



April 22, 2022

The Weekender

A good question

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

I'm not sure if it's from a movie, a TV show, or a book, but there's a phrase that I can hear with such insolence, incredulousness, and insensitivity that it makes me laugh. It's usually delivered in a comedic style, often sarcastic when someone is disappointed or disgruntled about the final presentation. It could be the main dish served with great expectations and a cheap price tag. Or it could be that time I found a great deal on a bag that Leslie wanted that when it was delivered was a fifth the size of what I thought it would be. That question that resonates through all these circumstances is, "Well, what did you expect?"

It's a great question to ask ourselves with more reverence than surprise. Yet, when Easter Sunday has passed, it's a question I am left with: "Well, what did you expect?"

Only this time it is different for me. I am not sure what I expected, but I received joy, fun, goodness, happiness, peace, comfort, and hope on Easter Sunday. I hope you experienced this and more in those moments of worship together.

This Sunday is still the Easter Season. In fact, there are 50 days in the Easter season that take us to Pentecost. However, in our story from the Gospel reading this week we encounter the disciple who, if this were a comedy, might be asked by the risen Christ, "Well, what did you expect?"

The reality is that life lets us down and we face disappointment. We have doubts and worries. But when we experience the Risen Christ Jesus and are invited to touch his hands and feel his side, it might kind of be like that great comedic moment where Jesus says to us, "Well, what did you expect?"

Christ is Risen. Christ is Risen, indeed.



Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

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

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

Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

Next Steps

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



Graduation information due next week: April 30

We want to honor all our high school, college and graduate school graduates and celebrate! Our annual graduation publication is being prepared, so we need to hear from you and your loved ones. Send the following information to Joan Aycok, jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com, by **April 30**.

Name of Graduate to be printed

School Name and Degree Name

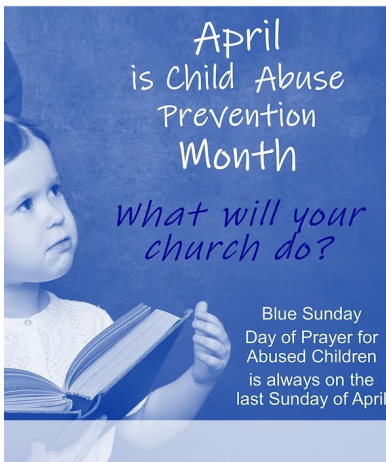
Plans after graduation if known

Photo



Brown Bag with Thomas: Meet in gym on Wednesday

Brown bag with Thomas returns on Wednesday, April 27. Bring your lunch and questions to the gym at noon as we hear updates about our facilities, Fellowship Hall Renovations, music program, and vision for the church. All are welcome to attend. No reservations necessary. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin, tmartin@fayettevillefirst.com.



Child Abuse Prevention and Blue Sunday, April 24

April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention month. Would you like to join in prayer for children who are abused and be part of the solution to provide care? You are invited to join with the South West District of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) for a 30 minute virtual praise and prayer time on Blue Sunday, April 24, at 2:00 p.m. Blue Sunday is a Day of Prayer when churches and groups all over the nation will be in prayer for the victims of child abuse.

For zoom info contact Kathie Hansen at hansen.kathie@comcast.net.

For more information about Blue Sunday National Day of Prayer go to bluesunday.org.



Food donation needs for May

Thanks for helping others! Donations for Fayette Samaritans, our community food pantry and clothes closet, may be placed in the hallway cart behind the sanctuary or dropped by the church office.

Most Needed in May (but all donations are welcome and appreciated):

Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Tuna, Canned Fruit, Corn, Saltine Crackers, Jelly, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet Paper, Feminine Products

Clothes Closet Needs: All sizes women's underwear, especially large



Summer Lunch Program begins in June

In just a few weeks, our Summer Lunch Program will swing into action to provide food stability for many families in Fayette County while school is out for the summer. We will be packing lunches at 9:30 each Tuesday during June and July and delivering them afterward.

Packers and drivers are needed.

To participate, contact this year's coordinator, Virginia Pope, at vgail.pope@gmail.com.



Create Camp: [Sign ups now open](#)

Ready to get creative this summer? Children in grades 3-6 will dive deeper into the lessons and adventures of our VBS Bible stories as they explore ways to develop their own personal leadership skills. Campers will learn music and dances, learn how to create and build set designs, as well as participate in traditional camp crafts and games. June 20-24. \$10/camper



Vacation Bible School registration now open

Join the VBS fun! From a whimsical lighthouse on an enchanted island, Explorers are guided by a Lighthouse Keeper and Beacon the Puffin on an exciting quest to find five mysterious Infinity Lanterns to help light their way. Using map coordinates from the Reference Book (the Bible), children discover clues to finding each Lantern while learning how God's light shines in the lives of familiar biblical characters in Old and New Testament stories. July 11-15.

[Rising PK3-Rising 6th for Fall 2022. After June 30: \\$10/child.](#)



Needs from Summer Lunch families

REQUESTS: Refrigerator

Six refrigerators have been donated. Thanks! Two more needed

Families who are in the Summer Lunch Program have some specific needs. Can you help? If you have what is listed or other items 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.



UMW Bethany Circle honors mothers on May 8

Bethany Circle will be honoring our mothers with roses! Before each service on Mother's Day, May 8, flowers will be offered in the courtyard and the welcome center area behind the sanctuary. Donations are welcome, and proceeds will be given to Promise Place and Bloom. Donations exceeding \$1000 will be in support of UMW missions.



Pill bottles go to Good Shepherd Clinic

The South West District UMW is collecting pill bottles for the Good Shepherd Clinic, a free medical clinic in Morrow. You are invited to donate empty pill containers in the labeled box located in the cabinet in the portal hall behind the sanctuary. Questions? Contact Cindy Hall at harvecin@charter.net or 678-656-4117.

