

December 17, 2023

GUEST & MEMBER REGISTRY

I attended the 9:00am service _____

I attended the 11:00am service _____

Name _____

Name _____

Children _____

Children _____

Guest of _____

_____ First Time Visitor

_____ Attend, but Not a Member

_____ New Resident in Community

_____ Wish to Know More About
the Church

_____ Desire a Call

_____ I am a Member of this Church

****If you have any changes**, please provide us with your current address, phone, and email addresses for your family.

For Guest Information or Changes

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

If you would like to join BFUMC, please fill out the membership card located in the church pew or you may call the church office **770-945-7438**.

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The Church Office is Closed on Friday

P.O. Box 329
Buford, Georgia 30515
770-945-7438 (Church Office)
770-945-4161 (Preschool Office)
www.bufordfirstumc.org
facebook.com/bufordfirstumc
twitter.com/bufordfirstumc

Events of the Week

Sunday, December 17

9:00a Worship-Sanctuary
10:00a Sunday School
10:00a Reception for Cindy LaTouf-Rm. 108
11:00a Worship-Sanctuary & Online
5:30p Women's Small Group-Rm. 311
5:30p Sunday Night Youth-Rm. 109
5:30p Sunday Walking Group

Monday, December 18 - Preschool is out through January 7th

11:30a Staff Mtg.-Rm. G3
5:00p Ladies Strength Training-Rm. G1
5:00-7:00p AA Mtg.-Rm. 304
5:00-7:30p Pickleball-Rm. 110

Tuesday, December 19

5:00p Ladies Strength Training-Rm. G1
6:00p Youth Bible Study-Rm. 109
7:30p Young Adult Bible Study Offsite

Wednesday, December 20

10:00a Knitting for Others-Rm. 202
11:00a Advent Bible Study-Rm. 301
11:00a-4:00p Thrift Shop Volunteers
12:00p The Church Office Closes at noon today and will remain closed through January 1, 2024.
5:00-7:00p AA Mtg.-Rm. 304
5:00-8:00p Open Gym-Rm. 110
7:00-8:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
7:00-9:00p S-Anon-Rm. 309

Thursday, December 21

5:00p Ladies Strength Training-Rm. G1
5:00-7:30p Pickleball-Rm. 110

Friday, December 22

6:00-8:00p Rm. 108 Reserved

Saturday, December 23

8:00a-12:00p Pickleball-Rm. 110
9:00-11:30a Al-Anon Live & Let Live-Rm. 311
10:30a-2:00p Sack Kids Hunger-Rm. 107 & Parking Lot

Looking Ahead to next Sunday Morning:

Next Sunday, December 24th we will only have one morning worship service at 10:00AM and no Sunday School.

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion

Worship Services

5:00, 8:00, and 11:00PM

(A nursery will be provided for the 5:00PM service only)



BUFORD FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY - SERVE AUTHENTICALLY - DEMONSTRATE UNWAVERING HOSPITALITY

Our mission is to empower all people to experience the transformative love of Jesus Christ through service, tradition, and education.

Our vision is to serve as a diverse community of faithful people who worship passionately, serve authentically, and demonstrate unwavering hospitality.

December 17, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent
Lessons and Carols: **"Love!"**



9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Children's Moment

Children Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join Ms. Susan for the Children's Moment and then depart to room 201 for Children's Church. We will do a Bible story, craft, and games. Parents may pick up their children in room 201 in the Christian Life Center at the end of each worship service.

On Communion Sunday: Children will return to the Sanctuary and be seated with their parents where they will receive Communion and remain for the rest of the worship service.

G.L.O.W. God Lights Our World - G.L.O.W. Schedule for January

The 2023 G.L.O.W. season has ended. We are so proud of our children who performed in the Christmas play last Sunday, December 10th. You were amazing!

January 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th - G.L.O.W. 5:30-7:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Susan Rosenthal, children.director@bufordfirstumc.org



Preschool News:

BFUMC Preschool is on Christmas break. We return to school on January 8, 2024.

If you would like more information about our preschool, please email our Preschool Director, Leandre Majerus or call her at 770-945-4161.

For more information, contact Leandre Majerus, preschool@bufordfirstumc.org

Student Ministry



12/31 is the LAST DAY to SIGN UP!

