



1828

November 13, 2016

***Combined/Abbreviated Early Morning Worship
9:00am in the Chapel**

***Traditional Service
11:00am in the Sanctuary**

***Korean Worship Service
11:00am in the Chapel**

November 20, 2016

***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**

November 27, 2016

***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.**

Mark your calendar

Evening To Give Thanks

Nov. 16th, 6:30pm

Rev. Adam Roberts, preaching

**** 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 1st grade and 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.

THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

Christians . . . SERVING, CARING, & SHARING



LFUMC's "Stop Hunger Now" Event

"When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, 'Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted.' So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten." (John 6:12-13)

Some quick facts about world hunger:

- Approximately 792.5 million people in the world do not get the food they need to live a healthy life. That's nearly one out of every nine people on earth, with 98% of those living in developing nations. In sub-Saharan Africa, for instance, one in every four people are hungry.
- Hunger kills more people each year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.
- Nearly 50 percent of people living in extreme poverty are 18 years old or younger, and poor nutrition causes nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five – 3.1 million children each year.
- 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone. The poorest 20 percent of the world's children are about twice as likely as the richest 20 percent to be stunted by poor nutrition and to die before their fifth birthday.

[--Sources cited at the "Stop Hunger Now" website]

These figures regarding world hunger are alarming. Thankfully, our world today possesses the science and technology to properly address this dilemma, if we will but choose to do so. That's why I'm pleased to invite you to participate in a new ministry hosted by our church called "**Stop Hunger Now**," a world-wide interfaith initiative designed to help people in developed communities like our own combat hunger and starvation in developing communities around the world.

This coming Sunday (November 13) from 9:30-11:30am in the MMC, we'll be packing 12,000 meals (2000 packets x 6 meals per packet). We'll begin in the Chapel at 9:00am with a short worship celebration, then at 9:20am move into the Fellowship Hall to continue "worship-in-action" through the packing event, which will provide a great service opportunity appropriate for children, youth, college students, and adults.

Though the event itself will serve in place of both our two early morning worship services and most of our church's Sunday School classes, our 11am service will take place as usual in the Sanctuary. Also, while this is the first time our church has sponsored this event, some of you may already be familiar with it from previous events hosted both by LaGrange College and by other area churches.

Remember, Jesus fed over 5000 with the simple offering of one little boy's lunch. On November 13, we'll be preparing meals to feed even more than that! Perhaps this is what Jesus had in mind when he spoke the words of John 14:12-14, "*whoever believes in me will do even greater works than these [that I do].*"

So, dress casually and join us at 9:00am in the Chapel on November 13th as we seek to "stop hunger now" in the name of Jesus! And don't forget that God loves you and I do, too!

Pastor Brian

[P.S., to find out more about this initiative, visit their website www.stophungernow.org]

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

WEW Meal on November 16, 2016

Menu: Turkey, dressing, sweet potato casserole,
green beans

Children: Pizza & PB & J sandwiches

NO WEW Meal on November 23, 2016

Happy Thanksgiving!!

WEW Meal on November 30, 2016

Menu: Chicken Alfredo, Broccoli, salad bar, dessert

Children: Same & 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.



Children's Ministry

Open Town Hall
Meeting

Sunday, December 4

4:00-5:30pm
MMC

This meeting is open to any and all interested in our
church's children's ministry.

November Men's Breakfast

All men in the church are invited to breakfast on **Saturday, November 12th** for a delicious home-cooked meal with a program provided by **Fred Bodine, "History Repeats Itself."** Join us at **8:00am in the small dining room.**

REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

Memorials

Mr. Tim Shepherd - Carol Freeman, Jane Williams



Thank you to all who've shared your
"FIRST" financial commitments so far.
You'll receive a personal thank you and
confirmation of your commitment amount
in the next week or so.

If you haven't turned in your commitments
yet, we invite you to do so today either online at <http://www.lagrangefumc.org/first> or by picking up a card at
the end of each worship service.



**THE NATIVITY
God's Gift to Humanity**

Celebrate the Christmas season in
LaGrange, Georgia at the Nativity
Festival. This festival will be presented
through many beautiful and artistic exhibits
from around the world. All are from private
collections on loan for this special time of year.

