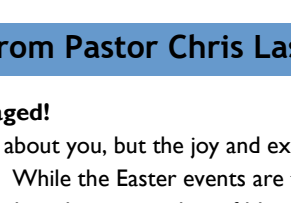


# JEFFERSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our mission is to make ROCK-SOLID disciples of Jesus Christ to change Jackson County and the world. We Become Disciples when we Celebrate! Connect! and Contribute!

Published May 2, 2019

## Make Church a part of your summer!



### A Note from Pastor Chris Laskey

#### Be Encouraged!

I don't know about you, but the joy and excitement of Easter has continued to rise up in me over the last 2 weeks! While the Easter events are the greatest source of hope and encouragement we will ever receive, there have been a number of New things here lately that I think are greatly encouraging with regards to our church. I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight a handful of them:

- **New Believers** - God has used our church to bring a number of people to new faith or reaffirmed faith over the last few weeks!
- **New Connections** - our Connect Groups, along with our new and existing Sunday School classes, have led to lots of new friendships and connections being made in people across JFUMC & Outpost Church.
- **New Outreach** - the Winning Warriors Camp is just around the corner and with it comes great potential to bless children and youth in Jackson County in new and special ways.
- **2020 Vision Coming Into Focus** - With the Deceleration lane and full access to the Outpost property gained, leadership is excited to share that the next step in the development process is now underway. That next step is developing a Site Plan for a portion of the property that will provide space and resources for our congregation to gather for fellowship, bless the community and build God's Kingdom. Thanks to a Conference grant, we have commissioned a Christian-based company, Good City Architects, to work on a Site Plan based on the input gained during our 2020 visioning sessions. Having a Site Plan will provide a visible roadmap as we move forward towards fulfilling our 2020 vision. The Site Plan should be available for our congregation to view sometime in May!

*Pastor Chris*

### Jefferson First United Methodist Church Sunday Services

9:30 am Modern Worship at the Outpost Campus, Jackson County Comprehensive Highschool

11:00 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

## End-Of-Year Café & Connections

Come celebrate the end of the school year with a special night of food, fellowship and fun family activities on Wednesday, May 8th at 5:45p including:

- ◆ Chicken Tacos
- ◆ Moonwalk
- ◆ Corn Hole
- ◆ Face Painting
- ◆ Sidewalk Chalk
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ 4-Square

## Winning Warriors Day Camp

Winning Warriors Day Camp update: we have had great success so far with bringing our combined resources and connections together to make the first Winning Warriors Day Camp an unforgettable experience! So far we have:

- Raised \$9,359 through the Jefferson Fire Department Boot Drive and generous donations from the Commerce Fire Department and Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society
- 16 registered volunteers
- 21 registered campers
- Have the following activities planned through pledged support or sponsorship:
  - Archery
  - Arts & Crafts
  - Bouncy House
  - Canoeing/Kayaking
  - Climbing Wall
  - Field Day
  - Fishing
  - Petting Zoo
  - Swimming
  - Various Public Safety Demonstrations

The closing date for camper and volunteer registration is May 10th. If you, or you know of anyone who has stated they are interested in volunteering or becoming a camper, please remind them to apply on-line at [cityofjeffersonga.com/fire/page/winning-warriors-day-camp](http://cityofjeffersonga.com/fire/page/winning-warriors-day-camp)

Thank you all, Shawn Station

Winning Warriors Day Camp Co-Director

## Roar VBS

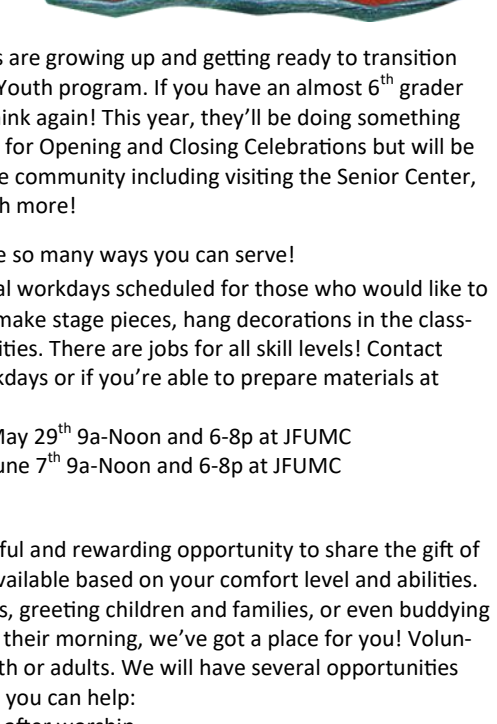
June 10<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>

9am-Noon

Sign up at [jfumc.com](http://jfumc.com) or [outpost129.com](http://outpost129.com).

