



The Weekender

The seed of change

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

The rain this week has left our ground muddy and the weather humid. The afternoon thunderstorms (with the 50/50 chance of rain which means that it will rain suddenly—you just don't know when or how hard) have been great for the plants in our yard. But it's meant that we've been inside most of the afternoons and evenings. Plus, I'll admit, I don't really want to go outside in the aftermath that is that humidity.

In a sense, we are a mess.

That's ok. God is in the business of messes and chaos. Remember in the beginning when God spoke into the chaos and created earth and land, day and night? God does some of the best work in the chaos and dirt of life.

We are surrounded by dirt. But there is something that goes into dirt that transforms the dirt, uses the dirt, and changes the whole area around that dirt. It is a seed. As Jesus reminds us in John's gospel, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it will only be a single grain. But if it dies it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

Christ is the seed that changes the whole earth. Christ is the seed that has died and bears much fruit in our lives, pushing and prodding through the dirt and chaos of what goes on underneath the surface and changes the whole landscape. It is Christ who is the seed and that is what the Kingdom of God is like. When we participate in the Kingdom of God, we see past the chaos and we live through the chaos. When we emerge, we come out changed, ready to change the world around us to be more like God and less like us. May it be so in our lives, in our church, and in our world.



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021, 11 a.m.

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

Unrevealed Until Its Season

Mark 4:26-34

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



Informed & Inspired joins The Weekender

Our regular Tuesday publication *Informed & Inspired* is now included in The Weekender. Read all the **INFORMATION** about what's happening and be *inspired* by your church family each week in The Weekender.



Recognition on Father's Day—Act NOW

Mary Martha Hope and Tabitha Circles of Fayetteville First United Methodist Women are happy to offer a way to honor your fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, foster dads, uncles, brothers or those men who have stepped in to take care of and play a fatherly role for children who are not their own. When you make a donation to the UMW Father's Day Fund your loved one's name will be included in a special bulletin insert. If the honorees are unable to attend church in person, an insert can be sent directly to them.

The proceeds of UMW Father's Day Fund will be given as a gift to support United Methodist Women ministries around the world and also to Square Foot Ministries here in Fayetteville. Expressing your love and admiration to the "fathers" in your life will be far reaching when you honor them with

a donation to the UMW Father's Day Fund. **A collection envelope and form will be provided in the June 13 Order of Worship** or you may print your own from [this link](#). Please make checks payable to UMW and mark "UMW Father's Day Fund" in the memo. Cash is also accepted. Forms may be placed in the offering baskets or the church office. **Forms are due MONDAY, JUNE 14.**



OUTDOOR is now INDOOR: Note changes

Outdoor is now Indoor Movie Night: Friday, June 11.

The Field at FFUMC is now the GYM due to weather predictions.

8 p.m. is now 7:30 p.m. for gathering time around the huge inflatable screen.

Movie "The Princess Bride" begins at **sunset** 8 p.m.

Bring a comfy blanket or chair and enjoy the night together!

The Monthly Lifeline: June edition is out

See what all is happening for children and families this month. [See the monthly newsletter here.](#)



Join in Summer Lunch Program each Tuesday

Pack lunches each Tuesday beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Cookies are needed each week: Please provide only store-bought, nut-free cookies in boxes or bulk (such as vanilla wafers). The lunch packers will individually package them for you to reduce risk of transferring germs unintentionally.

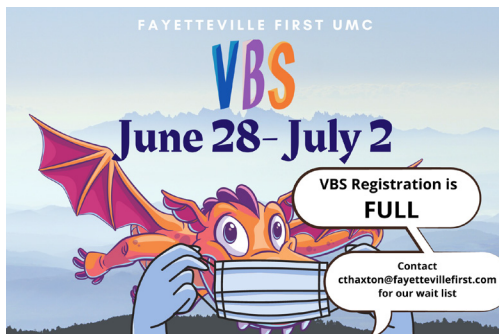
To participate, contact this year's coordinator, Virginia Pope, at 678-361-1722.

Lauren Davis and Virginia Pope are hard at work with the helpful Summer Lunch Team.



Summer Table Group meets Tuesday evenings 6 p.m. at Gremlin Growlers

Join for one day or make all the remaining Summer Table Group gatherings at Gremlin Growlers. Together we will dig a little deeper in our faith journey and meet new friends. No need to register - just drop in when you can on June 15, 22, and 29. Contact Rev. Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com with questions.



VBS IS FULL June 28—July 2

We have reached capacity for students for VBS. If you would like to be placed on a VBS waiting list, please contact Rev. Carson Thaxton at cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com.

Volunteer a day or two or all week at VBS: [Click here for volunteer registration](#)

Interested in volunteering? We would love for you to support this ministry for children and their families by serving at VBS. There are many ways to volunteer at VBS this year to fit your schedule, physical ability, and area of interest. Above all else, please pray for everyone involved in VBS this year as we learn to put on the armor of God and walk in the way of Jesus.

VBS Worship Team Invitation

As we gear up for VBS: Knights of North Castle, we have an exciting opportunity.

