



# THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

**April 3, 2016**

**\*Early Worship Service  
9:00am in the Chapel**

Hon. Quillian Baldwin, preaching

**\*Morning Glory  
9:00am in the Fellowship Hall**

Mr. Blake Trent, preaching

**\*Traditional Service  
11:00am in the Sanctuary**  
Mr. Blake Trent, preaching

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

**April 10, 2016**

**\*Early Worship Service  
9:00am in the Chapel**

Dr. Don Jolly, preaching

**\*Morning Glory  
9:00am in the Fellowship Hall**

Rev. Adam Roberts, preaching

**\*Traditional Service  
11:00am in the Sanctuary**  
Rev. Adam Roberts, preaching

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

*\*Child care is provided.*

**\*\* Story Hour** is for 2 & 3 yr. olds in Room 107 of the Children's Building from 11am to 12 noon.

**Children's Church** is for children ages 1st grade and younger in room 203. A leader will escort the children from the 11:00 worship service.

## The Art of Being Direct

Katie and I attended our final premarital counseling session this week. For the last month we've been driving to Atlanta to talk about staying in love and stay united throughout our marital partnership. We've learned so much about each other over the past month. Even so, it seems that one of the things we talked about every time we met was the importance of communication.

Communication is paramount in a relationship and we assumed that this was something that everyone understood. However, throughout our visits we heard stories about people who assumed their spouse knew what they needed. We heard stories about people who expected their spouse to know about a situation or an event without having ever informed them about it. We heard about spouses who complained to their friends about what they wished their husband or wife would do for them without every informing their significant other of their needs or desires. What all of these stories taught us is that some couples choose to say nothing rather than talk about their problems, some couples also have a habit of setting up unrealistic expectations for their significant other, and that some couples inform everyone about what they want from their spouse rather than actually speaking directly to their partner.

What's more, I started to notice this trend not just in my personal relationships, but also in a variety of other relationships. It's something that I struggle with. It's easier for me to complain about someone else under my breath, than it is for me to speak directly to the person who caused me pain. But this week I read a passage in Matthew in which Jesus speaks about addressing issues among friends, family, and even among fellow churchgoers. In it He said, “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.” At first, I thought it was about one person being right and another person admitting they were wrong, but the more I read it the more I began to focus on Jesus' final words. “If he listens to you, you have gained a brother.” Jesus wasn't talking about winning or losing. He wasn't talking about one person setting another person straight either. Jesus was talking about remaining united.

As I read and re-read Christ's words, I was reminded of Robert Frost's poem *The Mending Wall*. In it he spoke of two neighbors who met each spring to walk the stone wall that divided their property. As they walked they would pick up the fallen stones and place them back on the stacked wall. As they walked one of them had a thought, “why do we meet each year and build a barrier between each other?” The answer, we do this out of habit. We do it because it's easy.

We do the same thing. It's easy to complain about others rather than speak to them directly. It's easy to be indirect, but ultimately all that does is build barriers. As a church, we are called to knock down barriers instead of build them. Jesus calls us to speak directly, in love, to each person who has wronged us, hurt us, or left us frustrated. When we do this we grow closer to each other.

This week my prayer for you is that you'll practice the art of direct conversation with others. I pray that you'll be direct with our church staff, with your fellow worshippers, and with those closest to you. If you do, more often than not, you'll gain a brother or sister. You'll grow closer with each other and break down the barriers that keep us separated. Have a wonderful week!

Warmly,  
Blake

## Wednesday Evening Weekly

**Serving from 5pm to 6:30pm**

### **WEW Meal on April 6, 2016**

Menu: Chicken fingers, mac & cheese, lima beans, salad bar, dessert

Children: Same & PB & J sandwiches

### **WEW Meal on April 13, 2016**

Menu: Baked tilapia, rice pilaf, California blend, salad bar, dessert

Children: Chicken Noodle soup & PB & J sandwiches

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

The cost is: \$0 for those 2 years & under; \$3 for those 3 years-12th grade; and \$6 for adults.

## REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

### *Memorials*

**Mrs. Aileen Miller** - Hildred Cammon

**Mr. Jerry Evans** - Anne Allen, Carolyn & John Alise, Jane Willey, Nancy Cammon, Dusty & Carlene Mills

**Mr. Jeff Hagood** - Jane & Gary Stephens, Jennie Wadsworth, Margaret Camp, Dennis & Sharon Richardson, Mary Anne & H.R. Shepherd, Cecelia & Lewis Goode, Ray & Sally Holmes



### **FUMC Summer Day Camp**

May 26, 2016 till the Beginning of School for TCSS

Rising Kindergarten through Rising 6th Grade

Camp Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm  
Extended Hours: 7:30am-9:00am  
AND 4:00pm-5:30pm

Cost: \$35, non-refundable registration fee per child  
Church Members — \$115 per week

Non-Church Members — \$125 per week

Applications on line ([lagrangefumc.org](http://lagrangefumc.org)) or in the church office (706-884-4635)

### **APRIL USHER COMMITTEE**

Jim Hardy, Captain	Philip Ivey	Terri Bassett
Skip Smith	Jay Allred	Kelly Linch
Lamar McKeen	Orren Gilbert	Keenan Knight
Jeff Baker		

### **APRIL ALTAR GUILD**

Marilyn Smith, Chair	Kim Adams	Carolyn Alise
Cecelia Stevenson	Lisa Bateman	Sarah Beall

Youth: Emily Huff & Ashley Wilder

Communion: Jane Willey, Pat Gilbert, Joyce Morgan Young

**MORNING GLORY** Lesa Cleaveland & Megan Penn

### **April Men's Breakfast**

The United Methodist Men will meet on **Saturday, April 9th** at **8:00am** in the small dining room in the Methodist Ministries Center for breakfast and a short program presented by **James Emery**, Troup County Engineer. If you have not joined us for breakfast yet, this is the perfect time to start. See you on the 9th!

You're invited...



### **METHODISM 101**

A 3-week study exploring the unique heritage and beliefs of historic Methodism  
Each Sunday afternoon, April 10 – 24  
4:00-6:00 p.m., Genesis Classroom

Come learn about the significant individuals and events in the development of the Methodist/Wesleyan tradition of the Christian faith, discover the fundamental beliefs of historic Methodism, and explore both the similarities and uniqueness of Methodism as compared with other Christian traditions.

Taught by Pastor Brian, this class will be especially helpful to new and prospective members, but everyone is welcome! The course is free, but please RSVP for materials and any childcare needs by contacting the church office (706-884-4635 or email [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org)).

### **The Clothing Center**

Volunteers (men & women) are needed to staff the Clothing Center in April on Tuesday mornings from 10 to noon and Thursday afternoons from 1 to 3. No experience required! Please contact Wanda-Ann Kinnaman at 706-594-4864 or

[wkinnaman@wirelesshometown.com](mailto:wkinnaman@wirelesshometown.com) to sign up for a shift or two. Our church is proud to support this important ministry in our community; but we cannot do it without YOU.



### **ALTAR GUILD LUNCHEON**

The Altar Guild will meet for a luncheon on Monday, April 25th, at 12 noon in the small dining room. What a perfect time to come enjoy a meal and fellowship with your friends while finding out what the Altar Guild is all about. Call or email the church office to make your reservation at 706-884-4635 or [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org)!

### **United Methodist Women**

For the past two years, the United Methodist Women have reached out to the women served by the Emmaus House shelter. To date over 100 welcome bags filled with personal hygiene items have been delivered to the Emmaus House.



Another delivery will be made in May. We encourage Sunday School classes and other groups to participate in this very worthwhile project. There is a collection box in the church office to received toiletry items. Monetary contributions are also needed. If you

questions or would like to participate as a group, please contact Shirra Rogers at 706-882-8707.

