



10-1 Leslie Mannolini

**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 by Monday, 9/29. 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.

Church Lock-up Schedule:

9/28-10/4 Hank Chapman
10/5-10/11 Charlie Cobb
10/12-10/18 Barry Griffin
10/19-10/25 Bill Munson



Yearly Charge Conference
The Charge Conference for electing officers for 2026 is set for **NEXT SUNDAY, October 5, 2025 at 3:00 pm** in the Sanctuary.

Our new DS, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, will be officiating.

See you there!

Farewell to Jackie & Ed Boyd

Please join family and friends at a farewell party for Jackie and Ed Boyd, who are moving to Colorado Springs. The farewell party will be on Friday, October 10 from 2:30 - 4:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come when you can, stay as long as you like. **No Gifts**, other than your presence, please.



Lay Servant Ministries
Leadership Academy

Jasper UMC will host a Leadership Academy Training Event on October 10 & 11. Courses offered include

- Basic Introduction to Lay Ministry
- For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts
- Transforming Evangelism
- The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation

For more information, contact Brooke Skelton, the North West Director of Lay Servant Ministries at nw.layservants@gmail.com

Annual Blessing of Beasts
Saturday, October 4 @ 10:00am
Harrison Park

Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon will be officiating this annual event sponsored by the Friends of Gilmer Animal Shelter (FOGAS). All people & pets are welcome to this free, family & pet friendly event.



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.

General

Juston Davis

Hospital/Rehab

Pat Daniels
Mary Uthlaut

Hospice

Doug Bater
Shirley Goldston
Ed Jeffery

Health

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

Surgery/Recuperating

Alison Baker
Steve Hearn
Vincent Marino
Patti Smith
Emily Westbrook
Zared (infant - Surname not known)

Caregiver

Nell Bater
Joy Fanelli
Scott Goldston
Carolyn Hipp
Pat Johnson
Julie Kepley
Lorraine Segraves
Joan Stanhope
Sherry Weaver

Shut-In

Peter Adams
Marlene Brown
Ernette Calhoun
Earline Copley
Jim Hagopian
Mack Hipp
Johnny Johnson
Rudi Lanehardt
Margie Pyren
Myron Seagraves
Paul Stanhope
Robert Westmoreland

Deaths

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.

Looking Ahead on the Calendar

- 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 EFUM church grounds
- October 5** - Communion Sunday
Charge Conference 3:00 pm Sanctuary
GRASP Meeting 4:00 pm Fellowship Hall
- October 6** - Team Tabitha charity sewing 9:00 am Fellowship Hall
- October 9** - Methodist Men's group 4:30 pm Shane's Rib Shack
- October 10** - Farewell Party for Jackie & Ed Boyd 2:30-4:30 pm Fellowship Hall

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 EvansChildren'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 28, 2025
10:00 am Worship Service
16th Sunday after Pentecost

**Benefit Dinner
- NEW DATE-**

Wednesday, October 22 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All donations will benefit Missy Kepley and her ongoing medical needs. Sponsored by G.R.A.S.P. & EFUMC



Our Red Bird Missionaries
Harrison Smith, Julie Kepley, Micki Steif, Holly Shearon, Marsha Lemon, JoAnn Davis, Joseph Lowery, & Mike Shearon
Not pictured, Debbi Westcott.

Welcome to the World, Little One

Congratulations to Chuck & Judy Wray on the birth of their first great-grandchild! Hudson Allen McCardle was born on September 22 at 11:30 pm. He weighed 6lb & 15 oz. His proud parents are Charlee & Matt McCardle, grandson of Chuck & Judy. We celebrate with them on the birth of Hudson.



Sunday Worship Service
The 16th Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: “He Hideth My Soul”
arr by Lloyd Larson

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
Rev. Dr. Shearon

Call To Worship “Morning Has Broken”
by Eleanor Farjeon & Carlton R. Young

† **The Greeting**
God is our refuge and our fortress.
In God, we place our trust.
When we are weary,
God lifts us up on wings like eagles.
Come before the Lord with joy and longing.
God is our hope and our salvation.

† **The Hymn of Praise** UMH 160
“Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart”

† **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 and Congregational Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 895

†**The Hymn of Preparation** UMH 530
“Are Ye Able”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music
arr by John Carter
“On Eagle’s Wings”

†**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 “Sing For Joy”
arr by Henry Purcell

† **The Scripture Reading** **Luke 16:19-31**

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“The Rich Man & The Beggar”

†**The Closing Hymn** UMH 130
“God Will Take Care of You”

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

†**The Pastoral Benediction** Rev. Dr. Shearon

†**The Postlude** “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”
arr by John Carter

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

† - Stand as you are able

Luke 16:19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

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.