



Jasper United Methodist Church



85 West Church Street, Jasper, GA 30143

Phone: 706-253-2100, Fax: 706-253-2110, www.jasperumc.org

Facebook: Jasper United Methodist Church / YouTube: Jasper UMC GA

JULY 2022

As seen from the Meadows...

With July 1, 2022, we end our seventh and start our eighth year together. What a blessing for Lydia and me and pray for many of you as well. This month I want to share some thoughts concerning our North Georgia Annual Conference and a thank you to the wonderful clergy who will fill the pulpit each Sunday during my time away. As always, please spend time with all the information found here in the newsletter.

By now, I am sure many have seen an article in the Atlanta Journal concerning seventy United Methodist Churches disaffiliating from the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. I have had a few folks asking questions concerning this event and I do not have room here to go into it all but I want to share some thoughts and my plans for JUMC moving forward. Many of you may remember in 2019 there was a called General Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC). This was to vote on a way forward about the divide within the denomination concerning human sexuality. Since that time, the divide has grown largely due to the cancelation of our scheduled 2020 General Conference and the replacement General Conferences hoped for in 2021 and 2022, all postponed and canceled due to covid-19. As it is now, our next scheduled General Conference will be 2024. Side note, General Conference is a meeting of United Methodist representatives both lay and clergy from around the world. Therefore, there are clergy and churches who have grown weary waiting and have chosen to leave the denomination. Some will align with the newly forming Goble Methodist Church (GMC), other denominations and others will remain independent churches. In many of the churches, as you can imagine, the conversation and the vote to disaffiliate has caused issues and in some cases placed even family members on opposite sides of the issue. As your pastor, I have had many one-on-one conversations about these things from 2019 until now and I am happy to have more just set an appointment and let us talk. Concerning a church wide conversation, I will be meeting with our executive committee Church Council Chair, Trustee Chair, Staff Parish Relations Chair, Finance Chair, Lay Leader and Lay Member to Annual Conference in August. The executive committee will then bring information to the Church Council. The Church Council will discuss options and then bring before the congregation the options they feel are the best at this time. I know this is a lot of information and for some you are seeing this for the first time. It probably will not matter to many of you but personally, I will remain a United Methodist Pastor. I have come to be at peace with the fact that is where God is leading me. I will still lead the congregation to make the decision you all feel the most at peace with moving forward. I ask that everyone be in prayer for God's peace.

I also invite you to reach out to me for conversation, after July 23rd please, as I will be taking some time off this summer. If for some reason you missed reading last month, I will be taking time off June 26th-July 23rd. During that time, you will be blessed with four wonderful preachers on Sunday morning. Sunday, June 26, Rev. David Jones will share the sermon at 9:00 am and 11:00 am, Sunday, July 3rd, Rev. Thom Shores will share in our one Patriotic Service at 11:00 am, Sunday, July 10th, Rev. Blair Boyd Zant will share the sermon at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services and then on Sunday, July 17th, Rev. Jane Brooks will share the sermon at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services. You will not want to miss the blessing of worship with any of these amazing preachers. I am very thankful for their willingness to share this time with you on Sunday morning.

As summer time begins, remember your staff will be taking time off to spend with their families and they do deserve a rest and vacation. I remind you of this to say please consider calling the office to make sure the person you need to meet with is there or better yet set up an appointment with the staff person with whom you wish to speak. I pray your summer is blessed with many good and sunny days!

Yours in Christ, *Greg*

Sunday Worship Schedule

In-Person:

9:00 am-Awakening Worship Service

9:45 am-Sunday School

11:00 am-Traditional Worship Service

Online:

Facebook: Jasper United Methodist Church

YouTube: Jasper UMC GA

JUMC STAFF:

Greg Meadows.....	Pastor
Roxanne B. Golden.....	Music/Worship Leader
Gerry Gleason.....	Minister of Congregational Care/Adult Ministry
Eric Justice.....	Director of Youth Ministry & Marketing
Kelly Wisniewski.....	Director of Children's/Preschool Ministries
Cathy Riley.....	Administrative Assistant
Peggy Litherland.....	Financial Manager
Barbara Gaddis.....	Nursery Coordinator
Nathaniel Singletary.....	Contemporary Worship Leader
Angel Ervin.....	Organist
Susan Gooch/Ellen Whitten.....	Pianists
Justin Davis.....	KOK Music
Ministers.....	All Who Attend



JUMC Preschool

JASPER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Jasper United Methodist Church is now enrolling for the 2022-2023 school year!

