



Mar 10: Sylvia Baker  
 Mar 11: Andy Ashurst  
 Mar 11: Colby Pflueger  
 Mar 12: Justin Lawrenz  
 Mar 12: Jack Nunn Jr  
 Mar 14: Ann Hanline  
 Mar 14: Peggy Puckett  
 Mar 16: Carson Purvis  
 Mar 16: Kinsleigh Purvis

### Upcoming Calendar

**Monday, March 11th**  
 4:30 pm: Claddagh Circle  
 6:00 pm: Administrative Council

**Tuesday, March 12th**  
 8:00 am: UMM, Smokehouse Grill  
 11:00 am: Bible Study  
 4:00 pm: Bible Study

**Wednesday, March 13th**  
 12:00 pm: Lunch and Learn - study in Acts

### LIJ Kids

Join your friends and bring a friend and learn about our surprise letter G word.

Anyone that guesses it before it is revealed will get a surprise!

See you Wednesday after school until 5:00!



## Ellijay First

United Methodist Church  
 75 McCutchen Street, P.O. Box 472  
 Ellijay, GA 30540

**March 10, 2024 - Fourth Sunday in Lent**

*10:00 a.m. Worship - The Color is Purple*

### The Worship of God

**Welcome and Announcements**

**The Chiming of the Hour**

**Focusing Words:** Grace is the gift that binds us to God. It protects us, redeems us, restores us, and makes us whole.

**Prelude** "Arioso"

*by G.F. Handel*

**The Call to Worship** "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"  
*by Fanny J. Crosby and William H. Doane*

† **The Greeting**

Leader: The goodness of God beckons,  
**People: calling us to goodness and grace.**  
 Leader: The grace of God redeems,  
**People: saving us and making us whole.**  
 Leader: The love of God welcomes,  
**People: inviting us to worship and praise.**

† **The Invocation**

† **The Hymn of Praise**

"What Wondrous Love Is This" UMH 292

### Lecture Series

The History of Methodism  
 Led by Associate Pastor Chris Shoemaker

March 21st - May 2nd  
 (no 3/28 meeting)

Come to learn more about Wesleyan and Methodist worship.

### Grace in Him

**Saturday, March 16th**  
 Come join us for a morning of fellowship and worship from 9AM to Noon.

This Women's Conference take place in our Fellowship Hall. Cost per attendee is \$15.



### Easter Egg Hunt Eggs Needed!!

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be after the 10:00 a.m. service on March 31st. Please help by sending a dozen or so filled eggs. You may fill them with candy or a special treat. There

will be a collection box outside the office by the staff mail slots. Thank you for your support as this is a special treat for our children!



### FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week

**Lord, you know our desire and perceived need for control. Help us consecrate our lives to you instead of struggling to surrender. You consecrated yourself and gave up your earthly self-will to be obedient to the Father – His will, not ours. Help us to do the same. Amen**

### Single Mingles Events Activity Calendar

Sunday, 3/10 - EFUMC, 1PM  
 At the Movies

Friday, 3/15 - Fish Fry, Good Samaritan Church, 5PM.

Sunday, 3/17 - St. Paddy's Party, EFUMC, 1PM

### Preparing for Easter

**Maunder Thursday, March 28th - Seder meal at 5PM, Service at 6PM.**  
 More information to follow.



Our next Holy Communion will take place on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Rev. Dr. John Brantley, Pastor 404-323-5646 john@brantley.net  
 Rev. Chris Shoemaker, Associate Pastor 229-848-3264, pastor@brothershoe.com

Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist  
 Marianne Evans .... Children's Ministries and Preschool.... children@fumcellijay.org  
 Susan Gooch.....Director of Music .....choir@fumcellijay.org  
 Ann Hanline.....Admin. Asst/Financial Sec...office@fumcellijay.org  
 Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator  
 Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician  
 Claudia McKeon.....Organist

† **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.**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

† **The Hymn of Preparation**

“Amazing Grace”

UMH 378

**The Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**The Offertory Music:**

“Poor Wayfaring Stranger”

*arr. by John Purifoy*

† **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**

**The Anthem**

“God So Loved the World”

*by John Stainer, arr by John Leavitt*

**The Scripture**

Ephesians 2:1-10

NRSV

**Sermon**

“God is Rich in Mercy”

Pastor

**The Closing Hymn**

“Because He Lives”

UMH 364

† **The Benediction**

† **The Choral Benediction**

“Lamb of God ” (refrain) TFWS 2113

**The Postlude**

“When Morning Guilds the Skies”

*arr by John Purifoy*

**From Death to Life**

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

*Following the service, the Prayer Team is available at both the Narthex and Altar. They are wearing white scarves.*

***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.

† *Congregation Standing (as able) UMH - United Methodist Hymnal  
TFWS - The Faith We Sing*