



1828

**December 20, 2015**

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

Mr. Blake Trent, preaching

**\*Morning Glory**

**9:00am in the Fellowship Hall**

Dr. Brian Germano, preaching

**\*Traditional Service**

**11:00am in the Sanctuary**

Dr. Brian Germano, preaching

**\*Korean Worship Service**

**11:00am in the Chapel**

Rev. Daniel Kim

**December 27, 2015**

**\* Combined Worship Service,  
December 27th**

**10:30am**

**\*\*\*Fellowship Hall\*\*\***

**A Family Service of Carols**

**\*Korean Worship Service**

**11:00am in the Chapel**

Rev. Daniel Kim

**January 3, 2016**

**\*Early Worship Service**

**9:00am in the Chapel**

Mr. Blake Trent, preaching

**\*Morning Glory**

**9:00am in the Fellowship Hall**

Dr. Brian Germano, preaching

**\*Traditional Service**

**11:00am in the Sanctuary**

Dr. Brian Germano, 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 FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

*"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"*

## SHARING CHRISTMAS

*"And when [the Shepherds saw the baby Jesus], they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them." (Luke 2:17-18)*

Christmas is popularly thought of as a time to get and give gifts. But the actual biblical story teaches us that it is much more than that. More accurately, it should be time for us to give not just gifts for Christmas, but to give and share the gift of Christmas *itself*.

And what does that mean? In the words of one church newsletter article I read years ago, it means that this Christmas we should seek to...

- ...Mend a quarrel
- ...Seek out a forgotten friend
- ...Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust
- ...Write a love letter with someone you love
- ...Share some treasure with someone in need
- ...Give a soft answer
- ...Encourage youth
- ...Manifest your loyalty in a word and a deed
- ...Keep a promise
- ...Listen
- ...Apologize if you were wrong
- ...Try to understand
- ...Flout envy
- ...Examine your demands on others
- ...Think first of someone else
- ...Appreciate others & their deeds, however imperfect they are!
- ...Be kind; be gentle
- ...Laugh a little
- ...Laugh a little more
- ...Work to deserve confidence from others
- ...Take up arms against malice and bitterness
- ...Decry complacency
- ...Express your gratitude
- ...Seek God
- ...Welcome a stranger
- ...Gladden the heart of a child
- ...Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth
- ...Speak your love
- ...Speak it again
- ...Speak it still once again."

[--Shared in the newsletter of College Park First U.M.C., College Park, GA (Advent date between 1992-1996 unknown)]

You see, sharing Christmas is more than just about the material gifts we give. It's more properly about the attitudes and perspectives of God love and grace that we pass on to others. Especially as there continues to be stories of violence and tragedy in the news, when you and I experience Christmas this year, my prayer is that these ideas above would be true gifts not only that you receive but ones that you also seek to give and share with others!

Remember, God loves you and I do, too! Merry Christmas!

Pastor Brian

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

from your staff at First Methodist!

Brian, Blake, Patti, Lisa, Dodie, Grayson, Kali, Avery, Rick, Andy, Scott, Cindy, Eddie, Jordan, Debbie, Meghan, Boley, & Jane

Enclosed in this Flame issue is a listing of all those individuals honored through our Christmas Decorations.

