



May 31, 2024

The Weekender

What's In a Name?

Rev. Kaylen Short

One of the questions I get most often is “where did you get your name?” Honestly, it is a name that is an homage to a dear member of my family, but different. My Grandpa Short was Chalon. The way I understand it, my parents were trying to figure out a name that was like his, but different. One day they were listening to the radio and they heard the name Kaylen, and thought it was perfect. They spelled it out as they thought it should be, and thus my name was born.

People’s reactions to my name have always been varied. When I was working in a movie theater in high school I had someone walk up to me, look at my nametag, and say “your parents didn’t really name you that did they?” Needless to say, I let one of my coworkers take his order. I also remember that nothing made me more frustrated in middle school than hearing “Is Kaylen Short in your class? Can you please send her to the office? She forgot her lunch.” Middle schoolers can be cruel. Even today, I get people who simply refuse to spell my name correctly. I’ll get people who will receive an email I have signed at the bottom and they’ll respond with “Dear Kaelen/Caelin/Kalen/Calen.” At places like Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks, I just give them my middle name (Thomas) and move on.



Yet, truthfully I love my name. I like that if I overhear someone at Annual Conference talking about Kaylen, I don’t have to wonder if it’s a different one they’re talking about. I like that people who learn my name tend to remember it and don’t confuse me for many other people. I like that my name is one that kind of stands out because honestly I’m someone who kind of enjoys standing out. Most of all, I love my name because it was given to me by my parents who are just the absolute best. Names represent who our parents/family hope we become, and who we are.

All of this is a really long introduction to answer another question a lot of you have asked: “Have you picked a name for your daughter yet?” Since today is my birthday, I thought it would be the perfect day to let you all in on the secret. She will be Abigail Kay Short. Kay is Alli’s mom’s middle name, and it has an obvious connection to my name. Abigail means “Father’s joy” in Hebrew which I have every expectation she will be mine. We also love that as she grows she’ll have options. She can be Abigail, Abby, Gail, Kay, AK, or whatever other version she comes up with.

Ultimately, I just hope that she loves her name as much as I love the one my parents gave me, and that if anyone asks her if “her parents really named her that?” that she’ll defend her name as vociferously as I defended mine.

P.S. I thought this would be a really great test to see who actually reads all the way through these articles!



2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:45 AM (Chapel) 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

Online link active at 11 AM and after

Mark 2:23-3:6 "Minutiae"

Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS



Great start to summer: Pops Concert at FFUMC June 9

Kick off summer with your church family! Join the Chancel Choir and guest musicians Sunday, June 9, at 7 PM in the Fayetteville First UMC Sanctuary for a Pops Concert. This inspiring event will feature popular favorites and a patriotic mood. Plan to attend and bring family, friends, and neighbors to this free event. Dessert reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact the church office at admin@fayettevillefirst.com or 770-461-4313. [Share the invitation and get more detailed information here and at FayettevilleFirst.com.](#)



Save the Date: Baby Shower for the Short Family

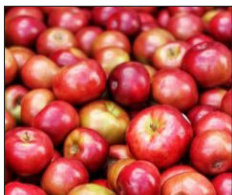
A church-wide baby shower for Kaylen and Alli Short will be hosted by the United Women in Faith's Friendship Circle.

Sunday, July 7

Drop in 3 to 5 PM

FFUMC Fellowship Hall

More details to come soon. For now, save the date!



Summer Lunch packing begins Tuesday, June 4

Our Summer Lunch Program will swing into action to provide food stability for many families in Fayette County beginning June 4. We will be packing lunches at 9:30 AM each Tuesday during June and July and delivering them afterward. Contact Faye Livingston if you'd like to pack or be a driver.

What is needed now? Cookies, either homemade or store-bought (no nuts, please). Feel free to pre-package two cookies per baggie or leave that for our weekly packers. This year we are also looking for donations of fruit. For the first week, we are requesting apples. All donations should be marked for "Summer Lunch" and delivered to the Fellowship Hall, placed on the counter or in the food refrigerator by Monday of each week. We are very appreciative of the opportunity to serve our community. Questions? Contact this year's coordinator, Faye Livingston, or the church office.



Limited Capacity
Register NOW!

VBS 2024 at Camp Firelight - June 24-28

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS! Camp Firelight runs June 24-28
Capacity is limited and waiting lists have begun.

