



Friday, November 15, 2019

The Weekender

Sunset and Sunrise

Lately I have been reminded of God's goodness through nature. As cold as it has been for the last couple of days, I am grateful. It also serves as a reminder that while I cannot control the weather, I can control the layers of clothes I wear. I have also been amazed at the sunsets recently.

Sunsets and sunrises are things we always know are there, but when I take time to observe, my heart is filled with gratitude. I think a lot of nature is like that. We have chances to experience nature every day and we are invited to give thanks. Similarly, we have chances to experience God's graces every day. That, too, is an invitation to give thanks.

When we gather at church and give of our resources, it is a way for us to say thanks. I am becoming more and more convinced that financial giving is too often seen as an option or a way to power. That is not the way it should be. Giving should be something we do in response to what God has given us. It should shape our desires to be more like God's. Giving thanks is a spiritual discipline.

I hope that you will take time to pause before a sunset or a sunrise. Or when you, as the hymn so beautifully sung last Sunday in worship, "hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze," I hope you will pause and give thanks to God. May we always be reminded of that grace and take opportunities to return thanks to God.

Thomas Martin



This Sunday in Worship

November 17, 2019

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon (8:30, 11:00 a.m.)

An Opportunity to Testify Luke 21:5-19

Rev. Allyson Lawrence

Sermon (9:45 a.m.)

A Heart Torn, a Heart Turned Hosea 11:1-11

Mrs. Kena Newkirk

WITH GOD'S HELP

CURRENT NEWS



TONIGHT: Frost Moon Festival Canceled

The Frost Moon Festival scheduled for Friday, November 15, has been CANCELED due to predicted inclement weather. Weather predictions for the following week are not promising, so the event will not be rescheduled for this fall. Worthy uses of your much appreciated candy donations are being determined. We look forward to working with Main Street Fayetteville again soon as FFUMC shares love through this unique FOR Fayette partnership.



Last Photo Day: This Sunday, November 17

Drop by Room C-110 on Sunday, November 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for your last chance to have a photo taken in-house for our new directory. If you have been unable to arrange a photo session, please go to fayettevillefirst.com, for details on how to submit a photo (due November 22).



Sharing hope through Fayette County Jail Ministry

Once a week, teams from our church visit the men's and women's wings of the Fayette County Jail for Bible study, conversation, and prayer. It can, and has, made an amazing difference in the lives of inmates. Is God calling you to join this ministry? We are looking for new team members. The volunteer application, authorization for release of information form, and applicants' fingerprints (*for first time applicants only*) must be completed by Friday, November 22, in order to participate in this ministry. Contact Danny Beck for information and forms, (770) 461-4665, danny.beck2019@gmail.com.

Ask Fran McElwaney or Jo Springer about the jail ministry.

#1 holiday hack:

When you shop at
smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

amazonsmile



Amazon donates to FFUMC

Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to a charity of your choice? Just enter your Amazon account through smile.amazon.com, choose Fayetteville First UMC as your charity, and then shop like usual. Amazon does the rest. It's that easy to give a little extra to FFUMC while you holiday shop!



Tidal Wave Fundraiser nears close

A few Tidal Wave carwash tickets (\$20 value for \$10) are still available as our highly successful fundraiser comes to a close. Get some for yourself or as gifts in the church office.



Get 'em before they're gone!

If you ordered pecans from the UMW, please pick them up in the church office. We promise not to eat them if you hurry and get them!

Didn't order pecans but want some? We have a few extra bags available in the church office (\$8 per bag with proceeds going toward the fellowship hall/courtyard renovation).



Titus II reservations due soon

The final Titus II lunch program features the Inman Elementary Chorus as 4th and 5th graders present "Christmas Celebration." Reserve lunch with Martha Turner by November 28 at 770-461-2802. Lunch (\$7): Chicken & Cream Sauce, Rice Pilaf, Vegetable.