The link is also on our JFUMC & Outpost

Kids Facebook Page



**Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Opportunity!** These kiddos are growing up and getting ready to transition from our Children's Ministry to our Middle School Youth program. If you have an almost 6<sup>th</sup> grader who thinks they are too old for VBS, tell them to think again! This year, they'll be doing something different! Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders will join the VBS project for Opening and Closing Celebrations but will be going off to complete various service projects in the community including visiting the Senior Center, packing Operation Christmas Child boxes, and much more!

VBS is coming up and we need your help! There are so many ways you can serve!

**Decorate & Prepare:** We will have several workdays scheduled for those who would like to help decorate our space for the kids. We will make stage pieces, hang decorations in the classrooms, and prep materials for crafts and activities. There are jobs for all skill levels! Contact Renee if you are able to assist during the workdays or if you're able to prepare materials at home.

May 15<sup>th</sup> 4-8p at Gainesville First UMC

May 29<sup>th</sup> 9a-Noon and 6-8p at JFUMC

June 6<sup>th</sup> 9a-Noon and 6-8p at JFUMC

June 7<sup>th</sup> 9a-Noon and 6-8p at JFUMC

June 8<sup>th</sup> Noon-4p at JFUMC

**Volunteer!** Helping during VBS week is a beautiful and rewarding opportunity to share the gift of Christ with children! There are several roles available based on your comfort level and abilities. Whether you like telling stories, serving snacks, greeting children and families, or even buddying up with one or two kids to help them through their morning, we've got a place for you! Volunteers can be middle school or high school youth or adults. We will have several opportunities for you to come hear about the ways in which you can help:

May 19<sup>th</sup> 11:00-11:30am at Outpost Kids Area after worship

May 19<sup>th</sup> 12:30-1:00pm in E-2 at JFUMC after worship

June 9<sup>th</sup> 3:30-4:00pm in E-2

If possible, please sign up for one of the time slots by going to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A8AD28A3F85-vbsteam>

Registration is helpful for planning but not necessary. If you can come last minute, please do!

**\*\*Big added bonus for volunteers with kids this year!\*\***

Serving as a volunteer during VBS entitles you to a FREEEEEEEE morning of child care on Friday, 6/14 from 9:00am-12:00pm after VBS is over! Drop your kids off for pancakes, a movie and some games and go enjoy some "me" time! After all, you'll be a VBS Volunteer Superstar by then and deserve it! :)

## YOUTH NEWS

### Middle School Mission Trips, June 4-9th

June 4-5: Free fun days (tubing, movies, mountain fun)

June 6-9: We will serve with Ellijay First United Methodist Church through their camp opportunity for youth that offers spiritual growth and Christian fellowship while providing a service to the needs of Gilmer County Citizens. This is a free service to the client in need.

Accommodations:

June 4-5: Mountain Cabin

June 6-9: We will be housed at Ellijay First UMC with meals provided at the church by their members You will need to provide sleeping bag and pillow.

**Cost:** \$110 Includes accommodations, most meals, and materials.

You will need to bring money for several fast food meals and fun activities (\$40)

**Scholarship Funds:** Scholarship Funds are available, Please text/call Alice Lipscomb for details.

**Registration:** Save your spot now by registering and paying your deposit of \$50.

Remaining cost is due by May 20.

**MS Mission Trip Registration Link:** [outpost129.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/239128](http://outpost129.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/239128)

### High School Mission Trip, July 7-11

Our goal is grow relationally and spiritually as we partner with non-profit organizations in Brunswick, Georgia to serve others. During mornings hours we will work with children at risk teaching them games and sportsmanship. In the afternoons we will spend time with older adults at an assisted living facility and provide activity centers. We will be staying in youth cabins at Epworth, by the Sea, St. Simons, Georgia ([epworthbythesea.org](http://epworthbythesea.org)). You will need to bring, Sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries.

**Cost:** \$240 - includes transportation, most meals, accommodations, and supplies. You will need to bring spending money for a couple of fast food meals during travel, ice-cream, fun park, and one dinner out.