[Select your preferred volunteer spot here!](#)

[Register your VBS campers here! Click here to get on the waiting list.](#)

Praise Team rehearsals begin June 6. Rising 3rd graders and older are invited to be on the VBS Praise Team. Joan Aycock, jaycock@fayettevillefirst.com, has sent the schedule and advance access to the music for those who have signed up. Contact Joan for more information.

VBS Preplanning and Safe Sanctuary Training

Wednesday, June 5, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall A-40

Be sure to come to this important preplanning event to get information for VBS so you can begin planning and preparing. You will get the general schedule, a map of the VBS campus, your role, expectations for how to navigate this particular VBS, and more. We will also have a Safe Sanctuary Training during our time together. Please note that Safe Sanctuary is required for all of our volunteers and must be renewed every 2 years. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence at alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com



Messy Church
June 8

Messy Church is WET!!! Saturday, June 8

Come experience a very WET Messy Church on Saturday, June 8, from 11 AM to 1 PM. This time our celebration and games time will focus on Ephesians 4:5: "One Lord, one faith, one baptism" and the story of Nicodemus from John 3. We will end up in The Field for water games and wet play, so come in clothes that you don't mind getting WET. Thank YOU for making our community always feel welcome with a meal and a smile!

[Volunteer here and get ready for THE BEST CHURCH EVER!](#)



UWF Meeting
June 20

United Women in Faith meeting features Wellspring Living

You are invited to the next United Women in Faith Unit Meeting Luncheon on Thursday, June 20, at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker will be Victoria Stroud, Development Director at Wellspring Living, who will help us understand the ongoing tragedy of sex trafficking in our own community and how Wellspring provides survivors the tools and resources needed to overcome trauma and thrive. This is a covered dish luncheon so there's no cost to come. Let your UWF circle chair know you are coming. If you're not in a circle, please contact Lauren Davis or admin@fayettevillefirst.com and let us know you are attending so we can ensure enough seating for everyone. [2024 Unit Meeting Invitation](#)



Capital Campaign information session this Sunday, June 2

Our Hope and a Future Capital Campaign is underway as we seek to minister to those touched by Fayetteville First UMC both now and in the future. Follow these links to information already presented

[See the Capital Campaign Case Statement](#)

[View the updated Capital Campaign Presentation](#)

Since many members could not attend the presentation on April 17, the Capital Campaign Committee will host a **congregation-wide lunch and presentation this Sunday, June 2**, following the 11 a.m. service. All are invited.



Summer Delights on Wednesday Nights

You're invited to gather on Wednesday evenings at 5:15 PM with your FFUMC friends. Those who want to meet up should gather at Line Creek Brewing Company at the Bus Barn behind Fayetteville City Hall, 200 City Center Parkway. Pack a meal from home or pick up some delicious food or a treat on site and stay connected through the summer until Wednesday Night Suppers resume at the church in September.



Celebrate and share with SOCKS!

The Marie Lamb Circle and Rev. Kaylen Short appreciate your celebration of Kaylen's birthday and your gift of socks to be donated to local charities. A donation box will be available on the church office side porch and near the gym (marked "Marie Lamb Circle") through June 9 if you would like to add socks to the collection. Questions? Contact Robertine Mitchely.



Christmas Shoeboxes prepared now through July 1

United Women in Faith (UWF) are sponsoring the third annual Christmas Shoebox drive in cooperation with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Warehouse in Decatur, AL. This project helps spread the joy and love of Christmas to children ages 2-12 in Central America.

The Christmas Tree in the Welcome Center has 100 ornaments for girls and boys of various ages listing the items needed as well as 20 ornaments for monetary donations.

Put the items in a bag and place the bag under the tree or return it to the church office **no later than July 1, 2024**. Monetary donations should be marked "Christmas Shoeboxes" and sent to the church office or given online through Realm and will be used for shipping costs and the bulk items (e.g. underwear, pencils, crayons, etc.) the UWF has purchased.

Very Important – Put the ornament in the bag with the items so that we will know what age group the items are for. Members of the UWF will pack the boxes by the end of July (date to be decided later) and deliver them to the warehouse no later than August 22, 2024. Questions? Contact Maggie Clarke.



We'll get "peachy" and go to Blackbird Cafe in June

Senior Adults Going Everywhere (SAGE) will be going to Dickey Farms for peaches and to lunch at the Blackbird Cafe on Wednesday, June 19. **Note the destination and date change for the June trip.** Gather at the church office for a 10:30 AM departure. Cost is \$2 transportation, plus lunch and any Dickey Farms purchases. Please call the church office at 770-461-4313 or email admin@fayettevillefirst.com for reservations.



