



August 26, 2022

The Weekender

Greetings in the name of Christ,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for everything you do for our church. We are making a difference in people's lives and in our community. None of that would be possible without the love of Christ given to us and shared by us.

If you have been at church the last few weeks, you will have seen increased activity through family events, luncheons, youth trips, and opportunities for fellowship. And we are just getting started. Wednesday night dinners are returning on September 7. We will feature menus from various restaurants in the area and be meeting in the recently renovated Fellowship Hall. It will be a wonderful time to gather with our church family. It's not just dinners that are returning. We are offering something for our families and studies for all ages. Activities kick off with special events for children and youth. The nursery will be available for our little ones. Two classes for adults will begin: Parenting with Mental Health in Mind and Christian Believer, a 30-week Bible study. On September 14, Kindergarten through 2nd graders will have choir; 3rd through 5th grade will have Club night. Youth will have 8th period after school and then games and worship. We hope that you will find a place to connect with the church family.



I also would be remiss if I did not thank Kathe Anderson and the Trustees for their work through the process of renovating the Fellowship Hall. We have already hosted the lunch for Rise Against Hunger and the Women's luncheon in there and God's presence was felt in the warmth of the space and the joy around the tables.

We continue to contribute to the needs of our community through Fayette Samaritans and our Benevolence team. We have completed Rise Against Hunger packing 30,000+ meals. Our summer lunch program served and fed children and families in our community. We offered a meal for those on the margins at SafeHouse Outreach. We donated and packed shoeboxes in preparation for Christmas. Our youth went on mission trips to Appalachia and the Gulf Coast. We celebrated Vacation Bible School and Create Camp for our kids. We had a family fall kick off with kick ball and a picnic. And we are planning on ways to continue to open our doors to our community into the fall, winter, and spring of 2023.

We have also celebrated Dian Nelson's retirement and welcomed Karen Powell to the staff of Fayetteville First UMC.

And these are just the highlights of the last three months. As we said earlier in the year, "It's good to have fun together." I hope that you experience that joy of Christ whenever you come into the doors of this magnificent congregation. I hope you take that joy with you into your homes, your lives, and into the world. I am grateful to be serving Christ with you.

Grace and Peace,
Thomas Martin



Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 28, 2022

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

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

Jeremiah 2:4-13 and Luke 14:1, 7-14

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

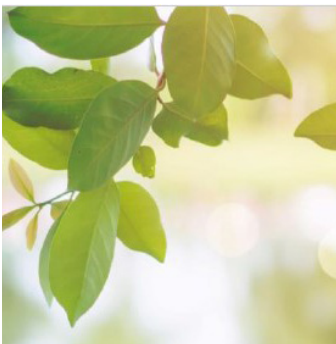
CURRENT NEWS



Titus II Returns on September 6, Noon

It's time to gather again for Titus II. Come enjoy a meal together (\$8.00) in the gym and a musical program by Danny Beck and Bill Webb. Menu: Baked Chicken, Butter Beans, Fried Okra, Rolls, Apple Cobbler. Reservations should be made by calling Martha Turner (770-461-2802) by noon on Thursday, September 1. We look to meeting together once again!

"A Walk in the Garden" Salad Luncheon is September 15



All Ladies! We have another wonderful opportunity to join together for food, fellowship and ministry. Join us for *A Walk in the Garden* and Salad Luncheon presented by the United Women in Faith (UMW) on Thursday, September 15, at 11:30 a.m. in our beautifully renovated Fellowship Hall. Breathing new life into the stories of Biblical women, Carla Cloud, A Gentle Witness, will bring to life what it was like to walk in Eve's shoes and the freedom we can receive from God. Carla is coming back by popular demand after so beautifully portraying what life was like for Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Please bring a salad to share; desserts will be provided. We will collect a love offering to honor Carla. Reservations are due by Monday, September 12. UMW members should make reservations through their circles. All others can contact Susan Burch, 678-523-7329 or showburch@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!!



Bulloch House, anyone?

Senior Adults Going Everywhere will take a trip to the Bulloch House in Warm Springs on Thursday, September 15. What does the \$23 cost include? Everything you need for a great day out with friends: transportation, a meal, dessert, and gratuity.

