

The Disciples' Connection...



***Come home, to SFUMC.
We miss seeing you!***

Council Meeting

September 3rd at 5 p.m.

Charge Conference

September 15th at 4:30 p.m.

Summerville First UMC

Fall Camp Hamby Picnic

September 15th at 6 p.m.

Bring your favorite dish to share. Menlo will be the host.

Tuesday, September 3—Meet in Rome to pack backpacks at 12:30.

Wednesday, September 4 The menu will be slow-cooked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and desserts. Text or Call Sandy to reserve a plate. Her number is 706-540-7397.

Saturday, September 7 - Men's Club meets at Jim's for breakfast 8 a.m.

Wednesday, September 11 Bring salads, sandwiches, and desserts to share.

Monday, September 16— Circle meets at Dos Maguey's 11:30.

Wednesday, September 18 - The menu for Wednesday night supper will be BBQ sandwich, baked beans, slaw, chips, and dessert. Contact Susan McGinnis if you plan to come. Her number is 706-857-8009.

Wednesday, September 25 The menu will be chicken tetrazzini, salad, rolls, and desserts. Call or text Elaine Crouch to reserve a plate. Her number is 706-506-7527.

**The Ladies' Friendship Circle will meet at Dos Maguey's at
11:30 on September 16th.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

SHORT TERM

Billie Hughes (Jordan McGinnis' mom), Rose Kohler, Beth Morgan (Recovery) Ed Tinney (melanoma), Marie Gary (Lynne's friend), Gene Espy, John Paul Morris (Heart) John Hendrix (football injury), Brandi Johnson (Charlisa's daughter), Kevin Ferwerda (Dossie's friend liver) Carol & Harry Duncanson (Dossie's friends), Crystal Hess (Sarah's friend), Jim Woodard, Lefty Norton .

LONG TERM

AVIS SNOW, JIM MEDICI (Dossie's brother), JILL SPEARS (MRI), BECCA SLASON, JANE STOKES, GAIL ALLEN, ENRIQUE GRUNER (Chemo), CARTER & LINDA BLACK, MARCIA BONEY, DIANE FULTON, LUCILLE HAMBY, BEN MCCOOL & FAMILY, JANE MCCOOL, KASSIDY MCCOOL, DIANE MCCONNELL, KIM SNOW, DOSSIE PRIVETT, JEFFERY FLOYD

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The family of Ed Davis, The family of Jim Hayes (Both Dossie's friends), The family of Maxine Jones (Linda's niece), the family of John Morris (Roger's friend), the family of Pat Stanley, the family of Ken Trimble, the family of Herman Ellis (Wes' friend), the family of Frankie Dowdy

September BIRTHDAYS/ ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS:

09/06 David Crouch
09/10 Lindsay Cook
09/10 Vivian Turner
09/11 Candi Forrester
09/15 Rita O'Neal
09/19 Chelsea
McConnell
09/20 Lefty Norton
09/20 Jennifer Turner
09/27 Yvonne Norton

ANNIVERSARIES

None listed

September Flowers

September 1 — Available
September 8 — Available
September 15 — Available
September 22 — Available
September 29 — Available

Church Service Attendance

August 1—38
August 11—28
August 18—32
August 25—38

From the Pastor

Do you actually believe in Grace? This is not a rhetorical question, because I wonder more and more if we Christians actually understand what salvation by grace through faith means.

I really enjoyed the analogy that original sin meant we were washed away from the presence of God. Washed off the top of the mountain, washed into a valley where we can never even see the top of the mountain again much less climb back. So when we talk about original sin, we are all born down hill from Eden.

In his letter to the church at Rome Paul talks a lot about justification, and his theology says that just being Jewish is not anything to be cherished. He actually says you can't just lean back in the arms of your religion and take it easy.

Call goes right to the heart of the matter when he says circumcision is wonderful if you live in accordance to God's law. But if you don't live according to God's law, it's worse than not being circumcised. The reverse he says he's also true, the uncircumcised to keep God's laws aren't as good as the circumcised in fact, better.

You don't become a Jew, because you're circumcised you become a Jew, because you have the mark of God in your heart.

In the 18th chapter of Luke, there is a parable that really should speak to all of us as Christians today and I think we missed a lot of what is being said because it's so far removed from our reality. I'm talking about the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector. We all know that the Pharisee pumps himself up, and the tax collector won't even look towards heaven.

But have you stopped and looked at what the Pharisee actually says?

“God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.”

Remember that the Pharisee's were not bad people they were the guardians and the gatekeepers of their faith. So when this Pharisee says that he is not like other people, not only is he serious, it's true. He's not a robber an evil doer an adulterer, and he certainly hasn't sold himself out to the evil Roman empire like the tax collector has. He does fast twice a week and he does give a tenth of everything he owns to God. What is the only thing missing? Humility. The Pharisee is justifying himself at the expense of the tax collector. It's not so much his righteousness, as it is, the fact that he is better than the tax collector

And what does the tax collector say? He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast. Eph 2:8-9.

So, the Pharisee was really good at boasting about his accomplishments. You may say that we are not Pharisees, that we're not that way we're not boastful. Well, maybe we're not boastful, but the flipside of that is judgmentalism and yes we are.

Jesus himself said, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Gal 5:22-23

It is one thing to hold to the truth. It is another thing to be mean, hateful, and judgmental. Be a disciple of Jesus. BE LIKE CHRIST.

Blessings,
Wes

Backpack Blessings

We continue our mission to make sure children in our county do not feel hungry over the 3 day weekends. We pack and supply bags of food each Friday to a growing number of children. We began this school year with a request for 129 bags per week.

We had a request from Leroy Masses this week asking if we could provide 90 more bags per week.

This mission depends on contributions and grants since it is not part of our church budget. We are able to purchase the bags for \$1 each. Pleasant Grove Baptist Church has partnered with us and is helping with some of the funding.

Please remember that your donations are vital if we meet the needs of the schools.

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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

Congratulations!



Best wishes to Arielle and Alex on their upcoming wedding. A shower was held in the fellowship hall for the couple. Alex is Sandy

Weaver's son.



Financial Report

Financial Report Jan. 1, 2024 through August 25, 2024

<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$83,894	\$91,571	(\$7,677)

MISSIONS YTD:

Receipts	\$5,473
Expenditures	\$2,729
Difference	\$2,744

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

August Offerings to General Operating:

August 4 — \$3,766

August 11 — \$1,757

August 18 — \$590

August 25 — \$2,233

Online Giving - \$520



Live as people who are free, not using your *freedom* as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

1 Peter 2:16
(ESV)



Church Staff and Contact Info

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You can scan this QR Code with your QR app on your smartphone to link to the church's Website.

