



BAINBRIDGE

First United Methodist Church

BFUMC Staff

Rev. Melissa Traver
Senior Pastor
pastor@bainbridgefumc.org

Michael Inlow
Director of Music
music@bainbridgefumc.org

Ida Cooksey
Director of Children's Ministries
ida.cooksey@yahoo.com

Lisa Enfinger
Director of Youth & Family Ministries
youth@bainbridgefumc.org

Ruth Masciarelli
Church Secretary
secretary@bainbridgefumc.org

Mary Nell Lovering
Financial Secretary
finance@bainbridgefumc.org

Deborah Jones
Kitchen & Facilities Steward

Physical Address:
300 W. Shotwell St.,
Bainbridge, GA 39819

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 541
Bainbridge, GA 39818

Telephone: (229) 246-1864,
Fax: (229) 246-3800

Online Sources:
www.bainbridgefirstumc.org
www.youtube.com/c/bainbridgefirstunitedmethodistchurch

Milestones

The month of May brings important milestones in the life of our youth and children. The school calendars are filled with sports banquets and honors recognition events. May brings two important events in the life of our church: Confirmation Sunday and Graduation Sunday. On Sunday, May 14 we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday. Twelve of our youth have been participating in confirmation classes each Sunday morning since last September. They have also attended a retreat to Savannah with their parents and a local day retreat with their mentors. The confirmands have also ably led us in worship on communion Sunday each month.

Confirmation is the process by which the church fulfills its promises to “proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ,” and to “surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others,” and to “pray for them. That they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.” The congregation makes these promises every time a child is baptized. Together we commit to living the example of Christ before these children and commit to teaching them the love of Christ beginning in the nursery and continuing through Sunday School, music, Vacation Bible School, summer camps, retreats, youth and children’s activities and perhaps most importantly one on one relationships. Since confirmation is the fulfillment of the congregation’s promise, all the expenses of this process are born by the church and not the youth’s family.

On Confirmation Sunday, the youth stand before their church family and take on the vows made on their behalf at baptism. Some of the confirmands will also receive the sacrament of baptism as part of their public profession of faith in Christ. This is an exciting time in the lives of our young people, their families and our church family. It is one of the true joys of ministry to accompany young people on this journey of faith. Confirmation Sunday will be May 14 with a reception to follow in the basement. The 2023 Confirmation class includes Annlee Boyette, Marissa Brantley, Emslee Cantley, Asher Flowers, Grayson Griffis, Hunter Hall, AnnaClaire Moore, Jacey Murray, Abby Rentz, Harper Trawick, and Ruth Yarbrough.

On Sunday May 21, we will recognize our high school graduates. Clayton Carter, Josh Fillingame, and Bolton Yarbrough are all members of the 2023 graduating class of Bainbridge High School. Our morning worship will feature our graduates and some of our youth. This congregation has been privileged to watch these young people grow in their faith and in life. We celebrate with these young men on their accomplishments and pray God’s blessings upon them in the years ahead. Come tell them of your love for them and your great hope in their future.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Melissa

MAY

Services of Worship

11:00 AM—In person
Worship, Sanctuary

Live Stream Worship
available on-line at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/bainbridgefirstunitedmethodistchurch>

Scripture

May 7

Matthew 26:36-46

Luke 24:36-49

May 14

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

NOTHER'S DAY

Matthew 28:16-20

May 21

GRADUATION SUNDAY

1 Samuel 3:1-10

May 28

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-21

Liturgists

7-Jacey Murray

14-Confirmation
Class

21-H.S. Graduates

28-Kevin Lewis

Acolytes

7-Emslee Cantley &
AnnaClaire Moore

14-Thomas Hufstetler

21-Ellie Scruggs

28-Sampson Moye

Calendar

NOTE: Calendar Schedule may be affected by unexpected changes

WEEKLY SCHEDULE—May 1

- 1 MONDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
- 2 TUESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
9:00 AM-10:00 AM Food Bank, ASSB
- 3 WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
12:00 PM-1:00 PM Keenagers, JOS
6:00 PM-6:30 PM CFD-WNS, Eat In/Pick Up, JOS
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Children's Worship Arts, SB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Youth Cell Groups, YB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Adult Bible Study, JOS
7:30 PM-9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, CR
- 4 THURSDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB

WEEKLY SCHEDULE—May 7

- 7 SUNDAY 10:00 AM-10:45 AM Sunday School, ASSB-SB
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Worship Service, SAN
4:00 PM-5:00 PM Youth Sr. Service Prep, JOS
5:00 PM-5:30 PM Children's Parents Meeting, SP
5:00 PM-5:30 PM Children & Youth Snack Supper, JOS
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Children's Fellowship, SB
5:30 PM-7:00 PM Youth Fellowship-MYF, YB
- 8 MONDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
6:00 PM-7:00 PM Missions Committee Meeting, ASSB
- 9 TUESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
9:00 AM-10:00 AM Food Bank, ASSB
1:30 PM-3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting, SP
- 10 WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
6:00 PM-6:30 PM CFD-WNS, Eat In/Pick Up, JOS
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Children's Worship Arts, SB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Youth Cell Groups, YB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Adult Bible Study, JOS
7:30 PM-9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, CR
- 11 THURSDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
- 12 FRIDAY 5:30 PM VASHTI Butterfly Challenge, RITZ AMPHITHEATER,
THOMASVILLE

WEEKLY SCHEDULE—May 14

- 14 SUNDAY CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
MOTHER'S DAY
MAGNOLIA MANOR SPECIAL OFFERING
10:00 AM-10:45 AM Sunday School, ASSB-SB
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Worship Service, SAN
12:00 PM-1:00 PM Confirmation Reception, YB
- 15 MONDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
- 16 TUESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
9:00 AM-10:00 AM Food Bank, ASSB
6:00 PM-8:00 PM MMO/TLC Fund Raiser @ Uncle Bill's

Ushers

7-Wheat Kirbo
Brown Moseley
Al Collins
Johnny Reynolds

14-Greg Burch
Mike Kraft
Charles Griffin
Charles Bowles

21-Jaxon Murray
David Dobbs
Wendell Hall
Paul Johnson

28-Ansley Yarbrough
Butch Yarbrough
Bolton Yarbrough
Todd Mills

Video Technician

7-Philip Moore
14-Beau Hatcher
21-Matt Reynolds
28-Philip Moore

Children & Youth Snack Supper

7-Erica Martin

17 WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC, SB
6:00 PM-6:30 PM CFD-WNS (LAST), Eat In/Pick Up
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Children's Worship Arts, SB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Youth Cell Groups, YB
6:30 PM-7:30 PM Adult Bible Study, JOS
7:30 PM-9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, CR

18 THURSDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM MMO-TLC (LAST DAY), SB

WEEKLY SCHEDULE—May 21

21 SUNDAY GRADUATION SUNDAY
ASCENSION SUNDAY
10:00 AM-10:45 AM Sunday School, ASSB-SB
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Worship Service, SAN
5:00 PM-7:00 PM Children & Youth End of School Celebration

22 MONDAY 6:30 AM-7:30 PM Church Council Meeting, JOS

23 TUESDAY 9:00 AM-10:00 AM Food Bank, ASSB
1:30 PM-3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting, SP

24 WEDNESDAY 7:30 PM-9:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, CR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE—May 28

28 SUNDAY PENTECOST SUNDAY
10:00 AM-10:45 AM Sunday School, ASSB-SB
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Worship Service, SAN

29 MONDAY MEMORIAL DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

30 TUESDAY 9:00 AM-10:00 AM Food Bank, ASSB

Locations Key: ASSB=Adult S. S. Building, CFR=Children's Fellowship Room, CIR=Circle Room, CR=Choir Room, EBS=Esther Bible Study Room, HR=Handbell Room, JOS=J O Smith Building, LIB=Library, MR=Movie Room, PAR=Parsonage, PL=Parking Lot, RC=Reynolds Chapel, SAN=Sanctuary, SB=Sharp Building, SH=Scout Hut, SP=Simmons Parlor, YB=Youth Basement

Missions

Our May mission focus is Magnolia Manor. Outreach and support opportunities can be found on their website, <https://www.magnoliamanor.com>. See the Mother's Day Offering article found in the News and Announcements section of this newsletter.