## Wednesday Evening Weekly

Serving from 5pm to 6:30pm

NO WEW Meal on December 23, 2015

NO WEW Meal on December 30, 2015

WEW Meal on January 6, 2016

*Our regular WEW meals start back on this date.  
Come join us.*

### REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

#### Memorials

**Mr. Russell Everitt** - John & Pat Hagler, Faye & Cliff Rainey, Carol Harlin

**Rev. Sidney Tate** - Thomas Johnston, Faye & Cliff Rainey, Carol Harlin

**Mr. Tim Huckstep** - James Larry Cooley, Carol Harlin

**Mrs. Bobby Hamilton** - Carol Harlin

**Mr. Tom Stanley** - Carol Harlin

**John & Sarah Soltis** - Karen (Soltis) and Paul Tobben Family

**Cliff Cammon** - Meals on Wheels Volunteers

#### Honorariums

**Rick Free** - Anonymous

**Peggy Lukken** - Nancy Cammon

**Dorothy Cammon** - Nancy Cammon

**Blair & Laura Harlin** - Shirra & Hoyt Rogers

**Rick Free** - Monday Morning Volunteers

**Ed Sellers** - Mens Bible Class

**Thank You** to everyone who participated in the 2015 Nativity Festival. There were just under 150 Nativities displayed in this year's exhibition. A very special thank you to the following people who helped make this year's event a success: Judy Bledsoe, Molly Carmichael, Jerry & Kay Clement, David Hays, Ray Holmes, Debra Jackson, Dean Larson, Joyce Morgan Young, Hoyt & Shirra Rogers, Ric Selbie, Perry Wilder, Jane Willey, and Ken Young.

In addition, we thank our wonderful staff who are a tremendous help in all of this.

-Joanna and Wanda-Ann

### JANUARY USHER COMMITTEE

Gary Stephens, Captain

Lewis Powell	Jerry Clement
Bill Davidson	Blair Harlin
David Erickson	Sam Graham
H.R. Shepherd	Perry Wilder
Mike Peterson	Hoyt Rogers
Ken Young	Robby Burch
Ray Holmes	Ric Selbie

### January Lunch Club

Our Thursday Lunch Club does not meet in January. The next scheduled TLC Luncheon will be held Thursday, February 4, 2016.

### Dave Ramsey's FINANCIAL PEACE

LaGrange First UMC will host the **Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University** beginning January 13, 2016. This 9-week course will be led by **Zachary Taylor & Linda Frano**. The kits are \$99 per couple or individual and for the first 10 who sign-up, it will be \$90. Learn to handle money GOD'S way. If you have money, owe money, or spend money, FPU will apply to you. It is not only for you, but you will learn principles to teach your children and grandchildren. Come see a preview at 12 noon on December 20th and/or January 3rd in the Maranatha classroom. Please email [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org) or call the church office at 706-884-4635 or more information. Please share this with your friends.

### SUMMER DAY CAMP DIRECTOR



We are now accepting applications for the position of Director for our Methodist Summer Day Camp Program. If you or someone you know might be interested in this position, please send a resume to "Day Camp Position" at [sprc@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:sprc@lagrangefumc.org).

### Stewardship Update & Reminder

Thank you to all who participated in our "Football Faith" stewardship journey back in October. To date we have received 213 commitments, totaling \$894,108 towards God's mission and ministry through LaGrange First UMC for 2016.

We want you to know why this matters so much: Each year, your church leadership looks at the current ministries, the new ministry opportunities, and the dreams and visions our various ministries have for the coming year. We prioritize them and then we pray and await the results of our annual stewardship journey to see if we will simply maintain, lessen, or expand our church's ministry for the coming year. So, regardless of the amount, your commitment really makes a difference by helping us be good stewards of the financial resources entrusted to our care!

So, if you've yet to return your 2016 stewardship commitment, would you consider doing so today? You can fill out an online commitment card by going to <http://www.lagrangefumc.org/online-giving>, or if you don't still have a printed one from one of our previous mailings, you can request a new one through the church office.

Again, thank you for your generosity – you make God's ministry through LaGrange First UMC possible!

### HOMEBOUND CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

As part of his annual tradition, our Senior Pastor will be sharing Holy Communion with all of our church's local Homebound members prior to Christmas.

Homebound members: please be on the lookout for him to come and visit with you. To verify you are on our homebound list, or if you have a specific time that you'd prefer he visit, please contact the church office at 706-884-4635 or [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org).



From the

Greatest Story  
Ever Told...

