



COMMERCE  
FIRST METHODIST  
CHURCH

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

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

# May 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

Roger Beauchamp

Saoirse Bergman

Phillippe Berra

Jimmy Bolton

Steve Breeding

Dennis Cain

Marie Canady

Elton Collins

Betty Corn

Bob Crocket

Sonia Davis

Anna Diemond

Lorraine Dipple

Cathy Fletcher

Wayne Goforth

Carol Hatcher

Kenny Hill

Lydia Hoadley

Dash Hughes

Philip Jones

Ezra King

Claudia Lacy

Dave Ladd

Linda Lamb

Kim & Doug Legg

Debbie Manus

Bobby Marshburn

Greg Martin

Tiffany Mathis

Mike Matthews

Charlotte Maxwell

Patsy McCall

Charles Morris

Reagan Mullinax

John Murphy

June Murphy

Pat Murphy

Tom Murphy

Wanda Murphy

Joyce Phillips

Tara Pittard

Colleen Rios

Tony Rios

Barry Roper

Stone Shirley

Steve Shoun

Winona Siwick

Janice Smith

Jade Stickland

Faye Sullens

James Thomas

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  
Preston Hempton

## **Counters**

5/3 Dave Moon  
Ray Morris  
5/10 Al Fleming  
Pete McClellan  
5/17 Bill Davis  
Dave Crouch  
5/24 Jimmy Bolton  
Elton Collins  
5/31 Al Fleming  
Pete McCellan

## **A/V**

5/3 Karen Hill  
Sara Hill  
Timothy Sweeney  
5/10 Evvie Phillips  
Timothy Sweeney  
Julia Crouch  
5/17 Sara Hill  
Russell Crouch  
Zachary Crouch  
5/24 Karen Hill  
Julia Crouch  
Elise Phillips  
5/31 Russell Crouch  
Manning Pittard  
Zachary Crouch

## **Altar Guild**

Carolyn Stephenson  
Kristen Hill

## **Acolytes**

5/3 OPEN  
OPEN  
5/10 Julia Crouch  
Marci Sweeney  
5/17 Elise Phillips  
Liam Smith  
5/24 Karen Hill  
Rosemary Phillips  
5/31 Sara Hill  
Marci Sweeney

## **Children's Church**

5/3 Remain in worship  
5/10 Lydia Hoadley  
5/17 Joy Scott  
5/24 Kristen Hill  
5/31 Elizabeth Phillips

**SAVE THE DATE**

5/31-6/4- VBS 2026

6/6- Summer Splash 2026

6/10- Financial Peace University Begins

6/11- Biblical History Center Trip (all ages)

6/27- Commerce Community 4th of July  
Celebration

# Happy Birthday

Bobby Marshburn	5/5
Timothy Sweeney	5/5
Marci Sweeney	5/7
Jackson Crouch	5/8
Charles Exley	5/8
Dave Crouch	5/10
Fran Moriarty	5/14
Kathleen Hooper	5/16
Jim Gaines	5/18
K. Ellen Hagan	5/18
Tommy Benton	5/20
Kaysi Mize	5/20
Pam Mize	5/20
Beckett Jones-Leggett	5/26
Rachel Odum	5/26
Megan Marshburn	5/28
Annette Anderson	5/30
Al Fleming	5/31

# HAPPY Anniversary!

Joshua and Stephanie Carr	5/7
Bill and Jean Davis	5/30

## Master Plan Campaign



**Current Amount Pledged/Given:**  
**\$1,200,268**

### Please Note

- **The last Wednesday Night Bible Study before summer break will take place on Wednesday, May 20th and will resume in August.**
- **CFMC Preschool Graduation will take place in the Sanctuary on May 19th at 9:00am in the Sanctuary.**
- **The office will be closed on Monday, May 25th in honor of Memorial Day.**



We are winding down here at preschool and have had such a wonderful season of learning and growing together. Lately, our classrooms have been full of excitement as the children explore themes like butterflies, camping, flowers, and gardens. It has been so much fun watching their curiosity bloom! One unexpected highlight has been all the big construction vehicles outside our windows—our students are absolutely fascinated and love watching them in action. We're also happy to share that the transition to entering and exiting at the FLC has gone very smoothly. We are so grateful for all the church volunteers and helpers who made this possible. Your support has truly made a difference for our school community. Thank you for being a part of such a special year!



