



# THE FLAME

The First United Methodist Church of LaGrange

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

**February 2019**

## “THE PRESENCE”

Some years ago I was in historic Edinburgh, Scotland. I was there, in part, to explore the Royal Mile from Edinburgh Castle to Holyroodhouse Palace. St. Giles' Cathedral, the mother church of world Presbyterians, is right in the middle. I stopped there especially to pay my respects to the venerable Protestant reformer, John Knox (1505-1572).

I enjoyed all the many Scottish sites, to be sure. But, the most moving experience I had was on a quiet morning as I entered magnificent St. Mary's Cathedral, the mother church of Scottish Episcopalians, and felt the warm sunlight shining through the stained glass. On the wall to the left of the High Altar hangs a remarkable portrait simply entitled, *The Presence*. I encourage you to view it online.

This well-known picture, painted by the Edinburgh artist A. E. Borthwick in 1910, captures a scene of St. Mary's Cathedral itself at worship. A radiant light in the distance draws one's eye to a large crowd being served Holy Communion at the High Altar. In the foreground, far away from the crowded Chancel, is pictured a lone figure desperately kneeling, obviously hurting, pouring her heart out before God. Just behind her is the comforting Presence of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ who is bathed in an even more radiant light.

Like John Wesley, I am a self-confessed High Church Methodist. As such, I rejoice in the very Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I taste and see how good He is each time I receive His most precious Body and Blood at the Altar. I feel my sins forgiven, my soul nourished, and my spirit empowered to live a life that really matters. Though I believe in this spiritual reality with all my heart, I am struck that, in the portrait, the greater light emanates from the Risen Lord reaching out to the hurting soul too afraid, or too weary, or too humbled to approach the Altar. In that image, my heart rejoices all the more! The radiant light of the Risen Lord will always be seen most gloriously among the hurting, the seeking, and the repentant. Remember how He said, *“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”* (Matthew 11:28).

I give thanks for all of you who feel very close to Him, drawn deeply into His presence and serving among His people. You know the promise of His rest and delight in composer C. Austin Miles' words, *“And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own. And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other, has ever, known!”*

I encourage all of you who are moving more intentionally into a deeper relationship with Christ as your personal Savior and Lord to embrace His radiant light and prevenient love. In His embrace, you will experience the greatest sense of fulfillment, joy, and security known to humanity! Fanny Crosby put it this way, *“I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, and it told Thy love to me; but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to Thee.”*

My heart beats especially for you who are simply worn out by grief, by anger, by regret, by disappointment. Worn out by living a life that does not seem to matter much. The Presence of the Risen and Reigning Lord is most especially with you – right now! Let Him reach you through the worship and witness of our great church and find yourself singing with Bill and Gloria Gaither, *“He touched me, oh He touched me, and oh the joy that floods my soul. Something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole!”*

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

Dr. John Beyers

### Meals on Wheels - Urgent Need

One of our Meals on Wheels drivers can no longer drive for us. We need someone to fill this role ASAP. It takes about an hour, on Mondays. It could also be a team taking this route. For questions or more details, call Dorothy Cammon at 706-884-2078.



From February 3, 2019 to March 3, 2019, please take the opportunity to help underprivileged children in Troup County know the joy of reading and being read to. Please donate your gently used children's books or a new book and place in the designated bins.

We need books that range in age from infants to 5th Grade. All of these books will be donated to the Jungle Bus, which is a joint program of Success by Six, a United Way program, and the Troup County School System.

Donation bins will be located in 3 locations: 1) the hallway by the Church Office, 2) the Fellowship Hall, and 3) in front of Jeanne Jones' office in the Sunday School wing.



## Scouting Fundraiser

**Boy Scout Troop 21 will host a Sloppy Pig BBQ Fundraiser Scout Sunday, February 10, 11am-2pm Vernon Street Parking Lot**

**Tickets are \$10, pre-sold, and available from a Boy Scout.**

**Meal Includes 2 BBQ Sandwiches, Bag of Chips, Brownie, Soft Drink**

### PRAYER GROUPS AT FUMC



We can bless others when we take them with us to the throne of grace, bringing them to the ONE who is the source of blessing. (Hebrews 4:16)

ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO MEET WITH ONE OF THE THREE PRAYER GROUPS CURRENTLY MEETING. Feel free to give your suggestions of other times and opportunities that would work for you.

#### THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

THURSDAYS, 9:45 -10:45, in the CHURCH RESOURCE CENTER (Library). Open to both men and women, this small group starts by reviewing individual prayer requests received, a list received from the church office, and those listed in the Sunday bulletin. They send notes to those facing trials as well as praises. This is followed by praying for each request, our church family and staff, our community, our country and our world. They continue praying during the week for the prayer requests received.

#### MEN'S COFFEE & PRAYER GROUP

FRIDAYS, 7:00-8:00 A.M. IN THE MMC BUILDING, SMALL DINING ROOM. Meet for Coffee from 7:00-7:15, and from 7:15 - 8:00 they have Prayer and Devotion time or Bible Study. ALL MEN ARE INVITED. *Not all men are from FUMC.*

#### FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

FRIDAYS, 8:15-9:15 A.M. (New Time) - Meets at the CHICK-FIL-A ON Commerce Avenue. This group reads and discusses a chapter from the Bible each week and ends by praying for each other and the needs of which they are aware.

**NEW PRAYER REQUEST CARDS IN THE CHURCH PEWS.** Write your prayer request and place in the offering plate. More prayer times coming soon.

### Preparing a Place, Always

Let's get together! We're seeing a lot of new faces in the worship areas. One way to welcome them is by leaving a place for them at the end of the pews.

Just as we park a bit further from the door to leave open parking spaces for newcomers, sitting toward the center of the pews provides a place for our guests to sit. By squeezing in, we can be closer to our friends too.

The carpet and pew cushions in our Chapel and Sanctuary have had food crumbs, candy wrappers, and drink stains left on them in recent months.

We want you to enjoy the coffee and goodies in the Fellowship Hall as you visit with friends, but the Altar Guild and Ushers want to remind you that *food and drinks are not allowed in the Chapel and Sanctuary.*

Thank you for honoring and caring for these sacred places.

The Worship Committee

# Scouting News

## Boy Scout Troop 21

For more than ninety years, Boy Scout Troop 21 has been sponsored by the First United Methodist Church of LaGrange. We are extraordinarily grateful to the church for this tremendous commitment over all these years.

With your assistance, Troop 21 has had the opportunity to instill the goals of Scouting in hundreds of young men by reinforcing family values of citizenship and character building while also developing mental and physical skills. These goals are accomplished through the outdoor program that allows the members of Troop 21 the opportunity to participate in camping opportunities year round.

Troop 21 follows the Scouting principles known as the patrol method that requires older and more experienced scouts to lead younger scouts in their advancement. Presently Troop 21 has a total of three patrols with twenty-five scouting members. The Troop and each patrol are led by scouts who are elected by their peers and entrusted with the responsibility of leading and training the Troop and its patrols.

Achieving the Eagle Scout Award is the highest level of accomplishment a Boy Scout can earn. Through the continuous work of many dedicated Scouts, leaders and families, Troop 21 has produced over 135 Eagle Scouts.

## Cub Scout Pack 21

Cub Scout Pack 21 was revived in 1979 and has been a part of First United Methodist Church ever since. Our Pack is comprised of Lions (kindergarteners), Tigers (first graders), Wolves (second graders), Bears (third graders) and Webelos (fourth and fifth graders). Den meetings take place weekly at our church. Scouts work on advancement to receive their rank in March at the Blue & Gold Banquet.

Our Pack is involved in lots of activities beginning in September. We meet monthly for pack meetings (fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm) where Den presentations and advancements are presented to the scouts and their families. Our Pack participates in hikes, family campouts, the Raingutter Regatta, the Pinewood Derby, and service projects, as well as other activities throughout the year. Our Scouts sell popcorn in the fall to fund our dues and activities.

**Cub Scout Pack 21 will host their annual Pinewood Derby on Scout Sunday, February 10 in the MMC gym at 1pm.** The derby is the highlight of the year for many scouts. All ages love seeing their cars race down the track. The scouts and parents put a lot of effort into the design and fabrication of the race cars. Please come out and support our Cub Scouts.

## Scout Sunday----Mark Your Calendars

***If you have ever been in the Scouting program at LaGrange First UMC, as a leader or a Scout, please plan to join us for this special time to recognize our Scouting Program.*** Cub Scouts who have participated in the God and Family program will be awarded at 11am service. Scouts will participate in the service by acolyting and leading a flag ceremony. We are always looking to grow and enrich our pack. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about how you could help, please contact Marilyn Huberdeau, Pack Committee Chair, or Matt French, Cubmaster.