Ages Days

18-24 months 3 days a week

2 year olds 3 or 5 days a week

3 year olds 3 or 5 days a week

4 year olds 5 days a week

Preschool hours will be 8:00 - 12:00 with the option for an early drop off (7:30 AM) for an additional fee.

Curriculum

- Our preschool will use the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) to provide a well-rounded and developmentally appropriate curriculum in all of our classrooms. We will also use a DECAL (Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning) approved curriculum in our Pre-K classrooms.
- Additional activities offered include Bible stories and activities, music, Spanish, Children's Moment with Pastor Greg, sign language, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities. Sign language will be taught to the 18-24 months and two year olds during circle time each week.
 - Children's Moment with Pastor Greg will take place once a week with the three and four year olds.
 - Basic Spanish lessons will be taught to our Pre-K classes.
 - Music is an integral part of our preschool program. Teachers use music daily in circle time and throughout the day. In addition to this, a music class will be offered once a week to all classes.

For more information, go to www.jasperumc.org and click the preschool tab located on the church homepage. Important information such as the parent handbook, online registration, and the school calendar can be found on this page. If you have any questions, call Kelly at the church office or email at kwisniewski@jasperumc.org.



Thank you to everyone who helped with

VBS! The children in our community experienced God's love made possible by everyone that contributed in some way to this wonderful ministry.

Sunday school and children's church teachers needed! Please call me in the church office if you are interested.

We are opening acolytes to middle and high school age children. If any elementary, middle, and high school age children are interested in acolyting on Sunday mornings, please contact me in the church office. We will schedule a brief training for anyone interested.

Mark Your Calendars! Kids of the Kingdom will start on Wednesday, September 7. It will be held from 4:00 - 5:45. We will need teachers to help for the 2022-2023 school year. Please call me in the church office if you are interested in helping.

Blessings,
Kelly Wisniewski
Director of Children's/Preschool Ministries
kwisniewski@jasperumc.org



I cannot believe that we are already halfway through our summer before we hit the ground running in August! We have a jam packed July and we will communicate more details for each event in our Remind 101. We cannot wait to start back in August with our new focus for the School Year. Be on the lookout in our next newsletter to figure out our 2022-2023 Theme!

Speaking of August, we NEED ADULT LEADERS. If we do not have any then we will not be able to have a youth ministry. We have a place for you to serve Jesus in this ministry. We are also looking at starting up a bus ministry to pick up students to attend Elevate on Sunday Evenings. If you have a student who would need to be picked up or if you know of any students who may like to join us but do not have a ride, we are making a way for them to be here! Please contact me, Eric, if you have any questions or if you would like to serve in any way!

To be up-to-date on all things Youth, please follow Elevate Youth on social media or sign up to receive our newsletter at JUMC Website!

Please check our Youth Newsletter for more details!!
July 4: Fair and Fireworks!!
July 10: Bonfire @ Justice's
July 17: Vacation Bible School
July 27: Swimclub Party
July TBA: Family Movie Night

Soli Deo Gloria,
Eric Justice
Director of Youth & Marketing at JUMC
ejustice@jasperumc.org

Worship Music & Ministry

"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

From the beach house, the sunrise club, the building beds=dreams mission project, the turtle's nest, the bike rides, the amazing Cathedral, the HOT Charleston weather, the Majestic USS Yorktown, the fun soccer match, the nice river concert, the red carpet treatment by Folly Beach UMC, Dex's famous popcorn, Ms. Joann's delicious peanut butter cookies, thought provoking devotionals by Gerry and India, Fabulous Alumni, great Chaperones and THE BEST YOUTH CHOIR around; our Summer Music Tour 2022 was filled with lots of fun, fellowship, food, memory making experiences and God Moments to last us a lifetime!!! Grab an iced coffee or a cup of tea and enjoy the words from a few who went on SMT 2022.

