



# Jasper United Methodist Church



85 West Church Street, Jasper, GA 30143

Phone: 706-253-2100, Fax: 706-253-2110, [www.jasperumc.org](http://www.jasperumc.org)

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

## July 2023

### As Seen from the Meadows

It is hard to believe that July 1, 2023 begins our ninth year together. How honored I am by the Jasper UMC. This month I have some reminders of things coming in August and September as well as information about our guest preachers on July 2 and July 16.

I am going to take some vacation during the month of July. I will be out of the pulpit on Sunday July 2 and 16. On Sunday, July 2 for our one service at 11:00am, Rev. George Freeman will be preaching. Here is a little information about George: "A life-long Methodist and native Georgian, George grew up in the Druid Hills/Emory section of ATL. Following service in the Air Force during Vietnam, he worked in the corporate world and was in lay leadership in the local church, District and NGA Conference levels. Then, at age 30, George received the Call to full-time ordained ministry. Following Seminary and eight Appointments, he retired from Jonesboro First UMC in 2017. George and Peggy moved to Canton and are now active in Hickory Flat UMC." On Sunday, July 16, Rev. Blair Zant will be here for both the 9:00am and 11:00am services. To help you know Blair: "Rev. Blair Boyd Zant is a pastor, preacher, wife, and mother, and Director of the Center for Congregational Excellence for the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. CCE exists to support, resource, and equip congregational leaders in making disciples for Christ, and witnessing transformation in the lives of individuals and communities. She specializes in leadership development, strategic vision planning, worship, and welcome. She loves to preach, but her favorite place is around the Communion Table. She is a proud graduate of the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!) and Duke Divinity School (Go Blue Devils!). She has served Sardis UMC, Sandy Springs UMC, and Cannon UMC in Snellville, where she served as Co-Senior Pastor alongside her husband Rev. Will Zant. Will is now the Lead Pastor of Haygood Memorial UMC in Midtown Atlanta. In every season, Blair's work is meant to honor Christ, and promote true collaboration between congregants, between congregations, and between congregations and their communities. "I want everything I do to bring about Oneness: with Christ, with Others, and in Ministry to the World". I hope you will come and support my friends as they share with you this month.

Here at Jasper UMC we are blessed to see new faces on Sunday mornings. We have had a number of new folks visiting us and in August, we are going to offer two opportunities to share some time with me. On Sunday, August 13 during the 10:00am Sunday school hour, we will have a Coffee with Pastor Greg in room 102. This is close to our CAREs donation area right outside the sanctuary. This coffee is for anyone who has been visiting church. Then on Sunday, August 20 at 5:00pm, we will have a virtual Coffee with Pastor Greg. To be part of this group simply send an email to [greg.meadows@ngumc.net](mailto:greg.meadows@ngumc.net) and let me know you want to be included in the Google Meets email. Please reach out to me by Wednesday, August 16 so I can send the invitation on Thursday, August 17. These are two opportunities for both our in-person visitors and our virtual visitors to get to know me and ask questions. I hope you will plan to join me at either of these Coffee with Pastor Greg events.

This fall I want to share with you all *Questions Jesus Asked* (a six week study in the Gospels), by Rev. Magrey deVega. Here is the glimpse into the study. We all have questions for God, but growth happens when we turn things around and ask what Jesus wants to know about us. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am? In *Questions Jesus Asked*, author Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power and presence of God in our lives. This study will be Sundays, September 10-October 22, 4:00pm-5:30pm and Wednesdays, September 13-October 25, 6:30pm-8:00pm. Both nights will be in room 106. The times could change but the dates will not. The cost for the book will be \$20.00. I have had the pleasure of hearing Magrey lead classes and preach, and I am sure this will be a great study and a chance to grow in our relationship with Jesus. Plan now to join me in September.

Please remember that the JUMC Staff will be taking time off this July for vacation. Always call ahead before you make the trip to the church office just to make sure someone is here to receive you and to assist you.

Yours in Christ,

Greg



Registration for the 2023-2024 year is in full swing! We still have openings with limited availability in some classes. For more information about our program and to register visit [www.jasperumc.org](http://www.jasperumc.org).

