



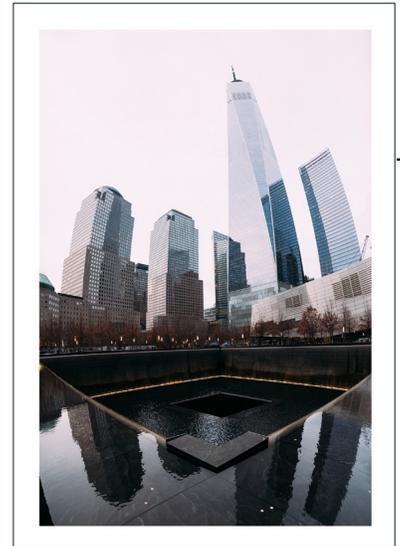
September 9, 2022

## The Weekender

### Meaningful adjacency

Dr. Thomas Martin

Back in May of 2019, I got the opportunity to visit the 9/11 memorial in New York City. While there, I learned a new term--meaningful adjacency. The names at that space are not put on the memorial randomly, or even alphabetically, but next to other people that had connections with that person who also died as a result of the terrorist attacks that day. You have brothers who served as police or firemen in different brigades or divisions placed next to each other. You have friends and relatives and roommates and co-workers represented side-by-side. All were placed there with intention to remind those of us who visit about our interconnectedness.



It is hard these days to have a conversation with anyone about anything without someone thinking it is a political statement or judgment upon a way of thinking. In fact, the more I invite people into meaningful conversation, the more and more I find that we probably disagree. But that's not a bad thing. In fact, it encourages us to find meaning together in shared space--with meaningful adjacency.

In 2019, our son asked what happened on September 11, 2001 to make it a holiday (on the school lunch menu where he chooses whether to buy or take his lunch, it is called Patriot Day and that prompted the question). I fumbled through an answer about evil and fear and the resilience of people. I remembered that as Christians we are not to live in fear but in love. I tried to tell as honestly as I could, for an eight-year old, about the terror and fear I felt that day. In that moment of trying to find words, I remember meaningful adjacency. I was able to speak with certainty about the things in life that matter, the things that keep us together, that unite us, and that hold us even in the midst of terror and fear.

Lives were lost on that day. Families were forever changed. The world view that many of us held was changed in a matter of minutes. Yet we were drawn together. And as our country and our world pieced our stories together, as we struggled to see the light in the midst of darkness, as we emerged from the rubble of tragedy, we found meaningful adjacency in those closest to us in our darkest moments.

My friends, let us be of one mind in Christ Jesus. Let us live lives filled with meaningful adjacency grounded in the love of Jesus Christ. May we live in a way that our adjacency to God and to others, brings us a deeper meaning of this life and of the life to come.



## 14th Sunday After Pentecost

September 11, 2022

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

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

Isaiah 11:6-9; Luke 15:1-10

*Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin*

## CURRENT NEWS

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### Handbells, anyone? Let's meet up Wednesday, September 14

Are you ready for the joyful sound of handbells in worship again? We are looking to **resume handbells** this fall. Do you play? Can you share the news with others who may be ready for this opportunity?

We will have an organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 14, at 6 PM in Room C-345. Just show up then or you may contact Judy Hames, [jhames@bellsouth.net](mailto:jhames@bellsouth.net), 770-710-6077, with any questions.



### Fellowship Dinner: Wednesday, September 14

What's for dinner? [Find the weekly menu at FayettevilleFirst.com](http://FayettevilleFirst.com). Meals will be offered from a local restaurant each week. September 14 Meal: Georgia Potato Factory: Broccoli Chicken and Cheese Potato, Dessert

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

*Following dinner, take part in growth opportunities all ages.*

### "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](mailto:showburch@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!!

## FFUMC KiDS NEWS

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### **We've got your Wednesdays covered**

[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.

### **Parenting Class Kicked off**

#### **Wednesday nights, 6 - 7 PM**

Parents are invited to their own class while FFUMC KiDS takes care of the kids! Parenting with Mental Health in Mind continues each Wednesday through November. All are welcome any time you can come.

## FFUMC Youth NEWS

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### **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.



### **Youth Mission Trip Thank You Lunch**

#### **September 11, 12:30-2 PM 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 \(click here\).](#)



## 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.

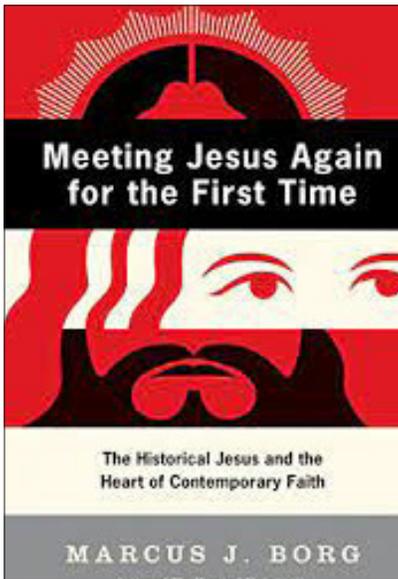
All participants will need to provide their own camping gear (tents, sleeping items, personal coolers, fishing rods, etc.), snacks, and any preferred drinks other than water. FFUMC will provide lunch, dinner, and breakfast at the campsite, along with water and s'mores.

