



April 16, 2021

The Weekender

Driving around in circles

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

On Wednesday, I willingly drove around in a circle around downtown. The goal was to see how close to a 5k it was driving around downtown area for the upcoming COUCH to 5K. If you make two circles from Jeff Davis on the eastern side to the loop on the western side that says, "Welcome to Fayetteville" it is 3.1 miles. Driving around in circles got me thinking about what it means to turn around.

In our Christian lives, we turn around a lot. Only we call it *repentance*. Repentance is the process of turning from one action to another. It is not a full rotation to end up back where we were, going the same direction. Rather, it is turning around and going in a different direction.

Specifically, we repent when we turn away from sin and embrace God's love for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In our United Methodist tradition, we do not see this as a one time event. It is a process of continual renewal and regeneration. It is something that we have to do to turn away from sin. While it is necessary to embrace God's love in our lives, it is not an isolated event. Repentance is always a necessity and within reach.

The early church (and in reality all of Christianity) believed in and practiced repentance. It became part of their worship. It became part of their identity. It became part of us.

How often do we take the time to repent? How often do we take the time to turn around or turn away? I suspect that we could all use a little bit more repentance in our lives.

Jesus calls us to repentance. In Acts, Peter calls his hearers to repentance. Who is calling you to repentance today? Where will you hear the voice of repentance? I would like to invite you to worship with us in person or on-line this Sunday as we hear the invitation to repent and to become more like Jesus Christ.



Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021, 11 a.m.

Online link will be active at 11 a.m. and after

Becoming Like Christ: Repentance

Acts 3:12-19

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



Let's get moving: Body...Mind...Spirit!

Plan to join us on an 8-week wellness and spiritual growth journey this summer. This fun and challenging program emphasizes wholeness in body, mind and spirit as we grow in Christ - providing resources and building community to help motivate individuals to move more, improve quality of life, engage in the scriptures, grow in giving, and share and celebrate in life together. [Click here for details and registration ... and let's get moving together!](#)



Celebrate Mothers!

Join us in honoring our mothers and those who mother with a flower, recognition and a gift to charity. Roses will be available before worship on Mother's Day, May 9, along with a bulletin insert with the names of those honored and remembered. Donations will support Bloom and Promise Place. Look for a **special envelope** in the worship bulletin on April 25 and May 3 for your donations and recognitions. Please have your donations and recognition information in the offering baskets or to the church office by Monday, May 3. **Checks should be made to Bethany Circle.** If your honoree is not in church yet, give us her address and Bethany Circle will send a copy of the bulletin insert to her. Please call Beth Nicholson, 678-578-0449, with any questions.



Did you know....

Many groups are meeting on Sunday mornings

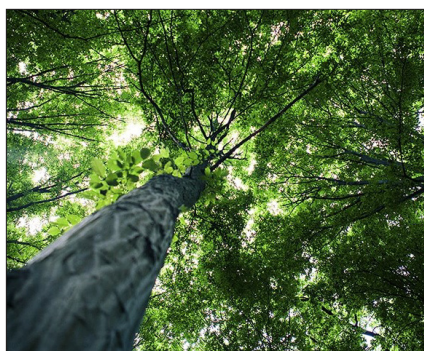
We're masked and socially distanced, but we're TOGETHER. If your group wants to gather again, please coordinate with Rev. Allyson Lawrence for room placement and safety protocols.

Children enjoy Bible Story Time for Kids on Sundays at 10 a.m.

As adult groups meet before the 11 a.m. service, the whole family has a place to go -- church! All sign-in, activities, and sign-out will be from the gym. Contact Rev. Carson Thaxton each week you plan to attend so he can plan accordingly, cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com.

The nursery is open on Sunday mornings with reservations

Just call the church office by Wednesday at noon to reserve a place during Bible Story Time or the 11 a.m. worship service (770-461-4313).



