



**STATESBORO FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

REV. JAMES A. CASON SENIOR PASTOR
REV. STEPHANIE SMITH ASSOCIATE PASTOR

February 23, 2020

Worship Services:

Sanctuary:
8:30AM & 11:00AM

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

Sunday School:

Classrooms:
10:00AM



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a 40-day season of repentance, fasting, praying, and giving, which prepares us to rightly commemorate Christ's death and to joyously celebrate his resurrection.

Ashes were used in the Old Testament to represent several things: humility, repentance and mortality. When an individual was repenting before God for their sin, they would roll in ashes, or sit in ashes, or place ashes on their head, a sign that they were humbling themselves before God and publicly expressing their grief, sorrow, repentance, and need for forgiveness. Ashes were also a sign of one's mortality. Abraham noted that he was nothing but "dust and ashes."

As we come forward on Ash Wednesday to receive the ashes, we are acknowledging our sin and our mortality. In receiving the ashes we are humbling ourselves before God and expressing our need for what Christ offers in his death and resurrection. God's answer to our sin and mortality is Jesus' death and resurrection. Christ died to address our sin and to convey God's grace and forgiveness. He rose from the dead, triumphing over death and promising, "because I live, you shall live also."

So Ash Wednesday marks the first step in preparing our hearts to rightly commemorate Christ's death and to celebrate his resurrection. It points to why we need what Christ offers. The statements made by the pastors at the imposition of the ashes point towards this dual emphasis of Ash Wednesday and Lent. They say, "Remember from dust you came and to dust you shall return," or "Repent and believe the good news." The first statement points to our mortality. The second to our sin and need for grace. By the way, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are typically created by burning the previous year's palms from Palm Sunday.

Continued on back cover...

Sunday, February 23, 2020

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

9:01AM & REVIVE - Rev. Stephanie Smith

Matthew 5:43-48

"Above All Else Love!"

Our Faithfulness in Worship (Sunday, February 16, 2020)

Morning Worship: 414

Sunday School: 221

8:30AM: 64

9:01AM: 128

11:00AM: 147

REVIVE: 75

Offering Received: \$26,284.00

New Building Fund: \$0 (total \$78,351.37)

Our Church Family

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to *Mr. and Mrs. Dan (Lori) Snipes, Caroline and Carter* upon the death of Lori's father and Caroline and Carter's grandfather, *Mr. Tommy Lee Cumbee* of Dublin who died on February 9.

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to *Mrs. Kathy Jenkins and Robert* upon the death of Kathy's mother and Robert's grandmother, *Mrs. Frances Doyle* of Atlanta who died on February 7.

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to *Mr. and Mrs. Darwin (Joyce) Bohler* upon the death of Joyce's brother, *Mr. Leonard Parker* of Dallas, Texas.

Prayer Concerns

Hospital: *Hub Powell - Memorial*
Linda Arnold - Memorial

Ongoing: *Connie Hodges, Holt Coursey, Susan Cason, Gladys Hacker, Charlie Christmas, Ed Akins, Greyson Kennedy, Steve Piazza, Bill Mathis Jr., Bill Mathis Sr., Sue Brammar, Jim Long, Carter Berkeley, Frances Humphrey, Fred Maddox, Ken Whitaker, Lloyd Jones, George Ann Thigpen, Judy Strickland, Yvonne Redden, Laura Beasley, Mike Beasley, Brian Harrison, Daryl Harrison, Shirley Connell, Diane Deloach, Bubba Renfrow, Susan Renfrow*

Care Facilities: *Willow Pond - Willie Coleman, Carolyn McCarty, Janette Johnson*
Southern Manor - Jean Braswell, Libby Hutcheson *Brown's - John Gould*

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Easter Bundles Soup Kitchen - April 4

Your help on April 4 would be great but we need your help before then as well! We need items to stuff plastic eggs and to fill out the bundles. Your extra hygiene items from hotel and dentist visits, as well as unneeded charity gifts can make a difference for the local needy. These donations can be placed in the bin in the Gathering Area. Help at our Grace House workshops on Sunday afternoons in March from 2:00PM-4:00PM would aid us in getting the bundles, hygiene kits, etc. ready. Make you Easter season special by helping make it special for our less fortunate neighbors. For more information, email saramelford@gmail.com.

Wednesday Night Menu - February 26 - 5:30PM

Uncle Shug's: Grilled/Fried Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Greens, Rolls

Meals are \$6.00 for adults; \$4.00 for kids 12 and under

\$2.00 for pizza plate (kids & youth only)

Families of five or more (parents and children) pay a maximum of \$24.

Volunteers for February 23, 2020 (Fourth Sunday of February)

Prayer Warriors: Jim & Pam Campbell

8:30 Lay Liturgist: Joyce Bohler

8:30 Ushers: Ken LeCain, Max Manack

9:01 Ushers: Chris Bishop, Tonya Bishop

11:00 Lay Liturgist: Susan Cason

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

Meals On Wheels (February 25): Barbara Golden, Anne Thompson



SFUMC Students News

NO Sunday Night Surge - February 23

We will not have Sunday Night Surge due to the Youth ski trip.

