

October 2025 - Volume 8 Issue 10

The Disciples' Connection...



*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ,
for the transformation of the world.*

Come and hear a brief (10 minute) informational time about ICON after the October 1st Wednesday night supper. It is our on-line church directory. Carlton Andrews will show us how to get logged in and use the program.

If you have a digital photo that you would like to use, this can be done also.

Wednesday Night Suppers 6 P.M.-6:30 P.M.

October 1 Please consider a donation toward paper products.

There is no charge for this meal.

Bring your favorite sandwich, soup, or dessert to share.

October 8

Shrimp and grits, bread, salad, drink and dessert. Call or text Elaine Crouch for reservations at 706-506-7527.

October 15

BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, slaw, chips, dessert, and drink. Call or text Susan McGinnis at 706-857-8009 for reservations.

October 22

Open face roast beef sandwiches, green beans, dessert, and drink. Call or text Sandy Weaver at 706-540-7397 for reservations.

October 29

Meet at Crushed Tomato. 6 p.m.



“The elders who lead the church well should receive great honor. Those who work hard by speaking and teaching especially should receive great honor.” 1 Timothy 5:17 (ICB)

Wes has worked hard and it would be nice to show him our appreciation. Please consider finding a way to let Wes (and Dossie) know that they are appreciated.

Mailing address:

151 W. Washington Street
Summerville, Ga. 30747

From the Pastor

Is it just me or has much of the world lost its mind? I am not, nor never have been a pacifist. There are things worth fighting for, but almost nothing is worth starting at the point of violence. The type of thing that comes to my mind where violence might be appropriate would be walking up on an abuse or assault in progress.

But, how did we get to the point where disagreeing with someone merits violence? To borrow a title from Francis Schaeffer, **“How should we then live”?**

I start from scripture, Micah 6:8, specifically. Micah 6 is an imaginary conversation between the nation of Israel, that has repeatedly failed to obey God’s Law, as given to Moses. God has pronounced judgement on Israel and Israel asks, What should we do? Gods response,

*To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.*

I’ll come back to this, but I want you to hear the Message translation.

*what God is looking for in men and women.
It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor,
be compassionate and loyal in your love,
And don't take yourself too seriously—
take God seriously.*

To bring this to today, have we been disobedient to God’s will for us? Yes!

What do we need to do? Act Justly, or as the Message translates, do what is fair and just to our neighbors, be compassionate and loyal. Too much of Christianity has made this into a small thing about “social justice”. They’re not wrong, but they aren’t right either. Narrowing “acting justly” this much is like saying three men went to the moon. It’s true, but incomplete. Yes, there are people who have been treated badly, but if we want to honor God, we will look at EVERY aspect of our lives and ask if we are doing what is right or are we doing what is popular. Christianity was always intended to be counter cultural. We are not supposed to “Go with the flow,” we are to present and represent the love and justice of God. Far too many people treat the rich or powerful one way and the waitress at the diner another.

Loving mercy directly flows out of acting justly. I am a huge fan of Les Miserables. The first crime Jean Valjean committed, the one that sets the scene for the entire book is stealing a loaf of bread to feed his sister's starving children. Did he do it? Absolutely. He was guilty as charged. Was it a sin in God's eyes? Maybe, but not as great as allowing children to starve. When I see looters coming out of stores with 55 inch flat screens, I doubt they are taking them for starving children.

Jesus told many truths through parables. The parable of the unforgiving manager is an object lesson in mercy. The manager owed the king ten thousand bags of gold. That's a lot of money. The king forgave the debt because the manager begged him. Later, when the forgiven manager saw a man who owed him one hundred coins, he choked the man and demanded payment. The king handed the unforgiving manager over to the jailers as a result of his unforgiving nature.

When we pray the "Lord's Prayer," we say forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. What the prayer literally says is forgive our sins in the same manner as we forgive others.

Walk humbly before God. I like the translation, don't take yourselves too seriously. Humility has been defined as "not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less.

There are differences in our walks and in our preferences. I am a divorced and remarried man. Many denominations would not allow me to be a pastor. I struggled with my calling for several years, but did make peace with my call. I do not judge the denominations who have different standards than ours, I just do not serve in those churches. As Methodists, we do things in a specific way, that's where the word method—its comes from. Wesley had a method for almost everything. If someone wants us to become a Baptist or Lutheran or Reformed church, that is not going to happen. There are churches down the street that follow those traditions. We would not judge, but we are not going to change how we worship and believe.

That is the key to what I'm trying to say. We don't have to agree, but we must respect each other. The outbreak of violence we see today is a result of failing to be humble and merciful. I disagree with you, that makes you not only wrong, but less than human and not worthy of life.

God created humanity in His image. Everyone bears the image of the creator God. The meanest person who ever lived bears the mark of the creator. Jesus commanded us to love one another as He loved us. Doing this is how people know we are His disciples.

I'll end with the message translation of Philippians 2:3

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care—then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Go and do likewise.

Wes



Backpack Food Packing

will be October 28 at 12:30 in Rome.

Meet at the Bagwell Choice Pantry located at 90 East Callahan Street.

We have \$854 in our account for the backpack food.

We spend \$212 each week.



