



October 1, 2021

## The Weekender

### Communion in love

Dr. Thomas Martin

On the first Sunday in October, United Methodist congregations join many Christian churches across the globe in celebrating World Communion Sunday.

World Communion Sunday began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of denomination. Rev. Kerr appropriately chose the sacrament of Holy Communion to symbolize this unity. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, which included all of the predecessor denominations of The United Methodist Church, adopted World-Wide Communion Sunday.

United Methodists believe in an open table: anyone may receive communion. Our Book of Worship says, "All who intend to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are invited to receive the bread and cup." <sup>1</sup>

This Sunday, we will have the opportunity to continue this tradition. Every time we gather over the sacraments, we have the chance to be reminded of our interconnectedness. More importantly, we are reminded of God's love. These things go hand in hand because Jesus gave us the command to "do this in remembrance of me." I hope that what we remember of Christ is that he gave us the Great Commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself."

I hope that you will take a moment this week to remember Christ, to remember God's love, and to be encouraged by the Holy Spirit to love others as God loves us.



### World Communion Sunday

**October 3, 2021**

**8:45 a.m., 11 a.m.**

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

**Hebrews 2:10-12; Mark 10:13-16**

**Who am I?**

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

<sup>1</sup> from <https://www.umc.org/en/content/what-is-world-communion-sunday>

## CURRENT NEWS



### Update your church photo in October

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.



### Preschoolers' Night Out now Playground and Pizza Night Out!

Preschoolers' Night Out is being postponed. We are excited, however, to be moving the event outside and to our new date which is October 15 from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Preschool-aged children and their families are invited to meet on the playground here at the church at 5:30 p.m. and enjoy free pizza, drinks and play time. We hope you will join us for this fun night of play and friendship.

Please register for our Playground and Pizza Night here: [Playground and Pizza Night](#)



### Get to know Joe and let Joe know you at the next Titus II

Let's get to know Rev. Joe Watson a little better at our next Titus II lunch and learn program on Tuesday, October 12, at noon in the gym. After our meal, Rev. Watson, Minister of Nurture, will share some things about himself and the United Methodist Church while he gets to know you. Make your lunch reservation with Martha Turner, 770-461-2802, by noon on Thursday, October 7.



### Blood Drive coming to FFUMC October 17

Help relieve the blood shortage by donating at the next American Red Cross Blood drive at FFUMC on October 17 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. To reserve a specific donation time and help plan for workers, please schedule at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code FFUMC. For assistance in registering, email [ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com).





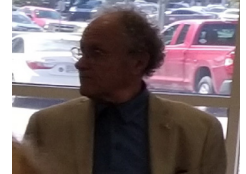
## UMW South West District Cluster Group met at FFUMC

The work of United Methodist women is strong! Last Sunday, the South West District met in our Fellowship Hall. Tamikia Brown, SW District vice-president, facilitated a program on how the UMW got started.

For more information on how to participate in The United Methodist Women at FFUMC, contact Lauren Davis, Membership Outreach, at 770-846-6452, lauren-davis@comcast.net.

*(Left) Past presidents of our district from FFUMC include Linda Ladd, Virginia Pope (seated) and Cindy Hall. Tami Kemberling, another former president, is not shown. Thank you for your service.*

*(Right) Raymond Mitchely, UMM president, attended the meeting in response to the open invitation to all on UMW Sunday by Kathie Hansen, UMW president. Way to go, Raymond!*



## Coffee and Conversation continues

Join Rev. Thomas Martin on Sundays in the Family Life Center at 9:45 on Sundays for conversation around the table. This informal time offers a chance to ask questions about Methodism or Fayetteville First while presenting an opportunity to stump the pastor (it's really not that hard to do). Whatever the case may be, you're invited to come. Coffee will be provided.



## United Methodist Men meet October 12

The United Methodist Men invite you to a dinner meeting on October 12 at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The agenda includes discussing the UMM's role in the upcoming Christmas Marketplace. Please bring a dish to share and join in. Questions? Contact UMM President Raymond Mitchely at 770-314-2035.

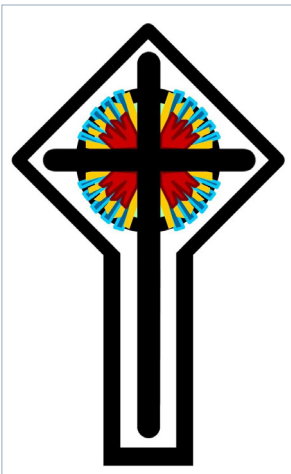


## Flower arranging made simple by Marilyn Harris on October 12

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 12**, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. **(note the date change)**. Let [Marilyn know if you'll be joining her class](#) in the Fellowship Hall Room A40 (immediately following the Titus II program).





