



>> *connections*

Starting Over Rev. John Barnes

The wonderful part of a new year is the chance to start over. I know one person who has had a lot of medical issues throughout 2018. She is looking forward to 2019. Her treatments will be over and she expects 2019 to be a great deal better than 2018. I can relate to that and I imagine many of you feel similarly.

I like it when school starts (I started to say "in the fall," but of course now it starts in the middle of summer!) because I get to start over. Any bad habits I developed during the summer can be set aside. With the beginning of school and families back in town on a more regular basis Bible studies can be started; table groups can be formed. New habits can be practiced that lead to better living.

With 2019 here we have a chance to start over. As a church we hope to soon begin building a space for our youth. If more money is received we can then refurbish the Fellowship Hall. We are starting over also by offering new Table Groups. You'll see more about that inside. You'll also find other opportunities to get involved in Nurture, Outreach and Worship.

Our church is alive and vibrant! May 2019 be a time for you to start over and get involved in some of the life-giving opportunities here at Fayetteville FFUMC.

In Christ,

John

JANUARY 2019

January 9

Programs Resume

January 13

Blood Drive

January 18-20

Youth Retreat

January 25

Parents Night Out



175 East Lanier Avenue
Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-461-4313
fayettevillefirst.com

Our Church Family

Caring for each other and our community



Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

Robert and Linda Ladd upon the death of Linda's sister, Jean Roark (Bettie Jean Wyatt Roark) on November 27.
Linda Smith, Kermit Smith, Jr., and family upon the death of Linda's husband and Kermit's father, Kermit Smith, on November 29.

Warren and Donna Underwood, Robert and Amanda Lane, Austin and Victoria Saxton, and family upon the of Donna's mother and Amanda and Victoria's grandmother, Betty Saye Parker, on December 3.

Connie Hyder upon the death of her father, William F. Ballew, on November 11.

Phil and Barbara Greenway and family upon the death of Phil's father, Colonel George Greenway, on December 5.

Carole and Connie Hyder upon the death of Carole's husband and Connie's father-in-law, Joe Hyder, on December 8.

Bill and Betty McKibben upon the death of Bill's sister, Ina Piper, on December 9.

Randy and Janet Baileys and family upon the death of Janet's father, Philip Kable, on December 16.

In Our Prayers:

Ann Andre
Billy Arnold
Rhett Blythe
Carolyn Broady
Annelle Burch

Elizabeth Dunn
Kassandra Dzenis
Margaret Grainger
Rebecca Greenberg
Martha Hale

Carole Hyder
Margaret Panter
Lurlene Perry
Margaret Pettis
Mary Pierson

Joyce Ramsey
Dorothy Swanson
Ann Walton
Jack Wheeler
Brad Wilkinson

Notes of Thanks

My family and I would like to express our deep gratitude to the church family for your prayers, words, cards, food, flowers/plants, donations and loving support in the loss of our loved one, Duncan Williamson. We are blessed by your love — Phyllis Williamson

I want to thank my church family for all their prayers, cards, calls and food during my illness. I also have enjoyed the beautiful flowers so much. I am grateful for all your kindness. — Margaret Panter

Welcome New Members!

David and Yvette Elliott (Katie)
130 Wendell Court, Fayetteville 30215

Church Membership: 1783

Giving
(as of December 18)

Year to Date receipts:
\$1,365,036.53

Year to Date expenses:
\$1,463,530.41

Shortfall:
\$95,311.88



Transformation
NOW

Transformation NOW: Our 2019 Commitment

We have received 228 pledges for a total of \$1,000,670.80 toward the 2019 budget. Pledges to the 2019 operating budget are still accepted and appreciated.

GOD'S KINGDOM NOW IN 2019: NURTURE, OUTREACH, WORSHIP

Find a place and connect!



Growing in grace and connection

Table Groups Intentionally go deeper in faith and spiritual transformation through Table Groups, small groups that meet for an hour each week. Become increasingly aware of where and how God is at work in our lives in this shared experience. Sign up by January 2. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence.



Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m., C-200
Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at Gremlin Growlers
Thursdays, 10 a.m., Men's Group, C-200
Fridays, 10 a.m. at Gremlin Growlers

Class Meeting This informational class on Table Groups uses Dr. Kevin Watson's book "Class Meeting" and Steve Harper's "Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition" in a study guided by Rev. Michael Phillips. Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.

Ancient Meets Contemporary: Spiritual Disciplines Meet with facilitator Tim Aycock on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. during January and February to explore Brian McLaren's "Finding Our Way Again." In the midst of contemporary Christianity, discover the beauty of ancient disciplines and the transformation each can provide.