Members to Visit, Call or Send a Card

Marcia Barber	1633 Wesleyan Drive, Unit 122, Macon, GA 31210
Caroline Livingston	Solana East Cobb, 1032 Johnson Ferry Rd., Marietta, GA 30068
Elon Gossett	1804 Lake Circle Drive, Bainbridge, GA 39819
Ruth Sansom	c/o Anne Sansom, 161 Redwood Drive, Bainbridge, GA 39819
Helen Tillman	Willow Ridge, #9, 801 Faceville Hwy, Bainbridge, GA 39819 229-246-3080
Bobbie Dewberry	Riverside Place, #151, 1151 W. College Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819
Betty Jo Fulmer	Riverside Place, #152, 1151 W. College Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819
Montine O'Quinn	Bainbridge Healthcare, 1155 W. College Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819

Christian Fellowship Dinners

May Menus

May 3

Meatloaf
Potato Casserole
Glazed Carrots
Salad & Rolls
Dessert & Drink

May 10

Soups
Sandwiches
Salad
Dessert & Drink

May 17

Mexican Night
Tacos
Chips & Cheese
Salad
Dessert & Drink

MEAL COST

Adults (≥ 15-64) \$8.00
Seniors (≥65) \$6.00
Children (6-14) \$6.00

MEAL RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

When making reservations, state if they are eat-in or pick-up. Make reservations by Monday on-line or by calling the Church Office. Prepay your meals through our website or bring exact change.

PICK-UP Meals at 6:00 pm in the lane behind the J.O. Smith building, or EAT-IN in the J. O. Smith Building.

BFUMC News & Announcements

VASHTI WORLD RECORD

Vashti is calling on thousands of people to join them on Friday, May 12, in smashing the record for the “most people dressed like a butterfly.” This world record will help the Vashti Center end the stigma for children’s mental health. Every year, Vashti impacts hundreds of families and children with mental health services throughout Georgia!

Youth and Children will meet at the church at 4:15 pm on Friday, May 12, and drive to Thomasville for the event. Everyone is invited to meet at 5:30 pm for check in at the Ritz Amphitheater in Thomasville. After the count is taken, probably by 6:30 pm, the children and youth will go in search of food and have a fun evening of fellowship.

For your costume to qualify as a butterfly you must have: 1) arms, torso and legs completely covered in the same color of either black, brown, or neutral, 2) butterfly wings attached at the back, 3) and antennae. Within these parameters, the costume is up to you and we can’t wait to see everyone, from the easy costumes to ultra-creative.

They are taking preorders for butterfly wings and antennae on the Vashti website which will help raise money for Vashti or you can bring your own. You can find all the information you need on the Vashti website at: www.vashti.org/world-record

Use this link <https://forms.gle/EiaFtoiKdjcLZN6H9> to register as part of our group attending. We will also use this to assist in planning for transportation. Ms. Lisa will send our number over together so you do not need to register on Vashti's website.

MOTHER’S DAY OFFERING

The League of the Good Samaritan is the charitable arm of Magnolia Manor. Each day 1100 seniors receive care at our nine campuses around South Georgia. More than 60% of the residents in Magnolia Manor facilities require some form of financial assistance. The League provides financial assistance when residents run out of money. It also provides spiritual care through our chaplains. Magnolia Manor is more than just a place to live—it’s a ministry built on faith and family values! The Mother’s Day Offering will be collected May 14.

BLOOD DRIVE

BFUMC will host a Blood Drive on Monday, May 15, from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. All donors will receive a eGift card, a t-shirt and a wellness check up. A single car accident victim can require 100 pints of blood. Come and support the saving of a life. Appointment are encouraged, but not required. To make an appointment, go to oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 17689.

MMO/TLC FUND RAISER AT UNCLE BILL’S

The end of the MMO/TLC program is being celebrated with a fundraiser at Uncle Bill’s Pizzeria on Tuesday, May 16. Between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., 10 % of all purchases will go to the MMO’s Designated Fund. This fund helps cover the expenses of our program. Thank you for supporting the MMO/TLC program and enjoying some good food along the way!

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The BFUMC Church Council will meet on Monday, May 22 at 6:30 pm in the J. O. Smith Building. Everyone is invited to attend, all Council members are expected to attend.