Join us Sunday,  
January 10, 2016,  
at 10:00am  
in the fellowship hall for  
the Radio Show, "Flight  
into Egypt".

Thank You to Lamar & Dorothy McKeen, December Place Farm, for donating the beautiful trees in our sanctuary and chapel this Christmas.

Thank You to WandaAnn Kinnaman & Joanna Selbie for coordinating the Nativity Festival this year.

Thank You to Jennie Gordy, Nancy Stevens, & Marion Towns, along with the many helpers for decorating our church for Advent.

## OFFICE SCHEDULE

The church offices will close Wednesday, December 23rd at 12 noon, Thursday, & Friday, December 24th & 25th for Christmas, and Thursday, December 31st at noon and Friday January 1st for New Year's.

The next Flame will come to you on January 7th. Call the church office if you have any questions about programs or activities.



**Sunday, December 27th**  
**Family Service of Carols**  
**10:30am**  
**in the Fellowship Hall**  
**(No Sunday School & No Children's Church)**

## Children's Ministry

Grayson Bailey, Director

Our children's Christmas Party (*and last regular Wednesday night activity*) will be held Wednesday, December 16th, during our regular MERGE time. We will resume Wednesday evening activities on January 6, 2016.

## Youth Ministry

Kali Grenus, Director

[kali@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:kali@lagrangefumc.org) or 706-884-4635 ext. 215



Our 7th Grade Girls' Small Group got together to make cards for our homebound members and the Lay Ministry Team to give out.

Thank you to Melissa Jolly for organizing and to Martha Allred, who leads this great group of girls!



Sometimes the best things you can do during a stressful holiday session is just spend time with each other. December 6th, we took 38 students and 4 adults Ice Skating! We came back with one blister and one minor scratch. In my world we were very successful!

From December 20th- January 3rd we will have **No Programming!** **Small Groups** will resume on Wednesday, January 6th, and **Sunday Night aLive** will be back on Sunday, January 10th.

**THE FLAME**

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**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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LaGrange, Georgia 30240  
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[www.pastorbriang.blogspot.com](http://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
- Miss Kali Grenus (ext 215).....Director of Youth Ministry
- Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 207).....Business Manager
- Mr. Scott Hill (ext 213).....Landscape/Maintenance
- 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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**OUR SYMPATHY**

Our sympathy is extended to Jane & Rick Free & their family in the death of her father, Edward Long, December 5, 2015.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Edna Kelly  
December 9, 2016**

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2015**

Needed Weekly	\$ 23,919.59
Given Since Last Flame	\$ 22,426.57
Needed YTD	\$1,195,979.50
Received YTD	\$1,200,450.94

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, November 29**

Sunday School.....	233
Worship Service.....	348

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, December 6**

Sunday School.....	214
Worship Service.....	411

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, December 13**

Sunday School.....	263
Worship Service.....	372

**Holiday Worship Schedule**

**December 20th, all regular Worship Services  
Sunday School at 10:00am**

**Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2015  
5:00 p.m. - Family Candlelight Service, Sanctuary  
11:00 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Communion Service,  
Sanctuary**

*\*\*\*A special offering will be taken at our Christmas Eve services  
for our Community Care Fund.\*\*\**

**Sunday, December 27th  
Family Service of Carols, 10:30am, in the Fellowship Hall  
(No Sunday School, No Children's Church)**

**Sunday, January 3, 2016  
Regular schedule of services and Sunday School**

**Calendar for December 20 - December 26**

<b>Sunday</b>	* Nursery
*Worship Services	Sunday School
*10:00am	
<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
<b>Wednesday</b>	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
<b>Church Closes at 12 noon for Christmas</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	
Church Offices Closed for Christmas	
<b>5:00pm</b>	
<b>Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service</b>	
<b>11:00pm</b>	
<b>Christmas Eve Traditional Communion Candlelight Service</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	
Church Offices Closed for Christmas	
<b>Saturday</b>	

