



Friday, May 24

## The Weekender

### Packing Up Books

As the Preacher says in Ecclesiastes, "Of making many books there is no end." I would like to alter that to 'Of the packing of books there is no end.' I am packing up my office. I am boxing up the books, some of which I have had for thirty or forty years. Most of the old ones I'll keep because they've meant a lot to me through the years. Some newer books have made an impression and I'll keep them.

Every time I move I get rid of books. Sometimes I will buy a commentary on a book of the Bible and I'll realize I use it more frequently than one of the other commentaries on that book of the Bible so I'll give away that commentary. Sometimes I have read books that only deserve to be read once and those I'll give away. I have probably given away as many books as I now have.

So as I go through the books I am judging them. Are you worth keeping? Can I use you? And maybe more to the point, do I want to lug you to the car and then to the upstairs office?

To be honest there are more than a few that I've had for several years that I haven't even glanced at. The cover better offer a lot of hope if I am going to keep one like that!

As I retire I wonder which books I will read. Will I read books on preaching? Maybe. I would consider teaching local pastors without seminary training how to improve their preaching. Will I read books on spiritual growth? I feel a deep need for that so I am pretty sure I'll read them. I also think I'll read some Brit lit novels, some murder mysteries, and non-fiction.

One book I will definitely read is the Bible. I haven't mastered it and it hasn't mastered me. I'll probably even read commentaries because I still find the Bible to be a fascinating and perplexing book. I hope that during my brief time here with you I have influenced your view of the Bible as a great, glorious and difficult book to ponder and study and love and obey.

See you Sunday as we open the Bible again.

In Christ,

*John*



**This Sunday in Worship**  
**May 26, 2019**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Anthem:**

*Psalm 96*

*Poor Man Lazarus*

**Sermon (8:30, 9:45, 11:00)**

*Rev. John Barnes*

*The Parables of Jesus: The Rich Man & Lazarus*

*Luke 16:19-31*

## **CURRENT NEWS**



### **Receptions Planned for Ministers**

It can be hard to say goodbye... So let's have a party for our departing ministers! Please mark these dates:

**Rev. Michael Phillips:** You are invited to a reception for Rev. Michael Phillips on Sunday, June 2, at noon following the 11 am. service. Notes of appreciation for his ministry here are welcome as we wish him well in his upcoming ministry to two churches in a neighboring area.

**Rev. John Barnes:** You are invited to the Retirement Celebration for Rev. John Barnes on Sunday, June 9, at noon following the 11 a.m. service. Notes are much appreciated as he retires after 31 years of ministry.

If you would like to contribute to a love offering for these departing ministers, please donate to FFUMC and designate clearly in the memo.



### **REGISTER NOW While It's FREE**

Get your ticket now and head "To Mars & Beyond" for VBS on June 24-28. Students: Register to attend at [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com) by June 1 (FREE) or \$10 after June 1. Volunteers: Choose your place of service at [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com).



### VBS Stage Team Invitation

Rising 3rd graders and older: Join the VBS Stage Team! This team puts on all aspects of the assembly time during VBS. (Singers, Actors, Dancers, Behind-the-Scenes Managers -- we would love to have you join the team!) To join, email Rev. Carson Thaxton at [cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com).

Rehearsal Schedule:

Wednesday, May 29: 10 -11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 5: 10 -11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 19: 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Sunday, June 23: All volunteer meeting at 3p.m.: full dress rehearsal 3:30-4:30 p.m.



### Summer Lunch Kicks Off in a Few Weeks

Help students who receive free lunch during the school year through the Summer Lunch Program beginning Tuesday, June 4, and continuing each Tuesday until July 23. Donations (chips - individually packaged; cookies - two per bag) should be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall kitchen on the Sunday prior. On Tuesdays, sandwich makers and packers should arrive at 10 a.m. and drivers should pick up lunches between 11-11:30 a.m. Contact Valerie Mallon, [vmallon70@gmail.com](mailto:vmallon70@gmail.com) or 770-310-7620.



