

THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

Christians . . . SERVING, CARING, & SHARING

February 12, 2017

Boy Scout Sunday

***Morning Glory**

8:45am in the Fellowship Hall

***Early Worship Service**

9:00am in the Chapel

***Traditional Service**

11:00am in the Sanctuary

***Korean Worship Service**

11:00am in the Chapel

February 19, 2017

***Morning Glory**

8:45am in the Fellowship Hall

***Early Worship Service**

9:00am in the Chapel

***Traditional Service**

11:00am in the Sanctuary

***Korean Worship Service**

11:00am in the Chapel

***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 ages 3rd grade & younger. Children attending the early services will dismiss to the Small Dining Room in the MMC building; 11:00am service children will dismiss to Room 203 in the Children's building.

Who To Welcome?

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." (Romans 15:7)

Recently there's been a lot of conversation in the news about who it's appropriate to welcome in our society. What about illegal immigrants? What about refugees from Muslim countries? What about transgender persons in the Boy Scouts?

While I certainly respect the right of anyone to have his own thoughts and opinion about such matters, those of us who claim the name "Christian" also have a responsibility to look to Jesus for our cues in our responses.

A careful study of scripture reveals that Jesus welcomed harlots and others sinners, people who disagreed with him (such as the religious leaders), people who some considered to be the "enemy" (such as the Romans), and even those who would go on to betray him (such as Judas). Bottom line: Jesus welcomed ALL.

And from that example, we as God's people are called to do the same, regardless of what our government or pop society does. Welcoming others in the name of Christ doesn't mean that we have to agree with their beliefs, values, or behaviors. But it does mean that we offer them respect and hospitality just as Jesus did for all people who he met.

A few years ago, someone shared a blog (sort of tongue-in-cheek) that described this kind of radical hospitality and welcome that we're to imitate and have as God's people:

"We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich, dirt poor, yo no habla Ingles. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail, or could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woke up, or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope or haven't been to church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, or you're down in the dumps, or if you don't like 'organized religion' - we've been there, too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid, or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers, doubters, bleeding hearts... and you!"

[--From "Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Community", cited in the Blog of Jon Acuff (www.jonacuff.com/stuffchristianslike/2012/07/how-to-welcome-people-to-your-church)]

Wow! Those are tough words to live up to! But they describe an attitude that we are to offer to all people as God's church, for -- in the words of Paul's scripture above -- *"just as Christ welcomed [us]... [we are to] welcome one another."* Dear Lord, may it be so at our church and among all the churches of God! Remember that He loves you and I do, too!

—Pastor Brian

Wednesday Evening Weekly
Serving from 5pm to 6:30pm

WEW Meal on February 15, 2017

Menu: Spaghetti & meatballs, salad bar, dessert.
 Children: Spaghetti & PB & J sandwiches

WEW Meal on February 22, 2017

Menu: Soup, toasted cheese sandwiches, corn bread,
 salad bar, dessert (*No Soup Bar*)
 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.

EXCITING NEWS!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce

that **Harrison Pollard** and **C. J. Lord** have been hired as our Senior High Youth and Mid-High Youth Ministers, respectively.

We are excited to have **Greg Nichols** join our ministry team as the Morning Glory Music Leader.

This Sunday, Feb. 12th, is **Jordan Bearden's** last Sunday with us. We want to say a very special **Thank You to Jordan** for his leadership in our Morning Glory Worship Services over the past two years. We pray you join us in wishing him many blessings as he continues with his education and new career paths.

Please offer Harrison, C. J., and Greg encouragement and support for their ministry with our church family.

—Kaylynn Cook, SPR Chair

REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

Memorials

Mrs. Myrna Roberts - Virginia Robertson

Mrs. Frances Scarborough - Sally Scarborough, Judy Glass, Libbey Glass, Jay Harrell, Elynor Varner, Harold & JoAnn Cox, Virginia Robertson, Cliff & Faye Rainey

Mrs. Fern Niedrach - Jean Newman, Catherine Carmical, Cliff & Faye Rainey, Betty & John McManaway

Mr. Jeff Davis - Jennie Wadsworth

Mr. John Myers - Cliff & Faye Rainey

Mrs. Sammie Jones - The Bible Class

Honorariums

Ed Sellers - The Bible Class

Mary Funk - Adult Fellowship Class



It's time to share your passion for Christ. The Worship Committee is beginning to work on the **Lenten Devotional Books** for our Lenten Season. The booklets for the last two years have received rave reviews. What a wonderful way to spread your faith.