NO Breakfast Club - February 24

We will not have Breakfast Club due to the Youth ski trip.

Small Groups - February 26

Middle and High School students meet on Wednesday nights in the Youth Room for fellowship, food, and small group Bible study. Small groups are divided by age and gender. Youth Room opens at 6:00PM, games begin at 6:20PM, Bible study starts at 7:00PM, and students are dismissed at 8PM.

By Design - March 22

Our Student Ministry will be hosting a day retreat devoted to learning God's design for us as men and women. This event is for both Middle and High School students. By Design will take place on March 22, directly following our 11AM church service. The guys and girls will have their own schedule of events for the day. The total cost for the day is \$35 which includes all meals and activities. This is an event you do not want your student to miss out on! Sign ups are open now.

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

First Sundays are for Food Bank

Please note on your calendars for the first Sunday of each month and bring non-perishable food for the Statesboro Food Bank. **They are especially in need of powdered milk, along with cereals and other grain products.** Red wagons for your donations are placed in the Narthex and near the entrance to the Fellowship Hall. Thanks for having big hearts, SFUMC!



Our Church Calendar

Sunday, February 23

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, 206

Monday, February 24

6:00PM - Young Adult Bible Study, 306

Tuesday, February 25

10:00AM - Through It All Bible Study, 212
6:00PM - Al Anon, Grace House

Wednesday, February 26

9:00AM - ACTS, Outreach Center(offsite)
12:30PM - Roxella's Bible Study, 213
5:15PM - Kids JAM, Choir Rm, 200
5:30PM - Wednesday Night Ministry, FH
6:30PM - Ash Wednesday Service, Sanct.
7:00PM - Chancel Choir, Choir Rm.

Thursday, February 27

6:00PM - Chancel Ringers, 305

Friday, February 28

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

Saturday, February 29

9:00AM - Kairos Training, 306
11:00AM - Al Anon, Grace House
12:00PM - Soup Kitchen, FH



Statesboro First Methodist
Children's Ministries

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Children's Moment (11:00 Traditional)

Sarah Akins

Kids Worship:

9:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix

11:00: Sarah Akins, Jodie Hendrix, Valerie Woodrum

Children's Ministries News

Wednesday Night Ministry Field Trip

This Wednesday evening, we are traveling to The Lodge at Bethany for a special Ash Wednesday gathering with the residents. Pastor Stephanie will share the meaning behind this tradition, as we prepare ourselves for the Lent season, and will place ashes on the foreheads of those in attendance. Parents are welcome to join us, and chaperones are needed! Children in 1st-5th grade may ride the church bus with parent permission, but we ask parents to transport children in Pre-K and Kindergarten.

Save the Date: Church Family Easter Lunch & Egg Hunt

Palm Sunday, April 5, 12:30PM at the Belle House



Vacation Bible School

June 1-5

9AM-12PM

Statesboro First United Methodist Church

Bulletin Front Continued...

The 40 days of Lent unite us with Christ's 40 days of fasting as he began his public ministry (and other periods of 40 days in the Scriptures). Fasting from something that you enjoy during this time is a way of spiritually focusing your attention on Christ and uniting with him. Every time you hunger for the object you've fasted from you are reminded of Christ, of your desire to unite with him in his fast, and to serve him with your life. Join us for our **Service of Ashes on Wednesday February 26 at 6:30PM in the Sanctuary** as we begin this season of Lent and prepare our hearts for Christ's resurrection.

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

Stephanie Smith, Assoc. Pastor:

912-764-1874

Church FAX:

912-764-7638

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020
LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

GATHERING
PRELUDE & MEDITATION
Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major
Johann Ludwig Krebs

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
We are called to be God's temple.
We are the temple of love.
We are called here to worship.
We are the children of God.
We are called to be a holy people.
We gather in the holiness of God's love

***HYMN OF PRAISE**
Hymn #98 "To God be the Glory"

***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

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)

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)

Rejoice! The Lord Is King!

arr. Dan Forrest

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

8:30AM JOYCE BOHLER; 11:00AM SUSAN CASON

OFFERTORY

O Divine Redeemer

Charles Gounod

ISA WALLACE, SOLOIST

***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 #140 "*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*"

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 5:43-48

MESSAGE

"Above All Else Love!"

REV. JIMMY CASON

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

Hymn #347 "*Spirit Song*"

CHORAL BENEDICTION (11:00AM Service)

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

arr. T. Pierce Dickens

POSTLUDE

Postlude in d

Alexandre Guilmant

**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.

Protected under the following Christian Copyright Licensing International licenses:

CCL1032344, CRL050476, CVLI503970405