



The Weekender

Doing Your Part, Not Doing It All

Rev. Kaylen Short & Nancy Musselwhite

I know a sermon has struck a cord when people ask me questions in the days that follow. In response to last Sunday's sermon about John the Baptist, I have already had a few people ask me: "How do I know if I am doing my part, but not doing too much?" Fortunately, on Tuesday, Nancy Musselwhite told the staff an excellent story showing that very thing and gave me permission to share.

(The following paragraph is written by Nancy M)

"I have a friend named PJ who is clear on her mission. She makes exquisite quilts for the homeless: quilts of the same quality she makes for family and friends. *(One of PJ's quilts is pictured here.)* She delivers them to homeless people living under overpasses in downtown Atlanta. On a cold January trip downtown, I was reminded how many people live under overpasses — no matter how brutal the weather — and wondered how many of them sleep under a quilt made by PJ. I once asked PJ, tactlessly, 'Do you wonder about the conditions of those quilts after you deliver them? How wet and filthy they must be after months of exposure to the elements?' She looked at me and smiled gently. 'Nancy, my mission is to make quilts and deliver them to homeless people.'"



(Back to Kaylen)

While I have a hard time imagining Nancy doing anything tactlessly, the example PJ sets is wonderful. Too often we let perfection get in the way of excellence. We fail to act because we can't address every problem. Discipleship is about performing your role and trusting God and other disciples to do the rest. Who knows, maybe someone has started a laundry ministry and has been cleaning all those blankets!



2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: JANUARY 19, 2025
8:45 AM (*Sanctuary) 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)

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

I Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

"The Best Ahead"

The Rev. Kaylen Short

* Sunday's 8:45 AM service is in the sanctuary due to a heating issue in the chapel.

CURRENT NEWS



Want a name badge? Order one by January 27

Would you like a customized name badge? Did you lose one you may have had previously? Let us know if you want one by contacting the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com. The deadline to place your order is **Monday, January 27**. Cost is \$10.

Legacy Grant applications due February 1

Did you know Fayetteville First has a Legacy Endowment Fund? Contributions to this fund are in trust accounts held by the Georgia United Methodist Foundation. Twice each year, the FFUMC Legacy Committee considers grant requests for use of some of the growth of these funds. Requests can be made by church members and groups to address unbudgeted opportunities for service and programs. [Grant requests for this next six-month cycle can be made through February 1](#). Want to know more about the process? Contact Legacy Committee Chair Lauren Davis.



Titus II welcomes State Judge Jason Thompson February 4

Hear from our very own Judge Jason Thompson at our next Titus II luncheon and program at noon on Tuesday, February 4, Reserve your place with Martha Turner by Thursday before the program.

Meal provided by a local restaurant: \$8 per person



School Sponsorships



School Sponsorships change lives in El Salvador

Education can change a child's life forever. Tuition for a child to attend the Methodist School in El Salvador is just \$40 per month or \$480 per year. Two South West District mission teams are heading to El Salvador February 8-15, 2025, and February 15-22, 2025. The teams comprise 19 individuals from five different churches and are collecting money to help deserving children whose families cannot afford even this small amount. The school offers grades 1-10, the only grades that schools there have. The school helps keep the kids out of gangs, drugs, and the risk of human trafficking. The kids learn the usual subjects that we have here, including music. Their marching band has won national competitions. Many of the students are also learning English, which will open many more opportunities for good jobs. The school offers hope to the community.

[You can make a tax-deductible donation by check or online to Fayetteville First United Methodist Church.](#) Write "El Salvador Tuition" on the memo. **Contributions made by January 27** will be delivered by Maggie Clarke during her trip in February. Questions? Contact Maggie Clarke.

SOUPER BOWL IV



SOUPER BOWL IV has started! 2,080+ cans is goal!

KICKOFF! SOUPER Bowl IV is officially underway to collect soup for healthy meals for those in need. Bring any variety of 16.3 - 18.8 ounce ready-to-eat soup, **not condensed**, to the Welcome Center and join the friendly competition.

