



The Weekender

What is it that you want me to do for you?

Dr. Thomas Martin

Last Sunday, we read a story about Jesus being asked by James and John to sit at positions of authority. One asked to be on Jesus' right and one asked to be on Jesus' left side. This was in response to Jesus asking, "What is it that you want me to do for you?" Needless to say, it was not the greatest answer that could have been given. Here, the disciples have Jesus offering to give you whatever they want. They asked for future power based upon present assumptions.



It is easy to look at the disciples and laugh at their misunderstanding of Jesus. But how often do we place ourselves in the story as the disciples? How many times do we ask Jesus for future fame or glory or power or wealth based upon present assumptions? How often do we look past the things we have in hopes of something better?

Friends, too often I realize that I am James and I am John. I am not Jesus nor am I the author of Mark who captures these stories. I miss the mark and answer wrongly.

Thank goodness Jesus keeps asking the question of us. Right after Jesus asks James and John "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asks another man the same question. Bartimeus is a blind beggar who has made his way to Jesus through the crowds in search of healing. He came out of his feeling of inadequacy. Yet he already had more than James and John. He knew he wanted Jesus' strength and power now.

How about you? Have you been practicing an attitude of gratitude or have you been anticipating the promises of power? I'll admit, daydreaming about the latter is more fun. Being grateful, however, is a better way. I am grateful for you. I am grateful to be a pastor of this congregation. And I am grateful that we serve a savior who trusts us enough to ask us, "What is it that you want me to do for you?" That is love.



22nd Sunday After Pentecost

October 24, 2021

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

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

Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Grateful for Wholeness

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS

Blessing of the Animals



Blessing of the Animals: Saturday, October 23, 9 a.m.

You are invited to bring your furry or scaled, walking or swimming, two-legged, four-legged, or no-legged pet(s), to FFUMC for them to receive a blessing as we celebrate the Blessing of the Animals. You may bring a picture of a pet who has died and we will offer a prayer of remembrance as we thank God for their place in our hearts. Please invite your friends to bring their pet(s) for this wonderful day of celebration and remembering. We do ask that you bring your pet(s) on a leash or in a carrier.

Courthouse side of FFUMC

Community prayer at 9 a.m — Individual blessings follow



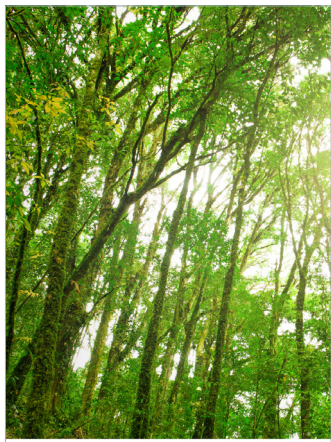
Trick or Treat Village Tomorrow, October 23 Festivities 5-7 p.m. Trick or Treat 6 -7 p.m.

Join the fun as Fayetteville celebrates the Great Pumpkin Festival and as we at FFUMC host our Trick or Treat Village. Festivities with DJ, vendors, lots of food, costume contest, kids crafts, & SO much start at 5 p.m. and Trick or Treating is from 6 - 7 p.m. at our Trick or Treat Village.

Opportunities to Serve: Trick or Treat Village, Tomorrow

Share a little bit of God's love with the community and with our kids this Saturday! Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence with questions at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com. Here's a breakdown of where you can help:

- Donate candy — Drop off by 10:30 a.m. Saturday
- Donate/Lend decorations — Drop off by 10:30 a.m. Saturday
- 10:30 - 12:00 p.m.— Set up (placing signs, setting up the village and decorations)
- 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. — General hospitality and staffing the hospitality tent
- 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.— Hand out candy (through the awesome candy chutes)
- 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.— Break down, clean up and put things away



Children Embrace Simplicity at The Ridge Sunday, October 24, 4 - 6 p.m.

Let's join together in nature as we hike, play and celebrate the simple beauty of God's creation. Meet at The Ridge at 4 p.m. for a nature scavenger hunt, guided tour, individually wrapped chocolate covered rice crispy treats and bags of Halloween trail mix. Families, please stay and enjoy the fun.

Note: No children's ministry activities at the church building from 4 to 6 p.m. on October 24. Everyone will be at The Ridge.

Contact: Rev. Allyson Lawrence, alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com, or Allie Hansen, ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com.



HoneyBaked Ham for FFUMC Preschool

Fayetteville First Preschool is partnering with HoneyBaked Ham for an online gift card fundraiser. [When you use or share this link](#), you and your family and friends can purchase HoneyBaked Ham gift cards (e-cards or plastic) to be used for instore or online purchases. Gift cards will be mailed or emailed to the purchaser. EASY! Proceeds will help the preschool purchase a Light Table and accessories offering fun opportunities to explore light and color concepts while supporting hand-eye coordination, problem solving and more.

