



Wednesday Night Supper Menus

January 1— No Meal

January 8

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

January 15

Meat loaf, green beans, potatoes, salad and desserts. Call or text Elaine Crouch at 706-506-7527 to reserve a plate.

January 22

Meet at Crushed Tomato at 6 p.m.

January 29

Menu to be determined later. Sandy Weaver and Sarah Moe will cook.

cause will make it easier to cope with the situation. It won't. There always has been and always

Volunteer Opportunities

Backpack Food Packing

January 14 at 12:30 p.m. in Rome.

Rome/Floyd Community Kitchen

January 16 Meet at Northwest Ga. Hunger Ministries 9 a.m.

Message from Liza Morgan

I'm sure most of you know, we have had the major water leak in the Sunday school/hallway area of the church. We are also needing to replace the heating and air units in the sanctuary. The district office of the UMC has generously offered to re-allocate \$10,000 to help us with those capital expenses. However, we are also attempting to raise money, above and beyond normal tithes, to help cover those upcoming expenses. While we do have insurance, there will be a deductible cost on the water leak plus the entire cost of the air units.

Please mark donations for district matching or the church building fund.

Thank you so much for the blessing all of you are to Summerville First United Methodist Church.

Liza Morgan

It's Twin Girls!

Please Join Us For A Baby Shower
Honoring

Krista Allen Joyner

(Gail Allen's Granddaughter)

Sunday, January 5th, 2025

Summerville First United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall

12:30—2:30 P.M.

Registered at Amazon and Target



From the Pastor

Happy New Year

Whew! 2024 is finally behind us. And I think it would be an understatement to say that none of us expected all of the things that happened in 2024. I know I certainly didn't anticipate an indoor waterfall on the Friday after Thanksgiving. None of us expected the challenges of having a roof replaced that we are still dealing with.

I am an optimist at heart. There is nothing we can do about what has happened. Mike Cavin said to me once, as my DS, "I love history, I've studied history. But I didn't major in history." That was his advice to me for dealing with people who were less than satisfied with all of the things that had happened. It has been close to 20 years ago now that Mike gave that advice and it's still good.

I would never have chosen to remodel the church, the way it is happening! But, since it is happening that way, we can either complain about it or we can embrace it and figure out how to make 2025 the best year, Summerville First United Methodist Church has ever had.

Some of you are no doubt already laughing at my foolishness or think I've lost my mind, or at the very least think I don't understand the seriousness of our problem. I can assure you, I am well aware of where we are.

More importantly, I know who we are. We are the church visible in Summerville, Georgia. We have been called by Christ to be witnesses to the kingdom of God right here right now. Many of you will think that you are too old for what is coming or that you are not qualified for what is about to happen. You're too old for fantasies or fairytales.

There's a word I learned in seminary, actually, it's a phrase Tabula Rasa, in English it just means blank slate. And that's what we're being given here in Summerville right now. We're about to have a new set of rooms to use for the glory of God. As we do this, we can update those rooms in ways that would not have been possible or practical if we hadn't had the flood. I hope we take advantage of the opportunity to upgrade those rooms.

The physical upgrades are secondary. What we have is an opportunity to show our community who we actually are. We are God's chosen people. Christmas is immediately behind us and we are reminded that Christ was born into the world for us. Easter is going to be relatively early this year and it's important to remember that the reason Christ came into the world was so that he could sacrifice himself in

our place. As sisters and brothers in Christ, we are part of the family of God. I'm proud of my last name, and the heritage that it comes with, but that does not compare to being part of the family of God.

Knowing who we are, and where we are, we can faithfully begin or continue, however you want to look at it, our journey to where we are going. Where are we going? One of those other phrases I learned in seminary is that we are all moving on to perfection!

Lastly, we know who is going on this journey with us. I may have mentioned before, Dossie was given a book several years ago by the author Stormie Omartian. The title was, "Just Enough Light for the Step I'm On. I will also confess that I wish God gave me a little bit more light, so that I could see a little farther down the road. But truthfully, as I look backward over my ministerial life, if I had been given too much information, I might have run screaming from the room. There were too many times in my ministry, that I was not ready for more light.

Romans 8:31 says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

I've said, I know who we are, I know where we are going, and I know who is going with us. The question for us in 2025 is, what road are we going to take to get there? I have ideas about where the church is going and they are positive. With the challenges that are in front of us, we need to focus our energies and our activities on two or three big things that we can do. Not saying we're not going to do other things I'm saying we need to focus our time, our money, and our energy in the places that we can have the most impact.

I've asked several times and gotten very few responses. But I do want to hear from you and what you think we need to be doing in 2025. So email, call, or text me.

Wes Privett 478 394 5575 or wes.privett@ngumc.net

Again,
Happy New Year, Summerville

Feeding the Hungry

SFUMC Partners with DFACS In Chattooga County

January needs are for everything.

**Trip to Murphy Harpst for a
Christmas Party hosted by
SFUMC**



Santa also made a trip to visit students at Leroy Massey Elementary School.



Thank you to everyone who provided gifts and snacks to the foster children at the Murphy Harpst Christmas Party.

January Circle Meeting

The Friendship Circle will meet on January 13, 20, or 27 at 11:30. The date will be announced later when the program is confirmed. The December Christmas Dinner was attended by 30 ladies from SFUMC and Backpack Helpers from other churches.



Financial Report

Financial Report January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

Receipts \$132,521 Expenditures \$135,190 Difference **(\$2,669)**

MISSIONS YTD:

Receipts \$8,122 Expenditures \$4,912 Difference \$3,210

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

Morning Worship December (non-designated receipts)

General Funds: week 1 \$2,382

General Funds: week 2 \$2,505

General Funds: week 3 \$3,472

General Funds: week 4 \$730

Online Giving \$1,721

TOTAL \$10,810

On-line Giving is NOW Available

SFUMC now has online giving available. Just scan the QR Code to the right and it will connect you to the church page.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Lucille Hamby (birthday), Donald & Jeannie Vetromile (Dossie's friends), Ric Olson (ablation), Marika Meassick. Becca Slason, Jane McCool (birthday), Randy & Jill Spears, Maxine Cargill, Wes Privett, Lefty Norton (eye surgery), Jim Woodard, Jeannie Vetromile, Loretta Self (surgery), Kathy Reid (neck) Javi McCool (wedding), homeless and those in need as the weather turns cold, our schools and the people making school possible

LONG TERM

CAROLYN ROGERS, GARY HYLANDER, AVIS SNOW, JIM MEDICI (Dossie's brother), BECCA SLASON, JANE STOKES, GAIL ALLEN, ENRIQUE GRUNER (pneumonia), 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 Jon Mitchell, the family of Helen Jane Wilson, the family of Bob Boob, the family of Cheryl Stevens, the family of Monte Best, the family of Darin Milner



Men's Club Meets on January 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.



BIRTHDAYS:

01/01 Cheryl Farrar
Lucille Hamby
01/03 Jane McCool
01/11 Ben McCool
01/15 Diane McConnell
01/17 Zeke Baker
01/20 Amy Housch
01/22 Becky Woodard
01/29 Jane Stokes

ANNIVERSARIES

01/10 James and Linda Archer
01/21 Lefty and Yvonne Norton

Church Staff and Contact Info

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