


 Join us this Wednesday, December 15 at 5:30 for potatoes and chili. We will play board games and even have Christmas-themed activities. All are welcome to come and bring friends. Please register below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of Adults \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of Children \_\_\_\_\_


 There are handmade items for sale on the table outside of the office. These items would make a perfect Christmas gift and all proceeds go towards purchasing food for the Rise Against Hunger packing event.


 2022 Planning Retreat  
 Saturday, January 8  
 9:00-12:00  
 For everyone interested in upcoming programs and activities at Ellijay First

**Blue? Yes, blue as in 'Blues' music, or "I am feeling blue."**  
**December 21, 5:00 p.m.**

Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after a divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer, or suffering? This makes parties and festivities painful for many people. We are creating sacred space for people living through difficult times. December 21st, the longest day of the year, will be a time to support all who are feeling blue. Join us and bring someone you know who might be blessed.

**December Events**  

  
 CHRISTMAS SEASON


**Advent Sundays:**  
 December 12, and 19

**December 19**  
**8:45 We will gather in the fellowship hall.**  
**9:00 - 9:30**  
**Worship Around the Table**  
**9:30 - 9:45 Caroling**  
**9:45 Brunch & Pictures with Santa**  
**11:00 Christmas Cantata with Orchestra will be held in the Sanctuary.**  
**6:00 - 7:00 Live Nativity**  
 Everyone is invited to watch our Youth and Children perform a live nativity.


**5:00 p.m. December 21**  
 All are welcome to gather in the sanctuary for a "blue" service.

**5:30 p.m. December 24**  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service**


 The Ellijay FUMC Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Come sing with us and see what church choir is all about!


**Stephen Ministry**  

**"A Prayer for our Stephen Ministry"**  
 Lord, you are a God of hope, a God of healing. Continue to work through our Stephen Ministers as they bring hope and healing to those most in need of it. We ask this in your name. Amen.

**If you would like to know more about Stephen Ministry, please contact Gwen Scarth, Stephen Leader at 706-258-8757.**

**LIJ Kids News**  
**Sunday School @ 10:00**  



All children ages 4 years thru 5th grade are welcome to join us for our LIJ KIDS!

**Wednesday Night LIJ Kids for December**  
**December 15:** We will meet at 4:30 for our Christmas Party.



 See the bulletin for the rest of our December events. Please join us for our other activities!

**Youth News!**  
**Good Things: Session 5**  
**Sunday, December 12 @ 6:30PM**  
 Our plans to "do good" continue this evening, as we select another project to complete from our Advent calendar!

**Good Things: Session 6**  
**Wednesday, December 15 @ 6:30PM**  
 Our plans to "do good" continue this evening, as we select another project to complete from our Advent calendar!


 The rose on the altar is placed in honor of Sullivan Maxwell Irvin born November 16. Proud parents are Neil & Rebecca Irvin. Proud grandparents are Don & Kay Irvin.

**This Week at First Methodist...**  
 Want to know about what going on at FUMC Ellijay everyday of the week? scan the QR code to see what's going on all this week!



**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Rev. Dr. John Brantley, Pastor 404-323-5646 john@brantley.net**  
 Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555  
 Website: www.fumcellijay.org;  
 Stephen Ministry: gwenyth.allen@gmail.com

Sam Burcham..... Adult & Youth Minister.....samueledwardburcham@gmail.com  
 Gabrielle Cornett..... Pianist  
 Marianne Evans..... Children's Ministries and Preschool .....children@fumcellijay.org  
 Ann Hanline..... Admin Assistant/Financial Secretary .....office@fumcellijay.org  
 Julie Kepley..... Nursery Coordinator  
 Zack Kepley..... Audio/Video Technician  
 Claudia McKeon..... Organist  
 Dr. Patrick Young..... Director of Music.....pyoung@yhc.edu




**Ellijay First United Methodist Church**  
 75 McCutchen Street  
 PO Box 472  
 Ellijay, GA 30540


**A Stephen Ministry Congregation**



**Dr. John Brantley**  
**December 12, 2021**



**Third Sunday of Advent**  
 December 12, 2021 - The Color is Purple  
 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Worship  
**The Worship of God**

*Visitors, please include your address and telephone number on the attendance sheet so we can contact you.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**The Chiming of the Hour**

**Focusing Words:** “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”

**Prelude** “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”  
 Fantasy on “Kingsfold” *arr. by John Carter*

**Call to Worship** “Rejoice with Exceeding Great Joy” *Grace Notes by Wolfe/Fettke*

†**The Greeting**

Leader: Let all who love God rejoice.

**People: Let all who thirst for justice draw water from the well of God’s salvation.**

Leader: Let all who long for Christ sing for joy.

**People: Let all who hunger for righteousness return home to the living God.**

Leader: Let all who seek the Spirit shout aloud.

