



March 12, 2021

## The Weekender

### What a difference a year makes

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

It was about this time last year when we began a process of wondering, discovering, listening, caring, learning, growing, and waiting. I remember the service before we went into lockdown was a celebration of our confirmands. At that point, we were already taking precautions by just having family members present in worship. As we continued to live into the reality of COVID-19, we did our best to manage our resources. I am proud to say that I saw love and care through each of you as we continued to reach out and support the church, its ministry, and its mission.

We were not immune to the disease. We lost people that we loved. We had to say goodbye in different ways that were not expected. Life changed drastically. God's love, however, did not change. It may not have always felt close to us, but we know that God's love is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

While we will continue to adjust and move forward, we know that we will never be able to just move on. Moving on means forgetting the past and almost feels like resigning to the pressures of the moment. Moving forward, however, is different. Moving forward requires force and inertia that comes from us. But moving forward, or pressing on as Paul writes in Philippians, has a purpose—God's purpose in our lives. This past year has been difficult for many people in many different ways. But we press on because there is one who is seated on the throne who says to us, "Behold! I am making all things new." (Rev 21:5). May every day for us be an opportunity to press on, to move forward, and to do so with the knowledge of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—making all things new.



### Third Sunday in Lent March 14, 2021

[Online link will be active at 11 a.m. and after](#)

In-Person Worship Offered at 11 a.m.

***Covenant Healing Numbers 21:4-9***

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

**SPRING FORWARD!**

[Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 14.](#)

[Remember to move clocks forward one hour.](#)

## CURRENT NEWS



### Easter Service In-Person Reservations

Easter is April 4. FFUMC is excited to announce that we plan to have three in-person Easter services in the sanctuary: 8:30, 9:45 and 11 a.m. We will be following COVID guidelines to protect our congregation. This includes social distancing and wearing a mask throughout the service to ensure safety for all. Following COVID guidelines we can only accommodate 120 people at each service. [Please register all persons attending in your party. Click here to register](#) or call the church office.

If you would like to reserve a spot in the nursery, call the church office at 770-461-4313 by Wednesday, March 31.

An outdoor Easter Sunrise Service will be offered at 6:30 a.m. with no reservations required. Details will be available soon.

Easter Lilies may be placed in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one. Order forms will be available next week.



### DNow 2021 on the way

DNow is April 17-18. We will attend one of the Fayette County area wide sessions, work together on a mission project, and then split into small group host homes. We will meet back at church on Sunday to eat breakfast together and then attend the 11am service. Youth have the option of either spending the night at their host homes Saturday night OR going home Saturday night and coming back Sunday morning. Cost is \$40 per youth. [Youth can sign up online through this link.](#)



### It's time to donate!

FFUMC sponsors a Red Cross Blood Drive in our gym Sunday, March 28. Protocols make it safe to give, so sign up today!

- Go to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org)
  - In upper right hand corner enter sponsor code: **ffumc**
  - Select our drive and click **See Times**
  - Select desired donation time and either "Blood" or "Power Red"
  - Sign in or create account
  - Confirm appointment
- OR send an e-mail with your desired time slot to:  
[ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com).

Tip before donating: Anna Mayhew reminds us to drink LOTS of water! Iron deficiency is the cause of most deferrals. [Click here to see how the American Red Cross suggests boosting your iron.](#)



SAVING  
GRACE

## Financial goals class for 20-Somethings Begins Sunday

March 14, 21, 28, April 11, 18, 25

How do we create intentional and healthy associations with money and possessions?

If you are in your 20s and want to start or improve your financial plan of action, you are invited to join Rev. Allyson Lawrence on Sunday nights at 7 p.m. for a hybrid (Zoom and in-person), 6-week program called **Saving Grace**.

**Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being** addresses the topics of saving, earning, giving, spending, debt, and advice for how to achieve a sustainable financial life. There are lots of resources to choose from including weekly videos, a financial workbook, a devotional book, and a virtual peer group to foster ideas and conversations. Join our meetings and pick one or all of these resources to help you reach your personal financial goals.

Email Allyson at [alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com) or text her at 770-601-8135 to get your book. Zoom links will be provided soon.



## Save the date: VBS and MAD Camp 2021

**VBS 2021: June 28-July 2**

**MAD Camp 2021: July 12-16**

Music, Art & Drama for rising kindergarten - rising sixth graders



## Love in Action

NEW REQUESTS: Boys clothes: Pants/shorts - 12 husky or 16,  
Shirts: Boys large

We appreciate your donations to our Summer Lunch families. If you have an item to donate, just snap a photo of the item and email it to Cindy Hall at [harvecin@charter.net](mailto:harvecin@charter.net) or text the photo to 678-656-4117. Appliances, TVs, furniture, bikes, toys, home décor, kitchen items and more have been given in the past. Beds are always needed.



## March request list from Fayette Samaritans

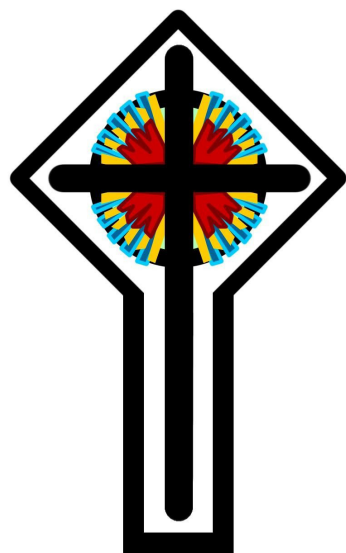
Our local community food bank appreciates ALL your donations. [Click here for their complete March request list](#). Donations may be dropped off at the church office.

Needed: Dried Beans, Rice (2 lb. bags), Canned Pasta, Mixed Vegetables, Jello/ Pudding Mix, Laundry Detergent, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Feminine Products



## High School Seniors: Ed Travis Scholarship deadline March 22

A \$2,500 scholarship is available to a graduating senior at FFUMC entering an accredited college, university or technical school for the upcoming school year. [Get the details](#) and [registration form](#) at FayettevilleFirst.com. Completed applications are due March 22.



## March 9, 2021 Financials

### Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 238,325.25
Year to Date expenses	\$ 216,764.54
Difference	\$ 21,560.71

### Benevolence

\$598.00 received this week.

25 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$ 9,934.51

### You can continue your financial support in many ways:

[Online giving: Click here.](#)

Mail check to church or place it in the drop box at the church office.

Use electronic funds transfer with your bank.

### Regular Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m. lunch)

Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214 770-461-4313

[FayettevilleFirst.com](#)