

THE NEWNAN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SHEPHERD

JULY 2023

JULY 2 Matthew 11:29

JULY 9 John 8:12

JULY 16 John 18:33-38

JULY 23 John 15:1-19

JULY 30 Revelations 1:8

Friends and Family of NFUMC,

This summer, we have been working through a series on some of the "I AM" statements that Jesus shared in the gospels. The main question I've been asking throughout this series is: who did Jesus say he was and why does that matter to us? I hope that God stirs something in you through this series and through these Scripture readings. Beginning in August, we will be looking at who it is that God says WE are, looking specifically at Micah 6:8.

As I've been thinking about who Jesus is and who God says that we are, I recently found myself snuggled up with the UM Book of Discipline. Can you believe it? The nerdiest of all bedtime reads! And there, nestled between "Our Doctrinal Standards" (the heavy hitters) and all those fancy theoretical constructions, I was reminded of a section called "Our Theological Task."

Our Theological Task seeks to figure out how it is we work out our doctrine and theology in a practical way. The Book of Discipline reads in paragraph 105, "While highly theoretical constructions of Christian thought make important contributions to theological understanding, we finally measure the truth of such statements in relation to their practical significance. Our interest is to incorporate the promises and demands of the gospel into our daily lives."

I understand that to mean this: talking the talk is only useful if it is helping us walk the walk. And if we are engaging with God and with each other, all for the sake of making disciples for the transformation of the world, then we are headed in the right direction.

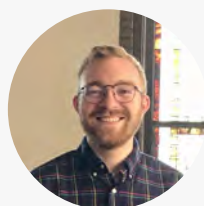
The early Methodist legends, led by the ever-enthusiastic John Wesley, knew this all too well. They believed that when our mission is crystal clear, we become instruments of salvation, relationship healing, social structure transformation, and all-around holy troublemakers, "spreading scriptural holiness, thereby changing the world. In order to be truly alive, we embrace Jesus' mandate to love God and to love our neighbor and to make disciples of all peoples" (BOD, Paragraph 121).

My hope is that we might truly be alive, that we might better understand our sense of mission, and that through us, God might make a difference in your life and the lives of the folks in Newnan, Georgia.

I want to say a special word of welcome to our new members: A.W. and Marian Steed and Carole Matthews.

*Grace and peace,
Andrew*

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NEWNAN FIRST UMC MUSIC MINISTRY

Caitlyn Dixon, Minister of Music | cdixon@newnanfumc.org | 770.253.7400 x205



Greetings Church Family,

As I write this letter, I have just wrapped up my second week as Minister of Music here at Newnan FUMC. To say that I have been greeted with such hospitality and kindness doesn't seem to say enough. The love I have felt as I have been welcomed into this church community has been so comforting as I adjust to life in a new state. Your gifts and prayers have been helpful in getting to know the town and all of the magic that Newnan seems to hold. I've talked to folks that have been here their whole lives and with folks who have only been here a short time, and the consensus is that Newnan is a great place to be. I cannot wait to explore all the town and this community has to offer.

If you read the June newsletter, you got to know a little bit about me. I was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and made my move to the South in 2016. I've lived in three states since then, and I don't see myself leaving any time soon. There's just something about the community here, and, let's be honest, the lack of snow. I was teaching public school and in school myself during the last seven years, and am excited to be on this new journey in church music with all of you.

I would be remiss if I didn't express the utmost gratitude to all of the staff and volunteers that kept this program going over the last year as David ended his tenure. The work Bonnie has done to keep the program thriving has not gone unnoticed. She continues to be helpful as I get to know the program and what its needs are. Dawn has been a phenomenal asset as the organist. We are truly blessed to have her talents and experience in the music department at Newnan FUMC. And finally, the unsung heroes, the folks that volunteered their time and talents to help with the ensembles that Bonnie just couldn't direct with her full-time job. Thank you all for sharing your gifts and talents for the Glory of God.

I'll conclude this letter by saying that it brings me great joy to serve God in this setting. It is my prayer that the music be pleasing to His ears, and that anyone who wishes to take part in that feels welcome to do so. If you or your child is interested in becoming part of the music ministry here at Newnan FUMC, don't hesitate to reach out to me. We cannot wait to have you be part of the team!