I have been a JUMC Youth Choir Alumna for 5 years now, so being able to go on this trip for the senior who was an eighth grader when I as a senior was incredibly special to me. We spent the whole week with an intimate sized group which is something I've never seen before. It was incredible. Being able to connect with these students on a much deeper level was so inspiring. The love for people and God these students had on this trip, before this, and the love they continue to shine throughout the world after is beautiful. India Gleason

The most important day of our week was the day we spent doing mission work, where we built beds for children in need. The 2022 SMT was truly a blessing for all who went, and we are grateful for all the support and prayers from the congregation! Mary Zuidema Vaughan

Along with mission work we got to play tourist and discover Charleston's Battery, Hay Market, and Rainbow Row! While on our trip in Charleston, we were waiting for the bus to pick us up in the heat when a few boys came by selling lemonade. (Heaven sent if you ask me). We spent time in fellowship on the beach and swimming in the ocean, seeing dolphins and lighthouses, and of course, the brave participated in sunrise club-waking up at 5:00 am to watch the sunrise on the beach! We had an absolutely wonderful time and cannot wait until next year! Susannah Melton

Our first night we settled in for the night with a beach side devotional led by Rev. Gerry Gleason. This was a God moment for many of the youth as we were able to see the sunset while indulging in devotion. Devotionals were held every night by him and current seminary student India Gleason. We would like to extend a thank you to their parents, Mrs. Roxanne, Rev. Greg Meadows, chaperones and everybody who donated to our trip and supported them. We had a great time. Tori Kleinberg

Thank you, JUMC congregation, for your financial and prayerful support as we traveled to Charleston and Folly Beach, SC as His Hands, Feet and Voice. May God continue to lead and guide us along our journey. YOUTH: ALL youth (rising 6th grade thru the Class of 2022) are invited to our BIG Swimclub Party on Wednesday, July 27th. Please meet at the church at 1 pm and we'll return by 8:30 pm. Cost is just \$15 and includes the pool, rock slide, paddle boats, canoes, paddleboards, inflatables, beach volleyball, lake, drinks, snacks and dinner!!! Please make sure Eric has a permission sheet on file and join us for the fun in the sun. (please make sure you pack a change of dry clothes, sunglasses, a hat, your beach towel and SUNSCREEN-bathrooms and showers are provided)

On a sadder note, Susan's last Sunday with us will be July 3rd. Our loss is Ellijay UMC's gain!!! Susan has not only been one of our pianists but she has worked hard to help me in sectionals in Chancel Choir, sing and play solos, duets, trios, quartets, act in the Maundy Thursday Dramas, lead when I've been out of town teaching or on vacation. She has become one of my best good friends. She and I have said many times that we are sisters from different Mothers and I will greatly miss our time together. Ellijay is blessed to have her lead their Chancel Choir and we look forward to seeing great things come from that Choir under her leadership. Please join us after our Annual Patriotic Service on July 3rd for a reception to give thanks and extend best wishes as she begins this next Chapter of her life.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Roxanne B. Golden



ANNUAL PATRIOTIC SERVICE

Jasper UMC will present A Celebration of Freedom on Sunday July 3rd at 11:00 am in-person and on Facebook and YouTube. There will be special music by our

Chancel Choir, piano duet and Mr. Patrick J. Gallagher, Jr. Also slideshows provided by Sara Fowler of our present and past military family, a Salute to the Armed Forces to honor those serving, who have served, or a widow or widower, and a beautiful offering of pictures from all over America will be included.

July Birthdays!

Michael Bail, Phil Cole, Fred Crain, Tori Crowe, Jeff DeGalleford, Angela Ervin, Ian Estrada Costales, Tanner Farron, Owen Galligan, Eli Galligan, Emerson Gantz, Hayden Gooch, Cheyenne Griffin, Mark Hardman, Shirley Shaw, Mary Beth Jackson, Hoyt Jenkins, Linda Judkins, Todd Klein, Megan Landreneau, Judy Lawrence, Ava Ledford, Rhonda McAllister, Jacob McCormick, Mary Ann McElhaney, Nathan McEntire, Cynthia Nickell, Emma Miller, Shirley Pool, Allie Powell, Martha Riddell, Cathy Riley, Ann Roper, Chris Rumble, Pearl Sanders, Eve Sauer, Caren Sewell, Cheryl Sewell, Camden Smith, Marcy Walker, Jean Watson, Vicki Wickham

Happy Anniversary!

