



1828

THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church, LaGrange, GA

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

WORSHIP FIRST

"I was glad when they said to me 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'"
(Psalm 122:1)

Corporate worship is the very heart of the Christian faith. Through it we both glorify God and lift ourselves up, we connect both with God and each other through prayer and praise, and we are reminded of our calling to be God's hands and feet in the world around us. No wonder the Bible continually talks about the importance of corporate worship for the life of a disciple, for it can be fairly said that Christian faith begins and ends with worship.

No other Christian tool fulfills the purpose or accomplishes the mission that worship alone can. As important as Sunday School classes, Bible studies, and other small groups are to our spiritual and relational growth as Christians, they were never intended to be a substitute for weekly worship with the whole body of Christ. And while the various ministry programs and events that we sponsor and host as a church are all important ways to connect with and serve others, programs and events alone will never grow the church -- only worship can do that.

It should trouble us, then, when some Christians treat worship like an "optional extra" -- a part of their faith that is either attended to only sporadically, or in sometimes skipped altogether. In some cases, folks attend a Sunday School class, Men's or Women's group, Bible study, etc. but then go home and skip worship. What they don't realize is that by doing so they are starving their spirit and (if they stay away long enough), it will spiritually cripple their walk with God.

But not only is worship the life-blood of those who claim to follow Jesus, but it's also usually the first portal that visitors and guests experience of our faith community (and even when it's not the first one, it's always the deciding one in eventual faith decisions).

Consequently, we have no more important task as Christian disciples than that of both participating in and helping develop and grow worship at our church. So, what are YOU doing to foster these? First and foremost, are you yourself participating regularly in worship at LaGrange First UMC? If not, why not? At all of our worship services on September 27, Pastor Blake and myself will be inviting everyone to make **a commitment to God to be in worship every week, unless sick or out of town**. I pray that you will join us in that commitment.

But in addition to your own worship commitment, I also want to ask what you are doing to help grow and develop our worship experiences at LaGrange First UMC? Have you invited someone lately to attend and sit with you? Or do you only invite them to programs, events, and your own small group? God's church grows in direct proportion to how its people make worship a priority. So, is worship first for YOU?

Remember, God loves you and so do I!

Pastor Brian

September 20, 2015 4th Sunday in Kingdomtide

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

Dr. Brian Germano, preaching

***Morning Glory**

9:00am in the Fellowship Hall

Mr. Blake Trent, preaching

***Traditional Service**

11:00am in the Sanctuary

Dr. Brian Germano, preaching

***Korean Worship Service**

11:00am in the Chapel

Rev. Daniel Kim

September 27, 2015 5th Sunday in Kingdomtide

***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.

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

WEW Meal on September 23, 2015

Menu: Tilapia, rice pilaf, veggie, salad bar, dessert.
Children: Corn dogs & PB & J sandwiches.

WEW Meal on September 30, 2015

Menu: Taco Salad, 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.

REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

Memorials

Mr. David Soltis - Susanne & Frank Sanders

Mr. Tim Huckstep - Dennis & Sharon Richardson, Julia
Reeves, Allen & Marilyn Smith, Oleeta Aspinwall, Blair &
Laura Harlin, Bill & Becky Moore, Susanne & Frank
Sanders, Martha Stanley

Mr. Tom Stanley - Susanne & Frank Sanders

Bill & Ruth Guthrie - Pat & Orren Gilbert

Children's Home Special Offering

On Sunday, **September 20th**, our church will receive
our annual special offering for the **Methodist Children's
Home** in Decatur, Georgia, a mission supported by the
North Georgia Conference. The Methodist Children's
Home provides residential care for children and also
assists families with the adoption process, housing, and
higher education. Support for the Children's Home only
comes directly from individuals. Please make your checks
payable to the church and marked **Children's Home**.

Football Faith

Learning the value of being part of God's "team".