**Calendar for December 27 - January 2**

<b>Sunday</b>	* Nursery
<b>No Sunday School</b>	
<b>*10:30AM Combined Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	
11:00-11:30am	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
7:00pm	Morning Glory Band Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	
11:30am	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:45am	Prayer Group
Church Closes at 12 Noon for New Year's Day Holiday	
<b>Friday</b>	
Church Closed for New Year's Day Holiday	
<b>Saturday</b>	

**Calendar for January 3 - January 9**

<b>Sunday</b>	* Nursery
*Worship Services	Sunday School
*10:00am	
<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
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	Young Parents Small Group
6:00pm	Youth Activities
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:00am	Community Care
9:45am	Prayer Group
<b>Friday</b>	
7:00am	Men's Coffee & Prayer Group
<b>Saturday</b>	
8:00am	Men's Breakfast



*First United Methodist Church  
Christmas Decorations  
2015*

*In Honor Of:*

Lyons Carmichael  
Jackson Carmichael  
Maggie Holmes; Trae, Susan, Drew & Ella Holmes  
Greg McClanahan  
Hildred Cammon

Ann Petry  
Libba Traylor  
Libba Trawick  
Chase & Beth Parmer  
Lindsey Jackson  
Tyler Jackson  
Connor Jackson  
Mike & Ellen Dobbs  
Lauranne Buchanan  
Builders Sunday School Class  
Maranatha Sunday School Class  
Dr. Brian & Trish Germano  
Bryson, Laegan & Bella Smith  
Dr. John Jackson Family  
Kory Trinrud & Family  
West Ga. Hospice, Nurses, Volunteers, and Patients  
The Sykes Smith Family  
The Skip Smith Family  
Our grandchildren: Landon & Reagan Taylor  
Ann Petry  
Morning Glory Band  
Michael, Elizabeth, & Matthew Hayes  
Marsha Holliday  
Our Pastors, Brian Germano & Blake Trent  
Our FUMC Church Staff  
Our Children  
Walter & Marianne Murphy  
Peggy Lukken  
Harold Lawrence

*By:*

Molly & Bobby Carmichael  
Molly & Bobby Carmichael  
Ray & Sally Holmes  
Maranatha Sunday School Class  
Dorothy & Bobby Cammon; Margaret, Tim,  
Caroline & Ben Sanders  
UMW Ruth Circle  
UMW Ruth Circle  
The John Jackson Family  
Mrs. Bernice Strickland  
Debra & Dean Jackson  
Debra & Dean Jackson  
Debra & Dean Jackson  
H.R. & Mary Anne Shepherd  
H.R. & Mary Anne Shepherd  
H.R. & Mary Anne Shepherd  
H.R. & Mary Anne Shepherd  
Trish Smith  
Trish Smith  
Libba Trawick  
Libba Trawick  
Libba Trawick  
Martha & Gordon Smith  
Martha & Gordon Smith  
Gary & Jane Stephens  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Bonnie Norrick  
Suzie & Mark Highland  
H. R. & Mary Anne Shepherd  
Brian D. & Janet M. Lockerbie  
Brian D. & Janet M. Lockerbie  
Faye & Cliff Rainey  
Faye & Cliff Rainey  
Faye & Cliff Rainey  
Faye & Cliff Rainey

### *In Memory Of:*

John Alford Jones  
Phyllis Ann Enright  
Florence & Charlie Patterson  
Sherry Patterson  
Edna Kelly  
Kelly Richard Linch, Jr.  
John & Sarah Soltis  
  
Jennifer Soltis Trizzino  
  
David Soltis  
  
Dick Willey  
Mr. & Mrs. R.C. Willey, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Hartzell  
Jimmy Day  
  
Charles Burnett  
Mary Holland  
Wiley Reeves  
Edith Reeves  
Susan Lynn Gonsalves  
Raymond & Madelyn Holmes and  
Branson & Sarah Chandler  
Robert Cammon

