



Connections

to fayetteville first united methodist church

Vol. IX #5
May 2017

Family

Dr. David Campbell

If you happened to be here on April 2, you might have thought it was a normal day in the life of our church. It was the fifth Sunday of Lent, and we were focusing on the theme, "Remember who you are." We celebrated Holy Communion, as we normally do on the first Sunday of the month. But if you happened to be here, you know it was not a normal day.

Sandra Watson, the chair of our Staff-Parish Relations Committee made two announcements. She announced that Carolyn Clifton would be moving to Gainesville First United Methodist Church and that I would be moving to Due West United Methodist Church. Many of you were shocked. (To be perfectly honest, our family is still in shock!) Sandra also announced that day that John Barnes would be appointed as senior pastor. We now know that Michael Phillips will be appointed as part-time associate pastor. You will hear much more about John and Michael in the days to come. Because of all of the news, you might have forgotten that we celebrated the Lord's Supper that day. But we did.

If you were in worship at 8:30 that day, after hearing the news, you might have noticed that our daughter Ally helped me serve. If you were in worship at 9:45, you might have noticed that my wife, Susan, helped me serve. And if you were in worship at 11 that morning, you might have noticed that our son, Jay, helped me serve.

As you have guessed by now, that was not an accident. It was an emotional day for all of us. We have loved our time at FFUMC and had no thought of moving. This came as a complete shock. It was one of those days, more than others, when I wanted my family close by. My guess is you have had those times as well. You've had those times when life threw you a curve and you wanted your family near.

In the last month this has become familiar territory. I have known I needed my family close for support. By "family" I mean of course my wife and children. But I am blessed with a bigger family than that. I am blessed to have a family in our church staff. I am blessed to have a family in our Staff-Parish Relations Committee. And I am blessed to have a family in our congregation. I am grateful to each and every one of you for being a part of my church family. I hope and pray that all of you receive the love and support from this church that I experience.

Paul said to the Galatian churches, "Bear one another's burdens. In this way you fulfill the law of Christ." Thank you for being there. Thank you for your love and support. Thank you for being a part of our family!

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If it's Sunday, you want to be at FFUMC,

David

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

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About Our Church Family

In Memoriam:

Miriam Tingle
April 8, 2017

In Sympathy:

Jim and Gerry Haymans upon the death of Gerry's brother, Gwyn King, on March 29.
Marcia Glass upon the death of her mother, Martha Liaf, on April 15.
Phil and Bonnie Smelley upon the death of Phil's mother, Betty Smelley, on April 15.
Jack and Mitzi Gary and family upon the death of Mitzi's father, Mike Matthews, on April 20.

Keep Them In Your Prayers:

Rhett Blythe	Anne Free	Joe Hyder	Mary Pierson
James Brown	Margaret Grainger	Jim Mason	Brad Wilkinson
Tom Clark	Orrie Grainger	Everett Morrow	Duncan Williamson
Mildred Finnell	Martha Hale	Lurlene Perry	Stephen Wyckoff

New Members:

On April 23, ten students confirmed their baptismal vows, two were baptized, and all professed their faith in Jesus Christ and joined into membership with this faithful congregation. Please welcome these confirmands: Emily Agi, Mei Mei Baileys, Jack Brady, Elly Clark, Kylie Gregg, Sarah Nell Harp, Angelina Light, Adams Walls, Jim Lawson Walls, Lauralee Walls, Luke Walls, Eva Watson.

Thank you to our wonderful leaders, Lynn and David Deason and Julie Herendeen, who have worked with these students for the past eight months! An additional thank you to the many members of the Sunday school classes who have supported, encouraged and prayed for our confirmands through these months as well.



Church Membership: 2057

Giving (as of April 25):

Month-to-Date: \$104,511.65

Year-to-Date: \$468,663.98

2017 Budget: \$1,616,146

Shortfall: \$49,386.44



Preschool Registration for 2017-2018 remains open for ages 6 months to 4 years old. Please contact Drew Greenberg at dgreenberg@fayettevillefirst.com.



Preschoolers enjoy Resurrection Eggs at Easter.

Senior Adult Ministries

Titus II “Set an example by doing what is good”—Titus 2:7



Titus II wraps up the spring semester on May 2 as storyteller, actress and retired educator Carol Cain dons her coveralls, work boots, and head scarf and shares with us the story of Rosie the Riveter and women workers on the home front during World War II. Carol will also display her collection of Rosie memorabilia. Please join us for this fun program along with good food and good fellowship. The menu is creamed chicken and rice pilaf, vegetable, bread and dessert for just \$6! If you made a lunch reservation but are unable to attend, please kindly remember to pay for your meal. Titus II will resume on September 5.

