



THE FLAME

The First United Methodist Church of LaGrange

Christians . . . SERVING, CARING, & SHARING

May 2019

PASTORAL TRANSITIONS

Celebrate the Ministry of The Rev. Blake Trent

Heartiest congratulations to **The Rev. Blake Trent** upon his appointment as the Senior Minister of **The First United Methodist Church of Dallas, Georgia**, at this year's session of the North Georgia Annual Conference. This is a significant appointment to an historic congregation in Paulding County that is strategically poised for growth as the Metro Atlanta area continues to expand.

Blake and Katie have been tremendous blessings to LaGrange First Methodist, the City of LaGrange, and greater Troup County. They leave marks of intentional excellence and loving kindness on us all.

Blake's last Sunday is **June 9**. Join us for a grand reception honoring Blake and Katie in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 am Worship Service. If you would like to contribute to a Love Offering for the Trents, please mark your check "**Trent Love Offering**." Blake will be **ordained an Elder in Full Connection** at the North Georgia Annual Conference on **Thursday, June 13**, at 7:00 pm, in the Theater of The Classic Center (300 North Thomas Street, Athens, Georgia 30601). You are welcome to attend.

Welcome to The Rev. Ben and Sammi Wills

We are happy to announce the appointment of **The Rev. Ben Wills** to First Methodist as the Senior Associate Minister.

Ben is a *summa cum laude* graduate of the University of Georgia, where he majored in psychology with minors in vocal performance and religion. He served as Youth Minister at Washington First UMC in Washington, Georgia, and was a small group leader at the UGA Wesley Foundation. Ben currently serves as the pastor of Pleasant Valley UMC in Monroe, Georgia.

This May, Ben will graduate with his Master of Divinity degree (honors) from Candler School of Theology at Emory University and be Commissioned as a Provisional Elder at this year's session of the North Georgia Annual Conference.

At Candler, Ben received the James D. and Alice Slay Award, given to a second-year student who exhibits promise for pastoral ministry through outstanding academic performance and achievement; and the Russell E. Richey Award, given to the student who demonstrated the highest excellence in Wesleyan Studies. He was the third year student chosen to preach for Teaching Parish Day in Cannon Chapel.

Ben loves spending time with his wife, consuming all things sports (especially UGA football), playing golf and tennis, enjoying family and friends, and playing with his beloved miniature dachshund, **Copper**.

Ben's wife **Sammi** is also a UGA graduate and has worked as a registered nurse in St. Mary's Hospital's labor and delivery department. She loves keeping up with college football, baking sweet treats, reading books, and spending time with Ben and Copper.

Ben and Sammi's first Sunday is **June 23**. A reception will follow the 11:00 am Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall.

Congratulations to C. J. Lord

We are also happy to announce the appointment of **The Rev. C. J. Lord** to First Methodist as Student Associate Minister for Youth Ministry.

Following his graduation from LaGrange College on May 18, C. J. will attend the **License for Pastoral Ministry School** at Emory University and will be appointed to First Methodist by the Bishop at Annual Conference. This fall, he will enroll as a Master of Divinity student at Candler School of Theology.

This is an exciting season to be in ministry together!

Remember how much I love you ...
It's an honor to be your Senior Minister!

Dr. John Beyers



June is OUR Food Closet Month

We need volunteers for the LaGrange Food Closet, 416 Pierce Street, June 4, 6, 11, & 13 from 12:45 to 3pm. Please call 706-884-4635 or email the church office at churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org to volunteer to help with this wonderful community ministry. We need 4 people each day to help meet the need.



Rise Against Hunger Change Cups

Thank you to everyone who took a cup during Lent and filled it with change to help raise the money needed to purchase meals for our Rise Against Hunger event in the Fall. As of Thursday, April 25, we have received a total of **\$1,081.16**. If you did not participate in this initiative you may do so at any-

time. Thank you again for your efforts in helping rid the world of hunger *One Meal at a Time*.

National Day of Prayer Service

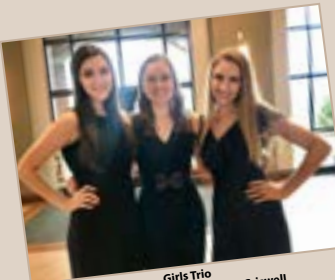
A National Day of Prayer Service will be held from 12:15pm-12:45pm, May 2, at the Biblical History Center, 130 Gordon Commercial Drive. The theme this year is "Love one Another" from John 13:34, Love one another just as I have loved you.

