



Deeply Rooted. Ever Growing.

established 1826

October 4, 2026 | 2 p.m.

“Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.”

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Welcome Message from Senior Pastor

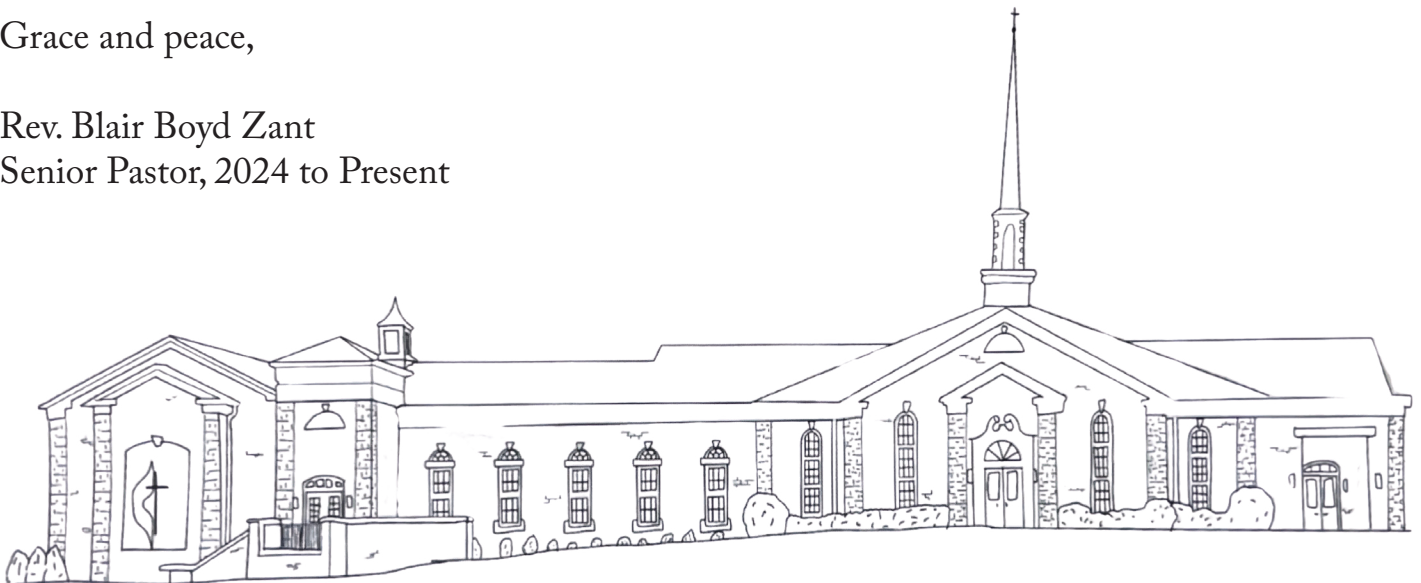
Greetings, Beloveds! Welcome to the Bicentennial Worship Celebration at Chamblee First United Methodist Church. Today, we remember the 200-year legacy of Wesleyan Christian discipleship practiced here in Jesus' name. We praise God for lives changed, lives redeemed, and lives transformed in Christ through this church! As we worship the Lord here today, take time to give thanks for the role this congregation played in your faith formation. Pray for the people who helped you grow in faith. Pray for them by name or entrust them to the Lord's blessed remembrance.

Today, we celebrate the return of many who have played a role in this church's story. For those who have set down roots in other towns, communities, churches, and ministries: Welcome back! We are so very grateful that we get to mark this day together. I extend a special welcome and thanks to my fellow clergy who are here today. Rev. Peppers and I are proud to share in this church's pastoral lineage with you. Together, we honor those who could not be with us in person and remember those now counted among the great cloud of witnesses.

Many elements in today's service are inspired by the image evoked in Jeremiah 17:7-8, *"Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit."* This passage resonates with this congregation's storied history. For over 200 years, we have endured our fair share of heat and drought. But like a tree rooted firmly in the good soil of Christ, we have proven time and time again that we will not submit to fear and anxiousness. Instead, we will draw on the Living Water and practice the kind of daily faith that produces good fruit. We will praise God through this image today. We will sing it, pray it, preach it, and marvel at it as a sign of God's faithfulness. Our collective prayer is this: that God will continue to root us deeply and grow us daily, so that with however many more seasons this church is given, we would spend every one of them living for Christ.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Blair Boyd Zant
Senior Pastor, 2024 to Present



Welcome Message from Bicentennial Co-Chairs

Welcome home.

We mean that for every one of you. Some of you sat in these pews last Sunday. Some of you were baptized, married, or confirmed here. Some of you taught Sunday school, were active in scouts, played basketball, sang in the choir, parented a child in our preschool, or even attended yourself. Some of you are walking through our doors for the very first time. Every thread that has ever connected you to this place still holds. If at one time this church was ever yours, it still is. And if we are new to you, we can be yours now.

