



COMMERCE  
FIRST METHODIST  
CHURCH

*A Place to Know, Grow, and Show God's Love*

***February 2026 Newsletter***

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[www.cfmc.life](http://www.cfmc.life)

# February 2026 Prayer List

*"Offer prayers and petitions in the Spirit all the time. Stay alert by hanging in there and praying for all believers." -Ephesians 6:18*

## Prayer Requests For Our Community & Beyond:

Our church, its ministries, and leadership.  
Our country, our community, and our church leaders.  
For those affected by injustice and violence in all the ways they present themselves.  
All medical and emergency personnel.  
The Kairos Prison Ministry.  
The World with all its needs, near and far from us.

## Our Men and Women in the Military:

Ryan Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Karl Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Tyler Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Bobby Marshburn, Ensign in the Navy  
Mason McDaniel, Godson of Janni & Dynelle Martin, US Army  
Major Scott Powell, son of Thomas Powell, US Army  
Steven Wheeler, brother-in-law of Jan Roe  
PFC Connor Legg, grandson of Jack Legg, US Army

## Those in Assisted Living:

### Gayle Pritchett

Brighter Mornings at the Shoals  
7456 Hwy 82 Spur, Maysville, GA 30558

### Janet Varner

25 Glen Lake Parkway NE Apt 1215  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

## Those at home:

### Lucy Gailey

The Pines  
P.O. Box 458, Maysville, GA 30558

### Dr. Don McFadden

119 University Dr., Commerce, GA 30529

### Shirley Parham

2900 McEver Rd, Gainesville, GA 30504

### Pat and Jimmy Purcell

108 Windy Hills Rd. Commerce, GA 30529

## Prayers for Strength and Healing:

Ed Adams  
Mitchell Adams  
Grant Anderson  
Keith Ariail  
Eddie Babb  
Heather Ballenger  
Pam Barnett  
Betty Baxter  
Saoirse Bergman  
Phillippe Berra  
Steave Breeding  
Elizabeth Brown  
Dennis Cain  
Marie Canady  
Willard Cartledge  
Betty Corn  
Bob Crocket  
Sonia Davis  
Anna Diemond  
Lorraine Dipple  
Cathy Fletcher  
Bob Herrin  
Kenny Hill  
Dash Hughes  
Philip Jones  
Ezra King  
Claudia Lacy  
Dave Ladd  
Linda Lamb  
Kim & Doug Legg  
Debbie Manus  
Bobby Marshburn  
Tiffany Mathis  
Mike Matthews  
Charlotte Maxwell  
Patsy McCall  
Pete McClellan  
Reagan Mullinax  
John Murphy  
June Murphy  
Pat Murphy  
Tom Murphy  
Wanda Murphy  
Ken Reid  
Colleen Rios  
Barry Roper  
Stone Shirley  
Steve Shoun  
Janice Smith  
Faye Sullens  
James Thomas  
Lisa Till  
Blakeley Waddell  
Samantha Watson

Please contact the church office with any updates. Thank you!

## Joys & Celebrations

If you have any joys or celebrations you'd like to share with the congregation please contact the church office at 706-340-8611 or [office@cfmc.life](mailto:office@cfmc.life)

## Trustee of the Month

Robert Lyle

## Counters

2/1	Dave Moon
	Jane Bedell
2/8	Al Fleming
	Tom Murphy
2/15	Bill Davis
	Ray Morris
2/22	Jimmy Bolton
	Elton Collins

## A/V

2/1	Karen Hill, Juila & Zachary Crouch
2/8	Karen & Sara Hill, Russell Crouch
2/15	Julia, Russell & Zachary Crouch
2/22	Sara Hill, Evvie Phillips
	Timothy Sweeney

## Master Plan Campaign



Current Amount Pledged/Given:  
\$683,168

## Altar Guild

Elizabeth Phillips

Nariman Crouch

Mary Walters

## Acolytes

2/1	Anna Riley Phillips
	Liam Smith
2/8	Elise Phillips
	Rosemary Phillips
2/15	Karen Hill
	Sara Hill
2/22	Julia Crouch
	Marci Sweeney