Peace, Love, Joy,  
Kelly Wisniewski, Preschool Director



### July Sunday Acolytes

July 2: Mackenzie McKean  
Kayson Moore  
July 9: Vera Payne  
Hannah Countryman  
July 16: Gracie Bail  
Sophie Lindsey  
July 23: William Bail  
Kayson Moore



July's focus is  
**Individually wrapped snack  
and lunch items for children.**

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

## Missions Matters

- Greetings from Thomas Agutu to the church of Jasper.
- Want to go to Kenya? Kenya Team 2023, October 11-25 is making plans. See Dex.
- Goods for Kenya: July –basic school supplies (Crayola crayons, pencils, sharpeners, pens, markers, erasers, etc.) Find the bin in the narthex.
- Two more Kenya students need sponsors. Check the bulletin board in the narthex.
- 2nd quarter budgeted local giving is going to CARES (\$500) and MUST Ministries (\$500) who are working together for Pickens student's summer lunches.



Thank you to everyone who supported VBS this summer. Thank you for giving your time, talents, and donations! We couldn't do it without you!

There will be no Children's Church for the month of July.

We are in need of Sunday School and KOK teachers. Please call the church office or email me at [kwisniewski@jasperumc.org](mailto:kwisniewski@jasperumc.org) with questions or to help serve in these ministries.

Mark Your Calendars!

KOK will resume Wednesdays starting September 6th from 4:00-5:45.

Kelly Wisniewski  
Director of Children's/Preschool Ministry  
[kwisniewski@jasperumc.org](mailto:kwisniewski@jasperumc.org)



I cannot believe how quickly time flies. Our seniors have graduated and we have a large group of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders coming into Elevate. Confirmation classes will begin before we know it (August 2023) and each of our students will continue to grow in their faith, knowledge, and fellowship with the Lord. If you have a student who will be participating in Confirmation, please make sure to let me know so that I can pass on as much information as possible to our new youth director, Anna Faith Adair.

Thank you for your faithfulness to Christ and His Church!

### Summer Schedule:

July 4: Fireworks and Fair

July 16: Annual Pool Party

Be sure to watch out for other summer events and activities coming up!

Soli Deo Gloria,  
Eric Justice  
Director of Youth & Marketing at JUMC  
[ejustice@jasperumc.org](mailto:ejustice@jasperumc.org)

## Music and Worship Arts

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 NKJV

Welcome Summer!!! Many thanks to all of the 'behind the scenes' people who graciously helped with our KOK Musical, ESTHER ORDINARY FAITH and supported our youth choir financially as well as praying for us on our Summer Music Tour 2023. We have just celebrated the Class of 2023 and wish them all the best as they start this next chapter of their life. As I enter my 25th year serving here at Jasper UMC, I can't help but reflect over these years with these wonderful graduates. Most of them have been born and raised under the guidance of this church and community. Such great memories of a certain little toddler boy dragging me around a corner at Lake Junaluska and upon seeing the statue of Jesus holding the bread and wine he proclaims 'There He Is! It's Jesus'. Oh, those little guys with LOTS OF ENERGY singing in VBS and Children's Choirs, young teenagers learning the art of Handbell ringing, older teens pulling up in their cars in the side parking lot for the first time, seeing giant smiles as they come off of roller coasters or water park rides, bonding over late night devotions and the heavenly sound of their beautiful voices singing in Cathedrals across our country. The laughter, tears, talks, hugs, phone calls and texts are forever a part of our memories together. May you always know that we are here for you and need a hug whenever you are in J-town. Always keep a song in your heart and may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

ALL YOUTH (rising 6<sup>th</sup>-class of 2023) are invited to our annual Pool Party on July 16<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm -8:30 pm. All youth must have a permission form on file in the church office (blank forms on our website). \$15 per person (pool, lake, inflatables, rock slide, paddle boats, canoes, beach volleyball and dinner are included). Don't forget to pack your sunscreen, beach towel and a change of clothes for the bus ride back to town. (bathrooms and showers are available)

Soli Deo Gloria,  
Roxanne B. Golden  
Music/Worship Leader  
rgolden@jasperumc.org

Now grab a cup of tea or coffee as you read a few thoughts from SMT 23 found on the insert.



## 42nd Annual GA Marble Festival Road Race

Our annual Georgia Marble Festival Road Race is Saturday, October 7, 2023. This is the 42nd year for the race, and the ladies of the Dorcas Circle are busy with preparations already. Here are two ways you could help right now: Family Name Sponsorships are again available on the back of the Road Race t-shirt. The names will be in the form of "The Smith Family". Space is limited to only thirteen family names for \$75 each. The Dorcas Circle will be taking Family Name Sponsorships during July on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve a spot for your family, please stop by the church office and specify the family name details. Please make checks payable to JUMC / Dorcas Circle. We are also accepting new business sponsorships. If you are a business owner and would like a spot on the Road Race shirt, please contact Suzanne Hardison for more information (#404-218-7539). Both Family Name and Business Sponsorships are key to a successful race. We appreciate your "teaming up" with us!



