

## *The Disciples' Connection...*



**Our Mission:** To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Our Vision:** Growing in our relationship with God as we strive to be more like Jesus and filled with the Holy Spirit. Nurturing our faith through community worship, bible study, and witness (living our faith in community).

**Core Values:** Radical Hospitality, Christian Community, and Extravagant Generosity.



## Dates to Remember

**August 2— Men's Breakfast at Jim's 8 a.m.**

**August 6 — Wednesday Night Supper—Bring salad, sandwiches, or dessert to share.**

**August 17—Wedding Shower following the service for Megan and Patrick (Gene and Susan's daughter)**

**August 19—Pack backpack food in Rome at 12:30 p.m.**

**August 20 —Wednesday Night Supper— Menu to be Street tacos with mango salsa, Spanish rice, and desserts.**

**Call or text Sandy Weaver (706-540-7397) for reservations.**

**August 21—Community Kitchen in Rome, 9 a.m. to noon**

**August 25th and 28th—Sew Joyful in the fellowship hall 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

### Planning Ahead

**October 10—We will feed the Chattooga High Football players in our fellowship hall.**

**Volunteers will be needed to serve and bake sweets.**

# From the Pastor

I love to walk. Maybe I should say are used to love to walk. The Church has had a benefit program for pastors for years where if you walk a certain amount of distance, they will give you 100 bucks or so and for a year or two I actually led the conference in walking. When I was much younger, I used to enjoy, jogging and running. Those days are long gone but the reason I say I used to love to walk is because I have developed plantar fasciitis and walking is the worst thing I can do. After the first 10 or 15 steps, he quits hurting, but it is actually causing harm. So I'm looking for other things to try to avoid being a burden on my family. I do recognize I'm an old fat man now, but I'm not in as bad a shape as some folks.

I started walking in a wading pool, thinking it might be beneficial while not actually hurting my feet. The first day I actually tried running in the pool, and I found out the next day that running in a pool is hard on your body. So I was walking in the pool, and I discovered that while it's not as bad, it still hurts my feet. Now I am actually trying swimming and it has been 10 years or better since I have regularly been swimming.

I joined a gym and I'm going three days a week and I'm actually remembering that I'm an old man and I was not trying to overdo it the first day I didn't even put weight on the bar. But I forgot that an Olympic barbell weighs 45 pounds by itself. So I was sore for three or four days after the first day of exercising.

There is an ad that shows up on my computer on a regular basis that shows a 65+ year old man who is exercising who says that he does not need exercise advice from a 20 year old. I can definitely relate to that because we are in two entirely different worlds. When I was in my 20s, I could eat two pepperoni pizzas, four hamburgers, five hotdogs and lose a pound. As I said, before, those days are long gone. I think I can gain weight by looking at a pizza now and I can't lose weight no matter what I do.

And then, this morning in my inbox was an article from the assistant to the Bishop on evangelism. And he started off by asking what was the best form of evangelism? I want to return to that in a minute, but God was obviously speaking to me today. Literally, the next email I opened, was about how to pastor an evangelistic church. That article started off with the story of a pastor, being criticized by one of the members of the church, because the particular form of evangelism that the pastor was practicing was according to the member too impersonal to mechanical and impractical to use. The pastor was hurt and thought about it for a moment, and replied well, sir I prefer my method of doing evangelism over your method of not doing evangelism. Wow!

Terry Walton, the assistant to the Bishop, said what was obvious to anyone who thinks about it, that there is no best way of doing evangelism. And just like my experience right now with exercising there are things that work at certain times and don't work at other times. Back when I was a teenager. I was part of an evangelism team at my church. We would go out on Tuesday afternoon and evenings and we would knock on doors and we would invite people to church. I called this the Bible and the brick method because we were going to knock on your door and before we left your front doorstep we were gonna hit you with one of the two either the bottle or the brick. Looking back, it's almost comical that it worked for a time. Over the years, I have participated in at least half a dozen evangelistic programs that had varying degrees of success. I remember cold calling. That quit working with the advent of caller ID. My wife is a great example. She will not answer the phone if she does not recognize the number. You get to leave a message. One of my personal favorites that worked for a while was called lifestyle evangelism. It started out with the idea that if you were new to the neighborhood, you weren't really concerned about where the church was until you knew where the school was, the doctors office was, the pharmacy and three or four other things that were important if you were a family with small children.

Sports used to be very effective form of evangelism, because it drew people to the church and through a shared experience on the field, people, saw what kind of church you were. Then we all got older and didn't want to risk a serious injury.

