



THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, Georgia

Christians . . . SERVING, CARING, & SHARING

September 2018

Greetings, my friends!

It's my joy to greet you in the words of St. Paul, **"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!"**

At this writing, I am entering into my tenth week as your new preacher. I continue to give thanks for the warm, gracious, and enthusiastic welcome that you are extending to me!

I am enjoying meeting with Sunday School classes, small groups, ministry work areas, and individuals, and delighting in learning of the great things that our great God has done through this great church across its storied history. I am greatly encouraged by your passionate desire to extend His message of love, mercy, and grace into this new season of ministry.

Gathering in worship, we are discerning and claiming Jesus' defining **Mission** for His Church and His compelling **Vision** for accomplishing His Mission as revealed in the Matchless Word of God.

Jesus Christ's Mission For His Church Is Our Mission

**To MAKE and GROW Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the TRANSFORMATION of the World!**

Jesus Christ's Vision For His Church Is Our Vision

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, who ignites Christ-Centered community,
we seek to **EQUIP** individuals
to **KNOW the HEART of God** through Excellent Multigenerational Worship,
to **GROW in the GRACE of God** through Intentional Small Group Discipleship, and
to **SHOW the LOVE of God** through Compassionate Evangelism and Mission Engagement.

Looking forward, I want to share a specific plan for implementing Jesus' Mission and Vision gleaned from all that you have shared with me, from extensive conversations with our staff and elected leaders, and from what the Lord has revealed in my quiet time with Him.

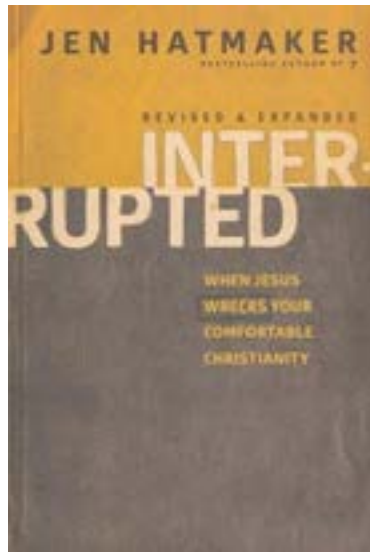
I am discerning a strong urging of the Holy Spirit that we intentionally **Prepare A Place** for those He wants to invite into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and those He wants us to equip to offer that saving relationship to others. I look forward to sharing this plan with you in the weeks to come.

As we move into the glory of autumn, I invite you to pray this prayer with me each day:

Lord God Almighty, who inspired Your servants John and Charles Wesley with burning zeal for the sanctification of souls, and endowed them with eloquence in speech and song: Kindle in LaGrange First United Methodist Church such fervor that those whose faith has cooled may be warmed, and those who have not known Christ may turn to Him and be saved; who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Dr. John Beyers



Interrupted encourages believers to ask if their lives bring integrity to the gospel. Follow the faith journey that begins with one dangerous prayer, "Raise up in me a holy passion," and concludes with a life of service to the last, the least, the forgotten, and the forsaken.

(description of original edition, from jenhatmaker.com)

Join Dr. Greg McClanahan for this 5-week study on Wednesday nights, September 5, 12, 19, and 26, and October 3, 6:00 – 7:30 in the Small Dining Room.

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We Offer a Helping Hand When You Lose a Loved One.

Losing a family member can be one of the most difficult and painful experiences a person will go through. At the time of a loss, the grieving family members often find it difficult to focus on ordinary tasks. The Bereavement Committee at First Methodist offers assistance to families of church members who experience the death of a spouse or a child OR when the deceased was a member of the church.

The committee tries to assist by preparing a meal for the family or preparing and serving food for a reception. The meal can be served at the home or in the Small Dining Room. The reception is normally in the Fellowship Hall. Cards are sent to all those in our church family who have experienced a loss.

If you would like to know more about this ministry or if you are interested in assisting with the preparation and serving of food, please contact Shirra Rogers, Bereavement Chairperson, at churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org or 706-882-8707.

Thursday Lunch Club presents

September 6 • 12 Noon • in the Fellowship Hall



For reservations call or email the church at 706-884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org. Cost is \$6 per person. All are welcome!

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS...JOIN THE ACOLYTES!

We need more students to join our growing Acolyte ministry. Students Third Grade through High School may participate.

Acolytes serve in the 11:00 am worship service by carrying crosses, candle lighters, torches, the Bible, and helping with the Offering.

Please join us on September 23 for an Acolyte training. We will meet after 11:00am worship and lunch will be provided. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Contact the church office at churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org to attend. For more information, Nicole Kostial, Sarah Beall, and C.J. Lord are available to answer any questions.



Special Offering

On Sunday, September 30th, we will receive our annual special offering for the United Methodist Church's Children's Home. Envelopes will be provided in the services.

