



Jasper United Methodist Church

85 West Church Street, Jasper, GA 30143

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October 2025



A View from the Crowe's Nest

I was reading the Pickens County Progress today and it was right there next to the editorial page. Recipes! Not your ordinary kind of recipes; but, recipes using flowers. That's F-L-O-W-E-R-S, not FLOUR. Fried squash blossoms, Flower Tea and Flower Fritters.. Rebecca Farrow, the Rural Connections Contributor wrote. "The addition of fresh flowers makes a strong visual statement and can give you both a 'wow' factor and add fun to your next meal."

If I add flowers to dinner tonight I don't think my boys will be saying 'wow'. I suspect it would be more like "yuck." Culinary floristry is surging in popularity, with some people. It integrates edible (I don't know that I would say they are edible) flowers into food and drinks. I don't know about you but I would rather have my flowers in the dirt than on my plate.

That's why I loved "A Taste of JUMC." When I heard you were to buy just packs of tens tastes I thought I would probably starve; but, alas, ten was hearty plenty. It was such a fun and delicious event. I mean, I knew we had good cooks but, man, we have great cooks! We got the Baptist caseroles beat!

Good food starts with a good recipe. The ingredients make the dish. It is the way they interact and complement each other. Each component's flavor and texture enhances the other. Together they can create something heavenly. But, you have to use the right ingredients and follow directions. While the Bible doesn't contain specific recipes, it does use the imagery of cooking and baking to help us discover how to cook up the best life. The Psalmist writes, "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). Jesus calls Himself the "Bread of Life" (John 6:35), reminding us that He is the one ingredient we can't leave out. Paul even speaks about our lives being a "fragrant offering" to God (Ephesians 5:2).

Faith, like a good recipe, requires the right ingredients. Love, forgiveness, patience, kindness, generosity—when blended together—make something that nourishes the soul. Leave one out, and things don't quite taste right. Add in bitterness, jealousy, or pride, and the whole batch can be ruined. But when we follow God's directions, mixing His Word with our obedience, the result is something both beautiful and satisfying.

So while you may not find me serving up fried daisies for dinner, I do pray that what comes from my life is seasoned with grace and filled with the goodness of God. That's a recipe that never fails!

Blessings,

Pastor Sheila



My name is Amy Swancey, and I am honored to serve as the Director of Children's & Youth Ministry at JUMC. I have been married to my husband, Howard, for 26 years, and together we've been blessed with four children and four grandchildren. Jasper has been home to our family for 26 years, and for the past 22 years I have had the joy of working with JUMC. My background is in business, but my heart has always been with serving others. I truly feel that God has placed me in this position, and I am excited to see how He will use me to help the children and youth grow in their faith.



Wednesday, October 29

5:30-7:30 pm

Family Friendly Costumes

Lower Parking Lot

Come to get some Goodies

Free Hot Dogs

Open to the Public

- ♦ Orange Buckets for Sweet Treats
- ♦ Blue Buckets for Autism Sensory Items
- ♦ Teal or Green Buckets for Non-Food Toys for those with allergies

Missions Matters

To support building a house, mark gifts to JUMC for "Kenya Ministries". Deadline: Oct. 12. Student sponsors, bring cards to box in narthex.



Dear Families,
As the leaves begin to change, we are excited for all the fun and meaningful events coming up in the life of our Children's Ministry. Here's what you need to know for the remainder of October.
Kids of the Kingdom - Every Wednesday from 4:00-5:30 PM
- Kids of the Kingdom will meet each Wednesday for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and faith-building activities. We encourage all children to come join in the fun as we learn and grow together!

****No Kids of the Kingdom on October 15th****

We look forward to seeing you the following Wednesday! Children's Church will gather on October 19 and 26.

Our annual Trunk or Treat event will be held on October 29th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. This is a family-friendly event open to the whole community. We encourage our kids to invite their friends and classmates to join in the festivities! There will be plenty of trunks, treats, food and fun for everyone! Want to get involved?

- If your family is interested in decorating a trunk or helping out in another capacity, please reach out to Amy Swancey, Director of Children and Youth Ministry, at amy@jasperumc.org. We'd love to have your help in making this event a great success!

- It's never too early to start thinking about the holiday season! ****Breakfast with Santa**** will be held on ****December 6th****, and we'll have more information about this special event coming soon. Be sure to mark your calendars!

As always, thank you for being part of our vibrant community of families. We are blessed to serve alongside you and to watch our children grow in faith, friendship, and fun. We look forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming events!

Blessings,
Amy Swancey
Director of Children and Youth Ministry
amy@jasperumc.org



It's almost Operation Christmas Child shoe box time! You may pick up your boxes beginning on Sunday, October 12 in the narthex or the church office. If you do not want to fill a box, just bring individual items to the narthex. If you are not comfortable shopping for items to fill your box, you can go online at Samaritan's Purse. It's called "Build a Shoebox". Go to www.samaritanaspurse.org/buildonline and follow the instructions. The deadline to turn in the boxes and items is Sunday, November 16. For more information and questions contact Jeannie Brantley.



The streets of downtown Jasper once again came alive on Saturday, October 4th with the 44th Annual Marble Festival Road Race, proudly organized and sponsored by the Dorcas Circle of Jasper United Methodist Church. Special thanks to all who

chipped in and helped out with everything from organizing to registrations to clean up.