Michael & Lauren Bail	David & Deborah Schanen
Bill & Beth Boggs	Randy & Linda Stepp
Milton & Pat Gabriel	Josh & Hilary Tatum
Tom & Gail Harrison	Tommy & Juanita Tatum
Richard & Belinda Howard	Lynn & Marcy Walker
Ron & Linda Jager	Matthew & Amanda Ledford
Fred & Martha Riddell	

C.A.R.E.S.

Items can be brought to the church and placed in the C.A.R.E.S. corner in the narthex.

July's focus is personal hygiene items.



The Photographers will be here August 11, 12 & 13. WATCH FOR DETAILS!



United Women in Faith

The ladies of the Dorcas Circle are gearing up for the 41st running of the Marble Festival Road Race. While race day, October 1, 2022, seems far away, much of the preparation

is going on right now, and we couldn't hold a successful race without the incredible support from our church family. If you have a business and would like to be one of our sponsors, now is the time to lock in a spot on our famous, long-sleeve race t-shirt. Also, in August, we will be offering our family name sponsorships. Interested?: Contact Suzanne Hardison at #770-894-1505.

The Dorcas Circle meets on the second Thursday of the month. We welcome you to join us at our next meeting on July 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

July Prayer List

Call the church office to have names put on the list. (Names will be on the list for 2 months)

Pray for those who are in need of our Lord's Healing Touch:

Peggy Higgins, Annie Gunnin, Joan Britton, Richard & June Rambler, Joyce Leist, Bill & Beth Boggs, Etta Cramer, Patti Gehring, Sally Long, Ruth Lovern, Llewyn Jones (Audrey Bauer Jones' son), Bo Boggs, John Kingsley, Marcia Phillips, Sara Fowler, Chris Fairley, Carole Fallgren, Mab Francis, Kenneth Teague, Phil Cole, Jennie Mayes, Heidi Smith, Tom Pickering, Elise Andrews, Stacy Roland Bryan

Northeast Atlanta Health & Rehab: Delle Marie O'Neal
Wildwood: Marilyn Hannah (Elaine Hannah's sister-in-law)

Retreat at Jasper Assisted Living: Ruth Lovern, Carolyn Omundson

Chestnut Ridge in Cumming: Marilu Weeks

Rock Creek Manor: Sam & Barbara Peddicord, Jerry Cohn, Donna Dicus

Cedarhurst Assisted Living: George Hall

Dahlonega Assisted Living and Memory Unit: Hoyt and Caroline Jenkins

Our active military family: Kalyn Brooks, Lily Bowen, Max Edward Caylor, Alex Davis, Elliot Gallagher, Emerson Gantz, Dillon Gassaway, David Grossman, Alec Gryski, Dustin Hall, Shawn Hancock, Eric Hunter, Jason Kiernan, John Kiernan, Austin McCormick, Brian Mosiello, Justin Mosiello, Peter Nunn, Stanley Peters, Brett Rush, Mitch Rich, Nathan Russell, Jessie Sams, Bryce Skillington, Ahmed Sohail, Jason Stanley, D. John Thomas, Jesse Vaughan, Steven Walsh, Nathan Watson, Jeremy Willis

Please call the church office if you have a prayer concern, update or to notify us of any family illnesses, deaths or hospitalizations.

For any emergencies after office hours, Greg can be reached on his cell #770-851-8305.

Missions Matters...

- ◆ Sponsor a Kenyan student to high school.. See the bulletin board in the narthex for more information.



The UMM meet the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is July 14th at 6:00 beginning with dinner followed by fellowship and devotion. All men are invited to attend. For more information contact Barry Hardison at 404-218-7539.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR July 2022:

If you would like to read along with the lectionary, the following are the July scriptures from the United Methodist Church Program Calendar:

July 3, 2022	2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:1-6,7-16; Luke 10:1-11,16-20
July 10, 2022	Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37
July 17, 2022	Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
July 24, 2022	Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-15, 16-19; Luke 11:1-13
July 31, 2022	Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

Report of the North Georgia United Methodist Church 2022 Annual Conference

On Wednesday, June 1, I arrived in Athens, Georgia for the 2022 three-day session of Annual Conference. I am always excited and honored to represent Jasper UMC anywhere I go but this year I was even more thrilled after two years of virtual meetings. Our theme was *"A Place for You at the Table"*. I was eager to find "my place" and gather with Methodists from all over our North Georgia Conference in fellowship, worship and business.