•**First United Methodist Church**
December 7 & 8 and December 11, 2016
Wednesday & Thursday, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.
and Sunday, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

•**Vernon Woods Retirement Community,**
101 Vernon Woods Drive
Wednesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Throughout December



Sunday, December 18, 2016 ~ 6:30pm

music for Choir & Orchestra

presented by the LaGrange FUMC Chancel Choir

works by John Rutter, Mack Wilberg, Joseph Martin and many more

A Christmas Celebration!

December Thursday Lunch Club
December 1st, 12 Noon, Fellowship Hall

*featuring the New Horizon Choir
from the First Baptist Church on the Square*

**For reservations call or email the church at 706-884-4635
or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org.**

Cost is \$6 per person. All are welcome!
First United Methodist Church, 401 Broad Street

Christmas Decorations

A donation of \$12.00 toward the cost of the Christmas decorations 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 12th. A list of all those honored will appear in the Flame printed on December 20th.

In Honor _____

In Memory _____

Of: _____

By: _____



The Angel Tree

Once again First Methodist is participating in the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program. The Angel Tree will be located in the Sanctuary Narthex and ready for you to adopt an angel on **Sunday, November 27th**.

You will notice a red mesh bag stapled to each Angel. Please detach the Angel from the information part of the tag, and place it and the Angel gifts inside the mesh bag. If a gift is too large for the bag, label the gift with the code #, and attach the bag to it.

The Angel gifts need to be returned to the Fellowship Hall no later than Tuesday, December 13th. The Salvation Army will pickup all gifts on Wednesday, December 14th. **Thank You!**

Youth Ministry

What a fun time we have had lately - Trunk or treat, chick-fil-a breakfast, regular Wednesday night activities - the list goes on and on!!! And this week proves to be no different. We had over 20 mid-high kids this morning at Chick-fil-A. And we had a great group helping with our first haunted house this past Sunday. See the fun group in the picture!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH: *Our next Sunday night activity is scheduled - more details to come!*

WEDNESDAYS: The Lounge opens at 4:00. Join us this week and learn more about God with your fun church friends! See you soon!



WHAT'S IN A FACE?

A face can tell much about us: our hopes, joys, cares and concerns. Join Pastors Brian and Blake each Sunday of Advent in a new series called The Faces of Christmas as they explore what the faces of the biblical Christmas story can

teach us about our life and relationship with God. Best of all, experience how the face of Christ can touch your heart this holiday season!

- Nov. 27 – *The Faces of HOPE: Zechariah & Elizabeth* (Luke 1:5-15a)
Claiming the hope of Christ
- Dec. 4 -- *The Faces of FAITH: The Shepherds* (Luke 2:8-20)
Reclaiming the sharing of our faith
- Dec. 11 - *The Faces of PRAISE: Angels* (Luke 2:13-14)
Discovering the power of praise
- Dec. 18 - *The Faces of ACCEPTANCE: Mary & Joseph* (Matthew 1:18-25)
Uncovering the power of acceptance & surrender to God



Thank you to all who supported this year's Trunk or Treat Event. We had a record crowd!

2016 Charge Conference
Sunday, November 13th
5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

An Evening to Give Thanks!

November 16, 2016

First United Methodist Church

***Thanksgiving Meal served from 5 to 6:30pm**
Fellowship Hall

Service begins at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Guest Speaker: Rev. Adam Roberts, LaGrange College

***Meal Reservations—706-884-4635 or**
churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org

SAVE the DATE . . .

2016 Leadership LaGrange FUMC
December 10th

9:00am to 12:30pm in the
Fellowship Hall & Chapel

The Church Family is invited to come and learn how your LaGrange FUMC operates...the how and why we do what we do. Church leaders will be in attendance!

THE FLAME

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

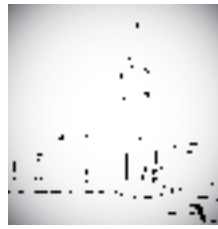
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 Tel: (706) 884-4635 Fax: (706) 845-7068
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 E-Mail address churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org
 Web Site: www.lagrangefumc.org
www.pastorbriang.blogspot.com

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).....Interim Director of Mid High Youth
- Mrs. Patti Lybrand (ext 203).....Church Secretary
- Ms. Dodie Patterson (ext 204).....Executive Secretary
- Mr. Harrison Pollard (ext 215).....Interim 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.



