

MARCH 2023

March 5 Genesis 12:1-4
March 12 Exodus 17:1-7
March 19 1 Samuel 16:1-13
March 26 Ezekiel 37:1-14

THE  NEWNAN FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SHEPHERD

We have entered into the season of Lent- a season of the church year where we are invited to take a view from the balcony, examine ourselves, and look at the ways that we have missed the mark.

During this season at Newnan First UMC, we are going through the Hebrew Bible, the Old Testament story of God's saving work. This is going to be a deep dive into Old Testament-- a beautiful and divinely-inspired collection of books! Poetries, histories, instructions for how God's chosen people are to live, books of wisdom, writings from prophets... an extensive collection. And it's long! The Old Testament has 39 books. 929 chapters. It has 23,214 verses which comprise roughly 622,700 words. And honestly... it's complicated. Each of these 39 books is its own genre, written by a particular person or group at a particular time for a particular purpose. Heck, some of the books even have multiple authors chiming in at different parts!

Now with all of that complication and all of that friction, there is an unfortunate tendency for folks to just skip over the Old Testament. After all, is it that important? Is it essential? The New Testament is so much more clear-cut, so much easier to understand. And it's all focused on Jesus, the central figure of our faith, our savior! Can't we just read about creation and the fall and skip ahead to Jesus's birth?

No, we cannot. Without the Hebrew Bible, we can't understand God's story of salvation and redemption, we can't understand Jesus, and we can't live into the fullness of what it means to be Jesus-followers. We need to know that God was in the business of saving human beings for thousands of years before Jesus was born.

And beyond that, we need to know that Jesus was Jewish, and this- the Hebrew bible, our Old Testament- these are the God-inspired scriptures that Jesus read and referenced throughout his ministry. They were the lens through which he saw and described the world. Jesus is the climax of the salvation narrative, but you can't understand the significance of that action without knowing the whole story.

- You can't understand the full significance of Jesus' birth without knowing the words of the prophets that the Christmas story fulfills.
- You can't comprehend the scope of Jesus' teaching without knowing that he was coming to fulfill the law given to the nation of Israel, not destroy it.
- You can't fully understand Jesus' last supper with the disciples-- the supper that we remember every time we partake in communion-- without knowing that it was a passover dinner, all of its meaning connected to God's deliverance of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt.
- And you can't understand the cross and our redemption without first understanding the story of creation, human beings, and how we got twisted away from God's plan in the first place.

Join us as we walk together through the Old Testament this season, acknowledging the ways that we human beings fall short and anticipating the fullness of salvation and new creation to come. - *Connor Bell, Associate Pastor*



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Connor Bell | Associate Pastor
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NEWNAN FIRST UMC MISSIONS

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/MISSIONS



February's donations

MINISTRY MOMENT

VOLUNTEER, Mary Jane Ginn

Our Mission connection to our community is fruitful because of the commitment from our church family and our volunteers. One of our many volunteers is MJ Ginn. MJ picks up our donations from Mission Sunday and brings them to ONE ROOF Ministries to support their food pantry. This ministry serves our local community families.



Mary Jane (MJ) pictured with grandchildren, Hayes (4) and Ford (2)



FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE VALENTINE COOKIE & CANDY SWAP

The Friendship group gathered to make Valentine's cards and treat boxes to deliver to our shut-in friends. Would you like to join the Friendship Committee? Please contact Karen Oothoudt at gotkaren57@yahoo.com





NEWNAN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SERVICE DAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 25



VOLUNTEER FORM

On Saturday, March 25th, we will serve our church family through a day of service. On that day, we will have the opportunity to fulfill our call to carry one another's burdens in direct, concrete ways. In the coming weeks, we will collect requests for needs from our church family, and also sign up to volunteer and address as many of those needs as we can that day. After our morning of service together, everyone is invited to join together for a wonderful time of celebration, fellowship, and a complimentary (and delicious!) lunch in the Parish hall. Want to volunteer or just join us for lunch on March 25th ? Use the QR code above to sign up or go online at newnanfumc.org/signups.

*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
-Galatians 6:2*

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Do you have a need/project that we can help you address? Signup online at newnanfumc.org/signups If you need help with a request, by please contact Aileen Burnett at 770-253-7400 x 206 or aburnett@newnanfumc.org.



IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

Loving one another through life's ups and downs.



MEMORIAM

George Lewis Berry, III March 25, 1951 ~ January 30, 2023

.....



