



1/11 - Lynn McKibbin  
1/12 - Jackie Boyd  
1/14 - Harry Archer  
1/14 - Jesse Easley



### Church Lock-up Schedule:

1/11 - 1/17 Barry Griffin  
1/18 - 1/24 Bill Munson  
1/25 - 1/31 Hank Chapman  
2/01 - 2/07 Charlie Cobb



### Community Lunch

On January 31, 2026, the GRASP Mission Team will host a community lunch of soup and sandwiches. We will need volunteers to help with planning, setting up, serving, and clean up. Mostly, we need you to help spread the word! Flyers are available to post where you shop. We want our community to know that Ellijay First UMC cares for our neighbors and this is one small way to help show that. The meal will be free of charge to those who wish to partake. You may contact Justin Easley to find out where you can best be of service to see this event through. Justin's phone number is (706) 889-7610.



WE'RE COMING  
BAAAACK!!!

It's time for you to start thinking of where you would like to travel! The Children First Pre-School Program will soon begin their annual SouthWest Airline Ticket promotion.

Be on the lookout for our trustee SouthWest Pilot and Flight Attendant to begin sharing more information!



#### Welcome Aboard

 We would like to extend a warm welcome to Joseph Lowery as he takes on a new role (to him) at our church. Joseph has accepted the position of Youth Director and will be working to continue on the growth that Debbi Westcott began. Joseph grew up in EFUMC and was on the first GRASP team 22 years ago when he was a student at Gilmer High School. We are excited to have Joseph on board and look forward to what God has in store for our youth program under his leadership.

*thank you*

I would like to thank everyone at Ellijay First UMC for the outpouring of prayers and support during the most difficult time we've ever experienced. The celebration of Robert's life, the delicious meal for friends and family, and genuine love and kindness shown will not be forgotten. Please continue to lift us up in prayer as we learn to navigate life without our beloved Robert.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Hillhouse  
& family

If you would like to serve the church as an Usher on Sunday mornings, please contact Judy Wray or Jennetta in the church office. This is an easy way to be involved in our ministry here at EFUMC.

#### Children's Church Needs Volunteers

In order to follow our Safe Sanctuary Guidelines, we need more help with our growing children's church. We will have a short volunteer meeting on Sunday, February 1, at 11:10 am after the worship service. Anyone who is considering serving or is curious about what is involved, please plan to attend. We would like to make a rotation for once every other month to serve, so we need 8 volunteers to be helpers. If you need more information about the meeting or the LIJ Kid's programs, please see or call Marianne for more information.

If Sunday doesn't work for you, and you are interested in serving in the LIJ Kid's program on Wednesday, please plan on attending also.

