



>> *connections*

Welcome, November Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

November is quickly becoming one of my favorite months. As a kid, it was usually December because of the long break and Christmas. Then it was September with college football and cooler weather. More recently, I have learned to find the rhythm of life in the liturgical, or church, calendar.

It starts with All Saints Sunday, the day in which we remember those people in our lives who were once with us and are now gone. It is a day to remember the “Communion of Saints,” that phrase from the Apostles Creed which reminds us of our connectedness. Then it continues as we get closer to the Thanksgiving holiday and Christ the King Sunday which prepares us for Advent—a new year.

I used to see November as something that was a “not yet.” It wasn’t the fall. It wasn’t Christmas.

It was just turkey and acrostics with the word “THANKS.” Now I see November as an “already.” Perhaps it is both an “already” and a “not yet.” It is a month of changes. It is also a month of new beginnings. I see it as a month of giving thanks. I see it as a way in which I can prepare myself for the goodness of God in our world that is coming quickly.

What will we do to give thanks, to show our gratitude? I suggest that we do so by making this a place of welcome for others. After all, some are already here with us, and some have not yet come. Together, we will continue to give the welcome that comes from God, the welcome that has no end, the welcome that all the saints receive when the Lord says, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Happy November!

November 2019

Upcoming:

November 2
Christmas Marketplace

November 3
All Saints Sunday
Commitment Sunday

November 8
Parents Night Out

November 17
Charge Conference



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
Hebrews 5:12



growing-in
outreach
Matthew 5:16



growing-in
worship
Psalm 100:2

In Memoriam: Evelyn Starling
October 6

Harvell "Butch" Walker
October 20

Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

Chuck and Barbara Grayson and family upon the death of Barbara's brother, Bill McCoy, on October 1.
Tom Starling and Richard, Linda, Katy and Emily Lewis upon the death of Tom's wife, Linda's mother, and Katy and Emily's grandmother, Evelyn Starling, on October 6.
Tim and Dawn Horner and family upon the death of Dawn's father, Lynn Overstreet, on October 6.
Bob and Lynn Garrett upon the death of Bob's sister, Julie Norment, on October 10.
Frances Walker and family upon the death of her husband, Harvell "Butch" Walker, on October 20.

In Our Prayers:

Billy Arnold
Carolyn Broady
Annelle Burch
Judy Cash
Richard Clayton

Elizabeth Dunn
Kassandra Dzenis
Margaret Grainger
Rebecca Greenberg
Martha Hale

Doris Kerlin
Jim McCarten
Lurlene Perry
Mary Pierson
Norma Saunders

Martha Segars
Dorothy Swanson
Jack Wheeler
Brad Wilkinson

Notes of Thanks

Thank you for the many cards, delicious meals and uplifting prayers during my surgery and recovery. — Gil Cook

We appreciate all the prayers, flowers, visits, food, and calls during Evelyn's illness and passing. We are blessed to have a caring church family. — Tom Starling and the Lewis family

Pat and I are grateful for the prayer shawls as we both recover from my heart attack and surgery. Pat has a favorite place to use her shawl, and I have a favorite place to pray my thanks and to seek to pray as I struggle with leukemia. Thank you. — David and Pat Hobson



New Member

Joseph (Joe) Blankenship
145 Kari Glen Drive
Fayetteville, GA 30215

Church Membership: 1767

Giving (as of October 22)

Year-to-Date Receipts: \$1,045,694.19
Year-to-Date Expenses: \$1,116,186.13
Shortfall: \$70,491.94

Making a
Difference
NOW

Capital Campaign Update:
Received: \$237,836.90
**Fellowship Hall/Community
Courtyard Needs: \$62,163.10**

We want you in the new directory!

Last chance!



A last-chance photo day with no signup will be offered November 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room C-110. For details to submit a photo (due November 22) go to fayettevillefirst.com.

