



October 4, 2024

## The Weekender

### Communion and Compassion

When we receive the sacrament on Worldwide Communion Sunday, our thoughts often go to faraway places. We rejoice to be joined in worship with fellow believers of different lands, languages and ethnicities.

The truth is, the world is at our doorstep – and often knocks on the church’s door. Each week Fayetteville First United Methodist Church receives calls and visits from all corners of Fayette County, asking for help to avoid eviction, or to keep the lights on, or to get water service restored.

Some callers have had health problems that have kept them out of work for a time. Others have had their work hours cut, losing income they could not spare. In some cases, an essential car repair expense has disrupted the household budget. Just as we in this congregation sometimes experience life challenges, so do these neighbors.

For years, your generosity has enabled FFUMC to respond through our benevolence fund. Each caller or visitor talks with a benevolence volunteer, who listens with care to their situations of need, coordinates with other Fayette County help agencies, and assists as best we can.

As you come to the altar for Holy Communion this Sunday, please remember these folks who reach out to our church. Requests for help have been especially high in recent weeks, and our benevolence balance is uncomfortably low at the moment.

If you leave a gift on the altar, please know that it will be well used to lift up a neighbor in trouble. Thank you for making compassion a hallmark of our congregation.

With gratitude from your Benevolence Team,

*Randy Riddell, Linda Ladd, Cindy Hall, Julie Beck, Lea Agnew*



**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 6**  
**8:45 AM (Chapel) 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)**

[Online link active at 11 AM and after](#)

Mark 10:13-16

"Like a Child"

Rev. Charles Robinson

# CURRENT NEWS

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## Give Blood October 6

8 AM to 1 PM, Fayetteville First UMC gym

The next Red Cross Blood Drive at FFUMC is Sunday, October 6, in the gym from 8 AM to 1 PM. Signing up is easy!

Go directly to the American Red Cross site at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and choose our drive on October 6 ... and encourage others to donate here at FFUMC. **Please sign up to donate in advance if at all possible.** Email [ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:ffumcblooddrive@gmail.com) for questions or assistance.



Churchwide

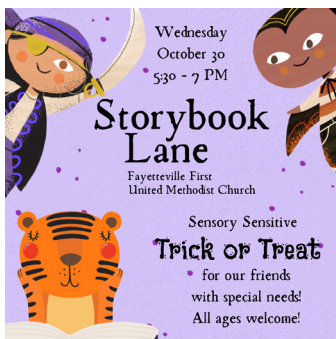
Trunk or Treat

## Messy Church Saturday, October 26

Wanna share Treats?

Are you ready for "Spooky Church"? It's coming to Messy Church on Saturday, October 26, from 11 AM to 1 PM. We will dive into II Timothy 1:7: "For God gave us a spirit, not of fear, but of power and love and self-control." This event includes Trunk or Treat! All ages are invited to participate.

Join in the fun of Trunk or Treat! Small groups (like Sunday school classes, Circles, Bible study groups, choral groups, everyone!) are invited to get together, decorate your trunk, bring candy or other appropriate treat, and join us for Messy Church Trunk or Treat. Individuals are welcome to host trunks, too, of course! [Let us know you are coming by clicking this link.](#) If you are working with a group, only one person needs to fill out the reservation form.



## Storybook Lane: Wednesday Night, October 30

A Sensory Sensitive Trick-or-Treat Experience

October 30, 2024 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Sunshine Trick or Treaters:

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church is presenting an opportunity for individuals with special needs to experience door to door trick or treating without all the stress! Have you been looking for a special experience like this? Join us in the upstairs hallway of building C where each door will be decorated in a storybook theme. All ages are welcome!

### Volunteers:

Would you like to help provide this unique experience for our community? Follow this link to adopt a door to decorate and/or hand out treats (only 5 more doors are needed). Donations of non-chocolate and non-nut candy, individually packaged pretzels, crackers or other non-sweet treats, and party favors are also welcome. [Follow this link to donate or decorate.](#)

Contact Jami Maguire at [jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com](mailto:jmaguire@fayettevillefirst.com) with any questions.



## Flower Ministry encourages others

Each week our Flower Ministry volunteers share arrangements with our church family, extending both cheer and encouragement and often passing on the flowers used in worship. YOU can be a part of this!

**Supplies Needed** Leave donated supplies in the newly established Flower Ministry room located in the hall behind the chapel, Room B240

Wired ribbon (all colors and designs)

Medium size vases (no bud vases needed)

**Worship flower donations** are another way to enhance the sanctuary experience any Sunday while honoring a loved one or celebrating a special occasion. One or both arrangements may be donated to the Flower Ministry to extend their beauty to someone in our church family. Two arrangements are \$150 and may be scheduled with the church office. **To volunteer** with this ministry, please contact Marilyn Harris.



## Save the Date for Blessing of the Animals October 12 at City Center Park

Save the date to join us on October 12 as we have a community-wide Blessing of the Animals at the City Center Park. The City of Fayetteville and other community sponsors are hosting Woofstock, a “Dog Friendly Music Festival.” There will be lots of ways to show how we all love our pets. So bring your furry (or finned or hooved) friend and plan to be there to be part of the blessing and the fun. Music starts at noon and the Blessing will likely be between 1 and 2 PM.



## Renovation continues in restrooms behind sanctuary

Another Capital Campaign project is in motion. The restrooms behind the sanctuary across from the Welcome Center are closed for a few weeks while we spruce them up. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please use the restroom in the bride’s room off the Narthex, the restroom in the music suite (Nick Bowden’s office), restrooms in Building B behind the Chapel, restrooms adjacent to the gym kitchen, and restrooms upstairs in the C building near room C-270 during this period.