BUFORD IS OFF TO ORLANDO! We will leave on 2/16 and come back on 2/19!

This trip is open to all students! As of right now the total cost of the trip will be around \$400 (3 nights in a hotel, 2 days in the park, transportation, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners). Lunch will be on your own coming back! We will have lessons after the park each day with some down time to enjoy the pool on site!

For more information, contact Joshua Page, Joshua@bufordfirstumc.org

Attendance and Giving

December 10, 2023

Table with 2 columns: Category, Value. Total in Worship Services: 254, Average Worship Attendance: 290

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Psalm 36:7

Offerings & Needs (Budget for 2023)

Table with 2 columns: Category, Value. Needed for Mission, Ministry & Administration: \$814,886.00, Year to Date Received for 2023 Budget: \$632,863.38, Weekly Consistent Need to reach the Yearly Goal: \$60,674.21, Amount given on 12-10-2023: \$14,915.97

Building Fund

Table with 2 columns: Category, Value. Building Debt: \$1,501,022.69, Available Funds for Building Debt: \$321,117.34, Amount given on 12-10-2023: \$1,289.50

- 1. The amount needed by the last Sunday in 2023 should be an aggregate total of our financial needs including Conference Apportionments as well as all other needs.
2. The Amount Received should be the aggregate total of funds received for budgetary purposes.
3. The Consistent Weekly Need to reach the Yearly Goal will change each week depending upon the number of weeks left as offset by the gifts received.

Contribution Options

- 1. You may place your check in the offering plate or mail it to our Post Office Box 329, Buford, GA 30515.
2. You may set up online bill pay through your bank.
3. Give through our online giving on our website. We accept Electronic Fund Transfers from checking accounts, as well as debit and credit cards. (Please note that you will get full credit, but the church will not receive your full donation as the church is charged a fee for this transaction.)
4. Give By Text. You simply text the amount you wish to give to 770-628-0752. (Please note that you will get full credit, but the church will not receive your full donation as the church is charged a fee for this transaction.)
5. BFUMC Charitable Fund. It allows you to increase your giving and tax deduction by donating stocks, bonds, and mutual funds directly to the church. Another opportunity to give and reduce taxable income is for anyone over the age of 72, who is required to take annual minimum distributions out of their IRA, may designate all or part of that amount to our church.

Prayer Requests

...but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.

Philippians 4:6

December 17, 2023

Name _____

If you would like us to send a note of encouragement, please provide the name and address of the person in need.

Yes, please send a note to

Blank lines for name and address

Our prayer volunteers and staff will be praying for your request. Confidential prayer requests will be given to the pastor only.

Confidential:

Yes No

Request

Blank lines for request details

Worship Preview

December 24th Songs of the Savior: "When God Calls" Luke 2:8-20
December 24th Christmas Eve Songs of the Savior: "Seeing Jesus" Luke 2:1-7
5:00, 8:00 & 11:00 pm

Stephen Ministers for this week: If you would like someone to pray with you over the phone, discuss concerns in your life, or just learn more about the Stephen Ministry please contact Deena Rindfusz (404-375-6248) or Pat Stanley (404-406-9216).



*The Sanctuary flowers are given by
Gary and Christi Lenz
to the Glory of God and in celebration of their
their 30th wedding anniversary, December 18th!*

9:00 a.m. Worship

Acolytes/Ushers: Scott Leazer, Ed Krauth
Ushers: Josh Page,
Greeters: Jack Rindfusz, Deena Rindfusz
Sound: Nora Lirette
Children's Church: Jonathan Lenz and Susan Rosenthal

11:00 a.m. Worship

Acolytes/Ushers: Ken Stewart, Eric Lynskey
Ushers: Brad Thomas, Jim Failmezger
Greeters: Marsha Huckaby, Amy Simonson
Sound: John Alford
Live-stream monitor: Adam Van Pelt
Camera: Kevin Walch
Children's Church: Jonathan Lenz and Susan Rosenthal

Ministry Staff

Rev. Jim Buckman	Senior Pastor	DeeAnna Page	Financial Secretary
Cindy LaTouf	Office Manager	Joshua Page	Director of Student Ministry
Gary Lenz	Director of Music and the Arts	Susan Rosenthal	Director of Children & Family Ministry
Leandre Majerus	Director of Preschool	Brendan Rossell Smith	Director of Outreach
Hank Morgan	Organist	Sydney Yancey	Director of Adult Ministry

Adult Ministry

Sign up to get your family's picture taken for the new Church Directory today!