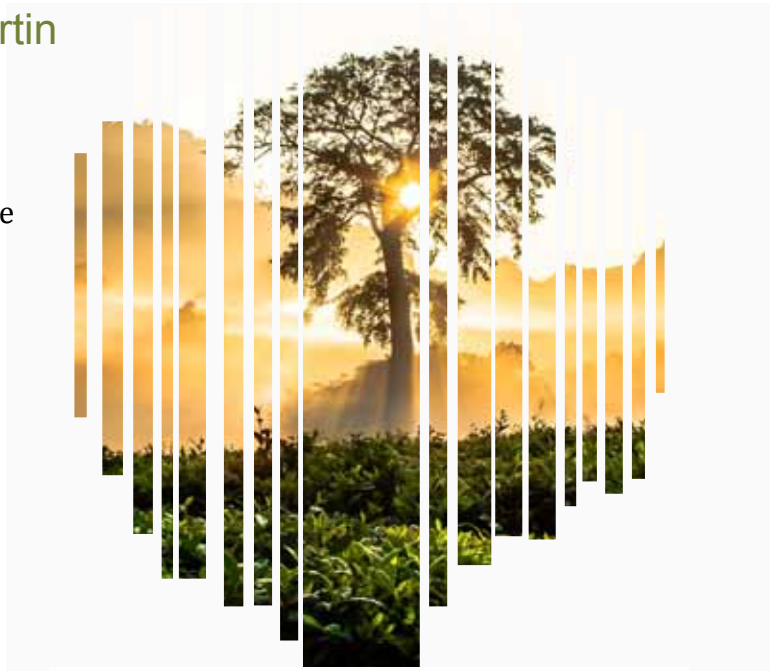
WE COMMIT TO 2020

With God's Help | Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

Over the last few weeks you have heard from many people about the difference this church makes in the life of foster parent families, youth, children, leaders, parents, members, missions, outreach, and benevolence funds, just to name a few. If you have been in worship with us, I hope it is not lost that Fayetteville First UMC is making a difference in people's lives. We are doing it together and we are doing it with your help through serving and giving.

Yet there is more to be done. There is more to be done in the church, in mission, outreach, and in our community. We can do it together. We can do it with one another, but I hope you know that we will always be doing it **With God's Help**. I believe that we can do a lot in this community and as the church on the square. But we must always keep in mind that we will do it with God's help. That phrase comes from our worship when we baptize, confirm, or welcome new members into the life of the church. "With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ..." We could all use a little order in our lives, and what better way to order our lives after Christ's example.

So as you prayerfully consider what you will bring to the altar on Sunday, November 3, know that we order our lives not after anyone but Christ. And we do all things With God's Help. I hope you will be present with us in worship as we present our pledges for the coming year and celebrate God's ever present help with us in our lives.



we commit to 2020

WITH GOD'S HELP NOW

Commitment Sunday
November 3

NAMES Matter: What's Yours?

Let's make it easy!

Interested in having your own Fayetteville First United Methodist Church magnetic name badge? Place your order online at fayettevillefirst.com or use an order envelope from the Welcome Center. Cost: \$5 per name badge. Orders will be placed November 4. Don't miss this great opportunity to get yours!



All Saints Sunday

*We remember with thanksgiving
the saints of our church who this year
passed from the church on earth
to the church triumphant.*

November 3
8:30, 9:45, 11:00 A.M.

DISCOVER TABLE GROUPS

Be real. Stay honest. Go Deep

Looking for something real? Join the many others who have discovered Table Groups, small groups of four to eight people who meet weekly to encourage one another, to wrestle with scripture and to intentionally look for God in the everyday moments of life.

Florence Prine has been a member of a Wednesday morning Table Group since the fall of 2018. Although very apprehensive about getting started, Florence now has a 12+ month connection to a group. To learn more about the whole process, she participated in a six-week class on Wesleyan small groups, the foundational model of Table Groups, before committing herself. After deep consideration and exploration, Florence is thankful for her connection to this group and truly looks forward to her meeting each week. She appreciates that each weekly session consists of a scripture passage and thought-provoking questions and that no preparation is required. She says, "Having this format eliminates any need to 'catch up' for the next session." Comments and conversations are expected to remain confidential and trust is vital for the Table Group to maintain. The thing Florence appreciates the most about her Table Group is the deepening relationships she has developed with others.