Early registration open for Renovatus: \$50 discount

Early-bird registration is now open for Renovatus 2020, a four day youth retreat coming January 17-20. Register online through December 5 for a \$50 discount.



November Food Pantry Needs

Fayette Samaritans has particular need of these items this month; however, any donations are welcome and appreciated. **The youth are also gathering donations** for Fayette Samaritans in November. Leave donations in Welcome Center bin or in youth bins near The Foundry youth space.

Needs: Beef stew, peanut butter and jelly, Hamburger Helper, instant mashed potatoes, canned fruit, corn, green beans, cereal, soup, rice.



3 for 20 at Square Foot Ministry

You can help Square Foot Ministry get three families into new homes by the holidays. To finish the houses, an anonymous donor has pledged to match donations from individuals up to \$20,000 through December 15. To contribute toward this goal, send donations to Square Foot Ministry, PO Box 371, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Just mark your check "SFM 3 for 20". You also can donate at squarefootministry.org. All gifts are tax-deductible and you will receive a tax statement from Square Foot Ministry.



SAGE in November and December

Our seniors head to the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center in Columbus for a museum tour and boxed lunch, on November 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$18. Register and pay in the church office.

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

Charge Conference at Providence UMC

All FFUMC members are invited to a Charge Conference at Providence UMC on Sunday, November 17, at 3 p.m.



Christmas Marketplace: Thanks for success!

Our 30th annual Christmas Marketplace was another huge success! We raised nearly \$12,000 again this year for our local charities. In addition to all the UMW members who work tirelessly to make this happen every year, we want to thank our congregation for all the volunteer support, baked goods and Timeless Treasures items that were donated. We also received tremendous assistance this year from the Boy Scouts, who were on site from dawn 'til dusk assisting vendors and customers, and were indispensable during the cleanup operation. For the fourth year in a row, 1-800-GOT JUNK donated their time and resources at the end of the event to remove all the Timeless Treasures that didn't find a new home on Saturday. And, of course, we couldn't do this event every year without our marvelous United Methodist Men's group. Thank you all for another amazing

fundraising event!



Dulcimers join Share a Song Sunday, November 17

Come share music and friendship at Azalea Estates Assisted Living on Sunday, November 17, at 5:45 p.m. Sing along, play along, or tap your foot along - there's a part for everyone! A group of dulcimer players will also be sharing songs, so come join in. For more information, contact Joan Aycock, jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com.



Wednesday Night Supper: November 20

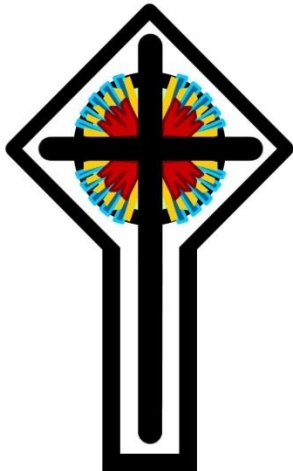
Gather for food and conversation at 5 p.m.

Parmesan Chicken or OZ Cheese Pizza

All meals include dessert and drink.

Children 10 and under: \$4, Adults: \$7 Family Maximum: \$22.

[Reserve each week](#) or get on the permanent list.



November 12, 2019 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 1,130,309.97
Year to Date expenses	\$ 1,220,684.57
Shortfall	\$ 90,374.60

Benevolence

Benevolence receipts this week: \$ 211.00

99 families assisted in 2019 with total of \$ 26,597.43 in assistance.

Looking Ahead: 2020 Commitments

Please return your 2020 Commitment Card to the church office as soon as possible.

To date we have received 151 pledges for a total of \$741,378.



Capital Campaign Update

Goal:	\$ 350,000
Received this week:	\$ 190.00
Total Received:	\$ 238,693.90
Needed to reach total goal:	\$ 111,306.10
Needed for Fellowship Hall/Courtyard	\$ 61,306.10

Thank you for your generosity.