**LIFT**

Join us for LIFT (living in faith together) intergenerational study, fellowship and dinner on Wednesday, May 6th from 5:30-6:30pm. We will be serving pasta and salad. Please sign up [here](#).



**Women of God**

Women of God Bible Study will be focusing on *Receiving Peace*. Please join us on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:00 PM in the Education Building Library. Mark your calendar for the following dates: May 21st, and June 18th. We look forward to growing together in faith and peace!



**Kids Club & Youth Group**

Kids Club and Youth Group will be meeting for the last time before summer break on Sunday, May 10th at CFMC, 5:30-6:30pm. Both will resume on August 9th.



**Taps Across America**

Honor. Reflect. Remember. Join us on the steps in front of the Sanctuary on Monday, May 25th at 3:00pm for Taps Across America.

**Mountain View Home School Invites You!**



**THURSDAY, MAY 21st**

1:00 - 2:30 PM

OLD COMMERCE ELEMENTARY GYM  
NEXT TO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HOMESCHOOL HISTORY FAIR &  
MOUNTAIN VIEW STUDENT ART EXHIBIT



**Graduate Sunday**

During worship on Sunday, May 17th we will be recognizing all 2026 graduates. Please [email](#) the church office if you have someone that you'd like to be recognized. Thank you.



**Men's Choir Invitation**

All men are invited to join the Men's Choir for a special anthem on Sunday, May 10th during the 11:00am worship service. No long-term commitment required-just come and sing! We will gather for a brief rehearsal at 10:30am in the sanctuary before the service. All are welcome.



### Join us for I Am His!

VBS is a 5-day experience designed to help children discover their identity in Christ. Through worship, Bible teaching, crafts, games, and hands-on activities, kids ages 3-12 will learn that they have been Created, Rescued, Chosen, and Sent!

May 31 - June 4, 2026

4:00pm - 5:00pm Youth Bible Time

5:00pm - 5:30pm Volunteer Overview and Dinner

5:30pm - 8:00pm I Am His! Kids VBS

Register Here:

<https://go.kidcheck.com/webforms/eventregistration.aspx...>



### Calling All Youth!

Youth ages 13 and up are invited to join our VBS Team as **Mission Mentors**! In this important role, you'll help guide children ages 3-12 through fun and meaningful VBS activities.

Your VBS experience begins with a special youth session from **4:00-5:00 PM** in the church Youth Room. During this time, you'll explore scripture, grow in your understanding of God's love, and deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Dinner will be provided immediately afterward, and at 5:30 PM, the *I Am His* adventure with the kids begins!

Come be part of something meaningful, make an impact, and grow in your faith while serving others.

Register Here:

<https://go.kidcheck.com/webforms/eventregistration.aspx...>



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VBS 2026  
May 31-June 4th  
5:30-8:00pm

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make this year's Vacation Bible School an unforgettable experience for our kids! Whether you love working with children, enjoy crafts and music, or prefer helping behind the scenes, there's a place for you on our team. Volunteers are needed for teaching, group leading, snacks, games, registration, and more. Join us as we share faith, fun, and fellowship with the next generation. Sign up today and be part of something meaningful! If you are interested please email [Gina Hagan](mailto:Gina.Hagan).



### Hinton Trip May 24– 28

Please keep our team in your prayers as we prepare for our upcoming mission trip to Hinton Rural Life Center.. We ask for safe travels, open hearts, and meaningful connections with the people we will serve. Pray that we may be guided by compassion, humility, and strength, and that our efforts bring hope and encouragement to the community. Thank you for supporting us through your prayers.