Community members will lead prayers for government, media, education, church and family. Mr. Kevin Dunn will serve as emcee and music will be provided by Erica Whitney.

Everyone is invited to attend this free event. For more information, contact Debbie Burdette 706-333-1412

Thursday Lunch Club May 2, 2019

presents **The LHS Choral Program,**
Katie Trent, Director



Girls Trio
Lexi Lewis, Amy West, Libby Criswell



Boys Quartet
Patrick Barnett, Walker Kemp, Jackie Morman, Hooper Hammond

12 Noon, Fellowship Hall

For reservations for the meal & program call or email the church at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org.

Cost is \$6 per person. All are welcome!



Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry enables church members to provide distinctively Christian care to other Christians and help them move through the difficult challenges that we all face at some point in our lives. The joy of helping others is the privilege of all Christians. The Holy Spirit has given gifts to each Christian to use in service to others and to build up the church. Stephen Ministry relies on these gifts given to church members, so they are equipped to care and enable Christ's love to go out in ever greater and more effective ways.

The Stephen Ministry is growing at FUMC! At the end of April, there will be 3 new Stephen Ministers at the church. These individuals began their training on January 12th of this year and on April 24th, they will have completed the 50 hours of training required to become a Stephen Minister. Cheryl Weldon, Carolyn Day, and Tom Pirkle will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers at the 11:00 AM service on June 2nd.

We will then have a total of 7 church members involved in Stephen Ministry. Currently about half of our Stephen Ministers are providing Christian care to others in the church.

If you need or know of someone who may need a Stephen Minister please contact Hank Dobbins at hank.dobbins@gmail.com or 706-518-8773. All inquiries and discussions will be strictly confidential. Also, if you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister reach out to Hank to learn more about the Ministry and determine if this is something that you would like to pursue.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**



CHURCH ON THE HOOCH

May 26 through July 28, 2019

Casual worship service on the banks of the Chattahoochee River. Come by boat or bring a lawn chair and sit on the bank!

Join us starting May 26, at 10:00 am for Worship and Fellowship on West Point Lake.

BSA Camp Frank Lumpkin
2818 Antioch Road LaGrange GA 30240
Across the river from Highland Marina, between buoys 50 and 51

El Salvador Mission Trip

The Mission Team representing the LaGrange District goes to Ahuachapan, El Salvador, June 8 thru June 15. The work that week will be to take bags of food to people and visit with them; also perform construction work on a new church.

Blair & Laura Harlin are selling pound bags of El Salvador coffee for \$10 per pound that will be delivered upon their return. They are also selling "concrete blocks" for \$10. You decorate the contact paper "block," they will place it on a wall in the Church, take a picture of it, and email it back to you. These "blocks" will then be placed in the church building. If you would like to help this mission, please contact Blair or Laura at 706-594-2609 or mckeeharlin@gmail.com.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

I'd like to thank everyone who helped with our Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. This event would not be possible without all of you! You filled more than 5,000 eggs with candy and prizes, came out early on a cold, wet Saturday morning and helped stake the field, hide Easter eggs, greet people, give out prize baskets, and do all you could to show the love of Christ! Despite the miserable weather we had a great turnout and there were lots of happy faces. My sincerest thanks to all of you!

Wednesday Night Kids

During the month of May we will be looking at the miracles of Jesus. May 15th will be our last Wednesday program for this school year and of course we will finish with a night of celebration. Be sure to join us for a party on May 15th!



May 28th - FUMC Summer Camp Starts

For the next 10 weeks, 10 hours a day, we will be welcoming the LaGrange community at our summer day camp. This year we have twelve college-aged counselors, a director, and an assistant director. Our summer camp has a weekly theme that incorporates our STEM lab, music, PE, art, chapel time, crafts, weekly field trips and more. If you have a special talent or skill that you would like to share with our campers, please contact Jeanne Jones.

