

## 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 this important meeting in the life of our church.

### Grief Support Group to begin this Tuesday, September 9

Are you experiencing the pain of loss? Loss of a loved one, friend, a spouse?

There is a healing place for you!

Please consider joining our grief support group. They will meet on Tuesdays from 11:30 to 1:00 (ish).

We will meet here at EFUMC beginning September 9th for 8 weeks. There is no charge for the support group, but there is limited availability. Please call Paula Acree

@ 770-570-9958 to ensure your spot in a group and/or for more information.



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.

Our Monthly Mission Dinner, on September 17 @ 6:00 pm, will benefit this organization in our community. Please sign up on the bulletin insert and place it in the offering plate or call the office to register.



9/7 - Frank Richardson  
9/8 - Paul Stanhope  
9/9 - Anthony Palmeri  
9/10 - Betty McCutchen  
9/11 - Barbara Fogle



### Church Lock-up Schedule:

9/7-9/13 Charlie Cobb  
9/14-9/20 Barry Griffin  
9/21-9/27 Bill Munson  
9/28-10/4 Hank Chapman



## This Month's Events

**September 7** - Communion Sunday

- "An Altar in the World" Bible Study 11:15 am Room 13
- Estate Planning with Ann Johnson 1:00 Fellowship Hall

**September 9** - United Methodist Men - 8:00 am Burger King

**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 21** - Red Bird Mission team leaves for Beverly, KY

**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.

### General

Juston Davis

### Health

Brent Badinski  
Doug Bater  
Charles Benner  
Ed Boyd  
Kevin Brett  
Jack Brown  
Mark Brown  
Kyle Bullington  
Dan Charney  
Joan Compton  
Linda Copley  
Brenda Eisanhart  
Skip Eubanks  
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  
Tom Lowery

### Robert (Bob) Marrow

Alyse Munson  
Barbara Nickle  
Lynn Perry  
Wanda Sandels  
Ann Shearon  
Dan Weaver  
Betty Wigley

### Hospital/Rehab

Mary Uthlaut  
Paul Compton

### Surgery /Upcoming

Patti Smith

### Surgery Recuperating

Alison Baker

### Steve Hearn

Emily Westbrook  
Zared (infant - Surname not known)

### Shut-In

Peter Adams  
Marlene Brown  
Ernette Calhoun  
Earline Copley  
Jim Hagopian  
Mack Hipp

### Rudi Lanehardt

Margie Pyren  
Myron Seagraves  
Paul Stanhope  
Robert Westmoreland

### Hospice

Shirley Goldston  
Ed Jeffery

### Caregiver

Joy Fanelli  
Scott Goldston  
Carolyn Hipp  
Lorraine Segraves  
Joan Stanhope  
Sherry Weaver

### Deaths

Family of Lydia Daniel  
Family of Saydee Low  
Family of Bill Patton  
**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.*



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

Come out & worship Jesus  
Native American Style.

Fellowship and Smudging begin @ 10:30am

Worship begins at 11am.

Lunch will be provided by the  
North GA Conference of the  
UMC.

Everyone is invited.

Please sign up on the bulletin  
insert or in the church office.