#### Hinton Team

April Briant	Elise Phillips
Julia Crouch	Evvie Phillips
Nariman Crouch	Manning Pittard
Russell Crouch	Coleman Smith
Zachary Crouch	Liam Smith
Karen Hill	Stewart Smith
Kristen Hill	Mary Walters
Sara Hill	

## APPLY NOW: LANG SCHOLARSHIP

- Available to Graduating CFMC Members
- Application available at [www.cfmc.life](http://www.cfmc.life)
- Deadline: June 1, 2026



### Lang Scholarship

Woolard and Eddie Lang came to Commerce in 1951, he as Superintendent of Commerce City Schools and she as a first-grade teacher in the primary school. Mr. and Mrs. Lang were devoted educators, both in Commerce schools and in the CFMC where he taught the Men's' Bible Class and she taught in the children's program. They are remembered for their commitment and faith. In their memory, their daughters, Linda and Carolyn, established the Lang Scholarship with contributions from friends and family.

The scholarship is awarded each year to any high school graduates who are members of CFMC who have been accepted into an accredited college, university, or technical school. The application deadline is June 1. You can locate the application on the church website ([www.cfmc.life](http://www.cfmc.life)) under *ministries*.

## Financial *Peace* University

WEDNESDAYS  
June 10-August 12th  
5:30-6:45PM

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

### Financial Peace University

Apply Scriptural principles to tell the money you already have where to go with Dave Ramsey's practical, hands-on 9 week workshop called Financial Peace University. Financial Peace University will be held at CFMC starting Wednesday, June 10th through August 12th. We will meet every Wednesday for 9 weeks from 5:30-6:45pm in the FLC. There is space for 10 families to attend. The cost will be \$100 per family. Includes in person workshops led by folks you know and trust to help you with questions, access to Ramsey Plus and other digital tools, one session with an official Ramsey financial coach, and a physical workbook. Excellent for getting couples on the same page with money, preparing graduates, newlyweds, retirees, and anyone who is interested in gaining some financial peace! If you are interested you can sign up [here](#) or call the church office.

## May 2026 Trustee Flash

Phase 1 construction is now well underway, and what began as architectural drawings and prayerful planning is becoming a tangible reality right before our eyes. Week by week, our church family is witnessing the answer to years of faithful preparation and generous giving — and it is a joy to behold.

Our selection of Griffin Brothers, Inc. as General Contractor continues to prove itself a wise and well-guided decision. Three weeks into the project, progress has exceeded expectations on virtually every front. The team arrives each morning with professionalism and purpose, and the quality of their work reflects the care they bring to this project. We are grateful for a contractor who understands that they are not simply building a structure — they are helping build a ministry.

We have been the recipients of some dry, cooperative weather. The favorable conditions have allowed the crew to push ahead of schedule, and to date we have not encountered a single change order, unsuitable soil condition, or unexpected rock — challenges that can plague construction projects and strain both timelines and budgets. We are thankful for each clear day as a small but meaningful blessing.

Parking during active construction is never easy, and we want to acknowledge the patience and flexibility that so many of our members have shown. The alternative arrangements along Cherry Street are functioning well, thanks in large part to the gracious cooperation of neighboring businesses and the can-do spirit of our own congregation. Even the City's Art-Tique's event, which brought additional traffic to our area, caused no meaningful disruption to our services or operations. That speaks volumes about how well our community has pulled together.

Perhaps no group has had to adapt more graciously to the realities of construction than our preschool families. The sounds of excavators and bull dozers are not exactly the backdrop one imagines for early childhood, yet our little ones — as children often do — have taken it entirely in stride. Drop-off and pick-up in the Family Life Center parking lot is flowing smoothly each day.

A heartfelt thank-you is owed to Marsha and the entire preschool teaching team. Their thoughtful planning, cheerful adaptability, and steadfast dedication to the children in their care have made all the difference. They have turned what could have been a stressful season into one of resilience and routine — and for that we are deeply grateful.

Even in the midst of construction season, the life of the church goes on. Planning is well underway for Preschool Graduation — a milestone moment for our youngest learners and their proud families — as well as for Vacation Bible School, always one of the most energetic and joy-filled weeks of the year. These events remind us that ministry does not pause for construction; it continues, and even flourishes, in the middle of it.

When the dust has settled and the final details are complete, we believe the result will be something that fills every one of us with pride. Thank you for your patience through the inconveniences, your generosity in your giving, and your unwavering positive spirit. We are in this together, and together we will see it through.

-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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