S.A.G.E. (Senior Adults Going Everywhere) Historic Macon

It's time for another tour with Jim Howe! This time Jim will show us the city of Macon including tours of the Hay House and the Sidney Lanier Cottage. Both date from the mid-1800s with one representing the Italian Renaissance style and the other Gothic Revival. Come learn about these houses and the families who called them home. Lunch will be traditional southern food at Jeneane's at Pinebrook.



Date: Thursday, May 11, 2017
Cost: \$22, plus lunch
Time: 9:30 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Ongoing Programs:

— Walking Group meets at 1 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday in the Family Life Center. Enjoy walking and talking together in a secure, weather-free environment.

— Seasoned Singers rehearse at 1:30 p.m. each Tuesday in the choir room. This group of singers who enjoy lots of fellowship will provide the May program for the senior adult ministry at Lisbon Baptist Church. For more information, contact Deb Cole at 770-460-1554.

Celebrate the Discipline of Simplicity: “’Tis the gift to be simple, ’Tis the gift to be free”

Join our exploration of study and simplicity as spiritual disciplines. Based on Richard Foster's book, Celebration of Discipline, we have been working through several spiritual disciplines this year. Our next meeting is May 10 at 6:15 p.m. in Room C-250. If you want to join us as we move from study into simplicity, contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com.

Evening Ladies' Bible Study Begins May 4

Come to the home of Carol Kalafut for a ladies' Bible study at 7 p.m. on Thursdays May 4, June 1 and July 13. Get more details at onrealm.org or call Carol at 678-386-2794 or contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com.

Food & Worship: A Modern Worship Gathering

Join Rev. Allyson Lawrence, Carson Thaxton and others for food, fellowship and worship in a modern setting. Mark your calendars for upcoming gatherings on Sundays May 21, June 11 and July 23 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Youth News: An Update from Rev. Allyson Lawrence

You likely already know by now that Tommy Erbe and Chris Mucha have both accepted positions in other places and have finished their last days with us here at Fayetteville First UMC. Chris and Tommy have done an excellent job setting us up for a great ending to our 2016-2017 school year. Many of the adult volunteers, lovingly known as shepherds, who have been working with the youth will continue — and what a wonderful group of people they all are.

Here are the details through the end of May: May 3, 10, and 17 will see a normal youth schedule beginning with 8th Period. Jamie and Carolyn McKinley, Turner Rosser, and Molly Montgomery will oversee our 8th Period ministry. A longtime friend and mentor of Chris', Jason Sansbury, will be here to teach during 1199 and all our small groups will continue to meet at their regular times and locations.

May 21 is Graduation Recognition Sunday. We will celebrate our graduates in the 11 a.m. service as they wear their caps and gowns. Following the service, the whole congregation is invited to join us for a church-wide luncheon in honor of the seniors in the gym. Come enjoy good food, fellowship, and the senior video. The week of May 22 is finals week and we will not have youth activities on May 24. Best wishes to all on your finals!

As always -- Summer Is Better Together! What is one of our favorite things to do together? Impact, of course! Impact is June 7-9. This is a community-wide student event held in Griffin where we build houses for others. We need adult skilled labor to help mentor students. We also need adult volunteers to help coordinate small youth teams (no skill required). We ask each of our participating students to offer a \$25 donation to the event and bring safety glasses, work gloves, and a decent hammer (if you have one -- and make sure it is labeled). Everything else is provided. Carson Thaxton is leading this event for our youth with Lindsay Blythe and Amanda Lane who will be assisting in making sure this is one of the best Impacts ever. Watch for more summer activities.

June 19- 23 is Vacation Bible School so be sure to mark your calendars and plan to be part of this great ministry week that reaches across the generations and out into our community. To sign up contact Allie Hansen or Carson Thaxton.

In the meantime, you should know that a youth minister search committee has been formed by our Staff-Parish Relations committee. They have already begun the work to look for and hire the right candidate for our youth and for our church. Often times this can be a slow process and we do expect it to take a few months. In the interim period we are blessed to have two great people step up to join with Pastor Allyson and with Carson to plan and coordinate additional outings and ministry opportunities. Lindsay Blythe and Amanda Lane, who serve as faithful small group leaders, have volunteered to help guide our youth ministries throughout the summer.

So be in prayer for all of those involved in our youth ministry – our search committee, our shepherds, youth and their families, and our summer leaders.



Coach Bobby Arrington (center)
with FFUMC Basketball Team. Way to go!

May @ Fayetteville First UMC

Normal Sunday Schedule

Choir Practice: 8 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship in Chapel: 9:45 a.m.
Choir Practice: 10:30 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary: 11 a.m.
Wonders of Worship: 11 a.m.

Normal Wednesday Night Schedule

8th Period: 4 p.m.
Wed. Night Dinner: 5:15 p.m.
I/99 Mid. & HS: 6 p.m.
Children's Program: 6 p.m.
Solomon's Porch: 7 p.m.
Chancel Choir: 7:30 p.m.