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson preached our opening Worship service and the 156th session of the North Georgia Conference began. During opening worship, we celebrated the beautiful diversity of our church and came together in Holy Communion. We were also reminded how diverse we can be as we were taught to sing one song in three different languages as we experienced using "many tongues, singing with one voice".

Our business session introduced us to five areas of focus to guide our conference in coming years: Community Engagement; Scriptural Literacy and Imagination; Health and Wellbeing; Racial Justice and Healing; and New Faith Opportunities and Communities. Each of these areas was highlighted throughout the Conference.

As an order of business, the members of the North Georgia Annual Conference ratified the disaffiliation agreements of 70 churches, representing 9% of the congregations in the conference. Bishop Sue prayed a blessing on the departing congregations as she prayed: *"We thank you for their faithful witness and ask that you will help us remain partners in ministry. We wish them well as they serve you in new ways"*.

Rev. Dr. Byron Thomas was endorsed as the North Georgia Conference episcopal nominee. Elections for Bishop will be held in November 2022 at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

Each conference session was opened in prayer from one of our attending Youth Delegates from all areas of the Conference. Many reports were given from the various boards and organizations within the Conference and the budget for 2023 was approved, proposing an additional reduction of 4%.

A celebration of recognition was held for the 29 pastors who are retiring this year and gratitude was offered for their faithful witness and service. A special worship service of Remembrance was held for those Clergy, Clergy spouses and Conference Laity we have lost this year. Rev. Jane Brooks offered the sermon, *"Many Textures, Many Colors"*. The Service of Licensing, Commissioning and Ordination brought Annual Conference to an end with much celebration. Bishop Sue sent us forth with a reminder that *"at Jesus' table, no one dines alone"*. She said *"May it be so!"*

Thank you, JUMC, for the opportunity to serve as your Church representative to Annual Conference. I am truly blessed to call you My Church Family.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dianne Traynham



Jasper United Methodist Church
85 West Church St.
Jasper, GA 30143

June 28, 2022

Dear Jasper UMC Family,

We pray this letter finds you doing well. The Finance Committee felt that information needed to be shared concerning our financial state. We know the current US economy is hard on everyone with the price of gas and food going up, it seems, every day. We realize this means we all have to make hard choices with our generosity. We are thankful for those who have been able to continue their regular giving. We would like to encourage everyone to try to give something on a regular basis. If you can increase a little, that would be great as well. Giving to the general budget is what keeps us going day to day.

When we talk about participating in the ministry of the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness, our gifts speak about our financial giving to the church. Every dollar given is important and needed. We give to bring honor and glory to God, first and foremost. Our gifts are then sent into the world to do so much. Consider these words from your church budget:

Through me, families are launched in marriage, persons are baptized, and the young are trained in Christian character. I provide a Sunday school, Kids of the Kingdom, VBS and youth activities for your children. I provide music to enrich your worship, and preaching and pastoral services to help you live more nobly. I heat and cool your church building and keep it in repair for your comfort and use. I do your custodial work. I reach out to your community and country, preaching, teaching, and healing, in Christ's name. I help to train ministers in the seminaries, and I provide assistance to those who retired after years of faithful service to God through the Church. It is through me that the sick find spiritual strength, the troubled and the discouraged are steadied. I go out into the wide world, preaching the gospel in every language. I carry the Word to people of every race, color, and clan. I am your Budget. Believe in me; support me that I may carry on in your name. With your help, I make possible all of these services. As the budget, I am you at work. However, I do need your help. I do need your support. Without your pledges and offerings to provide a foundation for me, I am helpless. Your gifts are my underpinning, my supporting walls. I am your money, your prayer, your concern translated into action. I can do only what you through gifts make it possible for me to do. So, let us remember to keep fulfilling our commitment with our gifts. THANKS!

Yours in Christ,

Finance Committee Jasper UMC

Suzanne Gehring, Chair, Jason Payne, Ted Schlitz, Laura Smith, Peggy Litherland, Treasurer, Bill Traynham, SPR Chair, Mary Kleinberg, Lay Leader, Suellen Reitz, Stewardship Chair, Ronnie Brownell, Trustee Chair, Dianne Traynham, Lay Member Annual Conference, Jesse Hunter, Council Chair, Greg Meadows, Pastor Jasper UMC