I have a wonderful friend in Greensboro who has a fishing ministry. He loves to go fishing and he loves to take people fishing and he will tell you that you're welcome to go anytime, but you're going to hear about Jesus while you're out fishing with him. If you choose not to hear it you're welcome to get out and walk home. I don't think anybody's ever walked home.

This morning, Terry said that the best form evangelism was telling your story. Whether or not, it is the best form of evangelism, it is the most authentic. Because nobody's evangelism will be exactly the same, because everybody's story is different, and it should be easy to remember because it's your story. And because our story is always being added to, our evangelistic story evolves.

One of the things I love about Summerville First, is that you're actually very good about telling your story. Our evangelism touches the lives of the people in the community because it's what we do. And if you look at the example of Jesus, he did not have a four-point program to reach the community. He talked to people, he shared the love of God with people, and that is what evangelism ultimately has to be, sharing the love of God with the people that you meet. Sharing what God has done in your life with the people who are walking on the path that you walk. Our story is not done. Let's share our story with the people we meet along the way.

In Christ,

Wes

## BIRTHDAYS:

08/02 Lynne Lee  
08/07 Drake Housch  
08/12 David Smith  
08/15 Brandon Gurley  
08/15 Brad Waggoner Sr.  
08/17 Roger Wilkinson  
08/24 Wynne Wilkinson  
08/27 Carroll Andrews  
08/29 Al Brown  
08/30 Brad Waggoner Jr.

## ANNIVERSARIES

08/20 Greg and Dianne Fulton



## Prayer Concerns

Linda Leonard (ear), Chattooga Resource Center raised over \$58,000, prayer for the start of school, Becky Woodard, Andrea Moe (HFMD), Alex Kaminski (Sandy Weaver's son heart attack), Lynne Lee, Wes Privett (plantar fasciitis), Brooks Moe (Sarah's grandson HFMD), Terri Garnsey (blood draw only monthly), Shut ins during the heat, Texas, New Mexico, North Carolina (floods), Beverly Brooks (chemo) Shirley Hoffman (Rachel Hamilton's grandmother in hospital), Jimmy Linderman (cancer), Randy Brinkley, Eric Ulm (healing)

LONG TERM DARBY HALL (heart), NATALIE BURNLEY (heart), JIM MEDICI (Dossie's brother), JILL SPEARS (MRI), REBECCA SLASON, GAIL ALLEN, CARTER BLACK, DIANE FULTON, LUCILLE HAMBY, BEN MCCOOL & FAMILY, JANE MCCOOL, KASSIDY MCCOOL, DIANE MCCONNELL, DOSSIE PRIVETT, JEFFERY FLOYD

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY The family of Richard T "Dickie" Chamblee, the family of Tom McCurdy, the family of Quinn Simpson, the family of Ronald Webb, the family of Jane Stokes, the family of Jimmy Hunt

## ITEMS NEEDED AT LEROY MASSEY ELEMENTARY

They are in need of boys underwear, boys shorts, unisex shoes, and girls leggings. You can leave donations in the fellowship hall or at Leroy Massey. Joanna Tucker is the contact person at the school.

Boys underwear sizes: 7,8,9,10,12,and 14

Boys short sizes: 5,6,7,8,10/12, 14/16

Unisex tennis shoes in children's sizes: 13, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5

The next meeting of the Ladies' Friendship Circle will be in September.



**SFUMC is partnering with Chattooga County DFACS to meet Emergency needs in the county. August shortages: Spaghetti noodles & sauce, mac & cheese, canned meats, cereal, and peanut butter**

## Financial Report Jan. 1, 2025 through July 30, 2025

### Operating Spending Plan

Receipts	\$69,946
Expenditures	\$83,803
Difference	<u>(\$13,857)</u>

### Missions

Receipts	\$5,617
Expenditures	\$3,574
Difference	<u>\$2,043</u>

General Funds: week 1	\$3,531
General Funds: week 2	\$1,208
General Funds: week 3	\$450
General Funds: week 4	\$2,700
Online Giving	\$266
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><b>\$8,155</b></u>

### Church Staff and Contact Info

Pastor, Rev. J. Wesley Privett  
Email: wes.privett@georgiaumc.net  
pastorsfumc1906@gmail.com

Organist, Gene McGinnis

Pastor's Cell: 478-394-5575

Website [www.summervillefirstumc.com](http://www.summervillefirstumc.com)

Mailing Address: SFUMC  
P.O. Box 187  
Summerville, Ga. 30747



# Sew Joyful News



Sarah and Sandy are SEW very grateful to those who have helped complete a couple of events this past month.

