

- As a volunteer to help set up, greet guests, clean up, and much more.
- Donate your favorite baked goods to the Gingerbread House.
- Bring your gently-used donations to Timeless Treasures no later than noon on Thursday, Nov. 5.
- Shop the Marketplace with 80+ unique vendors for handmade Christmas gifts, collectibles & goodies!
- Spread the word with your family, friends & neighbors about our event.

All profits benefit local charities. Hope to see you there



Pecan Time!

Holiday Baking
Gifts
Freeze & Enjoy

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 7.

To place a large order for personal use and gifts, complete this order form or get one on Sunday. Then drop the form along with your **exact payment in an envelope marked "Pecan Sales"** at the church office or in the collection plate by **Sunday, November 8**. Pecans will be available for pickup in the Fellowship Hall on November 12 and 13 from 1 to 2 PM and at 12 noon on November 15. Make checks out to United Women in Faith or UWF.

We are committed to raising funds for others. All proceeds will go to a worthy cause supported by UWF. With pecans, everybody wins!

Please join us for our next Second Sunday Seminar Series presentation,
"Life-Saving Steps: Save Someone Else, Save Yourself,"
on Sunday, November 8, at 12:15 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Battalion Chief Sean Venza of the Fayetteville Fire Department will lead the session, covering stroke recognition, CPR basics, and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use as time permits. You will learn key actions to take during an emergency, how to support others lending aid, and the locations of AEDs at Fayetteville First. Additionally, Nancy Musselwhite will demonstrate uninjured fall recovery, followed by a Q&A session with Battalion Chief Venza.
A complimentary pizza lunch will be served. We hope to see you on November 8 for these crucial, life-saving lessons.



Titus II – Tuesday, November 10 at Noon
Join us for Titus II! A representative from the Fayette County Marshal's Office will be our guest speaker.
We'll enjoy a Thanksgiving Day feast for lunch!
Meals are $8. Please sign up by contacting Martha Turner or the church office.

The Methodist Men are meeting on Tuesday, November 10th, 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!





The Church office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day as we pause to honor and thank all who have served our country.



November SAGE Trip – Arthur Blank Soccer Center

Join SAGE on Monday, November 16, for a tour of the Arthur Blank Soccer Center! The cost is $20 per person. Please arrive at the church by 9:15 AM as we will leave at 9:30 AM. Lunch after the tour is TBD.The trip is currently full, and a waitlist has been started. If you are already on the confirmed list, please submit your $20 payment in advance to secure your spot. Those on the waitlist will be contacted if a spot becomes available. To make your payment or for more information, please contact the church office. We look forward to a great SAGE outing!



This arose from some congregants who had been asking for recommendations:

We are compiling a list of recommended caregivers to share upon request with members of the congregation. If you or a loved one has had a positive experience with a caregiver, please send their name and the type of care they offered to Rev. Kaylen Short.





November is Bloom Angel Tree Month

Participate in our annual Angel Tree mission project from November 1 - November 22. Stop by the Welcome Center, on Sundays and pick up an angel's request. This mission provides a wonderful opportunity to share your love with foster children this Christmas season. Your gifts will be distributed to the foster parents in December.

How to Participate:

1. Choose and sign out an angel ornament from the tree.
2. Purchase the items listed on your angel's wish list.
3. Return the unwrapped gifts and the angel ornament by Sunday, November 22.

Gifts may be returned to the Church Office or the Welcome Center.

For questions, please contact Charlotte McAdams

Got a Creative Side? We Want YOU!

Do you love coming up with fresh ideas, thinking outside the box, or finding fun and creative ways to connect with people? We're putting together a new Creative Team and would love for you to be part of it! Our goal is to brainstorm unique and welcoming ways to connect with folks who are new to our church and help them feel right at home.

Interested in sharing your ideas and creativity? Give the church office a call! If you have any questions or would like to learn more, contact Pastor Kaylen. We can't wait to see what we can dream up together!

Creative Team





SEASON OF THE NATIVITY

CELEBRATING LIGHT

With the First Sunday of Advent on November 29, we begin our observance of the Season of the Nativity—a sacred journey through Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Together, we will enter a time of waiting, wonder, and celebration as we open our hearts to the Light. Your FFUMC Guide to the season, available November 22, includes a calendar of events and an intentional daily journal to accompany you. In the meantime, take note of these upcoming opportunities. **Please check with individual leaders to secure any advance materials.**

An Unlikely Advent Randy Riddell, Genesis to Revelation Class
Sundays 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 at 9:45 AM - C250
Where might God show up? Explore living faithfully through the season by seeing the Advent themes through unexpected characters like Herod, the Magi, and more. Weekly video by author Rachel Billups and class discussion.

The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem Margaret Whitaker, Book Club
Sundays 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 at 9:45 AM - C260
Trace the journey to Bethlehem by exploring people, places, and circumstances of Jesus' birth. Guided by author Adam Hamilton, our way toward Bethlehem can be an enlightened personal journey giving depth and meaning to the season. Book and discussion.

A Defining Advent Jeff Hansen Register by November 23 with church office
Sundays 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 at 12:15 - Fellowship Hall - Light lunch provided.
Hope. Peace. Joy. Love. What if these familiar Advent words mean more than we think? Join Jeff Hansen as we explore the rich Hebrew and Greek words behind these beloved themes - tuqva, shalom, simcha, hesed, and more – and discover fresh, meaning-laden insights for the Advent Season. Weekly video and readings suggested for advance preparation.

Learning to See: Census at Bethlehem Joan Aycock
4 offerings of same 45 - 60 minute class
Wednesday, December 2, 5:30 PM (B335) Sunday, December 6, 9:45 AM (Narthex Bride's Room)
Thursday, December 3, 10 AM (B335) Monday, December 7, 9:30 AM (B335)
Explore Pieter Bruegel the Elder's painting from 1566 called Census at Bethlehem. The process of Visio Divina or "divine seeing" will guide us to look, look again, and then begin to see. Bruegel's depiction of the biblical census set in a more contemporary Flemish winter village summons us to ask, "What am I invited to notice?" No advance preparation needed.

Advent Meditation & Journaling Joan Aycock
Mondays, November 30, December 7 and December 14 B335 and Meditation Room at 10 AM
Join in a quiet hour of devotion, meditation, and journaling on "Wrinkly Time" on November 30, Pieter Bruegel's Census at Bethlehem painting on December 7, and Finding Joy in Advent on December 14. Come to one class or all three. No supplies needed – just a simple willingness to pause and reflect.

Wednesday Night Supper 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Let's eat together! 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.

November 11 - G"Lish - Fellowship Hall

Baked Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Broccoli Salad, and Dessert



November is our month! 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 Fruit, Beef Stew, Boxed Mac & Cheese, Mixed Vegatables, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Hamburger Helper, Jiffy Mix Cornbread, Coffee*

Clothes Pantry Needs: ***All sizes of women's and girl's underwear.***

October 26, 2026 Financials

Operating Budget 2026

Year-to-Date Receipts	$1,102,845.81
Year-to-Date Expenses	$1,041,177.54
Difference	$29,371.40

Benevolence
Benevolence funds received this week: $1,373.00
182 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed $46,444.92

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 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

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inspired

FUN times was had by ALL ages at Messy Church Harvest Festival!

















