



**Scout Sunday and FREE Soup
lunch to follow**

The Scouts will help with the service on February 9th. They will provide a free soup lunch in our fellowship hall for everyone. Please plan to stay for lunch.

Volunteer Opportunities

Backpack Food Packing

February 11th and 25th at 12:30
in Rome

Rome-Floyd Community

Kitchen Volunteers

Meet at 9 a.m. in Rome on
February 20th.

Wednesday Night Supper Menus

February 5

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

February 12

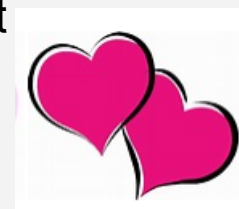
Spaghetti, bread, salad, and dessert. Call or text Elaine Crouch for reservations at 706-506-7527.

February 19

BBQ sandwich, chips, slaw, and dessert . Text or call Susan McGinnis at 706-857-8009 for reservations.

February 226

“Lazy Lasagna”, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Call or text Sandy Weaver at 706-540-7397 for reservations.



Happy Retirement To Cheryl Farrar



Our retired nurses at SFUMC enjoyed sharing stories.

From the Pastor

February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. So, happy Valentine's Day.

What is Valentine's Day all about? Obviously love. What is Christianity all about? Same answer. It is also not enough to “hate the sin” and “love the sinner”. It might surprise you to note that this phrase doesn't appear in the Bible. It's probably from Saint Augustine but regardless, Jesus, nor anyone else in the Bible ever said it.

What Jesus did say was that we were to love our enemies and pray for people who persecute us. I will be the first one to admit that that's hard. Sometimes impossibly hard. That is our challenge. Jesus also said to his disciples, right before he left this earth, “a new command I give you, love one another as I have loved you. Everyone will know you are my disciples **if** you love one another”. We represent Jesus to the world. All of us know “Christians”, who, for lack of a better word are hateful. I put Christians in quotes because I don't believe they're actually followers of Christ. I do not believe you can be hateful and a Christian.

The gospel of John says that “**God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son**”. In his letter to the church at Rome, Paul says that no one is righteous, not even one person. No one understands God, no one seeks God, all have turned away, all have become worthless, no one does good at all.

Can you wrap your mind around the fact that God loved us, even when we hated Him. That is why the expression says that If God didn't love His enemies, He wouldn't be able to love anyone.

In another letter, Paul says, “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. Grace, the unmerited favor of God, is a gift. You cannot earn it. Faith is a gift, God gives us the ability to believe Jesus died for us. Therefore, salvation itself is a gift.

How did and does Jesus love? A woman caught in the act of adultery would be sentenced to death. Yet, Jesus did not condemn her. To make the long story short, Jesus waited until ALL of her accusers left. He asked her where they were, she said no one who accused her was left. Jesus said He didn't accuse her either, go and sin no more. No anger, no hatred of her sin, just “go and don't do it anymore”.

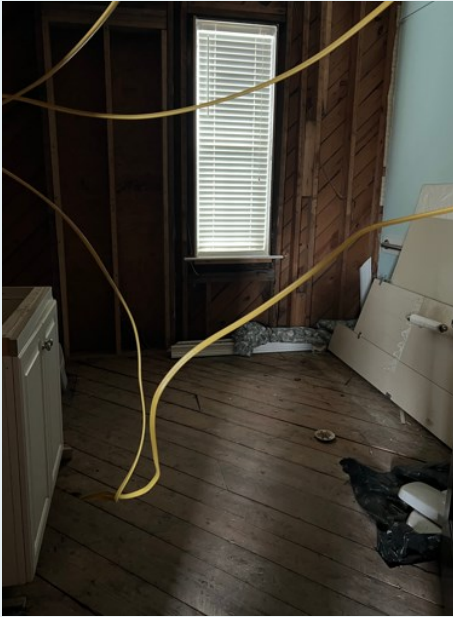
The Jews of Jesus' day were willing to accept anyone who was exactly like them. Jesus accepted anyone who was sincerely seeking God. Roman Centurions, Canaanites, tax collectors, Samaritans. All were accepted by Jesus.

