

COMMERCE  
FIRST METHODIST  
CHURCH

*A Place to Know, Grow, and Show God's Love*  
**March 2026 Newsletter**

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# March 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

Collins Anderson

Grant Anderson

Keith Ariail

Heather Ballenger

Pam Barnett

Betty Baxter

Saoirse Bergman

Phillippe Berra

Steave Breeding

Dennis Cain

Marie Canady

Betty Corn

Bob Crocket

Sonia Davis

Anna Diemond

Lorraine Dipple

Cathy Fletcher

Wayne Goforth

Carol Hatcher

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

Reagan Mullinax

John Murphy

June Murphy

Pat Murphy

Tom Murphy

Wanda Murphy

Joyce Phillips

Ken Reid

Colleen Rios

Barry Roper

Stone Shirley

Steve Shoun

Janice Smith

Jade Stickland

Faye Sullens

Lisa Till

Blakeley Waddell

Chester Walters

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**

Brian Anderson

## **Counters**

3/1 Dave Moon  
Jane Bedell  
3/8 Al Fleming  
Tom Murphy  
3/15 Bill Davis  
Ray Morris  
3/22 Jimmy Bolton  
Elton Collins  
3/29 Dave Moon  
Jane Bedell

## **A/V**

3/1 Karen Hill  
Russell Crouch  
Zachary Crouch  
3/8 Julia Crouch  
Elise Phillips  
Timothy Sweeney  
3/15 Julia Crouch  
Sara Hill  
Evvie Phillips  
3/22 Karen Hill  
Evvie Phillips  
Timothy Sweeney  
3/29 Julia Crouch  
Russell Crouch  
Elise Phillips

## **Altar Guild**

Annette Anderson

David Shaner

Donna Shaner

## **Acolytes**

3/1 Elise Phillips  
Rosemary Phillips  
3/8 Anna Riley Phillips  
Rosemary Phillips  
3/15 Julia Crouch  
Marci Sweeney  
3/22 Anna Riley Phillips  
Liam Smith  
3/29 Anna Riley Phillips  
Rosemary Phillips

## **Children's Church**

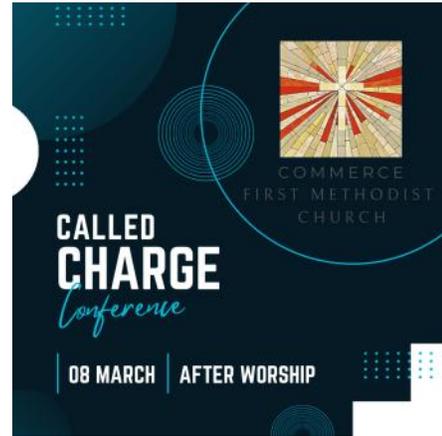
3/1 Remain in worship  
3/8 Lydia Hoadley  
3/15 Joy Scott  
3/22 Kristen Hill  
3/29 Elizabeth Phillips

**SAVE THE DATE**

4/3- Good Friday Service  
4/5- Community Sunrise Service  
4/6- Trip to the Arc Encounter  
4/15- Beans, Franks, & Bingo  
4/26-Hiking after worship

# Happy Birthday

|      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| 3/3  | Elizabeth Phillips |
| 3/7  | Carol McFadden     |
| 3/7  | Shirley Parham     |
| 3/7  | Tara Pittard       |
| 3/10 | Pam Barnett        |
| 3/10 | Ray Lamb           |
| 3/13 | Chester Walters    |
| 3/14 | Bette Rose Bowers  |
| 3/15 | Lee Hagan          |
| 3/17 | Lydia Hoadley      |
| 3/20 | Janet Thomas       |
| 3/21 | Jane Bedell        |
| 3/22 | Kinsey Phillips    |
| 3/23 | Brandon Hux        |
| 3/25 | Lisa Nesbit        |
| 3/26 | Diana Bermudez     |
| 3/26 | Anne Fleming       |
| 3/29 | Pat Purcell        |
| 3/29 | Russell Crouch     |
| 3/29 | Zachary Crouch     |
| 3/31 | Jean Davis         |



## Called Charge Conference

Immediately following worship on Sunday, March 8, we will have a brief presentation from the Administrative Council. After any questions are addressed, members will vote on whether to proceed with the Phase One Construction Project at this time or not. Please join us to hear this update and participate in the vote. Thank you!

## Master Plan Campaign



**Current Amount Pledged/Given:**

**\$683,593**



## March is shaping up to be a fun and exciting month at CFMC Preschool!

We'll be celebrating National Oreo Day, St. Patrick's Day, and enjoying a special visit from Mother Goose. Registration for next year is going strong, with 68 children currently enrolled. We are also looking forward to the arrival of spring and some warmer weather so the kids can spend more time enjoying the playground.



