



THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

“To Know and To Make Christ Known”

A Blessed Time

Somewhere in the squeeze between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the season of Advent is supposed to be preparing us for something. Yet we are behind in so much, caught up in handling details and trying hard to make quality time for the special days. Advent doesn't occupy that much of our concern.

“Let every heart prepare him room,” we used to sing. And that just about sums up the meaning of the Advent season. It has to do with waiting and watching and getting into that kind of mode – “attending,” we call it. How foreign that posture seems from the frantic pace and the hurry that animates us.

There ought to be a few things we can do this time to keep the breathlessness from overtaking us and to keep covenant with this preparation time. They can be little things like reading a private devotional each day or lighting a candle for someone who has been significant to us or just remembering the days from our past when we took more time.

Here's a suggestion. Why not be a part of our Nativity emphasis and just gear down and tag the bases here? If you've never participated, don't just come and browse around the offerings. Consider making one and having yours in our display. There is a transformational quality to this experience. Don't miss it or the musical offerings that accompany them each evening at 6:30 p.m.

Our display time will be from December 9th – the 14th. On the 9th at 6:30, our Children's Choirs will sing; on the 10th our Handbell Choir will play at the same time; on the 11th our Dulcimer group will play. On Sunday, the 13th, our Adult Choir will present their program at 4 p.m. So there are occasions here to assist you in the spiritual preparation we all need to make.

Let's not do another number on ourselves this year and rush through it all and feel cheated when we get to the other end. Let's keep this special time as it was always kept for us – and let's go the extra step and make it special for someone else.

—Harold

November 22, 2009 11th Sunday of Kingdomtide

***Early Worship Service**
9:00am in the Sanctuary
Rev Kathy Lamon, preaching

Morning Glory
9:00am in the Fellowship Hall
Dr. Quincy Brown, preaching

***Traditional Service**
11:00am in the Sanctuary
Dr. Harold Lawrence, preaching

***Korean Worship Service**
11:00am in the Chapel
Rev. Daniel Kim

November 29, 2009 12th Sunday in Kingdomtide

***Early Worship Service**
9:00am in the Sanctuary
Rev. Kathy Lamon, preaching

Morning Glory
9:00am in the Fellowship Hall
Dr. Quincy Brown, speaking

***Traditional Service**
11:00am in the Sanctuary
Dr. Harold Lawrence, preaching

***Korean Worship Service**
11:00am in the Chapel
Rev. Daniel Kim

At the Traditional Worship Services:

Children's Church, for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade meets in room 201 on the 2nd floor of the Children's Building.



Please look for and fill out the Nativity Registration Form included in this Flame and come participate with us in this year's Nativity Festival.

Wednesday Evening Weekly

November 25, 2009

NO WEW

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

December 2, 2009

Menu: Homemade Soup Bar, pimento cheese & grilled cheese sandwiches, cornbread, salad bar, dessert.
Children's Menu: Same & PB& J sandwiches.

Call or email the church office at 884-4635 by NOON on MONDAY to make or change your reservation for dinner.

The cost is: 0 for those 2 years & under; \$3 for those 3-12 years; and \$6 for those 13 years and over. NO family cap; each person eating pays.

Servers: December - Circle of Friends & Journey

Christmas Mission Market 2009



It's back again this year. This is an opportunity to do all your holiday shopping in one place and make a difference in the lives of others. Here you can shop for that "hard to buy for person" and support meaningful mission projects in our community, our country, and our world.

Christmas Decorations

The Altar Guild is in need of fresh greenery to help decorate the church for Christmas. Please bring your cuttings to the church on Friday, December 4th from 9am to 12.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED

Mr. Ted Duncan - Mary Will Thompson Sunday School Class

Mrs. Nancy Behr - Bruce & Jo Crawford, Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class, Dean Chewning

Mr. Ralph Ellington - Dennise Ward

Mr. Tom Brady - Alan & Deborah Brady

DECEMBER USHER COMMITTEE

Jim Thornton & Todd Vinson, Co-Captains
Ellis Smith Bill Fackler Sherm Locke
Joel Upchurch Tripp Penn John Soltis
Charles McLeod Matt French Bob Cammon
Marc Huberdeau Louise Horvath James Emery
Dorothy Cammon Dodie Patterson

ALTAR GUILD

Judy Bledsoe, Chair Connie Hill
Donna Close Celeste Garrett
Judy Baldwin

MORNING GLORY

Blanche DeLoach

CHAPEL

COMMUNION

Jane Willey Jackie Huckstep Carolyn Alise
Christmas Eve: Marlene Timmerberg, Lea Rawlinson

Salvation Army Angel Tree

We again have a Salvation Army Christmas Tree. Currently the tree is in the narthex Gifts need to be brought to the MMC Friday, Dec. 5th through Sunday, December 7th.

