

December Events



6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. December 19

All are welcome to gather in the church yard to watch our youth and children perform a live nativity show. They will have shows starting at 6:00p.m, 6:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

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

Ellijay First United Methodist Church is Now on "YouTube"

to view the service,
type in www.youtube.com
in the search bar type:
Ellijay first UMC
and scroll to the desired date.

You can also find our services on Facebook by searching Ellijay First United Methodist Church. We hope you will stay connected with us if you are travelling this Advent season!

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

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



Ellijay First United Methodist Church

75 McCutchen Street
PO Box 472
Ellijay, GA 30540



A Stephen Ministry Congregation



Everyone Invited!

2022 Planning Retreat
Saturday, January 8
9:00-12:00

For **everyone** interested in
upcoming programs and
activities at Ellijay First

Youth News!

Live Nativity

Sunday, December 19 @ 6:00PM

We will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. for our annual live nativity performance. The Christmas party will occur following the live nativity!

Regular activities will resume in January!



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.

Stephen Ministry



"Compassion: Deeply sharing the suffering of another, together with inclination to give aid or support"

As we look at Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection, we observe the ultimate example of compassion. He now calls us to follow his example and to be deeply concerned for one another. Stephen Ministry is a ministry filled with compassion. It provides compassionate Christians with a place where they can use those gifts in ministry as a Stephen Minister. It also provides a haven where those in need of compassion can receive it in a confidential relationship with a Stephen Minister.

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

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
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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 Preschoolchildren@fumcellijay.org
Ann Hanline..... Admin Assistant/Financial Secretaryoffice@fumcellijay.org
Julie Kepley..... Nursery Coordinator
Zack Kepley..... Audio/Video Technician
Claudia McKeon..... Organist
Dr. Patrick Young..... Director of Music.....pyoung@yhc.edu

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.



Dr. John Brantley
December 19, 2021



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 2021 - The Color is Purple
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

Prelude "And the Glory of the Lord" *arr. by G. F. Handel*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

***The Offertory Music** "There's a Song in the Air" *arr. by Pepper Choplin*

†**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** *UMH 95*



Cantata

"The Christmas Story"

arr. by Tom Fette & Thomas Grassi
Narrators: John Brantley & Sheryl Robinson
Vocal Solos: Sam & Holly Burcham,
Tim Robinson & Kimberly Weber

The Postlude "For Unto Us a Child is Born" *arr. by G. F. Handel*

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



Everyone Invited!

2022 Planning Retreat
Saturday, January 8
9:00-12:00

As we await the jonquils and daffodils to break through the ground this spring, we are hopeful at Ellijay First, for the growth and new life unfolding as we live into the new normal that will be 2022 and beyond.

You are invited to set the goal and raise the bar in our ministry plans for 2022 and beyond. On Saturday, January 8 at 9:00 am we will begin, sharply on time, in a morning planning retreat. It is proposed for us to encourage every member to participate in one of four areas of ministry. We will look at using efficient and nimble meeting structures, to allow for more hands-on ministry opportunities.

Some of the ministry plans include "Everywhere Missionaries", a community garden, Worship Design, and Discipleship. We will also discuss our plans to move ahead of any denominational changes as we live out the ministry calling we have in the heart of downtown Ellijay and throughout Gilmer County.

You might choose to use your Saturday in a different way. If you do, you will not know what is going on at church, you will not have permission to complain or suggest changes, so jump in and use this time to immerse ourselves as the body of Christ. Bring a friend, bring a spouse, meet a friend or your future spouse. Morning eats will be available at 8:30 and we will use every minute through noon to prepare for our share ministries and vision.

~Pastor John

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, **Kristy Hensley 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 19th
8:45 a.m. *Worship Around the Table*
9:45 a.m. *Christmas Brunch and Pictures with Santa*
11:00 a.m. *Cantata Worship Service*
6:00 p.m. *Live Nativity*
7:30 p.m. *Youth IMPACT Christmas Party*

Monday, December 20th
9:00 a.m. *Team Tabitha*
4:30 p.m. *ZUMBA*

Tuesday, December 21st
11:00 a.m. *Bible Study*
4:00 p.m. *NOGS*
4:30 p.m. *YOGA*
5:00 p.m. *Blue Christmas Service*

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

December 22nd - January 3rd
Church Office Closed

Church Lock-up

12/13-12/19 Lloyd Vautrot
Judith Rathbone
12/20-12/26 John Davis & Theresa Braswell

Attendance Registration
All Worshipers

Please complete the following information:

Date: December 19, 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 Term 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.