Unafraid Join Rev. Allyson Lawrence in this study of Adam Hamilton's "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times" on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Untangle the knots we feel about disappointing others, failure, loneliness, aging and more in this ten-session series.

New Testament Study Class Discover the biblical story and uncover your own spiritual gifts in this Disciple FastTrack 12-week study led by Kathie Hansen on Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Small Groups: Sundays Sunday school classes offer ongoing opportunities for connection, fellowship and growth for all ages

Six for Supper: Meet new people over a meal and get to know your church family better. Groups meet three times over a three month period beginning in January. Sign up right away to be included!



Events and service that take us outside ourselves

Blood Drive - January 13
Youth Retreat: January 18-20
Parent's Night Out - January 25
SafeHouse Outreach - January 31

Looking Ahead:

DNOW Youth - March 1-3
EasterPalooza - April 20
Great Day of Service - May 1
Vacation Bible School - June 24-28
Music, Art, Drama - July 15-19



Looking in and looking up

Sundays

8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m.

Wednesdays

Youth 6 p.m.

Tuesday Church

January 15, 12:30 p.m.

Service of Healing and Prayer

January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead:

Ash Wednesday - March 6
Lenten Lunches - March 6+
Holy Week - April 14
Easter - April 21

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*The place to go
when you want to know!*

CARE MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Sharing Words of Encouragement



Nearly every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m., you'll find a group of volunteers busy at work sending out messages of hope and cheer to our church family and beyond! The "Encouraging Words" ministry sends out cards each week to

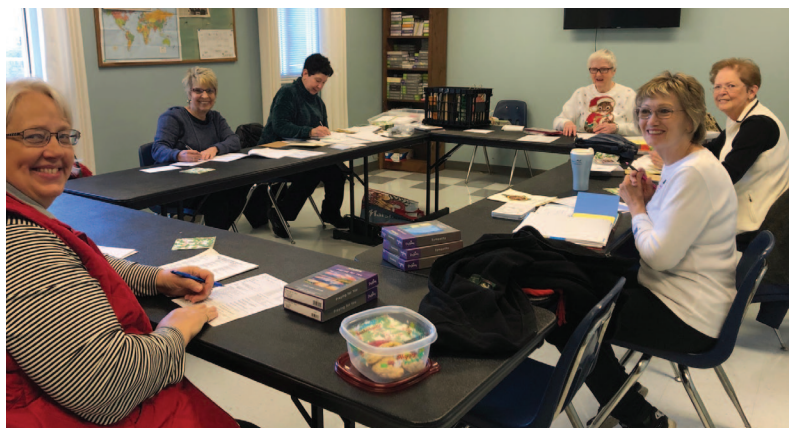
lift spirits and let our members know others are thinking of them and praying for them.

This group also looks for opportunities to bless others beyond the church walls. Cards have been sent within the community to acknowledge the achievements of local youth, business leaders and even organizations that have sponsored events that benefit the community. An example of our impact beyond Fayetteville is when 78 cards were sent to Medal of Honor recipients at their annual recognition luncheon in Washington, D.C. These servicemen, who performed acts of heroism while serving our country in conflicts from WWII to the present day, were thanked on behalf of our church for their service and sacrifice.



It is an honor and a privilege to be able to brighten a day with just a simple note, and the hope of this ministry is that if you have been so blessed, that you will do the same for another!

Other care ministries involve flowers, shawls, and card making. Coordinated by Rev. Allyson Lawrence and led by volunteers, these groups spread love, cheer and hope through important service. Find out more!



TITUS II

This month due to the holiday schedule, Titus II has been moved to the second Tuesday, January 8, at noon. Join our very special guest James Watkins, who just celebrated his 99th birthday. Hear James speak on "A Life Long and Well-Lived." He should know! Make your lunch reservation with Martha Turner by Thursday, January 3 (770-461-2802).

Upcoming:

February 5: Valentine songs with Hugh Waddy, pianist

March 5: Brian Wismer updates on Fayetteville Main Street Project

SENIOR ADULTS GOING EVERYWHERE

SAGE will enjoy lunch at the historic Green Manor in Union City on January 17. Meet at the church at 10:30; lunch is at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$22/person all inclusive. Handicapped accessible with a ramp. Sign up in the church office.

Upcoming:

February 21: Chick-fil-A Backstage Tour

March 21: Booth Western Art Museum

April 25: Atlanta Motor Speedway

YOUTH MINISTRY

Growing as Disciples in 2019 | Kena Newkirk

It's a New Year! Last year we saw a huge increase in visitors to our Wednesday program and the exciting campaign to finance a new youth space.

