



May 6, 2022

The Weekender

A Prayer for Mother's Day

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin



Dear God, From the very beginning of time you breathed into us the breath of life and called us good. Today we continue on that path of reclaiming what it means to be called good by God. We know that it does not come from our own works. None of us live alone. We are surrounded by your love. Like a baby bird dependent upon its mother for food, so we turn to you, in our need. Help us receive your love and grace which you pour out so extravagantly on us.

We are in need from a young age of others to take care of us; adults in our lives to feed us, clothe us, love us. We may identify these people as parents. We call them daddy or mommy. On this mother's day, we remember those women who bring life into this world.

To those who gave birth this year to their first child—we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year—we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains—we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment—we walk with you.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms—we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children—we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heartache, and distance with your children—we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year—we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother—we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood—we are better for having you in our midst.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year—we grieve and rejoice with you.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising—we anticipate with you.

Help us to walk with those who walk through life, as we walk through life together.

This Mother's Day, help us walk with each other. Help us remember. May we give thanks as God speeds to help us now and always. Amen.



Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022

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

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

Acts 9:36-43; John 10:22-30

We That Love the Lord

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS



UMW Bethany Circle honors mothers this Sunday

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 go to United Women in Faith/UMW.



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

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.

Would you like to donate to Love Gives Ministries? You are invited to bring these items to the Unit Meeting on May 19 or place them in a collection box in the church office:

Supplies needed: toothpaste, deodorant, body wash, shampoo, body lotion, panty liners, pads, tampons, soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper

Food items needed: peanut butter, jelly, granola bars, 6-pack of crackers, tuna in a pouch, chicken in a pouch, Vienna sausage, instant coffee, fruit cups, applesauce cups



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.



FFUMC welcomes United Women in Faith for Meeting

Our church is hosting a cluster meeting for the SouthWest District United Women in Faith. ALL women at FFUMC are welcome and encouraged to attend on May 14 at 10 a.m. in the gym. Being a member of UMW or a circle is NOT a requirement. There are several clusters of churches in the SW District and each cluster has a gathering to share ideas and also give time for informal presentations. Anyone who would like to hear about women's ministries in other churches and hear about the exciting changes happening in United Women in Faith is invited to come.



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.



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.



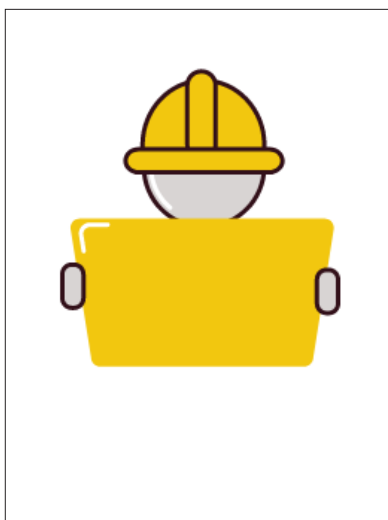
Recycle at City Center Park: Saturday, May 7

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.



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.

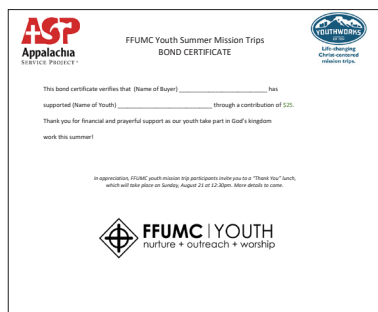
Fayette Samartan Donation Dropoffs will be received in the foyer outside the Family Life Center (gym) or in the church office.

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!



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://umcmmission.org/umcor/ukraine/>.



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."



Let's go to Mary Mac's Tea Room

Had a hankering for Fried Green Tomatoes, Hushpuppies, Chicken and Dumplings or other Southern fare? Ready to go to Mary Mac's Tea Room with friends? Then jump on the bus with Senior Adults Going Everywhere! Gather by the church office on **Thursday, May 19**, for departure promptly at 11:30 a.m. The group will dine at Mary Mac's around 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$5 transportation plus lunch. Make a reservation with Dian in the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com by noon on May 16.



Under the Sea youth party May 18

Youth and their friends are invited to celebrate the end of the school year and beginning of summer with an "Under the Sea" party! Dinner, snow cones, yard games, and inflatable attractions will provide fun under the sea. Wednesday, May 18, 5-8 p.m. in Parking Lot C.

inspired ...

2022 Confirmation Class honored

Last Sunday we honored these students who completed the requirements of the 2022 Confirmation Class. Throughout months of weekly study they have learned about faith as expressed in the United Methodist tradition and what is involved in making a commitment to the church. The group also experienced a weekend together at the Confirmation Retreat held at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simon's Island during January. They even wrote a creed modeled after The Apostles' Creed ([view it here in last Sunday's Order of Worship](#)). Their dedication to the process culminated in recognition before the congregation and an invitation to confirm their commitment to the church. We recognize leaders David and Lynn Deason along with helpers Gil and Tammy Cook and Ben Smith who walked with these students throughout the journey.

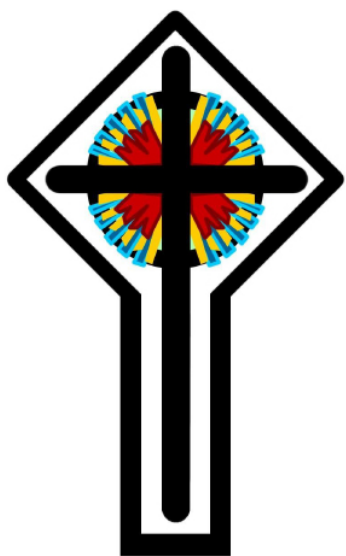


2022 Confirmation Class:

Aida Lynn Thompson, Davis Martin, Reece Blythe, Landon Hoekstra, Jack Travis, David Martin

Top right: Confirmation Retreat at Epworth by the Sea in January

Bottom right: Leaders David and Lynn Deason



May 4, 2022 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$459,994.44
Year to Date expenses	\$414,617.61
Difference	\$45,376.83

Benevolence

Received this week \$291.00

41 families assisted in 2022 for a total of \$13,341.39

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