*Soli Deo Gloria,
Caitie*



NEWNAN FIRST UMC MUSIC MINISTRY



We were blessed to have an incredible choir tour up and down the east coast during the first week of June. First, we stopped at Washington Street UMC in Alexandria, VA and enjoyed visiting with Pastor Thomas and music minister, Kyle! The kids did a great job assisting in worship and visiting with their congregation. After worship, we took a few hours to see as many sights as possible in Washington DC. Some groups stayed on the National Mall, while other groups covered extensive mileage to see EVERYTHING they could possibly see. The next two days were packed full of FUN - First a day of rollercoasters and chocolate in Hershey, PA, then we headed up to Niagara Falls. We stayed on the American side, but the view didn't disappoint. Our voyage on the Maid of the Mist was incredible, we got up close and personal with the roaring waters of the Niagara River. We were so glad to have our ponchos! After a dinner out we got checked into the hotel and headed back to the falls to see the fireworks! That was the first time any of us had seen the falls lit at night - what a cool sight! Wednesday and Thursday it was back to work as we sang for the residents of the Breckenridge Retirement community in Cleveland, OH and Story Point Assisted Living in Union, KY. While in Cleveland, we caught a Guardians baseball game where we were featured 2 or 3 times on the jumbotron and cheered the home team on to victory over the Boston Red Sox. After our stop in Kentucky, we spent a night in Tennessee and celebrated our graduated Seniors. Throughout the week, Paul prepared bus devotionals and evening bible studies on the Parable of the Sower. We learned about how God's words and messages hit differently in different seasons of our lives - sometimes we're ready to listen, and other times our hearts are hard, or we're too distracted by things of the world. Our seniors had the opportunity to plant some seeds of inspiration and advice for the younger singers and tell stories about their past trips. We were glad to make it home safe and sound, and the Homecoming service was a beautiful time of worship together back in OUR sanctuary. I want to send sincere thanks to all our adults that traveled along: Paul, David, Craig, Kristy, Matt and Laurie who all contributed their individual gifts and talents to making this tour a smashing success. Lastly, I'd like to thank YOU this generous church that helps keep this AMAZING trip affordable to all our singers - in addition to a portion of the music budget, we have some very generous individuals and Sunday School classes that provide scholarships for those who need it most.

Thank you all for your generosity and for all your prayers that protected us along the way. -Bonnie





IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

Loving one another through life's ups and downs

NEW MEMBERS

June 18 | A.W. and Marian Steed

June 25 | Carole Matthews



MEMORIAM

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of the following member of Newnan First United Methodist church.

Randall "Randy" Kelley Coggin, Sr. September 14, 1953 - June 9, 2023

Frank S. Ervin May 17, 1941 - June 18, 2023

NEWNAN FIRST UMC MISSIONS

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/MISSIONS

We are so excited to announce that our congregation was recognized at our 2023 session of the North Georgia Annual Conference as recipients of the Church of Excellence in Outreach Award.

The **North Georgia United Methodist Church of Excellence in Outreach** is a long-standing award recognizing congregations active in connectional United Methodist mission.

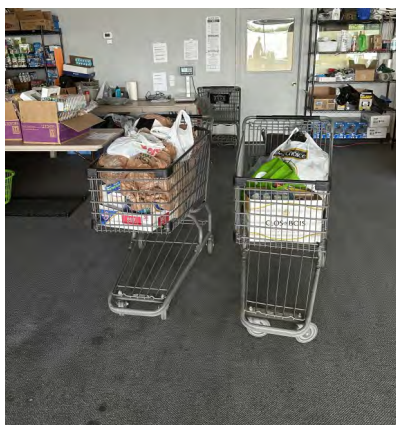
These congregations meet and exceed expectations for involvement in robust mission including local, state, national, and global expressions of partnership and faith in action.

We are so grateful for the many ways that members of this congregation accept God's call to service. God's Spirit is at work in our church, and may we continue to listen to where it leads us!

*Grace and Peace,
Connor Bell*



Paul Watkins, Pastor Connor & Bishop Robin Dease



Many thanks to continued generosity and support for the June Mission donations to One Roof Outreach.



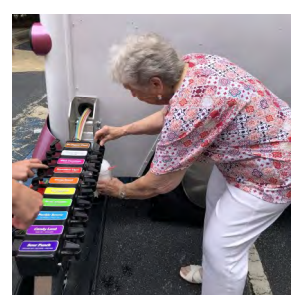
MISSION SUNDAY | JULY 16

Items needed for the ONE ROOF OUTREACH Food Pantry are:

- Plastic grocery bags for distribution
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Toiletry items such as toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant

These items can be dropped off in the gathering room or brought to the Sanctuary altar on Mission Sunday to pray for the recipients.