When: Thursday, September 15

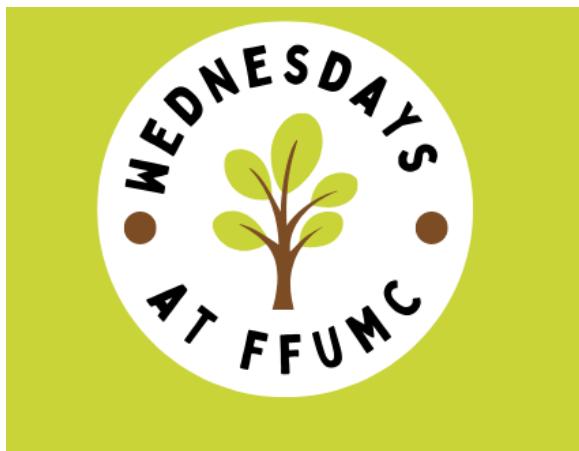
Departure from church office: 10:14 AM!

Reserve and pay church office: 770-461-4313



Youth Mission Trip Thank You Lunch September 11, 12:30-2 p.m. in The Foundry

Did you support the youth summer mission trips financially and/or prayerfully? We want to thank you for your kind contributions and support! Join mission trip participants in conversation and ask us your questions as we share more about our stories and experiences while having lunch together. [RSVP is not required, but appreciated \(click here\).](#)



Wednesdays Kick Off September 7 Fellowship, Food, Growth Groups for All

Fellowship dinners return September 7

*Our nights together begin with dinner in the Fellowship Hall
5:30 to 6 PM*

Meals will be offered from a local restaurant each week
September 7 Meal: Speedi-Pig Piglet Sandwich, Baked Beans,
Mac-n-Cheese, Peach Cobbler

[Sign up here for permanent or weekly meal reservations.](#)

Following dinner, take part in growth opportunities all ages.

Children kick off with Video Game Truck Adventure

Wednesday, September 7, 6 to 8 PM (extended time)

Kindergarten — 5th grades

Kick off our fall ministries with a Video Game Truck adventure. The game truck hosts 4 TVs inside with music and 3 TVs outside as well as air conditioning. [Sign up here for Kickoff Event](#)



Youth kick off on The Field

Wednesday, September 7, 6 to 8 PM

6th — 12th grades

Wednesdays kickoff on The Field with games, color wars, music, and message and more!

Wear a white shirt and bring a friend to win prizes.



Adult growth groups begin

Wednesday, September 7, 6 PM

Parenting With Mental Health In Mind: 6 to 7 PM

Your kid or teenager's mental health matters and they're counting on you to take it seriously and handle it with intention. If you're looking to navigate your kid's mental health, this group is a great place to be. Whether you are a parent, youth leader, teacher, or caring adult, not knowing how to help those dealing with difficulties can leave you feeling intimidated, powerless, and discouraged. There is hope and the best place to start is with others who are on the same journey. Resources for this curriculum come from theparentcue.org. Each Wednesday night we will discuss key ideas from the book, *Seen*, watch a short helpful video with a companion workbook that will guide us through the conversations.

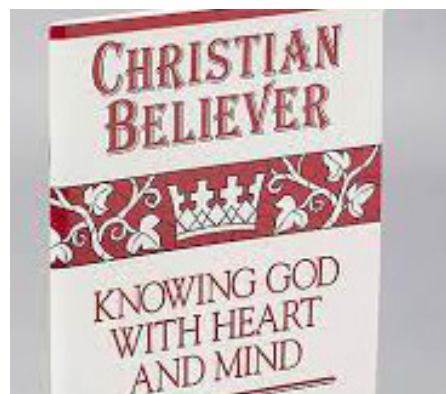
[Sign up for Parenting with Mental Health in Mind here](#)



Christian Believer: 6 to 8 PM

Christian Believer is part of the Disciple Bible Studies and focuses on classical teachings of the Christian faith—presenting, explaining, and interpreting them in a way that we can understand, using words, symbols, and hymns. This class lasts 30 weeks with breaks for holidays. It is for adults of all ages and will be led by Jeff Hansen. The cost for the class reading material is \$50.

[Sign up for Christian Believer here](#)



Wednesdays at FFUMC beginning September 14

Children's Programs:

[Sign up for all children's programs here](#)

Club Night — Video Game Club and Art Club

Wednesday nights, 6 – 7 PM

Upper elementary students in 3rd — 5th grades will learn and interact with a Bible story and then break out into a club of their choice. We have Video Game Club with Mario Kart and Smash Brothers hosted by Alpha, VG Champ, and an Art Club with opportunities to explore freestyle art projects.



Kids Crescendo

Wednesday nights, 6 – 7 PM

This new kid's group is for children in Kindergarten – 2nd grade. We'll play games with a musical twist, learn songs of faith to keep in our musical suitcase for a lifetime and develop basic principles of rhythm and music. This group sings in several worship services throughout the church year and other special events.