We partnered with Everlasting Ministries summer girls' camp. Eighteen girls plus chaperones descended into our Fellowship Hall. Each girl (and some chaperones) selected a pillowcase kit and was instructed on how to fold, press, and pin her pillowcase. Each then had an opportunity to operate a sewing machine to complete her creation. Joanna Tucker, founder of the ministry, told us the girls used them at the camp that night. The girls are pictured above.

We welcome ALL help. There are many different tasks involved with each event or project. August meeting dates are August 25 and 28th, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. You can always contact Sarah Moe (920-918-3647) and Sandy Weaver (706-540-7397) by text or phone for updates.

Members of Sew Joyful gathered on July 30th to sew a quilt for a young woman we will call "Hope." Hope was living in a home with her mother. When her mother passed away, she had some medical needs of her own; she was admitted to the hospital for treatment. While in the hospital, Hope's home was burglarized and squatted. They stole not only her possessions, but the copper wiring and copper plumbing from her home. Several organizations are working together to restore her home with furnishings. Sew Joyful is making a quilt for her bed that will share God's love with her each time she snuggles into bed, and will help make her house feel like a home again. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

Several organizations, including Appalachia Service Project ([asphome.org](http://asphome.org)) are working together .





# Friendship Bracelet Booth

Sew Joyful sponsored a "Friendship Bracelet" booth at the Summerville Friendship Festival where anyone could take a bracelet of their choice, or they could make one of their own. Of course, all the kids walking by made a bracelet... several returned and made more!





# Scout News



Troop 7 Summer Camp participants presented the colors at morning assembly at Camp Sidney Dew.

Cub Scouts from Pack 38 enjoyed days at Camp Sidney Dew for Adventure Camp.





### Ladies Friendship Circle - HELP WANTED

**The next meeting of the Ladies' Friendship Circle will be in September. We need a volunteer to be in charge of the meetings for September , October, and November. You would need to pick the meeting date , time, agenda for the meeting, and a program. Please let Susan McGinnis know if you are willing to lead for the first 3 months. You can also let her know if you are willing to lead any of the other months.**



# Cooks Needed

Wednesday Night Suppers only happen because of volunteers. Currently, we have 3 cooking groups. It would be great to add more to rotate. It could be an individual, pair, or a group who would like to prepare the meal. You would need to plan, purchase food, and prepare the food. We try to keep the cost of the meal to less than \$5 per person. You would save your receipts and turn them in on Wednesday to be reimbursed. If you are willing to cook, let Susan McGinnis, Sandy Weaver, Sarah Moe, or Elaine Crouch know.

# Wednesday Night Volunteers

## Opportunities:

**Set Up:** Put out table centerpieces, salt and pepper on tables, paper products and utensils on serving tables, get glasses out for drinks, make or buy 2 gallons of tea (one sweet, one unsweet).

**Cooking :** Plan menu, buy groceries and cook the meal

**Clean up:** Remove food from the serving tables after the meal, wash tables, load dishwasher and start, take towels home to wash, take out trash and put in new trash bags.

September 3— Salad, Sandwich, and Dessert night

Set Up: \_\_\_\_\_

Clean Up: \_\_\_\_\_

September 10: Cook—Elaine Crouch (Chicken Enchiladas, beans, rice)

Set Up: \_\_\_\_\_

Clean Up: \_\_\_\_\_

September 17: Cook \_\_\_\_\_

Set Up: \_\_\_\_\_

Clean Up: \_\_\_\_\_

September 24: Cook: \_\_\_\_\_

Set Up: \_\_\_\_\_

Clean Up: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sign up on this sheet. It will be on the refrigerator door  
in the fellowship hall kitchen.**



# Raffle Winner

The preacher won the bicycle in John Turner's raffle for Dancing With the Stars Chattooga. Will we see him riding it?



# Karen Peck & New River

## *About Karen Peck & New River*

Six-time Grammy nominated and nine-time GMA Dove Award winner Karen Peck and New River has impacted the gospel music industry for over 28 years. In May 2018, Karen Peck was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall Of Fame.



Chattooga County Ag Center

August 24, 2025

Local Gospel Entertainment Starting at 5 p.m.

Concert at 6 p.m.

\$5.00 Gate Admission

Open seating for all—Bring a chair or a blanket.

40 Middle School Road

Summerville, Georgia