



July 15, 2022

The Weekender

A Role to Play

Dr. Thomas Martin

Martha is a diligent hostess, honoring her guest in the way that custom dictates. Whether she is preparing food, pouring beverage or straightening the home we don't know, but we do know what it is like to prepare for a guest, especially an honored guest.

In the story of Mary and Martha, Jesus comes to these sisters as a house guest. Martha spends her time busily being a hostess, while her sister sits at the feet of Jesus listening to him speak. When Martha can no longer contain her resentment, she pleads with Jesus saying "Lord, don't you care that I am doing all this work by myself? Make Mary help me." You can almost hear the whine in her voice. "It's not fair."

Jesus' response seems to be said with love and compassion, "I know you are worried and distracted, but Mary has made a good choice." The ping pong-like dialogue in this short passage, which bounces from what Martha did to what Mary did, from she said to what he said, can help us reflect on our own lives, considering their balance, or lack thereof.

But what I would like to highlight is that it takes both Mary and Martha, and everything that comes with their personalities, to be about God's business. Take for example this past week of Vacation Bible School here at Fayetteville First UMC. There were those who embodied Martha's spirit all over the place. Without those generous, caring, and giving souls we wouldn't have Vacation Bible School. But we did have Mary's as well. The children and youth and adults who were able to worship God in times of stories, singing, crafts, and play.

So maybe the story of Mary and Martha is not about balance, but maybe it is about living together and seeing that everyone has a role to play. My prayer for us as a church as we move forward, is that we would celebrate with the work of Martha and rejoice in the praise of Mary, giving thanks to God for all that God has given to us.



Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

July 17, 2022

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

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

Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

Distractions

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

VBS students and volunteers: Wear your VBS shirts on Sunday for the special VBS Celebration at the 11 a.m. service.

CURRENT NEWS



This Sunday: American Red Cross Blood Drive at FFUMC

You can help relieve the severe blood shortage by donating at the next American Red Cross Blood drive at FFUMC on July 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 and enter sponsor code FFUMC. For assistance in registering, email ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com.

[Share this information sheet from the Red Cross with friends. Be sure to review the tips for a successful donation on the sheet!](#)



Let's Fight Hunger on August 21

You're invited to help fight hunger by preparing highly nutritious, dehydrated meals for use in crisis areas or school feeding programs around the world at the Rise Against Hunger Packing Event on August 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Fayetteville First UMC gym.

What can you do?

[Sign up online for the packing event with Rise Against Hunger.](#)

Donate funds to pay for meals. Our **packing event will** prepare 30,000 meals (Cost of \$11,409.12 has been paid to RAH. We want to replenish our mission accounts here at FFUMC). Mark check or [online donations given to FFUMC](#) for the event as "Rise Against Hunger."

Fill a table with friends and family! Invite others to join you in this effort for two-hours of packing fun!

Want to be part of a pre-event lunch? We will enjoy a prebagged light lunch. Contact the church office, admin@fayettevillefirst.com or 770-461-4313, to reserve lunches for you, your packing group, and your family by August 15. We'll move from the Fellowship Hall lunch at noon to the packing event at 1 p.m. Questions? Contact Suzie Lusk, suzielusk49@gmail.com or text 678-333-5386. A nursery will be available with reservation by August 15: contact the church office.

All ages (from 4 years up) can help! Label bags, fill meal packets, seal, box — There is a job for you!



Church campus partially closed Monday and Tuesday

It's time for the floors to be stripped and waxed in the Family Life Center and a few other spaces. Please **DO NOT ENTER** the Family Life Center or any other marked areas on Monday or Tuesday, July 18 and July 19. Walking on the floors at all during this process is not an option.

Notes:

Late on Monday afternoon and on Tuesday morning, the **gym/kitchen area only** will be available for Sunshine VBS and Summer Lunch. **Please enter ONLY through marked doors along the breezeway if you are participating.**





Let's Do Lunch - Saturday, August 13

It's time to make your reservation for "Let's Do Lunch," a special event for women on Saturday, August 13. Remember to bring some friends, neighbors and family with you. Don't wait! You have until July 29 to reserve a seat for you and your guests. Participants will enjoy a Chicken Caesar Salad for lunch, as well as the chance to browse all the uniquely decorated tables in our newly renovated Fellowship Hall.

We are delighted to have Debbie Walker as our special guest. You will be blessed to hear her inspirational story. She will also delight us with her beautiful voice, accompanied by Penny Brown.

This event is FREE, but reservations are required. Choose one of these 3 easy ways to make your reservation. You may make reservations for you and your friends at the same time.

1. **Online:** [Click this reservation link](#), fill in the form and press "Submit."
2. **Email:** Send an email to Nancy Dennis at sewpar21@gmail.com with your name, email address, phone number, and the names of anyone coming with you.
3. **Phone:** Call the church office at 770-461-4313.

If you made a reservation but can no longer attend, please be sure to contact Nancy Dennis to cancel.