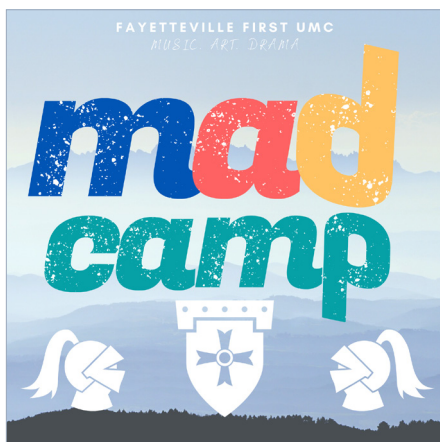
Want to be part of the VBS Stage Team by joining the VBS Worship Team? Kids, youth, adults, from rising 3rd grade and older are invited to participate. This worship team will learn the VBS songs and motions early to help lead all the campers during the week in VBS assembly times.

We ask that you try to make at least two of these rehearsals if possible. We will meet in the sanctuary and also utilize the Kids Gathering Room next to the chapel where VBS Music Rotation will be located.

Wednesday, June 16, 10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

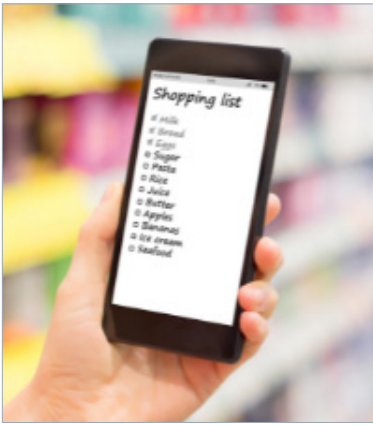
Wednesday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

If this is something you, your child, or youth would be interested in, please [email Rev. Carson Thaxton](#) so we can arrange to get you the VBS music even before the first rehearsal to get started. Thank you!



M.A.D. Camp: MADieval Times Music, Art, and Drama Camp July 12—16 **[Registration open now. Click here!](#)**

July 12-16 is Music, Art, and Drama Camp! This specialty camp is designed for elementary school kids to learn, experience, and further their artistic skills in the areas of music, art, and drama (acting). This year will feature a medieval theme at camp. Castles, dragons, princesses, knights, minstrels, jokers, and more! With specialized coaches in each area campers will get to experience each one as well as focus in a particular area based on their interest. Cost of this camp is \$100 for the week. (Savings for multiple campers). **This camp is filling up, so register NOW.**



New! June request list from Fayette Samaritans

Our local community food bank appreciates ALL your donations. [Click here for a list of most needed items for June.](#) Donations may be dropped off at the church office.

Most Needed: Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Canned Tuna, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent

Normal operations for Fayette Samaritans will resume July 6. The Clothes Closet will reopen in July. Bed linens will no longer be accepted; however, summer clothes and tee shirts of all sizes for men, women and children are needed.



Many Mini Missions for Youth

July 12 -16

[Registration deadline: June 25](#)

One mission or educational project each day in the local community

Ready to GO out and serve others? God invites you, yes YOU, to partner with God in God's kingdom work here on earth. Join us in our Many Mini Missions Week this July! You can come all days or as many as you can. We'll have worship together before heading out into the community to serve

and be in relationship with our neighbors. Then, we'll come back to debrief and discuss our experiences together. And who knows, maybe we'll even grab some ice cream one, two, or maybe all days afterwards!! Full details and tentative schedule in registration link. Mission projects will be announced once they're finalized.

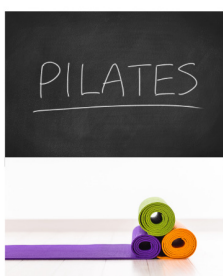


Grief Share begins in August

[Register or get more information here](#)

If you have lost a loved one you may feel isolated and have many questions about things you have never experienced before. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. Our GriefShare group is led by people who have

walked their own grief journey and understand the deep pain that accompanies loss. Please know, you don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Contact Carol or Bill Webb at carolbass@bellsouth.net with questions. Cost for participant book is \$15.



Last few days to try pilates with Faye Livingston

Join Faye Livingston for pilates sessions Friday mornings at 10 a.m. and Tuesday afternoons at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall through June 18. [These classes are free. Let Faye know you are coming by registering here.](#)

IN BRIEF



Next FFUMC Blood Drive
July 18, 2021



Rise Against Hunger: Save the Date!
August 22: 1 - 3 p.m.

inspired . . .

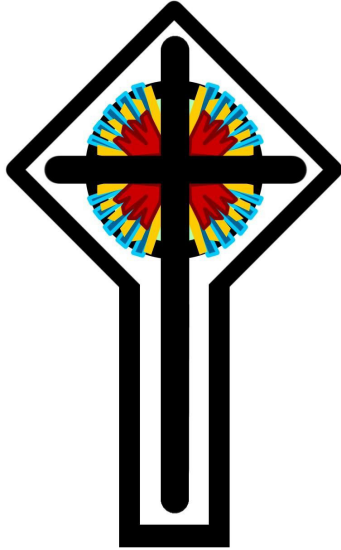
Vacation Bible School prep “sparks” up

The VBS Worship Team and leaders are hard at work to make VBS 2021: Knights of North Castle unforgettable. Rehearsals started this week to prepare for the BIG event June 28 - July 2. We’re all excited to let Sparky fly in and share about the armor of God.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God... the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of peace, shield of faith, and helmet of salvation.”

— Ephesians 6:10, 14-15





June 9, 2021 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 540,081.67
Year to Date expenses	\$ 491,877.90
Difference	\$ 48,203.77

Benevolence

Received this week \$275.00

43 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$16,154.28

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