



Fall Native American Gathering

THIS SATURDAY, September 12 from **10:30 - 1:30** we will host the Fall Native American Gathering. All are welcome. There will be a smudging ceremony, drumming, a message, and lunch. We hope to see you there! *If you have signed up to help provide the meal, please have all food at the church by 10:00am.* Call the church office at 706-635-2555 to register or volunteer.



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 a week series called “Campfire Stories”. For more information, see Leah Easley, Children’s Director.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
9/7 - Frank Richardson
9/8 - Paul Stanhope
9/9 - Anthony Palmeri
9/10 - Robert Hubbard
9/10 - Betty McCutchen
9/11 - Barbara Fogle



Cozy Coats & Coverings Campaign For Red Bird Mission

Red Bird is asking for **coats, jackets, hats, scarves, gloves**, and anything that is warm for the winter months. Please only bring **NEW CLOTHING with tags**, as it can be given to the needy and doesn’t have to be processed through the Red Bird Store. Specifically, clothing for **children newborn to 5 years old** is in demand. We can also accept canned and non-perishable food, as well as monetary donations. Please have donations in by Thursday, September 17 at 4:00pm.



Church Lock-up Schedule:

9/06 - 9/12 Charlie Cobb
9/13 - 9/19 Barry Griffin
9/20 - 9/26 Bill Munson
9/27 - 10/3 Hank Chapman

The **Missions Committee** will meet **today** in the Fellowship Hall following the Worship Service.

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.



Time to Put On Your Thinking Caps!

Trunk or Treat will be here in seven weeks, on October 28, in the church parking lot. What are you going to come up with this year? Get your creative juices flowing and dazzle us with your designs. A sign up sheet will be available soon.

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.

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 Lee Graham, father of Anjanett Griffin

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

Monday	Tuesday
Team Tabitha Sewing Ministry 9:00am Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut	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 Room 11 (1st & 3rd Tuesday)
Wednesday	Thursday
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	Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut Book Club 2:00pm (4th Thursday) Methodist Men 4:30pm Fellowship Hall THIS THURSDAY Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut

Who’s Who in Ellijay First UMC...

Jesse Easley is the co-Chair of our Men’s group. He grew up in Ellijay First UMC and has strong ties to Cartecay UMC as well. After graduation from Gilmer High School, he joined the Marines. He was stationed in Hawaii and did two non-combat missions in Okinawa as a Mortarman. In 2014, Leah (our Children’s Director) joined him in Hawaii to elope. Jesse and Leah now have two sons, Zackary and Henry, and a 20 acre farm in Chatsworth. When Jesse isn’t working as the regional vice president for Leafguard, he enjoys hunting, fishing, going out on his boat on Carter’s Lake, and tending to his farm animals (goats, cows, horses, and chickens). It’s such a joy to see Jesse as a successful Man of God for those of us who have watched him grow up. We love you and are so very proud of you, Jesse! Thank you for your service to our country & our church!

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, September 6, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
15th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday Worship Service
September 6, 2026
15th Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Joel Raney
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Welcome, Announcements, Invocation
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon

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

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation
The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.
We lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.
We owe no one anything, except to love one another, for love is the fulfillment of the law.
We come to worship with hearts awakened, ready to cast off the old and embrace the new.
Let us awaken to the call of God, to live as people of the day, and to shine God’s love in all we do.
We worship the One who calls us into the light, to love one another as God has loved us. Amen.

† The Hymns of Praise UMH 139
“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” vs. 1,2,3, & 5

† 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 355
“Depth of Mercy” vs. 1,2,4, & 5

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mark Hayes
“Christians We Have Met to Worship”

†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 Natalie Sleeth
“Break the Bread”

† The Scripture Reading Hosea 11:1-11

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“A Love Story”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH 12

†The Closing Hymns UMH 370
“Victory In Jesus”

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

†Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude arr by John Carter
“Jesu Jesu”

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

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

Hosea 11:1-11

11 “When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.
2 But the more they were called, the more they went away from me. They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned in-cense to images.
3 It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them.
4 I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love. To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them.
5 “Will they not return to Egypt and will not Assyria rule over them because they refuse to repent?
6 A sword will flash in their cities; it will devour their false prophets and put an end to their plans.
7 My people are determined to turn from me. Even though they call me God Most High, I will by no means exalt them.
8 “How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I treat you like Admah? How can I make you like Zeboyim? My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused.
9 I will not carry out my fierce anger, nor will I devastate Ephraim again. For I am God, and not a man—the Holy One among you. I will not come against their cities.
10 They will follow the LORD; he will roar like a lion. When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west.
11 They will come from Egypt, trembling like sparrows, from Assyria, fluttering like doves. I will settle them in their homes,” declares the LORD.

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.