BUS FOR US CAMPAIGN

We have started our bus fundraiser. With the gifts we've received to date, we have \$10,722. We are off to a good start. If we can make \$20,000 by Pentecost Sunday, May 28, we can double that with a matching gift offer. So go ahead and make your gift soon so it can be doubled. Turn checks in to the office with Bus Fund on the notation line. We are so grateful for such a giving and supportive congregation.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

Memorial Hospital & Manor is hosting a free Community Health Fair at the Kirbo Center from 7:00 am - 12:00 pm on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. They will be having free wellness lab screenings, blood pressure checks, respiratory testing, PSA testing and much more. They ask if you can, to preregister, but is it not required. Visit www.mh-m.org/community-health-fair-planned-for-may-3-2023/ to download and print a pre-registration form, or pick one up from the table outside of the church office. The church office has a fax machine if you need to fax your registration form.

EPWORTH BY THE SEA—ADVENTUROUS ADULT RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE and we'll save your seat! Epworth by the Sea is planning an Adventurous Adult Retreat May 15-18, 2023. This 3-day retreat will be fun, informational, and spiritual and includes several fun activities from onsite workshops, sea turtles, golf, and the beach. Visit their website to explore the full schedule and to register. <https://www.epworthbythesea.org/>

CAPITOL BELLS

If you came last year to hear the Capitol Bells when we hosted them for their first performance here in Bainbridge, you will want to know their upcoming concert schedule. They are a wonderful music group of handbells. They will start their May Concert Series on May 12 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Tallahassee (1700 N. Meridian Road). On May 16th, they will be at Dawson Street Baptist church in Thomasville (1025 N. Dawson Street), on May 18th they will be at Zabulon Theatre in Cairo (207 N. Broad Street). The Tallahassee, Thomasville and Cairo concerts are all at 7:00 pm. They will have a 4:00 pm concert on May 21 at First Baptist church of Perry (102 N. Center Street). It will be worth going to enjoy their music.

BARGAIN SHOPPING FOR BLESSING BAGS & SHOEBOXES

While the last of the end of year clearance sales are going on, be sure to grab items we will be needing this fall/winter for the Blessing Bags and Shoe Box ministries we support. You can pick up a lot of good deals. One good shopper let us know that she got 120 knit hats and 33 pairs of gloves from Dollar General for \$50.00. Good Job! Let's see what we can add. Items we often ask for are: school supplies (pencils, pens, crayons, coloring books, sticker books) toothbrush/toothpaste, brush/comb, shampoo, body wash/soap, games/small toys/dolls, blankets, socks, gloves, and hats.

VACATION BIBLE STUDY

Vacation Bible School this year will be all about becoming Super Hero's at the Hero Hotline. VBS will be June 5-9. Check out the Children's Chat later in this edition for more detailed information.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

What is Annual Conference?

Each year—traditionally in June for the South Georgia Conference—all clergy members and an equal number of lay members selected from the local churches attend their conference’s Annual Conference session and meet together to worship, fellowship, and conduct the business of the conference, which may last 3-5 days. During these sessions, members of the conference hear reports of past and ongoing work; adopt future goals, programs and budgets; ordain clergy members as deacons and elders; and elect delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conferences (every 4 years). The bishop presides over these meetings.

The 2023 Annual Conference Session will be held in Tifton, GA and begin with an Opening Worship Service on Sunday evening, June 4, at 6:30 pm. Conference will conclude with the Sending Forth Service on Tuesday, June 6. All worship services will be streamed on-line so everyone can participate. Links will be shared at a later date.

Music Schedule

WEDNESDAYS
6:30-7:30PM Children’s
Worship Arts
7:30-9:00 PM Chancel
Choir rehearsal

Children’s Schedule

WEDNESDAYS
CHILDREN’S CHOIR
6:00-6:30 PM. Christian
Fellowship Dinner
6:30-7:30 PM. Children’s
Choir

SUNDAYS
CHILDREN’S FELLOWSHIP
5:00-5:30 PM. Snack
Supper
5:30-7:00 PM. Children’s
Fellowship

COMING EVENTS

May 12– Vashti Record
June 5-9– VBS
June 14- R & R Trip
June 28– R & R Trip

Music Notes

While Michael Inlow, our Director of Music, is away on a health related leave of absence, we welcome Dr. Chris Hendley who is stepping up to assist our music program. Regular scheduled rehearsals and activities will continue unchanged.

Children’s Chat

The school year is coming to an end and summer is just around the corner. There will be several opportunities for fun and fellowship this summer, so make sure you get these dates on your calendars.