NEW MEMBERS

Michelle Over, pictured with her husband, Martin, and children, Colin and Karly



LENT & EASTER 2023

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/EASTER

GIVE IT UP FOR LENT WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - SUNDAY, APRIL 9



For several years, our NFUMC church family members have donated \$1 per day for the 40 days of Lent to raise funds that support Bridging the Gap's food pantry. For \$1 each day, or \$40 per person, you CAN make a huge difference. One soda, one snack, a cup of coffee – give it up and feed someone in need!

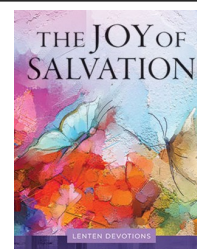
There will be donation containers available in the Narthex, the breezeway door of the Sanctuary, by the Chapel, and near the church office. You also can text "NFUMC" to 73256 to give via text, or visit NewnanFUMC.org/give to donate to "Give It Up For Lent"! Please make all checks payable to Newnan FUMC and mark "Give it Up" on the memo/for line.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

THE JOY OF SALVATION

Inspirations by Henri J.M. Noewen

Lenten Devotionals are available in the Narthex and by the church office. Pick up a copy today.



LENTEN SERVICES & LUNCH

All are welcome to participate in this annual community tradition in Newnan.

Local churches partner to host a weekly Worship Service at 12:00pm, followed by a community meal together at 12:30pm. (\$5) *Donations going to Coweta F.O.R.C.E.



Mar. 1 @ Newnan Presbyterian - Speaker, Rev. Andrew Chappell (NFUMC)

Mar. 8 @ St. George Catholic - Speaker, Rev. Hazel Glover (St. Paul's)

Mar. 15 @ Central Baptist - Speaker, Father Stephen Lyness (St. George)

Mar. 22 @ Newnan First UMC - Speaker, Rev. Matt Sapp (Central Baptist)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 | 12:00 PM | SANCTUARY & PARISH HALL

During the period of Lent, local churches take turns hosting a service and lunch (\$5). The community is invited as Newnan First hosts this event on March 22. Please join us in the Sanctuary for the service and lunch in the Parish Hall.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Palm Sunday | April 2

8:30am & 11:00am | Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday | April 6

6:30pm | Sanctuary

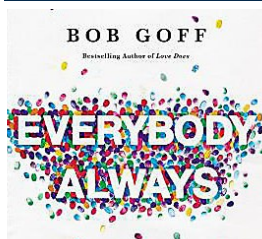
Easter Sunday | April 9

Sunrise Service | 7:00am | Greenville St. Park

8:30am & 11:00am | Sanctuary

CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/SIGNUPS



INSIGHT—NEW SUNDAY MORNING GROUP! Annex Hall | 9:45am

For all of you who are currently not involved in a Sunday school class, YOU are invited to an exciting, new opportunity. From February 26 through March 26 (5 weeks) we are hosting INSIGHT. We will share in 45 minutes of community, conversation, and a 5-week video series on Everybody Always by Bob Goff. *This is for adults of all ages!*

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY
MARCH 7 & 21 | 8:30AM IN THE GATHERING ROOM

Join us twice a month for breakfast and a variety of programming.



LET'S TALK A lively group discussion on various topics, including current events, from a Christian perspective.



March 1 | 6:30pm | Room 201

Jake Shepherd will lead a discussion on the legends of Jesus' youth from age 12 to age 30.

March 15 | 6:30pm | Room 201

Pastor Andrew will lead a discussion on the Articles of Religion.

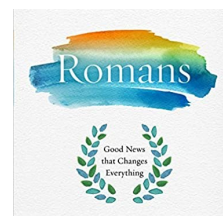
March 29 | 6:30pm | Room 201

James Shepherd will lead a discussion on Supreme Court docket highlights.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays | 10:00am | Annex Hall

March 8: We will begin a new 6-week study on the book of Romans. We will study through the book *ROMANS, Good News Changes Everything* by Melissa Spoelstra.

The book can be purchased online through Amazon.com or Lifeway.com. **JOIN US!**
Contact Shelley Casey at media@newnanfumc.org



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT | Saturday, March 11 | 4:00-8:00pm

Join us for Parent's Night Out! The kids will play, fellowship, and have the option of enjoying a family friendly movie, while you enjoy an evening out on the town!