Fundraiser ends November 5.

[Click now! Share the link with a friend.](#)



31st Annual

Christmas
Marketplace

Saturday, November 6

How can You help?

Christmas Marketplace only 2 weeks away

The 31st Annual Christmas Marketplace is around the corner.

How can you help?

Volunteer: Set up, greet guests, clean up, and more

Donate: Timeless Treasures & Gingerbread House - [See details!](#)

Shop: Tell your friends and come shop! [Share this advertisement!](#)

Sign up to help in the courtyard and other locations or contact Lauren Davis, lauren-davis@comcast.net.



Timeless
Treasures

Drop off Timeless Treasures November 1-4

You can help the Christmas Marketplace Timeless Treasures sale by donating your gently used, sellable items. Drop off is in the Fellowship Hall. Tax-deductible donation receipts will be available.

Dropoff begins: Monday, November 1

Dropoff ends: Thursday, Nov. 4.

Monday – Thursday, November 1 – 4: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Use the Sanctuary driveway (off Jack Dettmering Way) and follow the signs to place the items as directed in the Fellowship Hall. Please be mindful of preschool pick-ups between 12-1:30 p.m., and park on the street to carry your donations inside.

Wednesday, November 3: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

This after-hours period is for those unable to deliver donations during the day. Again, use the sanctuary driveway and follow the signs to place items as directed in the Fellowship Hall.

Friday, November 5: No donations accepted

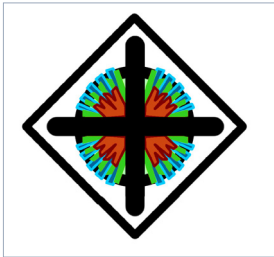
No further donations will be accepted on Friday, November 5. Please be sure to have your donations delivered no later than Thursday, November 4.

Contact Lauren Davis at lauren-davis@comcast.net for more information.



Pecans! Pecans! Benefit local charities

It's pecan time... what a delicious and great way to raise funds for local charities. You pay \$8 for each 12 oz. bag of pecans and all profits are donated by our UMW to charities. Our UMW is committed to raising funds for others. With pecans, everybody wins! [Fill out this pre-order form \(complete with details\)](#) and drop it along with your exact payment in an envelope marked "Pecan Sales" in the church office or in the collection plate (remember the envelope!) before November 7. Make out checks to *United Methodist Women*.



Charge Conference meeting soon

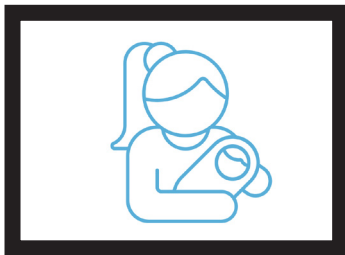
On Sunday, November 7, at 4:30 p.m., via zoom, we will have a joint Charge Conference with other United Methodist Churches in our district. That link will be made available closer to the event date.

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



Got Styrofoam? Let Tami on the Green Team know

There's an easy way to keep your large pieces of packing styrofoam out of the landfill: just let Tami Kemberling know! On her regular runs to CHaRM (the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials), Tami is willing to take your big pieces of styrofoam packing to CHaRM's Styrofoam Compactor, a super machine that presses clean, unwanted styrofoam into usable blocks. Contact Tami, leader of your FFUMC Green Team, at 678-641-9604 or tamidale57@gmail.com.



Nursing Mom's Room Now Available

We now have a private room for nursing moms to relax, feed, and rest. Please make yourself comfortable in room C-140.



Wear Your Favorite Costume to Sunday School and Worship October 31

Have fun all day in your favorite character costume on Sunday, October 31, when you dress up for church. Children will have a special treat during Sunday school and a photo booth for you to capture the memories. Please, no scary costumes.



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, and she'll take care of it.

Don't have a photo you want to use? Photographer Wayne Harris is happy to take your photo. There is no charge. Just make a reservation directly with Wayne at 770-855-1453 to schedule a time.

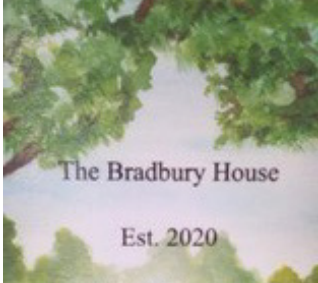


October is FFUMC Month at Fayette Samaritans

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.



Bradbury House Open House

Our church family is invited to join the Hansen family and Ms. Jeanne Bradbury at an open house at The Bradbury House on October 23 between 1 and 6 p.m. This home has been transformed into a place where guests can rest and rejuvenate to know God's love, mercy and grace anew. Location: The Bradbury House 215 Buckeye Road, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Contact Kathie Hansen at 678-592-5177.



