



STATESBORO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"TO GLORIFY GOD AND LOVE OTHERS THROUGH WORSHIP, STUDY, AND SERVICE."

JAMES A. CASON SENIOR PASTOR
SCOTT HARRIS ASSISTANT PASTOR

December 13, 2015

Worship Services:

Sanctuary:
8:30AM & 11:00AM

Fellowship Hall:
9:01AM & 11:00AM

Sunday School:

Classrooms:
10:00AM

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Chancel Choir will present a Service of Lessons and Carols today at 5:00PM in the Sanctuary. This is a service which tells the Christmas story through music and Scripture. It had its beginnings in 1880 in England, when Edward Benson designed a service for Christmas Eve. That service was very popular and was soon used as the basis for similar services throughout England, most notably at King's College which has conducted its own service of Lessons and Carols since 1918. Eric Milner-White designed King's College's first service, which has remained virtually unchanged through the years, and is the basis of our program. In his own words, "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God...seen through the window and words of the Bible." Invite your friends and neighbors to hear the Christmas story as it unfolds in word and song. Following the program, there will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall hosted by the United Methodist Women.

-Pierce Dickens, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

We recognize that the holidays may not be a celebratory time for all, but we also believe that everybody needs the hope of Christ during trying times. This Wednesday at 7:00PM, we will offer a service that aims to speak a quiet word of hope for those who are struggling with life this time of year. If you or someone you know are feeling a little blue, please join us for our Blue Christmas service; and if you invite someone, please consider joining them for support even if you are not particularly "blue".

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS MONDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 6 PM

A called meeting of the Church Council will be held this Monday night, December 14, at 6:00PM in Room 306. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the 2016 Operating Budget. All members of the Church Council are expected to attend, and all church members are invited to attend.

Sunday, December 13, 2015

8:30 & 11:00AM Traditional - Rev. Jimmy Cason
"It's a Wonderful Life: Believe It" - Luke 1:46-55

9:01 & 11:00AM Revive- Scott Harris
"It's a Wonderful Life: Believe It" - Luke 1:46-55

Our Faithfulness in Worship (Sunday, December 6, 2015)

Morning Worship: 525

Sunday School: 313

8:30AM: 79

9:01AM: 122

11:00AM: 228

REVIVE: 96

Offering Received: \$34,457.71

Preserving God's House: \$980.00

Special Offering - Poinsettias: \$748.00

Our Church Family

Please pray for *Art Doughty* who is in the hospital in Savannah.

Please pray for *John Gould* who is home recovering.

Please pray for *Tammie Dickens* who is home recovering.

Please pray for *Donald Allen, Holly Eckle's father*, who is in hospice.

Please pray for *Alice Budack* who is home recovering.

Please pray for *Barbara Hood* who is home recovering.

Please pray for *Jimmy Hood* who is home recovering.

Please pray for *Susan Renfrow* who is home recovering.

Christian sympathy and prayers are expressed to *Mrs. Susan Franks Protzman* upon the death of her mother, *Mrs. Betty Tomat* of Savannah.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Christmas Gift Wrapping - An Annual Outreach

It's that time of year, and First Methodist is wrapping presents again at Beall's on December 19, from 10:00AM-4:00PM. Put on your favorite Christmas sweater and come spread joy and cheer as you wrap gifts for shoppers. You don't have to stay the whole time; just come for as long as you can. If you can, bring your own scissors and tie a ribbon on them. We will supply aprons. Please call Eleanor Schneider if you can help, 682-3426.

Angel Tree

Please deliver your angel tree gift to the church no later than Wednesday, December 16. It's important that the "Angel" sticker be placed on the gift so we can get it to the correct child. Gifts will be sorted and prepared for delivery by Sunday, December 20. Your help will be much appreciated in making the deliveries. Directions to the appropriate home will be placed on each bag. There will be a sign-out sheet to record the deliveries you plan to make. Don't miss this opportunity to both give and receive a blessing by helping with this important ministry of SFUMC. If you have questions contact Hilda Dutrow, 912-764-6609 or jhdutrow@frontiernet.net.