Register: newnanfumc.org/signups

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY | Thursday, March 16 | 10:00am | Gathering Room

Join us on Thursday, March 16 for our next Prayer Shawl Meeting. Would you like to find out more information on this ministry? Contact Beverly Watkins at bevwatkins40@charter.net or call the office for more detail.

MARTHA CIRCLE | Monday, March 20 | 9:45am | Room 200

The Martha Circle will meet at 9:45am in room 200. We will continue with our book study, *Fearless*. All are welcome! If you are interested contact Beverly Watkins at bevwatkins40@charter.net or call the office for more detail.



LOOKING FOR CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES?

Aileen Burnett, Program Director | aburnett@newnanfumc.org | 770.253.7400 (x206)



PLUGGED-IN There will be no Plugged-In Dinners during the month of March.
We will resume on April 12 .



On February 2, we traveled to the **High Museum** and had lunch at **Mary Mac's**. Our group of 23 had a wonderful day of fun and fellowship.



Save the date!
June 11, 2023 | CHURCHWIDE PICNIC

FUN 'N FROLIC



March 9 | The Sock Shoppe and lunch in Griffin.

Sock Shoppe and lunch at Southern Pit BBQ in Griffin. Cost is \$5.00. We will leave at 9:15am and plan to return around 3:00pm. Sign up at newnanfumc.org/signups by March 1.

Contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206 if you have any questions.

April 14 | Callaway Gardens to see Spring Flower Fest.

Come enjoy a day exploring Callaway Gardens Flowerfest. We will leave at 9:15am and return around 3:30pm. Cost is \$34 per person. Register online at newnanfumc.org/signups or contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206 if you have any questions.



April 16 | Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story.

The Buddy Holly Story at The Legacy Theater in Tyrone. Cost is \$37.00. We will leave the church at 1:00pm. 5 seats are still available. Register: newnanfumc.org/signups or contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206 if you have any questions.

NEWNAN FIRST UMC MUSIC MINISTRY

Bonnie Krider, Interim Minister of Music | bonniekrider@gmail.com | 770.253.7400x205)



We really enjoyed our time worshipping in the parish hall, but are beyond excited to be back in the sanctuary. We're looking forward to a new sound in the sanctuary without carpet and have some powerful songs planned for Lent, holy week, and beyond. The Children have begun working on their Musical, "Oh Jonah" for the first Sunday in May, and the Youth Choir and I are ironing out more details every day for Choir Tour in June! It's another busy season in the music ministry!

*Soli Deo Gloria,
Bonnie*



Bellissimo Choir—Children's Handbells



Jack Terrell



The Cherub Choir



The Carol Choir

NEWNAN FUMC PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

NFUMCPRESCHOOL.ORG

Nancy Martin, Preschool Director | nmartin@newnanfumc.org | 770.253.7400 (x212)



PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

March 13 | 9 AM

All registration is online.

Visit our website: www.nfumcpreschool.org
for a list of classes we offer, tuition prices and instructions
regarding the 2023 Registration process.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner was held with the staff preparing the meal. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship. Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the dinner. A huge thanks to the staff for their willingness to serve our church. -Aileen Burnett, Program Director



NEWNAN FUMC UTH | GRADES 6 -12

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/UTH

Paul Mosley, Director of Youth Ministries | pmosley@newnanfumc.org | 770.253.7400 (x219)



Looking for a way to connect with us? We have a GroupMe and Instagram Account to keep you up-to-date. You can get all the details at newnanfumc.org/uth. If you aren't receiving this information from my newsletter in your email, please let me know! I will add you to the list.

The spring semester has two big celebrations, our first is coming up this month: Confirmation Sunday! We have an awesome group of confirmands who have been working hard through this year to prepare for Confirmation Sunday. Join us on March 12 at the 11:00am service to celebrate these wonderful young people of the church! Alongside Confirmation Sunday, March is an action packed month at UTH! We have our UTH Series for March (Love/Hate) on Sunday Nights. Biscuits and Bible happens every Wednesday morning before school, and we are closing in on the end of Romans. The Seniors are doing a Sticky Faith study at my house on Wednesday night where we are talking about faith, future, and food. Lots of great stuff is in the works so keep your calendars up to date with all the awesome stuff we have coming up. *—Paul Mosley*



We all have a tendency to hate on others. We can be pretty quick to judge. In a lot of ways, we thrive on it! Because we live in a world that loves to hate. The problem? We were made for a different kind of world—a world designed for love, not hate. But loving others isn't always easy. How do we love people who drive us crazy? How do we tell someone the truth without sounding like a hater? How do we love the unlovable? In this series, we'll explore what it looks like to lead with love rather than judgement and make a move toward landing on the right side of the line between love and hate.