Cliff Cammon

George Deane Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe J. Childs  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Hugh Allen  
Mr. Benjamin Hill Childs  
Walter Lukken  
Joyce & Morgan Jackson  
Ralph T. Johnson  
Lamar Wadsworth  
Claire Beall  
  
Claire Beall  
  
Keener Lynn  
Pearle Dunson Sims  
Jimmy Sims  
Mr. & Mrs. Rupert Denny  
Windy Martin Lupien

### *In Memory Of:*

Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Cunningham  
Mr. & Mrs. James Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Stevenson  
John & Evelyn Henderson  
Dorothy & Jule Rawlinson  
Betty Jackson  
Woodrow & Virginia Smith  
Grace Smith  
John Varner  
Rev. Sidney Tate  
Tim Huckstep  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Morgan Jackson  
Parker Smith  
Margie Williamson  
Edgar Williamson  
Greg Williamson  
William Wates Keller, II  
Marguerite J. Smallwood  
Marjorie H. Wilder  
Bill Petry  
Steve Petry  
Britt Gay  
Robert & Louise Strickland  
Elizabeth Robertson  
Mr. Walter J. Lukken  
  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Myers, Sr.  
  
Don Harlin  
  
Matthew Harlin  
  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Osborne  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Smith  
The Men who did not come home,  
1st Platoon A Troop, 11th ACR  
Earle Williams  
John & Suzanne Schuessler &  
Lydia Helms  
John Robertson  
Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Eidson  
Robert B. Cammon, Sr.  
Mr. Raymond A. Newman  
Mr. & Mrs. Gilmore Hiers  
Sam Rainey  
David Rainey  
Our Parents

Don Harlin

Matthew Harlin

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Osborne  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Smith

The Men who did not come home,  
1st Platoon A Troop, 11th ACR

Earle Williams

John & Suzanne Schuessler &  
Lydia Helms

John Robertson

Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Eidson

Robert B. Cammon, Sr.

Mr. Raymond A. Newman

Mr. & Mrs. Gilmore Hiers

Sam Rainey

David Rainey

Our Parents

### *By:*

Cecilia & Mike Stevenson  
Cecilia & Mike Stevenson  
Cecilia & Mike Stevenson  
Lea & J.M. Rawlinson  
Lea & J.M. Rawlinson  
Her Family  
Bob & Joyce Smith  
Bob & Joyce Smith  
Elynor Varner  
Enid S. Tate  
John, Jackie, & Mark Huckstep  
Libba Trawick  
Martha & Gordon Smith  
Susan Langford  
Susan Langford  
Susan Langford  
William Wates Keller III & Family  
Ann & Perry Wilder  
Ann & Perry Wilder  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Rob & Lynda Petry  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Myers,  
Anna & Sophie  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Myers,  
Anna & Sophie  
Carol Harlin & Tim, Beth, T.J.  
& Katie Harlin  
Carol Harlin & Tim, Beth, T.J.  
& Katie Harlin  
Marilyn & Allen Smith  
Marilyn & Allen Smith  
  
Allen Smith  
Jane Williams  
  
Suzie & Mark Highland  
Virginia Eidson Robertson  
Virginia Eidson Robertson  
Hildred Cammon  
Jean Newman & Family  
Jean Newman & Family  
Faye & Cliff Rainey  
Faye & Cliff Rainey  
Faye & Cliff Rainey

Carol Harlin & Tim, Beth, T.J.  
& Katie Harlin

Carol Harlin & Tim, Beth, T.J.  
& Katie Harlin

Marilyn & Allen Smith  
Marilyn & Allen Smith

Allen Smith

Jane Williams

Suzie & Mark Highland

Virginia Eidson Robertson

Virginia Eidson Robertson

Hildred Cammon

Jean Newman & Family

Jean Newman & Family

Faye & Cliff Rainey

Faye & Cliff Rainey

Faye & Cliff Rainey