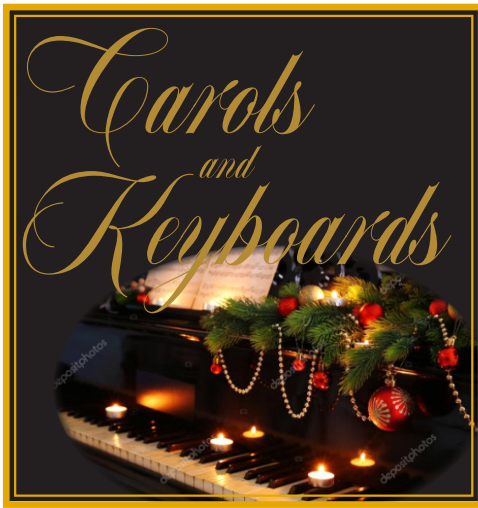
Coffee & Conversation back in gym

Meet again for Coffee and Conversation with Dr. Thomas Martin on Sunday, October 24, at 9:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center gym. All are invited to this weekly gathering to explore faith, ask questions and get to know one another in a relaxed atmosphere.



Serving in the pews

Need an opportunity to serve? We have a great Worship Team (aka Pew Pixies) that prepares the Sanctuary/Chapel for weekly worship services. There are currently 3 teams that serve on a monthly basis. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Nancy Lindsey at 770-310-5193 for more information.



Carols and Keyboards: Save date/Get reservation

Join Justin Maxey and guests to joyously celebrate the Christmas Season. Music from four grand pianos, the organ, choir and soloists will entertain you with an evening of Christmas carols and song. Featured artists: Justin Maxey, Cameron Cody, Landry Duvall, Daniel Solberg, Kipp Gill, Rick Massengale, Danielle Wojcik and Tiffany Uzoije.

The concert will be performed on Thursday, December 16 and again on Friday, December 17. Max reservation capacity for each night is 450.

[Make your reservation here](#) or call Dian in the church office at 770-461-4313.



Serving in Children's Ministry

The Children's Ministry is accepting applications for children's ministry shepherds, supply coordinator, Sunday school assistants, substitutes, Wonder of Worship leaders and assistants, and children/youth advisory committee members. Ready to explore the possibilities? We are happy to help you find a place in this wonderful ministry.

Contact: Rev. Allyson Lawrence, alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com, or Allie Hansen, ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com.



I appreciate you ...

October is Pastor Appreciation month. Can you please take a few moments to write a note of encouragement and gratitude to our clergy AND drop the note by Dian's desk at the church office?

Your kind words go a long way. — Bill Webb, Lay Leader



SAGE Returns with Apple Orchard Trip

Thursday, October 28

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in church parking lot

Lunch 11:30 a.m. at the Double L Restaurant

12:30 p.m. Panorama Orchards & Farm Market

3:30-4 p.m. arrive back to the church

Cost: \$5.00 per person plus cost of your lunch and any apples you want to buy

Call the church office, 770-461-4313, to make your reservation.



Thank you

Thank you for the calls, emails, texts and prayers for my cataract surgery. They were very much appreciated.

— Karen Davis

inspired ...

Blood Drive collects 41 pints: Thank you

Last week, the American Red Cross collected 41 units of blood at the FFUMC Blood Drive.

Here's the breakdown:

ZERO no-shows!

10 walk-ins

Only 4 deferrals

75% of donors from FFUMC. Great participation from our church helped offset lower than expected signups from the community.

Thanks to all who made appointments and those who stopped by to give blood. It was a good day! — *FFUMC Blood Drive Team*

Photos: Regular donors Phil Mallon and Larry Brannon



Save the date for next blood drive:
January 9, 2022

October 19, 2021 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$ 963,913.65
Year to Date expenses	\$ 894,057.24
Difference	\$ 69,856.41

Benevolence

Received this week \$497.00

104 families assisted in 2021 for a total of \$ 39,958.27

2022 Commitments

We have received 38 commitment cards so far for total of \$284,880.

Contact Julie Harp in the church office if you have questions.

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.

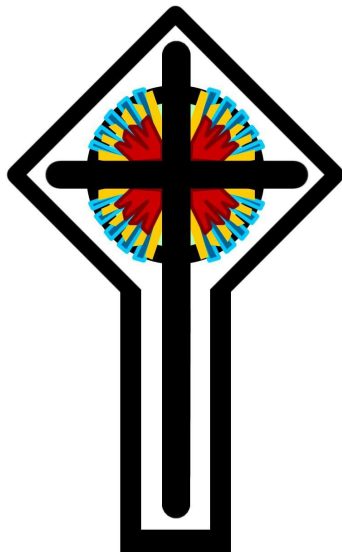
Use electronic funds transfer with your bank.