So, make yourself at home today. Walk the halls and find the classroom or ministry you remember. Look for your family and friends in the displays and in the history book. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know and reminisce with friends you remember from years ago. After worship, stay for supper and music on the lawn. We have been planning this day for a long time. And we are so glad YOU are finally here!

With gratitude,

Cathy Forrest & Linda King
Bicentennial Co-Chairs

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Historical Overview

Two hundred years ago, in 1826, a handful of families gathered near the Shallow Ford crossing on Peachtree Road to organize a Methodist church. They called themselves Prospect, pointing to the promise, possibility, and potential of goodly things to come. Before there was even a formal town, there was faith in God's future. As a country, community, and denomination grew up around them, the people called Prospect organized Sunday schools, offered communion, built a sanctuary, and shared Christ's teachings. They kept faith through economic upheaval, industrial change, civil and world wars, denominational mergers, itinerant pastors, building expansions, culture shifts, and even a daring relocation. We give God thanks for the countless generations who have called this congregation home. While many of their names may be lost to us, we gather today to remember their legacies and give thanks for their faithfulness.

We are still that church. We worship God, follow Christ, and listen to the Holy Spirit. We study Holy Scripture, proclaim new life through baptism, and welcome all to the Communion table. We support children in our local schools and neighbors going through tough times. We show up when disaster strikes and stand with members and friends walking through illness and grief. When a pandemic closed our doors, we carried worship out onto the lawn and passed communion through car windows. We remembered that a church that lives its faith beyond its walls is a church on mission, and that our property helps us connect with and serve our community. Let's refuse to forget this. When members of our community show up to walk the Rail Trail, build beds, pack meals, play sports, make music, earn badges, build friendships, learn to read, write, trust, and imagine, we must do what we've always done: welcome all and show them Christ. As Chamblee First United Methodist Church in 2026 and beyond, we will work to make deeply rooted, ever-growing disciples of Jesus Christ, so that in Christ, we can all experience transformation. Why? Because in Christ, we still believe in the promise, possibility, and potential of good things to come.

Order of Worship

THE GATHERING

CFUMC Playlist
chambleeumc.org/Spotify-Songs

THE GREETING

Chiming of the Hour	Bill Callaway
Welcome & Announcements	Rev. Blair Boyd Zant & Mary Ruth Kearney
Prelude & Processional	Toccata on “Amazing Grace” Pardini
	Bill Callaway

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

Call to Worship*	Rev. Dr. Eric Lee
Opening Hymn*	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i> Verses 1, 2, 4, 5
	UMH 545 Ava Porter, Trumpet
Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer	Cameron Wilson & Leslie Hall
Worship Song	<i>Firm Foundation (He Won't)</i> Carnes
	Worship Band & Chancel Choir

MINISTRY MOMENT

Bicentennial Celebration	Linda King & Cathy Forrest
Pastoral Witness	Former Chamblee Pastors

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jordan Black

Preschool and Elementary friends are invited forward for a devotion just for you. Afterward, you can return to your grownups in the pew. Nursery is available for ages 6 months through 5 years.

Hymn*	<i>Great is Thy Faithfulness</i>	UMH 140
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THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering	Joy Hawkins & Larry Pope
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Offertory	<i>And Can It Be</i>	Bill Callaway, Piano Sara Carr, Violin
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Doxology*		UMH 95
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Prayer of Dedication of Offering		Russ Dunlap
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THE WORD

Scripture	Jeremiah 17:7-8	Rev. Dr. Royeese Stowe
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Premiere of Bicentennial Anthem	<i>The Lord Will Provide For You</i> Larson	Chancel Choir
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Sermon	The Secret Beneath the Surface	Bishop Robin Dease
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THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the United Methodist Church, we believe in an open table. This means that everyone, regardless of denomination or belief, is welcome to the table and may partake in communion. All elements are alcohol- and allergen-free.

Invitation, Confession & Pardon	UMH 12	Rev. Hope Cody Peppers
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Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer		Bishop Dease, Rev. Zant
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Music During Communion		Bill Callaway
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SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn*	<i>God Be With You Till We Meet Again</i> Verses 1 & 2	UMH 672
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Benediction*		Bishop Dease
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Postlude	Toccata from Fifth Symphony Widor	Bill Callaway
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* Please stand as you are able

