

JD's Gospel Jamboree was tremendous! Thank you to all who participated and attended. We look forward to the next time!



Today's Altar Flowers are provided by Hank & Pam Chapman in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary



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.

Garden Boxes Available
If you would like to stake claim on one of the garden boxes that are in the yard of the Student Center, please help yourself. Some have already been claimed, but some are still available. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

Children's Church Volunteer Schedule:

5/24 - Help Needed
5/31 - Help Needed
6/07 - Help Needed
6/14 - Help Needed



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

Church Lock-up Schedule:



5/24 - 5/30 Hank Chapman
5/31 - 6/06 Joe Poole
6/07 - 6/13 Charlie Cobb
6/14 - 6/20 Barry Griffin

G.R.A.S.P.

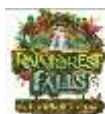
The difficult decision has been made to hold off on GRASP this year. While GRASP is being paused for now because of low youth involvement, our heart for the youth of our church and community remains strong, and we hope to revisit this ministry next year. Donations that have been made will be used for other youth missions or held for next year's GRASP event. The projects lined up will be completed under the missions umbrella of the church.



5/27 - Jendy Hayes
5/29 - Judy Leonard
5/30 - Nancy Smith

VBS Three Weeks Away!

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. Please fill out the insert in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate if you would like to help with Vacation Bible School this year. All help is appreciated and vital to a successful VBS.



Calling All Youth



Please join us on Sunday after the worship service. We will share food, fun, & faith. Come and find out how to help our community while growing your faith and continuing your walk with Christ. We will meet from 11am-1pm, and lunch will be provided. For more information, please see or contact our Youth Director Joseph Lowery at 706-669-0172 or email him at youth@ellijayfirstumc.org

Standin' In the Need of Prayer

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

Allen Fanelli, Austin Sallade, Carol Stembridge, & Mike Vitelli

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.

Did you know...it's the Church's birthday? Pentecost is a major Christian festival celebrated exactly 50 days after Easter. Often referred to as the "birthday of the Church", it commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other early followers of Jesus in Jerusalem, empowering them to spread the Christian message. Described in the Book of Acts (Chapter 2), the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples gathered in the "Upper Room" as the sound of a rushing wind, appearing as "tongues of fire". This miraculous event allowed them to speak in different languages, enabling the diverse crowd in Jerusalem to hear the Gospel in their native tongues. Happy birthday to you all!

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
-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 24 - Pentecost Sunday
Tuesday, May 26 - Faith, Hope, & Charity Grant Reception in the Fellowship Hall 1-3pm
June 15 - 19 - Vacation Bible School
Rainforest Falls: Exploring God's Nature
June 18 - 20 - Annual Conference in Athens, GA

Who's Who in Ellijay First United Methodist?



Julie Kepley is the one who cares for our most precious asset, our nursery. She has been with EFUMC and Children First Preschool for nine years. She has kid experience for sure! She raised 4 children, producing 2 Marines & 2 Eagle Scouts on her own after becoming a widow 22 years ago. Julie is a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard having served at Cape Disappointment in Ilwaco, WA. She hails from New Jersey, but has lived in Washington state, New York, Florida, Colorado, and Illinois prior to settling in Ellijay. We are so happy to have Julie, (yep, Zack's mom) as part of our church family! We love you, Miss Julie!

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 Assistant....office@ellijayfirstumc.org
Marianne Evans....Preschool Director.....children@ellijayfirstumc.org
Leah Easley.....Children's Director...LJJKids@ellijayfirstumc.org
Joseph Lowery..... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist
Sarah Thorne.....Director 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 24, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
Pentecost Sunday

Sunday Worship Service

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Lloyd Larson
“Breathe on Me, Breath of God with Holy Spirit, Light Divine”

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation

The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

† **Call To Worship** by Daniel Iverson
“Spirit of the Living God”

† **The Greeting** Liturgist & Congregation

Sing to the Lord!

Let us sing to the Lord as long as we live!

God formed all that is: oceans and rivers, hills and mountains.

Praise God who makes!

God created all that is: animals and birds, fish and people.

Praise God who creates!

When God’s hand opens, all are filled.

Praise God who nourishes!

Let all that we are praise God.

Praise God, now and forevermore!

† **The Hymn of Praise** UMH 404

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

† **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 539
“O Spirit of the Living God”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Lloyd Larson
“Spirit of God Descend Upon my Heart”

† **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**

Choir Anthem by Pepper Choplin

“We’ve Got the Spirit”

† **The Scripture Reading**

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

1 Corinthians 12:1-12

12 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All

these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. ¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“Pentecost-The Gift of the Holy Spirit”

† **The Closing Hymn** UMH 333
“I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing”

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
“I Sing My Praise of God”

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.