



COMMERCE  
FIRST METHODIST  
CHURCH

*A Place to Know, Grow, and Show God's Love*  
***December 2025 Newsletter***

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

# December 2025 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

4355 Georgetown Sq Apt. 202

Atlanta, GA 30338

## 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

Betty Baxter

Diana Bermudez

Phillippe Berra

Joe Booth

Matt Bowers

Steve Breeding

Elizabeth Brown

Dennis Cain

Marie Canady

Willard Cartledge

Betty Corn

Bob Crocket

Sonia Davis

Anna Diamond

Lorraine Dipple

George Evans

Cathy Fletcher

Bob Herrin

Kenny Hill

William Hitchcock

Dash Hughes

Philip Jones

Ezra King

Claudia Lacy

Dave Ladd

Linda Lamb

Doug Legg

Bobby Marshburn

Debbie Manus

Tiffany Mathis

Mike Matthews

Charlotte Maxwell

Patsy McCall

Reagan Mullinax

John Murphy

June Murphy

Pat Murphy

Tom Murphy

Wanda Murphy

Billy Nash

Colleen Rios

Barry Roper

Stone Shirley

Steve Shoun

Janice Smith

Faye Sullens

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

Linda Exley

## Counters

12/7	Dave Moon Jane Bedell
12/14	Al Fleming Tom Murphy
12/21	Bill Davis Ray Morris
12/28	Jimmy Bolton Elton Collins

## Altar Guild

Gina Hagan  
Stephanie Carr

## Acolytes

12/7	Julia Crouch Marci Sweeney
12/14	Anna Riley Phillips Liam Smith
12/21	Elise Phillips Rosemary Phillips
12/28	Karen Hill Sara Hill

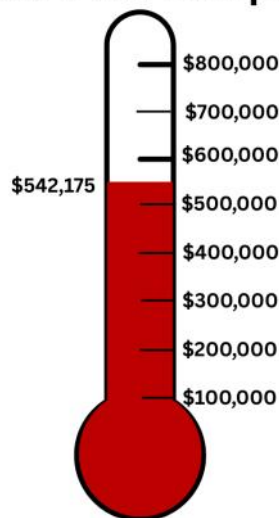
## Children's Church

We need two volunteers each Sunday to lead  
Children's Church. Please sign up [here](#).  
Curriculum is provided.

Reminder, all must be in compliance with  
our church's updated Safe Sanctuary policy.

12/7	Remain in worship
12/14	Lydia Hoadley
12/21	Joy Scott
12/28	Kristen Hill

## Master Plan Campaign



**Current Amount Pledged/Given: \$542,175**

## Cantata Reception

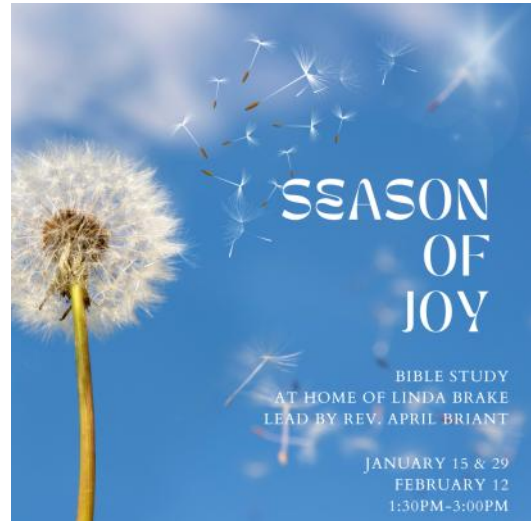
It's almost Cantata time again!!  
We will need volunteers to bring  
finger foods for the reception on  
December 7th. Please be sure to  
bring the food to the FLC by  
6:00pm on 12/07/25. Thank you!

# Happy Birthday

David Caughman	12/1
Ann Griffeth	12/2
Mike Manus	12/7
Zachary Mitcham	12/7
Mary Walters	12/7
Betty Corn	12/9
Trish Edwards	12/9
Evvie Phillips	12/13
Joshua Carr	12/17
Att Stephenson	12/19
Gayle Pritchett	12/20
Dianne Gaissert	12/24
June Murphy	12/24
Mikayla Wigley	12/24
Adolfo Suarez	12/29
Bob Griffeth	12/31

# HAPPY Anniversary!

Annette and Brian Anderson	12/21
Pat and Jimmy Purcell	12/21



## Season of Joy

Join in on this literary analysis style Bible study of both the Old and New Testament narratives to discover a surprising "Season of Joy." The study will be held at the home of Linda Brake and lead by Rev. April Briant, on the following dates: January 15th & 29th, and February 12th from 1:30pm-3:00pm. Please RSVP [here](#) if you are interested in joining.