This year, the FFUMC Youth are ready to hit the ground running! Renovatus is January 18-20 at Camp Glisson in Dahlonega, Georgia. This is the can't miss, profound impact, life-changing, spiritual retreat of the year. For those of you at home, be sure to check-in on Facebook where we hope to GO LIVE during our worship and games! We will also be

posting updates on our blog at FFUMCYouth.com and our Instagram page [@FFUMCYouth](https://www.instagram.com/FFUMCYouth).

During January, Wednesdays at The Foundry will focus on wisdom in our series "Get Wise!" We want to start 2019 off right, not just pursuing good grades, but pursuing good and Godly decisions. A new 2019 FFUMC Youth Event's calendar postcard is available in the welcome center so be sure to get one to keep and one to share!

YOUTH CALENDAR:

Check out these highlights. Contact Kena Newkirk at KNewkirk@FayettevilleFirst.com for details.

January 18-20 – Renovatus Retreat

February 1-2- Lock In

February 28 – Breaking Point: Parent & Student Stress Seminar

March 1-3 – D-NOW

April 28 – Confirmation Sunday

May 28 – Youth & Senior Sunday

June 7-9 – Summer Retreat

*Students serve at SafeHouse Outreach.
Join in on January 31.*



Making a Difference NOW

The Making a Difference NOW capital campaign which has been underway since November 4 was scheduled to end December 16. We had a goal of \$350,000 which included money for a new youth space, enhancements to the fellowship hall and the area outside and the replenishment of the trustee reserve account. So far, we have collected \$143,991. There are outstanding pledges totaling \$52,500. When these pledges are fulfilled, we will have a total of \$196,491.

It was noted from the start that we would only begin those projects for which we have the funds. Our campaign is well short of the goal; however, as it currently stands, we will have enough to complete the dedicated youth space after pledged donations are received.

We will continue accepting donations in the hope that we will be able to fund the other projects. If you have not given to the campaign, please consider making a donation. For more information on the campaign, contact Rev. John Barnes, senior minister, or Mark Martin, finance chairperson.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

We Love Kids Here | Rev. Carson Thaxton & Allie Hansen

As we pass through Christmas and head into the New Year, I am reminded of the gifts our God has bestowed on us and the Hope he provides. I do not naturally like change, but this past year has helped me come to understand that change is neither good nor bad.



Parents got a break before Christmas while 68 children enjoyed camp here at FFUMC.

It is simply a constant in our lives and it is up to us (with the help of God) to flow with the change and use it for good. New Year's celebrations are both an ending and a new beginning, and are full of change, but James 1:17 reminds us "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Our God is constant and good and steadfast in his Love for us; He is a Rock to hold onto in a river full of rapids and waterfalls. Carson and I have seen amazing things come out of the Children's Ministry this past year. We have watched our Parents' Night Out events blossom and we have fostered new

community connections with Easterpalooza and Fall Festival with the city of Fayetteville. We had amazing turnout for our VBS, M.A.D. Camp, and Christmas Camp. This coming year, we hope to expand on these ministries and learn from and grow from our challenges. I hope that you will join us and find a way to support our church's children's ministries, through prayers, time, volunteering ... any way you find yourself called. Believe me, there is ALWAYS a place for you in this ministry. — Allie Hansen

KiDS Sunday School 9:45-10:45 a.m. Join the Deep Blue Crew in *At Home with God*

KiDS Wonders of Worship 11 a.m. Start in the sanctuary and move to kids worship after the Children's moment

KiDS Wednesday Night Life 6 -7:30 p.m. This semester we will be focusing on *The Gospel: The Man, The Miracles, The Messiah* along with activities, games, worship and mission marketplace.

SAVE THE DATE:

Parents Night Out: January 25

EasterPalooza: Saturday, April 20, 3 - 5 p.m.

VBS: June 24-28

M.A.D. Camp: July 15-19

FFUMC PRESCHOOL NEWS: A NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES



The preschool holidays were filled with programs, parties, Secret Santa shopping, and Fayette Samaritan food drives. But now we turn to the new year. In January we celebrate dads with our annual Doughnuts with Dads event. These special guys come in the morning and enjoy a song by the children and a prayer and then of course DOUGHNUTS!!!! Our teachers spend the rest of the month evaluating each one of their students individually to prepare for our second round of parent/teacher conferences in February. Our new year will be off to a GREAT start.

— Drew Greenberg

Note: We welcome long-term teacher Candice Hawthorne (shown in classroom) as interim Preschool Director for the remainder of the year. Thank you to Drew Greenberg for eleven years of service to our preschool. Best wishes, Drew, as you pursue a new career in the private sector.

What's Happening @ Fayetteville First UMC

Get specific information on happenings and times at fayettevillefirst.com or 770-461-4313.