In the process of trying to find a fulltime pianist, we have worked out a great alternative. We have been blessed with five musicians (Justin Davis, Darcy Douglas, Susan Gooch, Phyllis Pool, David Richards) who will be rotating Sundays. We also have some other instrumental musicians in the mix.

We are still trying to find new ways to blend our worship services with different styles of music. Who knew there were so many ways to sing and play praise music and worship to God!

In His Service,
Cathy Riley, Director of Music
criley@jasperumc.org
706-253-2100 or 618-384-6254

Special Retirement Sunday for Angela Ervin!

Sunday, October 12, we will have some special music to honor Angela on her retirement from 18 years of playing the organ at JUMC. We will have a short reception following the service with cake and punch. There will also be a basket for cards of appreciation and love.



The preschool celebrated our very first grandparents day in September and it was a huge success. This will be a yearly tradition. Our third month

of school is a very busy fun filled event, with profession pictures being taken, fall festival, 50th day of school, Halloween parties and Trunk or Treat as well as fall break. All thrown in one month... We still need donations to our scholarship program if you are looking for an area to donate to. Thank you to everyone that has donated so far.

Donna Dooley, Preschool Director
dooley@jasperumc.org



Dear Elevate Families,

We have an exciting month ahead for Elevate, with plenty of opportunities for fun, service, and growth! Here's everything you need to know about the upcoming events and schedule changes.

Elevate Meets:

- Wednesdays from 6:00–7:30 PM
- Sundays from 5:30–7:00 PM

We encourage all youth to join us for our weekly gatherings. Come for fun, fellowship, and a time to grow in your faith!

Upcoming Events:

October 4th – Marble Festival Road Race:

– Plan to arrive by 7:30 AM on October 4th for the Marble Festival Road Race. The youth will be stationed at the turn-around point, where they will be handing out water to the runners. It's a great way to serve our community and show our support for the race participants.

- Please note that there will be no Elevate meetings on October 15th (Wednesday) and October 19th (Sunday). We'll pick back up the following week with regular meetings.

– Elevate will be participating in our church's Trunk or Treat event on October 29th. The youth will have a trunk decorated and will be passing out candy to all the trick-or-treaters. Please meet at the church at 5:00 PM. This is always a fun event, and we're looking forward to making it an awesome time for the kids and community!

– Elevate will be participating in Serve Pickens, a day of service to help our community. More details will be coming soon, but we're excited for this opportunity to serve and make a difference together. Stay tuned for more information!

We are so proud of our youth, and we look forward to seeing even more of you at our events and weekly gatherings! As always, if you have any questions or would like to get involved in any of these events, don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

Amy Swancey

Director of Children and Youth Ministry
amy@jasperumc.org



Celebrating our many non-profits in the community by offering a day of service

Saturday,
October 18, 2025

8:00 am Kickoff Breakfast at
Jasper United Methodist Church
9:00 am Begin Project at locations

You must register before the event at
www.servepickens.com

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

Requested names to be lifted up:

Burl Chesser, Pam Edwards, Sara Fowler, Judy Francis, Peggy Higgins, Maureen Huntington, Linda Judkins, Don Larson, Joyce Leist, George Montgomery, Mary Russell, Susan Sherrell, Linda Waitsman

Retreat at Jasper Assisted Living: Carolyn Omundson, Carolyn Jenkins

Rock Creek Manor: Barbara Peddicord, Donna Dicus, Dayton & Mary Ann Adams

Cedarhurst Assisted Living: George Hall

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,
Pastor Sheila at (770) 842-3025

Christian sympathy is extended to Suellen Reitz and family on the death of her father.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Richard Rambler on his death.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Sam Peddicord on his death.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Jim Van Sant on his death.



United Methodist Men: Our UMM will be tailgating with the youth on Friday, October 10, at PHS before the football game with Chestetee.

All of the men in our church are invited and encouraged to participate. Those who are cooking will be at the picnic tables directly behind the school building above the field to set up at 5:00 pm and everyone else is invited to join us at 5:30 for burgers and hotdogs and a time of fellowship with our youth before the game. We will be finished before the 7:30 game time. Make plans now to attend. It is a great opportunity to get better acquainted with our youth and the men of our church.



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.

October's focus is Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Powdered Creamer, Hot Chocolate Packets. Non perishable foods are always welcome.



*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

All are welcome to join
a time of prayer in the prayer room

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm.

For more information contact
Dex Phillips

Ladies Second Thursdays:

The Seekers Small Group will meet Thursday, October 9th at 10:00 am in room 106. All ladies are welcome for devotions and fellowship.

Dorcas Circle will meet Thursday, October 9th at 6 pm. All ladies are invited for refreshments, devotion, fellowship and a brief meeting.



Who's ready for a day trip to Hamricks of Fort Oglethorpe for shopping and lunch at Steak & Shake? Sign up for Tuesday, November 4th for a fun day. Arrive at the church by 7:45 in order to depart by 8am. Approximate arrival home 4pm.

Sign up with Juanita Tatum
770-632563) nitawa27@gmail.com



Wednesday Night Suppers are back and Chef Stan's meals are a huge success! If you would like to be a part of the

kitchen crew, please text your cell phone number to Patsy Rollins, 404-797-9996, and she will include you on the list to receive the weekly Perfect Potluck sign-up sheet. Daytime and Wednesday evening help is needed. No ongoing commitment is required-just come help when you can!