In order to make this happen, we need you to write a devotional. Please consider submitting one to communication@lagrangefumc.org.

You may also hand write one and leave in the church office. These are due no later than Feb 20th. How much should you write? That's up to you. Suggested format is a title, scripture, devotional, and a brief prayer.

Thank you, Worship Committee

Special Gift to Our Music Ministry

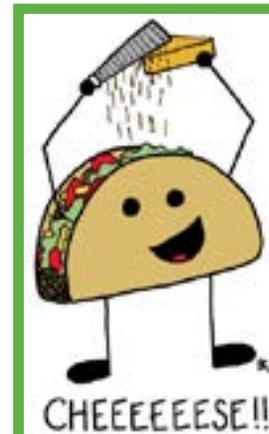
A gift was given to our Music Ministry in memory of **Mrs. Nona Cooper** by her daughter Sheryl Cooper.

UMW Circles February 13, 2017

Esther	10:00am	Church Library
Ruth	10:30am	Oleeta Aspinwall 910 Mooty Bridge Road
Susanna	10:00am	Martha Stanley 609 Cherokee Road
Lydia	10:00am	Nancy Larson 113 Wisteria Way
Elizabeth	9:00am	Church Parlor
Hannah	6:00pm	Small Dining Room

UMW Circle February 14, 2017

Mary 3:00pm Church Parlor



Tacos and Trivia March 5th

5:30 pm, MMC

Tickets, \$15, per person
 (from any Youth or the church office)

Teams limited to 8 participants
Prizes for the winners

All proceeds help support our youth's mission projects and activities

Easter Lilies

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in honor or memory of someone on Easter Sunday, April 16, please complete this form, return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate along with your check for \$12.00, payable to the church and marked "Easter Lily" on or before March 23rd. Lilies will be delivered to shut-ins unless you indicate otherwise below.

In Honor _____ or In Memory _____

OF: _____

BY: _____

Pick up after Easter Service _____ or Deliver to a shut-in _____



How to Find Your Way Around the Resource Center

The reference books are numbered and the shelves are labeled. A list of the numbering system is found taped to the shelving unit as you enter the Resource Center. A list of books in the Reference section and the Curriculum section is found in a white notebook on the rolling cart. The rolling cart is also used to leave your signed card when you check out a book and return a book.

The first section on your left as you enter the Resource Center is the Reference section. Books in this area are numbered from 200-229. In this area you will find the Bible Concordance, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias, Bible interpretations and commentary, people of the Bible, Bible geography and history, plus different versions of the Bible and the New Testament.

The Congregational Care section is on your left following the Reference section and continues around the corner to the right rear shelves of the Resource Center. This area, numbered 230-269, includes book on Christian beliefs, Jesus Christ and His family, devotionals, Christian life, faith, prayer, grief and spiritual renewal. History of Methodism and other religions are found numbered 270-295.

The Archive section in the Resource Center is found on the right rear side of the Resource Center. This section includes records and documents about FUMC. Included in this area are copies of *A History of LaGrange First United Methodist Church* by Forrest Clark Johnson, III, church historian, photos from the annual Nativity, old hymnals, Charge Conference notes, and church directories. The Curriculum section in the Resource center is found on the shelving units in the right front of the Resource Center. Here you will find

- books, some with leader and/or study guides,
- transparencies,
- DVD's, some with leader and/or study guides,
- slides,
- picture cards

This section is especially helpful for Sunday School classes, UMW Circles' programs, and other small groups lessons.

—Donna Fager

Crew Members Wanted!

We are looking for people who are willing to help setup and breakdown our Morning Glory worship space each Sunday. We need help moving chairs, panels, altars, and tables each Sunday. Most setup and breakdown can be done in 15 minutes or less. If you regularly worship at Morning Glory, please prayerfully consider volunteering to be a part of our Setup Crew. Please contact Pastor Blake at blake@lagrangefumc.org or Andy at andy@lagrangefumc.org to volunteer.

Thanks for your consideration!

Andy, Darian, Pastor Blake and Pastor Brian



FUMC Children's Program Wants You!

Our Children's program is in need of volunteers to make our awesome activities and classes run smoothly. You do not have to have a child in our program, and you do not even have to be a parent.

If you would like to volunteer, please fill out a registration form. Forms can be found in the church office, on the church's Facebook page, and on our website. **OR**, you can contact Grayson directly at childrens@lagrangefumc.org.

