



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 23, 2018

Worship Services:

Sanctuary:
8:30AM & 11:00AM

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

Sunday School:

Classrooms:
10:00AM

Welcome Clay Boerner

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce that Clay Boerner has been hired as the new Assistant Youth Director. The Search Committee, chaired by Rachel Miller, recommended Clay to the SPR Committee. Clay spent his high school years as a member of this church and recently graduated from Georgia Southern University. He has served as a Young Clergy Intern since August and will begin this new position on January 1.

Christmas Eve Schedule

Tomorrow evening, December 24, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior with three Christmas Eve services. These worship services will provide a great opportunity to invite your friends and family to attend. Our worship schedule is as follows:

- 4PM - Family worship with Children's Nativity. Service will include Christmas Carols, Communion by intinction, and a closing Candlelight Service.
- 5:30PM - Contemporary Worship with Communion and Candlelight.
- 6:30PM - Traditional Worship with Christmas Carols, Communion at the altar, and a Candlelight Service.

Sunday, December 30

Next Sunday, we will have only the 11AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary. There will be no Sunday School or 8:30AM, 9:01 or REVIVE services.

Financial Update

Anticipated Operating Budget Needed in December: \$300,000

December Operating Budget Received As of 12/18: \$114,318

Sunday, December 23, 2018

8:30AM, 10AM Contemporary & 11:00AM Traditional - Rev. Jimmy Cason

Luke 1:46-55

"God Makes This World a Home"

Our Faithfulness in Worship (Sunday, December 16, 2018)

Morning Worship: 522

Sunday School: 285

8:30AM: 62

9:01AM: 171

11:00AM: 208

REVIVE: 81

Offering Received: \$56,063.69

Our Church Family

The **flowers** in the **Narthex** on December 23 are given to the glory of God and in honor of *Charles & Sherry Eunice* in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on December 21. Given by *their daughter Alana, son-in-law, Chad, and grandchildren-Evan, Lane & Elizabeth Avret.*

The **flowers** in the **Tower Room** on December 23 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *Harry & Cora Smith* by *their family.*

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to *Mr. and Mrs. Joe (Laura) Lanier* upon the death of Laura's father, *Dr. William Edward (Ed) Loftis* who died on December 9.

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to *Mr. and Mrs. Tommy (Linda) Rushing* upon the death of Linda's father, *Mr. W.L. Garner* of Marietta who died on December 15.

Prayer Concerns

Hospital: *Rawls Neville - Home from hospital*

Ongoing: *Gillis Davis, Mary Mincey, 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 Members

Mr. and Mrs. Randy (Karen) Hamby

115 Sweet Briar Trail

Statesboro, GA 30461

His cell: 404-368-0601

Her cell: 706-224-8654

Randy and Karen join on transfer of membership from The Village Church in St. Augustine, Florida. They are both retired and have become active members of the Crusaders Sunday School Class and Wednesday Night Bible Study.

Savannah Gordon

128 Shiloh Drive

Brooklet, GA 30415

Savannah, who is in the 3rd grade at Brooklet Elementary was baptized at the 9:01 service this past Sunday and received into our church on Profession of Faith. Her parents, *Robby and Laura*, are already active members of our church. She has a brother, *Nolan*, who is three years old.

Volunteers for December 23, 2018 (Fourth Sunday of December)

Prayer Warriors: Don & Nancy Marsh

8:30 Lay Liturgist: Joel Martin

8:30 Ushers: Ken LeCain, Max Manack

9:01 Ushers: Chris Bishop, Tonya Bishop

11:00 Lay Liturgist: Joe McGlamery

11:00 Ushers: Mike Rollins, JJ Altman, Jack Bailey, Anthony Waters, Wayne Laircey,

Russ Lanier, John Hatcher (Balcony: Olin Lovett, Ronnie Hodges, Earl Dabbs Jr., Brad Shiels)

Greeters: Linda Rushing, Suzan Laircey, Grace Adams Stewart, Ellen Lanier



SFUMC Students News

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!

Snowbird - June 24-29

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

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Thank You!

