



STATESBORO FIRST  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# *The Weary World* REJOICES

SFUMC  
NEWSLETTER



FOR THE WEEK OF:  
**NOVEMBER 29, 2020**

## Worship Services:

Traditional Worship  
8:30AM & 11:00AM

Contemporary Worship  
9:01AM & 11:00AM

in our Sanctuary

in our Fellowship Hall

Watch online at [www.statesborofirst.com/live](http://www.statesborofirst.com/live)

**Main Church Phone**

**912-764-7589**

**Rev. Dr. Scott Hagan, Senior Pastor**

**912-764-1875**

**Rev. Stephanie Smith, Associate Pastor**

**912-764-1874**

**Church Email**

**[mail@statesborofirst.com](mailto:mail@statesborofirst.com)**

**Church Website**

**[www.statesborofirst.com](http://www.statesborofirst.com)**

**Church App**

**[www.statesborofirst.com/app](http://www.statesborofirst.com/app)**

## SFUMC Prayer List

**Barbara Fox, Cynthia Lovett, Kathryn Olliff and continued healing for Jodi Dinello, Dot Piazza, Mike Beasley, Burney Marsh**

**Cathy and Mike Rollins and son's family, specifically their infant granddaughter Adaline, who is receiving treatment for a serious infection.**

**For teachers and students in our Preschool and every local school. In this season especially, we lift up the researchers who are working for a cure and the medical personnel who are on the front lines caring for our communities.**

**Every week we invite you to join us in praying for:**

- 1) Our nation's military and the civilians who support them as they defend freedom around the world.**
- 2) First-responders, who serve and protect our communities.**
- 3) Leaders of government at every level - for God's will to be done through them and around them.**

**Thank you to the following that helped decorate the church this past Sunday for Advent & the Christmas season:**

**Olin Lovett, Eleanor Schneider, Nancy Martin, Rick & Pam Smith, Natalie Neville, Bill & Marilyn Sellers, Shane Geurin, Carol Ruffo, Pat Parsons, Bobby & Heidi Coble, Jena Coble, Jonathan & Stephanie Smith, Addie Smith, Lily Grace Smith, Jim Campbell, Scott Hagan, Sam Hagan, Warren & Roxella Ball, Jodie Hendrix, Ricky Turner, Gene Fletcher, Arnold Stephens, Jerome**

## Worship Attendance

**NOVEMBER 22, 2020**

<b>In Person Worship: 231</b>	
<b>8:30AM: 37</b>	<b>9:01AM: 80</b>
<b>11:00AM: 69</b>	<b>REVIVE: 45</b>
<b>Online Worship: 155</b>	
<b>9:01AM: 73</b>	<b>11:00AM: 82</b>

<b>Offering Received: \$21,062.50</b>	
<b>New Building Fund: \$125</b>	<b>Total: \$83,866.08</b>

The Four Sundays of Advent make up the first season of the Christian year. Advent derives from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming." The season proclaims the comings of Christ.

The church uses these four weeks as a time to prepare for Christmas. I believe firmly in this idea - we need to get ready for what God has in store for us on Christmas. Not another present under the tree, not the car in the driveway with the oversized bow on top as the television commercials would have us believe - but the coming of a Savior to win us away from slavery to sin and death and back to the freedom to live.

We are preparing to celebrate once again, the birth of One who comes continually in Word and Spirit to us. But Advent is not only about Jesus' birth in that manger, as if we should keep our eyes fixed on the rear-view mirror of history. It is in God's plan that Jesus comes again, a second time. Advent is equally about the time Jesus did come then and the time He will come again. We celebrate the two comings of Christ.

Each year Advent calls the community of faith to prepare for these comings. So worship is a little different for these weeks - because we are different. While the world busies itself with preparations for presents or parties, the church pushes past some of that to see beyond. We want to gaze into the truth God has for us.

We begin worship this week by lighting candles and reading scripture. Candles remind us that Jesus comes as light of the world - and that we too often find ourselves walking in shadows and darkness. Indeed, let us join in the prayer, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Grace and peace, Scott



## SFUMC Students News

### **Student Volunteer Opportunity**

The Soup Kitchen is in need of extra help every Saturday in December. This is a great opportunity for our students and it's also a great opportunity for families to plug in together. From 9AM- 11AM they will help pack grocery bags with food to give to the soup kitchen participants. From 11AM-1PM they will assist in serving meals and handing out the bags. If your student (or family) cannot help the whole time they are happy to have help for either time frame. Debbie Walker, will be coordinating these volunteers, so anyone wanting to participate should contact her at [lwalk@frontiernet.net](mailto:lwalk@frontiernet.net).



Statesboro First Methodist  
Children's Ministries



## Children's Ministries News

### **Join us on Wednesdays**

Our last Wednesday night for the year will be December 2. We will be Christmas caroling at Braswell Homes and the Lodge at Bethany. Come join us for a night of fun. If you have any questions contact Jodie Hendrix.

### **Advent in Kids Worship**

We will start our Advent season in Kids Worship each Sunday morning starting Sunday, November 29. Please come join us as we go through the Advent season and calendar.



## Church News

### **Angel Tree**

We will once again be participating in the Angel Tree Ministry this year. Angels are ready to be picked up and are located on the Christmas tree in the Gathering Area. If you would like to participate but are unable to get to the church to pick one out contact Nancy Martin, metterbetter500@yahoo.com or 912-685-4964.

### **Advent Devotionals**

Statesboro First is offering a daily devotional resource for the Advent season, called "And the Word was God". Devotionals are available at the church and are located in the Sanctuary, Gathering Area and the Fellowship Hall.

## Church Calendar

### **Sunday, November 22**

8:30AM - Traditional Service, Sanctuary

9:01AM - 901 Service, FH

11:00AM - Traditional Service, Sanctuary

11:00AM - REVIVE Service, FH

### **Monday, November 30**

7:00AM - Students Breakfast Club, FH

6:00PM - Staff Parish Meeting, Choir Room

6:00PM - Young Adult Bible Study, 306

### **Tuesday, December 1**

### **Wednesday, December 2**

5:45PM - Children's Ministry Activities, Tent

6:30PM - Students Small Groups

### **Thursday, December 3**

6:00PM - Youth Parent Meeting, FH

6:30PM - Emmaus Meeting, Choir Room

### **Friday, December 4**

### **Saturday, December 5**

12:00PM - Soup Kitchen