

CONNECT

Please place in offering plate.

Welcome to our Traditional Service!
We're so glad you're here!

Name

Phone

Email

Please Check One:

- ☐ Here for the first time
☐ Returning Guest
☐ Regular Attendee
☐ Member
☐ _____

PRAYER

Share a Prayer Concern or Celebration

☐ Pastor Only ☐ Share w/Others

- ☐ Sign me up for the newsletter.
☐ I'd like a name tag!
☐ I'd like to meet with a Pastor.
Be sure to include your name
and contact information!

I'd like to learn more about...

- ☐ Church Membership ☐ Serving Opportunities
☐ Baptism ☐ Groups/Classes

11:00 AM Traditional Service

PRELUDE

"Variations on 'O Run, You Shepherds!'" – Max Drischner

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

"That Boy-Child of Mary" – Tom Colvin
The Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Can you feel the excitement and anticipation of Christmas!
Our joy builds as we "prepare to stare" at his coming birth!
Can you believe it! God came in the flesh as a baby!
Yes, we do believe it! God is with us! Our Emmanuel!

***OPENING PRAYER - LAY LITURGIST - LEE WALKER**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" UMH 218

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

UWF NEW BABY RECOGNITION

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

"Cold, the Winter" – Mark Schweizer
The Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY (UMH 95)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT WITH PASTOR MARK "Jesus Loves Me" UMH 191

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (*Children dismissed to Worship*)

TODAY'S SERMON SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 1:18-25 (NRSV)

"CONCEIVING THE INCONCEIVABLE: BELIEF"

REV. MARK BURGESS

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain", UMH #251

*BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL SONG

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH 431

POSTLUDE

"In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729" – Johann Sebastian Bach



STATESBORO FIRST
United Methodist Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Our Church's Sacred Calling:

*Through us God will:
Reach People
Touch Souls
Change Hearts
Launch Disciples*



Rev. Mark Burgess
Senior Pastor
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Dr. Jackson Borges
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adminassist@statesborofirst.com

Church Phone: (912) 764-7589

Church Address: 101 S. Main St. Statesboro

Church Website: www.statesborofirst.com

Statesboro First News

Christmas Eve

Please plan to join us for one (or both!) of our services this Wednesday December 24! We'll have our family service with Children leading a nativity at 4PM followed by a Candlelight Service at 7PM. Nursery will be provided. We'd love to have you come - and bring a friend or two!



Prayers & Carols



Sunday, December 28 we will have **ONE** service in the Sanctuary at 11am. This will be a time of fellowship as we share prayers and carols with thankful hearts for a blessed year past and another to come!
It's a casual service, so come as you are - we'd love to see you!

Who's Ready To Take a Trip?!

If travel is on your "To Do" list for 2026, this is for you! Jimmy Cason and his wife, Susan, invite you to travel with them to England or Alaska next year. Bishop Robin Dease is leading a Wesley Heritage Tour to England March 11th-19th with an optional trip to Ireland March 19th-23rd. If that's too soon, there is a cruise and land tour of Alaska coming up July 9th-20th. Information for both trips including costs and departures are available in the Gathering Area or contact Jimmy at 912-536-2918 or jsacason@aol.com for more information.



Wednesday into the Word

Pastor mark will begin teaching on the Book of Joshua beginning Wednesday, **January 14, at 10 am in room 206**. Bring a Bible and come!

Church Calendar

Sunday, Dec 21
9:01 AM - Contemporary Service, FH
10:00 AM - Sunday School Hour
11:00 AM - Traditional Service, Sanct
4:30PM - SFUMC Students, Mrs. Haley's

Monday, Dec 22
12:00PM - Prayer Meeting, 206
6:30 PM - Scout Meeting, FH

Wednesday, Dec 24
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
4:00 PM - Family Christmas Eve, Sanct
7:00 PM - Candlelight Christmas Eve, Sanct

Thursday, Dec 25



Saturday, Dec 27
11:00 AM - Soup Kitchen, FH



Church
Calendar
Online

Statesboro First News



It's Holiday Shopping Time!
Support UWF and give great quality kitchen gifts with the RADA sale. The order link can be found on the church's website or go directly to www.radafundraising.com and search for SFUMC UWF. Use code SHIPDEAL at checkout to receive \$5 off shipping for orders over \$35.



SFUMC Prayer Concerns & Praises

Shelby Haskins - expectant Mommy due May 31, 2026
Macie Miller - expectant Mommy due May 5, 2026
Tim Miller's father (Joe Miller) is in hospital recovering from heart attack
Bonnie Spiers - Aunt passed & Step Father in hospital with pneumonia & sepsis
Susan Ragains - broken patella in 2 places following a fall
Bonnie Clark - recovering from lung surgery at home
Rev. Charles Cravey - ongoing breathing issues
Martha Wells - back pain
Steve Anderson - home; recovering from heart valve replacement - doing well!
Susan Campo - treatments every other week in Augusta to April 1
Pete Payne (Doug Hess Uncle) - cancer treatments
Becky Holmes - in hospital (St. Joseph's Savannah) had 3rd back surgery Tuesday
David Stewart - (Larry Anderson's brother-in-law) cancer
Mary McKoy - still in N.Y caring for 10 yr old granddaughter (Valen)
John Tucker - brother (David) in hospice (NC)
Jane Anderson - at home, radiation treatments complete!
Bran Anderson (Bill & Jane Anderson's son) - ongoing cancer related immune treatment
All our Civic Leaders (Local, state and national)
Peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine & Russia
All those impacted by recent violence and attacks.

Children & Student Ministry News

Children's Ministry

Don't forget - this **Tuesday, Dec 23 at 4PM** is our dress rehearsal for Children's Nativity. Then we'll be back at 4PM Wednesday for the Family Service.



SFUMC Students

Student Christmas Party **TODAY - December 21 at 4:30** at Mrs. Haley's house! RSVP to her - you don't want to miss the cookie decorating contest, Christmas trivia, El Somb taco bar and white elephant gift exchange! (\$15 limit)



Attendance

December 14, 2025: 293	
9:01 AM: 44	11:00 AM: 158
Online: 91	

Offering

Offering Received: \$17,476



If you wish to purchase flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or in celebration of a life event, contact our church office at (912) 764-7589.

Prefer to complete your connect card electronically? Simply scan this QR code to be automatically directed!



Nursery & Kids' Worship

KIDS' WORSHIP: Pre-K - 5th Grade Children are dismissed during the service and escorted to Room 306 on the 3rd floor. Parents can pick their children up in room 306 after the service, or, following the 9:01 service, children are brought downstairs to their Sunday School classes.

NURSERY: infants, toddlers, and other children under the age of 4 in room 110 across from the Fellowship Hall.