**Scholarship Funds:** Scholarship Funds are available, Please text/call Alice Lipscomb for details.

**Registration:** To reserve your spot, register now and pay a deposit of \$100.

Deadline to register is May 15. The remaining \$140 is due by June 15.

**HS Mission Trip Registration Link:** [outpost129.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/239096](http://outpost129.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/239096)

If you need to write a check or pay cash for mission trip, contact Alice Lipscomb, 770-307-6098.

### Pool Parties

MS: June 23rd, 4-6p, at Sandy Beem's House

HS YOUTH: June 9th, 4:30-8:30p; Gather at JFUMC and take the church bus to Sandy Lipscomb's House

### Small Groups

MS: B.L.T. Unknown Tuesdays—5/29, 6/19, 6/26, 7/17

HS: B.L.T. (Bible. Lake. Tuesday)—Tuesdays 6:30-8:30p

### Weekly Youth Gatherings

MS Youth Gathering – Sundays 4:00-6:00p

HS Youth Gatherings- Sundays 6:30-8:30p

Youth will not meet on Mother's Day or Father's Day

For more information about any Youth events, please contact Alice Lipscomb at 770-307-6098 or [alice@jfumc.com](mailto:alice@jfumc.com)

## Service Opportunities

Make Service a part of your Summer! Contact Renee Hilley, 404-372-6796 for more information!

### Our Daily Bread

Be part of the team preparing and serving food once a month in Athens. Contact Pete McClellan at 352-584-5794 for more information!  
May 20th, June 17th, July 15th

### iServe

All ages are welcome to help distribute food at the iServe ministry! Show up any time and there will be a place to serve

2nd Saturdays in Commerce, 7a—May 11th, June 8, July 13

3rd Tuesdays in Pendergrass, 7a—May 21st, June 18th, July 16th

4th Saturdays in Athens, 6:30a—May 25th, June 22nd, July 27th

### Bookbag Ministry

The summers go quickly and our Bookbag Ministry will be here before we know it. Join in providing bookbags and school supplies for children in need in our community by shopping now for bookbags and basic school supplies (paper, pencils, crayons, highlighters, 3-prong folders, etc.). Contact Danelle Gragg in the church office, 706-367-8667 for more information on specific needs or to drop off supplies.

Contact Renee Hilley at 404-372-6796 or [renee@jfumc.com](mailto:renee@jfumc.com) for more information about serving!

## KENYA MISSION TRIP UPDATE

We are excited to announce that our 13-member mission team's travel expenses are fully funded and are scheduled to travel from **June 19-July 1, 2019!** Thank you to our church family for your support of our fundraisers throughout the year! Our team will be serving orphans through Life for Children Ministry. We will serve in both a street ministry and also a construction project to build a girls' dormitory. We continue to fundraise for this construction project (at a cost of \$15,000) and seek your continued prayers and financial support. The dormitory will provide a safe haven for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls to help keep them safely enrolled in school and to secure hope for a brighter future! We also ask for your prayers for the physical and spiritual strength and protection of our team members, for the LCM staff and students, and especially for God's will to be done! Please contact Debbie Cornelison (706-340-1986) if you would like to be a prayer and/or financial partner!

## Women's Book Club

Any women in the community are welcome to join us this or any month for the Women's Book Club! Sherry McDonough is hosting our **May Book Club**. She has selected **Saving CeeCee Honeycutt** by Beth Hoffman. From Amazon: *Steel Magnolias meets The Help* in Beth Hoffman's *New York Times* bestselling Southern debut novel, *Saving CeeCee Honeycutt*. A timeless coming of age novel set in the 1960s, *Saving CeeCee Honeycutt* explores the indomitable strengths of female friendship, and charts the journey of an unforgettable girl who loses one mother, but finds many others in the storybook city of Savannah. Read the book if you have time and read or not, join us on May 9th at 6:30pm at Sherry's home, 2034 Rambler Inn Rd., Jefferson. Contact Tiersa Laskey at 770-519-5399 for more info!

## TRADITIONAL MUSIC MINISTRY

**Make a Joyful Noise Unto The Lord!** The choir is an opportunity for involvement. When you join a choir you're not just singing the words together, you're doing life and ministry together. The choir is a mouthpiece for songs of encouragement and a call to action as it brings a raised dynamic level to the theme or special services. " (4-28-16 Benson Blog)". As this year is winding down into summer be thinking of these very reasons members enjoy being a part of the choir. This summer there will be a variety of music combinations as we worship together.

