



Longtime faithful member of Ellijay FUMC, Ethelyne Lingle, passed to be with her Lord on Monday, August 21, 2023, at Wildwood Nursing Home in Talking Rock. A memorial service will be held in the church sanctuary Friday, September 15, at 4:00 p.m. A time of sharing with Ethelyne's family will follow in the fellowship hall.

**Our Gifts of Time**

**September 3  
Lock up**  
James Grice  
Barry Petenbrink

**Greeters**  
8:45 Narthex Bill Johnson  
Office Bob Stephens  
Portico Kathy Stephens  
11:00 Narthex Rick Thaxton  
Office Delores Thaxton  
Portico Logan Mashburn



Sept. 4: Barbara Chastain  
Sept. 4: Paul Compton  
Sept. 4: Justin Easley  
Sept. 5: Lauren Cole  
Sept. 6: Jenna Cole  
Sept. 7: John Halligan  
Sept. 8: Dean Carlsen  
Sept. 8: Paul Stanhope  
Sept. 8: Jeanne Summers  
Sept. 9: Bob Bennett  
Sept. 9: Anthony Palmieri  
Sept. 10: Betty McCutchen  
Sept. 10: Beverly Taylor

**Our Presence**

August 6 - 184  
8:45 - 62  
11:00 - 122  
August 13 - 173  
8:45 - 51  
11:00 - 122  
August 27 - 160  
8:45 - 47  
11:00 - 113

**LIJ Kids / Youth Impact News**

**LIJ Kids**

**Wednesday, September 6 at 3:15 p.m.**

**Let Marianne know if you need school pickup.**

**FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week**

**Jesus, light of the world, amid both the gaudy lights and the dark corners of this life, we need a sense of glory – especially the glory we see in you. And when we see that glory, may that glory, that light, shine through us. Amen**



**Building Unity and Seeking the Heart of God**

John 13:35

This is how all men will know that you are my disciples because you have such love for one another. Phillips

One Service  
OUR

COMMUNION  
COMMUNITY

BREAK BREAD  
BRINGS

PRAY  
PEACE

Join us for a combined service on September 17, 2023. At 10 am we will gather in one accord for a church wide service followed by communion in the sanctuary. We will join in the Fellowship Hall after communion for the breaking of bread together and prayer afterward in the Sanctuary.

**LETS DO SOMETHING RADICAL AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER**



**Ellijay First**

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

**Dr. John Brantley**  
**September 3, 2023**

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship - The Color is White*  
**The Worship of God - Holy Communion**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**The Chiming of the Hour**

**Focusing Words:** God speaks from burning bushes and souls on fire. May God grant us eyes to see and ears to hear, as we worship this day.

\* **Prelude** "America the Beautiful"  
*arr. by Mark Hayes*

\* **Call To Worship** "In This Place" ("We Come to Worship")  
*by Nancy Price and Don Besig*

† **The Greeting**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.  
**People: Call on God's holy name.**  
Leader: Sing praises to the Lord.  
**People: Tell of God's wondrous deeds.**  
Leader: Let the faithful sing of the Lord's awesome power.  
**People: Let the hearts of the faithful rejoice.**  
Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.  
**People: Call on God's holy name.**

† **The Invocation**

† **The Hymn of Praise**

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" TFWS 2129

**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 Music .....choir@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**

☆ "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"      UMH 297

*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**

"Nothing But the Blood of Jesus/At the Cross"  
*arr. by Andy Berry*

† **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**      "Break the Bread"      *by Natalie Sleeth*

**The Scripture**      Matthew 16:21-28      NRSA

**The Sermon**      "Self Denial, Seriously?"      Pastor

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**      UMH 12

**The Closing Hymn**      ☆ "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"  
UMH 402

† **The Benediction**

† **The Choral Benediction**

"Bind Us Together"      TFWS 2226  
refrain

"Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love."  
*by Bob Gillman*

**The Postlude**      "Battle Hymn of the Republic"  
*arr. by Smith/Hustad*



*Notes of* **THANKS**

Special thanks to Charles Claiborne for leading the choir while Susan is on vacation.

**Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

**The Cross and Self-Denial**

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

<sup>27</sup> "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

**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.