**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 Assistant ....office@ellijayfirstumc.org**

**Sarah Thorne .....Director of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org**

**Debbi Westcott ... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org**

**Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator**

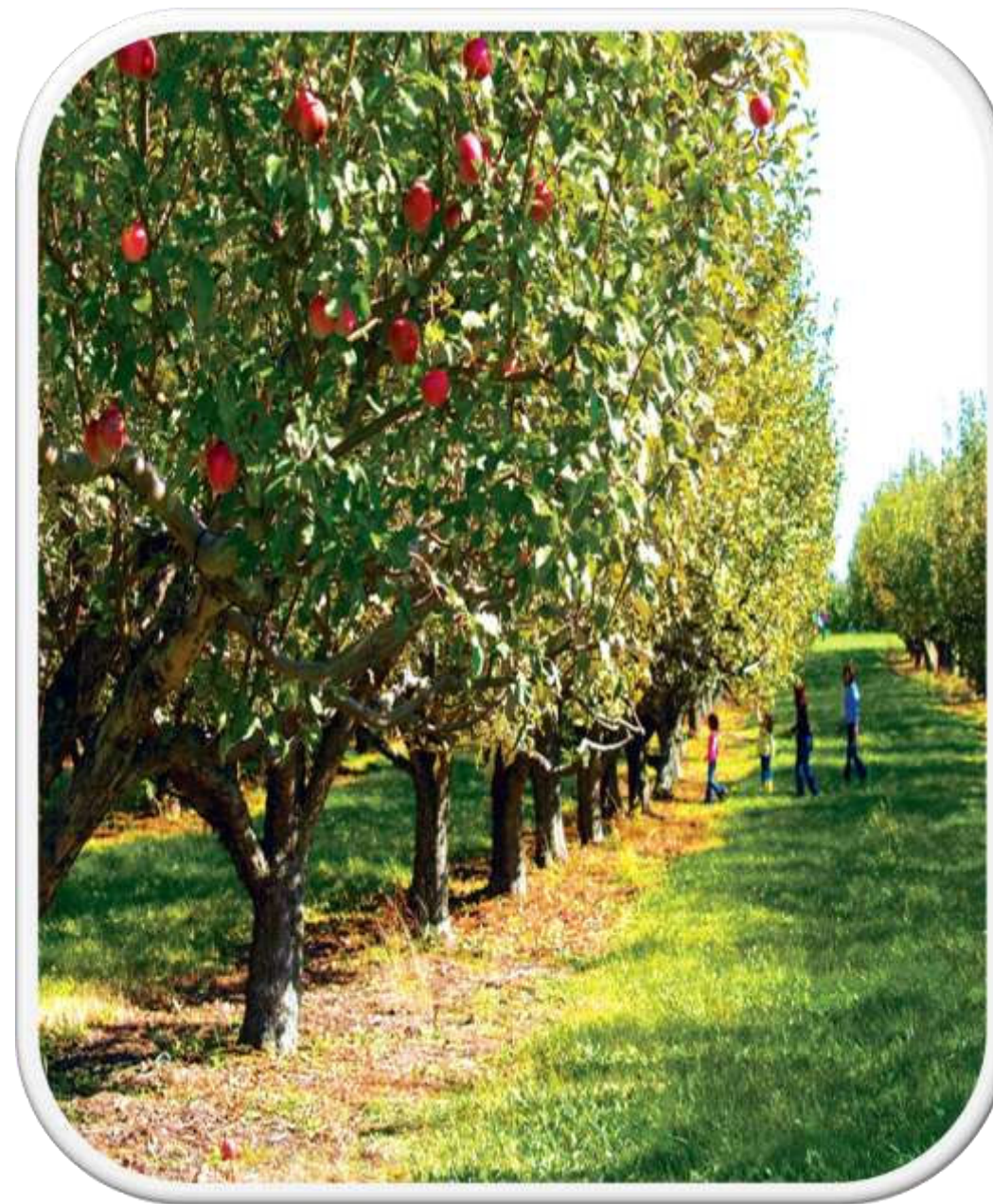
**Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician...media@ellijayfirstumc.org**

**Finance office....Giving statements/Accounts.....finance@ellijayfirstumc.org**



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

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



**Sunday, September 7, 2025**  
**10:00 am Worship Service**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



Sunday Worship Service  
The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude:  
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”  
arr by Mary McDonald

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation  
Rev. Dr. Shearon

Call To Worship “Two Fisherman”  
by Suzanne Toolan

† The Greeting  
Did you hear the whisper of God calling us to worship?  
**God, help us to see your image within.**  
Do you sense the beautiful people God is creating us to become?  
**God, help us to see your image within.**  
Are we ready to listen, learn, and grow?  
**God, open our hearts and minds to your loving and challenging guidance.**

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 295  
“In the Cross of Christ I 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

Pastoral and Congregational Prayer Rev. Dr. Shearon

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 895

†The Hymn of Preparation UMH 415  
“Take Up Thy Cross”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Lloyd Larson  
“Lead Me to Calvary”

†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 “God So Loved the World”  
arr by Roger C. Wilson

† The Scripture Reading Luke 14:25-34

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon  
“Curious or Committed?”

†The Closing Hymn TFWs 2129  
“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

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

†The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude “Lift High The Cross”  
arr by Larry Shackley

*Prayer team members are available after the service.*

Luke 14:25-34 The Cost of Being a Disciple

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:

<sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

<sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup> “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?

<sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you,

<sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

<sup>31</sup> “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

<sup>32</sup> If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.

<sup>33</sup> In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

<sup>34</sup> “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?

Terry Roylance passed away September 2, 2025. He and his wife, Margaret, joined Ellijay First UMC in 2010. They were both members of the choir until Margaret’s death in 2019. Terry continued to bless us with his booming bass voice, despite physical ailments that would have stopped many. He enjoyed sharing the bounty from his garden with his friends. Terry and Margaret will be interned at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, GA. The service will be September 26 at 10:00 am.



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.