In the game of football, the ultimate goal is to get the ball
into the end zone. No team ever wins a game without
moving the ball forward, and -- likewise -- no quarterback
can advance the cause of the team without distributing the
ball to others. So it is with the Christian faith: growing and
maturing as disciples of Jesus Christ requires us to share the
"ball" that God has given us. Sharing is necessary for God's
"team," the church, to move forward on the playing field
of life. Join us on October 4-25 in our new sermon series
Football Faith as we explore the value and benefits of
generosity.

- October 4 - In the Pocket (Luke 16:1-13)
- October 11 - Practice Reps (2 Corinthians 9:1-2, 6-8)
- October 19 - First and Ten (Malachi 3:8-10)
- October 25 - Endzone Celebration (Numbers 10:10)

October Thursday Lunch Club

Our October 1st TLC luncheon will begin at 12 noon with a
family style meal, and will feature a musical program presented
by the "Reunion Quartet".



The cost is \$6 per person and you can make your reservations for
the meal and program by calling or emailing the church at 706-
884-4635 or churchoffice@lagrangefumc.org.



New Sunday School Class

This Sunday, September 20th!
Young Adult Sunday School class meets.

We'll have fresh Starbucks coffee and doughnuts
waiting for you.

Join us in **Room 215 of the MMC (2nd Floor) at 10:00am.**

Bring your friends.

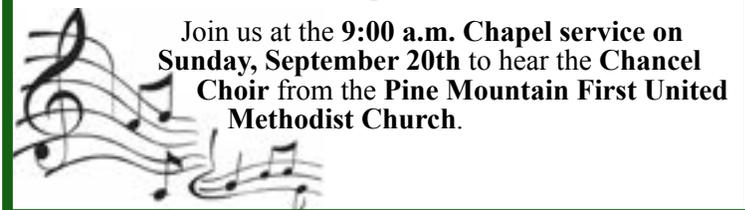
Any questions you might have, please contact Blake at the
church office,

706-884-4635 or btrent@lagrangefumc.org.
We look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Revival Invitation

Our sister church friends at **Warren Temple United Methodist
Church**, 416 East Depot Street, will begin a revival on Sunday,
September 20th at 11:00am, with the theme of "**Dwelling
Together in Unity and Love**". They have extended a spe-
cial invitation to our church family to join them next Tuesday,
Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm, the 22nd-24th.

Visiting Choir



**2016 CHURCH LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS
NOW OPEN**

Our church's Committee On Nominations and Leadership
Development has begun its work to discern God's will for
church leadership for next year. To assist them in their task,
between September 16th and 30th, they need your help in
identifying potential candidates who are willing to serve in
areas of both program and administrative church leadership.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a
leadership committee or ministry team for next year, please read
the instructions in the "Join In The Ministry of God's Church"
brochure available in our newsletter [click here](#), or in the
Narthex, Fellowship Hall, or church office and follow the
instructions. For further information, contact either our Senior
Pastor or email nominations@lagrangefumc.org.

Your 2015 Committee On
Nominations and Leadership Development

Children's Ministry

Grayson Bailey, Director
childrens@lagrangefumc.org or 706-884-4635 ext. 209



Our Second Annual Trunk or Treat is October 25th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. If you would like to register your vehicle for the Trunk Contest, please pick up a form from the church office or visit this website: <http://goo.gl/forms/iliPTx9fff>. The deadline to register your vehicle is October 18!

We also need volunteers! We can't make this happen without the help of our parents and church members. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Grayson Bailey at childrens@lagrangefumc.org or 706-594-5794.

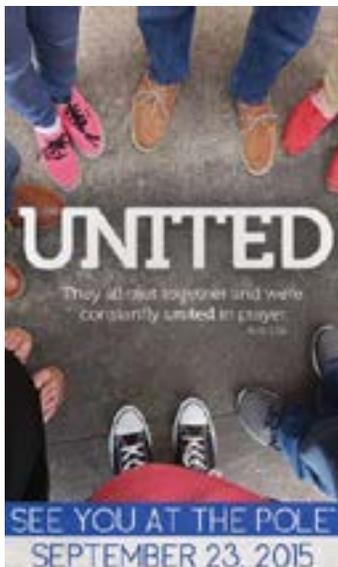
Youth Ministry

Kali Grenus, Director
kgrenus@lagrangefumc.org or 706-884-4635 ext. 215

We are back in full swing with Sunday Nights! Our gathering, that we are now calling Sunday **Night aLive**, happens every Sunday from 5-7 in the MMC. We provide dinner, play some awesome game, get a little competitive, worship in our "new" worship space and talk about how we can be Christians in a crazy world! If you haven't checked it out yet come join us!

