



The Weekender

How do you worship?

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

When putting together worship, I often start with scripture pulling from the Revised Common Lectionary. The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of weekly readings. The RCL is built around the seasons of the Church Year and includes four readings for each Sunday as well as additional readings for major feast days. During most of the year, the readings include the following: a reading from the Hebrew Bible, a Psalm, a reading from the Epistles, and a Gospel reading. During the season of Easter, the Hebrew Bible lection is usually replaced with one from the Acts of the Apostles.



The Revised Common Lectionary, first published in 1992, derives from The Common Lectionary of 1983, both based on the Ordo Lectionem Missae of 1969, a post-Vatican II ground-breaking revision of the Roman Lectionary.

That's a lot of information. I find that in writing a sermon, it's easier to start with the scriptures of a tradition that have been handed down, rather than to search for something that I want to talk about. There are times that I deviate from the Revised Common Lectionary, but that is seldom.

Worship is more than scripture, though. It is a way of living. Worshipping God is not only about us being together, it is about *worshipping* God together. You may notice in worship this week some small differences including more scriptural readings, more prayers, the return of the children's moments, an additional hymn, and the passing of the offering plates.

Everything we do in worship, we try to do with *attention* to worshipping God with the *intention* of worshipping God. I hope that as you are able, you will join us in person or online. Worship is not something we do, it is a way of life that becomes how we live. I hope you will worship God together with us here at Fayetteville First UMC and invite others to join us as well.



7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 11, 2021, 11 a.m.

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

Adoption Papers

Ephesians 1:3-14

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

An update from Thomas

(In case you missed it last week, here it is again.)

Being resurrection people means being able to know that we are not complete. There is always room to grow. So as I share with you some changes that we are anticipating, please know that these are designed with the idea of growth in mind.

With the appointment of Rev. Carson Thaxton to Coke's Chapel UMC, Rev. Allyson Lawrence will be taking over children and family ministries. For the remainder of the summer, we will continue to offer Bible Story Time for KiDS in the gym with plans for Children's Sunday School to break out into age groups in the fall. Children's Discipleship—and I choose the word discipleship very intentionally—will begin to take place on Sunday evenings in the fall with children's music led by Justin Maxey, a lesson time focusing on spiritual disciplines, and a time for snack and fellowship.



I choose that word *discipleship* intentionally because we want to be disciples of Jesus.

Also, some of the favorite events that we looked forward to will be returning, like Titus II and our Wednesday evening dinners. We will be eating together again. And yes, we will be celebrating communion again with real bread and grape juice.

To help facilitate some of our nurture ministries like Titus II, Seasoned Singers, Wednesday night fellowship, and some visitation, we will be adding Rev. Joe Watson to our staff. Rev. Watson is a retired elder in the United Methodist Church who has served churches faithfully. In the coming weeks, you will be introduced to him and he plans to begin with us in a part-time capacity in August.

We anticipate resuming two services on Sunday, September 12. Remember, we are leaving room to grow. Children's Moments will be added back into worship in July and Wonders of Worship during the worship service will resume in September.

Our Wednesday night fellowship will resume with once a month programming beginning September 8 with a focus on fellowship. If there is one thing that our church family has consistently said is that they miss being together. The goal for us as a congregation is to continue to create those moments to be together in fellowship, but not lose sight of the call of discipleship, which is following Jesus. It is good to gather together. It is better to follow Christ. It is best if we can try to be like Christ. That is the goal.

As we make our way through these changes, we are leaving room to grow because we know we need God's presence in our lives. We know that Jesus is not done with us yet. We see this in the small details of the gospel stories. But we have to look for them. We have to be ready for them. We need to allow ourselves to be interrupted by Christ.

As always, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to let me know. I am grateful for this congregation and the grace that you show to one another. May that grace continue to grow in our lives, our homes, and our church home here at Fayetteville First UMC.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



Donate and get a \$10 Amazon Gift Card FFUMC Blood Drive — July 18, 2021

Help relieve the severe blood shortage (likely to continue all summer) by donating at the next American Red Cross Blood drive : on July 18 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. To reserve a specific donation time and help plan for workers, please schedule at redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code FFUMC. For assistance in registering, email ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com. **Masks are not required for vaccinated participants.**



The shortage has prompted the American Red Cross to offer a giving incentive. For all drives running July 7-31 donors will get a \$10 Amazon gift card by email after the drive. You give ... they give ... We all win!



