



1/23 - Meg Blanton-Eanes
1/27 - Debbie Brown



Church Lock-up Schedule:

1/25 - 1/31 Hank Chapman
2/01 - 2/07 Charlie Cobb
2/08 - 2/14 Barry Griffin
2/15 - 2/21 Bill Munson



Community Lunch

Saturday, January 31, 2026, from 11:00 - 1:00, the GRASP Mission Team will host a community lunch of soup and sandwiches. It's not too late to volunteer to help with planning, setting up, greeting, serving, and clean up. We want our community to know that Ellijay First UMC cares for our neighbors and this is one small way to show that. The meal will be free of charge. Please 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. You may also sign up to help on the attendance form in your bulletin.



WE'RE COMING BAAAACK!!!

The Children First Pre-School Program will soon begin their annual SouthWest Airline Ticket promotion. This year, there are FOUR round trip tickets up for grabs! Be on the lookout for our trustee SouthWest Pilot and Flight Attendant to begin sharing more information!



Returning to Red Bird

We will be going back to the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY. Mark your calendar for April 26-May 1, 2026. The cost is \$515 per person to cover lodging and meals for the week. We will spend the week working on projects to help the people of the area, one of the poorest in our country. Please let Pastor Mike know if you are interested in going.

Our Weekly Schedule:

Sun - Helping Hands Sunday School 8:45
Worship Service 10:00 am
Altars Study Group 11:00 am
Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Mon - Team Tabitha Sewing Ministry
(1st & 3rd Mon) 9:00 am -12:00 pm
Tues - Chair Yoga 11:00 am - 12:15 pm
Wed - LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Thur - Chair Yoga 11:00 am - 12:15 pm



Is there a missing piece of our puzzle?

Adults, if we miss your birthday in the bulletin, it's likely we don't have your information in our system. Please let the church office know if we've missed YOUR special day! We want to be able to Praise the Lord for the present of your presence!



Contribution Statements have been mailed! Please be on the lookout for your statement of yearly giving to EFUMC for your tax records. Should you fail to receive yours, please contact the office for an additional copy. You may also email finance@ellijayfirstumc.org requesting a copy.

Estate Sale

There will be a sale at the home of our own Stan Cowan to help rehome some of his and Carol's belongings and close out their estate. The sale will be Friday, Feb. 6 from 9-4 and Saturday, Feb. 7 from 9-12. The address is 86 Carson Cove Road, Ellijay.

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.

Is there a missing piece of our puzzle?

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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
Betty Jo Hanes
Ruth Hix
Millie Kelley
Missy Kepley
Vincent Marino
Wanda Sandels
Ann Shearon
Helen Sutton
Dan Weaver
Clyde White
Bobbie Wilson

Surgery Recuperating

Tony Ganz
Bill McKinney
Katherine Meyer
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 Lynn Perry
Family of Angie Pierce

Hospice

Doug Bater
Shirley Goldston
Ed Jeffery
Rudi Lanehardt

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



Our Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, Jan 25 - Meeting for Community Lunch planning committee and helpers following worship
Friday, Jan 30 - Set up for Community Lunch 5:00 pm
Saturday, Jan 31 - GRASP Mission Team Community Lunch Fellowship Hall from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sunday, Feb 1 - Communion Sunday
- Children's Church Volunteer meeting after worship
Monday, Feb 2 - Team Tabitha Charity Sewing Group Fellowship Hall
Monday, Feb 9 - Administrative Council Meeting Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm
Thursday, Feb 12 - Men's Group @ Shane's Rib Shack 4:30 pm
Monday, Feb 16 - Team Tabitha Charity Sewing Group Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Feb 17 - Joyful Noon Circle Fellowship Hall 12:00
Wednesday, Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 pm
Sunday, Feb 22 - First Sunday in Lent
Thursday, Feb 26 - Book Club Fellowship Hall 2:00 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 Assistantoffice@ellijayfirstumc.org

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist

Sarah ThorneDirector of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org

Marianne EvansChildren'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



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

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



**Sunday, January 25, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service**

Sunday Worship Service

January 25, 2026

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Mark Hayes
"Here I Am To Worship"

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

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

† The Greeting
Friends of God, today Jesus calls to each of us;
"Come! Follow me!"

The kingdom of heaven has come near.
Some say, "But we are walking in darkness."

In Christ, we have seen God's light. The kingdom of heaven has come near.
Some say, "But divisions tear us apart."

In Christ we are united in mind and purpose. The kingdom of heaven has come near.
Friends of God, today we gather to worship God and to follow Jesus.

The kingdom of heaven has come near.

† The Hymn of Praise UMH 580
"Lead On, Oh King Eternal"

† 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 UMH 568
"Christ For the World We Sing"

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Mozart

"Alleluia"

† 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 by Jay Althouse

"Built On A Rock"

† The Scripture Reading

Ephesians 6:10-13

The Sermon

"Be Strong, Stand Firm"

† The Closing Hymn

UMH 575

"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

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

† The Pastoral Benediction

† The Postlude "The Heavens Declare" arr by Benedetto Marcello

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

† - Stand as you are able

Ephesians 6:10-13

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

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.

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.