

Welcome Home Red Bird Mission Team!

We are glad to have our Red Bird team back home and look forward to hearing about their week in Beverly, Kentucky.

Pictured: Barbara Nickle, Kimberly Weber, Don Nickle, David Patton, Lloyd Vautrot, Heather Lowery, JoAnn Davis, Pastor Mike, & Joseph Lowery



Ellijay 1st UMC Red Bird Mission T-Shirts for Sale! Get yours in the church office before they are gone.



Today's altar flowers are in honor of the first wedding anniversary of Tom & Jennetta Lowery on May 5.



If you have an occasion that you would like to place flowers on the Altar in honor or memory of someone or to commemorate an event, please contact the church office by Wednesday, prior to the Sunday you wish to provide them.

ZUMBA Resumes

tomorrow at 4:30 at the Scout Hut! They will meet each Monday and Thursday throughout the summer and fall.



Children's Church Volunteer Schedule:
 5/03 - Linda Dickerson
 5/10 - **Help needed**
 5/17 - Marcia Bassett
 5/24 - **Help Needed**
 5/31 - **Help Needed**

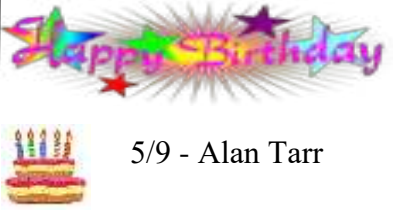


Contact our Children's Director, Leah Easley, if you would like to help.

Church Lock-up Schedule:



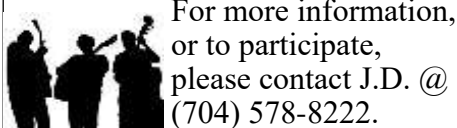
5/03 - 5/09 Charlie Cobb
 5/10 - 5/16 Barry Griffin
 5/17 - 5/23 Bill Munson
 5/24 - 5/30 Hank Chapman



5/9 - Alan Tarr

J.D.'s Gospel Jam

Our own J.D. Pearce is planning a Gospel Jam session on Sunday, May 17.



For more information, or to participate, please contact J.D. @ (704) 578-8222.

Ushers Needed

Male or Female, if you would be willing to serve as an usher during our worship service, please sign up on the Attendance Registration insert in your bulletin, or call the church office @ 706-635-2555



It's almost time for Vacation Bible School!

We are planning this year's VBS and your help is needed! There is another sneak peek meeting on Wednesday, May 6 at 5:00pm. If you were not able to attend the April 26 date, be sure to come and preview this year's VBS program **Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God** and find out how you can help.

Speaking of VBS....

Pre-registration is now under way for children to attend this summer. VBS will be June 15 - 19 from 9:00am - 12:00 noon and is open to all children, ages 4 years - rising 6th graders. We kindly request a \$10 donation to help cover the cost of student materials. Pre-registration forms are in the church office.



Special Calendar Note:

Our parking lot is getting a face lift! The Church Council has approved the paving of the church parking lot. The project will take place the **week of May 18**. Please note this and the necessity to adjust some events to accommodate smooth completion within that week. Thank you!



Standin' In the Need of Prayer

Everyone is in need of prayer. Sometimes some need an extra dose. When you pray this week, remember these names....

Dylan Spiegel, Mandy Fernandez

God knows their needs.

Prayer Request forms are in the pew racks. Please fill free to complete and drop in the offering plate if you have a request.

Methodism 101...Why is the Communion table covered in white cloth?

The communion table is covered with a white cloth to symbolize purity, reverence for the Eucharist (Holy Communion or The Lord's Supper), and to represent the white linen shroud used to wrap Jesus Christ's body after his death. Historically, this tradition also stems from a practical need to protect the bread and wine during worship until the time that it is served to the congregation.



Our Weekly Schedule:

Every Sunday
 - Helping Hands Sun. School 8:45am
 Worship Service 10:00am
 Altars Study Group 11:00am
 Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00pm

Every Wednesday
 -LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm
 Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm
 Handbell Choir Practice 5:30 - 6:30 pm
 Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm



Upcoming Events:

Sunday, May 3 - Communion Sunday
 Wednesday, May 6 - VBS Sneak Peak Meeting Fellowship Hall @ 5pm
 Thursday, May 7 - UMMen Workday @ 3pm
 Saturday, May 9 - FOGAS drive thru Vaccines for pets Church Parking Lot 9am - 1pm
 Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day
 Monday, May 11 - Finance Committee Meeting 5pm Room 13
 Church Council Meeting @ 6pm Fellowship Hall
Adjusted date Tuesday, May 12 - Joyful Noon Circle ←
 Sunday, May 17 - J.D.'s Gospel Jam @ 7pm Sanctuary

Who's Who in Ellijay First United Methodist?



Everyone "knows" her by her beautiful gift each week on the piano and organ, but did you know that Gabrielle Cornett has been involved in the music program at EFUMC for more than 40 years? Gabrielle is quite an accomplished musician, having studied at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music after completing her undergrad work at NGCSU. She also taught Elementary Music in Murry County for 20 years. Gabrielle has 4 children, 14 grandchildren, & 1 great-grandchild. We love Gabrielle and appreciate all that she gives to our church!

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@georgiaumc.net
Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555
Web site: ellijayfirstumc.org

Jennetta Lowery...Administrative Assistantoffice@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Marianne EvansPreschool Director.....children@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Leah EasleyChildren's Director...LIJKids@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Joseph Lowery..... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist
 Sarah ThorneDirector of Music.....music@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician...media@ellijayfirstumc.org
 Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator
 Finance...Giving statements/Accounts.....finance@ellijayfirstumc.org



Ellijay First United Methodist Church
 Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor

75 McCutchen Street
 Ellijay, GA 30540
 706-635-2555
 office@ellijayfirstumc.org



Sunday, May 3, 2026
 10:00 am Worship Service
 5th Sunday of Easter

Sunday Worship Service

May 3, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Mary McDonald
"Rock of Ages"

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

†**Call To Worship** by Carlton R. Young
"This is a Day of New Beginnings"

† **The Greeting** Liturgist & **Congregation**

Come to Christ, our cornerstone.
Christ has called us here.
Trust in God, our firm foundation.
God is with us here.
Rest in the Spirit, our peace beyond peace.
May the Spirit guide our way.

† **The Hymn of Praise** TFWS 2236
"Gather Us In"

† **The Affirmation of Faith** **The Apostles Creed**
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

† **The Gloria Patri**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer Rev. Dr. Shearon

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

†**The Hymn of Preparation** UMH 557
"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Jack Shrader
"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"

†**The Presentation and Doxology**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Special Music by Craig Courtney
"I Have Felt the Hand of God"

† **The Scripture Reading** **James 4:1-6**

Submit Yourselves to God

4 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?

² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
"Fights & Quarrels"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

†**The Closing Hymn** UMH 431
"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Anyone wishing to join this church may come forward during the closing hymn.

†**The Pastoral Benediction** Rev. Dr. Shearon

†**The Postlude** arr by John Carter
"Come, O Thou Traveler"

Prayer team members are available after the service. They will be wearing white shawls.

† - Please, stand as you are able

Sermon Notes:

You Are Welcome Here

You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your Heavenly Father. Come then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips, into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the men and women who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this historic place of worship and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with prayer and praise. Beseech His blessings on those who love this house of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest upon your going out and your coming in.