### Watering Made So Much Easier!

The new landscaping around the church looks great! We need to help keep it healthy – just with water! A [Signup Genius](#) provides watering instructions and days available for two volunteers to work together and keep the process to about two hours. But we've made it even easier with the addition of a third hose so three people can jump in and get it done. If Saturday watering doesn't fit your schedule, just come on Friday. Your small group, Sunday school class, or circle could adopt a month, or you can simply signup for as many individual days as you would like! [Click here to check it out](#). We appreciate your help!



### Reach Out at SafeHouse Outreach: May 30

Help clients at SafeHouse Outreach as FFUMC prepares and serves a meal on May 30. Contact Randy Riddell, [randyhr8@gmail.com](mailto:randyhr8@gmail.com), for details on how you can help.

*Michael Phillips helps at a recent SafeHouse project.*





### Rise Against Hunger Donations Nearly Complete

Thank you for your support of Rise Against Hunger. We only need \$1,270 to complete our goal to pack 30,000 meals at our August 18 Rise Against Hunger FUN packing frenzy! Please mark any additional donations for "Rise Against Hunger."



### Register for MAD Camp

Rising kindergarten through rising sixth grade students are invited to Music, Art & Drama Camp coming July 15-19. Register at [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com) by July 1: \$75. After July 1: \$90. Sibling discounts are offered.



### "Most Wanted" List for June

For June, Fayette Samaritans has particular need of these items; however, any donations are welcome and appreciated.

**Needs:** dried beans, canned beef stew, boxed cereal, condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo), Jiffy cornbread mix, pancake mix, syrup, toilet paper, tooth paste and tooth brushes, jelly.

**Clothes Closet needs:** Women's jeans in large sizes, all sizes of women's underwear and new socks.



### Men's Bible Study Begins on Wednesday Nights

A new men's Bible study is forming and will meet every other Wednesday night from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library, room C-200. Beginning June 5 with a study of the book of John, the group will be led by a rotating team of teachers. Other dates are June 19, July 3, 17 and 31. For more information, contact Chuck Grayson, [grayson175@bellsouth.net](mailto:grayson175@bellsouth.net).



### Square Foot Wall Build on June 1

Meet at Providence UMC at 8:30 on Saturday, June 1, and help prepare walls for the new house being built in Griffin the following week at IMPACT. Enjoy some "energy" food and then reach out for others on Saturday morning.

### Bishop's Offering Supports Wesley Woods

An offering will be presented at Annual Conference for Pastoral Care at Wesley Woods. If you would like to contribute, please designate donations as "Bishop's Offering."



### Dinners at OZ Help Playground Fund

This summer enjoy dinner at OZ Pizza and support the trustee fundraiser to resurface our playground. When you order, make sure the OZ staff knows you are with FFUMC and a percentage of your dine-in or take-out order will come to FFUMC. This fundraiser is 5 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays June 4, July 2 & 30, and Aug. 13.



### Your Name Matters!

“Everyone knows me.”

“No one cares what my name is.”

Don’t let either of these be your reasons for not ordering (and then wearing!) your name badge. “But why a name badge?” you might ask. Quite simply it shows you recognize that other people matter and you want them to feel welcome and

comfortable. When you wear your name badge, visitors know they can come to you for easy questions like, “Where’s the restroom?” It also helps your friends who have been next to you in the pew for the last twenty years remember your name when their mind momentarily goes completely blank! So, be sure to order a name badge — it really is the nice thing to do! Go to [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com) by June 21. \$10 each.



### Save the Date: Parents Night Out July 13

Parents, need a night out? Trust us; we understand. Drop the kiddos off for an evening of fun while you ... go do something else! Register to keep it free by Monday, July 8, at [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com). Volunteers: You can sign up for a shift to help out and get to know these families.

### May 21, 2019 Financials

Year to Date receipts	\$530,902.89
Year to Date expenses	\$502,543.82
Surplus	\$28,359.07

Benevolence: There have been 36 benevolence requests met totaling \$8,972.43 in assistance.

Rise Against Hunger Total (\$7,500 needed)

\$6,229.67



## Capital Campaign Update

Received this week	\$15,055.00
Total Received	\$231,073.90
Pledged but not yet received	All pledges received!
Goal	\$350,000
Needed to reach goal	\$118,926.10