

## The History of Methodism

Lecture Series at 6pm in the Youth Room  
Led by Interim Associate Pastor Chris Shoemaker  
March 21st - May 9th  
*Nursery Provided!*  
Join us to learn more about  
Wesleyan and Methodist Worship.

### Caring for a Loved One?

Consider taking part in our Long Term Caregivers Support Group. This group meets every Wednesday at 1pm in the Ben Barrett Room. Contact Paula Acree for more information.

### Singles Mingles Events

Sunday, April 28th @ 1pm - Comedy Club at EFUMC  
Sunday, May 5th @ 1pm - Cinco de Mayo Party,  
Lowery's Farm @ 1pm



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO PASTOR  
JOHN !**

### Other Upcoming Events:

May 2: National Day of Prayer

May 4: High Tea @ 11am

### Church Lock Up Schedule

April 28: Bill Munson  
May 5: Charles Leonard  
May 12: Lloyd Vautrot  
May 19: Hank Chapman

### LIJ Kids

This Wednesday we will be discovering our surprise Bible person/word. The letter is L! Guess it and win a prize!



### Help Wanted

If you are interested in joining the Mission Committee, please contact Rachel Tarr at 770-316-4934. **Thank you!**

### April Financial Recap

Check the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for complete financial information.

Needed Weekly: \$9963    Received 4/21: \$4962  
Year to Date Budget: \$201,711.78  
Year to Date Received: \$142,211.22

Thank You!

Thanks to Kerri Shoemaker for filling in as organist the next two weeks as Claudia takes time off for her family vacation. We are lucky to have such a multi-talented musician willing to step in when needed!



### FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week

Loving God, teach us fearless love for you, for our neighbors, and for ourselves. Remind us that real love, your love, drives out all fear. Amen.

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm  
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  
Susan Marino....Admin. Asst/Financial Sec...office@fumcellijay.org  
Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator  
Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician  
Claudia McKeon....Organist



Ellijay First  
United Methodist Church  
75 McCutchen Street, P.O. Box 472  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
April 28, 2024  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. Worship - The Color is White

### The Worship of God

Welcome and Announcements

The Chiming of the Hour

Focusing Words: Connected to Christ through the power of love, we become the presence of God for the world.

Prelude "The Master Hath Come"

arr by Mary McDonald

The Call to Worship "He Is Lord"

arr. by Tom Fettke

† The Greeting: (1John 4, John 15)

Leader: As members of Christ's tree of life,  
People: We are connected, in love, to God.

Leader: As members of Christ's tree of life,  
People: We are connected, in love, to one another.

Leader: As members of Christ's tree of life,  
People: We strengthen our connection through worship.

† The Invocation

† **The Hymn of Praise**

“Gather Us In” (vs 1,2,4) TFWS 2236  
*arr. by Tom Fettke*

† **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**

“I Need Thee Every Hour” (vs 1,2,4,5) UMH 397

**The Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**The Offertory Music:** “For the Beauty of the Earth”  
*by John Rutter*

† **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:** “Love Grows Here”  
*by Don Besig*

**The Scripture:** John 15:1-8 NRSV

**The Sermon:** “Living In Christ”

**The Closing Hymn**

“Go, Make of All Disciples” UMH 571

† **The Benediction**

† **The Choral Benediction**

“He Lives” (refrain) UMH 310

**The Postlude** “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”  
*by James Ellor with additional music by Camp Kirkland*

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

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

**Jesus the True Vine (John 15: 1-8 NRSV)**

**15** I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.

<sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes<sup>1</sup> to make it bear more fruit.

<sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

<sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

<sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.