Regular Sunday Schedule

Choir Practice: 8 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Small Groups: 9:45 a.m.
Worship in Chapel: 9:45 a.m.
Choir Practice: 10:30 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary: 11 a.m.
Kids Wonders of Worship: 11:30 a.m.
AA: 3 p.m.

Regular Monday Schedule

Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

Regular Tuesday Schedule

Card Ministry: 10 a.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

Regular Wednesday Schedule

Table Group: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Bible Study: 10:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Overeaters Anonymous: 12 p.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
8th Period Youth: 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Supper: 5:15 p.m.
Children's Groups: 6 p.m.
Youth Groups: 6 p.m.
Gremlin Growlers Table Group: 6 p.m.
American Sign Language: 6:15 p.m.

Class Meeting: 6:15 p.m.
Creative Encouragement: 6:15 p.m.
Music Rehearsals: 7:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

Regular Thursday Schedule

Table Group: 10 a.m.
Yoga: 10 a.m.
Yoga: 5:45 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

Regular Friday Schedule

Gremlin Growlers Table Group: 10 a.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

Regular Saturday Schedule

Narcotics Anon.: 7 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

Committee January Meetings

Trustees, 1/28: 6 p.m.
Finance, 1/29: 6 p.m.
Leadership Team, 1/29: 7 p.m.

Other Meetings

Creation Care: 1/2, 1 p.m.
Titus II, 1/8: 12 p.m.
Square Foot Ministry, 1/10: 6:30 p.m.
SAGE, 1/17: 10:30 a.m.



Blood Drive

January 13

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Find out more:

fayettevillefirst.com.



MAKING A JOYFUL, BEAUTIFUL NOISE

Participate in music through choirs and orchestra at FFUMC. Sunday choirs enhance worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. The Seasoned Singers (55+) meet on Tuesdays. Younger singers participate in small groups. Use your voice or instrument in the mix! Contact Rick Massengale and find your place.



FAMILY AND FRIENDS ENJOY WEDNESDAY DINNERS



Let's eat at church on Wednesdays. Sign up each week or get on the permanent reservation list at fayettevillefirst.com Adults: \$7, Children 10 and under: \$4, Family Max: \$22

January 9: Breakfast
January 16: Mexican
January 23: Lasagna, Salad
January 30: Chili, Baked Potato, Salad

Other options each week:
Chicken Tenders/French Fries or Grilled Cheese Sandwich or Chicken Tender Salad



God's Kingdom NOW at FFUMC

Your church on the square

Pastoral & Program Staff

Senior Minister

Rev. John Barnes

JBarnes@fayettevillefirst.com

Associate Minister Emeritus

Rev. Bob Partridge

Minister of Discipleship & Evangelism

Rev. Allyson Lawrence

ALawrence@fayettevillefirst.com

Minister of Missions & Membership Care

Rev. Michael Phillips

MPhillips@fayettevillefirst.com

Director of Youth Ministry

Kena Newkirk

KNewkirk@fayettevillefirst.com

Director of Children & Family Ministry

Carson Thaxton

CThaxton@fayettevillefirst.com

Assistant Director of Children & Family Ministry

Allie Hansen

AHansen@fayettevillefirst.com

Music Director / Organist

Rick Massengale

Rick.Massengale@gmail.com

Pianist

Sonia Squires

Pre-School/ MMO/ Interim Director

Candice Hawthorne

CHawthorne@fayettevillefirst.com

Administrative & Support Staff

Church Business Administrator

Joyce Mucha

JMucha@fayettevillefirst.com

Administrative Assistants

Janet Gazaway

Dian Nelson

admin@fayettevillefirst.com

Church Hostess

Jane Davis

Communications

Joan Aycock

JAycock@fayettevillefirst.com

Facilities Manager

Gary Sampson

FFUMC

175 E. Lanier Ave

Fayetteville, GA 30214

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #20

Return Service Requested

BE CONNECTED at FFUMC

Website: fayettevillefirst.com

Facebook: "Like" us at Fayetteville First United Methodist Church.

"Connections": Monthly church newsletter available through website, email and postal service.

"The Weekender": Worship and opportunity highlights by email.

Church Concerns: Timely information including prayer concerns and funeral arrangements through email.

Audio Sermons: Go to fayettevillefirst.com and follow the Worship links.

Welcome Center, E-Boards & Kiosks: Get information on small groups, ministry opportunities, programs and events at the Welcome Center in the hallway behind the chancel and through e-boards and kiosks throughout the church.

Instagram: Follow #FORFayettevilleGA.

Contact the Church Office: Call 770-461-4313 to be placed on e-lists and mailing lists or for more information.