## Dinner Church Exploration Meeting

October 17, 6:30 p.m., C-200

Want to learn how we can be better connected and supportive of those in our community who are having economic hardships? Come to a gathering of like-minded people who will be exploring Dinner Church. Dinner Church is a funny name, but at its heart it is sitting at the table, sharing a meal, and talking about Jesus with others. Hope you will join us as we all learn more together. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence with questions.



## Shred & Recycle at City Center Park Saturday, October 19 9 AM to Noon

**Bring paper for shredding:** Up to 10 small boxes (5 bags) of paper for shredding. The paper must be free of binder clips, binders, CDs, and such.

### Bring glass for recycling

The city will not recycle cardboard, electronics, ceramics, windows, or auto glass at this event. Participants will be responsible for reusing or recycling cardboard boxes.

FFUMC's Green Team is sharing this message. It's free!



## SAGE heads to apple territory on October 17

Let's take a trip to Ellijay! Take in some breathtaking beauty in the North Georgia mountains with friends as you make your way to Panorama Orchards & Penland's Apple House. Pick up some special apples or apple-related treats and enjoy lunch at the Double "L." It's the perfect way to celebrate fall!

*Meet at church 8:45 AM; Depart 9 AM*

*Reserve in church office.*

*\$2 transportation*

*Treats and lunch on your own*



## October is our month! 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. Volunteers are also needed in the food pantry, clothes closet, receptionist area, and as interviewers with a 3 hour commitment each week.

**Most Needed List:** *Canned Beef Stew, Canned Beans (pintos, white, black, etc.), Canned Mixed Vegetables, Boxed Mac and Cheese, Green Beans, Corn, Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter, Dry Cereal, Soup*

**Clothes Closet:** *Girls' and Women's underwear, all sizes*



## Wednesday Night Suppers at 5 PM

Enjoy meals on Wednesday nights together!

New time: **5 PM** Temporary location: **Gym**

Advantages: **Friendship!** Be with people you really like.

**Hassle Free!** Enjoy meals from local restaurants.

**Affordable!** Adults \$10, Children under 13: \$7 (pay at door)

Sign up each week by noon on Monday. Contact the church office, 770-461-4313, admin@fayettevillefirst.com, or fill out a pew card.

**October 9 Menu: Tim's Country Kitchen - Meatloaf**

**Upcoming: Plan your outfit for costume night on October 30!**



### G3: Good Grief Gals meets October 10 at 5:30 PM

The October G3 gathering will take place at 5:30 PM on October 10 in the Fellowship Hall at Fayetteville First UMC. This group will enjoy a catered dinner from Chicken Salad Chick and then share stories and encouragement. Please let Janet Baileys know by Tuesday, October 8, if you plan to attend as a food order will need to be placed.



### United Methodist Men meet next week

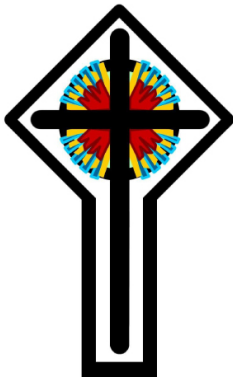
**October 8, 6:30 PM, Gym NOTE TIME & PLACE ADJUSTMENT**

The United Methodist Men invite you to the next group meeting on Tuesday, October 8, at 6:30 PM in the gym. Please bring a dish to share and get ready to enjoy time together. Questions? Contact UMM President Raymond Mitchely.



### Love in Action new request: Clothes dryer needed

A new request from a summer lunch family is for a clothes dryer. Also needed are twin beds and curtains (no more rods are needed). If you as an individual or group can help with these needs, please contact Cindy Hall.



## October 1, 2024 Financials

### Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$830,162.15
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$882,489.19
Difference	-\$52,327.04

### Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$1,081.30

140 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$34,695.63

### 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, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM

**NA Meetings:** Thursdays 7 PM

Fayetteville First UMC 175 East Lanier Avenue Fayetteville, GA 30214

770-461-4313 [FayettevilleFirst.com](http://FayettevilleFirst.com)

# inspired ...

## Adults in Action ... Here and There

A unique group of more than 20 adults gather here at Fayetteville First each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 AM to 2 PM. Called "Adults in Action," they are learning, cooking, hanging out, singing, making art, and more. But they don't just stay here! They are out and about to explore and serve on trips to the library, Mid-West Food Bank, Bloom, Spivey Hall, Legacy Theatre, senior residence homes ... the list goes on! The United Women in Faith were even treated to a concert recently as these enthusiastic singers shared songs from their weekly time with Bill Webb and Director Rene Chesnut. In a few weeks, they'll help host Storybook Lane, a sensory sensitive Trick-or-Treat event.

Offering a safe place for community and a respite for caregivers, the Adults in Action ministry offers joy to the participants. "Not only is it fun, we get to help people," said Aaron. Blake enjoys his time with the friends and teachers. Rachel said, "I like to do all the different things." Leader Jami Maguire recognizes that the AIA group here serves as a conduit to connect with others.

She noted, "A newer member said he didn't have any friends in Georgia until he came to AIA. Their experience here leads to other opportunities."

Would you like to make a new friend? Just drop by Building C and you'll find a room full of welcoming smiles that say, "We're glad you came. Come back and hang out any time." You'll always be glad you did.

