



**STATESBORO FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

JAMES A. CASON SENIOR PASTOR
SCOTT HARRIS ASSOCIATE PASTOR

December 16, 2018

Worship Services:

Sanctuary:
8:30AM & 11:00AM

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

Sunday School:

Classrooms:
10:00AM

Ways You Can Help Meet the Church's Year-End Financial Needs

If you were in attendance last Sunday, you heard Pastor Jimmy mention that we entered December with a budget deficit of \$232,989. While some of you are giving sacrificially all that you can possibly give, most of us are in a position to give a little more. Our church has received almost 70 new members this year, and all of our ministries are growing. However, those wonderful ministries add to our operating budget. If you can give an extra gift to the church budget by December 31, here are some suggested possibilities:

- Give a 13th month gift. In other words, if you divide your yearly gifts to the operating budget by 12 months, give an extra gift that would equal another month's gift.
- Give an extra Christmas offering to the church.
- Instead of giving someone a \$25 gift card for their Christmas present, give that \$25 to the church in their honor.
- If you are 70 1/2 and have to take a minimum distribution from your IRA or pension plan, you can request a certain amount be sent to the church. As long as it never touches your hand, you can send it the the church. You cannot count that gift as a charitable contribution, but you can lower your tax burden by the amount you give. Please see your accountant for guidance.
- Give a gift of stock to the operating budget.

We thank you in advance for your extra gifts. Please know that you can make online gifts to the church through our church website.

Upcoming Special Events

- This evening, December 16, the SEB Chorus will present a Christmas concert in our Sanctuary at 7PM.
- Next Sunday, December 23, we will combine 9:01 and REVIVE services into one contemporary service at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall. Adult Sunday School classes may decide whether to meet or cancel class and attend worship. No children's Sunday School classes or Youth Sunday School classes will be held but Kid's Worship will be held during the 10AM service. There will be no changes to the 8:30 or 11AM Traditional Services.

(continued on inside...)

Sunday, December 16, 2018

8:30 & 11:00AM Traditional - Rev. Jimmy Cason

9:01 & REVIVE - Rev. Scott Harris

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

"Joy Is Our True Home"

Our Faithfulness in Worship (Sunday, December 9, 2018)

Morning Worship: 475

Sunday School: 288

8:30AM: 53

9:01AM: 162

11:00AM: 190

REVIVE: 70

Lessons & Carols: 146

Offering Received: \$34,533.00

Our Church Family

In Memoriam - *Dr. John Adams* - December 8, 2018

The **Rose** on the **Altar** on December 16 is given to the glory of God and in honor of *Calvin DeWitt White* who was born December 10, son of *Matthew & Lauren White*, and big sister *Charlie Ruth*.

Prayer Concerns

Hospital: *Rawls Neville - Emory*
Gillis Davis - Home from hospital
Mary Mincey - Home from hospital

Ongoing: *Charles Millican, Joel Martin, Mary Emmye Lewis, Peggie Herrington, Yvonne Redden, Maggie Collins, Laura Beasley, Ellie Hubbard, Bill Mathis Jr, Arthur Howard, Jean Deal, Fred Maddox, Brian Harrison, Steve Piazza, Marilyn Turner, Jim Long, Shirley Connell, Inman Hodges, Charlie Christmas, Alice Christmas, Khaki Herrington, Marshall Thigpen, Lloyd Jones, Diane Deloach, Frances Humphrey, John Gould, Rev. Carter Berkeley, Bobbie Coursey* **Care Facilities:** *Willow Pond - Janette Johnson, Willie Coleman, Bobby Deal, Carolyn McCarty, Jan Johnston* *Southern Manor - Jean Braswell, Mary Adams, Libby Hutcheson, Roxie Remley*

Welcome New Member

Jena Coble
1062 Franklin Road
Statesboro, GA 30461

Jena was baptized by immersion and joined our church on Profession of Faith at the conclusion of Youth Surge this past Sunday night. *Jena* is a senior at Statesboro High School. Her parents, Bobby and Heidi Coble, and her sister Jada, are already members of our church.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Christmas Bundles

Our own Christmas elf, Sara Melford, has been providing joy to so many in our community who are among the most needy. For the past 8 years, Sara has shopped daily to find “deals” on items that will bring joy to others. Saturday, December 8, was the latest of these “bundle” giveaways at the Saturday Soup Kitchen. Seeing the excitement on the faces of the nearly 300 children and adults as they were able to choose their own special “bundle of gifts” was thrilling. The genuine gratitude they expressed would get even the Grinch into the Christmas spirit. This is such a selfless act that Sara works on for the entire year. Not only is there a Christmas gift giveaway but she also does this for Easter and back to school. This year our youth participated by gathering items and assembling over 100 bundles, bringing the total number to 500! Gifts that were left over will be distributed through other organizations such as Concerted Services, Fostering Bulloch, and Hospice. We love you, Sara, for having a heart for “the least of these” and for serving as a role model for those of us fortunate enough to have participated in some small way. Many thanks, and Merry Christmas!!!





SFUMC Students News

TONIGHT - December 16

Youth Band and Leadership Team Party

Our youth band and student leadership team will be having their Christmas party at Becca and Cameron house from 6PM-8PM. There will be a tacky Christmas sweater competition, dinner, bonfire, and plenty of games! Please let Becca know if you need directions.