Young Kids Nursery and Playtime

Wednesday nights beginning at 6 PM

Our youngest students birth through PreK are invited to the nursery for supervised play and care.



Youth Foundry Fellowship

Wednesday nights, 6 – 8 PM

6th - 12th grade students will gather each Wednesday for games, worship and topic conversations as they reflect on God's action in the world and the part they play in it.

Contact: Hannah Vickery, Youth Director, hvickery@fayettevillefirst.com

Parenting and Christian Believer Classes Continue

Wednesday nights beginning at 6 PM

See descriptions under kick off section.

Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today begins September 14

Wednesday mornings, 11 AM – Noon, September 14 – November 16 (10 weeks)

Adam Hamilton asks: What if the Ten Commandments were not just a set of ancient rules but also a guide to experiencing the good life today? With Rev. Allyson Lawrence explore how these familiar words help us create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully, protect us and guide us each into a deeper relationship with a loving God.

[Sign up for Words of Life study here](#)

**Nothing is better
than Wednesdays together!**





Fayette Samaritans list

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. **Please donate only new, unopened items.**

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

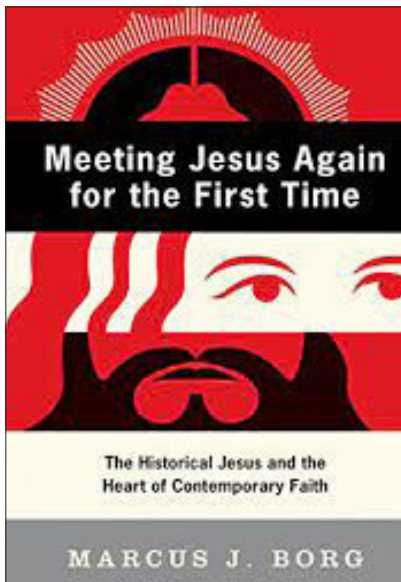
Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, Salmon, Beef Stew, Sloppy Joe), Pasta Sauce, Jellies and Jams, Peanut Butter, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Juice, Canned Fruits, Dried Beans, Boxed Potatoes, Rice, Canned Vegetables, and Soup

Clothes Closet Needs: Socks for girls and women, any children's clothing, ladies small underwear



Life Line Screening comes to FFUMC September 10

Life Line Screening goes beyond regular checkups to provide a more thorough look at your health. You can receive five screenings for only \$149. Find out more and sign up at 1-800-324-1851 (special discount code is LLSA.SOCIAL/HS).



Study Class (aka Book Club) begins Marcus Borg book September 11

Thoughtful discussions resume September 11 in The Study Class as we explore Marcus Borg's "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time." With others, jump into what the latest Biblical scholarship means for personal faith. "Marcus Borg addresses the yearnings of those who want a fully contemporary faith that welcomes rather than oppresses our critical intelligence and openness to the best of historical scholarship. Borg shows how a rigorous examination of historical findings can lead to a new faith in Christ, one that is critical and, at the same time, sustaining." Get the book from your favorite bookseller and prepare to discuss Chapter 1 on September 11 at 9:45 a.m. in Room C-270. Questions? Contact Tim Aycock at timaycock@gmail.com.



September 6: Deadline for college addresses

UMW's Bethany Circle is sending Back to School care packages to the undergraduate and graduate college students of our church. To ensure your student receives a package, please share your student's mailing address and cell number (if you would like your student to receive a text that a package has been sent) by Tuesday, September 6. The FFUMC church family is invited to participate in this project! Anyone wishing to take part in or support this effort, please contact Karen Neuner at 404-538-4528 or neunernotes@gmail.com.



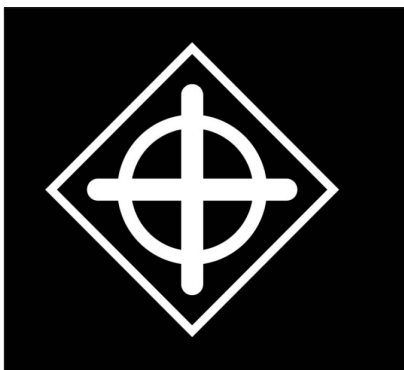
Old-Fashioned Fall Festival Planning Team wanted!

Let's have an old-fashioned fall festival with cake walks, potato sack races, pumpkin painting, bean bag tosses, face paintings, hay stacks, hot dogs and apple cider! The date will be Sunday, October 30 — but we need a whole team to help us plan and create this fun, family friendly, church-wide event. If you want to be on the team, contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com and let her know. It's a big project and will take lots of loving and supportive workers and creative minds to make it happen. So if you're feeling a sense of nostalgia for the old fall festivals, come and help us make it a reality this year. If we have enough people on the team, we will have our first dreaming meeting August 28. Email Allyson for more details.