(The trip to the National Infantry Museum in Columbus, has been rescheduled for July 18. Look for those details soon.)



Farewell reception for District Superintendent Susan Landry

All are invited to a Farewell Reception for Susan and Louis Landry in the Fayetteville First UMC Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 23, from 3 to 5 PM. Susan will be leaving the district office and her position as South West District Superintendant at the end of June to return to full-time ministry in a local church. A presentation will be given at 4 PM.



LOVE In Action: Furniture, washer needed

Thank you for helping those on the margins with your donations. Thank you! What is currently needed? **Living Room Furniture, Washing Machine.** Contact Cindy Hall with donations or questions.



June pantry needs from Fayette Samaritans

Donations are one way to help those with food insecurity and other needs. Food and clothing donations may be placed in the hallway cart near the gym or dropped by the church office.

New Most Needed List: Canned Chicken, Canned Beef Stew, Tuna, Canned Beans (Black, Pinto, Navy, etc.), Mixed Vegetables, Mac and Cheese, Canned Corn, Jelly, Dried Spaghetti Pasta, Coffee

Clothes Closet: Women's socks, women's underwear sizes 5-9 and larger than 10; Men's tube socks in dark colors.



Let's Do Lunch — Save the Date!

Saturday, August 10, at Noon

Special Guest: Jinny Henson

Lunch: Grilled Chicken Salad Cost: FREE

Reservations required. [Click here to make your reservations NOW!](#)

Don't miss this event!

YOUTH NEWS



Youth commissioning service this Tuesday, June 4

FFUMC Youth are excited as they prepare for our youth summer mission trip with Appalachian Service Project June 9 – 15. Last year, teams from FFUMC and Inman UMC served in Breathitt County, Kentucky, which had been damaged from major flooding. Two teams repaired floors and put in a new kitchen while another team installed a new roof for a family. This year's projects have not yet been assigned, but the youth are eager to again partner with Inman UMC as they experience and share in God's gracious love. The church is invited to a **commissioning service for participants this coming Tuesday, June 4, at 6:30 PM** in the FFUMC chapel.



Movin' On Up: 5th graders move to 6th grade and youth

It's hard to believe that our 5th graders are moving up to youth this summer. We have loved being part of their faith journey through FFUMC Kids ministries. To help them transition well, we have developed a series of next steps for 5th grade students as they move into 6th grade. We're calling it: Movin' On Up!

Rising 6th graders are invited to be part of our VBS Blowout. Each afternoon immediately following VBS, rising 6th graders and all our youth will be doing a different activity each day. You'll also want to be part of our "What to Expect Going Into Middle School" as our older youth offer good advice on how to navigate those first months of middle school. Look for details in your email inbox soon. Questions? Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence.

CHILDREN'S NEWS



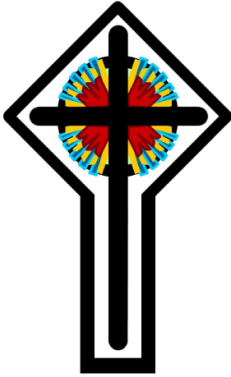
Park + Snack FFUMC Kids starts Monday, June 3

Summer is here ... What in the world do I do with my preschool and elementary age kid(s)?? Join Rev. Drew West (dad of Oliver who is 2 and Lillian who is 6) on Mondays at 9:30 AM at the FFUMC playground June 3, 10, and 17. At these playdates we will play on the playground together and fellowship as well as eat. Please BYO snack/lunch. For more information contact Drew at 770-461-4313 or dwest@fayettevillefirst.com.



Flower Ministry

Thank you so much for the flowers! Your arrangement made my graduation all the more special! — Rev. Drew West



May 29, 2024 Financials

Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$473,259.43
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$505,955.12
Difference	- \$32,695.69

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$369.00

80 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$19,555.52

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

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM; Wednesdays 7 PM;
Fridays 7 PM; Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7 PM

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-461-4313 FayettevilleFirst.com

inspired ...

Baptism - for all

We have participated in the sacrament of holy baptism for a variety of ages and in each of the modes of the United Methodist Church so far this year. From little ones to elementary age through confirmation age and adult, believers have entered the covenant of baptism through sprinkling, pouring, and immersion. We as a congregation have also been invited to remember our baptism and "renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." That's inspiring!



"Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood." — UMH p. 37