### **LIFT**

Join us for LIFT Wednesday, March 4th from 5:30-6:30. Everyone (all ages) is welcome, even if you haven't participated before! We will be serving **nachos**. Please sign up [here](#) or call the church office.



### **Rise Against Hunger**

Join us on March 8th at Homer Methodist Church to participate in Rise Against Hunger! In previous years, this event was just for youth, but this year it's open to anyone who would like to take part. We need 25 volunteers to help make it a success. If you're interested, please sign up [here](#) or call the church office to register.



**Kids Club-** Sunday, March 8th & 22nd (5:30-6:30 PM) at CFMC.

**Youth Group-** Sunday, March 8th (5:30-6:30pm) at CFMC.

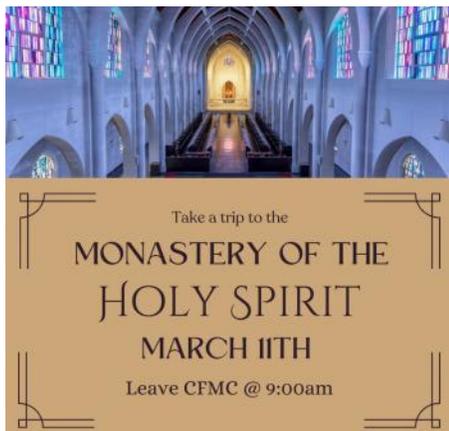
**Youth Group- Fuel the Mission: Spaghetti Dinner Prep**

📅 Sunday, March 22nd

🕒 5:30 PM

📍 FLC Kitchen

Youth will meet to prepare the meal for the *Fuel the Mission: Spaghetti Dinner* fundraiser supporting the Hinton Mission Trip.



### **Trip to Monastery of the Holy Spirit**

We are taking a trip to the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers! Make plans to join us on Wednesday, March 11th. We will be renting transportation and departing by 9:00 AM, returning in time for evening church activities. If you are interested in going, please sign up [here](#) or call the church office to sign up. We hope you'll join us for this special trip!



### Beans, Franks, & Bingo

Join Us for Free Food, Fun & Fellowship! That's right — I said **FREE!!** Come enjoy Beans, Franks & Bingo **on** Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Bring a friend and spread the word! No sign-up required — just come ready to eat, laugh, and have a great time! We can't wait to see you there!



### Fuel the Mission: Spaghetti Dinner

Help send a kid on the Hinton Mission Trip by providing the “fuel”! Last year, we raised enough money to send *all* of our youth participants to the Hinton Rural Life Center — way to go, CFMC! Let's see if we can do it again!! Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm. Enjoy a delicious spaghetti supper prepared and served by our youth. Entertainment provided by CFMC kids and youth. Another opportunity to purchase tickets for the Georgia Bulldog quilt. The quilt winner will be announced during the evening. A donation of \$20 per person is suggested for the meal. All proceeds go the CFMC Youth Mission Fund. Come hungry and ready to support our youth!



### Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Bowers Family Farm! All ages are welcome to come and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon together. Desserts will be provided, and there will be plenty of fun for everyone. Don't forget to bring a chair so you can sit back and relax! If you are able to provide a dessert to share, please contact the church office. Thank you — we look forward to seeing you there!



### Lenten Lunch

Come together in faith for a community Lenten Lunch hosted by Commerce Presbyterian Church on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:00–1:00 PM. Soup, sandwiches, and desserts will be served.

## March 2026 Trustee Flash

We are thrilled to announce that our Phase I Drainage Project is moving closer to implementation. The Trustees have been busy laying the groundwork to ensure this project runs as smoothly as possible, and we want to keep our church family informed every step of the way.

With the instruction of the Administrative Council, we are currently in the process of interviewing contractors to find the right team for the job. The Finance Committee is working to complete our funding. Of course, the last step will be to get approval to move forward from the congregation.

As we move forward, we want to assure you that we are carefully thinking about how construction will affect our daily campus life. Keep in mind that the only entrance to the campus will be the driveway at the Office off Cherry Street. Estimated time to complete the project is 4 – 6 months depending on the weather.

A few key areas we are working through include the logistics of preschool and home school drop-offs and pickups, parking availability for all church events, and the flow of traffic as people enter and exit the campus. We are committed to minimizing disruption and keeping everyone safe during this time.

We are also making plans for the location of Sunday worship during construction, so please stay tuned for any updates there. On an exciting note, this project includes the design of a brand-new playground, and we look forward to sharing more details about that soon! Additionally, we are coordinating practical details such as garbage truck access and dumpster placement to keep the campus clean and functional throughout the process.

We are grateful for your generosity, patience, and flexibility as we undertake this important improvement to our campus. More updates will be shared as plans develop, and we welcome any questions you may have.

-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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