

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We rejoice in welcoming our newest members to Ellijay First UMC!

9/7/25 Leah Easley
9/14/25 The Reynolds Family -
Brendan, Hannah, John, & Jacob

Church Lock-up Schedule:

9/21-9/27	Bill Munson
9/28-10/4	Hank Chapman
10/5-10/11	Charlie Cobb
10/12-10/18	Barry Griffin

Looking Ahead on the Calendar

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 24 - NO LIJ Kids. Fall Break for the school system
September 25 - Book Club 2:00 pm Fellowship Hall
September 26 - Red Bird Mission team returns home
September 28 - GRASP meeting 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall
September 29 - Team Tabitha charity sewing 9:00 am Fellowship Hall
October 2 - Vespers 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall
October 4 - Native American Gathering 10:30am-12:00pm church grounds
October 5 - Communion Sunday
Charge Conference 3:00 pm Sanctuary

Benefit Luncheon - NEW DATE

Wednesday, October 22 from 6:00 pm

All donations will benefit Missy Kepley and her ongoing medical needs.
Sponsored by G.R.A.S.P. & EFUMC

Remember our Mission Team who are traveling to Beverly, KY to be God’s hands in action.

Pastor Mike & Holly Shearon
JoAnn Davis Garrison Hamm
Julie Kelpey Marsha Lemon
Joseph Lowery Harrison Smith
Micki Steif Debbi Westcott

Where Souls Meet Stories

The church book club is back! After a break, we're excited to resume our monthly gatherings, where literature and fellowship come together. Join us for thought-provoking discussions, new friendships, and a shared love of reading, all set in the warm, welcoming atmosphere of our fellowship hall. Whether you're a lifelong reader or just looking for an enjoyable way to engage with others, we'd love to have you. Come for the books, stay for the conversation!
The first meeting is September 25, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For information, contact Jendy Hays at (561) 400-1114 or jendyhays@gmail.com

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, so you can sign up to help with food or serving.
Be sure to write your name, shirt size, and if you have any Native American affiliation.

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

Happy Birthday

9/25 - Warren Acree
9/26 - Ed Boyd

Prayers for the Week

Pray without ceasing for family/friends, teachers, doctors, pastors, our World Leaders, those serving in the Military, those who are weak, sick & hungry, and ourselves.
Names highlighted in **bold** are new additions or changes to the Prayer List.

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

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

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. See you there!

2025-26 Warming Center

Planning for the Warming Center has begun for the 25-26 winter season. There will be an informational meeting on Thursday, September 25 at 6:00 pm in the classroom of the Civic Center. Come find out how you can become involved.

Start getting ready! It’s coming!
Trunk or Treat!
What creative decorations will we see this year?
October 29 6:00 pm

