



Welcome New Members!
It's our pleasure to welcome **Mike and Danna Tucker** into our church family! They are coming from Celebration United Methodist Church in Gainesville, Florida. We are so very glad to have you here with us!

Bring fresh flowers next Sunday to add to our Easter Cross!



POTLUCK EASTER BREAKFAST!

Please join us next Sunday for our annual **potluck Easter Breakfast**. We will begin at **9:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite special breakfast to share. Enjoy good food and fellowship as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!



THANK YOU!



Thanks to YOUR generosity, Children First Pre-school raised nearly **\$12,000** in the Southwest Airline fundraiser. Congratulations to Lorri G, winner of the 4 Southwest Airline tickets. Thank you also to Joe & Jacqueline Poole for donating their volunteer hours that provided the tickets.



Two donkeys were walking in Jerusalem, when one donkey said to the other, "Just yesterday I was here carrying Jesus and the people were singing and shouting and throwing down their clothes for me to walk on, and today they don't even recognize me". The other donkey replied, "that's how it is my friend.....Without JESUS you are nothing"

The 2004 movie *The Passion of The Christ* is coming up this week on Good Friday, April 3 at 11:30 at **Mountain Cinemas** located across from Wal-Mart.

The doors will open at 11:00 am and the movie will begin at 11:30. If you want see this movie, contact the church office at 706-635-2555. Admission is free.



Church Lock-up Schedule:



3/29 - 4/04 Joe Poole
4/05 - 4/11 Charlie Cobb
4/12 - 4/18 Barry Griffin
4/19 - 4/25 Bill Munson

New to our Church Staff!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Leah Easley, who has been named as our new Children's Ministries Director for Ellijay First UMC. Leah will begin her new role in April. Marianne Evans is still on board as the Director of Children First Pre-school, she's just taking off the hat as the Director of Children's Ministries. **Thank you, Marianne** for all you've done and continue to do for our children at EFUMC! **Thank you, Leah**, for taking on this leadership role in our church.



Meet & Greet - Wed., 4/1

Drop by the church from **4:30 -5:30** to meet Leah Easley, get to know her, and show her that she has our support in her new position.

Free Community Lunch!

Mark your calendar for **April 18**. That's when EFUMC is opening it's doors to serve lunch to our community. The meal is from 11am-2pm. We will begin set up at 8:00 am. If you would like to help in any capacity, please contact Joseph Lowery at 706-669-0172. We have a place for you!

This year's GRASP is scheduled for June 3-7, but the planning is taking place NOW to ensure success. If you would like to help this summer, please attend our planning meeting after the worship service today. We will meet in room 29 across from the restrooms.



Fun Fridays & Super Sundays

All youth **6th through 12th grade** are invited to join Ellijay First UMYF on **Friday & Sunday evenings** from 5:00 -7:00. Join us for fun, food, and time with friends. Contact Joseph Lowery with questions or if you wish to help.

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 Cherie Dice Brett Welch David & Jeanette Marcellino Caleb, April, Aaron, & Tye	Dan Weaver Clyde White Upcoming Surgery Tanya Gaspard Mike Vitelli	Hospice Doug Bater Shirley Goldston Ed Jeffery Caregiver Nell Bater Scott Goldston Carolyn Hipp Pat Johnson Julie Kepley Susan Marino Peggy Richardson Lorraine Segraves Joan Stanhope Sherry Weaver Deaths Family of Gordon Eanes, Sr. Family of Royce Hugh Family of Rudi Lanehardt Family of Perry Lynes
Health Brent Badinski Charles Benner Kevin Brett Mark Brown Joan Compton Tom Damron Brenda Eisanhart Christine Garner Anderson Hamm Betty Jo Hanes Ruth Hix Johnny Jones Missy Kepley John Mahan Vincent Marino Betty Perry Wanda Sandels Ann Shearon	Recuperating from Surgery Nicole Calhoun Jason Neubert Rick Thaxton Shut-In Peter Adams Ernette Calhoun Earline Copley Jim Hagopian Mack Hipp Johnny Johnson Margie Pyren Myron Seagraves Paul Stanhope Robert Westmoreland	

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 Weekly Schedule:

Sun - Helping Hands Sunday School 8:45
Worship Service 10:00am
Altars Study Group 11:00am
Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00pm
Youth Super Sundays 5:00-7:00pm

Wed - LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm
Handbell Choir Practice 5:30 - 6:30
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Fri - Youth Fun Fridays 5:00-7:00 pm



Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday
- **GRASP meeting after worship service**
Wednesday, April 1 - Meet & Greet 4:30-5:30
Come say Hello to Leah!
Thursday, April 2 - Men's Group 4:30pm
NEW DATE Fellowship Hall
Friday, April 3 - *The Passion of The Christ*,
11:30 am Mountain Cinemas
- Good Friday Service 6:00 pm
Sunday, April 5 -Easter Sunday & Communion
Potluck Breakfast 9:00am
Easter Egg Hunt following
Worship Service
Sunday, April 12 - Easter Cantata
Joyful Noon Soup & Sale!
Saturday, April 18 - Community Meal
Set up - 8:00am
Meal - 11:00am - 2:00pm

