



# *growing in* nurture

## Small Group Opportunities

God calls us to dig deep into the roots of our faith in order to  
“grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18).

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We offer Bible studies, smalls groups, Sunday school, and fellowship events for people of all ages to engage in meaningful spiritual formation and flourish in the abundant life God has called us.

### **Children (3 years through 5th grade)**

**Sundays at 9:45 a.m.**

Children (from 3 years old) gather in age appropriate groups to explore the Bible and faith through music, activities and lessons.

**Wednesdays at 6 p.m.**

Children age 4 and up meet from 6:00 – 7:30 for recreation and games and a chance to explore Biblical lessons and grow in their knowledge of God’s love and grace.

### **Nursery**

Our nursery is located beside the Family Life Center/Gym and is easily accessed from Parking Lot C. Nursery is open for birth through 3 years.

### **Youth (middle school and high school students)**

**Sundays at 9:45 a.m., The Foundry C-280**

Students in middle school and high school gather each Sunday to share time together and discuss faith, the Bible, and issues that shape their lives.

**Wednesdays 3:30 p.m., Dinner 5 p.m. and Worship/Small Groups 6 p.m.**

Students meet after school for snacks and study. After supper they experience praise and worship, games and fun, and small group time to share with and encourage one another.

### **Adults**

**Sundays at 9:45 a.m.**

**Circle of Friends** — Older and senior adults who learn, live and share the Biblical lessons provided in the International Bible Series.

Format: Lecture, some discussion

Location: Room C-230

**Cornerstone Class** — Diverse and multi-generational group who study Biblical themes and topics from various books and authors.

Format: Discussion with volunteers leading the sessions

Location: C-260

**Family Class** — A mix of singles and couples ranging in age from the 50s to the 80s, this group concentrates on nourishing the mind and strengthening the family through study of the Bible.

Format: Lecture with some discussion

Location: C-210

**Fellowship/Discipleship Class** — This group is a close and caring group of senior citizens who use the International Bible Series and contribute to the missions of Fayette Samaritans, The UM Children's Home, Meals on Wheels, and are in service to one another.

Format: Gather with hymns and prayer followed by lecture

Location: Fellowship Hall

**Genesis to Revelation Class** — Not defined by age or life situation this group seeks a stronger spiritual relationship with God and connection with one another.

Format: Teacher led with discussion

Location: C-250

**Murphy-Lighthouse Class** — This class of seniors studies the International Bible Series and supports church members through regular visitations and prayer.

Format: Lecture with some discussion

Location: Brides Room

**Book Study Class** — Participants read a book chosen by the class and then join together in discussion for four to twelve week sessions. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence for session schedule.

Format: Discussion

Location: C-200

**Sunshine Class** — A small group for active adults with special needs enjoys meeting weekly for hymns, lessons, sharing life stories and events, an annual Vacation Bible School and community Christmas Party.

Format: Teacher led discussion

Location: A-50

**Wellspring Class** — This is a fun-loving group of people made up of singles, married couples and a mixture of parents with children preschool-aged to high school. Class discussions focus on current events in light of Jesus' teachings.

Format: Teacher facilitated discussion

Location: B-355

## Single Adults

Gathering for friendship and time together, this diverse group of singles from all backgrounds and ages and stages in life meet monthly for food and fun.

## Senior Adults

**SAGE: Senior Adults Going Everywhere** — Day trips are planned nearly every month as our seniors travel together to museums, events, and a variety of interesting places. Generally they eat lunch together before returning to Fayetteville.

**Titus II** — This lunch and learn program features special guests who provide helpful information while the group enjoys lunch together on our campus. Meetings are usually on the first Tuesday of each month.

## Weekday Gatherings

**Table Groups** — Table groups are a small group meeting with the goal of spiritual transformation ... a place for real, honest, and deep conversations about life and faith. Groups meet throughout the week and at various locations. Nursery is available for all sessions. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence for locations.

Current Table Group options:

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. or 6 p.m.

Thursdays (men only) 10 a.m.

Fridays 10 a.m.

**Wednesday Study Groups** — Meet with a group of adults for seasonal studies with Rev. Allyson Lawrence most Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. A men's Bible study meets every other Wednesday night at 6:15 p.m. Jesus in the Gospels, a 30-week Disciple study, runs from September to May. Contact the church office for current schedules.

**GriefShare** — GriefShare is a 13-week program where caring individuals walk with others through the journey of grief. New sessions generally begin in January and August. Contact the church office for the current schedule.

**Creative Works** — Learn to craft encouraging cards for others the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning at 6:15 p.m. You'll learn how to use simple tools and paper to make greeting cards that will cheer a heart and lift a soul.

**Choral Groups** — Choirs lead worship on Sunday mornings and special services throughout the year. The Early Morning Choir practices at 8:00 a.m. and leads worship in the sanctuary at 8:30 each Sunday. The Chancel Choir practices on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. to lead worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Another fun choral group, Seasoned Singers, is a group of older adults who practice each Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. and share their joy through song at various locations and times.

**FFUMC Orchestra** — With a great mix of young musicians and adults who love to play their instruments, this group frequently adds to our morning 11 a.m. Worship Service. When the orchestra participates in worship (about once a month) rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and warmups are Sundays at 10 a.m.

**United Methodist Women** — The United Methodist Women provide an outlet for women to channel their involvement in missions both at home and abroad while nurturing friendships within the group. Organized in circles, groups meet at various times with each group supporting missions of their own choosing.

**United Methodist Men** — The United Methodist's Men's purpose is "to help men grow in Christ, so others may know Christ." All men are invited to a monthly potluck dinner, usually on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:15 p.m. for a meal, meeting and program.

**Flower ministry** — On Sundays, flowers are often given to enhance our worship experience. Those who donate them can either take them or give to the flower ministry. This team separates the arrangements and takes them into our community where they continue to spread love.

**Prayer ministry** — Join with others in prayer on Wednesdays at noon in our Prayer Room. Prayer requests received from the congregation and left in prayer boxes in the church are lifted up.

**RightNow Media** — This is a free online resource for children, families, small groups, and individual study on current Christian teaching. For access, all you need is to request an invitation to the group.

**Six for Supper** — Gather with others in our church family for meals at restaurants or homes over a three-month period. Sign up in the fall and winter/spring when new groups are forming.

**Funeral Meal Ministry** — This group provides meals and encouragement when our church family experiences a death. This ministry works in teams.

**Hospitality and Encouragement** — Send cards and encouragement for a variety of occasions and situations: celebration, sympathy, sickness, etc.

**Shawl Ministry** — This ministry provides knitted or crocheted shawls or lap robes to those in our church and community who are ill or sick at heart. The group meets regularly, and new members are always welcome. No experience or expertise required. Contact the church office for information.

Investigate and explore these great opportunities.  
There's a place for you to nurture your faith and grow at Fayetteville First UMC.

## *Next Steps to Connect ...*

If you have any questions, want to be involved in a small group or are looking for a class not yet offered, go to [fayettevillefirst.com](http://fayettevillefirst.com) or contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence, Associate Minister, at 770-461-4313 or [alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com).



## **Your church on the square!**

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