End-of-Year Giving

As of the end of November, church expenses have exceeded contributions by \$92,204.24. This means we have spent more than has come in by almost \$100,000. While this is not unusual for this time of year, it is a lot more than last year at this time. At the end of November in 2014, we had spent \$10,021.36 more than was contributed. Please consider giving an extra year-end gift in December. The church needs to have contributions of around \$200,000 in December in order to "break even" for 2015. We appreciate all you do for SFUMC all year long, and we wouldn't be able to provide quality ministries, missions, and services without you.

Volunteers for December 13, 2015 (Second Sunday of December)

Prayer Warriors: Max and Susan Manack

8:30 Lay Liturgist: Bryan Burke

8:30 Ushers: Steve Garner, Bird Hodges

9:01 Ushers: Don Marsh, Nancy Marsh, Thad Riley, Charles Cochran

11:00 Lay Liturgist: Earl Dabbs, Jr.

11:00 Ushers: Clark Collins, Chris Bishop, Jake Collins, Jim Davis, Michael Mallard, Dan Snipes, Brian Thomas, Bill Thompson, Robert Benson III (Balcony: Olin Lovett, Ronnie Hodges)

Parking Lot Greeters: June Rushing

Front Door Greeters: Jewel Dabbs, Janice Davis

Meals on Wheels (December 15): Karen David and Anne Thompson



SFUMC Youth Ministries

Love God : Love People : Serve the World

Youth Ministries News

Youth Christmas Party – December 13

Our Christmas party for both Middle and High School students is **tonight** from 6:00PM-8:00PM. We are asking students to bring food to share (we will provide drinks) and a gift (\$10 max) to swap. Please let Becca know what food item you would like to bring so we can avoid too much of one thing. Thank you in advance!

Youth Leadership Team Party – December 14

Our Middle and High School leadership team will be celebrating another great semester with a tacky Christmas sweater party at Becca and Cameron's house. The party will be from 6:30PM-8:30PM. There will be a prize for the tackiest attire. Please contact Becca for directions, bbrown@statesborofirst.com.

Winter Retreat Ski Trip – February 18-21

We are returning to Winterplace, WV. Sign-ups are now open for this trip, which is open to both Middle and High School students. When signing up, you need to pay a \$50 deposit. The total cost for the trip is \$300, which will cover all meals (except 2 while traveling), ski lessons and rentals, lift tickets, lodging, programming, and transportation. For more information please contact Becca, bbrown@statesborofirst.com.

Snowbird Summer Camp – June 20 – 25

We will be returning to Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters this summer. Sign-ups are now open for this trip. This is a Christian high adventure camp located in Andrews, NC. This camp will challenge students to grow in their faith and to have a deeper relationship with Christ. If you would like more information please contact Becca, bbrown@statesborofirst.com.

Our Church Calendar

Sunday, December 13

8:30AM - Traditional Service, Sanct.
9:01AM - 901 Service, FH
10:00AM - Sunday School, Classrooms
11:00AM - Traditional Service, Sanct.
11:00AM - REVIVE Service, FH
4:30PM - Youth Band Practice, Youth Rm.
5:00PM - Lessons and Carols, Sanct.
Reception to follow, FH
6:00PM - Youth Christmas Party, Youth Rm.

Monday, December 14

10:00AM - UMW Meeting, 306
2:30PM - Charlene Black Bible Study, Lib.
5:30PM - Staff Parish Committee Meeting, Lib.
6:00PM - Called Church Council Meeting, 306
6:30PM - Gideons Meeting, 103
6:30PM - OHCM Executive Board, 213
8:00PM - Revive Band Practice, FH

Tuesday, December 15

8:00AM - Morn. Glory Emmaus, Lib.
6:00PM - AA, 206
6:00PM - Al Anon, 201

Wednesday, December 16

8:00AM - Praying Partners Emmaus, Lib.
9:00AM - ACTS, Outreach Center(offsite)
10:00AM - Preschool Christmas Program, FH
7:00PM - Chancel Choir, Choir Room
7:00PM - Blue Christmas Service, FH

