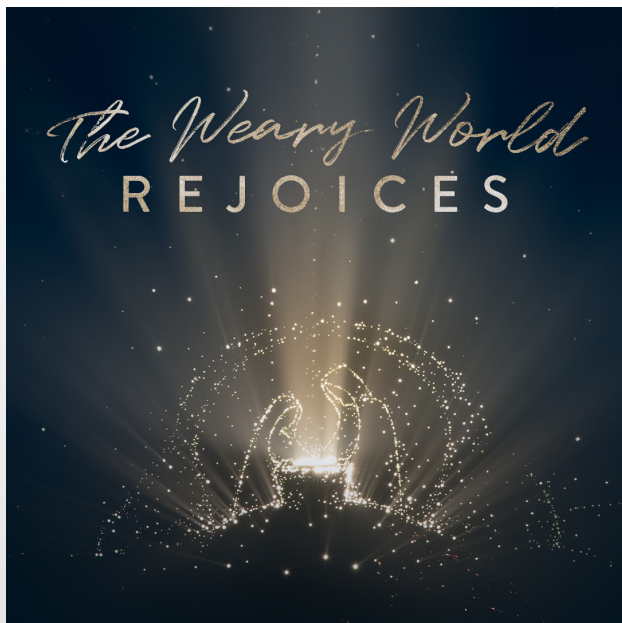




STATESBORO FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Weary World
REJOICES



SFUMC
NEWSLETTER



FOR THE WEEK OF:
DECEMBER 20, 2020

Worship Services:

Traditional Worship
8:30AM & 11:00AM

in our Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship
9:01AM & 11:00AM

in our Fellowship Hall

Watch online at 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

Church Website

www.statesborofirst.com

Church App

www.statesborofirst.com/app

SFUMC Prayer List

Prayers for Pierce Dickens, undergoing treatment at EGR

Continued prayers for Dot Piazza, Burney Marsh, Kathryn Olliff, Mike Beasley, and Barbara Fox

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

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.*

Worship Attendance

DECEMBER 13, 2020

In Person Worship: 229	
8:30AM: 25	9:01AM: 67
11:00AM: 82	REVIVE: 55
Online Worship: 197	
9:01AM: 71	11:00AM: 126
Offering Received: \$25,675.00	
Building Comfort: \$40	Total: \$30,186.51

Most of you will have seen in an email shared on Thursday (<http://get.sfumc.info/covid-announcement>), that Scott and Julie Hagan tested positive for Covid-19 and are quarantining. Earlier today (12/18), Stephanie Smith tested positive, also. We are fortunate to report that each of them feels well, that others on staff that have been exposed have tested negative, and still others are safely exiting quarantine with their families. We do want to redouble our prayers for Pierce Dickens as he continues being treated at East Georgia Regional Medical Center.

We cannot imagine celebrating Christmas without you, but this has been a year unlike any other. We have pivoted, again, in order to be very safe. With this news in mind, let me share our amended upcoming schedule:

You will be blessed by the guests preaching on Sunday when you attend - either in-person or online - one of our four services on December 20 for the final Sunday in the Season of Advent. Our Chancel Ringers will be playing at the Traditional Services.

We are canceling our outdoor 'O Holy Night' events on December 23 & 24 and instead, we will offer a special online service that starts streaming at 4:00 PM on December 24th.

Worship on December 27 will be online-only, giving our volunteers a break and is cautious after families will have gathered for Christmas. We will resume in-person worship on January 3.

In the Spirit of Christmas, I invite folks to make a donation to the local ministry called ACTS. They do great work caring for our neighbors and helping them get back on their feet. Donations can be made using the church's app or website, or by mailing in your offering. Of course, all of your gifts go directly to help our neighbors living right here around us.

Grace and peace - Scott

Church News

Poinsettias

To Place a poinsettia in the Gathering Area in honor of or in memory of someone special go to statesborofirst.com/poinsettia and fill out an online form. Forms are also available in the Church Office. Each poinsettia is \$15, with money raised going toward Missions, thanks to the poinsettias being furnished by the *Earnest Smith Floral Fund in memory of E.L. Smith and Mary Warthen Smith*. You can pick up your poinsettias anytime starting Sunday, December 20. Names of those being memorialized/honored will be included in the online bulletin on December 27. **ALL FORMS ARE DUE MONDAY, DECEMBER 21.**

UMW Honoring Babies

A "Gift to Missions" has been given by the UMW in honor of the babies born in 2020 to Statesboro First United Church Members.

Kathryn Elizabeth Davis

Born April 2, 2020

Daughter of Will & Katie Davis

Granddaughter of Claude and Kathryn Howard

Dillon June Marsh

Born August 31, 2020

Daughter of Jeffrey & Breeze Marsh

Granddaughter of Don & Nancy Marsh

Maggie Elizabeth Fitzner

Born September 10, 2020

Daughter of Andy & McCall Fitzner

Sara Ann TelleKamp

Born December 6, 2020

Daughter of Brooks & Page Brunson Tellekamp

Granddaughter of Hoke Brunson

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Important Notice From the Business Administrator

Due to Federal tax laws, all donations to be included on your 2020 statement must be made by December 31, 2020. Any checks given or postmarked after that date cannot be listed on your 2020 statement regardless of the date on the check. Donations received after this date will be put on your 2021 contribution statement. Final statements for 2020 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 2020 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. Also, when making prepaid contributions toward your 2021 pledge in 2020, you must write "2021 pledge" on the memo line of your check. If you have any questions, please contact:

Robin Kersey

SFUMC Church Business Administrator

912-764-1872 or rkersey@statesborofirst.com

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 20

8:30AM - Traditional Service, Sanctuary

9:01AM - 901 Service, FH

11:00AM - Traditional Service, Sanctuary

11:00AM - REVIVE Service, FH

Thursday, December 24

4:00PM - Christmas Eve Stream

Friday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Saturday, December 26

12:00PM - Soup Kitchen

Sunday, December 27

9:00AM - Online-Only Worship

11:00AM - Online-Only Worship