## Children's Church

2/1	Remain in worship
2/8	Lydia Hoadley
	Joy Scott
2/15	Kristen Hill
2/22	

## SAVE THE DATE

3/4- LIFT

3/8- Rise Against Hunger

3/11-Trip to the Monastery of the Holy Spirit

3/18- Beans, Franks, & Bingo

3/22- Hinton Fundraiser Dinner

3/29- Egg Hunt

# Happy Birthday

2/5	Jason Phillips
2/8	Solomon Leggett
2/12	BJ Harbin
2/13	Alice Lyle
2/14	Gina Hagan
2/14	Manning Pittard
2/18	Lucy Gailey
2/20	Mary Anderson
2/20	Patty Griffith
2/24	Chandler Harbin
2/24	Joanna Suarez
2/24	Khara Scott
2/25	Nadine Waters
2/27	Jane Bramlett
2/28	Jim Williams



## Hinton Mission Trip 2026— Now Intergenerational!

It's time to start planning our annual Hinton Mission Trip! In the past, this trip has been for CFMC Youth, but this year we're excited to open it up as an intergenerational experience. The informational meeting has been rescheduled for Sunday, February 15th after worship (Bring a sack lunch!) Come learn more about the mission, expectations, and how you can be involved.



### Hello from CFMC Preschool!

This month, our classrooms will be learning about birds, Valentine's Day, famous Americans, and dental health. We are excited to welcome a special visit from Dr. Pitts' office, where the children will learn about the importance of keeping their teeth healthy.

We will also be celebrating with Valentine's Day parties, and we will observe Winter Break on February 13th and 16th.

Registration for the 2026–2027 school year is going strong for our currently enrolled students. **Open registration begins February 2nd.**

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a fun and educational month ahead!



Make plans to join us on Sunday February 1st , 5:30-6:30pm for our 2nd Chili Cook-off. Contestants will have samples of their chili for everyone to taste, but this year we will have a special team of judges that will crown the winner! To top off the night, we will play BIBLE BINGO after the judging is done. So, get your recipes out, round up those secret spices and start working on the winning batch! No sign up is required to attend, but if you are entering the contest, please **Register your pot** [here](#) Thank you.



Please make plans to join us for a Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 17th starting at 5:30pm to start off the Lenten Season. We hope to see everyone there for this wonderful time of fellowship and yummy pancakes! Please let us know you are coming [here](#). Thank you!



Join us for LIFT on **Wednesday, February 4** from 5:30-6:30. Everyone (all ages) is welcome, even if you haven't participated before! We will be serving a pasta dish and salad. You can sign up [here](#) or call the church office.



CFMC is hosting Parents Night Out on **Friday, February 13**, from 5:30-9:00 PM — and it's going to be a cozy, fun-filled evening!

Kids should come wearing their PJs, and bring a "sack" supper, plus a sleeping bag and pillow for movie time.

**\$Cost: FREE!**

If you'd like to make a donation, all gifts will go directly to the Youth Mission Fund.

**Please register your child [here](#).**



No, not the Super Bowl... SUPER BOWLING! Everyone is invited to go Super Bowling after worship on Sunday, February 8th! We'll meet immediately after worship in the FLC to eat — bring your sack lunch. We'll leave CFMC at 12:30 PM and head to Station 300 in Gainesville. Don't worry — you'll be home in time for kickoff! Please sign up [here](#), and don't forget to invite a friend or two!



Join us on Wednesday, February 18th from 11:00am-1:00pm for Beans, Franks and Bingo!! Sign up is not required.

## KIDS CLUB & YOUTH GROUP

FEBRUARY 8  
FEBRUARY 22

5:30PM - 6:30PM  
@ CFMC

## Cross Ash WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 18th

6:00pm

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust  
you shall return."



## WOMEN'S RETREAT

"A Time of Refreshing & Renewal"

Saturday, February 28th  
9am-1pm  
at Commerce First Methodist Church  
Cost: \$20

- Breakfast & Lunch Provided
- Nursery & childcare Provided
- All Ages



You are warmly invited to join us for a special time set apart to rest, breathe, and be renewed. Come experience moments of refreshing as we rest in God's embrace and allow His care to renew our hearts. Together we'll enjoy prayer, Scripture, meaningful conversation, a little pampering, and wonderful food shared in sweet fellowship.

Whether you're feeling weary or simply longing for quiet time with God and other women, this retreat is for you. Come as you are — and leave refreshed.