## Church Conference and Charge Conference meetings soon

On Tuesday, October 19, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary we will have a Church Conference meeting. The purposes of this meeting will be to set the leadership of the church as well as hear updates about the life in the church and the coming year. Every member of the congregation is invited to attend and every member is invited to vote.

Then, on Sunday, November 7, at 4:30 p.m., via zoom, we will have a joint Charge Conference with other United Methodist Churches in our district. That link will be made available closer to the event date.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let Thomas know.



## Guest soloist this Sunday, Indra Thomas

We welcome guest soloist Indra Thomas at the 8:45 and 11 a.m. worship services this Sunday, October 3. You may remember her voice as a highlight in our Candlelight Concert in 2015. [Read more about Ms. Thomas here.](#) We look forward to her participation in worship with us.



## Annual Great Pumpkin Fest returns October 23

**Mark your calendars** for The Annual Great Pumpkin Festival 2021! On October 23, Main Street Fayetteville and Fayetteville First United Methodist Church will have a DJ, retail and craft vendors, lots of food, costume contest, kids crafts, & SO much more! Don't forget to wear your costumes and trick-or-treat with our vendors and downtown shops and restaurants.

How can you help? **Bring candy donations** (all individually packaged) to the collection box in the hallway behind the sanctuary. **Register to volunteer and even help create the Trick or Treat Village** sponsored by FFUMC: [click here to see the outreach possibilities.](#)



## Let's recycle next week!

Gather your items to recycle this week and take them to City Center Park on Saturday, October 9, between 9 a.m. and noon. On this Shred Day, E-Recycle & Glass Recycling day, the city will have two shred trucks along with the Boy Scout Troop 76 (sponsored by FFUMC) aluminum recycling trailer. Your FFUMC Green Team invites you to come out and utilize these free services!



## October is FFUMC Month at Fayette Samaritans

While Fayette Samaritans, our local food pantry, always appreciates all your generous donations throughout the year, the organization especially relies on FFUMC in October to fill the shelves.

**Most Needed:** *Canned English Peas, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Boxed Mac and Cheese, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Boxed Cereal, Cranberry Sauce, Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Feminine Products*

You may place your donations in the hallway cart behind the sanctuary or drop them by the church office.



### 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!

Children come up with many ways to play with tree cookies. They can be stepping stones, art canvases, or plates. They can help children understand motion, take age-appropriate risks, and learn to cooperate. They make the children feel strong as they tote them around the playground and use them to make towers. They are a wonderful addition to our playground!



Over time the tree cookies dry out and break apart. Sometimes we can use the broken pieces to talk about shapes (“This one broke into triangles like a pizza!) or even fractions (“This one broke into 3 pieces... I’ll take a third, you take a third. Who should we give the last third to?”)



Tree cookies eventually need to be thrown out. The good news is that they are easily replaced with a little help from mother nature and a chain saw! If you find yourself cleaning up a downed limb or tree, please consider slicing the preschoolers some tree cookies. All sizes are welcome at any time of the year.

Just place “tree cookie” donations in the stack on the corner of the playground. Thank you for helping us create unique experiences on our preschool playground! — Kerry Bleil, preschool director



# inspired ...

## Sundays at FFUMC: Growing as Disciples

Did you know our discipleship opportunities now include Sundays? We have set aside Sunday afternoons from 4 to 6 p.m. as a time to dive deeper in what it means to truly follow Christ. All ages are invited to join in.

**Children's LiFE with God:** Lessons, music, recreation and more

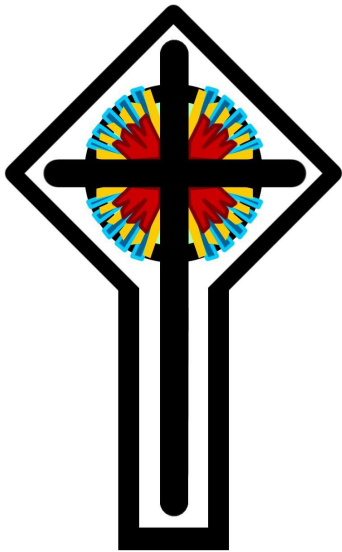
**Youth Encounter:** Take a deep dive with other seekers

**Adult Disciple I Class:** A year-long journey with Dr. Thomas Martin

**Table Group:** Explore a section of scripture each week and make it real in discussion with a small group facilitated by Randy Riddell (4-5 p.m.)



Discipleship for all ages on Sundays — children, youth and adults — for deeper connection with God and others.



## September 30, 2021 Financials

### Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 897,141.88
Year to Date expenses	\$ 825,695.58
Difference	\$ 71,446.30

### Benevolence

Received this week \$140.00

88 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$ 31,135.67

### 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

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*FayettevilleFirst.com*