



LJ Kids meet weekly every **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, Children’s Director. Leah is also planning a camp out to celebrate the end of this series on Friday, October 23 behind the Scout Hut. Look for more information and an invitation to the congregation to join in the fun.



**Trunk or Treat**

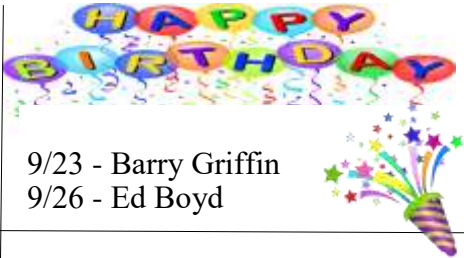
Trunk or Treat will be here in five weeks in the church parking lot. If you would like to enter a car trunk, truck bed, or SUV hatch, please complete the form found in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate or turn in at the church office. We hope to have approximately 30 trunks for the kiddo to visit this year. We are also looking for someone who does face painting for the event. If you have questions, please see Leah Easley, our Children’s Ministry Director.

**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.



**Church Lock-up Schedule:**

9/20 - 9/26 Bill Munson  
9/27 - 10/03 Hank Chapman  
10/04 - 10/10 Charlie Cobb  
10/11 - 10/17 Barry Griffin



9/23 - Barry Griffin  
9/26 - Ed Boyd

**"Man's soul finds no rest until it rests in God"**

~Augustine

**Church Directory**  
Get your outfits ready, and your hair coiffed. The dates are set and the cameras are gonna be clickin’. Mark your calendar for Friday, October 30 & Saturday, October 31. These are the dates that pictures will be taken for the new pictorial directory. You will be able to schedule your appointment time beginning September 27. More information coming soon!

Have you always wanted to learn how to play Chess? Do you know the game, but have no one to play with? Are you between 8-18 years old? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then come on over to the **Student Center** and join our new **Youth Chess Club!** We meet every **Thursday** from **3:30-5:30 pm** where we will review the strategies of Chess, have matches to test your skills, and enjoy a snack. If you have questions or are interested in being an adult volunteer, contact Joseph Lowery, Youth Director, at 706-669-0172. *Please note that they will not meet this week due to Joseph being on the Red Bird Mission trip.*



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 Margie Merritt sister to Mary Jo Lowery,  
Garrison Hamm, Anderson Hamm

*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 Sunday School 8:45am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
Altars Sunday School 11:00am  
Singles/Mingles 1:00-3:00pm

**Monday**  
Team Tabitha Sewing Ministry 9:00am  
Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut

**Tuesday**  
Ladies Bible Study - 11:00am Room 11  
Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut  
Joyful Noon Circle - 12:00 noon  
Fellowship Hall (3rd Tuesday)  
NOG Bible Study 4:00pm (1st & 3rd Tuesday) Room 11

**Wednesday**  
LJ Kids 3:30-5:00 pm  
Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm  
Handbell Practice Resumes 5:30-6:30 pm  
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**Thursday**  
Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut  
Book Club 2:00pm (4th Thursday)  
Youth Chess Club 3:30-5:30  
Student Center  
Methodist Men 4:30pm (1st Thursday)  
Fellowship Hall  
Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut

**Who’s Who in Ellijay First UMC...**This week, meet Jennetta Lowery, our Administrative Assistant. Jennetta has been a member of this church since 2005. She has participated in the Chancel Choir, VBS, GRASP, Singles Mingles, and in 2025 became the Administrative Assistant after retiring from 24 years of teaching in the Gilmer County School System. This church helped her weather the most difficult journey of becoming a widow in 2018. Ellijay First UMC’s support, prayers, and love guided her through that time, and in 2021 she and fellow church member Tom Lowery (who was also widowed) started their journey together. They married in May 2025. Jennetta has two adult children, Anthony (34) & Molly (28). While she doesn’t have grandchildren of her own, she enjoys spoiling her inherited grandchildren, of whom there are 9 located in Japan, Hawaii, Texas, and Florida.

**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  
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office@ellijayfirstumc.org



Amicalola Falls

**Sunday, September 20, 2026**  
**10:00 am Worship Service**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Sunday Worship Service  
September 20, 2026  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

**The Prelude:** arr by Mary McDonald  
“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God/  
Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart”

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

**Passing of the Peace**  
Congregation

**The Call to Worship** by Jackson Henry  
“What A Mighty God We Serve”

**† The Greeting** Liturgist & **Congregation**  
In their wilderness wandering, the Israelites grumbled.  
The Lord lighted their way and provided nourishment.  
**In our life journeys, we will give thanks for the  
providence of the Holy One.**  
In their daily work, the laborers in the field grumbled  
with resentment over gracious giving.  
**In our daily lives, we will rejoice at generosity shown  
to others.**  
As we seek to live our lives by the example of Christ,  
may we delight in God’s grace.  
**We will offer caring presence and abundant  
generosity. We will even endeavor to give up our  
grumbling.**

**† The Hymns of Praise** UMH 145  
“Morning Has Broken”

**† 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 Hymns of Preparation** UMH 454  
“Open My Eyes That I May See”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

**The Offertory Music** arr by Lloyd Larson  
“Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

**†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 Lloyd Larson  
“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God”

**† The Scripture Reading** **Ezekiel 37:1-10**

**The Sermon** Rev. Dr. Shearon  
“Digging Up Bones”

**†The Closing Hymns** UMH 420  
“Breathe on Me Breath of God”

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

**†Benediction** Rev. Dr. Shearon

**†The Postlude** arr by Lloyd Larson  
“How Great Is Our God”

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

†-Please stand, as you are able. UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

Ezekiel 37:1-10

**37** The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me  
out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a  
valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me back and forth  
among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor  
of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He asked me,  
“Son of man, can these bones live?”

I said, “Sovereign LORD, you alone know.”

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to  
them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup> This is what  
the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make  
breath<sup>[a]</sup> enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will attach  
tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover  
you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come  
to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.’”

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was  
prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the  
bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and  
tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered  
them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy,  
son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD  
says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into  
these slain, that they may live.’” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he  
commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to  
life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

**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.