Acknowledgments

Processional

Acolytes: Elizabeth Emerson, George Emerson
Crucifer: Charlie Emerson
Bible Bearer: Esteban Rodriguez
Bishop Robin Dease, Episcopal Leader, Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Eric Lee, District Superintendent, South Central District; Senior Pastor, Chamblee First UMC, 2018-2023
Rev. Blair Boyd Zant, Senior Pastor, Chamblee First UMC, 2024 – Present
Rev. Hope Cody Peppers, Pastor of Youth and Community Engagement, 2026-Present
Rev. Dr. Jordan Thrasher, Associate Pastor, 2008-2010
Rev. Dr. Royeese Stowe, Senior Pastor, 2007-2017
Rev. Bob Bone, Senior Pastor, 1990-1996
Rev. Melinda Jones, Associate Pastor, 1988-1989
Rev. Jim Jenkins, Associate Pastor, 1972-1975
Rev. David Bowen, son of the late Rev. William Bowen, Senior Pastor, 1961-1968
Liturgists: Cathy Forrest, Leslie Hall, Joy Hawkins, Mary Ruth Kearney, Linda King, Larry Pope, Cameron Wilson

Distinguished Guests and Visiting Clergy

George and Victor Hall, sons of the late Rev. Paul “Buck” Hall, Senior Pastor, 1976-1982
Rev. Dr. Hal Jones, Retired Elder, spouse of Rev. Melinda Jones
Rev. Kristin Lee, Senior Pastor of East Cobb United Methodist Church, Marietta, GA. Spouse of Rev. Dr. Eric Lee.
Brittney Lindsay, Community Engagement Director, City of Chamblee
Rev. Monica Mainwaring, Rector of St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church, Brookhaven, GA.
Mayor Brian Mock, City of Chamblee
Rev. Laurie Moeller, Director of Connectional Ministries, Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church
Rev. Max Vincent, Director of Clergy Excellence, Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church
Rev. Will Zant, Senior Pastor of Haygood Memorial United Methodist Church, Atlanta, spouse of Rev. Blair Zant.

Former Clergy and Family Celebrating From Afar

Rev. Minho Chung, Senior Pastor, 2023-2024
Rev. Stacey Rushing, Associate Pastor, 2019-2022
Rev. Emily Bagwell, Co-Senior Pastor, 2018-2019
Rev. Carol Cook, Senior Pastor, 2017-2018
Rev. Jeff Rogers, Associate Pastor, 2016-2018
Rev. Josh Roberts, Associate Pastor, 2010-2015
Rev. Jan Oglesbee, Associate Pastor, 2004-2007
Rev. Dr. Julie Schendel, Pastoral Intern, 2004-2007
Rev. Dr. Lee Fullerton, Senior Pastor, 2001-2007
Rev. Geron Crawford, Senior Pastor, 1996-2001
Rev. Chuck Hodges, Associate Pastor, 1985-1988
Rev. Susan Allen-Grady, daughter of the late Rev. Hoyt Allen, Associate Pastor, 1969-1971
Rev. Nathaniel Long, son of the late Rev. Richard Long, Pastor, 1966-1968

Musicians

Steve Crocker, Music Director
Bill Callaway, Organ
Sara Carr, Violin
Ava Porter, Trumpet
Maggie Victorio-Mundie, Worship Leader
David Worley, Guitar
Chamblee Chancel Choir

Ushers and Greeters

Ray Dunahoo, Bill Farkas, Rob Forrest,
Drew Henderson, Bo Hiers, Gene Lawson, Ray Manus,
Clayton Scarbrough, Donna Scarbrough Shackley,
Mike Shackley, Marilyn Van Note, Sabrina Viner,
John Wilson, Brady Wright

Current Chamblee Staff

Rev. Blair Boyd Zant, Senior Pastor
Rev. Hope Cody Peppers, Pastor of Youth and Community Engagement
Taylor Aycock, Nursery Coordinator
Jordan Black, Director of Children’s Ministries
Bill Callaway, Organist
Steve Crocker, Director of Music Ministries
Jessica Falk-Spencer, CMK Director
Emily Jameson, PMO Director
Linda King, Hospitality & Member Care Director
Edward McElheney, Day Porter
Christina Porter, Church Business Administrator
Alexis Rodriguez, AV Engineer
Jason Sansbury, Interim Communications Director
Michelle Watts, CMK Office Manager

Bicentennial Committee Members

Cathy Forrest, Co-Chair
Linda King, Co-Chair
Jordan Black
Brittany Dunlap
Lisa Gastineau
Deanna Hamilton
Susan Montgomery
Margaret Sanchez
Jennifer Teahan
Steve Yancey

Special Thanks to Local Sponsors

Accent Graphics
Atlanta Tent Rental
City of Chamblee Nonprofit Partnership Program
Dunkin’ Donuts
Flowercraft
Jeckil Promotions
Mike Veal Music
Pig-N-Chik BBQ
ServeScape
The Treasure Mart

Given to the Glory of God

Today's **anthem**, "The Lord Will Provide for You," composed by Mr. Lloyd Larson, was commissioned for this occasion and made possible through generous support from the Chancel Choir and Friends of the Music Ministry.