**People: Let all who yearn for mercy fall on their knees before the throne of grace.**

†**The Invocation**

†**The Hymn of Praise** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” *UMH 234*

†**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**

**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.

† *Congregation Standing (as able)* *UMH-United Methodist Hymnal*  
 \*11:00 am Service Only *TFWS-The Faith We Sing*  
 # 8:45 am Service Only

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Pastoral Prayer** Pastor

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

†**The Hymn of Preparation** “The First Noel” *UMH 245*  
 Vs. 1, 3, 5

**The Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**\*The Offertory Music** “Silent Night” *by J. Mohr/F. Gruber*

†**The Presentation and Doxology** *UMH 95*  
**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**

**\*The Anthem** “Wexford Carol” *by Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi*

**The Scripture** *Philippians 4:4-7* *NT*

**The Sermon** “The Lord is Near” *Pastor*

†**The Closing Hymn** “Angels We Have Heard on High” *UMH 238*

†**The Benediction**

**\*†The Choral Benediction** “Amen, Amen”

**The Postlude** “I Wonder as I Wander” *arr. by Hal Hopson*

*Our Service of Worship has ended  
 Our Worship through Service begins*

**Prayers for the Week**

Ed & Jackie Boyd, Nancy Chandler, Lisa Milam, Lynn Perry

**Ongoing Prayers**

Tom Allen, Michael Archer, Lessie Ashmore, Jacob Atkinson, Connie Baker, Gary Barber, Nancy Burkhalter, Tanner Burnett, Charlene Byrd, Jay & Amanda Chapman, Mary Thelma Cole, Jane Coleman, Marc Daniel, Bric Daughtry, Barbara Davis, Todd DeLaRosa, Regina Diaz, Sharon Elkins, Emma Ford, Matthew Goodner, Shirley Hall, Marie Hamrick, Rosie Haney, Gwen Hanisch, **Lynne Hanner**, Shirley Heeth, Robert & Ruth Hix, Marie Holt, Adeline Hughes, Missy Kepley, Shannon Leeper, Jackie Leva, Ethelyne Lingle, Cort Mankin, Will Mattison, Charlie & Sandy McCann, David & Sheila Meeks, Jim Murray, Lona Neal, Andrea O’Connor, Marlene Omernik, Crystal Orm, Mary Paquette, Marlene Parker, Jaimie Passmore, Bill Patton, Phil Perry, Chuck Pinson, Gene Pinson, Steven Ray, Sharon Rice, Luis & Pam Santiago, Matthew Schaeffer, Galen Shinkle, Joshua Shumate, Bob Simon, Frank & Jennie Sue Taylor, Shelley Taylor, Jon Vigue, Martha Whitlock, Terry Woehr, Jackie Wright, Elliot Young.



**Volunteers are Needed**

Nursery Workers for 10:00 & 11:00

Friendly faces to greet people at  
 8:45 and 11:00 at all 3 doors

Ushers for 8:45 and 11:00

Children’s church volunteers at 11:00

**Calendar For This Week**

**Sunday, December 12th**

*8:45 a.m. Worship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 2:00 p.m. Single Mingle  
 Rock Painting & Carol  
 Singing - fellowship hall  
 6:30 p.m. Youth IMPACT*

**Monday, December 13th**

*9:00 a.m. Team Tabitha  
 4:30 p.m. ZUMBA  
 5:00 p.m. Talk on Tap at Cartecay  
 Brewery  
 6:30 p.m. Claddagh Circle*

**Tuesday, December 14th**

*11:00 a.m. Bible Study  
 12:00 noon Noon Circle  
 4:00 p.m. NOGS  
 4:30 p.m. YOGA*

**Wednesday, December 15th**

*4:30 p.m. LIJ Kids  
 5:30 p.m. Dinner and games  
 6:30 p.m. Youth IMPACT  
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice*

**Thursday, December 16th**

*4:30 p.m. ZUMBA  
 6:00 p.m. North Georgia Singers*

**Saturday, December 18th**

*8:00 a.m. UMM Bible Study  
 Cornerstone Classroom  
 9:00 a.m. YOGA*

**Sunday, December 19th**

*Day full of Special Activities  
 Check the back of the bulletin*

**Church Lock-up**

12/6-12/12 Kay Findell &  
 Katherine Meyer  
 12/13-12/19 Lloyd Vautrot  
 Judith Rathbone

**Attendance Registration  
 All Worshipers**

**Please complete the following  
 information:**

Date: December 12, 2021

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

( ) This is an address change

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am a guest of \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I am a member of Ellijay FUMC

( ) I am a 1st time guest  
 Would you like a visit? ( ) Yes ( ) No

( ) I am a repeat guest

( ) I would like more information

( ) I would like to make a commitment to  
 Christ

( ) I would like to join Ellijay FUMC

( ) I would like to talk to the Pastor

Prayer Request: ( ) Please share only with  
 the Pastor

Short Tern List \_\_\_\_\_

Long Term List \_\_\_\_\_

**Invitation to Church  
 Membership**

Anyone wishing to join this church by profession of faith or by transfer of your membership, please come forward during the closing hymn or speak to the pastor following worship. Know that you are always welcome here.