

# 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

Yes, call me with information about teaching Children or Youth Sunday School!

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

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" – John Rutter

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The infant Jesus grew into a man

**Come Lord Jesus, use us to renew your world!**

He came to the River Jordan to begin His ministry

**Come Lord Jesus, use us to renew your world!**

### \*OPENING PRAYER - LAY LITURGIST - HUGHES WILLIAMSON

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Holy, Holy, Holy" UMH 64

### CONSECRATION OF 2026 LAY LEADERS

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UMH 884) AND \*GLORIA PATRI (UMH 71)

### PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

#### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

"Deep River" – Lloyd Larson

*Paul Nielsen, soloist*

#### \*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 3:13-17 (NRSV)

#### "A RENEWING BEGINNING!"

REV. MARK BURGESS

#### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"Shall We Gather at the River", UMH #723

#### \*BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL SONG

"Freely, Freely" UMH 389 (refrain only)

#### POSTLUDE

"Winter Carol: Sleigh Ride" – Leroy Anderson

*Special thanks to Paul Nielsen and Tommy McMillan for blessing us with their musical gifts in worship today!*

*\*Congregation standing if able during this portion of the service.*

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

# STATESBORO FIRST

United Methodist Church



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026**

Baptism of the Lord Sunday



### Our Church's Sacred Calling:

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



Rev. Mark Burgess  
Senior Pastor  
mark@statesborofirst.com

Dr. Jackson Borges  
Organist & Minister of Music  
jborges@statesborofirst.com

Michael Brannon  
Technical Director  
mbrannon@statesborofirst.com

Church Phone: (912) 764-7589  
Church Address: 101 S. Main St. Statesboro  
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Haley Herrington  
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Christy Marsh  
Church Administrator  
adminassist@statesborofirst.com

# Statesboro First News

## Newsletter



Be sure you are signed up for our weekly newsletter. It typically goes out at 5PM on Thursdays, and contains more detail on items listed in the bulletin as well as other things going on in the life of our church. You can sign up from the website by simply scrolling to the bottom where you'll see the sign up link, or contact the church office via email at [adminassist@statesborofirst.com](mailto:adminassist@statesborofirst.com).

## Invitation to Membership

Here in 2026, we already have 8 people from 5 families indicating a desire to join what God is doing through SFUMC – how about you? Is it time to affix your faith anchor to a firm foundation? This is a great way to start a new year! Simply email Pastor mark at [mark@statesborofirst.com](mailto:mark@statesborofirst.com) or call him at 404-502-7678. He will make himself available to you to answer all your inquiring membership questions before you decide to join. Be at peace.



## Wednesday into the Word



Pastor mark will begin teaching on the Book of Joshua beginning Wednesday, **January 14, at 10 am - 11:30 am in room 206**. Bring a Bible and come!

## Church Calendar

**Sunday, Jan 11**  
9:01 AM - Contemporary Service, FH  
10:00 AM - Sunday School Hour  
11:00 AM - Traditional Service, Sanct  
4:30PM - SFUMC Students, Youth Rm

**Monday, Jan 12**  
10:00AM - UWF Gen Mtg, 306  
12:00PM - Prayer Meeting, 206  
6:00PM - Church Council, FH  
6:30 PM - Scout Meeting, 306

**Wednesday, Jan 14**  
10:00AM - Bible Study, 206  
5:30PM - Missions Meeting, LD  
7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal, Music Ste

**Thursday, Jan 15**  
6:00 PM - Handbell Practice, 305  
6:30 PM - AA Meeting, 211

**Saturday, Jan 17**  
10:30AM - Parents of Addicted Loved  
Ones, 204  
11:00 AM - Soup Kitchen, FH



Church  
Calendar  
Online

# Statesboro First News

## 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](mailto:jsacason@aol.com) for more information.

## SFUMC Prayer Concerns & Praises

Martha Wells - moving to Willow Pond Cottage; back pain

Bobbie & Holt Coursey - health concerns

Pat High - severe back pain

Pat Howard - ICU at EGRMC with infection

Michelle Woods - hospitalized St. Joseph Savannah with Leukemia

Anna Riley - expectant Mommy due February 26, 2026

Shelby Haskins - expectant Mommy due May 31, 2026

Macie Miller - expectant Mommy due May 5, 2026

Susan Ragains - broken patella in 2 places following a fall

Bonnie Clark - margins good from surgery

Rev. Charles Cravey - ongoing breathing issues

Steve Anderson - cancer treatments; in and out of hospital

Susan Campo - treatments every other week in Augusta to April 1

Pete Payne (Doug Hess Uncle) - cancer treatments

Larry Anderson and family - in passing of his brother-in-law, David Stewart

Mary McKoy - still in N.Y caring for 10 yr old granddaughter (Valen)

Jane Anderson - breathing issues; in and out of hospital

Bran Anderson (Bill & Jane Anderson's son) - ongoing cancer related immune treatment

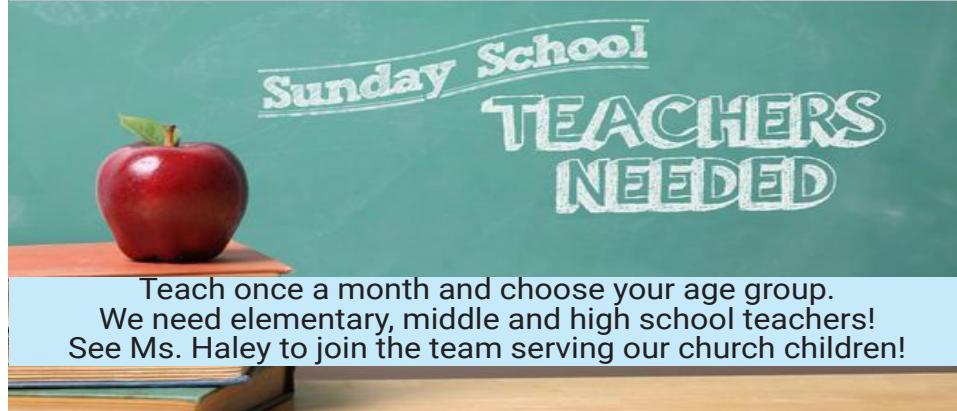
All our Civic Leaders (Local, state and national)

Community servants who put themselves at risk (police and firefighters)

Peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine & Russia, & Venezuela

All those impacted by recent violence and attacks

## Children & Student Ministry News



# Attendance

**January 4, 2026: 204**

9:01 AM: 42	11:00 AM: 92
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Online: 70

## Offering

Offering Received: \$10,767

## A Word of Gratitude

Dear SFUMC Congregation,  
We are humbled and blessed by your great generosity in our December love offering. What a joy and honor it is to serve alongside each of you!

With thankful hearts,  
~Your Staff Team

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.