Florence adds, "I think anyone can benefit from being a part of a group no matter the age or stage of your life. I think it's very important to really think about your spiritual life and faith experiences and to examine how your personal life experiences have influenced your own faith. My Table Group time is an hour — I must say, an important hour — each week."

When asked if her Table group has helped to deepen her faith, she says: "I have learned from each member of my group. By actively listening to others it reiterates that I am not alone in my faith journey."

To learn more about Table Groups and how you can get started contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com.



Wednesday morning Table Group includes Sandra Watson, Rev. Allyson Lawrence, Phyllis Williamson, Florence Prine, Lauren Davis. Not shown: Joan Aycock, Susan Burch, Janet Baileys

YOUTH MINISTRY

Food Drive | Kena Newkirk



This month our youth are focusing on serving our community with a Fall Food Drive to benefit the Fayette Samaritans. We invite you to bring your non-perishable food items to our donation bins outside the Foundry and gym. Our top ten requested items are canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, beef stew, Sloppy Joe), pasta and pasta sauce, jellies and jams, peanut butter, canned fruits, dried beans, boxed potatoes, rice, canned vegetables, and soup. We will accept donations until November 20.

Mark your calendars! Early Bird Registration for Renovatus 2020 (January 17-20) opens November 15 (\$50 off).

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

Parents Night Out: Friday, November 8 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Parents, would you like a night out? We will have a special activity honoring the veterans. This event is for children of all ages: babies through 5th grade. Register at fayettevillefirst.com by Monday, November 4, to keep it free (\$10 per child after this date).

Parents Night Out has been an incredibly rewarding ministry of our church. What started as an idea and about eight children has grown to a ministry reaching many families and about 75 children. As Fayetteville First UMC continues to reach out and minister especially to families with young children, we would love your support. Would you like to serve in this ministry? We specifically could use help facilitating the rotation activities of Parents Night Out between 6:30-7:30 p.m. Other volunteer opportunities are setup, registration, game time, dismissal, and clean up. For questions or to volunteer, please email Rev. Carson Thaxton at cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com.



Cecilia Carrasco, Ashley Gulas, Aspen Kemberling, and Sophia Allgood enjoyed the ColorPalooza experience.



PRESCHOOL PUMPKIN TALK

Meaningful Learning | Kerry Bleil, Preschool

Preschoolers are observant. They have noticed the mornings turning cooler and are arriving at school wearing light jackets or sweaters. They have noticed that their time outside after dinner is being cut short because of darkness. They have also spotted the pumpkin displays at just about every store in our community! As adults we may grumble about those displays and how much space they take up in the entryways of the grocery store, but to young children the pumpkins represent a meaningful learning opportunity. Teachers can reinforce important math skills by encouraging the children to talk about size, shape, and weight. Teachers can introduce hands-on science concepts that include what is inside a pumpkin, how a pumpkin grows and, what it needs to do so. Physics is explored as children experiment with rolling pumpkins down the playground slides. All the while, the children are using these rich language experiences to expand their vocabulary: slimy, stringy, slippery, enormous, hefty, hard, orange, round, bumpy... the list could go on forever!

Children learn best when they are fully engaged and invested in the topic. By introducing pumpkins to both the playground and classroom environments our teachers are using real life experiences to create meaningful learning opportunities for the children. Hop on our Facebook page to see pictures of our pumpkins in action. Just look for Fayetteville First UMC Preschool and like us to get more from our feed. We couldn't ask for a better way to educate!

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our Connecting Link Locally and Globally | Rev. Allyson Lawrence

According to the Book of Discipline – I know, you want to roll your eyes anytime someone starts a sentence with “according to the Book of Discipline.” But seriously, according to the Book of Discipline, the charge conference is the connecting link between the local church and the general church. Yes, it’s a place where reports are given and clergy salaries are set, and it can be a bit heavy on the administrative mumbo-jumbo. And yet, there is something in that phrase “the connecting link” that speaks to me. The Connecting Link.