Winter Retreat - February 21-24

We are headed to Ghent, West Virginia to go skiing/snowboarding at Winter Place Ski Resort. It's an awesome trip full of fun and worship opportunities! Cost for the trip is \$300 which includes rentals, ski lift, transportation, lodging, and food while there. Sign ups are now open for this trip, with a limited amount of space available!

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Special Events on Bulletin Front Continued...

- Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Services at 4PM, 5:30PM, and 6:30PM. All services will include communion and a candle light service. The 4PM service will be in the Sanctuary and will feature a Children's Nativity. The 5:30PM service will be a Contemporary Service in the Fellowship Hall. The 6:30PM service will be a Traditional Service in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 30 - NO Sunday School or 8:30, 9:01 or REVIVE service. **One combined Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 11AM.**

Volunteers for December 16, 2018 (Third Sunday of December)

Prayer Warriors: Jimmy & Pat High

8:30 Lay Liturgist: Russ Lanier

8:30 Ushers: Mike Beasley, Daryl Harrison

9:01 Ushers: Jason Parker, Ed Akins, Lyndia Akins

11:00 Lay Liturgist: Eleanor Schneider

11:00 Ushers: Si Waters, Hughes Williamson, Coley Cassidy, Edwin Hill, David Johnson,

Tommie Rushing, Fred Shearouse (Balcony: Olin Lovett, Ronnie Hodges, Earl Dabbs Jr., Brad Shiels)

Greeters: Anne Allen, Lisa Lee, Pam Smith, Nita Waters

Meals on Wheels (December 18): Betty Hodges

Our Church Calendar

Sunday, December 16

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

5:00PM - Stephen Ministry Training Grp, 206

7:00PM - SEB Choral Concert, Sanct.

Monday, December 17

6:00PM - Young Adult Bible Study, 306

6:00PM - Revive Band Rehearsal, FH

Tuesday, December 18

6:00PM - Al Anon, Grace House

6:00PM - 901 Band Rehearsal, FH

Wednesday, December 19

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

Thursday, December 20

Preschool Closed for Christmas Break

Friday, December 21

Preschool Closed for Christmas Break

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

Saturday, December 22

11:00AM - Al Anon, Grace House

12:00PM - Soup Kitchen

Soup Kitchen sponsored by EGRMC



Statesboro First Methodist
Children's Ministries

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Children's Moment (11:00 Traditional)
Buck Ford

Kids Worship:

9:01: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix, Jenny Coulter
11:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix, Kelley Collins

Children's Ministries News

Happy Birthday Jesus Celebration Today

A birthday celebration is being held during Sunday School hour this morning for the 3-year-old through 3rd grade classes. Please be sure to join us for a special time of prayer, caroling, and refreshments in Room 306 from 10:15AM-10:45AM. Children will still be dropped off and picked up from their regular Sunday School classrooms.

Christmas Eve

Children are invited to participate in the 4:00PM family Christmas Eve service on Monday, December 24. Kids JAM will sing during this service, and all children are invited to dress as parts of the nativity. Please reply to Sarah (sakins@statesborofirst.com) or Jodie (jhendrix@statesborofirst.com) if your child would like to read scripture or participate as a shepherd, angel, wise man, or sheep. There will be a scheduled rehearsal this week in the Sanctuary.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Important Notice from the Business Administrator

Due to Federal tax laws, **all donations to be included on your 2018 statement must be made by December 31, 2018.** Any checks given or postmarked after that date cannot be listed on your 2018 statement regardless of the date on the check. Donations received after this date will be put on your 2019 contribution statement.

Final statements for 2018 will be sent out in early January. Please review your statement as soon as possible.

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2018 income tax return until you have received written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. You may lose a deduction for some contributions if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church.

Also, **when making prepaid contributions toward your 2019 pledge in 2018,** you must write "**2019**" **pledge** on the memo line of your check.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Robin Kersey

SFUMC Business Administrator

764-1872 or rkersey@statesborofirst.com

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

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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, Associate Pastor:	912-764-1874	Church FAX:	912-764-7638

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

It is always a highlight for First United Methodist to welcome the Georgia Southern University Faculty. We are blessed to have them in our services this morning. The members are Bill Schmid, Alice Schmid, Stephanie Furry Mason, Rick Mason and William Holmes. Please thank them for their beautiful music!

GATHERING

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

PRELUDE & MEDITATION

Toccata on "I Saw Three Ships"

arr. Charles E. Peery

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The spirit of the Lord is upon each of us.

God is sending us to bring good news to the world.

Rejoice in the Lord Always.

Give thanks in all circumstances.

Make straight the way of the Lord.

The One who calls us is faithful, and is with us always.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn #234 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed #881 Hymnal

**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.**

*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: DARWIN & JOYCE BOHLER

11:00AM: MATTHEW & MARY SAWHILL, CAROLINE & TOWNS

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)

BUCK FORD

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

ANTHEM (11:00AM Service)

Nativity Processional

arr. Lloyd Larson

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

8:30AM RUSS LANIER; 11:00AM ELEANOR SCHNEIDER

OFFERTORY

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

arr. Arthur Frackenpohl

*DOXOLOGY HYMN #94

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Hymn #220 *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

***SCRIPTURE READING**

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

MESSAGE

"Joy Is Our True Home"

Third Sermon in "Coming Home" series

REV. JIMMY CASON

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

Hymn #240 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

CHORAL BENEDICTION (11:00AM Service)

O Come to Us

Lewis H. Redner

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.