Church Office Hours:

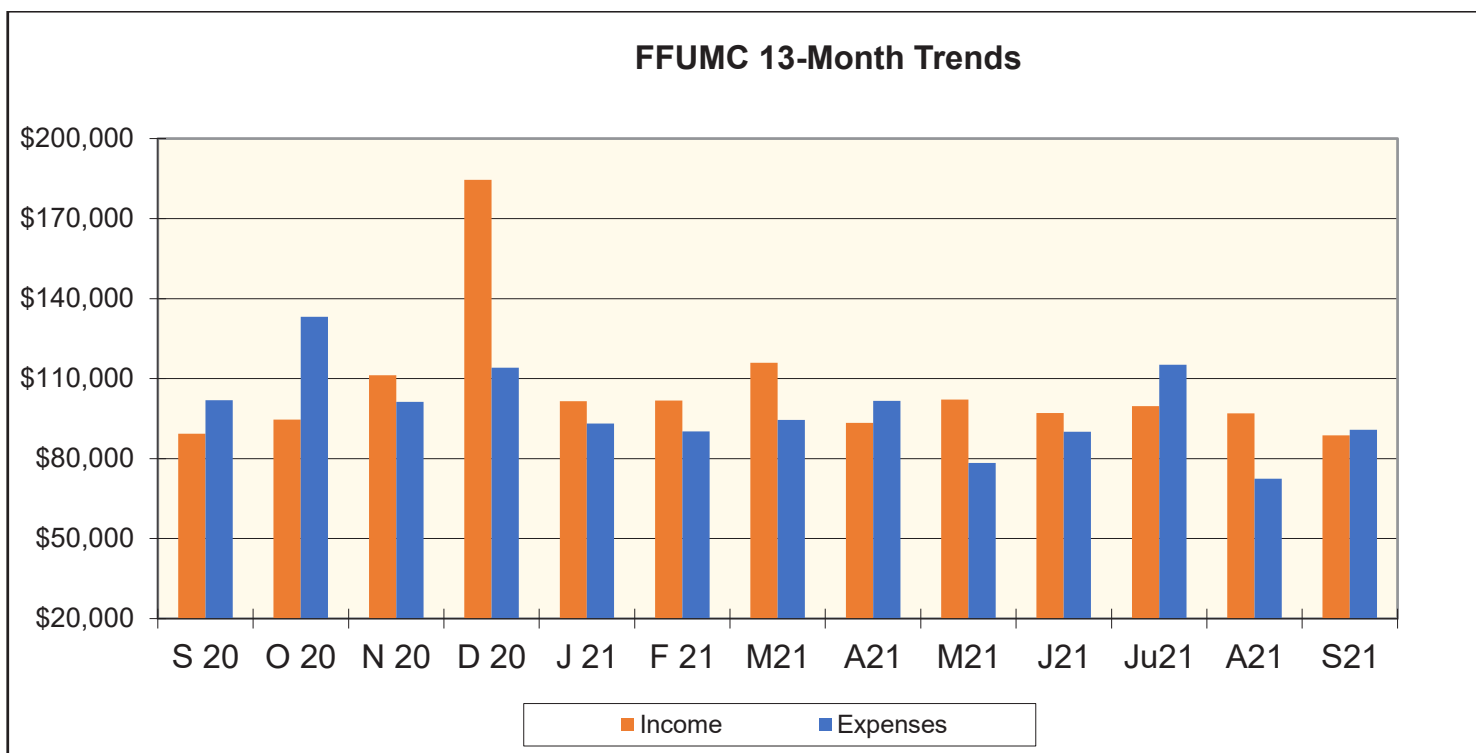
Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m. lunch)

Closed Fridays

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



What's Happening Fiscally at FFUMC?



Being Grateful – It is a right and a good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, Almighty God.

Each fall the Finance Committee seeks pledges from members of our congregation to help establish an operating budget for the following calendar year. Pledges, along with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are cornerstones for our Church in fulfilling its missions.

Recently a stewardship letter and pledge card were mailed to members and friends of FFUMC. Thank you if you've already returned the card and if you haven't, please consider doing so. As noted above, timely pledge information helps the Finance Committee allocate funds and assists other ministries in planning for next year. Since COVID has many of us still developing a new sense of normalcy in the way we live out our faith, pledge cards are as important as ever!

Please contact Phil Mallon, Finance Committee Chair; Julie Harp, Business Administrator; or Reverend Dr. Martin if you have questions. We remain grateful for you, our Church, and our Lord.