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

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The Flame!

Through this holiday season, The Flame will come to you every 3 weeks. We are always very happy to hear from you by phone or email if you have any questions or want more information about something happening in your church.

Two things are included in this issue of the Flame.

A **Nativity Registration Form**, and your **2016 Advent Calendar** that has some special events & service times listed on the back. If you would like a calendar to share with a friend, please call or email the church office at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org.

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, October 30

Sunday School.....209
 Worship Service.....276

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, November 6

Sunday School.....213
 Worship Service.....298

Calendar for November 13 - November 19

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am	Sunday School
5:00pm	Disciple Bible Study
5:30pm	Charge Conference
Monday	
11:00-11:30am	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Tuesday	
9:00am	Community Care
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
4:00pm	Youth Activities
5:30pm	Handbell Choir
5:45pm	M.E.R.G.E & Children’s Choir
5:45pm	Connections Class
6:00pm	Believe Bible Study
6:30pm	Evening to Give Thanks Service
Thursday	
9:00am	Community Care
9:45am	Prayer Ministry
10:00am	Dulcimers Class
5:30pm	Finance Committee
Friday	
7:00am	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	

Calendar for November 20 - November 26

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*9:45am	Sunday School
5:00pm	Disciple Bible Study
Monday	
11:00-11:30am	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Tuesday	
9:00am	Community Care
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
12:00	Closed for Thanksgiving
Thursday	Closed for Thanksgiving
Friday	Closed for Thanksgiving
Saturday	

UMW CHRISTMAS BANQUET
 The UMW Christmas Banquet will be held on **Monday, December 5th at 6:00 pm** in the fellowship hall. Call or email the church office at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org to make your reservation by **November 28th**. The price is \$8 per person.

Church Closed for Thanksgiving

The church will close at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 23rd for Thanksgiving, and will remain closed through Thursday and Friday. We pray all of you have a wonderful, safe, and meaningful holiday.

Grayson, Cindy, Jane, Rick, Eddie, C.J., Harrison, Lisa, Scott, Brian, Patti, Dodie, Andy, Avery, Blake, Jordan, Meghan, Boley, Darian, Daniel



Calendar for November 27 - December 3

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am	Sunday School
5:00pm	Disciple Bible Study
Monday	
11:00-11:30am	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Tuesday	
9:00am	Community Care
12:30pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
4:00pm	Youth Activities
5:30pm	Handbell Choir
5:45pm	M.E.R.G.E & Children’s Choir/ Connections Class
6:00pm	Believe Bible Study
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
Thursday	
9:00am	Community Care
9:45am	Prayer Ministry
10:00am	Dulcimers Class
Friday	
7:00am	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 13th, are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of **Steve Bledsoe**, on the occasion of his birthday, November 13th, by his family.

The altar arrangement in the Chapel and Sanctuary on Sunday, November 16th and 20th, is given to the Glory of God, in loving memory of **Joyce & Morgan Jackson**, by John, Cindy, John Morgan & James Jackson, Libba Trawick and Lee & Linda Jackson.



November 9, 2016

Dear Friends,

The congregation of First United Methodist Church will host its annual Nativity Festival December 7th through December 11th. This will be our 18th festival, where we seek to enrich the Advent season by offering the community an exhibit of art, sculpture, and crèches (manger scenes), and our seventh 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 or email Dodie Patterson at (706) 884-4635 or (churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org). We ask that you bring your exhibit to the Church Office on Sunday, December 4th, from 9:00am to 12:00 noon or on Monday, December 5th, from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please call or email Dodie to schedule a drop-off time if these hours are not convenient for you.

The exhibit will be displayed in the church sanctuary Wednesday, December 7th and Thursday December 8th from 2:00pm to 7:00pm; and Sunday December 11th between 12:00 noon-5:00p.m. Exhibits should be picked up on Sunday, December 11th, between 5:00 and 6:30p.m. in the Sanctuary if possible.

