

Upcoming Events:

Singles Mingles—Board Games at the Church today 1-3
 IMPACT Sunday School: Meeting today @ 8:45am in
 the Ben Barrett Room
 Monday, 1/13: Finance Committee meeting @ 5pm
 Administrative Council @ 6pm
 Vision-Casting and Calendar Setting @ 7pm
 Tuesday, 1/14: UMM meet at 8am @ Burger King
 Wednesday, 1/15: IMPACT Youth Group
 (to follow LIJ Kids)

LIJ Kids News

Is Back on Wednesday, 1/8!

Our normal time will be 3:30-5:00 pm.

We will continue our normal pick-up at EES after school.

We are excited to get back to digging into God's Word and
 having fun in the name of Jesus!

Southwest Airlines Ticket Opportunity

The children's preschool drawing/donation is back
 again this year! The winner will receive two round-
 trip tickets to any Southwest Destination that can be
 used by you or transferred to another lucky person. The tickets
 are good until April, 2026. Tickets are \$20 each and you will
 be supporting our preschool program. The drawing is 4/2/25.
 Tickets are available from Marianne, any preschool board
 member or in the Church Office.

FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week

**Gracious God, you have sealed us with the Holy Spirit to in-
 herit redemption as your own people. Let us resolve in 2025
 to our lives reflecting the gift of saving grace in our
 Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Financial Report

Thank you to our wonderful Church Congregation for your
 generous tithes and offerings.

Last week, \$6,679.80 was received in operating funds.
 Up to date financial reports are posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteer Opportunity!

There is a need for church office volunteers on Wednesdays.
 No experience necessary. Please contact the office if you are
 able to assist with a 1/2 day shift . Thank you!

Church Lock-up Schedule

1/12-1/18: Charlie Leonard
 1/19-1/25: Bill Munson
 1/26-2/01: Lloyd Vautrot



1/12: Jackie Boyd
 1/13: Barbara Simmons
 1/18: Myron Seagraves

Prayers for the Week

Pray without ceasing for family/friends, teachers, doctors., pastors, World
 Leaders/Military, The Weak, Sick & Hungry, Ourselves.
 Prayer Request Forms are in the Pew Racks

General

Emma Ford Missionary

Health

Doug Bater
 Ed Boyd
 Jerry Boyne
 Kevin Brett
 Kyle Bullington
 Joan Compton
 Paul Compton
 Allen Fanelli
 Joy Fanelli
 Sharon Fletcher
 Terry Freeman
 Jessica Good
 Nancy Griffin
 Betty Jo Hanes
 Missy Kepley
 Rylan Leeper
 Shannon Leeper
 Jackie Leva
 Ann Shearon
 Mike Vitelli
 Kenny Warren
 Clyde White

Hospice /Rehab

Austin Salade
 Mike Watkins
 Dan Weaver

Surgery /Upcoming

Earline Crooke
 Barbara Fogle
 Ann McClannahan

Surgery/Recuperating

Brad Opit
 Fred Partin

Shut-In

Peter Adams
 Marlene Brown
 Ernette Calhoun
 Jim Hagopian
 Mack Hipp
 Rudi Lanehardt
 Caryl Putnan
 Margie Pyren
 Myron Seagraves
 Paul Stanhope
 Mary Uthlaut
 Robert Westmoreland

Hospice

Bob Hix
 Tom Lowery Sr
 Richard Manning
 Bill Patton

Caregiver

Joy Fanelli
 Carolyn Hipp
 Ruth Hix
 Mary Jo Lowery
 Lorraine Seagraves
 Joan Stanhope
 Renee Walkins

Death in Family

Family of Andrew
 Griglak
 Family of Bryan
 McFarland
 Family of Peggy Puckett
 Family of Valerie Weiss
 The Family of Craig
 Baum

The Family of

Mr. Yekle

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm

Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@NGUMC.net
 Lay Leader Rick Thaxton 770-241-1852 rlthaxton@etcmail.com
 Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555
 Web site: fumcellijay.org

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist

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

Sarah ThorneDirector of Music.....choir@fumcellijay.org

Debbi WestcottYouth Director.....djchamm@gmail.com

Susan Marino...Admin Asst/Financial Secretary
 ...ellijayfirstoffice@gmail.com

Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator

Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician



Ellijay First
 United Methodist Church
 Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor

75 McCutchen Street
 PO Box 472
 Ellijay, GA 30540
 706-635-2555

Sunday, January 12, 2025



Worship Service

*The Liturgical Color is White
The Worship of God*

The Prelude - "Here I Am to Worship"
arr by Mark Hayes

The Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Announcements and Invocation

† **Choral Call to Worship** - "There's A Spirit in the Air"
by Richard Redhead/Brian Wren

† **The Greeting** - Isaiah 43, Psalm 29, Luke 3

Leader: We hear God's voice.

People: It thunders though creation.

Leader: God's voice is strong.

People: It shatters the cedars of Lebanon.

Leader: God is still speaking.

People: Calling out our names.

Leader: Listen for God.

People: God calls us beloved.

† **The Hymn of Praise** "When Jesus Came to
the Jordan"
UMH 252

† **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.**

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 Lily of the Valley"
TFWS 2062

The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Rev. Dr. Shearon

The Offertory Music: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"
arr by Mark Hayes

† **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: "Down to the River to Pray"
arr by Sheldon Curry

The Scripture: Luke 3:21-22

The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was
baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like
a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my
Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Sermon: "The Good News"
Rev. Dr. Shearon

Invitation to Church Membership

*Anyone wishing to join this church may come forward
during the closing hymn.*

† **The Closing Hymn**
"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"
UMH 605

*During this time, the Pastor and Prayer Team are
available at the altar for anyone desiring to join the
Church, personal or corporate prayer.*

† **The Benediction**

† **The Choral Benediction**
"Go Now in Peace"

by Natalie Sleeth

† **The Postlude**
"Hymn of Promise"

arr by John Carter

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.