



Welcome change

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

I love the official changing of seasons, but on some of these days when we move from one time to another, we feel no different, no distinction, and no perceivable change. The first day of fall was like that, just like any other day to me. Especially because the weather has been so hot. So how and why do we mark change?

I believe we set time and places apart so we can mark time in a way we can *see* change. Though not immediate, there is a difference between June 23 and October 23. Children and grandchildren grow up, maybe marked through photos or on a door frame. We may use stories or annual school pictures. We may even measure change by what we can do now compared to the past.

The best way to confront change

is to acknowledge it and live so we have no regrets when change comes. One way is to start living **FOR** something. As a church, we have adopted “**FOR** Fayette,” meaning that whatever changes come, we will be for our home and the people who live here.

We, as a church, can decide to move forward with no regrets to our living, our giving, our serving, and our community. As we change and the world changes around us, God’s steadfast love does not. I hope that fact comforts you. I hope you will find welcome throughout life and that our church would be one of welcome to all people. We are for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. May we be as constant a source in the community as God’s love has been in and through our church.

October 2019

Upcoming:

October 2
ColorPalooza

October 4
Parents Night Out

October 6
World Communion Sunday
Blessing of the Animals

October 20
Blood Drive

October 26
Fall Festival



**Fayetteville
First**
united methodist church

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

Our Church Family

Caring for each other and our community



growing in
nurture
II Peter 3:18



growing in
outreach
Matthew 5:16



growing in
worship
Psalm 100:2

Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

Ada Hewell and family upon the death of Ada's brother, Charles Ballard, on August 24.

Larry and Carroll Sosebee, Billy, Tracey and Zack Sowers, and Scott Sosebee upon the death of Carroll's mother, Tracey and Scott's grandmother, and Zack's great-grandmother, Margaret Gossett, on August 27.

In Our Prayers:

Billy Arnold
Carolyn Broady
Annelle Burch
Steve Cartwright
Judy Cash
Richard Clayton

Elizabeth Dunn
Kassandra Dzenis
Margaret Grainger
Rebecca Greenberg
Martha Hale
Jim Haymans

Doris Kerlin
Jim McCarten
Lurlene Perry
Mary Pierson
Martha Segars
Evelyn Starling

Dorothy Swanson
Jack Wheeler
Brad Wilkinson

Notes of Thanks

We appreciate so much all the cards and kind expressions of sympathy during the loss of Jack's father. We truly felt love from our church family — Jack, Mitzi, Allison, Laura and Caroline Gary

Thank you for the cards, emails and other kind expressions of sympathy you sent upon the death of my aunt. Please continue to pray for my mother, my aunt's caregiver and sister. — Linda Brannon

Thank you for being there for me with your thoughts, prayers and books that have been so comforting and reassuring. God's blessings on your wonderful ministry. —Carole Hyder

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits, texts and meals sent Gary's and my way during my mother's recent death. I would also like to thank the Flower Ministry for brightening up my mother's room over the past couple of years. It always brought joy to her and us. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring and loving congregation. — Lynne Wood

Pictorial Directory Sessions Added



More photo sessions have been added for our new pictorial directory: October 23, 27, and 30. On any session day, you may be worked in if you are willing to wait. A last-chance option with no sign-up will be offered November 17. Sign up at fayettevillefirst.com or call the church office.

Church Membership: 1774

Giving (as of September 24)

Year-to-Date Receipts: \$959,302.82

Year-to-Date Expenses: \$1,025,084.72

Shortfall: \$65,781.90


Welcome
New Members

Ralph & Cindy Jennings

628 Magnolia Lane, Peachtree City, GA 30269

Capital Campaign Update:

Received: \$233,068.90

Fellowship Hall/Community
Courtyard Needs: \$66,931.10

Commitment Sunday for 2020:
November 3, 2019

*Making a
Difference*
NOW

YOUR ROLE IN GOD'S KINGDOM NOW

A Message from Jay Burton, Church Council Chair

Greetings FFUMC community! As Church Council Chair, I'd like to give you some background on the make-up and role of your Church Council. My goal is to help grow a common foundation for communication and understanding as the church navigates a path forward with our new minister, Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin.

The Church Council exists to guide and further the church's ministry, largely through strategic planning. This creates three major imperatives for the council:

First, there is taking a "big picture" approach to the church's ministry: are we as a body making disciples for Jesus Christ and thereby transforming the world?

Second, there is managing the "ongoing life" of the congregation through oversight and coordination of committee activities.

Finally, the council must continually evaluate the church's ministries: is the body dynamically working to accomplish those things expected of God's people?



Christie and Jay Burton. Jay is currently serving as our Church Council Chair.

The Church Council is made up of the various committee chairs, numerous at-large members, and a secretary. We will ensure the current membership list is distributed via multiple means so that you know those who have answered the call to serve this ministry of administration.