UMW offers Spiritual Growth and Social Action Event

The United Methodist Women offers “Climate Justice: We Are Called to Put Love Into Action!” as an online ZOOM event on Saturday, May 1, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. [Click here for speaker information and a registration link \(deadline is April 23.\)](#)

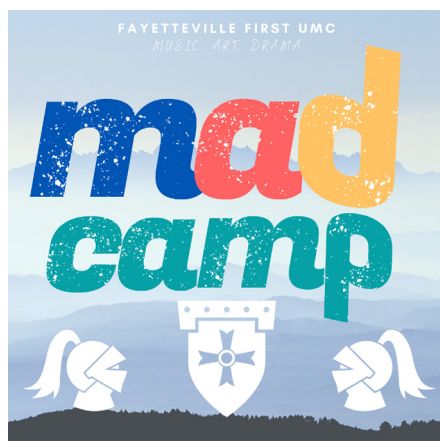
Want to help our earth right now here in Fayetteville?

Recycle glass and electronics and use a shredding service on Saturday, April 17, from 9 a.m. to noon in the City Hall parking lot. [Get details here.](#)



Outdoor Worship on April 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Come out to The Field and enjoy the evening together. Bring your own chairs, picnic dinner if you want, and worship together outside at 6:30 p.m. Come out early for some activities and organized games for the kids to run around and play together at 5:30 p.m. Mark your calendars now!



M.A.D. Camp: MADieval Times

Music, Art, and Drama Camp July 12-16

[Registration open now. Click here!](#)

Yes, that's right, this year it's a medieval theme we are calling “MADieval Times.” MAD Campers will learn, experience, and further their skills in music, art, and drama (acting) with specialized coaches in each area. Cost is \$100 for the week.

Each day is 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Only 30 campers admitted so sign up early!



VBS: Knights of North Castle

June 28-July 2

[Click here to register. Free before June 1!](#)

Each day will be a different age group for in-person activities:

Monday—Rising PreK4 and Kindergarten

Tuesday—Rising 1st

Wednesday—Rising 2nd

Thursday—Rising 3rd and 4th

Friday—Rising 5th and 6th

[Sign up here to volunteer at VBS](#)

We are so excited to offer VBS this summer, but we need your help. Would you consider serving in some way at VBS?

We have opportunities from behind-the-scenes preparation and set design to group leaders, teachers, greeters, to actors and singers, to prayer warriors before and throughout the week.

Whether you can serve only one day to all week, we have a place for you to be involved at this VBS!

We hope you will join in this adventure together as we share the good news of Jesus with children this summer.



Love in Action

NEEDED: Twin box springs
Queen headboard and frame

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 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.



April request list from Fayette Samaritans

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

Needed: Beef Stew, Mixed Vegetables, Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit, Coffee (no K-cups), Tea Bags, Cookies, Jelly, Bar Soap



Serve at SafeHouse Outreach April 29

Are you ready to serve those experiencing homelessness on Thursday, April 29, at SafeHouse Outreach? Contact leader Randy Riddell at randyhr8@gmail.com or 770-365-6924 and he will let you know what is needed.



Thank you, church family!

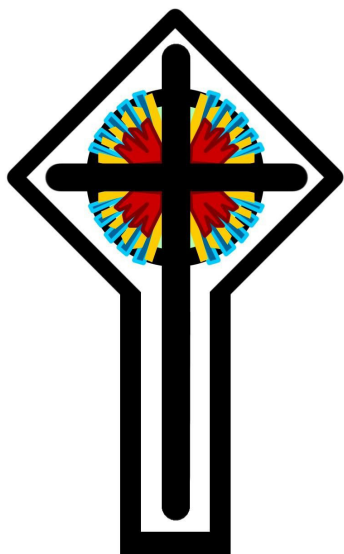
God bless you all. Thank you for remembering me in your prayers. — Margaret Grainger



EASTER(MiNi)PALOOZA video is out!

See how EasterPalooza spread out to parks and neighborhoods this year. Who do you recognize?

Check out the YouTube video by [clicking here](#)
or visit our YouTube Channel at
[Fayetteville First UMC - Fayetteville, GA.](#)



April 12, 2021 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$372,906.62
Year to Date expenses	\$ 331,246.46
Difference	\$41,660.16

Benevolence

\$1,256.00 received this week.

31 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$12,665.27

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.

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m. lunch)
Closed Fridays

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