Sew Joyful had a display at the Chili Cook-off.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Roger Wilkinson (unspoken), Abdul McKinney (son of Bessie Bridges, seizures),
Darby Hall (pain management), Rick Vernon (cancer), Cory Vernon (ALS), Terri Garnsey,
Linda Leonard (good doctor report)
Alice Cox (broke hip), Mary John Hendrix (caring for Alice), David Moe, Rob Greeson
(cancer), Carrie Beth Hill Roberts, Beverly Mayo, Mitchell Grizzle (liver), Ryan Carsgrove, Al-
len Luton
Carolyn Rodgers (cancer returned), Ronald Crouch, people of Hawaii (in the path of hurri-
cane), Tim O'Neal, Bree Evans, Sharon Long (surgery recovery)

LONG TERM

DARBY HALL (heart), NATALIE BURNLEY (heart), JIM MEDICI (Dossie's brother), JILL
SPEARS (MRI), BECCA 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 John Hunter, the family of Beverly Brooks, the family of John Montgomery, the
family of Bud Scout, the family of Alvin Whitaker, the family of David Smith

BIRTHDAYS:

10/09 Michael Ann Bailey
10/16 Ezra Turner
10/17 Becca Slason
10/25 Jordan Day
10/26 Carlton Andrews
10/28 Emma Kate Day
10/30 Annabelle Turner
10/31 William Crouch



ANNIVERSARIES

10/01 Michael Ann and John Bailey
10/23 Dale and Honey Housch

Financial Report

Financial Report January 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$96,588	\$103,345	(\$6,757)

MISSIONS YTD:

Receipts	Expenditures	Difference
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The finance team thanks those who have continued to financially support the church during this past year. Financial contributions should be mailed to this address.

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



Scan for online giving.

Morning Worship September (non-designated receipts)

General Funds: week 1 \$3,362

General Funds: week 2 \$2,222

General Funds: week 3 \$841

Grant \$3,750

General Funds: week 4 \$1,828

Online Giving \$271

TOTAL \$12,274



Men's Club Meets on October 4

All Men are invited to meet at Jim's at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

Women's Friendship Circle



A date for October will be announced later.

Rome-Floyd Community Kitchen

Anyone who would like to volunteer should meet at the kitchen on North Broad at 9 a.m. on October 23.

Feeding the Hungry

SFUMC Partners with DFACS In Chattooga County

October needs are EVERYTHING.

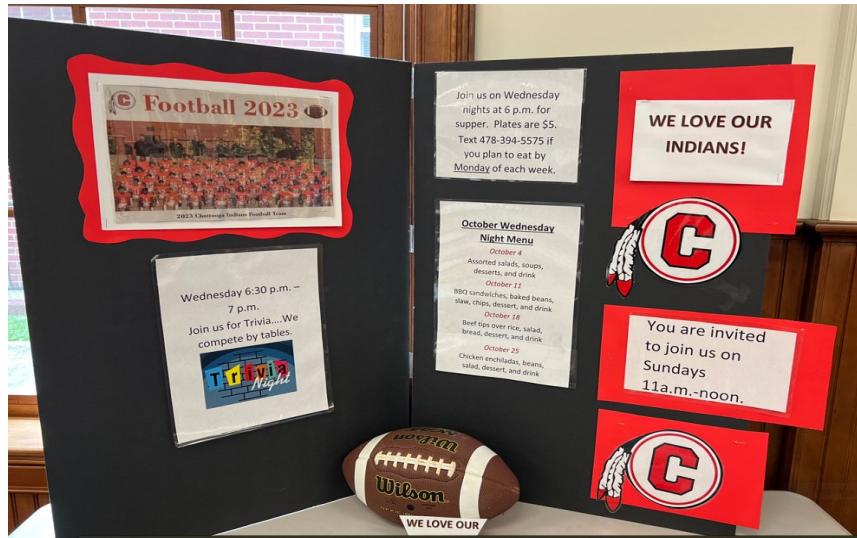
Church Staff and Contact Info

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

Organist, Gene McGinnis

Office Phone 706-857-2057





Feeding the CHS Football Team

We will feed the football team in our Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 10. We will need cookies or brownies for dessert. If you can supply a dessert, please have it to the church no later than 2 p.m. on October 10. You do not need to bag the cookies unless you just want to do so. We do not need sides donated. Volunteers are needed to help during the meal. A time will be announced later.

ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®

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Northwest Georgia Dementia Caregiver Support Groups

Chattooga County (Summerville)

1st Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm

Summerville First UMC

220 W. Washington St., Summerville, GA

Floyd County (Rome)

1st Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm

Transitions Hospice Care

316 E. 7th St., SW, Rome, GA

**To register for a Support Group:
Contact Redonna Branton, CRT, RCP
(706) 378 - 2273
rbranton@transitionshc.com**

**Build a support system with
people who understand.**

Alzheimer's Association® support groups, conducted by trained facilitators, are a safe place for people living with dementia and their care partners to:

- Develop a support system
- Exchange practical information on challenges and possible solutions
- Talk through issues and ways of coping
- Share feelings, needs and concerns
- Learn about community resources



Operation Christmas Child: Shoeboxes, brochures, and “Follow Your Box” labels are available in the fellowship hall. Be sure to fill your boxes completely and be aware of the items not to pack. Please pay the shipping per box online.

September Ladies Friendship Circle enjoyed a presentation by Aimee Larsen from Flourish Clothes Closet for foster children. A lunch from Subway was also served. The October date will be announced later.



Sew Joyful



**2025 Meeting Days (1st Monday and
3rd Thursday)**

Monday October 6

Thursday October 16

Monday November 3

Thursday November 20

Monday December 1

Thursday December 18

Drop-in any time, stay an hour or pack a lunch and spend the day with us. You don't have to sew to participate; there are many tasks involved including designing, pressing, pattern cutting, etc. If sewing, you can bring your own machine or plan to use the ones we have.