Thursday, December 17

6:00PM - Toole Bible Study, 201
6:00PM - Youth Small Group Leaders Dinner, 306
6:00PM - Chancel Ringers, 305
6:30PM - 901 Practice, FH

Friday, December 18

9:00AM - ACTS, Outreach Center(offsite)

Saturday, December 19

12:00PM - Soup Kitchen *(Sponsored by Compassion Church)*



Statesboro First Methodist
Children's Ministries

Sunday, December 13, 2015

Children's Moment (11:00 Traditional)

Sarah Akins

Kids Worship:

9:01: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix, Sarah Chester

11:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix, Elizabeth Lippincott

Children's Ministries News

Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Children are celebrating in Sunday school this morning with a birthday party for Jesus! Refreshments are served in the classroom, and there will be a special gathering upstairs with music and goody bags. All children should be dropped off and picked up from their Sunday school classroom.

Christmas Caroling at Willow Pond

Sunday, December 20, children's Sunday school classes will travel to Willow Pond Assisted Living to share smiles, carols, and candy canes with the residents. We will leave the church at 10:05AM.

Parent drivers are needed.

Christmas Eve Nativity

Children in Pre-K through 5th grade are welcome to participate in the family Christmas Eve service held in the Sanctuary at 4:00PM. Children will read Scripture and dress as part of the Nativity scene. Please let Sarah Akins know by December 13 if your child would like to have a special part in this service (sakins@statesborofirst.com).

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

UMW Cookbooks

The United Methodist Women cookbooks make wonderful Christmas presents! They cost \$15.00 and checks can be made out to the UMW. Please note "cookbook" on the memo line.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

101 South Main Street, PO Box 2048

Statesboro, GA 30459

Main Church Phone:	912-764-7589	Church Email:	mail@statesborofirst.com
Jimmy Cason, Senior Pastor:	912-764-1875	Church Website:	www.statesborofirst.com
Scott Harris, Assistant Pastor:	912-764-1874	Church FAX:	912-764-7638

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

First Methodist Church is pleased to welcome the Georgia Southern University Faculty Brass to our services today. The members are *Bill Schmid, Alice Schmid, Stephanie Furry, Richard Mason, William Holmes, and Aaron Coburn*. Please extend to them a warm welcome.

GATHERING
LIGHTING OF CANDLES
PRELUDE & MEDITATION

Christmas Fantasy
by Joel Raney

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

It is the time of the star and the shepherds.
It is the season of our Savior's birth.
Let us surround him now with prayer and caroling.
Let us praise his holy name!

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Hymn #220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed #881 Hymnal

***GLORIA PATRI** Hymn #71

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE AND REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

8:30AM: JIM AND HILDA DUTROW

11:00AM: KENT AND LAURA BRANNEN, JOHN KENT

PROCLAIMING THE VISION

Why does Statesboro First United Methodist Church exist?
To glorify God and love others through worship, study, and service.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (11:00AM Service)

SARAH AKINS

(Following the Children's Moment, children in Pre-K through 4th grade are invited to Kids Worship in Room 306.)

ANTHEM (11:00AM Service)

There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth
by Felix Mendelssohn

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

8:30AM BRYAN BURKE; 11:00AM EARL DABBS, JR.

OFFERTORY

Toccata on "I Saw Three Ships"

arr Charles E. Peery

*DOXOLOGY Hymn #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Hymn #240 *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

*SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-55

MESSAGE

"It's a Wonderful Life: Believe It"

REV. JIMMY CASON

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

Hymn #234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION (11:00AM Service)

O Come To Us

arr. Pierce Dickens

POSTLUDE

Flourish on "Joy to the World"

arr. Robert A. Hobby

**Congregation standing if able during this portion of the service.*

Please ensure your cell phone is silenced during the service.

A **children's bulletin** with Bible puzzles and activities is available in the Gathering Area on the first floor and also in the back of the Sanctuary's balcony on the second floor.



The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system.
Please ask an usher for a receiver.

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