



## The Weekender

### Amazing Grace Offering for Wellroot

Dr. Thomas Martin

As United Methodists, we have a lot to be proud of. It is not because of the name of our denomination or our affiliation necessarily. I'm a proud United Methodist not just because my grandparents were (both sets), not just because my dad is, not just because my mom worked for Cokesbury (that's a lot of insider language). I'm proud because of our connection.

At its best, at our core, we are connected in ministry. That means that we can do more together and are able to impact the world around us in ministry and mission. What a great connection we have! You can see this at work in the Wesley Woods ministry. You see it through United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). It is there in our mission efforts in times of crisis. It is there through supporting Action Ministries. It is there when we support Wellroot Family Services.

We have an opportunity this week to support Wellroot, above and beyond our usual giving. There will be a special offering taken this Sunday to support the ministry and mission with children and families in the North Georgia area. You are invited to give a gift to support the ministries of this historic connectional ministry of the United Methodist Church.

If you haven't heard of Wellroot, or you would like to learn more, you are invited to visit [wellroot.org](http://wellroot.org). There you can see the impact that this ministry has not just in our community but in our world. I'm so glad that we are connected. May God continue to work through our connections throughout the world.



**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 26, 2021, 8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.**

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

*James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50*

*Life Lessons: Name Calling*

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

## CURRENT NEWS



### Serve at SafeHouse Outreach next week: September 30

Have you ever wanted to serve those on the margins? Your chance comes next week as we feed homeless clients at SafeHouse Outreach in downtown Atlanta on Thursday, September 30. We are looking for help preparing and serving meatloaf, peach cobbler and more. Contact leader Randy Riddell (*pictured grilling for an earlier outreach*) at [randyhr8@gmail.com](mailto:randyhr8@gmail.com) or 770-365-6924 for more information.

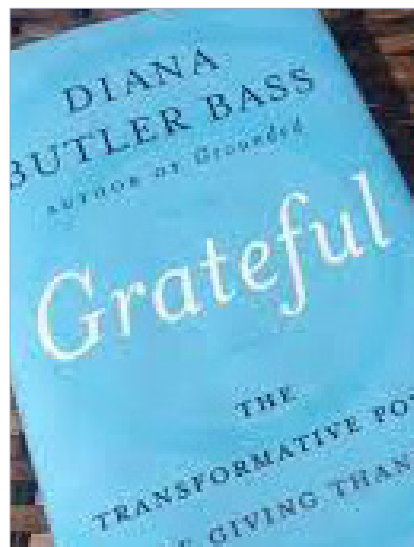


### Tree Cookies, anyone?

You may not know the term “tree cookie,” but there is a good chance that the young children in your life know what they are. Some may call them tree slices or wood slices, or some other name, but the idea behind them is the same... gross/ fine motor strengthening and social play. A tree cookie is quite simply, a slice of a tree. They can be small, like a cookie, or large, like a serving platter!

Our Fayetteville First Preschool needs more cookies ... tree cookies ... for playground learning. Can you help replenish our current stock? Just slice up a downed tree or limb with a saw or chain saw and place the pieces with the other tree cookies on our playground. We'll get busy learning from your donation!

*Find out next week how preschoolers learn from tree cookies.*



### Study Class begins new series this Sunday

The Study Class will begin their next study, “Grateful - The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks” by Diana Butler Bass. Zoom class begins Sunday, September 26 at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Tim Aycock, [timaycock@gmail.com](mailto:timaycock@gmail.com).

Diana Butler Bass invites readers to understand new dimensions of American spirituality in *Grateful*. Although most of us know that gratitude is good — and good for us — there is a gap between our desire to be grateful and our ability to behave gratefully. The implications of the gap are bigger than we realize, affecting both our personal and public lives. In *Grateful*, Bass weaves together social science research, spiritual wisdom, and contemporary issues as she calls for a richer understanding and practice of gratitude.



### Update your church photo

Have you joined FFUMC recently? Have you been here but want to update your photo in our online database and directory? You can upload your own photo into our REALM database any time or send your photo to Joan Aycock, [jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com), and she'll take care of it.

Don't have a photo you want to use? Come to the Fellowship Hall (A-40 kitchen end) on Sunday morning October 3 or October 24 between 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Photographer Wayne Harris will be glad to take your photo. There is no charge. You'll have the option to purchase individual prints at a low cost if desired.



## Coffee and Conversation Beginning September 12

If you are not in a small group on Sunday morning, you are invited to coffee and conversation with Rev. Thomas Martin between 9:45-10:45 a.m. There is no formal curriculum. Maybe you are new to the church and have questions about Methodism. Maybe you are new to the area and have questions about Fayetteville First. Maybe you want to stump the pastor (it's really not that hard to do). Whatever the case may be, you're invited to meet in the Family Life Center Gym for an informal time of gathering together each week. Coffee will be provided.

## Passing the good to others in our community and around the world

Our blessings may bless others! Here are some opportunities to [give through the church](#) (just designate your gift appropriately in the memo section online or by check) and our finance team will pass it on.



**Benevolence** — We help those in our community in need of financial assistance through a vetting and screening process by our Benevolence Committee (pictured: Lea Agnew, one of our volunteers). Individuals meet with a church representative to present their need, and help is provided according to our protocol. Recently we received this note from a recipient who had utilities restored: *"I am very grateful for the financial assistance granted to me by Fayetteville First UMC. Without this help, I don't know what I would have done. I thank you and I thank God for the blessing."* Designate **Benevolence** on gifts.