Please register [here](#).

A poster for the Men's Retreat. It features a blue tie, a pair of glasses, and the church's logo. The text reads: "MEN'S RETREAT" in large blue letters, "Saturday, February 28th 9:00am-1:00pm at Commerce First Methodist Church Cost: \$20". Below this, a list of included items is provided.

One of the areas that I am excited to address and pour into this year is our Men's Ministries. I want to invite any and all of our men to attend for a time of encouragement, vision-casting, and planning for where we are and where we would love to go.

We'll hear from several of our leaders who are passionate about strengthening these ministries and have continued to serve and lead amongst us. Please, come be a part of this church-wide opportunity to reconnect, recast, and plan for our Men's Ministry

-Joshua

Please register [here](#).

## February 2026 Trustee Flash

The Trustees are moving into 2026 with tremendous energy and excitement about all that God has in store for our church. As we look ahead to the opportunities before us, we remain committed to being faithful stewards of the facilities and resources that have been entrusted to our care.

We hope the leak in the Education Building is now permanently resolved! After some investigative work, our Trustees discovered that water pressure had dropped in the supply line and that a toilet required repairs. While this may seem like a small issue, it's a perfect example of the ongoing maintenance challenges we face in our aging facilities.

Our approach has shifted from simply reacting to problems as they arise to being more proactive in identifying and addressing potential issues before they become major concerns. This preventative maintenance philosophy helps us be better stewards of the resources God has provided. As caretakers of God's house—a building that has served our congregation and community for nearly 100 years—we take seriously our responsibility to maintain and preserve this sacred space for future generations.

We have an ambitious and exciting list of goals for 2026. At the top of our list is the possibility of beginning our Phase 1 project. The overwhelming generosity demonstrated by so many of you has deeply moved us and reinforces our conviction that this congregation believes strongly in the future of our church. Your financial support, prayers, and encouragement mean more than you know.

As we move forward with planning and preparation, we'll keep you informed of our progress and any opportunities for involvement. This is truly a community effort, and we're grateful to have such dedicated members partnering with us in this important work.

The many positive comments we received about the "Stories" shared during the Christmas cantata have reinforced the importance of preserving and celebrating our church's rich heritage. These personal testimonies and historical accounts connect us to the faithful men and women who came before us and remind us that we are part of a story much larger than ourselves.

In response to this interest, we have begun systematically collecting memorabilia, documents, photographs, and other historical items into a centralized location. Our plan is to establish the back room in the church office as a dedicated archive room where these precious memories can be properly preserved and organized for future reference.

**Do you have items to contribute?** If you have photographs, bulletins, programs, documents, or other memorabilia related to our church's history that you would like to contribute to our archive, please contact me. We'd be delighted to add your items to our growing collection. Even if you're not ready to donate items permanently, we can scan or photograph them to preserve the memories digitally.

We are grateful for your continued support, patience, and prayers as we work together to maintain and improve our church facilities. The dedication shown by our congregation inspires us daily. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding our facilities or any trustee matters, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry as we continue caring for God's house and preparing for the exciting future He has for our church family.

-Linda Exley

## **Lay Leadership—Here to Serve!**

### **Finance**

Jimmy Hooper, Chairperson  
Ray Morris, Vice Chairperson  
Jimmy Bolton  
Jane Bedell  
Dave Crouch  
Bill Davis  
Barbara Hendricks  
Todd Mize  
Donna Shaner

### **Trustees**

Linda Exley, Chairperson  
Brian Anderson  
Carine Griffeth  
Preston Hempton  
Robert Lyle  
Mike Manus  
Dave Moon  
Carolyn Stephenson  
Jim Williams

### **Staff-Parish Relations**

Kinsey Phillips, Chairperson  
Jason Phillips, Vice Chairperson  
Carl Bowers  
Nariman Crouch  
Craig Gieler  
Bob Griffeth  
Anne Fleming  
Judy Harbin  
Debbie Manus

### **Administrative Council**

David Stephenson, Chairperson  
Linda Exley, Trustees  
Al Fleming, Lay Leader  
Jimmy Hooper, Finance  
Kinsey Phillips, SPR  
Lisa Nesbit, Treasurer  
Donna Shaner, Recording Secretary



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