Chancel Choir rehearsals resume

You are invited to prepare for Sunday worship and special events Wednesday nights from 7 to 9 PM as the Chancel Choir resumes regular rehearsals on September 7. Contact Justin Maxey, jmaxey@fayettevillefirst.com, for more information.



FFUMC Youth Visioning Informational Meeting August 28

With the help of congregation members, parents, and youth, Hannah Vickery, Youth Director, worked to set forth a new mission, vision, and goals for the youth ministry of Fayetteville First UMC. Come hear about FFUMC Youth's vision for the future, ask questions, and learn about the various ways you can offer your gifts to walk alongside and serve the youth. We offered one session on Wednesday of this week. This final session will be offered Sunday, August 28, from 9:45-10:45 AM in The Foundry.



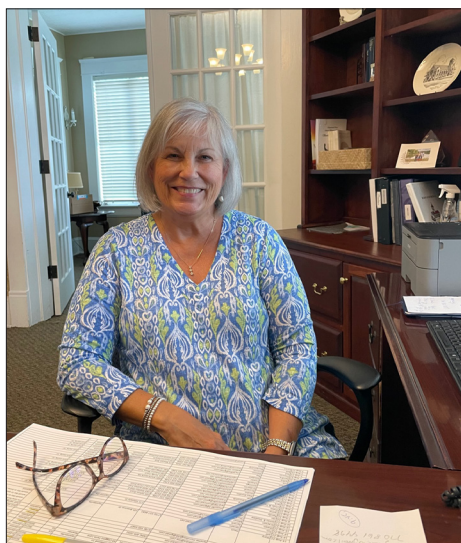
Overnight camping for youth and parents September 24

All youth and their parents are invited on an overnight camping trip to North Georgia. We'll be staying at Cooper Creek Campground (near Suches, GA), with plenty of time for fishing, playing games, hiking as a group to Preacher's Rock, and telling stories around the campfire. It's going to be a great opportunity for building relationships with other youth and parents and spending time out in God's incredible creation as well.

All participants will need to provide their own camping gear (tents, sleeping items, personal coolers, fishing rods, etc.), snacks, and any preferred drinks other than water. FFUMC will provide lunch, dinner, and breakfast at the campsite, along with water and s'mores.

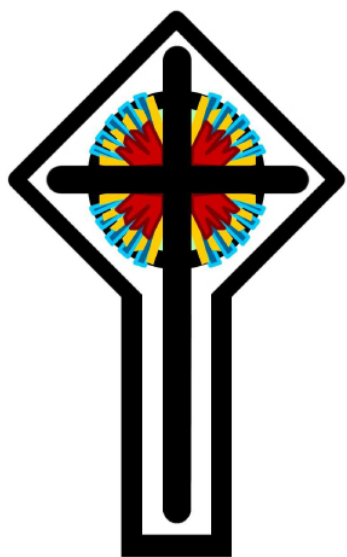
[Sign up deadline is Friday, September 23 or until all spots are filled.](#)

***This trip is for youth who are 6th-12th grade, their siblings or friends who are also 6th-12th grade, and their parents.



Welcome, Karen Powell, Administrative Assistant

We welcome Karen Powell to Fayetteville First. Karen is a long-time resident of Fayette County and a lifelong Georgian. After a career with the Fayette County Board of Education with positions such as paraprofessional, principal's secretary, and administrative assistant for Career and Technical Education, Karen will be the friendly voice and smiling face at the front desk in our church office. Why did she accept a position here? "I have always enjoyed being with people and being of service to the community," she explains. "I wanted to expand my horizons, and now I hope to be of benefit to the congregation here." Karen and her husband, Greg, have two grown sons. She enjoys walking their Goldendoodle, Bo, camping, and reading all types of books. Welcome to FFUMC, Karen. We're glad you're here!



August 24, 2022 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$785,429.94
Year to Date expenses	\$792,595.33
Difference	-\$7,165.39

Benevolence

Received this week \$271.00

69 families assisted in 2022 for a total of \$23,049.31

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 ...

Thank you for volunteering at Rise Against Hunger

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

— Matthew 25:35

The Mission Committee thanks everyone who helped to make this year's Rise Against Hunger such a success! We packed 30,000+ meals amid great fun, fellowship, music, and laughter. The old saying "Many hands make light work" was never more true! It was a true joy to stop and observe everyone, young and old, working together for this cause. Thank you all for making this opportunity possible. — FFUMC Mission Committee