WINTER JAM



UTH BOWLING NIGHT



Upcoming events:

- March 12: Confirmation Sunday
- March 17-19: Middle School Retreat
- March 25: Day of Service @ Newnan FUMC
- March 26: Happy Easter Message
- April 2: No UTH (Spring Break)
- April 9: Easter Sunday



SENIOR SUNDAY REGISTRATION

Senior Sunday Registration

The end of the School year is fast approaching and for our oldest UTH that means graduation. We want to collect some information from you so we can honor your seniors this Senior Sunday (May 21). Please use the QR code and answer as much of it as you can. We understand that their future plans and details may change leading up to Senior Sunday, and we will update them as necessary.



FIRST KIDS! 5TH GRADE AND UNDER

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/firstkids

Andrea Stuart, Director of Children's Ministries | astuart@newnanfumc.org | 770.253.7400 (x209)



Family Night with card making and dinner. All of the valentines were beautiful!
When it's made with love, it's the best! - Andrea Stuart



ROOT 345 BAGS OF HOPE MINISTRY EVENT
Sunday, March 26
6:00pm Dinner (\$5) with bag packing to follow.



**Family Bingo Night was a hit! 32 people
and they were fierce competitors.
What a fun night!**



NEWNAN FUMC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE IN THE SANCTUARY!

The structure has been reinforced, the floors refinished, the pews have been brought in, and the area has been brightened up with new bulbs in the fixtures.

Thank you to the volunteers, staff, and construction crews that have worked for the last 30+ days to create a worship space in the Parish Hall and complete the many projects in the sanctuary. Many thanks to our congregation for your patience and flexibility during this transition.



What a beautiful transformation.



Here are a few pictures of the Sanctuary before the pews were brought back in.



EASTER LILY ORDER

Orders Due March 17

We invite you to purchase Easter Lilies in honor or memory of a loved one to be placed in the Sanctuary Building for Easter morning. Cost per lily is \$13.50. All orders must be submitted and paid for by March 17. Order forms can be found in the Narthex or outside the office. Place completed orders and checks in the offering plate on Sundays. ("Easter Lily" in the memo line) or drop-off in baskets in lobby, email, or mail to:
NFUMC, 33 Greenville St., Newnan, GA 30263
Call the office with any questions 770.253.7400



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

7:00am UTH Prayer Breakfast at Truett's
 10:00am Women's Bible Study (AH)
12:00pm Lenten Worship & Lunch (\$5)
@ Newnan Presbyterian Church
 4:30pm Bellissimo Handbell Choir (BR)
 4:30pm Cherub & Wesley Choirs (CH/CR)
 5:30pm Carol Choir (CR)
 6:45pm Chancel Choir (CR)
 7:30pm UTH Sticky Faith at Paul Mosley's home

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

*Next Blood Drive is on April 6

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4**SUNDAY, MARCH 5**

8:30am Worship
 9:45am Sunday School
 9:45am Confirmation Class (AH)
9:45am INSIGHT Sunday School class (AH)
 11:00am Worship
 4:30pm Youth Ensemble Choir (CR)
 5:00pm Youth Choir (CR)
 6:00pm Root 345 Dinner & Group (CW)
 6:00pm UTH Dinner & Group (UL)

MONDAY, MARCH 6

11:00am Masterworks Board Mtg (AC)
 12:00pm Preschool Staff Mtg (PH)
 4:30pm Joybells (BR)
 5:45pm Inspirations (CR)

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

8:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast (GR)
 9:30am Swingin' Singin' Seniors (CR)
 6:45pm Masterworks Choral (CR)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

7:00am UTH Prayer Breakfast at Truett's
 10:00am Women's Bible Study (AH)
12:00pm Lenten Worship & Lunch (\$5)
@ St. George Catholic Church
 4:30pm Bellissimo Handbell Choir (BR)
 4:30pm Cherub & Wesley Choirs (CH/CR)
 5:30pm Carol Choir (CR)
 5:30pm Girl Scouts (JAM)
 6:45pm Chancel Choir (CR)