5-7pm in the MMC, dinner is \$3

This past week we had 31 students! I would love to see 40 this week!!



See you at the pole happens every year during the week of student prayer. Students from around the country join in prayer at their schools flag pole. This year See you at the Pole will take place on September 23.

Most middle and high school schools in the LaGrange area have a group meeting at the flag pole, I encourage all parents and students to find out when and join in! If you need any help finding out information please don't hesitate to contact the youth office. We're here to help you anyway we can.



Mid-High Mornings! Join us for a Morning Devotion at the Commerce Ave. Chick-fil-a. Drop off at Chick-fil-a between 7am and 7:10, we will have a devotion around 7:20.

October 6, November 3 and November 17, December 1 and December 15
We will not have a Mid-High Morning on October 20th!

THE FLAME

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

401 Broad Street
LaGrange, Georgia 30240

Tel: (706) 884-4635 Fax: (706) 845-7068

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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
- Miss Kali Grenus (ext 215).....Director of Youth Ministry
- Ms. Lisa Highland (ext 206).....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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FINANCIAL REPORT 2015

Needed Weekly	\$ 23,919.59
Given Last Week	\$ 16,365.19
Needed YTD	\$ 885,024.83
Received YTD	\$ 860,507.44

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, September 6

Sunday School.....	201
Worship Service.....	315

ATTENDANCE, Sunday, September 13

Worship Service.....	390
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Items Needed for September
Jello & Pudding Packs



The Usher Team is in need of volunteers.

When you volunteer to serve as an usher, you serve 2 months of the year and you can choose the service where you wish to serve. Please prayerfully consider serving your church in this role. It’s not hard and there are no night meetings. Call the church office at 706-884-4635 to sign up for the monthly team that best suits your schedule. Thank you.

Mark Your Calendar
Church Family Trunk or Treat 2015
Sunday, October 25th
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Street Parking Lot

Calendar for September 20 - September 26

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am.....	Sunday School
12:00pm.....	Worship Team Meeting
Monday	
11:00-11:30am.....	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
Tuesday	
10:00am.....	Dulcimer Class
7:00pm.....	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am.....	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm.....	Wednesday Evening Weekly
5:45pm.....	Methodist Summer Camp Committee
6:30pm.....	Chancel Choir
Thursday	
9:45am.....	Prayer Group
Friday	
7:00am.....	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	

Calendar for September 27 - October 3

Sunday	* Nursery
*Worship Services	
*10:00am.....	Sunday School
5:00pm.....	Mid & Sr. High Youth Activities
Monday	
11:00-11:30am.....	Meals On Wheels & Soup Kitchen
5:00pm.....	UMW Executive Board
5:30pm.....	Policy Committee
Tuesday	
7:00pm.....	Cub Scout Pack Meeting
7:00pm.....	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	
11:30am.....	Soup Kitchen-Sack Lunch
5:00pm.....	Wednesday Evening Weekly
5:15pm.....	SPR Committee
6:30pm.....	Chancel Choir
Thursday	
9:00am.....	Community Care
9:45am.....	Prayer Group
12:00.....	Thursday Lunch Club
6:30pm.....	Nominations Committee
Friday	
7:00am.....	Men’s Coffee & Prayer Group
Saturday	
9:00am.....	UMW Annual Conference Meeting

Church Flowers

Our chapel and sanctuary flowers on Sunday, September 20th are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her parents,
Mr. & Mrs. Earl T. Cook,
by Katherine Cook.

Our sanctuary flowers on Sunday, September 27th, are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
David Kiser Whatley,
by Kristin Whatley.