For the local church, Charge Conference is a time to review and evaluate our mission and ministry – i.e., it’s a time to revel in what FFUMC is up to! It’s a time when we get to recommend people for ordained ministry. It’s a time when we get to celebrate our certified Lay Servants and those who have taken Lay Servant classes, like Sue Lynch. It’s a time when we elect our lay leaders for the upcoming year—those who will be part of our committees for Staff-Parish Relations, Finance, Trustees, and more—who will be the Lay Leader and who will represent this church at the upcoming Annual Conference as our Lay Delegates.



Cindy Hall at work!

And it is here, in this election of Lay Delegates that we find one of our greatest connecting links to the general church. With over 900 churches in our North Georgia Conference we can sometimes feel a bit lost in the sea of churches. It is these Lay Delegates, however, who connect us to the General Conference and the global UMC. Lay Delegates attend a nearly week-long conference where they hear faith stories from other churches within our conference and they vote on important decisions that direct the future of the United Methodist Church.

Cindy Hall, who represented our district and our church last year as the Lagrange District UMW President, decided to run for one of the North Georgia Lay Delegate spots for General Conference 2020. While Cindy didn’t become part of the General Conference delegation, she said that she is thankful that she put the time and effort into trying. Cindy says that through that process she learned that she can be a connecting link from her local church to the global church. Those connecting links are made by “everyday people like you and me.”

So this year, come to Charge Conference and get a glimpse of the ministry and connection FFUMC has with other churches in our district and in our world.

Charge Conference is November 17 at 3 p.m. at Providence UMC.



Get together at 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

November 6 Entree: Chicken & Beef Taco/Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla, Chips

November 13 Entree: Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans

November 20 Entree: Parmesan Chicken, Vegetable

November 27: Thanksgiving holiday, no meal

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.

**Study meets every other week*

Regular Wednesday Schedule

Table Group: 9:30 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 p.m.
Children's Choir: 5:30 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.

United Methodist Women Circles

Ethel Taylor: 11/5, 7 p.m.
Marie Lamb: 11/7, 6 p.m., off campus
Bethany, 11/14, off campus
Friendship: 11/18, 9 a.m. off campus
Faith: 11/21, 10 a.m.
Mary Martha Hope: 11/21, 10 a.m.
Joy: no meetings Nov. & Dec.

Other Dates:

Titus II: 11/5, 12 p.m.
United Methodist Men: 11/5, 6:15 p.m.
Parents Night Out: 11/8, 5:30 p.m.
UMW Book Club: 11/14, 1:30 p.m.
Square Foot Ministry: 11/14, 6:30 p.m.
Trustee: 11/18, 6 p.m.
Finance: 11/19, 6 p.m.
Church Council: 11/19 7 p.m.
Brown Bag with Thomas: 11/20, 12 p.m.
Green Team: 11/21, 1 p.m.
SAGE Trip: 11/21
Staff-Parish Relations: 11/25, 7 p.m.



**We gather together
for worship.**

**Sundays
8:30 a.m.
9:45 a.m.
11:00 a.m.**

Two Months Left in 2019:

If you would like to check your giving,
please log into your REALM account
or call the church office.
We'll be glad to assist you.

**United Methodist Men
November 5, 6:15 p.m.
Speaker: John DeCotis,
former Board of Education
Superintendent**

SENIOR ADULTS

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: November 5

Judge Jason Thompson and DUI Court, a different approach to justice

Senior Adults Going Everywhere (SAGE): November 21

National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center, Columbus, Museum Tour & boxed lunch, \$18, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Upcoming: December 14, 7 p.m., A Tuna Christmas, Southside Theatre, \$20, Reserve by November 21.



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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #20

Return Service Requested



**Christmas
Marketplace**

Fayetteville First UMC

November 2

9 AM - 3 PM