If you play an instrument please let Carole know and consider being a part of the choir and or handbells as we begin in full force again in August. Contact Carole Frankum for more information at [cfrankum@windstream.net](mailto:cfrankum@windstream.net)!

## Additional News & Information

### Church Chicks

Church Chicks continues to be an open group for any women! Would you like more fellowship with other Christian women? Bring a snack and join us on May 15 at 5:45pm at the home of Pam Henley, 165 Thornhill Circle, Jefferson. Look for information on pop-up events in June! Contact Kim Theberge at 404-805-3416 for more info!

### Open Door Sunday School Class

The Open Door Sunday School is completing the study, "Thriving in Babylon." The class will not be meeting during June and July because of summer vacations. We would love to have you join us on August 4th.

### A Note from our Lay Leader, Martha Shannon-Tonge

Greetings church family, Thank you for an inspiring Lenten and Easter season! If you are feeling drawn at all by the Holy Spirit, I encourage you to really lean into knowing God. I started my daily God time with a single "Yes" spoken to Jesus in the morning as I got out of bed. Gradually, my desire and devotion for Him increased. Now, the time I spend in reading and prayer brings understanding and depth to my spiritual life and also (seriously) to my daily life. Certainly, it is a biblical truth that when you seek Him, you WILL find Him! (Jer29:13, Mt 7:7-8)

Recently, I have been concentrating on words actually spoken by Jesus. Did you know that before dying, He prayed for us as future believers?! John 17:21 "I pray also for those who will believe in me, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be in us so that the world may believe....I have made You known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

God's design is incredible not only in that Jesus restores us to our Father but also that the Spirit is provided to bring us into deeper relationship with Him! There is actually a guarantee to that! (2Cor 1:22)

When we are Spirit-led, we grow into a unified Body by the mission of Christ! And isn't that our purpose and joy? Jesus' sacrifice was too costly to ignore. His prayers and teaching too valuable to forget. Our reward too wonderful to let slip away. Christ's work on the cross is finished but as His disciples, ours is on-going.

So let's get serious about knowing God in the fullest and living as a Christ centered community unified in the Holy Spirit and devoted to accomplishing His kingdom! Sincerely, Martha Shannon-Tonge  
Contact: Martha Shannon-Tonge | 706-654-7646 | [shannon@shannonverses.com](mailto:shannon@shannonverses.com)

### A Note from our Council Chair, John Lee

"I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfill God's creational intentions." — John Wesley, *How To Pray: The Best of John Wesley on Prayer*  
Contact: John Lee | 404-694-0635 | [jleefamily@aol.com](mailto:jleefamily@aol.com)

### A Note from our SPR (Staff Parish Relations) Chair, Pascal Theberge

It is my pleasure to announce that the Bishop's Cabinet has reappointed Rev. Chris Laskey to Jefferson First United Methodist Church for the next appointment year!  
Contact: Pascal Theberge | 706-614-9268 | [jptheberge@windstream.net](mailto:jptheberge@windstream.net)

Find out more, register for events, and give at:

**JFUMC.com OR Outpost129.com**

Follow us on Facebook:

**Jefferson First United Methodist Church OR Outpost**

### Our Church Staff and Contact Information

188 Martin Street, Jefferson, GA 30549 | 706-367-8667 | fax: 706-367-5843 | [jfumc.com](mailto:jfumc.com)  
Office Hours | 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

Senior Pastor  
Director of Youth, Outreach & Discipleship  
Director of Children's & Service Ministries  
Office Manager  
Preschool Director  
Choir Director  
Outpost Worship Leader  
Accompanists  
Nursery Staff

Rev. Chris Laskey | 706-983-2416 | [chris@jfumc.com](mailto:chris@jfumc.com)  
Alice Lipscomb | 404-372-6098 | [alice@jfumc.com](mailto:alice@jfumc.com)  
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Crystal Tucker | Beth Rector | Jan Purgason  
Becky Kyle | Nicole Nash | Catherine Collier

For questions or additional information, or to remove your name from our distribution list, please contact the JFUMC office at [jeffumc@windstream.net](mailto:jeffumc@windstream.net) or call 706.367.8667