May 1 - Monday

GriefShare: 10 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 2 - Tuesday

Titus II: Noon
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
UMM: 6:15 p.m.
DivorceCare: 6:30 p.m.
Ethel Taylor Circle: 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

May 3 - Wednesday

(See Normal Wednesday Schedule)
Acts Study: 10:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 4 - Thursday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Yoga: 5:45 p.m.
Marie Lamb Circle: 6:30 p.m.

May 5 - Friday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 6 - Saturday

Narcotics Anon.: 7 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 7 - Sunday

(See Normal Sunday Schedule)
AA: 3 p.m.
Financial Peace: 4:30 p.m.

May 8 - Monday

Friendship Circle: 9 a.m.
GriefShare: 10 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 9 - Tuesday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
Joy Circle: 6 p.m.
DivorceCare: 6:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

May 10 - Wednesday

(See Normal Wednesday Schedule)
Acts Study: 10:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
Celebration of Discipline: 6:15 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 11 - Thursday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Yoga: 5:45 p.m.
Square Foot Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

May 12 - Friday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 13 - Saturday

Narcotics Anon.: 7 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 14 - Sunday

(See Normal Sunday Schedule)
AA: 3 p.m.
Financial Peace: 4:30 p.m.

May 15 - Monday

Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
UMW Book Club: 1 p.m.
Trustees: 6:15 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 16 - Tuesday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
DivorceCare: 6:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

May 17 - Wednesday

(See Normal Wednesday Schedule)
Acts Study: 10:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 18 - Thursday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Yoga: 5:45 p.m.
UMW Board Meeting: 7 p.m.

May 19 - Friday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 20 - Saturday

Narcotics Anon.: 7 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 21 - Sunday

(See Normal Sunday Schedule)
AA: 3 p.m.
Food & Worship: 5 p.m.

May 22 - Monday

Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 23 - Tuesday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
Finance Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
Church Council and Charge
Conference: 7:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

May 24 - Wednesday

(See Normal Wednesday Schedule)
No Youth Activities
Acts Study: 10:30 a.m.
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 25 - Thursday

Mary Martha Hope Circle: 10 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Yoga: 5:45 p.m.

May 26 - Friday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 7 p.m.

May 27 - Saturday

Narcotics Anon.: 7 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 28 - Sunday

(See Normal Sunday Schedule)
AA: 3 p.m.

May 29 - Monday

Memorial Day: Office Closed
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Walking Group: 1 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

May 30 - Tuesday

Walking Group: 1 p.m.
Seasoned Singers: 1:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anon.: 7:30 p.m.

May 31 - Wednesday

No Wednesday Night Programs
Move 4 Life: 10:30 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer: 12:30 p.m.
AA: 8 p.m.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Suppers

Sign up each week or place your name on the permanent reservation list and enjoy dinner with friends and family on Wednesdays starting at 5 p.m. Simply go online, call the church office or return a pew card.

Cost: Adults \$6, Children 10 and under \$3, Family Max: \$20.

May 3: Truett's Pizza, Salad or Chicken Tenders or Grilled Chicken Salad, Bread, Dessert

May 10: Fried Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Vegetable or Chicken Tenders or Grilled Chicken Salad, Bread, Dessert

May 17: Chili Dogs, French Fries, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw or Chicken Tenders or Grilled Chicken Salad, Dessert

May 24: Mexican or Chicken Tenders or Grilled Chicken Salad — Last Supper in Family Life Center until September

Join us for Wednesday Night Summer Suppers at Truett's Luau on June 7, July 5 and August 2 at 6 p.m.



Children & Family Ministry

May 7: VBS Volunteer Rollout — Following the 11 a.m. service we will gather to hear about this year's VBS Hero Central and all the ways you can serve. This brief time will focus on how to get plugged in to make this a wonderful VBS experience for the kids of our church and our community. Hope to see you then! If you can't make this meeting, complete a volunteer form found in the Welcome Center and return it to Carson Thaxton or Allie Hansen at the church office. Youth helpers, please fill one out as well and include t-shirt size. This year's awesome VBS will be June 19-23.

May 24: Last Wednesday Night (Game Night) — Sometimes we just need to play together! We are going to go out in style. Join the fun as we party on our last Wednesday night of the school year! Regular programs will resume in September.

June 19-23 VBS Hero Central — Rising PK-3 through rising sixth graders are invited to join us this summer at Hero Central and discover YOUR strength in God! Come have fun and learn something new about God at the same time! You can register online at fayettevillefirst.com or complete a form found at the Welcome Center or outside the ffumc KIDS Worship Room. See you then! Cost: \$5 per child before June 1, \$10 per child after June 1.