CHURCHWIDE PICNIC JUNE 11



FIRST KIDS! 5TH GRADE AND UNDER

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/firstkids

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



Summer Schedule

- ⇒ **July 12** The Children's Ministry will be hosting a **Water War** at Greenville Street Park after the PLUGGED-IN dinner. Bring a towel and a squirt gun.
- ⇒ **July 19** We are having a **Children's Snack & Devotion**. 10-11am in the Loft room.
- ⇒ **August 6** is **Promotion Sunday**, and **B2SB and Backpack Blessing** | 3-5pm | Parish Hall.



We had a wonderful time at VBS! Our theme this year was Hero Hotline! The children learned about heroes in the Bible! The kids enjoyed a week of amazing crafts that included capes and suncatchers! There was super science experiments with magnets, water, and potatoes! The kids had nonstop fun in recreation with bubbles and tug of war with our very own local heroes, the Newnan Police Department. Story time was a huge hit with the kids as they saw stories played out by themselves and the wonderful leaders.

The kids blew us away each and every day with the music taught by the magnificent music team!

While we had fun, we also enjoyed a week full of missions! We collected money for Samaritan's Clinic, gathered food and nonperishables for Bridging the Gap! Our 5th and 6th graders made cookies for local firemen and police and spent time at Bridging the Gap volunteering! They also made wonderful cards for residents at Wesley Woods and got to talk with Kelly Hines from Samaritan's Clinic!

We had over 160 kids come this year and over 60 volunteers! The impact that the volunteers and staff had on the kids is one that we hope will last a lifetime! A HUGE thank you to all that came to help! They made VBS tremendously successful!

-Andrea Stuart





NEWNAN FUMC PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

NFUMCPRESCHOOL.ORG

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



We had a wonderful first week in Summer enrichment. Our theme was "Land of the Free because of the Brave!" The children learned about Patriotism and what it means to be a citizen of the United States of America. We learned about the United States Flag, and celebrated Flag Day, June 14. We talked about President's Day and 4th of July and the significance of both holidays. Everyday, we recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem, as well as various patriotic songs.

Our next Summer Enrichment session is in July where we will learn about the Rainforest!

Enjoy your summer!

-Nancy



NEWNAN FUMC UTH | GRADES 6 -12

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/UTH

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

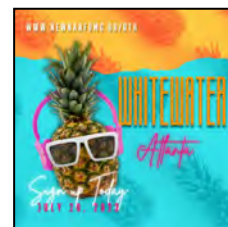


Looking for a way to connect with us? We have a GroupMe and Instagram Account to keep you up-to-date. You can get all the details at newnanfumc.org/uth. If you aren't receiving this information from my newsletter in your email, please let me know! I will add you to the list.



I don't know about y'all, but the youth have been busy this summer! This Choir Tour was a wonderful experience: touring the country sharing God's Word and having an absolute blast along the way! Then we launched out Downtown Devos: diving into the book of Ruth and then supporting a local business with lunch together downtown. Then so many of our awesome youth helped out at VBS, but Andrea and I are thankful for your help and proud of you! The UTH also got together for a Pool Party (Shout out to the Harlans for being such awesome hosts) on June 26. As we move into July, we have even more awesomeness planned that we hope you will join in!

Downtown Devos will continue to happen each week on Wednesdays at 11:30am in the UTH Lounge. We are studying the book of Ruth then walking to lunch together. These will happen through the month of July. Also, our upcoming Summer Adventures are available to register for today! You can find registration links online at the UTH page of the church website or in my emails that go out each month. We have so much planned and hope you will join in with us.
—Paul Mosley

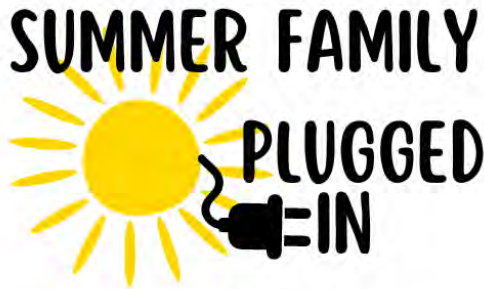


UPCOMING EVENTS
newnanfumc.org/uth
Callaway Gardens: July 7
PJ's & Movie Night: July 14
Whitewater Atlanta: July 20



CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES

NEWNANFUMC.ORG/SIGNUPS



6pm - 7:30pm

NEW LOCATION ANNEX HALL

Summer Plugged-In's | We will enjoy dinner from 6:00 - 6:45 pm with mid-week service following. There will be activities for the children with Ms. Andrea, Dir. of Children's Ministry!

newnanfumc.org/signups (register 2 weeks prior to each event)

SAVE THE DATES

July 12 | Ellison Brothers BBQ Food Truck

July 26 | Waffle House

If you have any questions, please contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206 or aburnett@newnanfumc.org.



