

Our Wednesday night **Mission Meal** will be this week on **August 12 at 5:30pm**. Proceeds will benefit the September trip to Red Bird. The menu will be: Pulled Pork sandwiches, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, and dessert. Sign up on the Attendance Registration in your bulletin or contact the church office at 706-635-2555 by Monday at 4:00.



**LJ Kids** will resume weekly

activities on August 12. Leah is leading an 8 week study titled “Campfire Stories”. They will meet each **Wednesday** after school from **3:30-5:00 pm**. All children 1st through 5th grade are welcome. For more information, see Leah Easley, Director of Children’s Ministries.



**Trading Georgia for Florida**

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 next **Sunday, August 16**. 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.

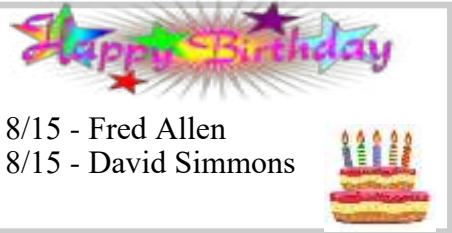


*The will of God  
will never lead you  
where the grace of God  
cannot keep you.  
II Cor. 12:9*

**Church Lock-up  
Schedule:**



- 8/09 - 8/15 Barry Griffin
- 8/16 - 8/22 Bill Munson
- 8/23 - 8/29 Hank Chapman
- 8/30 - 9/06 Joe Poole



8/15 - Fred Allen  
8/15 - David Simmons

**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. The cost is \$515 per person, which covers your meals and lodging for the week. Please contact Karen Woodlief at (770) 891-1088 or the church office to add your name to the list.



**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 the inconvenience, and thank you for helping keep our children safe!

**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.



**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 Serritella, Rick Thaxton, Regina Bagwell, & Lloyd Ridings

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.*

**The Power of Prayer...**This past Monday morning at 7:00am, Marianne, our Pre-school Director, and Pastor Mike stood out in front of the church inviting anyone who wished to use our Sanctuary for prayer to do so. The intent was for parents, students, teachers, administrators, or anyone who wanted to offer up prayer for the 2026-2027 School year. One person came and wanted to pray for their adult child, who is incarcerated and had not been heard from for a while. They feared the worse and came to pray at the altar of the church. Shortly after praying, their child called. The incarcerated adult had encountered some tough time in prison, but called to let their parent know they were alive. Call it coincidence, call it good timing, or call it an answer to prayer. We choose to believe the latter. You never know how God might use you or the church to reassure someone that He is still present. He only wants us to invite Him to be part of our daily lives. It brings to mind the old hymn, *Only Trust Him*. Vs 3 Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way that leads you into rest; believe in him without delay, and you are fully blest.

Clyde White passed in the morning hours of July 24 at Piedmont Mountainside Hospital. He had a magnetic personality and his warm blue eyes made you feel like you were talking to a long time friend. We are so very blessed to have had Clyde with us since 2017. A Celebration of Clyde’s life was held here at the church yesterday. His kind spirit and gentle personality will be missed by all, especially his daughter, Marianne Evans, and her family. He made many friends throughout his lifetime and we can all feel comfort in knowing that he has reached his final reward in heaven after a long, well lived life.



**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...LJKids@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, August 9, 2026  
10:00 am Worship Service  
11h Sunday After Pentecost**



Sunday Worship Service  
August 9, 2026  
11th Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Joel Raney  
“Unclouded Day”

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

Blessing of the Backpacks  
All students, teachers, administrators, & school support staff are welcome to come to the altar to pray for the new school year and receive a small gift from the church.

The Call to Worship by Doris Akers  
“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation  
Christ comes for us in sunshine and in the dead of night. Welcome the presence of Christ!  
We welcome you, O Christ! Blessed be your name!  
Christ reaches out to us in the stillness of peace and in the rage of the storm. Nothing overwhelms our Savior. Nothing overcomes.  
Our hope and trust are in you! Blessed be your name!

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 156  
“I Love to Tell The Story”

† 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 2140  
“Since Jesus Came Into My Heart”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Jack Schrader  
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

†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 Chopin  
“Lay Up Your Treasures in Heaven”

† The Scripture Reading Romans 10:8-15

The Sermon  
“Some Very Good News!”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 569  
“We’ve A Story to Tell to the Nations”

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  
“This Little Light of Mine”

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

Romans 10:8-15

<sup>8</sup> But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim:  
<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.  
<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.  
<sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.”  
<sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,  
<sup>13</sup> for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”  
<sup>14</sup> How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?  
<sup>15</sup> And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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.