

Hot Dogs & Hallelujahs Celebration

This Saturday we will gather on the church lawn to celebrate 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. Wear your best USA inspired headgear, be it hat, headband, or whatever you dream up and enter our "USA is TOPS" hat contest. Bring your lawn chairs, your cornhole games, and plan to stay for the fireworks around 9:00 pm!

A note of thanks to the Missions Crew

I am writing this to the church and think it would be wonderful if you shared. Joseph Lowery and his crew came to my house on June 20 and, after introductions, went right to work. This crew was just great. They were at my house for about two hours or so. The work they did was just fantastic. My bushes were trimmed better than I could have done. They also cleaned up all the cuttings, pulled the grass and weeds, and made my home look really wonderful. I am so pleased with what they did. I don't think a landscaping company could have done any better. There is no doubt in my mind that this crew is no less than a great asset to our wonderful church.
~ Gerald Boyne (Jerry)

Church Lock-up Schedule:



6/28 - 7/4 Hank Chapman
7/05 - 7/11 Charlie Cobb
7/12 - 7/18 Barry Griffin
7/19 - 7/25 Bill Munson



July 1 - Julie Kepley

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.



Ellijay First UMC Merchandise
Ellijay First UMC MISSION tee-shirts ARE HERE! They are \$10 each. Come by the church office to get yours! Children's sizes are available.



Thank You!
Chuck & Judy Wray have taken on the task of keeping the flower boxes in our columbarium fresh and seasonal. They do a beautiful job and consider it a personal mission for the church. We appreciate it!



Handy Hank Chapman shown here after installing the new sign for our Student Center, with the help of Barry Griffin. The Trustees have worked tirelessly to get this project completed and we are excited to start using the Student Center!



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

Standin' In the Need of Prayer

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

The family of Joe Cantwell, Board member of Gilmer Arts
Ruth Hix, Moses Mooney

*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... that we have a columbarium on our church grounds? A columbarium is a permanent fixture designed to hold funeral urns containing cremated human remains. It is made up of individual compartments called niches, which are securely sealed and serve as an above-ground final resting place similar to a traditional cemetery grave. It provides comfort to the family having a memorial to their deceased family member within the church grounds. It affirms our faith that those who die in the Lord remain not only with God, but with all those who have gone before us in the faith and also with the living. It is a visible sign that the church cares for its members from birth and baptism through death and eternal life. It offers a practical and comfortable way to make advance plans, often relieving the surviving family of difficult decisions. Our columbarium is theologically sound and environmentally friendly. Church members and their immediate family members, as well as former members are eligible for inurnment at our columbarium. If you want to know more or would like to secure a niche for you or your loved one(s), please contact the church office.

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:

Sunday, June 21 - Father's Day
Monday, June 22 - Faith, Hope, & Charity
Volunteer Social
1:00pm Fellowship Hall
Saturday, July 4 - Hot Dogs & Hallelujahs
Community Celebration
6:00 pm on the church lawn

Who's Who in Ellijay First United Methodist?

This week we would like for you to meet Lori McCurdy. Lori volunteers in the church office every Tuesday afternoon. She is the one who sends church members a birthday card, and keeps the church calendar updated. Lori also volunteers for Team Tabitha and does a great deal of sewing for others. She is an avid gardener, and is very involved in the Gilmer County Garden Club. In fact, Lori is currently taking a course on how to judge flower shows. She has completed her first course and has three more to go before we will have to address her as "your Honor, Judge Lori". She has two grown children, Kegan & Jenny. Lori holds a Master's degree in Christian Education and has worked as a Pre-K teacher. She also worked as a travel agent for 12 years. Lori has lived all over the country, but settled in Ellijay in 2004 and became involved in our church shortly thereafter. We appreciate Lori and all that she does for us!



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, June 28, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
5th Sunday After Pentecost

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The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Mary McDonald
“I Must Tell Jesus/Blessed Assurance”

Welcome, Announcements, Invocation
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation

When the Lord seems far away,
may we place our faith in God.
When God’s face is hidden from us,
may we put our trust in God’s steadfast love.
When our souls bear the pain of earthly trials,
may we seek God’s strength, lest we break.
Let us place our trust in God’s goodness and mercy.
Our hearts rejoice in God’s salvation.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 600
“Wonderful Words of Life”

† 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 Leah Easley

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer Rev. Dr. Shearon

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 895

†The Hymn of Preparation TFWS 2196
“We Walk By Faith”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mary McDonald
“A Quiet Moment with Amazing Grace”

†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 vocal duet by Alison Baker & JoAnn Davis
“You are My All in All” by Lloyd Larson

† The Scripture Reading Mark 4:26-34

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon
“The Parable of the Mustard Seed”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 371
“I Stand Amazed” vs 1, 2, & 5

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

†The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude by Mary McDonald
“New Born Again”

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

† - Please, stand as you are able

Scripture Reading Mark 4:26-34

²⁶ He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰ Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

³³ With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴ He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

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.