



LJ Kids meet weekly on **Wednesday** after school from **3:30-5:00 pm**. All children 1st through 5th grade are welcome. Leah is planning a camp out to celebrate the end of this series they have been studying on Friday, October 23 behind the Scout Hut.

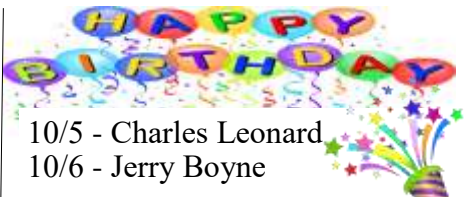
Operation Christmas Child
The shoe boxes are in and ready to be filled. You can pick yours up in the back hallway. You can also use your own box that is the size of a shoebox. All boxes are due back on Sunday, November 15. See Pam Chapman for details.

Church Family,
Thank you for the many cards, calls, visits, prayers, and well wishes during my recent illness. I am glad to be feeling much better and appreciate the love you have shown to me and my family. ~Judy Leonard

Ministry Opportunities
Our church is at the roots of at least two very important ministries that are ongoing and always in need of volunteers. If you are looking for a place to live out your hours in ministry to others in our community, please consider Faith Hope and Charity Recycle Store and the Gilmer County Warming Center. For information on either ministry, reach out to Jan Day at 706/276-1492 (after 5pm) or 706/669-7251 (cell). You will see many familiar faces at both locations!

Wednesday Night Dinner
The Choir will host dinner on **Wednesday, October 14th at 5:30pm**. The menu is Pasta, Bread, Salad, & dessert. Sign up on the attendance slip found in your bulletin or in the church office by Monday 10/12.

Church Lock-up Schedule:
10/04 - 10/10 Charlie Cobb
10/11 - 10/17 Barry Griffin
10/18 - 10/24 Bill Munson
10/25 - 10/31 Hank Chapman



Altar Guild
The Altar Guild will meet following the service today in the Sanctuary.

Mission Committee
The Missions Committee will meet following the service today in room 29.

Interested?
Pastor Mike would like to offer a class in **Methodism 101**. Call the church office if you have interest in attending this class.

Yearly Charge Conference
The Charge Conference for electing church officers for 2027 is **today at 5:30 pm** in the Sanctuary. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, will be officiating. We hope you will be able to attend.

We will have Pastor Appreciation Sunday next week and encourage you to express your gratitude for Pastor Mike's spiritual leadership & guidance with a card, a special prayer, or in your own unique way.

Our Church Family Album Will not be complete Without YOU!
You can sign up in the Fellowship Hall before and after Sunday Services today and each Sunday until October 18. If you would like to schedule online, go to www.ucdir.com You will use the Church Code: **ga259** The online family password is **ga259member**

The Youth Chess Club meets every **Thursday from 3:30-5:30 pm** at the **Student Center**. If you are interested in attend like to volunteer to help, contact Joseph Lowery, Youth Ministry



Standin' In the Need of Prayer
Everyone is in need of prayer. Sometimes some need an extra dose.
When you pray this week, remember
Brett Barnett, Nell Bater in the loss of her husband,
Tom & Stacy Morgan's friend Vicki Craig in the loss of her husband,
& numerous unspoken prayer requests
God knows each need & desire.
Prayer Request forms are in the pew racks.
Please 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 (1st and 3rd Monday)
Zumba - 4:30pm Scout Hut
Tuesday
Ladies Bible Study - 11:00am Room 11
Chair Yoga 11:30am - Scout Hut
Women in Faith - 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 we recognize our "First Lady", Mrs. Holly Shearon. Holly has stood by Pastor Mike's side for more than 43 years. They have 2 adult children, Heather & Joel. She has served at 8 churches with Mike. While they were at two appointments, she worked for two school systems in elementary school cafeterias. She also worked as a Pre-School teacher at one of their churches. She has a heart for missions and has joined Mike on several mission trips in the U.S. and abroad. Holly loves to cook and bake goodies to share with people and use to prepare the Wednesday night meals at one of their churches. She enjoys walking her dogs, hiking to see beautiful waterfalls, and volunteering & shopping at Faith, Hope, & Charity Recycle Store. Her most difficult job is trying to keep Pastor Mike from chasing rabbits down rabbit holes. We love Holly and appreciate the support she provides for Pastor Mike. We pray that God continues to bless her in His service.



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, October 4, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
World Communion Sunday

Sunday Worship Service
October 4, 2026
World Communion Sunday

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Cindy Berry
“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

Welcome, Announcements, Invocation
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon

Passing of the Peace
Congregation

The Call to Worship by Cloninger & Nystrom
“Come to the Table”

† The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation
The heavens proclaim the glory of God!
We too proclaim what God has done in our lives.
Voices of praise shout to the ends of the earth.
May we join the chorus, as we sing of God’s great and
abiding love!

† The Hymns of Praise UMH 571
“Go Make of All Disciples”

† 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 572
“Pass It On”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mark Hayes
“There Is A Fountain”

†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 arr by Joseph M. Martin
“Sing Joy, All Ye People”

† The Scripture Reading John 1:35-51

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon
“Communion With Jesus”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH 12

†The Closing Hymns UMH 575
“Onward Christian Soldiers”

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

†Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude arr by John Carter
“Trumpet Tune”

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

†-Please stand, as you are able.

UMH - [United Methodist Hymnal](#)

John 1:35-51

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples.
³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of
God!”³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed
Jesus. ³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked,
“What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”),
“where are you staying?” ³⁹ “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”
So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that
day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon
Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said
and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to
find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the
Messiah” (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus
looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be
called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter). ⁴³ The next day
Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him,
“Follow me.” ⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town
of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have
found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom
the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”
⁴⁶ “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael
asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael
approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom
there is no deceit.” ⁴⁸ “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.
Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree
before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you
are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.” ⁵⁰ Jesus said, “You
believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will
see greater things than that.” ⁵¹ He then added, “Very truly I tell
you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending
and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

Pastor Mike’s Sermon Focus:

The greatest thing in the world is for one person to
bring another person into communion with Jesus
Christ. Today’s Scripture teaches us that this happens
through Personal Presentation, Positive Declaration,
Persuasive Confrontation, and Powerful
Transformation. The only hope of peace for this world
is for each of us to bring people into communion with
Jesus Christ our 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.