Thank you, Grayson

Calling All Singers!

All singers are invited to sing with the Chancel Choir as they present, "Sacred Places", a cantata for choir and orchestra. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, February 13th, at 6:30pm. The cantata performance will be Sunday, April 9th. Please contact Darian Krimm (darian@lagrangefumc.org) for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Can You Hear (and see) Me Now?

Volunteers are needed to serve on our Tech Team. What does our Tech Team do?? They run sound, lights, and slides during Sunday morning worship. Help is needed during both Morning Glory and 11am Traditional worship. Previous audio/video experience is great, but anyone with a willingness to serve is welcome. Please contact Darian Krimm (darian@lagrangefumc.org) for more information.

THE FLAME

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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www.pastorbriang.blogspot.com

Postmaster: Send Address Change to
 The Flame, 401 Broad Street
 LaGrange, Georgia 30240

- Miss Grayson Bailey (ext 209).....Director of Children’s Ministry
- Mr. Rick Free (ext 210).....Director of Food Services
- Dr. Brian Germano (ext 205).....Senior Pastor
- Mr. Eddie Giddens.....Custodian
- Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 207).....Business Manager
- Mr. Scott Hill (ext 213).....Landscape Maintenance
- Mr. Darian Krimm (ext 202).....Minister of Music & Worship
- Mr. C.J. Lord (ext 215).....Director of Mid High Youth
- Ms. Dodie Patterson (ext 204).....Executive Secretary
- Mr. Harrison Pollard (ext 215).....Director of Senior High Youth
- Mr. Andy Rainey (ext 201).....Church Administrator
- Rev. Blake Trent (ext 206).....Associate Pastor

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

We always look forward to hearing from you.

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, January 29

Sunday School.....226
 Worship Service.....310

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, February 5

Sunday School.....222
 Worship Service.....306

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED

Our church offices will be closed
 on Monday, February 20th, for the
 holiday.



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**SERVING,
 CARING,
 & SHARING***

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Safe Sanctuary Training
 Anyone who currently works with children under the age of 18 or
 who plans to in the near future needs to attend the Safe Sanctuary
 training on Sunday, Feb. 12th, 3:00 pm, in the small dining room.

You Are Invited...
 to join the Friendship Sunday School Class in the church
 parlor beginning this Sunday, February 12th for a 4-week
 lesson series based on the book *Shaken* by Tim Tebow.
 This may be just for you.

OUR SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the
 following family:

Todd Vinson & Family in the death
 of his grandmother, **Velma Nichols,**
January 27, 2017

Calendar for February 12 - February 18

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am	Sunday School
12:00	Cub Scout Pinewood Derby
2:00pm	Youth Council
3:00pm	Safe Sanctuary Training
5:00pm	Disciple Bible Study
5:00pm	Youth’s Sunday Night Live
Monday	
11:30am-12:00	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
7:30pm	S.O.U.L. Group
Tuesday	
9:00am	Community Care
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm	Wednesday Evening Weekly Meal
5:30pm	Handbells Rehearsal
5:30pm	SPR Committee
5:45pm	M.E.R.G.E & Children’s Choir
6:00pm	Believe Bible Study
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
6:30pm	Disney Movie Night
Thursday	
9:00am	Community Care
9:45am	Prayer Ministry
10:00am	Dulcimers Class
Friday	
7:00am	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	
9:30am	Stephen Ministry Training

Calendar for February 19 - February 25

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am	Sunday School
5:00pm	Disciple Bible Study
Monday	
11:30am-12:00am	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Church Offices Closed for the Holiday	
Tuesday	
9:00am	Community Care
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm	Wednesday Evening Weekly Meal
5:30pm	Handbells Rehearsal
5:45pm	M.E.R.G.E & Children’s Choir
6:00pm	Believe Bible Study
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
6:30pm	Disney Movie Night
Thursday	
9:00am	Community Care
9:45am	Prayer Ministry
10:00am	Dulcimers Class
5:30pm	Board of Trustees
Friday	
7:00am	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	
9:30am	Stephen Ministry Training



**Help for South Georgia
 Tornado Victims**

We have 2 ways you can help our
 fellow Georgians.

- 1. Financial donations** to our church, marked Tornado Victims
- 2. We have the opportunity** to join with our LaGrange College students in the collection of **personal hygiene items.** Please bring your donations of items to the church office on or before February 12th.

For more details, call or email the church office at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org.