FUMC Children Engaged In World Missions

The children at FUMC are getting involved in world missions and they need your help. This summer a team from FUMC and the LaGrange community will go to El Salvador to build a church. I (Jeanne Jones) will go on the trip representing our children, and if possible, communicate about the events of each day of the trip with the FUMC children. At the end of the summer one of our summer counselors will leave to spend two years in mission work at the local school in El Salvador, giving our kids a direct connection to the area over the next several years.

Our children have been working on artwork that will be on the front of blank note cards. During the month of May, the children will sell these cards for \$5 a set. All the money raised will go to the construction costs of the church and school in El Salvador.

Please consider picking up a set or two of these cards. These would make a great gift for someone! Cards will be available in the Church Office and on Wednesday nights in the Fellowship Hall.

THE MONTH OF MAY

- We are wrapping up the school year with Senior Sunday, a Wednesday Night Senior Recognition, and we have a fun party planned to end our last Wednesday night worship on May 15th!
- Please be sure to congratulate our LaGrange College Graduates C.J. Lord and Jamarcus Watkins when you see them as well!



Congratulations to...

**Ben Ivey, Recipient
2019 Richard Linch
Memorial Scholarship**

**Ben Ivey, Recipient
2019 Henderson Traylor Memorial
Eagle Scout Scholarship**

**Matt Rainey, Recipient
2019 Henderson Traylor Memorial
Eagle Scout Scholarship**

CONGRATS TO OUR COLLEGE SENIORS!



MEET BISCUIT, OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTRY MASCOT!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

✉ FUMCYOUTHLAGRANGE@GMAIL.COM

f [FACEBOOK.COM/LG1STUDENTS](https://www.facebook.com/LG1STUDENTS)

📷 [@LFUMCSTUDENTMINISTRY](https://www.instagram.com/LFUMCSTUDENTMINISTRY)

☎ CHURCH OFFICE: 706-884-4635

THE FLAME

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Dr. John Beyers (ext 205).....Senior Minister
Mr. Rick Free (ext 210).....Director of Food Services
Mr. Eddie Giddens.....Custodian
Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 207).....Business Manager
Mrs. Jeanne Jones (ext 209).....Children's Minister
Mr. Darian Krimm (ext 202).....Minister of Music & Worship
Mr. C.J. Lord (ext 215).....Mid & Sr High Youth Minister
Ms. Dodie Patterson (ext 204).....Executive Secretary
Mr. Andy Rainey (ext 201).....Executive Minister
Rev. Blake Trent (ext 206).....Associate Minister

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

We always look forward to hearing from you.



**Christians...
SERVING,
CARING,
& SHARING**

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Supporting Our Ministries

In addition to traditional giving methods (cash & check), you can also donate to First United Methodist Church via Text-to-Give (Text LGFUMC to 73256) or online at lagrangefumc.org/online-giving.

IN MEMORIAM

**Ken McGreevy
April 12, 2019**



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Need to Talk? Refer yourself or a friend in need to one of our church's confidential Stephen Ministers, who can help walk one-to-one with you or them through crisis. For more information or for a referral, speak to one of our Pastors or email

Notice of Church Closing
The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, May 27,
in observance of Memorial Day.

The May Men's Breakfast

The May Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 11, at 9:00 am, in the Small Dining Room. All men in the church are invited to this home-cooked breakfast and program featuring Randy Nix, Georgia State Representative.

A Birthday Celebration

Lera Cochran will turn 100 years old in May!

Her family invites everyone to join her on Saturday, May 11, from 2:00 pm to 6:00pm, in the Fellowship Hall, for a special birthday celebraion.

**Camp Viola 2019**

**Our week to host Camp Viola this summer is
June 3 — June 6**



You make this important ministry a reality for children. Rick Free will lead

but he needs your help, and financial donations to sponsor the children. The cost to sponsor one child is \$125.

Please make your check payable to the First Methodist Church, marked Camp Viola. Every year our Camp Viola week continues to be one the best weeks in the life of our church family. Let's work together to keep this ministry alive. Let Rick know at rick@lagrangefumc.org that he can count on you.

50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
Calling all couples who have been married
(to the same person) for 50 years or more!



If you **have celebrated or will celebrate** your 50th wedding anniversary anytime in 2019, please call or email the church office at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org. We want to celebrate with you on **Sunday, June 16**, at the 11:00 am Worship Service and at the luncheon following the service in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone needs to call or email the church office by Wednesday, June 12, to make your reservation.