Fearless Dialogues - Diving Deeper A Conversation on Racial Justice and Healing District-wide meeting with Rev. Brian Tillman at FFUMC

In a third session, Rev. Brian Tillman, Conference Director of Inclusion and Advocacy, will lead participants in considering concrete steps as we lead our congregations and communities toward racial healing and reconciliation. You do not have to have participated in the first two sessions to take part in this event. Register by calling or emailing the SouthWest District Office (770-227-1074 or southwest@ngumc.net) by August 3. This event will be hosted by Fayetteville First UMC on Saturday, August 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Hospitality Team

One of the things we do well here is welcome. We may not always get it right and it may not always be perfect, but we try to show hospitality to our members and visitors. With that comes the need for volunteers to assist when we have events for our church and for our community. A Hospitality Team is being formed with people who like to host and help. If you would like to be on the team, please email Thomas at tmartin@fayettevillefirst.com and let him know you are interested or if you have any questions. A meeting will be held at the end of the summer to get those together who are interested in helping serve and host.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2).



Got vases? We need them!

The Flower Ministry Team has been busy spreading love and encouragement to our church family and community. Can you share some vases to help them in their work?

Small and medium-size vases needed (No bud vases, please)

Any wired ribbon

Drop off donations on Flower Ministry cart in gym kitchen

Thanks for your help. Want to participate more? You can help arrange or deliver flowers as part of the team. Contact Marilyn Harris, 770-313-4646 or elegmimi52@gmail.com, for details.



Fayette Samaritans list for July

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 or dropped by the church office.

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

Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Laundry Detergent, Cookies, Pop Tarts, Ketchup, Mustard, Shampoo

Clothes Closet Needs: Women's underwear size extra large and all sizes of men's boxer shorts



SAGE trip to Atlanta is next Thursday, July 21

Take a trip to Atlanta for lunch and an outing with friends on Thursday, July 21. Senior Adults Going Everywhere will leave the church office at 9:30 a.m. A limited number of reservations are available on a first-come basis. Cost is \$14 for a tour of the Atlanta History Center, and lunch at The Swan House ranges from \$12 to \$30 dollars depending on what you order. Contact the church office to be placed on the list.



Welcome New Members

We look forward to getting to know these new members who joined our congregation on Sunday, July 10:

Jim and Jamie Woodruff

Nathan and Kimberly Parr and son Connor



Back to School Blessing: July 31

We are grateful for all the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, faculty members, facility, cafeteria, and after school staff members who work hard to make sure the children in our community have a safe, clean and excellent place to learn. If you are associated with the schools (public, private, or post-secondary level) in anyway – student through employee – join us in worship **July 31 at 11 a.m. for our Back to School Blessing**. Bring an item for us to pray over, lay it down at the prayer rail and receive a prayer of blessing as you begin the new year. Also, before you leave that day we have a special gift for you to remind you that you are loved.



Kickball Cookout: Eat. Play. Spectate. August 7

Our entire church family is invited to participate in our Kickball Cookout on Sunday, August 7 at 4:30 p.m. We will have hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, yummy desserts and a friendly, fun-filled Kickball Game on The Field. Come to eat. Come to play. Come to spectate. We have something for everyone! Come be family together as we kickoff a new season of fellowship.

Promotion
Sunday
August 7



Movin' On Up! Promotion Sunday, August 7

Sunday, August 7 is promotion Sunday and the day that we celebrate our rising 2nd graders by giving them a Bible of their very own. [Please let us know if you have a second grader in your household by filling out this simple form](#). Then, be sure to join us in worship August 7 at 11 a.m. so we, as members of Fayetteville FUMC, can honor your student as they continue along their own personal journey of faith.



Thank you

To Shawl Ministry:

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers expressed in the beautiful prayer shawl made and sent to me in Jimmy's memory.

— Janet Tucker

inspired ...

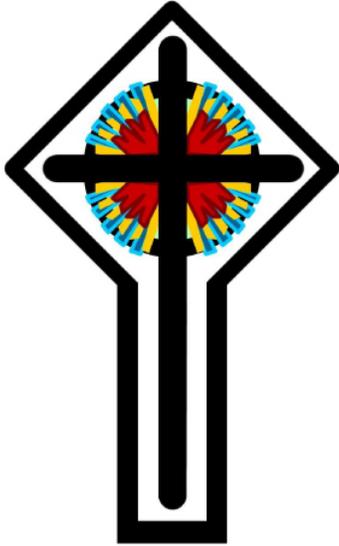
Discovery on Adventure Island shines bright

2022 Vacation Bible School at FFUMC provided a week of discovery, adventure and fun for 80 campers. Each day they explored a new Bible story to see how the light of Christ illumines our path to shine bright with love, trust, faith, joy, and hope. Thanks to all the faithful volunteers and supporters who made this week possible for them. Smiles on faces say "thanks" from all the campers!





After opening assembly, VBSers rotated to storytelling, recreation, music, snack and more for discovery and adventure. They collected donations for Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary, a local animal rescue and rehabilitation center. Thanks to the dedicated group of youth and adult volunteers who led learning stations and guided the students through their week and for all the yummy snacks our United Women in Faith provided. These students are ready to shine bright in our community!



July 14, 2022 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$670,923.18
Year to Date expenses	\$668,714.41
Difference	\$2,208.77

Benevolence

Received this week \$200.00

63 families assisted in 2022 for a total of \$21,568.62

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