My continuing charge to council members is fostering two-way communications across the depth and breadth of our congregation. With that, I trust all members have an opportunity to voice their beliefs, desires and concerns while understanding where we all stand, where we want to go, and why.

In the coming weeks you will have opportunities to hear more about the ways to serve in leadership as well as be given the chance to self-nominate. Areas of service include, but are not limited to Church Council, Trustees, Staff Parish Relations, Finance, Legacy, Nominations, Missions, and other areas of hospitality and service. Just because you self-nominate does not mean you will necessarily be placed this year, but it will be helpful to us as Dr. Martin continues to learn the congregation of FFUMC and our passions.

As we continue our Christian journeys together in this congregation, I hope this helps you better understand the church environment, its leadership mechanisms and your role in advancing NOW.



If you would like to serve within the church, please complete a nomination form available online at fayettevillefirst.com or contact Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin, tmartin@fayettevillefirst.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Fall plans | Kena Newkirk

Fall is officially here, and we are ready! On Wednesdays, several special events will pumpkin-spice-up our routine including ColorPalooza, Fields of Faith, and a trip to Southern Belle Farms.

Our youth are excited to take a lead in putting together the Trick or Treat Village for this year's fall festival. We are inviting the youth and adults to our Village Work Day on October 5 at 10 a.m. We will build a village which will last for years to come.

Also this month, we will be exploring a new series called "How to Be a Bad Friend." It's a self-help guide for those of us who are trying to build Christ-centered community.

Register at fayettevillefirst.com for events, and get your complete fall calendar in the Welcome Center.



In May, I graduated not only from high school but also from FFUMC's Wednesday night youth program. Having decided to attend college locally, I was given the opportunity to continue going to Wednesday night church through volunteering with the youth group. Attending youth group had always been something I looked forward to participating in each week. I am excited to now have the chance to help out as a graduate, and I am looking forward to new changes and experiences with this opportunity! I have made several priceless memories in my time in youth, and I am looking forward to seeing others do the same as I volunteer as an FFUMC youth graduate student!

Morgan Helmbold, youth graduate and now volunteer.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

YOU make things happen



For watering plants all through the spring and summer, THANK YOU!

For spreading the mountain of mulch to the playground, THANK YOU!

For always being ready to help in more ways than can be named, THANK YOU, FFUMC volunteers!



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

For the **WHOLE** family | Rev. Carson Thaxton

ColorPalooza: Wednesday, October 2 6 - 7:30 p.m.

FFUMC Youth and KiDS join together in a color-full FOR Fayette event as we continue to reach out to families in our community. We'll share games with color powder, chalk art on the street, paint twister, and more! We hope to see you at this color festival!

Parents Night Out: Friday, October 4 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Need a night out from the children? We have you covered. Register at fayettevillefirst.com by Monday, September 30, to keep it free (\$10 per child after this date).

The Great Pumpkin Festival: Saturday, October 26 5 - 8 p.m.

FFUMC and Main Street Fayetteville are again partnering to bring an incredible fall event to downtown. Our church will be responsible for an expanded Trick or Treat Village.

You can help!

Donate candy — Donation bins in the Welcome Center and office.

Trick or Treat Village—Theme your spot and hand out candy. 20 spots need your help to come alive.

Build the Village — On October 5 at 10 a.m., we are making little houses/storefronts/castles that will become our Trick or Treat Village. We need your help to assemble, paint, and decorate them. These movable, storable features will be reused in numerous settings in the future including VBS.



Want to know more about the complete Children and Family Ministry? Just ask! We're here to help as we grow and learn together in God's love. — Rev. Carson Thaxton, cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com



WE LOVE THE NEW PLAYGROUND

Moving and Growing | Kerry Bleil, Preschool

You probably know that young children are movers and shakers. In fact, young children were born to move! Babies roll over, sit up, and crawl. Toddlers progress from unsteady walking to running as fast as their little legs will carry them. Preschoolers spin, climb, jump, and balance, often making the adults in charge nervous. But what you may not know is that this childhood need for movement is actually what builds a firm foundation for the “big kid” skills of reading, writing, and arithmetic. When children move their bodies, they are forming strong connections between both sides of their brain. The result of this brain connection eventually helps children combine letters into words, write with a pencil, and grasp number concepts. Imagine our delight when the playground (our FAVORITE place to move our bodies!) received a much-needed facelift. Volunteers worked several days in extreme heat to dig out the old shredded tires, lay the border, and bring in the new wood mulch. This surface is cooler and cleaner, something that parents, teachers, and children can all be excited about! Thank you to those who participated in the Oz Pizza fundraisers, donated funds, or braved the heat to improve our playground. Our bodies and brains will be stronger because of you!

OCTOBER: A MONTH OF FOR EVENTS

Connected in relationship and ministry here and NOW

We have so many chances to live into the kingdom NOW during the next few weeks. Look for signups at fayettevillefirst.com.

ColorPalooza: Wednesday, October 2 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Youth and children team up to bring this color event to the community. Be prepared to get messy!