UMW Christmas Banquet



The UMW Christmas Banquet will be held on Monday, December 1st at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall. Reservations must be made by November 30th by calling the church office. A musical program will be presented by Reverend Jim Emery. All of our church ladies are invited to come for a lovely start to the holidays.

Lessons and Carols

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, the final event of the Celebrate the Servant week at LaGrange College, will be presented at Callaway Auditorium Sunday, December 6 at 7:30 pm. No ticket/admission required. For more information call 706 880-8351.

Christmas Decorations and Poinsettias

A donation of \$12.00 toward the cost of the Christmas decorations and poinsettias may be made in honor or in memory of someone. If you would like to participate please fill out this form and return it with your check marked "Christmas Decorations" on or before December 11th. A list of all those honored will appear in the Flame printed on December 18th.

In Honor _____

In Memory _____

Of: _____

By: _____

Children

Thank You to all those who taught the month of November. It is really great for our children to see your commitment to them and to know that they are important to the church.

3rd and 4th Graders will not go bowling as planned this Saturday due to conflicts. We will reschedule this for the beginning of the year.

Mark your calendars now for **Cookies with Santa** on Tuesday, December 15th.

3rd and 4th Graders interested in going to summer camp need to attend a short meeting on Sunday, December 6th, immediately after the 11:00 worship service in the fellowship hall.

Teaching Our Children in December

4yr olds: Allison Vinson

1st Graders: Lisa Evans and Rhonda Mitchell

2nd Graders: Richard & Donna Ennis

3rd & 4th Graders: Margaret Melton
Callie Hammond

Children's Church: Becky & Rich Gibson

Mid-High

Remember all raffle tickets are due by November 29th. Sell those tickets. The raffle drawing will be on Wednesday, December 2nd.

We will NOT meet November 29th for evening activities

Route 78 Will NOT go paintball fighting this Friday, November 20th, due to conflicts with too many students.

7th Graders Confirmation classes will begin in January. If you have a 7th grader and would like for them to go through confirmation then please contact me as soon as possible. (If I have already talked to you it is not necessary to contact me.)

We will not WEW on November 25 due to the holidays. Have a great holiday with your family.

SR High

The youth, adult leaders, and I want to give a huge thanks to Rich and Becky Gibson and Tony and Karen Bryant for opening their homes and preparing meals for our youth during our progressive dinner Sunday night. We all had such a wonderful time and the food was amazing! We will be back at your houses for appetizer's and dinner next Sunday night...just kidding! The youth and I also want to thank all of our adult leaders for always being so willing to help out and do whatever needs to be done for the youth to have a great experience and grow closer to God every week.

We will have regular MYF this Sunday night, November 22 from 7:00-8:00pm but we will not have MYF on November 29th because of Thanksgiving break.

I just want to challenge everyone to read, study, and meditate on Luke 12 this week. I also challenge you to go online to bible.com and look at the different translations of these scriptures. Here is an insert from the Message Bible. It is an amazing passage.

Luke 12:29-32: "What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself.

Calendar for November 22 - November 28

Sunday * Nursery
 *Worship Services.....see page 1
 5:00pm.....56 Degrees & Route 78
 7:00pm.....Senior High MYF
Monday
 11:00-11:30am-Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
 5:30pm.....Education Committee
Tuesday
 9:30am.....Korean/English Language Class
 7:30pm.....Boy Scouts
Wednesday
 11:30am.....Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
Thursday
 CLOSED.....Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday
CLOSED
Saturday

Calendar for November 29 - December 5

Sunday * Nursery
 *Worship Services.....see page 1
 *9:45am.....Sunday School
Monday
 11:00-11:30am-Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Tuesday
 9:30am.....Korean/English Language Class
 7:30pm.....Boy Scouts
Wednesday
 11:30am.....Soup Kitchen -Sack Lunch
 5:15pm.....WEW
 5:45pm.....Children's Choirs
 6:30pm.....Biblical Conversations
 6:30pm.....Adult Choir/Morning Glory Band
Thursday
 10:00am.....Prayer Group
 12:00pm.....TLC Luncheon
Friday
 7:00am.....Men's Coffee & Prayer Group
 9:00am.....Altar Guild Decorates the Church
Saturday

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar November 22nd are from the wedding of **Lara Hurston and Virgil Lawrence**, November 21, 2009, and are given in loving memory of their grandparents **Helen H. Williams & Virginia F. Shellnutt and Grover & Vera McConnell**.

