



# THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

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

## 2017 BISHOP'S OFFERING

*"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-12)*

Many of you are aware that each year our Bishop of North Georgia United Methodism (Sue Harpert-Johnson) designates an annual "Bishop's Mission Offering" to be collected by North Georgia United Methodist churches in the weeks leading up to Annual Conference and then shared by each church's delegates at a worship service during Conference.



This year, Bishop Sue has announced that our 2017 Bishop's Mission Offering will support United Methodism's Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) to provide educational funds for seminary students and licensed local pastors – resources to help train upcoming pastors and church leaders. This past year (since Fall 2016), 163 North Georgia seminary students enrolled in United Methodist seminaries and Asbury seminary received \$430,010 in MEF grants for tuition and associated expenses. And while it's true that the main source of MEF is through General Church apportionments given by United Methodists in our local churches, this year's Bishop's Offering will supplement the apportioned funds. Since a recent General Board of Higher Education commissioned study showed that a typical UM seminary student graduates with an average student loan debt of \$50,000, these grants will enable some who are otherwise unable to attend seminary and will enable others not to need to go into debt simply to receive a seminary degree.

Visit the following link to watch a short video featuring some of our North GA beneficiaries of MEF <https://youtu.be/ta8LVOenDno>. The need is great, the mission is worthwhile, and the results provide called, gifted, and educated pastors for our churches throughout North Georgia United Methodism. So, I invite you to give generously to help men and women around our state to answer God's call to serve His church. Make your check payable to LaGrange First UMC and designate either it or cash to "Bishop's Mission Offering."

We'll be collecting funds through June 7th, and we will present our church's combined check during the offering time at the Annual Conference afternoon worship service on Wednesday, June 14th.

Remember that God loves you and I do, too.

Pastor Brian

(P.S., For more information visit <http://www.ngumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-names-annual-conference-special-offering-7684049>)

**May 21, 2017**

**\*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**

**May 28, 2017**

**Church on the Hooch  
10:00am, West Point Lake**

**\*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.*

**\*\* 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 3rd grade & 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.



## Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sunday, May 21st, we will recognize all graduates at our worship services. If you are graduating in 2017 with a degree of any type, please join us at one of our services.

At the 11:00 Sanctuary Worship Service, we will have a special presentation for our High School graduates.

## Wednesday Evening Weekly

**Serving from 5pm to 6:30pm**

**\*\*Last Regularly Scheduled WEW\*\***

**WEW Meal on May 24, 2017**

Menu: Breakfast

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.



## Thursday Lunch Club

**June 1st, 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) by Tuesday, May 30th.

## REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

### Memorial

**Mr. Allen Holmes** - Ann & Dee Woodward

### Honorariums

**Mrs. Betty Ragan** - Adult Fellowship Sunday School Class

**Mrs. Betty Edmonds** - Adult Fellowship Sunday School Class



**Ron & Carol Kelley,  
Jason & Mandy Hill,  
Luke, Audrey, & Anna Francis Hill**  
joined our church on Sunday May 7th.

**Russell & Becky Davis**  
joined our church on Sunday, May 14th.



## June is OUR Food Closet Month

We need volunteers for the LaGrange Food Closet, 416 Pierce Street, June 1st, 6th, 8th, 13th, & 15th from 12:45 to 3pm. Please call 706-884-4635 or email the church office at [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org)

to volunteer to help with this wonderful community ministry. We need 4 people each day to help meet the need.

## United Methodist Women's Covered Dish Supper

**Monday, June 5th, 6 p.m.**

Methodist Ministries Center

Program provided by **The Valdez Brothers**

All women in the church are invited to bring a dish and come enjoy the food, fellowship and musical program.

R.S.V.P. to the Church Office at 706-884-4635 or [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org).

