

**It's Here! It's Here!
VBS is HERE!**



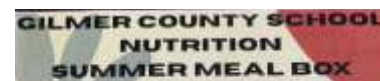
Tomorrow morning at 9:00 the church will be humming with the sounds of God's Nature, complete with the laughter and songs of children & a working waterfall (if all goes as planned). We will be putting on the final decorating touches right after church if you want to help! Also, we could really use at least 5 more volunteers to ensure a safe, fun, and Spirit-filled time for all involved. Please be in active prayer for our Bible School.

Happy Birthday

6/16 - Susan Anderson
6/16 - Carol Simmons
6/18 - Pam Chapman

Altar Flowers

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.



If you would like to volunteer to help with Seamless Summer, we need people on the following dates: in **June on the 18th & 25th, & in July on the 9th, 16th, & 23rd all at Clear Creek Elementary School.** The distribution time is from 4:00 - 5:30 pm each day. Please contact the church office to sign up. 706-635-2555

From the Finance Committee
The Finance Committee would like to remind everyone to use a contribution envelope from the pew when donating cash. Cash folded into your attendance form is often separated when we transfer the collection from the offering plates. Please know that all cash not in envelopes will be counted as loose cash going forward.

Congratulations to Mattie Bryant, one of our former youths, who has been ordained into the ministry. We are so excited for Mattie.

Ellijay First UMC Merchandise
Wouldn't it be great to be identified as a member of EFUMC when you are out working on church missions? We thought so, too! These shirts will be available soon! \$10 each. Call the office to pre-order! There is a copy of the print on the church office door for you to check out.

**Hot Dogs & Hallelujahs
Community Celebration**

We are planning a celebration on the church lawn for the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence. We will begin at 6:00 pm on July 4, 2026 grilling hot dogs and passing out ice cold water. Plan to join your church family to commemorate this exciting day in our Nation's history. More to come!

Children's Church Volunteer Schedule:

6/14 - Help Needed
6/21 - Help Needed
6/28 - Help Needed
7/5 - Help Needed

Church Lock-up Schedule:

6/14 - 6/20 Barry Griffin
6/21 - 6/27 Bill Munson
6/28 - 7/4 Hank Chapman
7/5 - 7/11 Charlie Cobb

Standin' In the Need of Prayer

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

Wanda Sandels, Doug Bater, and our VBS staff, students, and parents

God knows the need.

*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... This week is the North Georgia Annual Conference?
The tradition of annual conferences dates back to the early days of Methodism under John Wesley. While these sessions are a time to make business and financial decisions that impact local congregations, they are also deeply spiritual events filled with worship and fellowship. Annual conference members are expected to engage one another as siblings in Christ, listening deeply and discerning where God may be leading the church. In addition to voting on resolutions and receiving reports from various ministries, lay members will attend daily worship, participate in Bible studies, and witness sacred moments such as the ordination of new elders and deacons. Conferences may also schedule time for prayer, celebrations, mourning, or reflection. Usually held in Athens, Georgia, this year's North Georgia Annual Conference will be held June 17-20.

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

Upcoming Events:

June 15 - 19 - Vacation Bible School
Rainforest Falls: Exploring God's Nature
June 18 - 20 - Annual Conference in Athens, GA
Sunday, June 21 - Father's Day
Saturday, July 4 - Hot Dogs & Hallelujahs
Community Celebration

Who's Who in Ellijay First United Methodist?
Marsha Vautrot has been volunteering in the church office since the beginning of time. 😊 But seriously, she's been working to support the church since she joined in 2008. At one time, she was responsible for producing a church newsletter. In addition to volunteering in the office, she serves as our Delegate to the Annual Conference and will, once again, attend this week in Athens. Before she ended up in Ellijay, Marsha was a high school Business Education teacher in Louisiana for 33 years. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling (especially on cruise ships), visiting with her sister and friends, listening to audiobooks, watching television, and taking care of her two rescue dogs, Bailey & Chloe. Marsha has a great sense of humor and a true heart for serving. Thank you, Marsha for your continued dedication to Ellijay First UMC. You are very special to our church family!

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...LJkids@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, June 14, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
3rd Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday Worship Service

June 14, 2026

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Larry Shackley
"Revive Us Again"

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation

Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation

The God of ages past and days to come is here,
inviting us to worship and praise.

The God of promises and challenges is within us,
calling us to faithful service.

The God of boundless love is with us,
making every one of God's promises possible.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 365 "Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

† 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 378
"Amazing Grace" Vs. 1, 2, 3, & 6

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Joel Rainey
"Standing on the Promises"

†**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 Solo by JoAnn Davis
"My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord" by John Purifoy

† The Scripture Reading Luke 15:25-32

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.

²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.

²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹ "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon
"The Parable of the Elder Son"

†**The Closing Hymn**
UMH 572

"Pass It On"

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

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

†**The Postlude** by John Carter
"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

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.