Today's **worship paraments**, "Extraordinary Faith in Ordinary Time," crafted by Jeff Wunrow Designs, capture the Tree of Life across every season of faith. The leaves on each depiction of the tree – the altar, baptismal font, pulpit, and clergy stoles – are made from fabrics collected from the church's ministry. Look closely, and you'll see T-shirts from Vacation Bible School, Youth retreats, Chamblee Methodist Preschool and Kindergarten, the Bicentennial Celebration, Do Unto Others movement, and mission trips to El Salvador. You'll see pieces of adult and youth choir robes, an acolyte robe, a Confirmation stole handmade by Becky Bennett and Susan Heyward, a worship banner handmade by Sheri Vultaggio and Charlene Easler, retired altar paraments, Advent candle scarves, costume pieces from our Live Nativity, and a basketball jersey from our recreation ministry. This is our church and our faith in every season of life, and with many more seasons to come.

Our new **Heritage Hall**, designed and installed by sky design concepts, Atlanta, features a beautifully curated, immersive walk through our church's story, including art and artifacts collected along the way. This impactful addition to our campus was made possible through the generous support of:

Lisa and Shan Gastineau
Ann Hammond
Charlie and Cynthia Hendon

Lynn Johnston
Linda King
Wayt King
Gene and JoAnn Lawson

Bob and Jean Lingle
Patty Mozingo
Jim and Susan Montgomery

Larry and Jacquelyn Pope
Lynda Salley
Chip and Betsy Zint

Today's **florals, outdoor plantings, and landscaping** are testaments to this congregation's love of God's created world and were made possible through the generous support and sweat equity of Mario Cambardello and ServeScape, Jim and Cheryl Atkins, Gene Lawson, Mike Shackley, and Brittany Dunlap.

"**Chamblee First UMC: A Bicentennial History**" anthology tells the 200-year history of this congregation, community, and denomination through the lives and witness of those who helped to shape it. Special thanks to Dr. Ray Dunahoo, Rob Suggs, Linda King, Deanna Hamilton, Valerie Biggerstaff, and Annette Johnson/AllWrite Publishing.

As a United Methodist Church, the **Cross and Flame** is an iconic part of our public witness and connectional identity. For Chamblee First, the **Tree of Life** has become emblematic of the way we live out the United Methodist mission in our local context and community. The addition of this logo to our Sanctuary Narthex ensures that members and visitors alike know who we are and why we are here. This artistic installation was completed by artist Daniel Curran in loving memory of David Gastineau.

Immediately following today's service, all are invited and encouraged to join us outside for a Dinner on the Grounds, with live music from Mike Veal and Friends. The Chamblee First UMC Legacy Endowment Committee is the proud sponsor of this afternoon's meal. All are welcome!

We Welcome, Celebrate, and Embrace All

At Chamblee First UMC, we affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God. We believe that all people are worthy of God's unconditional love, grace, and inclusion. We embrace and celebrate the gift of diversity in our church and in our world. We recognize that while we may not all think alike on all issues, we can all Love God, Serve People, and Transform Lives in ministry together.

We proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church or in society. And we invite all people to fully participate in the life of this community of faith. Together we support one another in our endeavors, and in doing so strengthen each other and the body of Christ in this world. Welcome to Chamblee First United Methodist Church!

Let Us Know You're Here

Please take a moment to check in! We'd love to connect you and your family with groups and activities that may be of interest to



VISITOR CHECK IN

you. To use the QR code, open your smartphone's camera and point it at the code. A notification or link will appear — tap it to access the attendance registration page.



MEMBER CHECK IN

Ways to Give

An offering is collected to support the work of Chamblee First UMC, sharing God's love with the world. Whether you are a church member, a regular worshiper, or an active participant in our ministries, your gifts are valued and appreciated. To give online, text CHAMBLEE to 73256 using your mobile device OR contribute securely any time at chambleeumc.org/give.



SCAN TO GIVE

 Our sanctuary is equipped with devices to assist those who are hearing-impaired. To use a hearing device, simply ask an usher or the sound technician upon arrival.



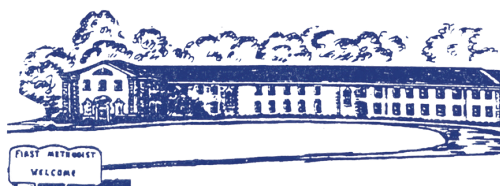
1885

Prospect Methodist Episcopal Church



1952

Prospect Methodist Church



1967

First Methodist Church of Chamblee



1980

First United Methodist Church of Chamblee



2016

Chamblee First United Methodist Church

Chamblee First United Methodist Church exists to make deeply rooted, ever-growing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, starting right here in this community.

Join us next Sunday and every Sunday for worship at 10:45 a.m.

4147 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Chamblee, GA 30341

www.chambleeumc.org