May 2019

Weekly

SUNDAY	
9:00a Chapel Worship	10:00a Sun day School
11:00a Traditional Worship	5:00p Disciple III
MONDAY	
10:30a Meals on Wheels	11:30a Soup Kitchen
5:30p Sons of Lafayette	Rehearsal
TUESDAY	
9:00a Community Care	2:00p Staff Meeting
7:00p Boy Scouts	
WEDNESDAY	
10:00a Explorers Bible Study	11:30a Soup Kitchen Sack Lunch
5:00p Wednesday Evening Meal	5:30p Handbell Rehearsal
6:00p Children's Program	6:00p Mid & Sr. Hi Youth
6:30p Chancel Choir Rehearsal	
THURSDAY	
9:00a Community Care	9:45a Prayer Ministry
10:30a Dulcimers	
FRIDAY	
7:00a Men's Coffee & Prayer	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 12:00 Thursday Lunch Club	3	4
5	6 5:00p UMW Board	7 12:30p Red Cross Blood Drive	8 5:45p Missions Committee	9	10	11 9:00a Men's Breakfast
12	13	14 5:30p Worship Committee	15 Last WEW	16 7:00p College Nurse's Pinning Ceremony	17 5:00p College Baccalaureate	18
19	20	21 5:30p Worship Committee	22	23 5:30p Trustees	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day OFFICES CLOSED	28	29	30	31	1

Remembrances Received, April 2019

In Memory of

Ken McGreevy—Anne Allen, U.M.W.

David Leslie Funk—U.M.W.

Pat Cooper—U.M.W.

Miriam Holliday—Virginia Robertson, Joanna & Ric Selbie, U.M.W.

James Harris—Leila & Jim Fulford, Shirra & Hoyt Rogers, Hildred Cammon, Martha Stanley

Martha Smith—Tommy & Elsie Harris, Martha Stanley

John Lancaster—Rocio Lancaster, Jean & Ellis Smith, Elizabeth Sims

Martin Martin—Elizabeth Sims

May's Worship Team Volunteers

Ushers: John Jackson, Tommy Britt, Steve Cole, Steve Close, John Holliday, John Morgan Jackson, Jared Jones, Dee Woodward, Mark Kostial, Matt Orr, Mike Wilson, Jeff Rogers, Jacob Rogers, Caleb Kostial

Altar Guild: Donna Ennis, Kim Burch, Carolyn Day, Melissa Jolly, Martha Pirkle, Joyce Morgan Young

Hospitality Team: Carolyn Day, Joye Greene, Carole & Kelly Linch, Joyce & Bill Young, Joanna & Ric Selbie, Jan Lockerbie, Beth & Frank McRae, Angela & David Ochsenknecht, Julianne Skipper, Caryn & Steve Cole, Pat & Fred Bodine, Susan & Bill Black, Sharon Jones, Nancy & Dean Larson, Cindy & John Jackson, Jane Willey, Mark Huckstep, Becky & Philip Ivey

We Extend Our Sympathy to

Elaine McCook and Family in the death of her niece **Rhonda Burdette, March 25, 2019.**

Kelly Linch and Family in the death of his sister-in-law **Joyce Linch, April 3, 2019.**

Lisa Boatwright and Family in the death of her great aunt **Billie Waters, April 10, 2019.**

Congratulations!

Charlee Reese Yates was born **March 31, 2019**, the daughter of Rich & Rachel Yates, the granddaughter of Ben & Laurie Yates.

Additional Easter Lily

In Memory of
Lamar Wadsworth

By
Jennie Wadsworth

Wednesday Evening Weekly Menus

May 1
Chicken Fingers
Baked Potatoes
Veggie
Kids—Same

May 8 (M)
Poppyseed Chicken
Rice
Fried Okra
Kids—Same

May 15 (Se)
Cookout—Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,, All the Trimmings!

Dessert with every meal. Adults - \$6, Children/Youth - \$3

May 15 will be the last regular WEW until August.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, March 31

Sunday School....140 Worship Service.....255

Sunday, April 7

Sunday School....174 Worship Service.....308

Sunday, April 14

Sunday School....145 Worship Service.....250

Sunday, April 21

Sunday School....169 Worship Service.....832

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