The Challenge:

This year two divisions have been established. Teams within those divisions will be competing to see which minister will win the playoff and Lead Coaching rights on January 26.

How It Works:

Tallies will be taken at 10 AM on Sunday, January 26, to determine which team within each division will be the **Division Champion**. The Division Champion minister will be announced at the 11 AM service. Each division winner will be the **Lead Coach** to take their entire division to the Souper Bowl IV Championship on Sunday, February 9.

Alpha Division: Last Names A-K:

Omega Division: Last Names L-Z

Rev. Allyson Lawrence (Last Names A-D)

Rev. Kaylen Short (Last Names L-R)

Rev. Charles Robinson (Last Names E-K)

Rev. Drew West (Last Names S-Z)

Final tallies will be taken at 10 AM on Sunday, February 9. The Souper Bowl IV Champion will be announced at the 11 AM service.

2025 Extra Challenge: 2,080+ Cans

Exceed the 2,079 total can donations from last year's competition, and the entire church staff will prepare and serve a FREE Wednesday Night Supper for a church-wide celebration.

Mark Your Donations:

Mark the bottom of each can with the **first letter of YOUR last name**. A Sharpie will be available at the donation site. Cans will be credited to the Team Captain for those letters. Any cans that are received without letters will be divided between the two teams.

Who will be the Lead Coach for each division? We'll find out on Playoff Sunday, January 26.

Who will be the Souper Bowl IV Champion with all the bling and bragging rights? You decide on Souper Bowl IV Sunday, February 9.

Hut, Hut, Hike! Let's get going!



Walking with others through grief

GriefShare is a program where caring individuals walk with others through the journey of grief. Facilitated by Carol and Bill Webb, a new session of classes will meet Mondays February 17 through May 12 from 10 AM to 12 PM in Room B-350. All are welcome. For more information on the program or to sign up, contact Carol or Bill Webb or visit GriefShare.org.



Wellspring Group begins new series January 26

The Wellspring Sunday Morning small group is excited to start a new series based on the Connected Faith app beginning January 26 from 9:45 – 10:20 AM in Room C-200 (the conference room). The discussion-oriented class is led by facilitator Jay Travis. The group is open to everyone and much of the conversation will revolve around faith in our current time from the perspective of those who have young children through college-aged. Group discussion will start promptly at 9:45 and end at 10:20 to create time for choir members to participate. Contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence with questions.



January List: Pantry needs from Fayette Samaritans

Donations are one way to help those in our community 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: *Pasta Sauce, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate Mix, Jelly, Feminine Products (Pads)*



Wednesday Night Supper January 22

Let's eat together!

Time: **5 PM** Fellowship Hall

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 4 PM on Mondays. Contact the church office, 770-461-4313, admin@fayettevillefirst.com, or fill out a pew card.

January 22 Menu: Hog Pit BBQ

BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Potato Chips, Dessert



Community handbell organization meeting: January 23

A community handbell group will begin January 23 at Peachtree City United Methodist Church at 7 PM. If you are interested in playing handbells, please plan to attend the organizational meeting that evening. This group will be a partnership between Fayetteville First United Methodist and Peachtree City United Methodist with players from many churches throughout Fayette County. We do ask that you have the ability to read music (treble clef, bass clef, or both) and/or that you have experience playing handbells. We hope to have at least 12 bell players with 3 to 5 alternates. Right now, it looks like Thursdays at 7 PM is our best evening for rehearsals at Peachtree City UMC. A final decision on rehearsal time will be made at the organizational meeting on January 23. If you know of others outside of FFUMC that might be interested, please share this information with them. For more information, contact Judy Hames or admin@fayettevillefirst.com.



