

**LIJ Kids**  
meet weekly  
**Wednesday**  
after school

from **3:30-5:00 pm**. All children 1st through 5th grade are welcome. Leah is doing an 8 week series called “Campfire Stories”. For more information, see Leah Easley, Director of Children’s Ministries.

**Farewell Dear Friends**

Tony & Suzy Ganz will be leaving us soon to move near family in Florida. We would like to send them off with warm wishes after the church service **today**. Please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall for an opportunity to celebrate our time having them here and offer blessings for the next chapter of their journey.

**Help is Needed**

Carla Tarrou is putting together a scrapbook of the history of our church. She would like for you to help with any photos that you may have. She will copy the photos and return them to you. If you have pictures of church events over the years, please consider loaning them for this project. You can contact the church office for more information or drop pictures off during office hours of 9-4, Monday - Thursday.

Last week, Bibles were given to our rising 3rd graders, Jemma Daisy Davis & Liam Bramlett.

**Church Lock-up Schedule:**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 8/16 - 8/22 | Bill Munson  |
| 8/23 - 8/29 | Hank Chapman |
| 8/30 - 9/05 | Joe Poole    |
| 9/06 - 9/12 | Charlie Cobb |

8/20 - Sharon Elkins  
8/20 - Karen Patton  
8/22 - Tony Ganz

**Altar Flowers**

*The flowers on the altar today are in memory of Tom Lowery, Sr. to commemorate his birthday.*

**8/16/1931- 4/22/2025**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all of your prayers, cards, kind words, and food during my dad’s passing. Your hospitality during and after his service was much appreciated and everyone had a healing time of sharing stories and memories as long-time family and friends gathered together.

Love,  
Marianne  
& Family

**Fall Native American Gathering**

Ellijay First United Methodist will host The North Georgia Committee on Native American Ministries gathering on **Saturday, September 12** from **10:30 - 1:30**. If you would like to help prepare the meal to be served, please see the insert in this week’s bulletin. You can also register for the event on the insert.

**Red Bird Fall Mission Trip**

If you would like to participate in the Fall mission trip to the **Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY**, scheduled for **Sept 20-25**, please sign up by September 2.

**Preschool Returns**

Our own Children First Preschool will begin again on August 20, 2026. For the safety and protection of our children, the vestibule doors will be locked during school hours (9:00-12 noon). The church office is open and you are welcome, but you will need to ring the doorbell for access to the building while children are present. We apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you for helping keep our children safe!

**Standin’ In the Need of Prayer**

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

Judy Leonard, Judy Serritella, Travis Reese  
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.*

**Our Regular Schedule:**

**Sunday**

Helping Hands Sun School 8:45am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
Singles/Mingles 1:00-3:00pm

**Monday**

Team Tabitha Sewing Ministry 9:00am  
(1st & 3rd Monday)  
Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut

**Tuesday**

Ladies Bible Study - 11:00am Room 11  
Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut  
NOG Bible Study 4:00pm Room 11  
(1st & 3rd Tuesday)

**Wednesday**

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

**Thursday**

Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut  
Methodist Men 4:30pm  
Fellowship Hall (1st Thursday)  
Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut

Joyful Noon Circle, Altars Sunday School, & Book Club will resume in September. Handbell Choir will resume in September. Contact Joann Davis for information.

**Who’s Who in Ellijay First UMC...** Jacqueline Poole is the Chairperson of our Staff/Parish Relations Committee. She was born and raised in Michigan, but fell in love with the mild weather of the south many years ago. Jacqueline and her family moved to Ellijay in 2007 from Newnan. After moving here, Jacqueline and her husband, Joe, enrolled their daughters, Ashlynn & Addison, in the Children First Preschool program and have been involved in various programs in the church ever since. When she is not helping at the church, she is a professional commercial Pilot, having flown since 1995. She currently flies for Southwest Airlines. Jacqueline says that “any home-time” is her hobby. We appreciate Jacqueline and all that she does for her church family. We love you, Jacqueline!

**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...LIJkids@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

**Sunday, August 16, 2026**  
**10:00 am Worship Service**  
**12h Sunday After Pentecost**

Sunday Worship Service  
August 16, 2026  
12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Larry Shackley  
“Heavenly Sunlight”

Welcome, Announcements, Invocation  
The Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon

The Call to Worship by Baxter & Doane  
“Precious Name”

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation  
When hatred and division separate us,  
God’s love binds us together.  
When quarrels estrange us,  
Christ’s grace brings reconciliation.  
When we feel excluded and left out,  
The Spirit’s peace eases our pain.  
Come! Let us worship the One who makes us one.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 374  
“Standing On The Promises”

† 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 2146  
“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mark Hayes  
“Jesus Saves”

†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 Mark Hayes  
“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

† The Scripture Reading Isaiah 56:3-8

The Sermon  
“Prophecies That Were Later Fulfilled”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 527  
“Do, Lord, Remember Me”

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  
“Promised Land”

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

†-Please stand, as you are able.  
UMH - [United Methodist Hymnal](#)  
TFWS - [The Faith We Sing](#) songbook

Isaiah 56:3-8

<sup>3</sup> Let no foreigner who is bound to the LORD say,  
“The LORD will surely exclude me from his people.”  
And let no eunuch complain,  
“I am only a dry tree.”  
<sup>4</sup> For this is what the LORD says:

“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,  
who choose what pleases me  
and hold fast to my covenant—  
<sup>5</sup> to them I will give within my temple and its walls  
a memorial and a name  
better than sons and daughters;  
I will give them an everlasting name  
that will endure forever.  
<sup>6</sup> And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD  
to minister to him,  
to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it  
and who hold fast to my covenant—  
<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and give them joy in my house of prayer.  
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house will be called  
a house of prayer for all nations.”  
<sup>8</sup> The Sovereign LORD declares—  
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:  
“I will gather still others to them  
besides those already gathered.”

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.