



January 31, 2025

The Weekender

Different Ways, The Same Why

Rev. Kaylen Short

I want you to picture for me that you need cash for a purchase. You need to buy something and the seller doesn't take credit or debit card. How do you go about getting cash to complete that purchase?

Some of you are envisioning walking into a local bank and making a withdrawal. You go up to the teller; you hand them your slip of paper with the requested amounts; they count it out and put it in an envelope for you. Then you walk out with the cash you needed.

Or at least I think that's the way that happens. I say that because in my entire adult life I have never walked into a local bank with the intention of getting cash. I remember vaguely getting cash that way with my parents when I was a kid and would still be given a lollypop by the nice person behind the counter (Do they still do that?). If you ask me and likely those around my age what it looks like to go get cash it involves an Automated Teller Machine or an ATM, not an actual bank teller. You walk up to the machine, put your debit card in, check over your shoulder to make sure no one is too close, enter your pin, and you get the cash you need in return. That's how I envision getting cash when it's needed.

There's also a few of you reading this that are of a young enough generation that you can't even fathom needing to get cash for any reason ever. Sure, maybe you still get cash as a gift on birthdays or for graduation, but you can't imagine needing it to make a purchase. After all you'd just use Zelle, Paypal, Apple Cash, Cash App, or most likely a currency transfer app I am not young enough to even know the name of. Furthermore, I can't help but wonder if my daughter Abby will ever actually encounter paper currency. By the time she starts purchasing things, everything might be exchanged digitally.

For some of you, these generational shifts might sound odd or even scary. However, the point that I want to make is that no matter the method you envisioned, what you're actually doing is the same. In this case you're exchanging currency for an item. Sure, the methods change, but the end result is the same.

My lesson here is this: we culturally like to paint with broad generational brushes. This generation is soft. That generation is selfish. This generation is lazy. That generation is ignorant. But here's the truth: no generation has a monopoly on anything. I have known soft, selfish, lazy, and ignorant people of all generations, and I have known the inverse in every generation. Most often, when we perceive other generations as being less than our generation (whichever that might be) it's because they do things differently, not because they do them worse. I pray that we might be those who look beyond the specific ways people accomplish things and instead look for why they do things. I suspect we will find that more often than not, their reasons align with ours.



4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: FEBRUARY 2, 2025
8:45 AM (Chapel) & 11:00 AM (Sanctuary & Online)
[Online link active at 11 AM and after](#)
Jeremiah 1:4-10
"What Is Needed"
The Rev. Kaylen Short

CURRENT NEWS



Souper Bowl IV is all "Rev"-ed up for the finish

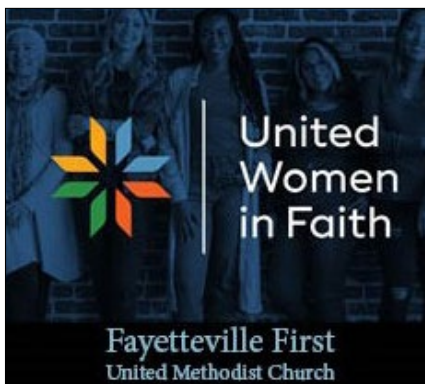
Our Team Leaders are ready to catch your soup can donations as we work through the final days of the Souper Bowl IV competition. Will Alpha Division with Rev. Lawrence and Rev. Robinson (letters A-K) win bragging rights and bling or will the Omega Division with Rev. Short and Rev. West (letters L-Z) hold their current lead? You decide before the final count is taken at 10 AM on February 9 and the winner is announced at the 11 AM service.

[Get details and instructions here.](#)

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.



Next UWF Unit Meeting on February 13

You are invited to the next UWF Unit Luncheon Meeting on Thursday, February 13, at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a covered dish for the luncheon. Our speaker will be Becky Garr, a UWF Deaconess, who serves as the Minister of Missions and Senior Adults at First United Methodist Church in Pine Mountain. She will be sharing her journey of her calling to become a Deaconess as well as describing the various opportunities of ministry of a Deaconess. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Cole.



