

INFORMED & inspired

CONNECTED AT FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UMC

Okay with ordinary

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

In places between Bethlehem and Jerusalem Jesus performed miracles. He healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, calmed the storm, fed the crowds, and called ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Over the last few months I have felt very ordinary. I'm okay with that. I take some comfort in being ordinary. When I read the gospels and see that Jesus chose ordinary people to heal, ordinary people to follow, ordinary people to feed, I've realized that it's okay to be ordinary.

Maybe you've felt extraordinary, or maybe even less than ordinary. What can we do with those feelings? What can we do when we feel very ordinary? We can do ordinary things that make an extraordinary difference.

One of those things is the chance to help feed people all over the world with our Rise Against Hunger Event this Sunday. We need people to register today so we can finalize our plans. If you can't come, but would like to donate, you are welcome to do that.

Please know this, if you feel uncomfortable being at church for the physically distanced event, that is okay. This is not to guilt you into being somewhere you feel unsafe. This is not to guilt you into service. This is an opportunity. There will be other opportunities. There will be other gatherings. We are working on those during these times. So whether you feel less than ordinary, extraordinary, or somewhere in between never forget that God works through ordinary people just like you and me to do extraordinary things.

Be smart. Be safe. Take care of each other.



Rise Against Hunger Event
Last year's event on left; new COVID safety shown on right.

Rise Against Hunger AUGUST 23



Safety is of primary importance at Rise Against Hunger: family pods or six feet apart.

- Signed up? Thank you!
- Not sure? Maybe this will help!
[Click here to check out strict COVID guidelines](#)
- Want to donate? [Click here to donate online](#) or mark RAH on a check to the church to help us reach our \$10,000 commitment.

Ready? Register NOW in 2 steps:

1. Register at FFUMC:

Reservations required (\$5 per volunteer, \$20 max/family)

[Click here for 1-3 p.m. shift](#)

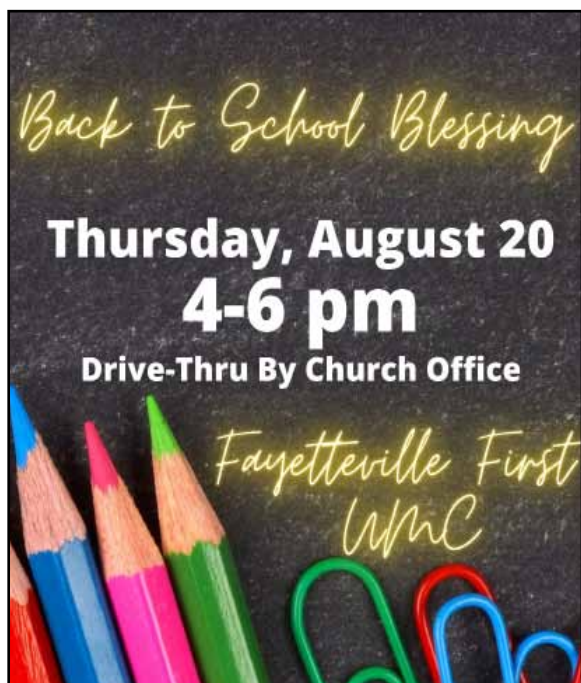
[Click here for 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. shift](#)

Youth: Consider joining Hannah Vickery, Youth Director, and friends at this shift.

2. Register at RAH

[Click here to complete the Rise Against Hunger volunteer waiver.](#)

Questions? Call church at 770-461-4313 or contact Randy Riddell at randyhr8@gmail.com.



Students & Educators: Back to School Blessing

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV).

Come, all of you, students, parents, family members, teachers, administrators, anyone doing anything related to education, and be reminded of the words of Jesus.

Come, be reminded of the Holy Spirit actively working in and through you with spiritual fruit.

Come, take a deep breath and be reminded of the Breath of Life which is alive in you.

Come, receive a blessing that reminds us all that God is actually the one who does the blessing, who gifts the blessing, who is the blessing. This school year, may you learn directly from Jesus. May you be taught by the greatest teacher anyone could desire. May you love as you are loved. ~ Rev. Carson Thaxton



The FFUMC Drive-Thru returns ...

Wednesdays 10 a.m. to noon

Come by for *prayer* ...

Come by to *share* ...

Come by to *visit* ... We're open for you.

Share a smile and get a smile...
Sometimes you just need to connect in person.

inspired . . .

Save the date for upcoming project:
October 11-16

From Georgia to Florida ... One square foot at a time

Tools of LOVE at work! Fayetteville First UMC, our local Square Foot Ministry, America's Home Place, and The United Methodist Church Alabama-West Florida Conference completed a home in Port St. Joe, Florida. One square foot at a time, we are building in love.



June 27: Walls built for home in FFUMC parking lot, then loaded and transported to build site.



July 7-10: Home constructed in Port St. Joe (eight volunteers from FFUMC helped).



Beautiful house all done and ready to become a home.

