



April 29, 2022

The Weekender

The little things

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

When Jesus came back to visit with his disciples, after his resurrection, after his appearance in the upper room, after his encounter with Thomas, he found them doing the exact thing that they had done before he called them. They were fishing. It does not say whether they were fishing as their occupation, although that is presumed. It could be that they were doing what they knew best. It could also be that they were doing the work they knew how to do and sharing stories because they knew they had other work to do.

When Jesus comes to the shoreline, he doesn't announce himself as their friend Jesus. He doesn't interrupt their work by drawing attention to himself. Instead, he knows they haven't caught any fish, tells them to lower their nets, and with the predictability of the sunrise, their nets are full. Peter, who is now the main character, recognizes Christ and swims to the shore.

What Jesus does next amazes me. Before he asks Peter to feed his sheep and tend his lambs, he cooks him breakfast. Jesus Christ doesn't judge or admonish the disciples. He doesn't tell them how they've messed everything up. He doesn't judge them. He feeds them.

Before Christ ever invites us to follow, he feeds us. It's a little thing, but it makes a big difference. Jesus doesn't offer us discipleship before he offers us food.

What are the little things that you can do?

This Sunday is confirmation Sunday. You, as a church, support this mission through your giving, prayers, and support of this church. Volunteers have given of their time. The students have sacrificed their time to be present in confirmation and committed to learning and growing together.

Here's another little thing: as we share space throughout this exciting renovation, take into account those whose Sunday School classes are meeting in different locations. If you are able on Sunday mornings, park in the church office parking lot or the parking lot closest to the field. This is a little act of kindness, but it frees up space for those with small children or others who may not be used to meeting in a different place.

Whether it's breakfast or it's parking, we know that the little things can make a big difference. Jesus says, "Follow me." That is no little thing, but it makes a big difference.



Third Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022

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

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

Acts 9:1-6; John 21:12-19

Follow Me

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



Graduation information due tomorrow: April 30

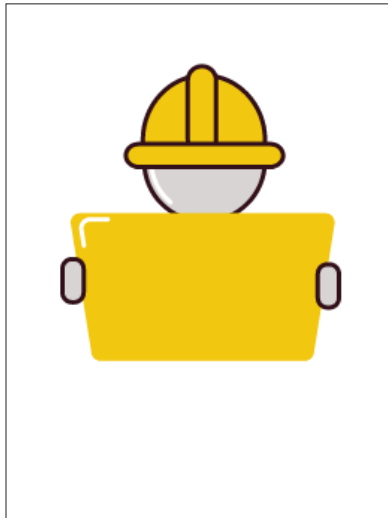
We want to honor all our high school, college and graduate school graduates and celebrate! Our annual graduation publication is being prepared, so we need to hear from you and your loved ones. Send the following information to Joan Aycock, jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com, by **April 30**.

Name of Graduate to be printed

School Name and Degree Name

Plans after graduation if known

Photo



Fellowship Hall Renovation Notes

We're excited about getting started on this highly anticipated project! Look for these groups and items in their relocated areas as our Fellowship Hall undergoes renovation from now through July 8:

Fellowship-Discipleship Class will meet in the Family Life Center (gym) on Sunday mornings for Sunday School.

Fayette Samartan Donation Dropoffs will be received in the foyer outside the Family Life Center (gym) or in the church office.

The UMW/United Women in Faith Book Nook is now in the C building on the third floor near the elevator. You can't miss it!



UMW Bethany Circle honors mothers on May 8

Bethany Circle wants to honor 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.



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

There's more! Georgia Interfaith Power and Light offers a FREE Green Team Summit on relating our faith and climate justice on Saturday, May 7. [Get more information and register here.](#) Workshops include Voting Rights and Climate Justice, Fighting the Biomass Industry in Real Time, Partnering with Youth, and more.



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.](#)



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 near the gym (new location) 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



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.



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.