**Potato Bake
Youth Mission
Fundraiser
January 29**

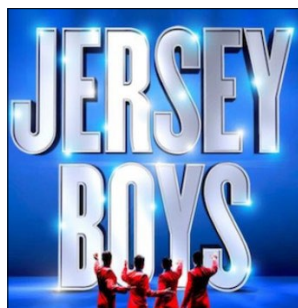
Potato Bake - A Youth Mission Fundraiser January 29

You are invited to a special Wednesday night supper hosted by our youth. January 29 at 5:00 PM is our Appalachia Service Project Potato Bake Fundraiser. The youth will provide the potatoes and all the fixings along with salad and dessert. We'll also be sharing stories from last year's Appalachia Service Project (ASP) trip and answering any questions you may have about the ASP program and mission work. On this special night, there will be no regular Wednesday Night Supper charge; however, donations to the ASP youth trip are greatly appreciated. All proceeds will go towards directly funding the mission trip costs. Make your Wednesday Night Supper reservation like normal by contacting the church office at 770-461-4313 or admin@fayettevillefirst.com or completing a pew card by Monday, January 27, at 4 PM.



Save the Date: VBS 2025 is June 2-6

As your plans for summer fun develop, be sure to save the date for this year's VBS: **Road Trip! On the Go with God**. Save the dates June 2-6 to join the adventure with Navigator and Scout (the pup) on the open road, finding strength in God's presence. Volunteers and campers will be alerted soon ... but for now, hold that spot in your calendar!



SAGE Trip for February: 10 Spots left

Jersey Boys takes us behind the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons: a 40-year friendship that begins in the streets of New Jersey and ends in the heights of stardom. Join our Senior Adults Going Everywhere on February 8 and enjoy phenomenal music, memorable characters, and great storytelling.

Meet at church office at 12:45 PM for 1 PM departure

Cost \$40.00 a person. Plan to eat at Franks in Palmetto following the show.

More spots added for this popular show! Reservations and payment are expected by January 25. Contact the church office.



United
Women
in Faith

South West District Inaugural Meeting

United Women in Faith

"Gather, Prepare, Grow"

Saturday, January 25

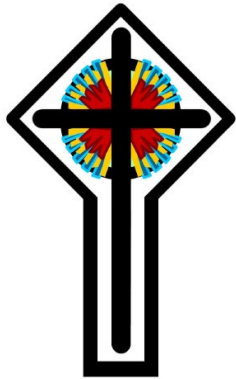
Fayetteville First UMC

Continental Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 - 10:45 AM

Meeting and Worship in Sanctuary 11 AM

You are invited to attend a time of inspiration and fellowship with women from around our South West District on Saturday morning, January 25, here at our church. This gathering is sponsored by the United Women of Faith; however, you don't have to be a member of UWF to attend. [There is no fee; but registration is requested if you attend or help at the event.](#)

Our United Women in Faith is hosting this inaugural meeting on Saturday January 25 from 9 AM to 1 PM. We expect more than 150 ladies from around the District to attend. **We need volunteers** to serve as Greeters and Door Guides, help with Registration, Hostesses during the Continental Breakfast, set up & clean up of Continental Breakfast, etc. More information about this event as well as sign up information will be sent to the Circle Chairs. If you are not a part of a Mission Circle Group and would like to help, we'd love your help, too! Questions? Contact Donna Blackburn.



January 14, 2024 Financials

Operating Budget 2024

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$38,665.45
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$19,207.35
Difference	\$19,458.10

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$380.

5 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$1,535.78

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

Church office is closed Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM; Thursdays 7:30 AM

NA Meetings: Thursdays 7 PM

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

inspired ...

Blood Drive success despite snow

In spite of weather-related challenges, the American Red Cross Blood Drive on January 12 was successful. We had 25 folks signed up and we collected 25 units of blood. The giving was about 50/50 between FFUMC and the community. Thank you!

- 3 walk-ins
- 4 no-shows
- 1 deferral
- 4 donated double reds for 7 units

We are working with the Red Cross to give Larry Brannon Blood Program Leaders access.. Also, we are looking for a couple of new leaders on the team to ensure we have full complement in case of travel conflicts for the remaining four drives planned at FFUMC for 2025.

Remaining 2025 Blood Drive schedule:

March 16, July 13, October 5, December 7.



American Red Cross Representative with Randy Riddell and Larry Brannon.