CFMC Preschool is gearing up for Christmas. Along with our regular curriculum, we will be having a Grinch Day, a Polar Express Day, and of course celebrating the birth of Jesus. Our Christmas programs will be Thursday, December 18th at 9:00am for the younger classes and Friday, December 19th at 9:00am for the older classes. Please feel free to come join us!!



Every year at Christmas, the sanctuary is adorned with beautiful poinsettias. These poinsettias are bought in honor or memory of a friend or loved one. The poinsettias will be available to purchase for \$20 each, and will be available for pick up on 12/24/25. If you'd like to purchase a poinsettia please go [here](#) to fill out the dedication form. Please pay by check made out to CFMC with poinsettia in the memo line. Thank you!



CFMC Youth are invited to a Progressive Dinner on Sunday, December 14th. The evening will begin at Lisa Whitmire's house at 5:30pm for appetizers. They will continue on to the Carr's house for dinner. The evening will end at the Moon's house with dessert. Transportation will be provide between Lisa Whitmire' house and the Carr and Moon neighborhood. Please register your youth [here](#).



Treat yourself to a night out and your kids to a night of great fun! Youth Fundraiser Pajama Party Christmas Celebration Parent's Night Out is Friday, December 19th, 5:30-9pm! This night is all about embracing the JOY OF GIVING. Send the kids in their PJs with a sack meal and snacks, a sleeping bag, and a pillow. The youth and adult volunteers are planning a great night for the kids! Activities will include active games (gym), crafting gifts, board games (FLC), Secret Christmas Shoppe, experiencing the very first Christmas, a movie (Youth Suite), and more! Don't keep it to yourself, share the invitation with other families you know. Please register your child [here](#).



Let's give our kids the joy of giving this year! Please bring in gently used items you would like to donate to our Secret Christmas Shoppe by December 13th! Items can be anything that would be good for a mom, dad, grandparent, or sibling. Think jewelry, tools, knick knacks, figurines, gloves, hats, ties, wallets, purses, toys, books, decorations, aprons, kitchen towels, journals, etc. The kids will "shop" for their family members at the Parent's Night Out on December 19th. We will help them shop and wrap the gifts. They will come home with a bag of gifts and lots of joy about giving! Donated items should be given to dropped off in the Youth Suite or classroom next to Deep Blue (upstairs in the sanctuary building).



The last Kids Club of 2025 will meet on Sunday, December 14th from 5:30-6:30pm at CFMC. Don't forget to invite a friend!



Thinking about a way to serve your church? Serving on the Altar Guild is the perfect way. If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild for 2026, please contact Mary Walters or the church office.



The church office will be closed December 25-January 4. Please ensure your year end contributions are received by the office on or by early on December 23rd or make arrangements with Lisa.





## December 2025 Trustee Flash

As we enter this beautiful season of Advent, our church has been transformed into a haven of joy and anticipation. The sanctuary and hallways now shimmer with festive decorations, each ornament and garland serving as a reminder of the light Christ brings into our world. We invite you to take a moment to appreciate the love and care that went into adorning our church home for this special time of year.

Our choir has been preparing something truly special for this year's cantata. Through music and song, we'll celebrate the timeless story of Christ's birth and the hope it brings to all people. This promises to be an uplifting and inspiring evening that will touch hearts and prepare our spirits for Christmas. Mark December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM on your calendars to be followed by a reception in the Family Life Center.

You might have noticed that the temporary sign in front of the Sanctuary is now lighted. The Trustees are to be commended for their excellent engineering of the project. The new ramp into the Office has been stained and looks welcoming. We continue to take care of regular maintenance issues and are looking forward to an exciting 2026.

As we journey through Advent toward Christmas Day, let us prepare our hearts to receive the greatest gift ever given. We look forward to celebrating this season with you and reflecting together on the miracle of Emmanuel—God with us. Wishing you a blessed Advent season filled with love, peace, hope, and joy.

-Linda Exley



## **Lay Leadership—Here to Serve!**

### **Finance**

Jimmy Hooper, Chairperson

Ray Morris, Vice Chair

Jimmy Bolton

Jane Bedell

Bill Davis

Barbara Hendricks

Kathleen Hooper

Todd Mize

### **Staff-Parish Relations**

Kinsey Phillips, Chairperson

Craig Gieler

Bob Griffeth

Anne Fleming

Judy Harbin

Debbie Manus

Charlotte Massey

Jason Phillips

Stewart Smith

### **Trustees**

Linda Exley, Chairperson

Brian Anderson

Carine Griffeth

Preston Hempton

Robert Lyle

Mike Manus

Dave Moon

Carolyn Stephenson

Jim Williams

### **Administrative Council**

David Stephenson, Chairperson

Linda Exley, Trustees

Al Fleming, Lay Leader

Jimmy Hooper, Finance

June Murphy, Recording Secretary

Kinsey Phillips, SPR

Lisa Nesbit, Treasurer



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