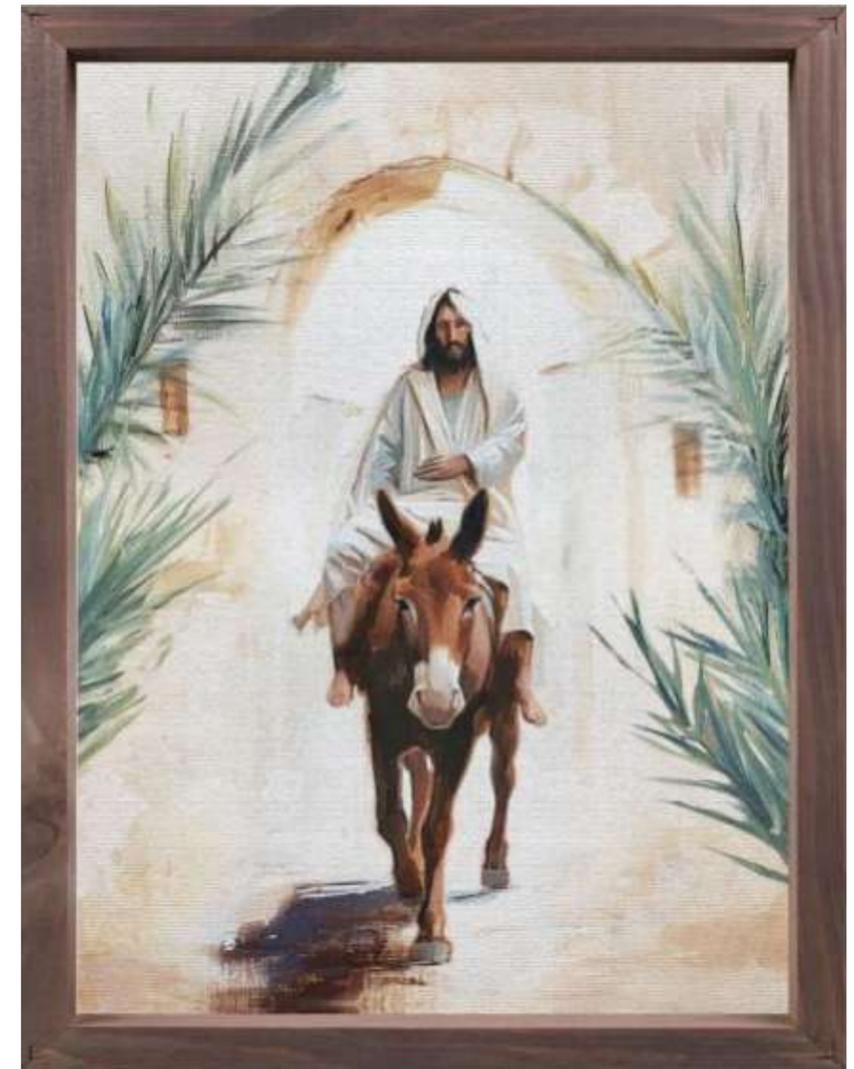
Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm
Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@georgiaumc.net
Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555
Web site: ellijayfirstumc.org

Jennetta Lowery...Administrative Assistantoffice@ellijayfirstumc.org
Marianne EvansPreschool Director.....children@ellijayfirstumc.org
Leah EasleyChildren's Ministries
Joseph Lowery.... Youth Director.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org
Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist
Sarah ThorneDirector of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org
Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician...media@ellijayfirstumc.org
Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator
Finance...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, March 29, 2026
10:00 am Worship Service
Palm Sunday

Sunday Worship Service
March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday

The Chiming of the Hour

The Prelude: arr by Lloyd Larson
“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

†**Call To Worship** UMH 278
“Hosana, Loud Hosana”

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation
The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

† **The Greeting** Liturgist & Congregation
Give thanks to God, who is truly good.
Hosanna in the highest!
Praise Christ, whose love abounds with grace.
Hosanna in the highest!
Welcome the Spirit with songs of praise.
Hosanna in the highest!

† **The Hymn of Praise** UMH 277
“Tell Me the Stories of 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** UMH 581
“Lord, Whose Love of Humble Service”

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music arr by Pepper Choplin
“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

†**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 arr by Adams & Weatherly
“The Holy City” soloist JoAnn Davis

† **The Scripture Reading** **Matthew 21:1-11**

Jesus’ Triumphant Entry

21 As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. ² “Go into the village over there,” he said. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will immediately let you take them.”

⁴ This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said,

⁵ “Tell the people of Jerusalem,
‘Look, your King is coming to you.
He is humble, riding on a donkey—
riding on a donkey’s colt.’”

⁶ The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it.

⁸ Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting,

“Praise God for the Son of David!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD!
Praise God in highest heaven!”

¹⁰ The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. “Who is this?” they asked.

¹¹ And the crowds replied, “It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Sermon Rev. Dr. Shearon
“Triumphal Entry”

†**The Closing Hymn** UMH 280
“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

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

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

†**The Postlude** arr by Mark Hayes
“How Majestic is Your Name”

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

† - Please, stand as you are able

Sermon Notes:

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.