



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We rejoice in four new members joining our congregation on 11/16! Pictured from left to right are: Teresa & Greg St. Louis, Maryse

Gelder, Pastor Mike, & Nicole Easley. Teresa & Greg come from Old Town, Maine, Maryse (who has been in our choir) is coming from Westerville, Ohio, and Nicole is moving from Cross Road Christian Fellowship in Ellijay. We are so very happy to have you as part of our church family!



11/23-Bliss Cole
11/25-Betty Perry
11/25-Wanda Sandels



Operation Christmas Child
A PROJECT OF SAMARITANS PURSE

Making Christmas a Little More Merry!
We collected 88 boxes to be sent worldwide to underprivileged children. Tremendous thanks to Pam & Hank Chapman for their role in seeing this through!



Gilmer County Food Pantry

There is a need for drivers to go to Atlanta for supplies. They need a person who can drive a forklift and is available on Tuesdays 8:15-11:00 am, and a Spanish/English translator on Wednesdays from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm. Remember that there are many ways to serve Jesus locally, nationally, and globally. Mark 10:45 says that "even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to

11/23 -11/29 Hank Chapman
11/30 -12/6 Lloyd Vautrot
12/7 - 12/13 Charlie Cobb
12/14-12/20 Barry Griffin



Speaking of the Gilmer Food Pantry...

Tuesday, Nov. 18, Justin Easley and Joseph & Heather Lowery dropped off all the food and supplies that YOU brought to the church to help the people of our county. The results were 171 pounds of food and over 900 rolls of toilet paper. Pat yourselves on the back! Well done!



LAST CALL for RED BIRD ITEMS

Jessie & Leah Easley will be taking the final load of the year to Red Bird the weekend following Thanksgiving. They are taking winter coats, scarves, gloves/mittens, beanies, (clothes for winter) and canned meats. Thank you for all that has already been



Our Weekly Schedule:

Sun - Helping Hands Sunday School 8:45 am
Altars Study Group 11:00 am
Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Wed - LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall
NEW TIME → Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm



We need you!

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



Join the Altar Guild on Monday, Nov. 24 @ 10:00 am to help adorn the sanctuary for the Advent season! All help is welcome!

From the Finance Committee:

Thank you for your continued gifts. Currently, we are down 22% in our general contributions received compared to this time last year.



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY -

The Young Adult Bible Study has changed it's meeting time. They now meet on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 pm. Note the new meeting time! Childcare is available. For more info contact Debbi Westcott @ 706-455-3207 or Emily Barton @ 706-273-9252.

Church Lock-up Schedule:

Prayers for the Week

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

General

Juston Davis
Armstrong Dice

Health

Brent Badinski
Charles Benner
Ed Boyd
Kevin Brett
Mark Brown
Kyle Bullington
Joan Compton
Brenda Eisanhart
Allen Fanelli
Sharon Fletcher
Barry Griffin
Betty Jo Hanes
Ruth Hix
Missy Kepley
Rylan Leeper
Shannon Leeper
Vincent Marino
Heather Millican
3 yr old Millican child
Alyse Munson
Lynn Perry
Wanda Sandels
Ann Shearon
Dan Weaver
Clyde White

Hospital/Rehab

Pat Daniels

Surgery Recuperating

Alison Baker
Suzu Gantz
Steve Hearn
Millie Kelley
Emily Westbrook

Shut-In

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

Hospice

Doug Bater
Shirley Goldston
Ed Jeffery
Susan Krebs

Caregiver

Nell Bater
Cherie Dice
Joy Fanelli
Scott Goldston
Jerry Guthrie
Carolyn Hipp
Pat Johnson
Julie Kepley
Susan Marino
Lorraine Segraves
Joan Stanhope
Sherry Weaver

Deaths

Family of Paul Compton
Family of Ron Cornett
Family of Ginger Hearn
Family of John Millican
Family of Lynn Tudor
Family of Mary Uthlaut

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

Ellijay First UMC Upcoming Events

11/24 10:00 am Decorating the church for Advent
11/24-11/27 Church Office Closed
11/30 First Sunday of Advent
The Heart That Grew Three Sizes Advent study begins
12/7- Communion Sunday
1:00 pm Visitation with family of Paul Compton (service at 2:00 pm)
12/8- 6:00 pm Administrative Council Meeting Fellowship Hall
12/11 2:00 pm Book Club Fellowship Hall
12/14 8:30 am Church wide Christmas Breakfast 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



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

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



Sunday, November 23, 2025

10:00 am Worship Service

24rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Worship Service
The 24rd Sunday After Pentecost

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: “O Worship the King”
arr by Mary McDonald

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
Rev. Dr. Shearon

Call To Worship “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”
arr by Clephane/Maker

† The Greeting
Joseph Lowery, Liturgist & Congregation

Blessed be the Holy One,
who looks upon us with love and mercy,
Blessed be the Holy One,
who sent us a Savior to rescue us from despair.
Blessed be the Holy One and God’s beloved Child,
who rules in a realm of forgiveness and peace.
Blessed be the Holy One,
who is worthy of our worship.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 327
“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

† 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 301
“Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
arr 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

Choir Anthem “Carry The Light”
by Stan Pethel

† The Scripture Reading Luke 23:32-43

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“A Prayer & A Promise”

†The Closing Hymn UMH 370
“Victory in Jesus”

Anyone wishing to join Ellijay First United Methodist Church may
come forward during the closing hymn.

†The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

†The Postlude “Walking in the Light of God”
arr by John Carter

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

† Please stand as you are able

Luke 23:32-43

³² Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed
with him. ³³ When they came to a place called The Skull they
nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also
crucified—one on his right and one on his left.

³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what
they are doing.” And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by
throwing dice.

³⁵ The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. “He saved
others,” they said, “let him save himself if he is really God’s
Messiah, the Chosen One.” ³⁶ The soldiers mocked him, too,
by offering him a drink of sour wine. ³⁷ They called out to him,
“If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ A sign was
fastened above him with these words: “This is the King of the
Jews.”

³⁹ One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re
the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us,
too, while you’re at it!”

⁴⁰ But the other criminal protested, “Don’t you fear God even
when you have been sentenced to die?” ⁴¹ We deserve to die
for our crimes, but this man hasn’t done anything
wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you
come into your Kingdom.”

Our Church family is saddened by the loss of two outstanding members who have
served God very well. They lived their lives as shining examples of what it means
to be a Christian. We hold their families extra close during this time.

Ginger Hearn joined EFUMC, along with her
husband Steve, in August of 2016. She
served on various committees and was vital in
keeping her Sunday School class, Helping
Hands, connected and up to date on prayer
requests and needs of their circle. She also
served on the Finance Committee until her
health dictated otherwise. A graveside service
will be held at a later date, as
her wishes were for a warm
sunny day for the celebration of
her life. She will be interred at
the Bethel Baptist Church
Cemetery in Monroe, GA.

Ginger entered Heaven’s gates on Nov. 11.

On Nov. 15, Paul Compton joined the angles
in Glory. Paul, and his wife Joan, joined
EFUMC in November of 1999.
Paul proudly served in the U.S.
Marine Corps. As a member of
Ellijay First UMC, he was in the
Chancel Choir, served and
Chaired numerous committees,
and he played a pivotal role at
Faith, Hope, & Charity Recycle Store
through the years. A celebration of life will
be held on December 7 in the church sanctu-
ary. Visitation will be at 1:00 with the service
beginning at 2:00. Military rites will be by
the North Georgia Honor Guard.

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.