*We congratulate all those graduating with degrees during this year.*

**We present to you, our Church's  
High School Graduating Class of 2017.**

William Allen  
Matthew Anderson  
Macy Burns  
Jessica Emery  
Emily Huff  
Blade Kendall  
Andrew Ochsenknecht  
Joe Pullium  
Alle Strickland  
Ashley Wilder

Ben Anderson  
Elizabeth Burch  
Alice Ann Carson  
Whitley Harmon  
Taylor Jones  
Evan Newsome  
Hannah Penn  
William Rainey  
Jacob Vinson  
Joseph Wright

## Important News from the Staff Parish Relations Committee



- SPR is grateful for all of the years of service given by Grayson Bailey. She has served as our Children's Minister, and has been an active member of this church for a long time. We will miss her dearly. Good luck to Grayson in her new endeavors including her teaching career and marriage! Her last day on staff will be May 28th.
- We welcome Jeannie Jones as our new Children's Minister. Jeanne is coming to us from Louisiana, moving to Georgia to be closer to her children. We are so excited to see what is in store for our children's program under Jeanne's expertise. She will begin July 1st; volunteers will staff our Children's Ministry until then.
- We also welcome Emily Sims as our 2017 Summer Day Camp Director! Emily is an Occupational Therapist with the Troup County School System. We are looking forward to Emily's time with us and her ideas and energy for our Summer Camp Ministry.
- We are saddened that Harrison Pollard, our Senior High Youth Director, will leave us June 30th, as he and his wife move to Valdosta, Georgia, as she begins her Masters Program. Harrison has been a wonderful addition to our team at FUMC and we thank him for all his hard work.
- C. J. Lord will serve temporarily as both the Mid High and Senior High Youth Director until the SPRC has time to address a more permanent solution.

*Please be in prayer for all these mentioned here, and for our church, its staff, and our congregation during these transitions and beyond.*



**Sundays @ West Point Lake  
10:00-10:45am, May 28-July 30**

**Church on the Hooch -- needs your help:**

- **YARD SIGNS** – Place a “Church on the Hooch” yard sign in your lawn during the summer to help advertise. Signs are available in the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary Narthex.
- **SHARE IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA** – Share “Church on the Hooch” information on your Facebook page.
- **SHARE OUR PUBLICITY PIECES** – Distribute informational cards and flyers, available in the fellowship hall and Sanctuary Narthex.
- **Attend!** – (Unless you plan to worship on our campus)

For more information or to volunteer in other ways, contact Mike Wilson at [mikelamar.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:mikelamar.wilson@gmail.com), or email your contact info to [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org). In the meantime, please be in prayer for this important outreach initiative for LaGrange FUMC.

**Special Request**

The Worship Committee would like to see everyone wear **RED** on Sunday, **June 4th**, as we celebrate **Pentecost Sunday**.  
Look in your closet and pull out your red!

**Worship Committee Announces  
Special One-Service Sundays**

**July 2nd**, 10:30am, *Patriotic Service* in the Fellowship Hall with a Church Family Cookout after the service

**August 27th**, 10:30am, *Homecoming Service* in the Sanctuary with a Covered Dish Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following, Dr. Gil Watson, preaching

**October 1st**, 10:30am, *World Communion Sunday* in the Sanctuary with our Korean Congregation

**December 24th**, *Christmas Eve Services*  
(Morning) 10:30am, Worship Service in the Sanctuary  
(Evening) 5:00pm & 11:00pm Candlelight Services in the Sanctuary

**December 31st**, 10:30am, *Worship Service* in the Fellowship Hall



**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).



**Camp Viola 2017  
June 5th — June 8th.**

We anticipate 45 to 50 rising 3rd, 4th and 5th graders to join us for our week of camp.

Rick Free needs your help!

1. In the kitchen preparing meals Monday through Thursday morning.
2. Chaperones day and night.
3. Helpers with Arts & Crafts on Monday and Tuesday.

Please email him at [rick@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:rick@lagrangefumc.org) or call 706-884-4635 to let him know what you can do to help.

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

If you *have celebrated or will celebrate* your 50th wedding anniversary anytime in 2017, please call or email the church office at 706-884-4635 or [churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org).



We want to make sure you are in the 50th Wedding Anniversary Group, and we want you to join us on Sunday, June 4th, at the 11:00 Worship Service to be recognized.

There will be a luncheon after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. **Everyone needs to call or email the church office by Thursday, June 1st, to make your meal reservation for the luncheon.**

**Youth Ministry**



We congratulate all of our seniors who will be leaving our Youth Group at the end of the summer for something, let me think...oh yea, I believe it’s college. We wish you all the very best, and we will look forward to seeing you when you are home on the weekends.

