

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Flowers:** Please pick up a flower in the Narthex in honor and memory of those who mother and those who have mothered us.

**Wesley Woods:** We are taking up a special collection today for Wesley Woods. These funds support ministries and housing for senior adults living in Wesley Woods facilities.

**Prayer Walk:** Lace up your walking shoes and come out on Tuesday, May 12 for a prayer walk! We will meet in the parking lot at 9:30 for a brief devotional. Then, we will walk about a mile in the neighborhood, praying for our neighbors.

**One Voice Community Choir:** is having their Spring Concert Saturday, May 16 at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. The title of the concert is *Songs That Carry Us*. It is a program about the moments that shake us and the things that carry us through those moments.

**Next Sunday:** is SPARK Sunday. You won't want to miss the youngest worshippers leading our service, so make plans to attend!

**Honoring Rachel:** We will have a covered dish lunch honoring Rachel Harmeyer immediately following the worship service next week in the Fellowship Hall. The church will provide an entrée. Everyone is asked to bring a side or a dessert. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. A love offering is being collected.

**Welcome!** May 17, we will be welcoming new members to Maple Avenue. If you are curious about or are interested in being a member of Maple Avenue, please contact Pastor Heather.

**Missions:** We are collecting needed items for Next Step Ministries from May 17-May 31. Suggested items are cleaning supplies, art supplies, and paper products. A full list of items is in the Narthex.

**Unification Meeting:** There is a meeting on May 17 at 3:00 at Smyrna First UMC to discuss the unification of the North and South Georgia UMC Conferences

**P.O.P. – Up Celebration:** To celebrate the end of the school year, on Wednesday, May 20, we will be serving Popsicles on the Porch and Popsicles on the Playground to school-aged children and youth beginning at 2:30. Come out to serve and celebrate the beginning of summer vacation. Please indicate your interest by commenting on the back of the Connect Card or by contacting the church office.

**Wednesday Night Community Supper:** will be a hamburger and hot dog cookout on May 20 at 5:45 PM. Grillmaster assistants are needed. Please speak with Vinny Varsalona.

**Packing Party:** Following the Wednesday Night Community Supper, we will have a packing party. We will pack the supplies, purchased with the Lenten offering, into hygiene kits for UMCOR.

**Book Club:** Maple Avenue Book Club (MABC) 's inaugural meeting will be Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 PM. We will discuss *Beyond Anxiety: Curiosity, Creativity, and Finding Your Life's Purpose* by Martha Beck.

**Pentecost Sunday:** Sunday, May 24 is Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Please wear red to church in honor of this celebration.

Church Staff |

Rev. Dr. Heather Jallad, Sr. Pastor	heather.jallad@georgiaumc.net cell: 770-789-5866
Annie Cook, Director of Music	anniesongs@comcast.net
Rachel Harmeyer, Children's Director	sparkmaumc@outlook.com
Kim Shurling, Accompanist	kimshurling@mindspring.com
Monica Barnette, Admin. Asst.	mapleavenueumc@gmail.com
Natalie Melton, Bookkeeper	maumcfinance@gmail.com

63 Maple Avenue · Marietta, GA 30064  
770.428.0471

[www.mapleavenueumc.org](http://www.mapleavenueumc.org) · [facebook.com/mapleave](https://facebook.com/mapleave)



May 10, 2026  
Mother's Day  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE | *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

Spiritual Arranged by Teresa Wilhemi

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

\*HYMN 569 | *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

PASSING THE PEACE |

KID'S SERMON

\*HYMN 463 | *Lord, Speak to Me*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *The Apostle's Creed* (881)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING | 1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which he also went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

## SERMON | *Living Words*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS Thank you for supporting God's mission through Maple Avenue UMC. Offerings may be placed in the plates or online via the QR code.



## OFFERTORY | *This Is Amazing Grace*

Written by Phil Wickham, Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle  
Arranged by J. Daniel Smith



## \*DOXOLOGY |

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## \*HYMN 156 | *I Love to Tell the Story*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE | *O, How I Love Jesus*

American Melody Arranged by Joel Ranney

\*Please stand in body or in Spirit.

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## PRAYER CONCERNS |

Anson Senter, Keith Harmeyer, Al & Ann Hough, Adia May, Asher May, Zoe Vickery, Ben Vickery, Bonnie Walters, Lacy Kusy, Sarah Preston, D. Andrew, Ken & Sandy Smart, Mike & Jen, Gaines Law, family of Tommy Bell, the family of Ann Parker, Brandon & Emma Cook, Karla Frazier, Scott & Mary Anne Gordon

*Please notify the church office of any prayer concerns.*

## SPRING EVENTS

### *Coffee, Contemplation, and Creativity*



In this gathering, we'll listen to Scripture, sacred writings, and hymn lyrics, then take time for quiet reflection and meaningful conversation. You'll be invited to respond creatively using a variety of simple materials. This is not about making something "good" e. It's about paying attention to process what we hear and what God might be stirring within us. No artistic skill required. Just come willing to explore.

### *Opening Space Book Study*



Explore innovative approaches to church ministry and mission. This book presents fresh perspectives on how congregations can create welcoming environments and meaningful connections within their communities.

### *May Book Club – Beyond Anxiety by Martha Beck*



Martha Beck provides instructions for engaging in a process that not only shuts down anxiety but leads to innovative problem solving, a sense of meaning and purpose, and joyful, intimate connection with others—and with the world.

### *Prayer Walk*



Tuesdays in May, meet in the church parking lot for a brief devotional and prayer before heading out to walk and pay attention where God is at work in the neighborhood. Pray for neighbors, needs, schools, and when the opportunity presents, with neighbors. Chat with other walkers as to how God might be inviting us to respond.

To learn more about these events, please scan the QR code or contact the church office