Thank you for sharing your treasures with your church family and our community in this special event.

Sincerely,

Brian Germano
Senior Pastor

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 _____

Advent 2016

Daily Scripture and Reflections in Preparation for Christmas

Sunday

27 **NOVEMBER**
Be Ready!
Jesus, the Son of Man, is coming again. Watch and be ready in faith for his return.
Matthew 24:37-44

4 **Repent!**
Prepare the way of the Lord and bear fruit in keeping with repentance.
Matthew 3:1-12

Monday

28 **Lord, Heal Me**
Lord, I am not worthy, but say the word and I will be healed and forgiven.
Matthew 8:5-11

5 **Jesus Heals and Forgives**
The people glorified God, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today!"
Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday

29 **The Branch of Jesse**
A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse and a branch from his roots.
Isaiah 11:1-10

6 **Comfort My People**
Lift up your voice and announce the good news: "Behold your God!"
Isaiah 40:1-11

Wednesday

30 **Call on the Lord**
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
Romans 10:9-18

7 **Renew Your Strength**
The Lord will renew your strength; you will run and not be weary.
Isaiah 40:25-31

Thursday

1 **DIGNIFY**
Build on the Rock
Build your life on the words of Christ our Savior, the Rock of our salvation.
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

8 **Chosen and Adopted**
Before creation, God chose us in Christ to be his sons and daughters.
Ephesians 1:3-6

Friday

2 **Lord, Have Mercy**
Son of David, open our hearts to behold your glory.
Matthew 9:27-31

9 **Peace Like a River**
A river of peace and waves of righteousness are ours through our Redeemer.
Isaiah 48:17-19

Saturday

3 **Walk in the Way**
You will hear a word behind you saying, "This is the way, walk in it."
Isaiah 30:19-21

10 **Elijah Must Come**
John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare Christ's way.
Matthew 17:9, 10-13

11 **Be Patient**
Be patient as you await the day when our Lord will come as Judge and King.
James 5:7-10

18 **Come, Emmanuel**
The Virgin will bear a Son and call his name Emmanuel, which means "God with us."
Isaiah 7:10-14

12 **Magnify the Lord!**
Blessed is Mary among women and blessed is the fruit of her womb.
Luke 1:39-47

19 **Filled With the Spirit**
John will be filled with the Holy Spirit and go before the Lord to prepare his way.
Luke 1:5-25

13 **Repent and Believe**
Will you go and work in the vineyard of the Lord today?
Matthew 21:28-32

20 **Call His Name**
Mary will conceive and bear a son and shall name him Jesus.
Luke 1:26-38

14 **Jesus Is the Messiah**
The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the poor hear the good news!
Luke 7:18-23

21 **Rejoice and Sing!**
Sing aloud! The Lord God is among us, the Mighty One who saves us!
Zephaniah 3:14-18

15 **I Am Your Redeemer**
With compassion and everlasting love, God gathers us to himself.
Isaiah 54:1-10

22 **Holy Is His Name**
He who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.
Luke 1:46-56

16 **A Shining Lamp**
As burning and shining lamps, we point to Jesus, the Light of the world.
John 5:33-36

23 **He Is Coming!**
He whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.
Malachi 3:1-4

17 **Lion of Judah**
The scepter will not depart from Judah until it comes to the rightful Ruler.
Genesis 49:2, 8-10

24 **Light in the Darkness**
God gives light to those who sit in darkness and guides them in the way of peace.
Luke 1:67-79

25 **Christ Is Born!**
I bring good news! To you is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

Luke 2:1-14

LaGrange First United Methodist Church

Special Holiday Events and Services

Nativity Festival in the Sanctuary

**December 7th & 8th, 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm and the 11th,
12:00 to 5:00 pm**

Christmas Musical Program in the Sanctuary

December 18th at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve Services in the Sanctuary

5:00 pm, Family & Children's Candlelight Service

11:00 pm, Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day

10:30 am, Combined Worship Service

No Sunday School

Sunday, January 1st, New Year's Day

10:30 am, Combined Worship Service

No Children's Sunday School, Adult Classes Optional