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

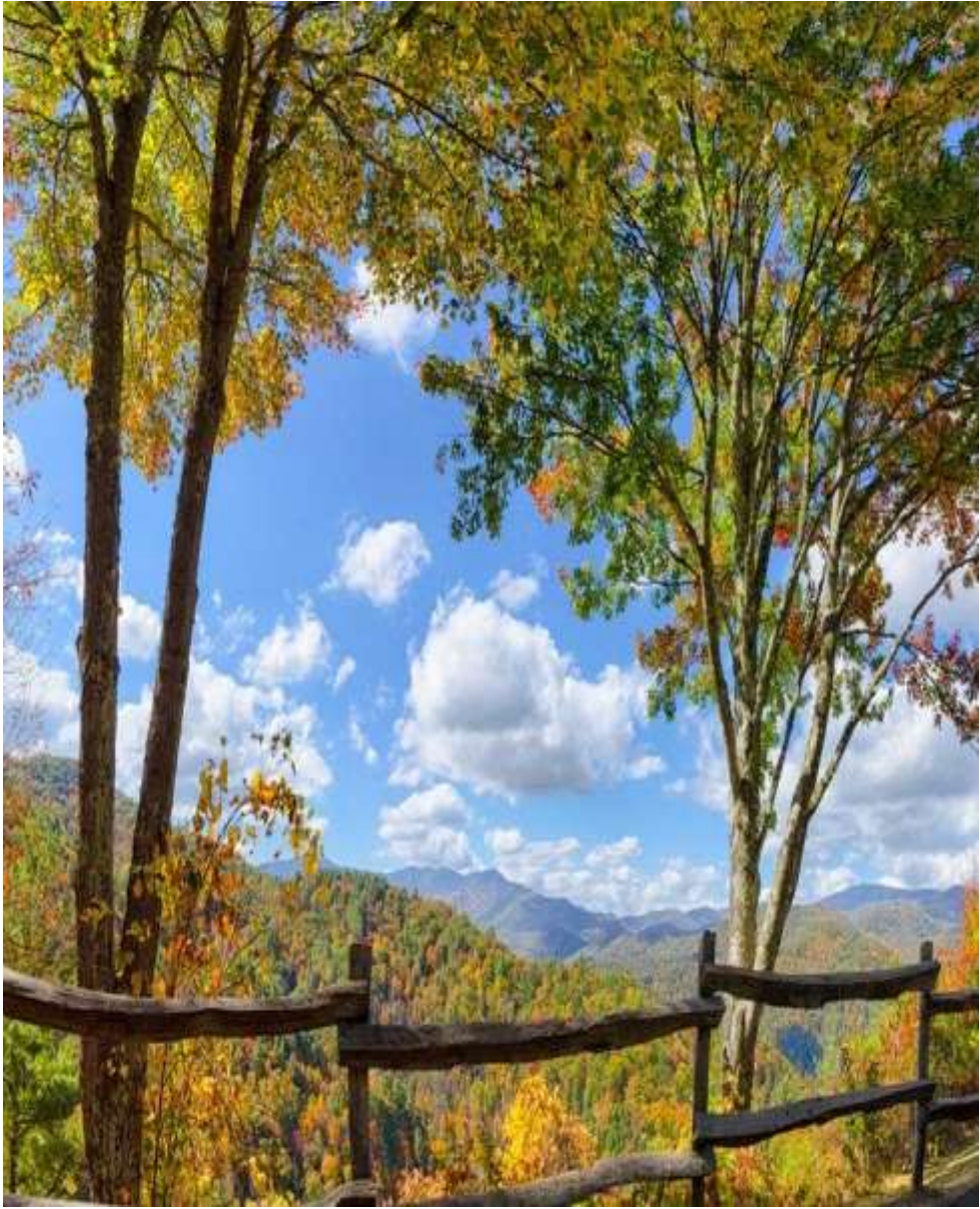
Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist
Marianne Evans ...Children’s Ministries and Preschool....
children@ellijayfirstumc.org
Jennetta Lowery. .Administrative Assistantoffice@ellijayfirstumc.org
Sarah ThorneDirector of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org
Debbi Westcott ... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
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 21, 2025
10:00 am Worship Service
15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Worship Service
The 15th Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Joel Raney
“Brethren We Have Met to Worship”

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
Jennetta Lowery &
Rev. Dr. Wallace Wheelles

Call To Worship “More Precious Than Silver”
by Lynn DeShazo

† The Greeting
Search for the Lord each day.
God waits where we least expect it.
Search for the balm in Gilead.
God brings healers in our need,
Cry out to the Lord in times of distress.
God comes speedily to meet us.
Come! Worship the One who hears our please.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 98
“To God Be the Glory”

† 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 Marianne Evans & Children

Pastoral and Congregational Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 895

†The Hymn of Preparation UMH 206
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by John Carter
“I Will Arise and Go to Jesus”

†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 Gift of Love”
arr by Hal Hopson

† The Scripture Reading Ephesians 6:11-17

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Wheelles
“Three Dimensional Faith”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 354
“I Surrender All” vs. 1, 3, & 4

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

†The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Wheelles

†The Postlude “Oh Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”
arr by John Carter

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

† - Stand as you are able

Ephesians 6:11-17

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.



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.