



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

Wednesday Night Activities

On January 5th we will offer a Safe Sanctuary class for all adult volunteers. We will have a class starting at 4:30 and 6:30.

"That's Why We Do That!" Worship 101

Starting January 12 we will be offering "Worship 101" at 4:30 and 6:30 for all those who are interested.



Peace Light of Bethlehem

The flame has burned continuously for over a thousand years and originated at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem at the site of Jesus' birth. It is transferred lantern-to-lantern from Tel Aviv, to Vienna, to New York City. Dedicated volunteers meet, share, and move the flame across North America, person-to-person, coast-to-coast. The Peace Light, symbolic of the Light of Christ, especially evident at Christmas, is meant to promote peace, harmony and unity among all people of the world.



Fundraising Opportunity

Please let the church office know, if you or your group would like to sign up for a Wednesday night in January or February to provide dinner.

Thank you

The Church Staff greatly appreciates your generosity during this Christmas Season. Thank you for your generous gift from the church and the many individual gifts. Your kindness, love and support mean the world to us.



Stephen Ministry

"Trust Me"

Has someone ever told you "Trust me," and then let you down? Our Stephen Ministers are people you really can trust. They are committed to providing the best Christian care possible to their care receivers. They are people you can trust and depend on.

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



Have a safe and fun Christmas holiday. We Will resume regular activities in January.

Youth News!

Epiphany Party! Wednesday, January 5 | 6:30 PM

You know the story. You've sung the song (you know, "We Three Kings"?). Now, experience just how radical the "wise mens" visitation is during our Epiphany party! We'll have games, food, and engage in an immersive Scripture experience! It'll be "Epiphantastic!"



Welcome new members Gordon Eanes and Meg Blanton-Eanes. We are glad to have you worshipping with us!

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 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



Ellijay First United Methodist Church

75 McCutchen Street
PO Box 472
Ellijay, GA 30540



A Stephen Ministry Congregation



Dr. John Brantley
December 26, 2021

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 26, 2021 - The Color is White

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: “Christmas comes, Christmas goes ... but God’s love is everlasting. Babies are born, babies grow up ... but God’s love is everlasting. The God who made the entire world is with us here and now, forever and ever. Alleluia!”

Prelude “He is Born, the Divine Christ Child”
arr. by Lloyd Larson

The Call to Worship “Angles We Have Heard on High”
arr. by Bill Ingram
12 Bells

†The Greeting

Leader: God’s love has come to earth to dwell with us.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: We are God’s chosen people, loved and cherished.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: The birth of love has changed us forever.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: Let us sing, praise, rejoice, and worship together!

†The Invocation

†**The Hymn of Praise** “Hark! The Herald. Angels Sing” UMH 240

†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)*

**11:00 am Service Only*

#*8:45 am Service Only*

UMH-United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS-The Faith We Sing

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** “Once in Royal David’s City” UMH 245

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

***The Offertory Music** “The Friendly Beasts”
by Larry Shackley

†**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** “Baby in a Manger”
arr. by Paul Williams & Douglas Nolan

The Scripture Luke 2: 41-52 NT

The Sermon “What Did You Get for Christmas” Pastor

†**The Closing Hymn** “Joy to the World” UMH 246

†The Benediction

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

The Postlude “O Come All Ye Faithful”
arr. by David Willcocks

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, Kristy Hensley Taylor, Shelley Taylor, Jon Vigue, Martha Whitlock, Terry Woehr, Jackie Wright, Elliot Young.

Our Presence

Dec. 19th

11:00 a.m. - 314

Total - 314



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 26th

8:45 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Friday, December 31st

5:30 p.m. Single Mingles

Happy Hour on Zoom

Sunday, January 2nd

8:45 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

2:00 p.m. Single Mingles Game day

*The church office is closed from
December 22 through January 3,
so the staff can enjoy the
Christmas holiday with their
families.*



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Harry Duttonhoffer at his passing on December 19. A service will be held in January.

Church Lock-up

12/20-12/26 John Davis & Theresa Braswell

12/27- 1/2 Howard Elkins & Steve Hanline

Attendance Registration

All Worshipers

Please complete the following information:

Date: December 26, 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.