First, thank you for the kind words last week but a real thank you is needed for those who worked the Christmas Bundles event and/or helped assemble, wrap, and transport bundles. The events have grown larger and better because of a dedicated Bundles Bunch and from help from outside groups such as the Statesboro Service League. A collaboration with Fostering Bulloch has led to having an assortment of stuffed toys, books, etc. that can be given out at all the Bundles events and our extra bundles are then available for them to give out to the many they serve. The result seems to be better connection reaching those truly in need, as was evident at the Christmas Bundles Soup Kitchen this year. A thank you to those who donated items to help make the season brighter for those less fortunate. All of the hygiene items, calendars, cards, and other "charity" gifts found new homes with those less fortunate. With all your help, we made Christmas brighter for both children and adults. Next up will be Easter baskets, so please help with donations of toiletry and other items. THANK YOU!
-Sara Melford

Our Church Calendar

Sunday, December 23

8:30AM - Traditional Service, Sanct.
10:00AM - Contemporary Worship, FH
11:00AM - Traditional Service, Sanct.

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Preschool Closed/Church Office Closed
4:00PM - Family Christmas Eve Service, Sanct.
5:30PM - Contemporary Christmas Eve Service, FH
6:30PM - Traditional Christmas Eve Service, Sanct.

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas

Preschool Closed/Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

Preschool Closed/Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

*Preschool Closed
No activities planned*

Friday, December 28

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

Saturday, December 29

11:00AM - Al Anon, Grace House
12:00PM - Soup Kitchen
Soup Kitchen sponsored by SFUMC



Statesboro First Methodist
Children's Ministries

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Children's Moment (11:00 Traditional)

Jodie Hendrix

Kids Worship:

10:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix

11:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix

Children's Ministries News

4:00PM Christmas Eve Service

Children participating in the 4:00PM Christmas Eve service tomorrow should arrive dressed and ready to line up at 3:45PM (nativity characters & speakers). Please meet in the Gathering Area outside of the Sanctuary. Those who participate in Kids JAM will also sing during the 4:00PM Christmas Eve service.

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

SFUMC Security Team

The Security Team has been growing and meeting as they work to improve security and hospitality for the church. You may notice additional volunteers on the team working together with our on-site law enforcement to maintain a safer and more welcoming environment for all to *Worship Without Worry*. If you feel led to get involved please contact Charles Sikes (682-2758) or Nick Propps (225-1950) for more information.

Need a Ride?

If anyone is in need of a ride to Christmas Eve services please call the Church Office, 764-7589.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

101 South Main Street, PO Box 2048

Statesboro, GA 30459

Main Church Phone: 912-764-7589

Jimmy Cason, Senior Pastor: 912-764-1875

Scott Harris, Associate Pastor: 912-764-1874

Church Email: mail@statesborofirst.com

Church Website: www.statesborofirst.com

Church FAX: 912-764-7638

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018

LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

GATHERING

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

PRELUDE & MEDITATION

Angels from the Realms of Glory

arr. Kenneth Baird

DAVID MILLER, TRUMPET

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

May our souls magnify God.

May our spirits rejoice in God, our Savior.

This is the God of mysteries, of prophecies and promises.

This is the God who lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things.

May our souls magnify God.

May our spirits rejoice in God, our Savior.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Hymn #249 *“There’s a Song In the Air”*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles’ Creed #881 Hymnal

***GLORIA PATRI** Hymn #71

PASSING OF THE PEACE AND REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

8:30AM: WILL & MELISSA AVRA, MARYELLA, DIXON

11:00AM: GREG & JODIE HENDRIX, COHEN

PROCLAIMING THE VISION

Why does Statesboro First United Methodist Church exist?

To glorify God and love others through worship, study, and service.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (11:00AM Service)

BARRETT COLEMAN ECKLES

Son of BLAKE & ABBY ECKLES

Grandson of RICK & PAM SMITH AND LEE & HOLLY ECKLES

God Claims You

Chorus: Barrett, Barrett, God claims you.

God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

Verse: We this day do all agree, a child of God you’ll always be. **Chorus**

Verse 2: We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way. **Chorus**

CONGREGATIONAL PLEDGE

**With God’s help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ,
that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the
faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (11:00AM Service)

JODIE HENDRIX

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

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

8:30AM JOEL MARTIN; 11:00AM JOE MCGLAMERY

OFFERTORY

O Come, All Ye Faithful

DAVID MILLER, TRUMPET

*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 #217 *"Away In a Manger"*

*SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-55

MESSAGE

"God Makes This World a Home"

Fourth Sermon in "Coming Home" series

REV. JIMMY CASON

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

Hymn #219 *"What Child Is This"*

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

arr. Gordon Young

**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.