FUMC STUDENT MINISTRIES



We are off to a great start this school year with FUMC Student Ministry! During the month of August, we started back our regular Wednesday night worship and small group time. We have re-introduced our students to the wonderful concept flannel-graph learning as we work through the stories of the Bible. We had a great time supporting First Choice Women's Center at their 2nd Annual "Not Just for Kicks" Kickball Tournament. We also enjoyed a fantastic Fall Family Cookout at Highland Park and we were excited to have so many students and parents come out!

FUMC Student Ministry has a busy month ahead with our regular programming in addition to a Blessings in a Bookbag Pack-A-Thon on September 9th, the West Point Lake Cleanup on September 22nd, a trip to Sky Zone on September 23rd, and enjoying a combined Sunday School with the Epiphany class on the 30th.

We are asking members of the church for juice box/pouch donations for Blessings in a Bookbag this month. Thank you so much for supporting this meaningful ministry.

Sacred Music Seminar

SEPTEMBER 8, 2018



featuring

Joseph Martin

Composer and Conductor



HIGHLIGHTS

- Interest Sessions
- Piano Performances by Joe
- Evening Concert, "A Celebration of Song," featuring the music of Joseph Martin. Performed by combined choir. Joseph Martin, conducting

REGISTRATION

- Fee - \$40.00
- Includes music, lunch, & dinner

Free to College Students



For more info visit lagrangefumc.org

A Celebration of Song

featuring music from Joseph Martin

Joseph Martin, Conducting

September 8th

7pm

Concert Location: LaGrange FUMC Sanctuary

Free admission. Donations gladly accepted.



Children's Ministry

Jeanne Jones, Director,
jeanne@lagrangefumc.org

Summer Camp 2018

This summer we had seventy children enrolled for camp at FUMC, twelve amazing counselors, one fabulous P.E. teacher, and ten great weeks of fun and learning. Campers participated weekly in Chapel, Art, Innovation Lab, and Music class along with field trips and lots of daily activities. We had a great summer together. Thank you to all the families who allowed us to spend time with their children, to the FUMC staff for supporting and welcoming our campers, and to everyone who participated and served. It was a great summer, and we couldn't have done it without you!



Welcome Elissa!

Elissa Chandler is our new Children's Intern. She is from Williamson, Georgia, and is a rising junior at LaGrange College. She is working towards her degree in Religion with a concentration in Church Leadership. While at LaGrange College she is a part of the Servant Scholar Program, President of the Wesley Fellowship, and is a member of Phi Mu Sorority. When not serving or studying, she enjoys spending time outdoors with others. We are blessed and very excited to have Elissa working with our FUMC Kids each week.

Church Family, be sure to say hello and greet Elissa when you have the opportunity, and keep her and our children in your prayers.



Elissa Chandler

Kicking off the Year - It's a new school year and with it a new start to our Children's programs. It's exciting to see so many friends returning and new friends joining us on Sundays and Wednesdays.

New this year - On Wednesday nights, our program will run from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Parents are invited to sign-in their child at the Vernon Street entrance to the Children's Building from 5:45 - 6:00 p.m. On Wednesday nights, our children and youth will be focusing on the same scripture, giving our families the opportunity to talk with all their children together about these amazing stories and lessons that God has given to us in the Bible.

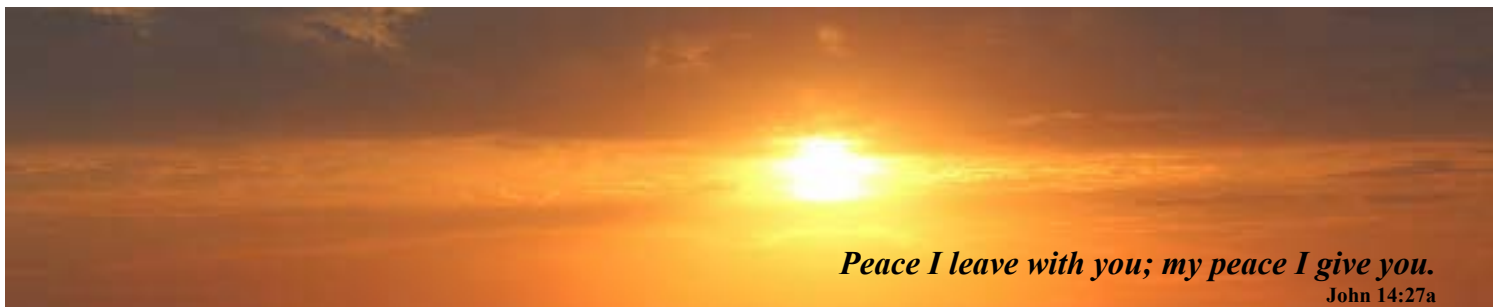
Be sure to look at the children's FaceBook page (FUMC Children's Program) for links to additional resources and the schedule of topics.