### 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 or changes to the Prayer List.

#### General

Juston Davis

#### Health

Brent Badinski

Charles Benner

Kevin Brett

Mark Brown

Joan Compton

Brenda Eisanhart

Sharon Fletcher

Betty Jo Hanes

Ruth Hix

Millie Kelley

Missy Kepley

Vincent Marino

Alyse Munson

Lynn Perry

Wanda Sandels

Ann Shearon

Dan Weaver

Clyde White

Bobbie Wilson

#### Surgery Recuperating

Suzy Ganz

Tony Ganz

Bill McKinney

Katherine Meyer

Bill Munson

#### Frank Richardson

#### Shut-In

Peter Adams

Ernette Calhoun

Earline Copley

Jim Hagopian

Mack Hipp

Johnny Johnson

Margie Pyren

Myron Seagraves

Paul Stanhope

Robert Westmoreland

#### Caregiver

Nell Bater

Cherie Dice

Scott Goldston

Carolyn Hipp

Pat Johnson

Julie Kepley

Susan Marino

#### Peggy Richardson

Lorraine Segraves

Joan Stanhope

Sherry Weaver

#### Deaths

Family of Marlene Brown

Family of Robert Hillhouse

Family of DeWayne Lineback

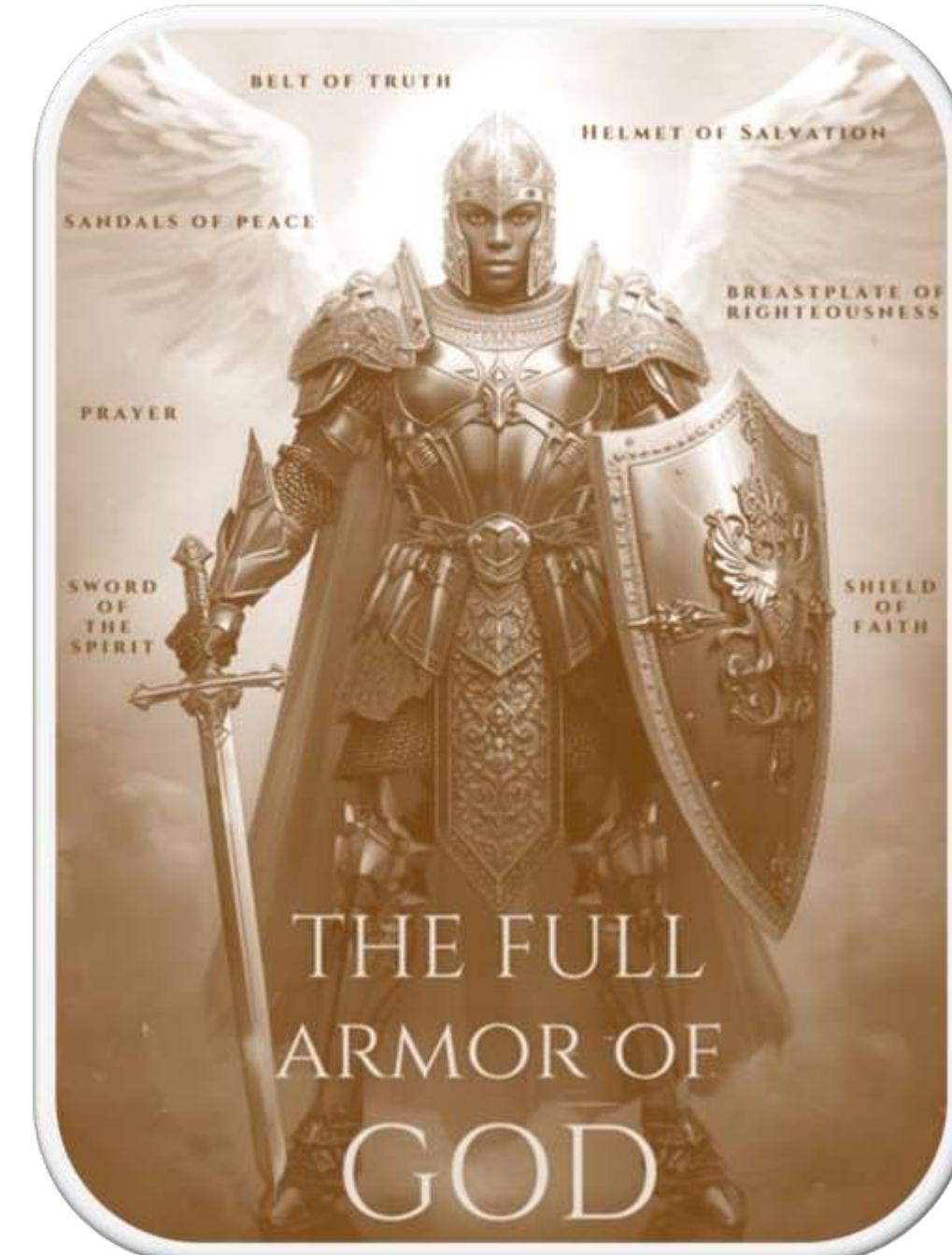
#### Family of Angie Pierce

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

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



### January 2026 at Ellijay First United Methodist Church

Monday, Jan 12 - Administrative Council Meeting, Fellowship Hall 6:00pm  
Tuesday, Jan 20 - Joyful Noon Circle, Fellowship Hall Noon  
Thursday, Jan 22 - Book Club, Fellowship Hall 2:00pm  
Saturday, Jan 31 - GRASP Mission Team Community Lunch Fellowship Hall from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm or until the food runs out.

### Our Weekly Schedule:

Sun - Helping Hands Sunday School 8:45 am  
Altars Study Group 11:00 am  
Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Tues - Chair Yoga 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  
Thur - Chair Yoga 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Mon - Team Tabitha Sewing Ministry (1st & 3rd Mon) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Wed - LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall  
Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm  
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm**  
**Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@georgiaumc.net**  
**Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555**  
**Web site: ellijayfirstumc.org**

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

Sunday, January 11, 2026  
10:00 am Worship Service

# Sunday Worship Service

January 11, 2026

## The Chiming of the Hour

**The Prelude:** arr by Mary McDonald  
"Like A River Glorious"

**Welcome, Announcements and Invocation**  
The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

**Call To Worship** "Jesus, Name Above All Names"  
by Naida Hearn

**† The Greeting** **Tony Ganz & Congregation**  
You who created the heavens and stretched them out  
above us, You who spread out the earth beneath our  
feet and summoned sprouts and shoots,

**Breathe life in to us, God Who Creates!**

You who come to the river, You who sought the Baptizer  
and the Jordan waters,

**Welcome us to the waters of life, Jesus the Christ!**  
You who soared through the heavens, You who hovered  
and rested upon Jesus,  
**Alight upon us today, Spirit of God, Heaven's Dove.**

**† The Hymn of Praise** UMH 514  
"Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus"

**† 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 & Congregational Prayer** Rev. Dr. Shearon

**The Lord's Prayer** UMH 895

**† The Hymn of Preparation** TFWS 2130  
"The Summons"

## The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

**The Offertory Music** arr by John Purifoy  
"Wade In The Water"

## † 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**

**Special Music** Jennetta Lowery  
"Trust His Heart" by Babbie Mason

**† The Scripture Reading** **Ephesians 6:13-18**

**The Sermon** "The Full Armor of God"

**† The Closing Hymn** UMH 513  
"Soldiers of Christ, Arise"

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

## † The Pastoral Benediction

**† The Postlude** "Down To The River to Pray" arr by Mark Hayes

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

† - Stand as you are able

## Ephesians 6:13-18

<sup>13</sup> 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.

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

<sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

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

<sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.



The word of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to 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.