Learn the music and become a part of the VBS Worship Team before VBS and help lead the way to Hero Central. Heroes are made by the paths they choose, not the powers with which they are graced. If you are a rising third grader through rising sixth grader, you are invited to choose the VBS Worship Team path. We will meet May 31, June 7 and June 14 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and June 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. Contact Carson Thaxton at cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com to join the team.

Rising sixth graders — You will have your own unique VBS experience with time to play, help, do your own mission project and more. You'll want to have this great time together!

Middle schoolers, high schoolers, and adults — Would you like to join the VBS Stage Team? This team will be responsible for playing VBS characters, leading skits, leading live music, stage managing and other behind-the-scenes roles as well. If this sounds like fun to you, then this may very well be your spot. Contact Carson Thaxton if interested in this unique opportunity BEFORE May 19.

July 10-14: M.A.D. Camp — Music, Arts, and Drama Camp is here. Carson Thaxton, Allie Hansen and friends present an engaging experience for elementary school students to have a blast this summer! Choose a main focus while still getting to experience all three areas. Whether you are an artist, an actor, or a musician/singer, we want to work together to show God's glory through the joy of the arts. God has created us to be creative. Let's prove it. This camp is for rising kindergarten through rising 6th grade students. Cost: \$75 one child, multi-child price of \$50/child BEFORE June 14 \$90 one child, multi-child \$60 AFTER June 14. Register online at fayettevillefirst.com or find a form at the Welcome Center or outside the Kids Worship Room.



We are so excited about the summer! Hope you can join in!

Carson Thaxton, Director, cthaxton@fayettevillefirst.com
Allie Hansen, Assistant Director, ahansen@fayettevillefirst.com
Children and Family Ministry

Missions & Outreach

Mother's Day Offering for Wesley Woods – May 14

Founded in 1954 by leaders of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church and Emory University, the mission of Wesley Woods is to help people age with grace. Wesley Woods provides safe, affordable housing and resident-centered quality care for older adults of all socio-economic levels in 10 different communities across North Georgia, where 40% live below the poverty line and over 75% depend on financial assistance to remain in their homes. Contributions to the Mother's Day offering allow the Foundation of Wesley Woods to extend significant benevolence care to those whose assets have been consumed by medical bills or by simply outliving their savings so that they may age with dignity and purpose.



More than 125 volunteers put their hands to work at nine projects throughout our community during the Great Day of Service.

Many Thanks...

- To everyone who contributed to the Lenten offering. More than \$5,000 was raised to help fund a Square Foot House in Griffin and the Rise Against Hunger packing event in August. An additional \$5,000 is needed to fully fund both projects.
- To everyone who contributed to the food drive for Fayette Samaritans during April. Additional donations may be placed in the bin in the Welcome Center at any time.
- The FFUMC Methodist Men extend sincere gratitude to Rev. Carolyn Clifton for assisting them in sponsorship of the last four annual Great Day of Service events. Bobby Hamil, UMM president, said of Rev. Clifton, "The continued success would not have been possible without your leadership and direction. Thanks. We will miss you."
- To everyone who gave blood at the April blood drive. We had 93 sign in and the Red Cross collected 79 whole pints. Eight people donated doubles for a total of 95 pints collected, which exceeded our goal of 90. This represents a great start to our 18th year.

Summer Lunch Program begins Tuesday, June 6

Our church serves about 450 lunches every Tuesday to Fayette County kids during June and July. Volunteers are needed to make sandwiches, pack bags, and deliver (drivers and runners). Volunteers are also needed to bring in cookies. This year the program is coordinated by Valerie Mallon. To volunteer, please visit SignUpGenius.com. Click "Find a Sign Up" (found at the bottom of the homepage) and enter vmallon@yahoo.com or call 770-310-7620.

Honor Mothers and Support Missions

Please join with the UMW Bethany Circle in honoring our mothers and those who mother others by supporting missions through a special bulletin for Mother's Day. For years, this fundraiser has supported local and church missions. Please make a donation in honor or in memory of someone and a rose will be ready in the courtyard for the one that you honor on May 14. Forms are available in the Welcome Center, bulletins and church office. The deadline is May 8.

Pastoral & Program Staff

Senior Minister

Dr. David Campbell
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Associate Minister Emeritus

Rev. Bob Partridge

Minister of Discipleship & Evangelism

Rev. Allyson Lawrence
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Minister of Missions & Membership Care

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Assistant Director

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Pianist

Sonia Squires

Pre-School/ MMO/ Nursery Coordinator

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Administrative & Support Staff

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Facilities Manager

Gary Sampson

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Return Service Requested

EasterPalooza and Beyond

Thank you for making EasterPalooza a great day for more than 3,000 folks in our community.



The Easter Sunrise Service on the courthouse lawn hosted by FFUMC and other area churches offered early morning celebration of the resurrection. Thank you to all who made that possible, including the preacher, Fayetteville Mayor Rev. Ed Johnson.