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.



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.

Note new location: Meet in the Fellowship Hall

\$8 per person



New! February 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: *Canned Beef Stew, Canned Chicken, Boxed Mac and Cheese, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Pasta/Spaghetti Sauce, Toilet Paper, Cookies*

Clothes Closet Needs: *Women's Underwear and socks; Men's Briefs all sizes*



Wednesday Night Supper February 5

Let's eat together!

Time: **5 PM** Fellowship Hall

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

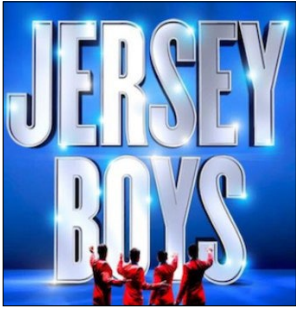
Hassle Free! Enjoy meals from local restaurants.

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.

February 5: Hog Pit

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



SAGE Trip for February: Only 5 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. Contact the church office to snag one of these last tickets!

Save the date: March 27 SAGE Trip to CDC with docent Amanda West!



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: hold that spot in your calendar!



Love in Action: Washing machine needed

We reach out throughout the year to those in the Summer Lunch Program who need assistance. Right now, someone needs a washing machine. If you can help, please contact Cindy Hall.

Flower Ministry

Please let the flower ministry know how much I appreciate [the flowers]. It was my birthday too! The flowers are just beautiful and still look great. You don't know how much I appreciate the flowers.

— Nancy Weimeister



I so appreciated after a long day out and about to come home to the lovely bouquet of flowers ... and they are lasting beautifully on my kitchen table for us to enjoy each day. Thank you all so much!

— Lindy Scarff

Thanks for the flowers and prayers during my recovery from surgery. They continue to brighten our day with their beauty. It's nice to be thought of! Thank You.

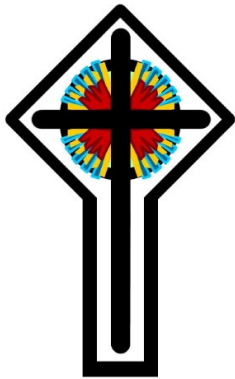
— Paul Gazaway



2024 Year-End Giving Statements Sent

2024 year-end giving statements were sent via email on January 21, 2025. You may also access your statement on Realm. If you do not have an email address, your statement was mailed on January 23.

We are here to help you. If you have any questions regarding your 2024 statement, please call Jennifer Fendley in the church office at 770-461-4313.



January 28, 2024 Financials

Operating Budget 2025

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$93,508.04
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$49,710.65
Difference	\$43,797.39

Benevolence

Benevolence funds received this week \$100.00.

15 Families Assisted Year-To-Date: Total distributed \$4,403.13

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; 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 ...

Bless the work of our hands

Prayers of consecration acknowledge the sacred nature of our ministry, missions, and materials. Two ministries were recognized last Sunday, one at each service.

A total of 17 volunteers from the South West District led by Maggie Clarke will minister in **El Salvador** between February 8 and 22. They'll present a Vacation Bible School and provide light construction assistance. They'll also be part of a food distribution program to provide staples like rice, beans, and sardines to families. Tuition scholarships you provided for the Methodist school in the area will be delivered as well. Two team members from Inman UMC joined Maggie for this consecration at our early service as prayers were made over their coloring sheets and materials.

Our **Prayer Shawl Ministry** leaders, volunteers, and shawls were consecrated as their artistic expression touches those suffering from a loss or illness or to celebrate life's milestones. Lindy Scarff and a group from our church and community have crocheted and knitted more than 1,300 shawls and lap robes to share. If you have a friend or family member you would like to receive a shawl, please let these artisans know.



Left: *El Salvador Team Members Maggie Clarke, Debra Morris, Donna Spilwell*

Above: *Prayer Shawl Ministry Volunteers Charlotte McAdams, Lindy Scarff, Nancy Crow, Karin Shah, Mary Ann Cauthen, Gay Lynn Barson*