The photography days are December 27th, 28th, and 29th and time slots are from 2:00-8:00PM. Visit the link to sign up on the church website, sign up in person with Sydney Yancey in the CLC lobby before or after worship, or call the church office. Our new directories will be ready around the end of January!

Women's Small Group- We are offering a new women's small group at 5:30 PM in room 312 on Sunday nights. This Bible Study is structured so that you can jump in when you can. If you miss a week or two, no problem! Just join us when you are available! This is a great opportunity for those who aren't able to come to Sunday School on Sunday mornings and/or are looking for a smaller group of people to grow in faith with. Sydney will be facilitating this group so reach out to her if you are interested or have any questions (email address can be found below or call/text 770-880-6905).

For more information, contact Sydney Yancey, adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org

Missions



Alternative Christmas Market- Online orders only now! Purchase a Christmas gift in the form of a contribution to a mission's ministry. When you purchase a gift, you receive a card describing the gift you have given in someone's honor! TODAY is the last day to order online.

Sack Kids Hunger: Current Needs- Starting in January, we will need new monthly volunteers (captains) to distribute sack lunches on the first Saturday of each month. If you are interested in helping with distribution on Saturdays, email Sydney Yancey!

Looking forward: DISPOSABLE DIAPER COLLECTION IN JANUARY: The United Methodist Children's Home office in Gainesville, GA & North Gwinnett Co-op, in Buford, have ministries that give diapers to families. During the month of January, we will collect disposable diapers and wipes. We need all sizes for both boys and girls, but larger sized diapers and pull-ups are in high demand! A collection box is located in the CLC Lobby.



For more information, contact Sydney Yancey, mission@bufordfirstumc.org

The Worship of God

December 17, 2023

9:00 & 11:00 am

Third Sunday in Advent | Liturgical Color: Blue

Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the narthex. If you have trouble hearing the sound, please alert an usher for help.

Please place your electronic devices on silent mode and refrain from flash photography during worship.

† *Stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jim Buckman

PRAISING

Chiming of the Hour

Hank Morgan, Organist

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.** Gary Lenz, Leader

Prelude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (*arr. J. Raney*) Hank Morgan, organ
Jean Ann Crites, piano

Lighting the Advent Candle "Joy" (Gaspar) tbd
(Balthasar) tbd
(Melchior) tbd

†Hymn of Praise No. 219 "What Child Is This?" (*all*) GREENSLEEVES

†Affirmation of Faith No. 881 "The Apostles' Creed" Rev. Buckman

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

†Gloria Patri No. 70 "Glory Be to the Father" MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

The children are invited to go to Children's Church with Ms. Susan at this time.

PRAYING

Time of Silent Prayer · Pastoral Prayer · The Lord's Prayer Rev. Buckman

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

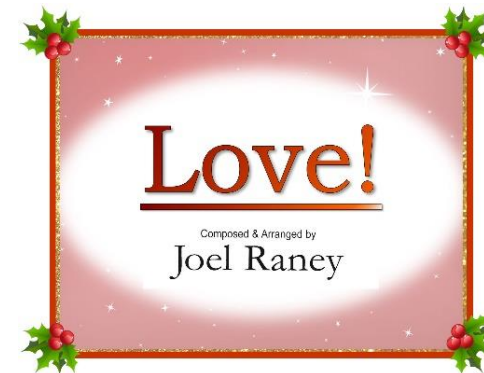
GIVING

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings Brass ensemble
"Low, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (*arr. J. R. Dennis*)

†Doxology No. 95 OLD 100th
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration Rev. Buckman

LEARNING



(see insert)

SERVING

†Hymn of Discipleship No. 238 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (*v. 1, 3, 4*) GLORIA

†Benediction Rev. Buckman

†Postlude "In Excelsis Deo" (*by Lee Ellis*) Organist