**[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.

## More NEWS

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## 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](mailto:timaycock@gmail.com).



## Kickoff for Seasoned Singers: September 13

Come kickoff a new season of music with the Seasoned Singers on Tuesday, September 13, at 1:30 PM in the choir room. Plan to stay after for a party in the Fellowship Hall honoring summer birthday folks and other special acknowledgements. Anyone who enjoys singing is invited to join our group which meets most Tuesdays at 1:30 PM. We especially invite former members of the group to attend this special party. Questions? Contact Deb Cole, 770-826-7451.



### Missing these ...

A few items are missing from the gym kitchen. Have you seen them? If you borrowed these and forgot to return them, please return them as soon as possible:

Step Stool

10 large white kitchen towels

No pets are missing, but it did get you to look, didn't it. What a sweet pup!



### Serve meal at SafeHouse Outreach

Want to help serve a meal at SafeHouse? Thursday, September 29, is our next service to the homeless in downtown Atlanta. Contact Randy Riddell, [randyhr8@gmail.com](mailto:randyhr8@gmail.com), for details if you'd like to help prepare food or serve.

**SafeHouse Outreach**  
*Providing a hand-up not just a hand-out*



### Celebrate 50 years of North Georgia UWF

October 1 marks the 50th annual meeting of the North Georgia United Women in Faith. Join others at Griffin First UMC for the 2022 Annual Meeting and Worship Celebration. Highlights include Word Made Flesh (scripture in word and dance), a message from Dr. Millie Kim, special music from Una Voz (One Voice) and a female choir from Norcross First. Cost: \$20 Lunch and meeting; \$10 Meeting only. [Register by September 17 at https://na.eventscloud.com/709007.](https://na.eventscloud.com/709007)



### 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):***

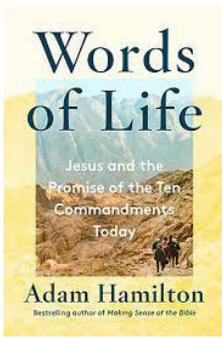
*Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, Salmon, Beef Stew, Sloppy Joe), Pasta Sauce, Jellies and Jams, Peanut Butter, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Juice, Canned Fruits, Dried Beans, Boxed Potatoes, Rice, Canned Vegetables, and Soup*

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



### Brown Bag with Thomas September 14

Join Pastor Thomas at a Brown Bag lunch on Wednesday, September 14, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your lunch and bring your questions to hear about the way we are sharing Christ here at Fayetteville First UMC.



## 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](#)



### Bulloch House SAGE Trip

Senior Adults Going Everywhere will take a trip to the Bulloch House in Warm Springs on Thursday, **September 22 (note date change)**. 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 22

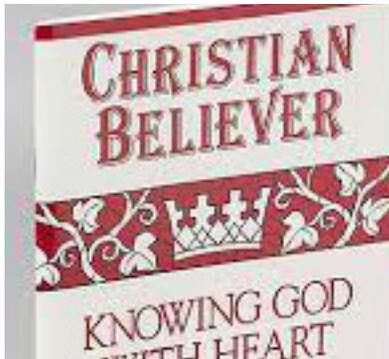
**Departure from church office:** 10:14 AM!

**Reserve and pay church office:** 770-461-4313



### 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).



### 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](#)

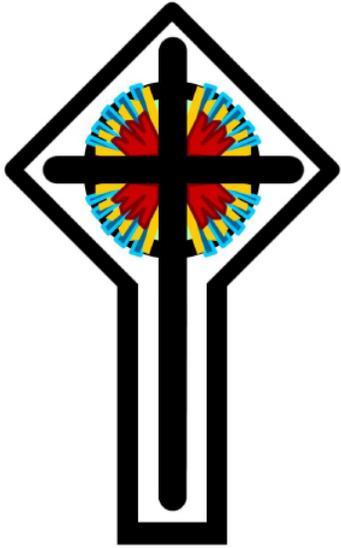


### Thank you

#### To the Faithful Flower Ministry Team:

*You really know how to make us feel special. The beautiful flowers delivered to our home have brightened our days. Knowing the flowers were a part of worship prior to being shared with us gives us a sense of connection to Sunday morning worship. May you know what a big impact your ministry has on its recipients.*

*— With grateful hearts, Allen, Julie, Don, Harry & Sarah Nell Harp*



# August 31, 2022 Financials (updated financials will be included next week)

## Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$814,628.58
Year to Date expenses	\$820,643.14
Difference	-\$6,014.56

## Benevolence

Received this week \$620.00  
70 families assisted in 2022 for a total of \$23,349.31

## 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](http://FayettevilleFirst.com)

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM;

Wednesdays through Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM



# inspired ...

## Fall is off to a good start

This week marked a new season at FFUMC with a return to activities we have been missing, It's good to be together again!

Our seniors began Titus II with their annual "special request" bluegrass music program presented by Danny Beck, Bill Webb, Royce Anderson, and Thomas Martin. Jean Aument (bottom right) was one of the table decor winners.

Wednesday nights kicked off with a return to Fellowship Dinners in the renovated fellowship hall. Be sure to make your reservation to join in next week. FFUMC KiDS enjoyed a video game truck and outdoor adventure. Our "colorful" youth group got messy in The Field. All the while, adults began Wednesday evening studies. FFUMC is ready for discipleship, ministry, and fellowship.