**We appreciate First United Methodist Church for supporting all of our Scouts.**

# FUMC STUDENT MINISTRIES



**Pictured above:** CJ enjoying his study away trip with a few outdoor adventures and some beautiful scenery! To read more about his incredible experience, check out the blog posts at [www.chasingcontemplation.com](http://www.chasingcontemplation.com).

During the month of January, we enjoyed our first small group night of the new semester, welcomed guest speaker, The Reverend Adam Roberts, on Wednesday night, enjoyed skating at Sweetland on Ice, and welcomed CJ home from Costa Rica! One of our seniors, Ben Ivey, began remodeling the restrooms on the youth hall for his Eagle Scout Project. Stay tuned for the status of his project.

During the month of February, we will officially return to our normal routine including our Tuesday morning devotions. There are some exciting, fun activities programmed for Wednesday and Sunday evenings!

FAMILY  
NIGHT  
AT FUMC

**FEB 8, 2019**  
**5:30 -**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**MAKE A**  
**RESERVATION TODAY!**  
[JEANNE@LAGRANGEFUMC.ORG](mailto:JEANNE@LAGRANGEFUMC.ORG)

**JOURNEY  
THROUGH  
TIME**

**50'S,**  
**60'S,**  
**70'S, 80'S**

90'S AND  
BEYOND

**DINNER,**  
**MUSIC,**  
**TRIVIA,**  
**GAMES**  
**AND MORE!**

 Adobe Spark

# Journey Through Time

## *With Us*

Be sure to be at LaGrange First UMC on February 8, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. for our family event.

Mr. Rick will serve up a delicious dinner, and afterwards there will be a fun program for all ages.

Do you remember the most popular game from the 80's? How about the 90's?

Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors for dinner, music, a word from Dr. John, and lots of family fun.

Make your reservation by February 4.  
Call 706-884-4635, ext. 209,  
or email  
[jeanne@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:jeanne@lagrangefumc.org).

## Summer Camp 2019

Yes, it is time to register for Summer Camp already. Registration opens the first two weeks of February for FUMC members and last year's campers only. Starting the third week of February, new campers will have the opportunity to register. Camp will run 10 weeks this summer, from May 28 – August 2. Space is limited and is given on a first come, first served basis. For more details check the Church's website ([lagrangefumc.org](http://lagrangefumc.org)) and look under the tab for Outreach, then click on Summer Camp. Be sure to tell your family members, friends, and neighbors!

**THE FLAME**

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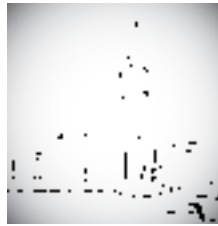
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Dr. John Beyers (ext 205).....Senior Minister  
Mr. Rick Free (ext 210).....Director of Food Services  
Mr. Eddie Giddens.....Custodian  
Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 207).....Business Manager  
Mrs. Jeanne Jones (ext 209).....Children's Minister  
Mr. Darian 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](http://lagrangefumc.org/online-giving).



**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](mailto:stephenministry@lagrangefumc.org).

### The Traditional Chapel Worship Service

The Sunday, 9:00 am Chapel Worship Service will continue to meet in the Sanctuary until the roof repair work is completed. We will keep you updated on the repairs.

### The February Men's Breakfast

The February Men's Breakfast is a special event each year. All men in the church are invited and may bring their special valentine with them.

Come join us on Saturday, February 9, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall for a homecooked breakfast and **STORIES** by Pepper Hagebak and Joyce Morgan Young.



**Thursday  
Lunch  
Club**  
*presents*

**Donald Davis**

**February 28  
12 Noon  
Fellowship Hall**



For reservations for the meal & program call or email the church at 706-884-4635 or [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org). Cost is \$6 per person. All are welcome!

### SHARE YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST

The Worship Committee is beginning to work on compiling a **Lenten Devotional Book** for the Season of Lent (March 6 through April 20). The booklets have received rave reviews over the past years. What a wonderful way to spread your faith.

We invite you to write a devotional. It should be original and come from your heart and soul. How much should you write? That's up to you. Suggested format is a title, scripture, devotional, and a brief prayer.

