

INFORMED & inspired

CONNECTED AT FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UMC

Thank you for your service Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and

to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

With all the talk of voting in the news lately, I came across an article by New Yorker columnist Vincent Cunningham. In the article he writes about the importance of voting in our country. With Veterans Day tomorrow, I think this frames everything in that unique light of sacrifice and love:

"It's often said that theatre, given its association with Athens, first bloomed under democracy. My own initial impressions of democracy were a kind of spectacle, directed by my mother. She would sweep open the curtains that hid New York's old voting machines and let me in on the secret of her ballot. I'd pull the little levers next to the names of the candidates she pointed out, and together we'd pull the big, loud lever, cranking out her citizen's voice. This was one of the most important things you could do, she would say. Someone—many someones—had won that right for me."

On this day, we remember Veterans. And while we still count votes in our state (and anticipate more votes being counted in January in our Senate run-offs), may we never forget the sacrifices that were made enabling us to vote. To all our Veterans, "Thank you for your service."



No Outdoor Service tomorrow
Due to expected significant rainfall from Hurricane Eta, we will have no Outdoor Service or activities Wednesday, November 11. We'll see you next week!



Please return commitment cards to church office as soon as possible.

Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas are coming!



Thanksgiving Meals for others

To provide Thanksgiving Dinner for families of our Summer Lunch Program, we have the goal to collect \$500. To participate, please donate to FFUMC and mark "Thanksgiving Meal" in the memo line by Friday, November 13.

Prepare through Advent Studies and Reading Groups

Two opportunities to prepare for Christmas are starting soon.

— From "Bah Humbug" to a Blessed Advent and Christmas

Study "The Redemption of Scrooge" from Matt Rawle's The Pop Culture Series in a four-week in-person and online hybrid group with Rev. Allyson Lawrence.

Mondays, Nov. 30 - Dec. 21, Noon to 1 p.m. [Click here to register](#). Then get your

book from your preferred store, read chapter one and get ready to look at this story through the lens of faith.

— The Seekers Reading Group and "Home by Another Way"

Join the kickoff of this new reading group and read the Advent sections of Barbara Brown Taylor's book "Home by Another Way" with others seeking to understand how to be in community with each other while listening for God. The three-week study will meet Thursdays, Dec. 3 - 17, 10 a.m. to Noon as a hybrid in-person and online class. [Click here to register](#) or [contact leader Suzanne Carter for more information](#).



United Methodist Women making Christmas brighter

Christmas MarketPlace Funds and card — The UMW is excited to invite your support of their annual donation to local ministries through the Christmas MarketPlace Fund. Simply send a check to FFUMC "United Methodist Women" with "CMP Fund" in the memo. You can even express love and appreciation to someone by picking up a notecard in the church office for your honoree through December 15.



UMW Unit meeting December 10 — The UMW will hold its annual Christmas Unit Meeting with no meal/drinks this year but plenty of Christmas cheer. Gathering in the gym (temp checks, social distancing, masks) at 6 p.m., the UMW will feature recognitions and installation of officers plus a unique story-telling presentation on Mary by Carla Cloud of A Gentle Witness. Make reservations with Connie Hyder (770-310-6115 or [email](#)) by December 6.

inspired . . .



Thanks to all serving and baking volunteers as we help feed homeless clients at SafeHouse Outreach in Atlanta throughout the year.

Serving at SafeHouse Outreach

Thanks for your contributions to SafeHouse Outreach on October 29. We served a wonderful baked chicken meal (thanks to Jane Davis) to 140 clients and 10 SHO volunteers. In addition, we handed out sandwiches, FFUMC-baked Halloween cookies, and Upper Rooms and dropped off a bag of Delta blankets and a bag of coats. It was a day with God's fingerprints all over it! The day started in the kitchen with no power; then at 1 p.m. it came on, giving us just enough time to get everything cooked. At 4:30 we realized that we didn't have the key to the mini-bus. After several phone calls to see about getting the key to the church office, we called Rev. Allyson Lawrence. She was actually in the office working — problem solved! Our next meal service is scheduled for December 31. — Randy Riddell