Parents Night Out: Friday, October 4 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Our church opens its doors and hearts to parents in our community who just need some time, either alone or with other parents. Get to know the younger generation and volunteer to help out.

World Communion: Sunday, October 6

We will share our connection with all believers world-wide at all services.

Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, October 6 4 p.m.

We celebrate all creatures, great and small, on the courthouse square at this popular community-wide event. Invite your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to gather at 4 p.m. for a service of blessing and appreciation for all creation.

Blood Drive: Sunday, October 20

Can you share your blood in October? Sign up for a donation time at ffumc.blooddriveteam@gmail.com to get in quickly and to help the Red Cross plan for workers.

Fall Festival: Saturday, October 26 5 to 8 p.m.

As we team with Main Street Fayetteville once again, we offer a hand of friendship to our community. Our part? We run the Trick-or-Treat Village. It's new and expanded this year with 20 spots available for individuals or groups to share love and candy that day. You can help construct the village and donate candy before the event. Of course, volunteers that day will be essential!



Tammy Cook with Sparkle at a Blessing of the Animals service.

Blessing
of the
Animals

October 6

4 p.m.

Courthouse Square



Sponsored by
Fayetteville First UMC



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: 7:50 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary: 8:30 a.m.
Coffee & Donuts: 9 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

GriefShare: 10 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 2 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

Regular Tuesday Schedule

Card Ministry: 10 a.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study: 6:15 p.m.*
Cocaine Anon.: 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

Regular Wednesday Schedule

Table Group: 9:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Study: 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 p.m.
Gremlin Growlers Table Group: 6 p.m.
Children's Groups: 6 p.m.

Youth Groups: 6 p.m.
Jesus in the Gospels: 6 p.m.
Confirmation Class: 6:30 p.m.
Topics with Thomas: 6:30 p.m.
Music Rehearsals: 7:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

Regular Thursday Schedule

Table Group (Men): 10 a.m.
Yoga: 9 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.

**Study meets every other week: 10/8, 10/22*

United Methodist Women Circles

Ethel Taylor: 10/1, 7 p.m.
Faith: 10/3, 10 a.m.
Marie Lamb: 10/3, 6 p.m.
Friendship: 10/14, 9 a.m.
Joy: 10/8, 5 p.m.
Bethany, 10/10, off campus
Mary Martha Hope: 10/24, 10 a.m.

Other Dates:

Titus II: 10/1, 12 p.m.
United Methodist Men: 10/1, 6:15 p.m.
ColorPalooza: 10/2, 6 p.m.
Trick-or-Treat Village Build: 10/5, 10 a.m.
Square Foot Ministry: 10/10, 6:30 p.m.
Brown Bag with Thomas: 10/16, 12 p.m.
Green Team: 10/17, 1 p.m.
Blood Drive: 10/20, 8 a.m.
Trustee: 10/21, 6 p.m.
Staff-Parish Relations: 10/21, 7 p.m.
SAGE Ellijay Trip: 10/24
Fall Festival: 10/26, 5 p.m.
Finance: 10/29, 6 p.m.
Church Council: 10/29, 7 p.m.



Hear more about the ministry of Fayette Samaritans on October 1 as Linda Ladd speaks at the United Methodist Men's Potluck Dinner at 6:15 p.m.



WELCOME BACK TO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Let's eat at church on Wednesdays. Sign up each week or get on the permanent reservation list at fayettevillefirst.com.

Choose the weekly entree **or** OZ Pizza

All meals include drink and dessert

Adults: \$7 Children 10 and under: \$4 Family Max: \$22

October 2 Entree: Country Fried Steak, Rice, Gravy, Vegetable

October 9 Entree: Fried Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans

October 16 Entree: Oz Pizza, Salad

October 23 Entree: Lasagna, Salad

October 30 Entree: Pork Chops, Okra, Butter Beans

SENIOR ADULTS: GET READY FOR A FULL SEASON

A full schedule of learning, service and activities is in place for our senior adults. Get a 55+ brochure from the Welcome Center or go to fayettevillefirst.com for details and registration information.

Titus II Lunch & Program: October 1, Noon, Gym. Glenda Martinez, "Yesteryears"

SAGE: October 24, Panorama Orchards, Farmers Market, Double L Restaurant, Ellijay



God's Kingdom NOW at FFUMC

Your church on the square

Pastoral & Program Staff

Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin
TMartin@fayettevillefirst.com

Associate Minister

Rev. Allyson Lawrence
ALawrence@fayettevillefirst.com

Director of Youth Ministry

Kena Newkirk
KNewkirk@fayettevillefirst.com

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jordan Hart
JHart@fayettevillefirst.com

Director of Children & Family Ministry

Rev. 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

Nursery Coordinator

Connie Little

Pianist

Sonia Squires

Pre-School/ MMO

Kerry Bleil
KBleil@fayettevillefirst.com

Administrative & Support Staff

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

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Return Service Requested

Welcome
here
October