SUMMER COFFEE & CHAT

Wednesday, July 19 | 10am | Annex Hall

Come enjoy this time together with friends and light refreshments! This is a great way to stay connected during the summer months! ALL are welcome! Contact Shelley Casey for more info at media@newnanfumc.org

Mark your calendar for August 16

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT | Saturday, July 29 | 4:00-8:00pm

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!



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

Register: newnanfumc.org/signups



5TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, July 30 | 9:45 | Annex Hall

Join us in the Annex Hall for a potluck fellowship held during the Sunday School hour. *All are welcome!*

Contact Shelley Casey for more info at media@newnanfumc.org

LOOKING FOR CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES?

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



On June 8, we traveled to Fort Moore to tour the Infantry Museum and enjoyed lunch at the Speakeasy in Columbus. It was a great day of fun and fellowship.

On June 15, we went to our annual Braves game with 49 attending. It was a great evening of fun and fellowship with a Braves win.



FUN N' FROLIC

Register online at newnanfumc.org/signups or contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206.



BUCKNER'S AND PEACHES **July 13 | 10am - 5pm | \$25**

We will enjoy lunch at Buckner's. After lunch, we will shop for peaches at Dickey Farms. Cost is \$25 which includes lunch. Bring a reusable tote for your goodies. Registration closes 7/6.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- August 17** | Antiques and Lunch in Griffin. 9am-3pm. September 6 | Fall Plugged-In's begin.
- September 14** | Blue Bell Creamery.
- September 25-29** | Savannah/Charleston trip.
- October 12** | Mercier Orchards and lunch.
- October 21** | Craft/Vendor Fair in the Parish Hall.
- October 27** | Christmas Made in the South.
- November 30** | Jingle & Mingle with music by LC Lane. Be on the lookout for more information.

newnanfumc.org/calendar

<p>SATURDAY, JULY 1</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 2 8:30am Worship (S) 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (S)</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 11:30pm UTH Downtown Devos (UL)</p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 6 12:15pm Red Cross Blood Drive (PH)</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 7 9:00am UTH Callaway Gardens 10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 8 4:00pm Fear This for Life (CH)</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 9 8:30am Worship (S) 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (S)</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 10 Preschool Summer Enrichment</p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 11 Preschool Summer Enrichment 2:30pm Parkinson's Support (201)</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 12 Preschool Summer Enrichment 11:30pm UTH Downtown Devos (UL) 6:00pm FAMILY PLUGGED-IN (AH) 6:30pm FirstKIDs Water Wars 6:45pm Chancel Choir (CR)</p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 13 Preschool Summer Enrichment 10:00am FNF-Buckner's & Peaches</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 14 10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor) 7:00pm UTH PJ's & Movie Night (UL)</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 15</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 16 MISSION SUNDAY 8:30am Worship (S) 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (S)</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 17</p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 18</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 19 10:00am Women's Coffee & Chat (AH) 10:00am Dementia Support Mtg (AC) 11:30pm UTH Downtown Devos (UL)</p>	<p>THURSDAY, JULY 20 10:00am UTH Whitewater Trip</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 21 10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 22</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 23 8:30am Worship (S) 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (S)</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 24</p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 25</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 26 11:30pm UTH Downtown Devos (UL) 6:00pm FAMILY PLUGGED-IN (AH)</p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 27</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 28 10:00am Duplicate Bridge (AH-2nd Floor)</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 29 4:00pm Parent's Night Out 4:00pm Fear This for Life (CH)</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 30 8:30am Worship (S) 9:45am 5th Sunday Fellowship (AH) 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (S)</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 31</p>
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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



DIRECTORY UPDATE

The directories are in and are available for pick up in the Program Office.
 If you have any questions, please contact Aileen at 770-253-7400 x 206
 or aburnett@newnanfumc.org.

STAY CONNECTED WITH NEWMAN FIRST UMC!

Stay in touch with all the latest news and activities through our weekly emails, sent out each Tuesday. Subscribe by going online to newnanfumc.org/media and clicking on EMAIL LIST.

Need help subscribing? Email Shelley Casey at media@newnanfumc.org



WEEKLY EMAILS



YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCES

Week 25

Total Tithes/Income: \$ 586,608
 Total Expenses: \$ 690,331
 Over/(Under): \$ (103,723)

TOTAL BUDGET: \$ 1,616,113