### **Prayer Is Powerful!**

We care about our Church family and your prayer concerns. We encourage you to let us know what needs you have. To make your request easier, we now offer three different ways you can submit your prayer requests:

> **Email us at [prayer@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:prayer@lagrangefumc.org)**

> **Call the Church office at 706-884-4635**

> **Complete our online form located on the front page of our website at <http://www.lagrangefumc.org>. Look for the praying hands.**

*Prayer requests are kept confidential by our Prayer Ministry.*

## IS THIS YOU???

You may have worshiped at LaGrange First for a while, or maybe only for a few Sundays. Maybe you've helped with one of our ministries, and perhaps you've even gotten involved in a small group or Sunday School. Maybe your spouse or neighbor (who are already LaGrange First members) first invited you to church with them. And while you enjoy the worship, and would not mind becoming a member, you're not comfortable standing in front of crowds, even to join the church.

If this describes you, then you're not alone. That's why we invite you and many others like you to "officially" claim the place you've already found here at LaGrange First through our new bi-annual "Decision Sunday Celebration Lunch" from 12:15-1:00pm on Sunday, April 17th. Lunch is on us, and you'll find a warm welcome waiting for you. To reserve your spot, <http://www.lagrangefumc.org/ready-to-become-a-member/> by Wednesday, April 13th and complete the "Ready to Become A Member?" survey there. For more information, contact either Blake Trent or Pastor Brian Germano at the church office (706-884-4635) or email them at [brian@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:brian@lagrangefumc.org) or [btrent@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:btrent@lagrangefumc.org).

### *What a difference an hour makes! You can be that difference by volunteering one hour a month as a Lay Visitation team member.*

One true example, names changed for privacy:

Bob lives in an assisted living facility. Bob was a WWII veteran, a jock throughout his life and a hard working gentleman who provided well for his family. Now his health has declined, he can no longer live in his home of many years, he lost his wife recently, he is in a wheelchair now, he can no longer attend his beloved Sunday School class and worship service. Bob seldom has visitors because folks have simply forgotten him after his long absence. He sits in his room alone, reads, watches TV or sleeps and is so lonely. Then Chuck, a Lay Visitation volunteer, visits and Bob lights up with a big smile. Bob can't wait to talk sports, current events or simply about the weather. Chuck has brought Bob a ribbon cross made by Altar Guild and a special bible verse. They talk and laugh about 30 minutes. Afterward Bob places the cross and scripture on his night table where he can remember how wonderful his visit was. He knows now that LaGrange FUMC still remembers and cares about him.

Lay Visitation is a ministry where lay volunteers are matched with Church members who are homebound or cannot get to Church over long periods of time. Many receive monthly visits, others prefer monthly phone calls or cards instead of personal visits. Volunteers pick whatever day and time works best for them and the one visited.

Started about 2 ½ years ago, this Lay Visitation ministry is currently under the umbrella of our Church's new Congregational Care committee. We need more volunteers (men and women of all ages) because our list often changes with an increase of members' declining health or accidents. Volunteer and you will see firsthand how an hour a month makes a difference, to both you and the ones you visit! Call Pat Gilbert, our Congregational Care Chairman, at 706-883-6759 or email at [patorren@bellsouth.net](mailto:patorren@bellsouth.net).

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*Luke 6:31: And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.*

*1 John 4:7: Let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.*



### EASTER 2016

*Thank you for participating in the various activities, events and services that made Easter 2016 so special.*



**THE FLAME**

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

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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The Flame, 401 Broad Street  
LaGrange, Georgia 30240

Miss Grayson Bailey (ext 209).....Director of Children's Ministry  
Miss Katie Crumbley (ext. 209).....Director of Summer Camp  
Mr. Rick Free (ext 210).....Director of Food Services  
Dr. Brian Germano (ext 205).....Senior Pastor  
Miss Kali Grenus (ext 215).....Director of Youth Ministry  
Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 207).....Business Manager  
Mr. Scott Hill (ext 213).....Landscape/Maintenance  
Mr. Darian Krimm (ext 202).....Minister of Music & Worship  
Mrs. Patti Lybrand (ext 203).....Church Secretary  
Ms. Dodie Patterson (ext 204).....Executive Secretary  
Mr. Andy Rainey (ext 201).....Church Administrator  
Mr. Blake Trent (ext 206).....Preaching and Discipleship

To reach all other employees and/or volunteers,  
please call the church office.

