



Come Sing with Us!

Chancel Choir rehearses
Wednesdays from
6:30 - 8:00

The choir
returns to the loft on
August 27.

We welcome all singers
who enjoy being a part of
the music ministry at
EFUMC.

Please see (or email)
Susan if you have
questions.
choir@fumcellijay.org

Vespers Service

Unique

Contemplative

Worshipful

The Wayless Way

Seek Ye First the
Kingdom of God

Friday, Sept. 1, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Questions:
Call Warren Acree
706-273-1134

LIJ Kids / Youth Impact News

LIJ Kids

**Our Wednesday programming will resume
Wednesday, August 30 at 3:15 p.m.
Let Marianne know if you need school pickup.**



FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week

**Peacemaking God, you call us to live differently;
controlling temper, seeking community, being able
to take the risky step. You call us to be a means of
your grace. Show us how wonderful and exciting it can be
to live as your peacemaking children. Amen**

Our Gifts of Time

**August 20
Lock up**
Lloyd Vautrot
Bill Munson

Greeters
8:45 Narthex Judy Leonard
Office Stacey Graham
Portico Mike Graham
11:00 Narthex Rick Thaxton
Office Jean Smilie
Portico Delores Thaxton

**August 27
Lock up**
John Davis
Hank Chapman

Greeters
8:45 Narthex Harry Archer
Office Betty Ann Archer
Portico Rachel Tarr
11:00 Narthex Lori McCurdy
Office Lynn McKibbin
Portico Nathan Grice



August 22: Tony Ganz
August 23: Jean Smilie
August 23: Judith Williams
August 25: Tommy Burnette
August 25: Carole Long

Our Presence

July 30 - Total 161
8:45 - 58
11:00 - 103
August 6 - 184
8:45 - 62
11:00 - 122
August 13 - 173
8:45 - 51
11:00 - 122



Ellijay First

United Methodist Church
75 McCutchen Street, P.O. Box 472
Ellijay, GA 30540

**Dr. John Brantley
August 20, 2023**

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship - The Color is Green

The Worship of God

Welcome and Announcements

The Chiming of the Hour

Focusing Words: How good it is that sisters and brothers
live together in human dignity. As we celebrate our common
humanity this day, let us lift up a humane spirituality in song
and silence, prayer and practice.

* **Prelude** "Amazing Grace"
arr. by T. Smith/D. Hustad

† The Greeting

Leader: Ever sense is bombarded daily with the sound of
hurtful words and the touch of polluted air and water.

**People: God's Spirit cleanses us with every breath we
take as we breathe out our praise.**

Leader: Every sense is bombarded daily, with the taste of
food that does not satisfy and the whiff of corruption.

**People: God's Spirit cleanses us with every breath we
take as we breathe out our praise.**

Leader: Every sense is bombarded daily with sights that
disturb and distract.

**People: God's Spirit cleanses us with every breath we
take as we breathe out our praise.**

Leader: Let us praise our maker while we have breath.

† The Invocation

† The Hymn of Praise

☆ "Rock of ages, Cleft for me" UMH 361

July Financial Recap

Check the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for
complete financial information.

July - Year to Date Contributions \$296,422

July - Year to Date Expenses \$277,420

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

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist

Marianne Evans

Children's Ministries and Preschool....children@fumcellijay.org

Susan Gooch.....Director of Musicchoir@fumcellijay.org

Ann Hanline.....Admin Assist/Financial Sec.....office@fumcellijay.org

Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator

Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician

Claudia McKeon....Organist

† **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.

Pastoral Prayer

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**

☆ "Are you Washed in the Blood" Insert

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.

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Music

"Down to the River to Pray" with
"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

arr. by Mary McDonald

† **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**

The Anthem

"And so it Goes"

*Warren Williams & Dan Worley
arr. by John Denver*

The Scripture

Matthew 15:10-28

NRSA

The Sermon

"When the Heart is Evil"

Pastor

The Closing Hymn ☆ "Victory in Jesus"

UMC 370

† **The Benediction**

† **The Choral Benediction**

"Blessed Assurance"

UMH 369
refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

The Postlude

"Tell the Good News"

arr. by Ed Good

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.

Matthew 15: 10-28

Things That Defile

¹⁰ Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.