Our exciting news is that we have a bunch of rising 6th graders who are chomping at the bit to join in with the rest of this terrific group of kids.

Be on the lookout for emails, texts, and other forms of communication that will bring you important news about specific plans for the summer.

**THE FLAME**

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**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

401 Broad Street  
 LaGrange, Georgia 30240  
 Tel: (706) 884-4635 Fax: (706) 845-7068  
 After-Hours Pastoral Emergencies: 888-456-1203

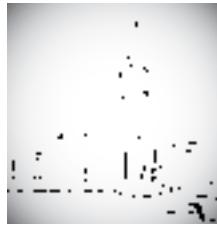
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Postmaster: Send Address Change to  
 The Flame, 401 Broad Street  
 LaGrange, Georgia 30240

- 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. Darian Krimm (ext 202).....Minister of Music & Worship
- Mr. C.J. Lord (ext 215).....Director of Mid High Youth
- Mr. Greg Nichols.....Morning Glory Worship Leader
- Ms. Dodie Patterson (ext 204).....Executive Secretary
- Mr. Harrison Pollard (ext 215).....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.*



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**Thank you** to everyone who participated in our recent Town Hall meetings. We are very grateful for the helpful suggestions and new ideas, and we look forward to sharing more with you in the fall.  
 The Long Range Planning Committee



**Summer Camp Is Here**

We extend a big welcome to all summer campers who arrive Thursday, May 25th, for our Summer Day Camp. Our prayers are with all the children and counselors, and we hope this is the **BEST Summer Camp EVER!**

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, May 7**

Sunday School.....134  
 Worship Service.....284

**ATTENDANCE, Sunday, May 14**

Sunday School.....165  
 Worship Service.....309

**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).

**Calendar for May 21 - May 27**

**Sunday** \*Nursery  
 \*Worship Services  
 \*10:00am.....Sunday School  
 12:00.....Stephen Ministry Luncheon  
**Monday**  
 11:30am-12:00.....Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen  
 5:30pm.....El Salvador Trip Meeting  
 5:30pm.....Music Committee  
**Tuesday**  
 9:00am.....Community Care  
 10:00am.....Dulcimers Class  
 7:00pm.....Morning Glory Band Rehearsal  
 7:00pm.....Boy Scouts  
**Wednesday**  
 11:30am.....Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch  
 5:00pm.....Wednesday Evening Weekly Meal  
 5:30pm.....Handbells Rehearsal  
 5:45pm.....M.E.R.G.E. & Children’s Choir  
 6:00pm.....Security Committee  
 6:30pm.....Chancel Choir  
**Thursday**  
 9:00am.....Community Care  
 9:45am.....Prayer Ministry  
 10:00am.....Dulcimers Rehearsal  
 5:30pm.....Board of Trustees  
**Friday**  
 7:00am.....Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group  
**Saturday**

**Calendar for May 28 - June 3**

**Sunday** \*Nursery  
 \*Worship Services  
 \*10:00am.....Sunday School  
 10:00am.....Church on the Hooch, West Point Lake  
**Monday**  
 Church Offices Closed for the Holiday  
**Tuesday**  
 9:00am.....Community Care  
 10:00am.....Dulcimers Class  
 7:00pm.....Boy Scouts  
 7:00pm.....Morning Glory Band Rehearsal  
**Wednesday**  
 11:30am.....Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch  
 5:30pm.....Handbells Rehearsal  
 6:30pm.....Chancel Choir  
**Thursday**  
 9:00am.....Community Care  
 9:45am.....Prayer Ministry  
 10:00am.....Dulcimers Rehearsal  
 12:00.....Thursday Lunch Club  
 6:00pm.....Long Range Planning Committee  
**Friday**  
 7:00am.....Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group  
**Saturday**

**Sanctuary Flowers**

Our flowers on Sunday, May 21st and are given in loving memory of **Kelly Richard Linch, Jr.**, and in honor of all **2017 Graduates** by Kelly & Carole Linch.

**Church Offices Closed**

Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day

**OUR SYMPATHY**

We extend our sympathy to the following families.

Chris Rosendahl & Family in the death of her son, **Michael Rosendahl, May 8, 2017**

Jim Sherman & Family in the death of his mother-in-law, **Carolyn McLachlan, May 13, 2017**