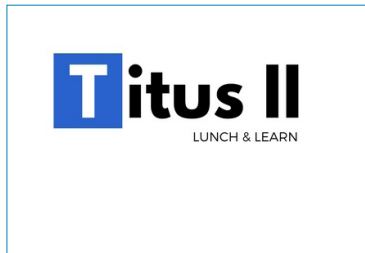


Recycle at City Center Park: Saturday, May 7

Do you have some hard to recycle items? Let's take care of the earth and dispose of them usefully at City Center Park on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Your FFUMC Green Team will be there to help out! Questions? Contact Tami Kemberling, tamidale57@gmail.com.

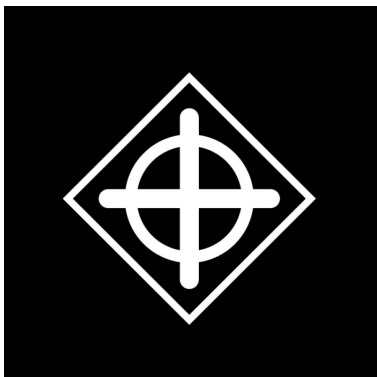
Here's what to bring:

- Electronics
- Glass
- Aluminum



Titus II: Good music, good food, good fun

Enjoy a triple play with good music, food and fun at the next Titus II on Tuesday, May 3. Bill Webb and Friends will sing and play a variety of toe-tappin' tunes. Join the fun by making your reservation with Martha Turner, 770-461-2802, by Thursday, April 28 at noon. Lunch (\$8): Choose 1- Country Fried Steak or Smothered Chicken, Choice of Vegetable, Biscuit and Dessert.



Help our youth in summer missions

We look forward to watching for and taking part in God's action this summer through loving and serving our neighbors on two mission trips. We so appreciate you as our church family, and hope you'll join in supporting the youth as we go out into the world as disciples of Christ.

— Hannah Vickery, Youth Director.

Here are a few ways you can participate:

- Stop by FFUMC's **Earth Day Festival booth** this Saturday, April 23, between 11am-3pm, where we'll be selling roasted nuts and popcorn.

FFUMC's preschool and kids ministries will also be set up with us so we can

be present and engaged with our community.

- Want to support a youth or youths individually? You can **purchase a "bond certificate"** located in the lobby between the Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary! All bond certificates must be turned into the church office by May 15 with cash or check attached.
- You can **give online!** Just go to www.fayettevillefirst.com, scroll to the bottom of the page, click on the "Donate" button, and be sure when submitting your contribution to memo "Youth Summer Missions."
- **Pray for us before and during our trips!** Pray for God to give us eyes to see, ears to listen, and to open our hearts and minds to our neighbors in Alabama and Appalachia.



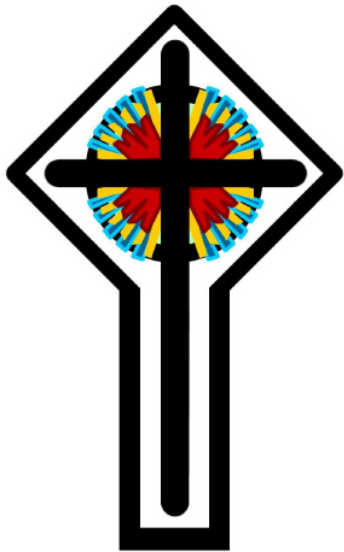
Support Ukraine through UMCOR

As we continue to lift the people of Ukraine in our prayers, you are also invited to give through the United Methodist Committee on Relief. 100% of donations given to UMCOR through the gifts you give go directly to those in need in the war-torn areas. You are invited to give through the church (mark your donation "Ukraine") or through the website: <https://umcmission.org/umcor/ukraine/>.



With Gratitude

To Shawl Ministry: Thank you very much for the beautiful shawl. I love it!
— Janis Wilson



April 20, 2022 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$410,434.66
Year to Date expenses	\$359,680.89
Difference	\$50,753.77

Benevolence

Received this week \$1,514.00
38 families assisted in 2022 for a total of \$12,690.42

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.

Regular 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

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM;
Wednesdays through Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

inspired ...

Behind the music at FFUMC

Each Sunday our hearts are lifted in worship and praise. Our Director of Music and Organist Justin Maxey masterfully prepares and presents quality music to encourage and inspire. Faithful choir members practice each Wednesday evening and Sunday morning, learning challenging pieces and working hard to present the best they can offer.

Justin is graciously supported by volunteers who keep things running smoothly. In his words, "I am so grateful for these volunteers who put countless hours into our music library and maintaining the pianos. I would not be able to pull off musically what we do in worship week to week without these invaluable volunteers."

So who is working behind-the-scenes? **Connie Hyder** and **Tina Wheatley** maintain the music library making sure new pieces are catalogued and ready for rehearsals and putting away pieces recently presented.

And then there is the **Piano Waterer**. That's right. **Karen Davis** is our resident Piano Waterer. Every week she checks the moisture levels inside the pianos and adds water and a special solution with a jug and a tube if the instrument indicator shows a need. Karen says, "I like doing it — it's definitely something different! I never knew anyone watered a piano before now!" In addition to working in the FFUMC nursery for 18 years, dusting the altar rails and window sills, lint-rolling the pews, preparing bulletins in the church office, and helping with communion and acolyte duties as needed, Karen now adds her most unique responsibility. You never know what

opportunities will open up for service, but Karen didn't see her newest duty coming. She says, "I'm happy to help out however I can."



Thank you for what you each give to FFUMC. We appreciate you!

Karen Davis, the Piano Waterer, at work (above); Connie Hyder in the music library; Tina Wheatley preparing to sing on Easter Sunday.