United  
Women  
in Faith

### SEEKERS CIRCLE:

The Seekers Circle will be meeting Thursday, July 13 at 10:00 am in room 106. A few of us stay afterwards to clean the refrigerator, and all of us leave with a renewed connection with our sisters in Christ.

The refrigerator will be purged and cleaned on Thursday, July 13. Everything that has expired will be discarded. Anything without an identifying group name will be discarded as well.

### DORCAS CIRCLE:

The ladies of the Dorcas Circle will be meeting Thursday, 7/13/2023, at 6:00 p.m. in room 106. Please join us for refreshments, a devotional, a little business, and lots of laughter within a small group setting with a great bunch of ladies.



The United Methodist Men meet the **second Thursday of each month in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm** beginning with dinner. The next gathering is **July 13<sup>th</sup>**. All men are invited to attend for fun, food, friendship and fellowship.





Jasper UMC will present  
\*\* A Celebration of Freedom \*\*

Sunday July 2nd at  
11:00 am ( one service only)  
in-person and on Facebook  
and YouTube.

There will be special music  
by our Chancel Choir, and  
Mr. Patrick J. Gallagher, Jr.  
Also, slideshows provided  
by Sara Fowler of our pre  
sent and past military fami  
ly, 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.



\*Even though it's summer, the  
church building is busy and you  
need to call the office to reserve a  
room. Please be good stewards of  
the church and leave the rooms as  
you found them (clean, trash thrown in dumpster,  
tables and chairs put back).

\*For the month of July the JUMC staff will be tak-  
ing some vacation times. Office hours will vary so  
it would be best to call to make sure someone is  
here before coming in to see us.

In His Service,  
Cathy Riley, Office Manager

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:**

Ricky Anglin, Donna Andrews, Elise Andrews, Dana Bandy,  
Beth & Bill Boggs, Joan Britton, Merry Grey Caylor, Chris  
Childers, Phil Cole, Etta Cramer, Caitlin Donohue, Doris  
Estes, Judy Ferris, Chris Fairley, Karen Fowler, Sara Fowler,  
Patty Gehring, Jack Green, George Hall, Peggy Higgins,  
Maureen Huntington, Linda Jager, Don Larson, Steve  
Lawrence, Joyce Leist, Ruth Lovern, Linda Mills, George  
Montgomery, Julie Pate, Marcia Phillips, Richard Rambler,  
Mary Russell, Marcy Walker, Susan Watson, Mildred  
Wilson

Wildwood: Marilyn Hannah (Elaine Hannah's sister-in-law)

Retreat at Jasper Assisted Living: Ruth Lovern, Carolyn Omundson, Nancy  
Whitmore, Hoyt & Carolyn Jenkins

Chestnut Ridge in Cumming: Marilu Weeks

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

Donna Dicus, Dayton & Mary Ann Adams

Cedarhurst Assisted Living: George Hall

Our active military family: Kalyn Brooks, Lily Bowen, Max Edward Caylor, Alex  
Davis, Amber Forsyth, 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, 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

*Christian sympathy is extended to Kathy Pickering and family on  
the death of her mother.*

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY 2023:**

A lectionary is a collection of readings from Sacred Scripture. Readings are arranged according to the Church's cal-  
endar and are intended to be read at the regular, weekly gathering of God's people. The weekly readings include  
scriptures from the Old Testament, a Psalm, an Epistle and a Gospel.

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

July 2, 2023 Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

July 9, 2023 Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16, 2023 Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23, 2023 Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30, 2023 Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

In-Person:

9:00 am-Contemporary Worship Service

9:45 am-Sunday School

11:00 am-Traditional Worship Service

Online:

Facebook: Jasper United Methodist Church

YouTube: Jasper UMC GA

Office Hours:

9:00 am-4:00 pm Monday - Thursday

**JUMC STAFF:**

Greg Meadows.....	Pastor
Roxanne B. Golden.....	Music/Worship Leader
Anna Faith Adair.....	Director of Youth Ministry & Marketing
Kelly Wisniewski.....	Director of Children's/Preschool Ministries
Cathy Riley.....	Office Manager
Peggy Litherland.....	Financial Manager
Paul Singletary.....	Director of Audio/Visual Ministry
Barbara Gaddis.....	Nursery Coordinator
Nathaniel Singletary.....	Contemporary Worship Leader
Angela Ervin.....	Organist
Ellen Whitten.....	Pianist
Justin Davis.....	KOK Music/Pianist
Ministers.....	All Who Attend

## 2023 Summer Music Tour Highlights

Despite enduring the most thunderous snoring of my life during the 2023 Summer Music Tour, the overall experience turned out to be incredibly enlightening. Our efforts to assist those in need left a tangible and immediate impact, a hallmark of the SMT program throughout my time. From organizing donated medicine for individuals lacking health insurance to crafting baby blankets for impoverished mothers, we engaged in meaningful acts of charity. However, the tour encompassed more than just a little philanthropy. We were treated to a mesmerizing sight—the monumental organ of the church we were staying at, which undoubtedly became the highlight of my trip. Nestled within a stunning cathedral, although I regret not being able to attend a service there, the entire experience was unforgettable. And let's not forget the thrilling conclusion to our week with a trip to Carowinds. We were there essentially from when it opened to when it closed, and squeezed as much rollercoaster time in as we possibly could. Luke Jennings

This was my first time going on a music tour of any sort, and now I look forward to the next. Thanks to Ms. Roxanne's (and other leaders') kindness and generosity throughout the trip, I had a blast. The chapel I stayed in was lovely and the sanctuary there was beautiful. As soon as I stepped into the sanctuary, I could see the mesmerizing stained windows, the enormous organ and trumpets, and the varnished wood we walked on. Ms. Roxanne mentioned that she thought it was inspiring that somebody decided to build such a place set aside simply to praise the Lord. I couldn't agree more. Rory Jennings

I had the opportunity to travel with the youth choir to Charlotte, NC for the 2023 Summer Mission and Music Tour. We had an amazing and God filled week. Our youth had the chance to volunteer at multiple mission outreach programs within the Charlotte area, from planting seeds at The Bulb to sorting shoes at the Samaritans Feet that will go to families in Uganda, to sorting baby hats, folding onesies and making blankets at Baby Bundles and much more. The experience these youth had was very eye opening to the daily experience of marginalized and unhoused communities. We ended our week with a fun filled and exhausting day at Carowinds Amusement Park to celebrate our Senior, Camden Smith, with his one request. It is such a blessing to watch this young group being the hands of Jesus Christ while representing Jasper United Methodist Church Youth Choir. I am blessed to be included in such a special group. Tiffany Gleason

If I'm being 100% honest I wasn't all that excited for SMT this year because of how small our numbers were, and because we weren't doing our normal mission trips. Instead, we went to cross missions with Myers Park Presbyterian Church. I'll admit, I wasn't that happy that we were going to attend Cross, but after the first full day I realized that my first impression of it quickly changed. I met Rose, and all of the other interns there, and to be honest. All of them were amazing. They were all very genuine people, and I appreciated that about all of them. My favorite parts of SMT were the mission projects, and meeting all of the interns. With the mission projects I felt like I was really helping people, and I could see the progress we were making. A God moment I had on SMT was our last night. That Thursday night we had worship, and after that we had 20 minutes of prayer. During that time I was able to really connect with God in a way I hadn't ever before. Cross really helped me reconnect with God after months of straying away from him. Which is why SMT 2023 is now my favorite summer music tour I have been on. I learned a lot from this trip, and I'm very glad we went on it. Thank you! Sara Kate Smith

I had a great time doing all the mission projects and felt like we did a good thing helping people. Even though we had to change from the original plan I still had a great time. Camden Smith

My favorite part about Summer Music Tour is definitely the mission project of organizing the medicine. The reason why it was my favorite is because it was so fun organizing the medicine. I feel like that mission project connected more people in our group. Especially since it was one of our first mission projects. It made me happy that we got to help those who need medicine to survive. It made me realize that we saved hundreds of people from dying. It also made me happy that we did the most out of any other group!! One God moment that I loved was when we were singing. At first, as you know, I was scared to do it. After we did it, everybody was saying how we did a good job. It made me realize that God was with us through all of that. And God was really with us after that when we had our prayer moment, when we got to go to all those stations, and when we helped Bailey when she was crying. I think God was with us and guiding us though all of it. I loved Summer Music Tour! It was so fun through all of it! Sophie Lindsey