BULLETINS RECEIVED

Athens FUMC
Athens, GA
 Murbes Shepherd

Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church
Jacksonville, IL
 Sherm & Patty Locke

ATTENDANCE Last Sunday

Sunday School.....336
 Early Service.....114
 Morning Glory.....117
 Traditional Service.....252

First Methodist will close on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27th & 28th in observance of Thanksgiving.

The church staff wishes each of you a safe and happy holiday.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Given Last Sunday

\$13,087.82

Needed in 46 Weeks

\$1,210,046.10

Received in 46 Weeks

\$1,100,251.93

December TLC

The December TLC Luncheon will be held on December 3rd, at 12 noon in the fellowship hall. The LaGrange College Singers, directed by Debbie Ogle, will present a musical program, previewing their annual *Lessons and Carols* program. Everyone is reminded to call the church office at 706-884-4635, on or before Monday, November 30th, to make your meal reservations.

VOL. 47 **THE FLAME** No. 22

USPS (079-260) IS PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY BY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

401 Broad Street

LaGrange, Georgia 30240

Tel: (706) 884-4635 Fax: (706) 845-7068

E-Mail address churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org

Web Site: www.lagrangefumc.org

Periodicals Postage Paid At

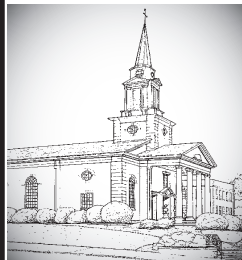
LaGrange, Georgia 30241

Postmaster: Send Address Change to:

The Flame, 401 Broad Street

LaGrange, Georgia 30240

Bishop Michael Watson..... Resident Bishop
 The Rev. Dr. Howard Wright..... District Superintendent
 Mrs. Cindy Brown.....Accompanist
 Dr. Quincy Brown.....Minister of Morning Glory
 Mrs. Kim Davison.....Director of Children's and Mid Hi Youth Ministries
 Mr. Rick Free.....Director of Operations
 Mr. Eddie Giddens.....Custodian
 Mrs. Beth Godwin.....Director of Food Services
 Rev. Helen Henry.....Minister of Visitation
 Mrs. Lisa Highland.....Business Manager
 Mr. Irvin Howard.....Custodian
 Rev. Kathy Lamon.....Associate Minister
 Dr. Harold Lawrence.....Senior Minister
 Mrs. Patti Lybrand.....Church Secretary
 Mrs. Debbie Ogle.....Adult Choir Director
 Miss Brooke Outland.....Director of Sr. High Youth Ministries
 Ms. Dodie Patterson.....Executive Secretary



"To Know and To Make Christ Known"

First United Methodist Church
401 Broad Street – LaGrange, GA 30240
(706) 884-4635 – (706) 845-7068 facsimile

November 10, 2009

Dear Friends,

The congregation of First United Methodist Church will be hosting its annual Nativity Festival December 9th through December 13th. This will be the 12th festival in which First United Methodist hopes to enrich the Advent season by offering to the community an exhibit of art, sculpture and crèches (manger scenes), and our second year participating with other churches in this celebration.

We encourage you to display your Nativity offerings as we open our doors to the community. If you have items to loan for the exhibit, please fill out the form below and mail it to the church, drop it off in the church office, or call Dodie Patterson at (706) 884-4635. We ask that you bring your exhibit to the church Sunday, December 6th from 8:30am to 12:00 or on Monday, December 7th 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please call Dodie to schedule a drop-off time if these hours are not convenient.

The exhibit will be displayed in the church sanctuary Wednesday, December 9th through Friday the 11th from 11:30am to 2:30pm and from 5:00 to 8:00pm, and on Saturday the 12th from 12:00 to 5:00p.m. and on Sunday the 13th between 12:00- 6:00p.m. You are invited to come to the Choirs' Christmas program on the 13th that begins at 4:00p.m. in the sanctuary. Nativity exhibits can be picked up following the choirs' program but before 7:00p.m. on Sunday or from the church office on Monday or Tuesday, December 14th and 15th between 9:00a.m. and 12:00.

Thank you for your participation in this special event.

Sincerely,

Harold Lawrence
Senior Minister

Artist/Exhibitor _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (____) _____

Nativity Painting Sculpture Other _____ (circle type of exhibit)

Brief description (number of Nativity pieces, title and artist of painting or sculpture. Please include any interesting facts about exhibit) _____

Please label each work and also the outside of container with exhibitor's name. All paintings must be framed or matted.

Signature _____ Date _____

(The Nativity reserves the right to refuse any entry that does not meet the guidelines of this event).