One fun opportunity coming up BEFORE school let's out is the Vashti World Record attempt for the most people dressed as butterflies. See the article in the News and Announcements for more information. Remember to bring money for food.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is the first week of June, the 5th through the 9th. Come join in the fun as we all become Super Hero’s at Hero Hotline where we are called together to serve God. VBS is open to children going into Pre-K3 through those entering the 5th grade in the fall of 2023. Registration is open now. You can find registration forms in the back of the Sanctuary, on the table by the office and on the table outside of the Chapel. Return completed forms to the church office or Ms. Ida.

REST AND ROAD TRIPS are open to children entering Kindergarten through those entering 5th grade in the fall of 2023. Below is a list of the events. More details will come soon.

June 14 th	Rest at the Church for Missions Day
June 28 th	Road Trip Dothan Xtreme Air Trampoline Park
July 12 th	Rest at Church Movie Day
July 19 th	Road Trip Tallahassee Bowling

Youth News

Youth Schedule

WEDNESDAYS

CELL GROUPS

6:00-6:30PM Christian Fellowship Dinner
6:30-7:30PM Youth Cell Group

SUNDAYS

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

4:00-5:00PM Music-Senior Sunday prep. (begin Apr 16)
5:00-5:30PM Snack Supper
5:30-7:00PM Youth Fellowship

IMPORTANT DATES

FOR SUMMER:

June 5-9- VBS
June 12-16- High School Camp Connect and Music Camp
June 19-23- Middle School Camp Connect
June 28- Food, Fun, Fellowship
June 9-14- Mission Trip
July 19- Fun, Food, Fellowship

We are quickly approaching the end of this school year. This is a very busy time of year, but I hope to see everyone join us as much as you can.

Sign Up for Vashti's "Largest Group of People Dressed as a Butterfly" Record Re-Attempt on May 12, 2023. Everyone is welcome. See more information earlier in the newsletter under the News and Announcements.

PARENT WORKSHOP

Please respond ASAP if you plan attend. If you are concerned about the world in which your child is growing up, and all the very different struggles they are facing today that seem so far removed from our younger days, then listen up. We have a very relevant opportunity for you as a parent to learn about some of these concerns. We have an offer for a speaker to present a short workshop to learn the red flags to be concerned about, to learn a way to talk to your child about these issues, and give us updated awareness of our youth's struggles that they face today. Due to several obligations and time constraints, this is being offered in the JO Smith Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 13 from 10-12. We need to know if we have enough participants to have the leader present this program at this time. This is open to anyone, grandparents, family, friends, parents of young children that want to prepare early or anyone interested. Please let Lisa know you are coming by filling out this short form. <https://forms.gle/snaEhAohdiAjjXSX8>

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Now that we have established the Youth Leadership Team, we are looking into interest of having a Parent Advisory Committee which will be open to youth parents or any adult interested in supporting our youth program. This group would meet bimonthly to help in making future plans for youth. This includes topics to study, curriculum, and occasionally meeting with Youth Leadership Team. Please let Lisa know if you are interested. youth@bainbridgefumc.org or 229-400-4040.

Watch for dates of "PASS IT ON" activities to be announced. These will be times our middle/high school girls spend with our wisest generation of ladies/ middle and high school boys spend time with the wisest men.

LOOKING AHEAD:

April 30- Senior Sunday Practice at 4; Dinner and youth activities 5-7 (Wear shoes comfortable to walk/run in)
May 3-Dinner at 6PM & Cell Group/Small Groups 6:30
May 7-YLT Last Official Meeting of the year.
Senior Sunday Practice at 4; Dinner and youth activities 5-7
May 10 Dinner at 6PM & Cell Group/Small Groups 6:30
May 13-Parent Training- Mental Health and other issues youth are dealing with today 10am-12 Please RSVP.
May 13- Youth Leadership Team Trip- Old and new team member 3:30 until...
May 14- Confirmation Sunday. No youth activities- Mother's Day
May 17-Dinner at 6PM & Cell Group/Small Groups 6:30- LAST NIGHT for this school year
May 21-Senior Sunday- End of the Year Celebration

April Memorials

General Fund

In Memory of:
Otis M. Toole, Jr.
Harry Heaton

By:
Sara Krom
Sara Krom