Loving like Jesus means giving up on our prejudices and favorites. We do not have to endorse everything someone does to love them.

February is the month we celebrate love. Let's learn to love like Jesus.

Repair Update

The damage has been ripped out. Now is the time to repair. Thank you for all of the contributions beyond your usual tithes and offerings. We would also like to thank the district superintendent for the \$10,000 grant. We are getting estimates on the cost of the repair work. Below are photos of the current situation.



Circle Met on January 27th



Joanna Tucker, counselor at LMES, talked to the group about a ministry for teen girls. The ministry is called “Everlasting”. The circle will be working with the ministry on future projects.



Happy Birthday!

Ladies of the church helped Diane McConnell celebrate her birthday at the Willow Tree.





**Congratulations
to
Lauren Jarrett
Georgia Young Farmer's
Advisor of the Year**

Twins are on the way!



A Baby Shower was given for Krista and Blake Joyner recently. They are expecting twin girls in March.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Our Nation, Sarah Moe (foot and sick), Terri Garnsey, Linda Arnold, Dwayne's father (Cheryl & Brent's friend), Gail Allen Enrique Gruner, Henry Gruner & family, Rachel, Drew & Ava Hamilton, Maxine Cargle, Elijah McCool, Sharon Weaver (travel mercies)

Ava Hamilton (RSV), victims of LA fires, Ben McCool & family Teresa Hughes (pacemaker), Drake Housch (loss of Milo), Krista Joyner (expecting twins), Alice Cox (pneumonia & broken ribs), Jane Stokes (broken wrist), Bess Bridges, Dossie Privett (heart)

LONG TERM

CAROLYN ROGERS, GARY HYLANDER, AVIS SNOW, JIM MEDICI (Dossie's brother), JILL SPEARS (MRI), REBECCA 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 Jim Woodard, the family of Robbie White, the family of Joanne Davis, the family of Nancy Helms

HELP NEEDED AT CRC

The Community Resource Center needs help on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Just show up if you can help. Contact Cheryl Farrar if you have questions.



BIRTHDAYS:

02/02 Clifton Lewis

02/06 Gene Moe

02/10 Ella Cate Housch

02/13 Dossie Privett

02/15 Abby Hunt

02/19 Jamie Massey

02/21 Sarah Moe

02/24 Greg Fulton

02/24 Randy Gayler

02/27 AJ Echols

ANNIVERSARY:

02/14 Cheryl Farrar & Brent Williamson



Financial Report

Financial Report January 1, 2025 through January 31, 2025

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$8,932	\$12,571	(\$3,639)

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

January Offering to General Fund

01/05 \$5,485
01/12 No service
01/19 \$1,158
01/26 \$1,607
Online Giving \$682
Total \$8,932



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.



Feeding the Hungry

SFUMC Partners with DFACS In Chattooga County

February needs are cereal, spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, and any kind of non-perishable foods.

Flowers On the Altar

If you want to place flowers on the altar to praise God for His unconditional love, or in honor or memory of someone, please sign up on the "Flower Calendar" in the Sanctuary.

The Second Annual Joan Jarrett Shopping Trip

Ladies who would like to go Goodwill Shopping should meet at the church on March 18th at 8:30 a.m. We will leave at 8:45 and return around 5 p.m.



Men's Club Meets on February 1

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.

Friendship Circle Meets on February 24th

The Friendship will meet at **11:30 in the Fellowship Hall**. Kayla Bates Hartline from Chattooga High School will be our guest speaker. Lunch will be chicken enchiladas, salad, and drinks at a cost of approximately \$5. Text or call Elaine Crouch 706-506-7527, if you plan to eat lunch. After the meeting, the group will work on craft projects.

Remember that 2025 dues are \$30. Please pay Susan McGinnis, if you have not already done so.

Church Staff and Contact Info

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