THURSDAY, MARCH 9**FRIDAY, MARCH 10**

10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

4:00pm Parent's Night Out (PS)
 4:00pm Fear This For Life Driving Class (CH)
 6:00pm Confirmation Vow Dinner/Rehearsal

SUNDAY, MARCH 12 *CONFIRMATION SUNDAY*

8:30am Worship
 9:45am Sunday School
9:45am INSIGHT Sunday School class (AH)
 11:00am Worship
 4:30pm Youth Ensemble Choir (CR)
 5:00pm Youth Choir (CR)
 6:00pm Root 345 Dinner & Group (CW)
 6:00pm UTH Dinner & Group (UL)

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Preschool Registration (Online)

4:30pm Joybells (BR)
 5:45pm Inspirations (CR)

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

9:30am Swingin' Singin' Seniors (CR)
 11:30pm Angel's House Board Mtg (PC SS)
 2:30pm Parkinson's Support Group
 6:45pm Masterworks Ensemble (CR)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

7:00am UTH Prayer Breakfast at Truett's
 10:00am Women's Bible Study (AH)
12:00pm Lenten Worship & Lunch (\$5)
@ Central Baptist
 4:30pm Bellissimo Handbell Choir (BR)
 4:30pm Cherub & Wesley Choirs (CH/CR)
 5:30pm Carol Choir (CR)
 6:45pm Chancel Choir (CR)
 7:30pm UTH Sticky Faith at Paul Mosley's home

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

10:00am Prayer Shawl Mtg (GR)

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Middle School Retreat to Camp Glisson
 10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Middle School Retreat to Camp Glisson

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Middle School Retreat to Camp Glisson
 8:30am Worship (S)
 9:45am Sunday School
9:45am INSIGHT Sunday School class (AH)
 11:00am Worship (S)
 4:30pm Youth Ensemble Choir (CR)
 5:00pm Youth Choir (CR)
 6:00pm Root 345 Dinner & Group (CW)
 6:00pm NO UTH

MONDAY, MARCH 20

9:45am Martha Circle (rm. 200)
 4:30pm Joybells (BR)
 5:45pm Inspirations (CR)
 7:00pm Finance Comm Mtg (AH)

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

8:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast (GR)
 9:30am Swingin' Singin' Seniors (CR)
 6:45pm Masterworks Ensemble (CR)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

7:00am UTH Prayer Breakfast at Truett's
 10:00am Women's Bible Study (AH)
12:00pm Lenten Worship & Lunch (\$5)
@ Newnan First United Methodist
 4:30pm Bellissimo Handbell Choir (BR)
 4:30pm Cherub & Wesley Choirs (CH/CR)
 5:30pm Carol Choir (CR)
 5:30pm Girl Scouts (JAM)
 6:45pm Chancel Choir (CR)
 7:30pm UTH Sticky Faith at Paul Mosley's home

THURSDAY, MARCH 23**FRIDAY, MARCH 24**

10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

7:00am NFUMC Day of Service
1:00pm NFUMC Day of Service Lunch (PH)

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

8:30am Worship (S)
 9:45am Sunday School
9:45am INSIGHT Sunday School class (AH)
 11:00am Worship (S)
 4:30pm Youth Ensemble Choir (CR)
 5:00pm Youth Choir (CR)
6:00pm Root 345 Mission: Bags of Hope (PH)
 6:00pm UTH Dinner & Group (UL)

MONDAY, MARCH 27

4:30pm Joybells (BR)
 5:45pm Inspirations (CR)

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

9:30am Swingin' Singin' Seniors (CR)
 6:30pm Agape SS Book Club (AH)
 6:45pm Masterworks Ensemble (CR)

CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS:

S: Sanctuary | PH: Parish Hall | PS: Preschool (lower level of PH) | CR: Choir Room | YL: Youth Lounge | A###: Annex Building
 AC: Annex Conference Room (1st floor) | A3F: Annex 3rd Floor | AH: Annex Hall | AP: Annex Parking Lot | BR: Bell Room | CH: Chapel
 1## or 2##: Main Building (1st or 2nd floors) | OL: Online | GR: Gathering Room | OS: Offsite

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Need help subscribing? Email our Director of Communications, Shelley Casey at media@newnanfumc.org



WEEKLY EMAILS

**YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCES****Week 8**

Total Tithes/Income: \$ 203,079
 Total Expenses: \$ 182,931
 Over/(Under): \$ 20,148

TOTAL BUDGET: \$ 1,616,113