Email your devotional to [communication@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:communication@lagrangefumc.org) or leave it in the Church Office. All submissions are due **no later than February 25.**



# February 2019

## Weekly

<b>SUNDAY</b>	
9:00a	Chapel Worship
10:00a	Sunday School
11:00a	Traditional Worship
5:00p	Disciple III
<b>MONDAY</b>	
10:30a	Meals on Wheels
11:30a	Soup Kitchen
5:30p	Sons of Lafayette Rehearsal
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
<b>TUESDAY</b>	
9:00a	Community Care
1:30p	Staff Meeting
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
7:00p	Boy Scouts
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
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
<b>THURSDAY</b>	
9:00a	Community Care
9:45a	Prayer Ministry
10:30a	Dulcimers
6:30p	Cub Scout Den Meetings
<b>FRIDAY</b>	
7:00a	Men's Coffee & Prayer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 SOUPER Bowl Fundraiser 9:45a till....	4 5:00p UMW Board	5 12:30p Red Cross Blood Drive	6 5:45p Missions Committee  6:00p "The Best Yes" Study	7	8 5:30p Children's "Journey Through Time" BIG EVENT	9 8:45a Stephen Ministry Class  9:00a Men's Breakfast
10 12:00p Cub Scout Pinewood Derby	11	12 5:30p Worship Committee	13 5:30p Stephen Ministry Class 5:45p Missions Committee 6:00p "The Best Yes" Study	14	15	16
17	18 <b>Church Closed for the Holiday</b>	19 6:30p Cub Scout Pack Meeting	20 5:30p Stephen Ministry Class  6:00p "The Best Yes" Study	21	22	23
24	25	26 6:30p Church Council	27 5:30p Stephen Ministry Class  6:00p "The Best Yes" Study	28 12:00 TLC Luncheon  5:30p Board of Trustees	1	2

## Remembrances Received, January 2019

### *In Memory of*

**Evelyn Jordan**—Mr. & Mrs. John McManaway, U.M.W.

**Tom Westbrook** (Katie Westbrook's Grandfather)—Virginia Robertson

**Bill Overall** (Jerry Overall's Brother)—Carolyn Alise

**Juanita Eichmann** (Betty Ward's Sister)—Carolyn Alise

**Annette Wright** (Janet Johnson's Sister)—Carolyn Alise

### *ATTENDANCE*

#### **Sunday, January 6**

Sunday School....341    Worship Service.....196

#### **Sunday, January 13**

Sunday School....338    Worship Service.....182

#### **Sunday, January 20**

Sunday School....175    Worship Service.....332

#### **Sunday, January 27**

Sunday School....178    Worship Service.....315

### *Wednesday Evening Weekly Menus*

#### **February 6**

Poppyseed Chicken  
Rice  
Okra  
Kids—Same

#### **February 20**

Soup  
Grilled Cheese  
Kids—Same

#### **February 13**

Pork loin  
Hashbrown Casserole  
Veggie  
Kids: Mini Burgers

#### **February 27**

Chicken Fingers  
Potato Wedges  
Green Beans  
Kids—Same

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

### *February's Worship Team Volunteers*

**Ushers:** Jay Russell, Bobby Carmichael, Richard Ennis, Danny Arp, Mack Reese, Bill Young, Wayne Shelnett, Dan McAlexander, Bowen Beall, Bonnie Norrick

**Altar Guild:** Davie Biagi, Laura Holley, Patti Lybrand, Dodie Patterson, Holly Reese, Patsy Wynne, Heather Graham

**Hospitality Team:** Linda Frano, Beth & Frank McRae, Donna & Richard Ennis, Carole & Kelly Linch, Julianne Skipper, Caryn & Steve Cole, Pat & Fred Bodine, Susan & Bill Black, Laura Jennings, Nancy & Dean Larson, Carolyn Day, Cindy & John Jackson, Mark Huckstep, Becky & Philip Ivey

### *We Extend Our Sympathy to*

Gwen Loveless and Family in the death of her brother, **Robert Douglas Reeves Jr.**, on **December 25, 2018.**

Janet Johnson and Family in the death of her sister, **Annette Wright**, **December 29, 2018.**

Jared Lovin and Family in the death of his grandmother, **Evelyn Joyce Lovin**, on **December 30, 2018..**

Katie Trent and Family in the death of her grandfather **Tom Westbrook** on **January 4, 2019.**

Joyce Smith and Family in the death of her sister **Amy Darden** on **January 13, 2019.**