

Yearly Charge Conference

The Charge Conference for electing officers for 2026 is set for, **Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 3:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. Our new District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, will be officiating. Please, plan to attend.



The Isaiah House, a 501-c-3 non-profit organization, seeks to assist men with life-controlling issues, such as drugs and alcohol, as well as other related problems by providing a healthy, balanced, and structured environment for the whole man. They address spiritual, physical, emotional, financial and legal issues, as well as learning how to serve others. The September Mission Dinner will benefit this important organization in our community. Please sign up on the attendance sheet and place it in the offering plate or call the office to register my Monday, 9/15 @ 4:00 pm. The dinner is **THIS WEDNESDAY**, September 17 @ 6:00 pm. The menu will be Spaghetti casserole, salad, bread, & dessert.



Native American Gathering
October 4th 10:30-1:30pm

Come out & worship Jesus,
Native American Style.
Fellowship and Smudging begin at 10:30am
Worship begins at 11am.
Lunch will be provided. Everyone is invited.
Please sign up on the bulletin insert or in the church office. The insert is double sided.
Be sure to write your name, shirt size, and if you have any Native American affiliation.

This Month’s Events

- September 15 - Team Tabitha charity sewing 9:00 am Fellowship Hall
- September 16 - Joyful Noon Circle 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall
- NO CHAIR YOGA
- September 17 - Monthly Mission Dinner benefiting the Isaiah House Ministry 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall
- September 18 - NO CHAIR YOGA
- September 21 - Red Bird Mission team leaves for Beverly, KY
- September 22 -Team Tabitha charity sewing 9:00 am Fellowship Hall
- September 23 - Faith, Hope, & Charity Volunteer celebration 12:30pm Fellowship Hall
- September 26 - Red Bird Mission team returns home
- September 29 - Team Tabitha charity sewing 9:00 am Fellowship Hall



Prayers for the Week

Pray without ceasing for family/friends, teachers, doctors, pastors, World Leaders/Military, The Weak, Sick & Hungry, Ourselves. Names highlighted in **bold** are new additions to the Prayer List.

<u>General</u> Juston Davis	Wanda Sandels Ann Shearon Dan Weaver Betty Wigley	<u>Hospice</u> Shirley Goldston Ed Jeffery
<u>Health</u> Brent Badinski Doug Bater Charles Benner Ed Boyd Kevin Brett Jack Brown Mark Brown Kyle Bullington Dan Charney Joan Compton Linda Copley Brenda Eisanhart Allen Fanelli Sharon Fletcher Barbara Fogel Suzy Gantz Betty Jo Hanes Ginger Hearn Jennifer Hix Ruth Hix Missy Kepley Rylan Leeper Shannon Leeper Jackie Leva Alyse Munson Lynn Perry	<u>Hospital/Rehab</u> Mary Uthlaut Paul Compton	<u>Caregiver</u> Joy Fanelli Scott Goldston Carolyn Hipp Lorraine Segraves Joan Stanhope Sherry Weaver
	<u>Surgery Recuperating</u> Alison Baker Steve Hearn Patti Smith Emily Westbrook Zared (infant - Surname not known)	<u>Deaths</u> Family of Saydee Low Family of Bob Morrow Family of Bill Patton Family of Terry Roylance
	<u>Shut-In</u> Peter Adams Marlene Brown Ermette Calhoun Earline Copley Jim Hagopian Mack Hipp Rudi Lanehardt Margie Pyren Myron Seagraves Paul Stanhope Robert Westmoreland	

Prayer Request forms are in the pew racks. Please fill free to complete and drop in the offering plate if you have a request.



We need you!
Seeking actors and animal managers of all ages. Email or text
Debbi Westcott
youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
706-455-3207



9/15 - Joe Poole

Lunch Benefit -

Sunday, October 5 from 11:00 - 2:00
All donations will benefit Missy Kepley and her ongoing medical needs.
Sponsored by GR.A.S.P. & members of Ellijay First UMC

Church Lock-up Schedule:

- 9/14-9/20 Barry Griffin
- 9/21-9/27 Bill Munson
- 9/28-10/4 Hank Chapman
- 10/5-10/11 Charlie Cobb

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@NGUMC.net
Lay Leader Rick Thaxton 770-241-1852 rlthaxton@etcmail.com
Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555
Web site: ellijayfirstumc.org

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist
Marianne Evans ...Children’s Ministries and Preschool....
children@ellijayfirstumc.org
Jennetta Lowery. .Administrative Assistantoffice@ellijayfirstumc.org
Sarah ThorneDirector of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org
Debbi Westcott ... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator
Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician...media@ellijayfirstumc.org
Finance office....Giving statements/Accounts.....finance@ellijayfirstumc.org

★ Indicates new announcement.



Ellijay First
United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor

75 McCutchen Street
PO Box 472
Ellijay, GA 30540
706-635-2555



Sunday, September 14, 2025
10:00 am Worship Service
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Worship Service
The 11th Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude:
“ By Our Love”
arr by Mary McDonald

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
Rev. Dr. Shearon

Call To Worship “Lead Me, Guide Me”
by Doris Akers

† The Greeting
“There is no God!” people say.
“I can do what I like!” everyone thinks.
“Who cares about God?” questioners ask.
“I’m here for me; I don’t answer to anyone!” the foolish think.
God looks for faith.
Will God find it?
God looks for care of the poor.
Will we provide it?
God looks for love.
Will God find it in us?

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 378
“Amazing Grace” vs. 1, 4, & 6

† 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.

† = Please stand as you are able

† 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 and Congregational Prayer Rev. Dr. Shearon

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 895

†The Hymn of Preparation TFWS 2158
“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mark Hayes
“Just As I Am/Gymnopedie #1”

†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 “The God of Love Will Find You”
by Parker/Schram

† The Scripture Reading Luke 15:11-24

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“Amazing Love!”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 400
“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

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

†The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude “You Are Worthy of My Praise
arr by Larry Shackley

Luke 15:11-24 The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

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.