**United Methodist Committee on Relief** — UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – be it famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and to be a source of help and hope for those left most vulnerable. The need and the support offered is ongoing. Designate **UMCOR** on gifts.



**Piedmont Fayette Hospital** — Our hospitals are crowded and in need of our support. We have been asked to help our Piedmont Fayette Hospital by offering meals for hospital workers. Collected funds will be used to purchase meals as we are able. Designate **Hospital Support** on gifts.



## Flower arranging made simple by Marilyn Harris

The FFUMC Flower Ministry multiplies the joy of flowers donated in honor or memory of loved ones. One or both arrangements of donated flowers used to enhance our worship services can be directed for reassembly into individual bouquets of cheer to encourage others in our church family. The Flower Ministry team takes care of the arranging and delivery. To donate flowers for worship, contact Dian Nelson, [admin@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:admin@fayettevillefirst.com), and get on the schedule. Contact Marilyn Harris, [elegmimi52@gmail.com](mailto:elegmimi52@gmail.com), 770-313-4646, to join the Flower Ministry team for arranging or delivery.

Want to learn to arrange flowers? Marilyn Harris is offering a free flower arranging class on Tuesday, October 5, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Let [Marilyn know if you'll be joining her class](#) in the Fellowship Hall Room A40 (immediately following the Titus II program).



## Christmas Marketplace 2021: Getting Ready

November 6: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The fundraiser event will be a church-wide effort this year, similar to previous Great Day of Service, Rise Against Hunger and the Fall Festival events. It is our church's largest annual fundraiser, averaging over \$12,000 for local charities over the last 5 events.

The Christmas Marketplace offers:

- A tremendous outreach opportunity as we open our doors to the community, who come by the hundreds onto our campus for a glimpse of what FFUMC has to offer.
- Volunteers from our church family enjoy fellowship and get to know each other better as we work together to setup and cleanup, donate baked goods and household items, and welcome shoppers.
- Much-needed support for local small business owners, who depend on events of this type and have struggled over the past 16 months.

We hope you'll put the event on your calendar and are able to volunteer to help make the 2021 Christmas Marketplace the best one yet!

## Wellroot Special Offering this Sunday

For 150 years, Wellroot has been Faithfully Committed to Family. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul reminds us that we are one family together, made up of many parts. We each have our place and our purpose, and each member is essential to the others. By participating in the Amazing Grace offering, you take your place as a member of the Body of Christ, and you become FAMILY to those we serve. You become FAMILY for a child in foster care, a teen who is reshaping their future, a new mom building a support system, and parents striving for wholeness and healing with their children. When you give to Wellroot, 100% of your gift provides children and families the power to realize their God-given potential. Give a gift that nourishes the soul and helps create a safe, loving home.

Give online at [wellroot.org/AmazingGrace](http://wellroot.org/AmazingGrace) or donate to FFUMC and mark "Wellroot" on your check or online gift.



**Preschoolers' Night Out**

**OCTOBER 8**  
5:30-8:30 PM  
Ages 3 months-PreK 4  
[www.fayettevillefirst.com](http://www.fayettevillefirst.com)

## New: Preschoolers' Night Out

How about a night of fun and friends for our youngest ones? Welcome to our first ever Preschooler's Night Out! On October 8, children aged 3 months through PreK4 are invited to FFUMC to experience games, crafts, storytime and more from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. This event is for families attending our preschool and other young children throughout our community. If you know a family with young children in need of a night out, invite them to our Preschooler's Night Out.

*\$5 per FAMILY if you register by Monday, October 4.*  
*(\$10 per CHILD after.) [Register here.](#)*

# inspired ...

## Learning from Playground Pumpkins

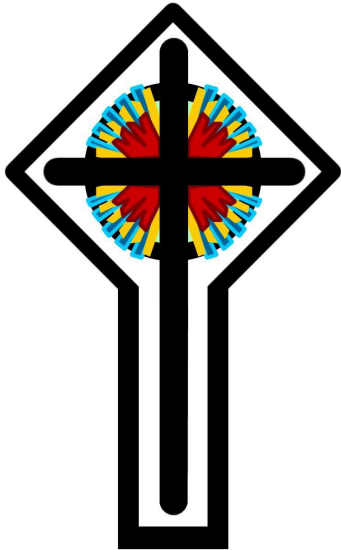
Fall is one of our favorite times of year on the preschool playground. Cooler temperatures arrive, the children are engaging in deeper play, and we see the return of the pumpkins!

Introducing pumpkins to our outdoor environment provides experiences in many areas of child development. By carrying pumpkins around the playground the children are strengthening their core muscles, shoulders, and wrists which translates to the ability to sit in a chair and write when they are older. Early math skills are supported as children discuss and compare size, weight, and color. Science exploration occurs when the pumpkins encounter gravity, break open and present their gooey insides. And, finally, the pumpkins provide vital opportunities for language growth as the children talk to each other and work cooperatively with the pumpkins. Who knew pumpkins could be so versatile!?

How can you help make our pumpkin experience the best one yet? Grab a pumpkin for us when you pass pumpkin displays at grocery stores and nurseries. All shapes, sizes, and colors are welcome... even ones you may deem too big for preschoolers to handle! We will need a steady supply of them through the months of October and November. Pumpkin donations can be placed on the wood pallet by the playground starting October 1. Thank you for your continued support of our young children!

— Kerry Bleil, Fayetteville First Preschool Director





## September 22, 2021 Financials

### Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 878,534.98
Year to Date expenses	\$ 812,296.26
Difference	\$ 66,238.72

### Benevolence

Received this week \$714.00

73 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$ 28,563.31

### 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*