Titus II

LUNCH & LEARN

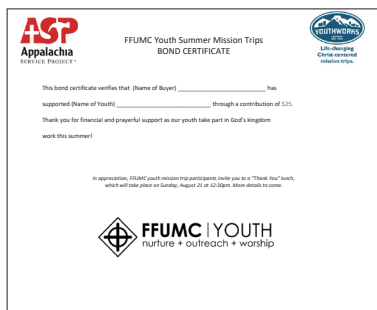
Titus II: Good music, good food, good fun

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.



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 foyer at the end of the breezeway near the gym (new location). Questions? Contact Cindy Hall at harvecin@charter.net or 678-656-4117.



Get a BOND to support youth missions

Want to support a youth or youths individually on their summer trips to Alabama and Appalachia? You can **purchase a "bond certificate" in \$25 or \$50 amounts**. The certificates are available in the hallway at the end of the breezeway near the gym or [you can print one from the links on the youth website page](#). Just complete the certificate and turn it into the church office by May 15 with cash or check attached. Individuals or small groups are invited to participate. Questions? [Contact Hannah Vickery, youth director](#).

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."



Spring Unit Meeting features Love Gives Ministries

You are invited to the UMW Spring Unit Meeting on Thursday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center gym. The program will be presented by Lynn Duncan of Love Gives Ministries, a wonderful ministry to the homeless and those in need in the community.

At the meeting you can enjoy a dinner catered by Chicken Salad Chick (\$10) with reservations for the meal due by Sunday, May 15. UMW members should make reservations through their circle chairperson. All others, please contact Susan Burch at showburch@gmail.com or at 678-523-7329. Please indicate the number of children for the nursery.

Jim and Lynn Duncan received a 2021 Christmas Marketplace check from Janet Gazaway for Love Gives Ministries.



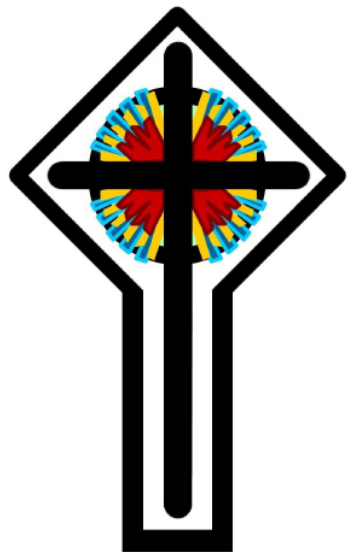
Support Ukraine through UMCOR

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/>.



Worship with youth on May 11

Have you helped in any way with the youth this year? They want to say "thanks" for your one time or many time offerings to make this a great year. If you prepared food for meetings, drove the buses, painted a sign, prayed for them, or donated in any way to their work, please join them for youth worship on Wednesday, May 11, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.



April 25, 2022 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$435,003.14
Year to Date expenses	\$383,625.57
Difference	\$51,377.57

Benevolence

Received this week \$86.00

39 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 ...

Youth get ready for summer missions

Preparing for week-long mission trips this summer is a daunting process, but our youth are busy at it.

Middle school students will go to Bayou La Batre in Alabama with Youth Works June 26 - July 1. In May the students will prepare by learning about the community and doing some teambuilding. This team includes youth Maggie Meyer, Rachel Meyer, and Jack Travis.

Carter County, Tennessee, is the destination for high school students Glenda Harrah and Emma Autrey. Serving June 12 - 19, these students are training this month with their partnering group at Inman United Methodist in a lock-in where they will practice construction, hear about the region, and learn Appalachian Service Project procedures.

Fundraising is in full swing. Nut and popcorn sales including the Fayetteville Earth Day event brought in funds to go with those raised at the Meal with a Mission dinner and other donations. Bond certificates in \$25 and \$50 amounts can be purchased and designated to individual students as well. Look for the kiosk outside the Family Life Center gym or [click here for more information on this option](#). You can always use the DONATE button at FayettevilleFirst.com and designate "Youth Missions" in the memo line or write a check for the group.

Hannah Vickery, youth director, is excited about these trips and all the students will learn and give to the communities they serve. She'll be assisted by Youth Shepherds Jordan Hart, Xed Blankenship, Faye Livingston, and Nick Hansen.

Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated as our youth prepare to serve this summer.

Bond certificates support youth missions. Look for kiosk near gym or [click here](#).