Only a few weeks left in Summer Lunch Program

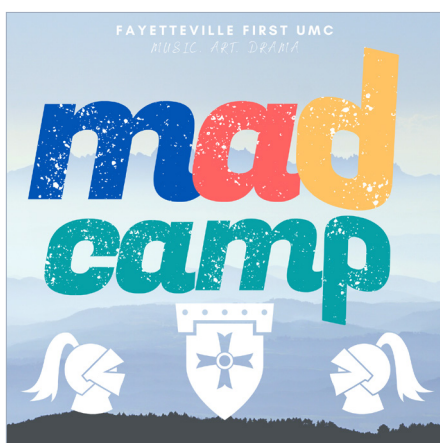
Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

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

No more cookies needed.

Thanks for all your donations. We have plenty for our remaining weeks of packing.

Betty McKibben and Sally Dunham helped pack lunches for kids in our community.



M.A.D. Camp: MADieval Times **NEXT WEEK**

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). 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).



Love in Action

CURRENT NEEDS: Washer, Dryer, Refrigerator

In addition to packing lunches, 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.



GriefShare 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.



Summer clothes and tee shirts for Fayette Samaritans

Our local community food bank appreciates ALL your donations. [Click here for ongoing needs.](#) Donations may be dropped 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.



Training for Prison Ministry: July 8

Donation Opportunity: The Jail Ministry of our Church has received a request from Deputy John Govaerts, Chaplain, Fayette County Sheriff's Office for donations of books to be used in the jail.

The books must be paperback/soft covers with no metal or staples in the binding. Subject matter can be varied. Religious and inspirational as well as all types of subject matter; novels, mysteries, biographies, history, fiction and nonfiction, sci-fi, series, how to guides, self-help, etc. The Chaplain will be sure they are appropriate before they are loaned out on the library carts.

You can drop the books off at the Fayette County Jail at the front desk, or contact either Jo Springer, 770 461-3043, garedleg72@earthlink.net or Danny Beck 770 461-4665, danmci43@gmail.com.

Matthew 25: 36 *"...I was in prison and you came to visit me."*



Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event — August 22: 1 - 3 p.m.

Save the date! Details coming soon.

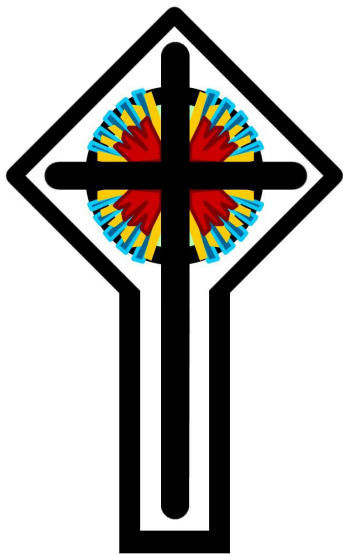


Tabitha Circle members Nikki Neal (and her children, Bella, Malachi, and Scarlett) and Kathryn Thaxton helped with the Father's Day Fundraiser.

Thanks for the Father's Day Recognitions

Mary Martha Hope and Tabitha circles of UMW are grateful for your support in recognizing those who have shared their fatherly attributes with us. Your contributions enabled us to share the \$2,124 raised with Square Foot Ministries as our local mission and UMW Global around the world. God's love covers the world and so can our ministries. Together Mary Martha Hope and Tabitha circle worked on honoring and memorializing fathers for the bulletin on Father's Day Sunday. On behalf of the UMW Tabitha and Mary Martha Hope circle we wanted to say thank you so very much! — Tami Kemberling & Nikki Neal

[See those who were recognized: Father's Day Recognition 2021.](#)



July 7, 2021 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 642,189.80
Year to Date expenses	\$ 581,774.32
Difference	\$ 60,415.48

Benevolence

Received this week \$567.00

50 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$19,412.86

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*](http://FayettevilleFirst.com)

inspired ...

Thank you, VBS leaders

A big thank you to ALL the VBS leaders and volunteers. You made the great week happen.



VBS VIDEO RECAP

Click on this link or go to our YouTube Channel at **Fayetteville First UMC - Fayetteville, GA.**