*We always look forward to hearing from you.*



*"To Know and To Make Christ Known"*

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U.S. Postage  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 079260  
LaGrange, GA 30240

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2016**

<b>Needed Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 23,617.49</b>
<b>Received Week 12</b>	<b>\$ 24,296.85</b>
<b>Received Week 13</b>	<b>\$ 16,004.78</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,577.72</b>
<b>Total Received since last Flame</b>	<b>\$ 43,879.35</b>
<b>Needed YTD</b>	<b>\$ 307,027.37</b>
<b>Received YTD</b>	<b>\$ 289,082.88</b>

<b>UMW Circles APRIL 11, 2016</b>		
Esther	10:00am	Church Library
Ruth	11:00am	Joanna Selbie, 304 Victoria Point
Susanna	10:00am	Small Dining Room
Lydia	10:00am	Cecilia Stevenson, 125 Lismore Drive
Elizabeth	10:00am	Lauranne Buchanan, 107 St. Clare Court
Hannah	6:00pm	Genesis Classroom
<b>UMW Circle APRIL 12, 2016</b>		
Mary	3:00pm	Church Parlor

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, March 20th**

Sunday School.....279  
Worship Service.....375

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, March 27th**

Sunday School.....234  
Worship Service.....846

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Aileen Miller**  
**March 21, 2016**

**ROSEBUDS**

Our rosebud on March 13th was in honor of **Hudson Wright Dockins**, born **March 4, 2016**, the son of Jeremy & Abbey Dockins.

Our rosebud on April 3rd is in honor of **Sherrod Maxwell "Max" Carmichael**, born **March 13, 2016**, the grandson on Molly & Bobby Carmichael.

**Our Sympathy**

We extend our sympathy to:

Melissa Jolly & family in the death of her father, **Hoyt Laminack**, **March 19, 2016**

Dick Ingram & family in the death of his mother, **Gisela Ingram**, **March 27, 2016**

**Calendar for April 3 - April 9**

<b>Sunday</b>	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am.....	Sunday School
5:00pm.....	Youth Activities
<b>Monday</b>	
11:00-11:30am.....	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
7:00pm.....	Morning Glory Band Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday</b>	
9:00am.....	Community Care
10:00am.....	Dulcimers Beginning Class
12:30pm.....	Red Cross Blood Drive
7:00pm.....	Boy Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	
11:30am.....	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm.....	Wednesday Evening Weekly
5:30pm.....	Children's M.E.R.G.E. Activities
6:00pm.....	Women's Bible Study
6:00pm.....	BELIEVE Bible Study Group
6:00pm.....	Youth Activities
6:30pm.....	Chancel Choir
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:00am.....	Community Care
9:45am.....	Prayer Ministry
10:30am.....	Dulcimers
12:00.....	Thursday Lunch Club Luncheon
<b>Friday</b>	
7:00am.....	Men's Coffee & Prayer Group
<b>Saturday</b>	
8:00am.....	Men's Breakfast

**Calendar for April 10 - April 16**

<b>Sunday</b>	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*9:30am.....	Sunday School
4:00pm.....	Methodism 101
5:00pm.....	Youth Activities
<b>Monday</b>	
11:00-11:30am.....	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
7:00pm.....	Morning Glory Band Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday</b>	
9:00am.....	Community Care
10:00am.....	Dulcimers Beginning Class
7:00pm.....	Boy Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	
11:30am.....	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm.....	Wednesday Evening Weekly
5:30pm.....	Children's M.E.R.G.E. Activities
6:00pm.....	Women's Bible Study
6:00pm.....	BELIEVE Bible Study Group
6:00pm.....	Youth Activities
6:30pm.....	Chancel Choir
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:00am.....	Community Care
9:45am.....	Prayer Ministry
10:30am.....	Dulcimers
<b>Friday</b>	
7:00am.....	Men's Coffee & Prayer Group
<b>Saturday</b>	