Upcoming Events

- September 2** - Family Worship/Communion Sunday — 10:00 a.m Sunday School - no Children's Church
- September 5** - 6-7 p.m Wednesday Night Kids (*Special Event*)
- September 9** - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School and 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
- September 12** - 6 - 7 p.m. Wednesday Night Kids
- September 16** - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School and 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
- September 19** - 6 - 7 p.m. Wednesday Night Kids
- September 23** - 10:00 a.m. Sunday school and 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
- September 26** - Wednesday Night Kids 6-7 p.m.
- September 30** - 10:00 a.m. Sunday school and 11:00 a.m. Children's Church

Save this Date...October 28, Community Trunk or Treat 4-6 p.m. at FUMC

***It's not too early to start thinking about your theme for this year.



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

John 14:27a

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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LaGrange, Georgia 30240

- 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).....Church Administrator
- 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.

The Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 8, at 9:00 am in the Small Dining Room. Jim Crump will present a program. All men in the church are invited.



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 stephenministry@lagrangefumc.org.



Rick Free presented a Certificate of Recognition to **Orren Gilbert** as he retired after 20 years of service as a Meals on Wheels Driver. Thank you, Orren, for delivering over 8,200 meals to people in need.

We're getting together a band...a Brass Band.

Our church has lots of gleaming brass ornament and worship accompaniments which are wonderful!

They need a band of caretakers to skillfully polish them to shiny brilliance on a self-determined band "practice" schedule.



It's a bit complicated, since special training is needed for those pieces of brass with a lacquered finish. *Musical talent always appreciate, but not required!*

Contact Davie Biagi at davie@charter.net or Deborah Johnson at johnson.deb.ferg@gmail.com to audition.

Welcome Neighbors

Our College Ministry welcomed the 24 LaGrange College Servant Scholars with a basket of goodies on Move in Day, Saturday, August 25.





September 2018

Weekly

SUNDAY	
9:00a	Chapel Worship
10:00a	Sunday School
11:00a	Traditional Worship Service
5:00p	Disciple III
MONDAY	
10:30a	Meals on Wheels
11:30a	Soup Kitchen
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
TUESDAY	
9:00a	Community Care
1:30p	Staff Meeting
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
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
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
FRIDAY	
7:00a	Men's Coffee & Prayer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3 CLOSED Labor Day	4 12:30 Red Cross Blood Drive 5:00p Disciple III	5 6:00p Interrupted Study	6 12:00 TLC Luncheon	7	1 <hr/> 8 9:00a Men's Breakfast 9:00am Joseph Martin Seminar 7:00p Joseph Martin Concert
9 5:00p Blessings in a Book Bag Pack-a- -thon	10	11 6:30p Cub Scout Pack Orientation Mtg	12 5:45p Missions Committee 6:00p Interrupted Study	13	14	15
16 4:00p Youth SkyZone Trip	17	18 5:30p Worship Committee	19 6:00p Interrupted Study	20	21	22
23 12:15p Acolyte Training	24 10:00a Altar Guild	25 6:30p Cub Scout Pack Mtg	26 6:00p Interrupted Study 6:15p Pack Den Leader's Mtg	27 5:30p Board of Trustees	28	29
30	1 5:00p UMW Board Mtg	2 12:30p Red Cross Blood Drive	3 6:00p Interrupted Study	4 12:00 October TLC	5	6

Remembrance Received, August 2018

In Memory of

Jane Williams—Adult Fellowship Sunday School Class

Our Sympathy to

Katherine Cook in the death of her sister-in-law, **Edith Cook, July 19, 2018.**

Congratulations!

Jacob Morris Schine, born **August 1, 2018**, is the grandson of Paige and Murray Schine.

Bennett Coleman Crenshaw, born **August 9th**, is the son of Brantley and Jase Crenshaw, and the grandson of Caryn and Steve Cole.

Abigail Grace Ennis, born **August 12th**, is the granddaughter of Donna and Richard Ennis.

Wednesday Evening Weekly Menus

September 5

Spaghetti & Meatballs
Corn, Garlic Toast
Kids: Same

September 19

Boneless Pork
Sweet Potatoes, Veggie
Kids: Grilled Cheese

September 12

Chicken Fingers
Mac & Cheese, Veggie
Kids: Same

September 26

Baked Chicken
Potato Wedges, Veggie
Kids: Chicken Sliders

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

September's Worship Team Volunteers

Ushers: Jim Biagi, Charles Knight, Tim Huff, Hank Hughes, Dean Larson, Sandy Simmons

Altar Guild: Laura Shedd, Nancy Mahaffey, Ellen Parmer, Brenda Tilson, Dee Wallace, Beth Godwin

Hospitality Team: Mike & Denise Wilson, Dusty & Carlene Mills, Dean & Nancy Larson, Laura Jennings, Linda Frano, John Jackson, Bill & Joyce Young, Jared & Jessica Larson, Carolyn Day, Joye Greene, Jean Edwards, Lauranne Buchanan, Wayne & Beth Godwin, Mark Huckstep, Julianne Skipper, Laura Harlin, Dee Woodward, Laura Holley, Frank & Beth McRae, Jan Lockerbie

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, July 29

Sunday School....142 Worship Service.....400

Sunday, August 5

Sunday School....185 Worship Service.....395

Sunday, August 12

Sunday School....197 Worship Service.....381

Sunday, August 19

Sunday School....170 Worship Service.....293

Sunday, August 26

Worship Service.....275