

**Weekly Calendar
Schedule**

Sunday 12/17/23

8:45am The Depot Service
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Traditional Worship
5:00pm JAM 345

Monday 12/18/23

4:30pm Handbells

Wednesday 12/20/23

2:00pm Prayer Shawl Group

Thursday 12/21/23

10:00am Christmas Day Camp

Worship Attendance

12/10/23

The Depot — 35

Traditional Worship — 124



Stewardship

Budget	\$	530,743.00
YTD Received	\$	473,019.00
Monthly Need	\$	44,229.00
Monthly Received	\$	27,602.00

Online Giving is available.

Go to www.waycrossfirst.com and click the tab for "Online Giving." Several methods of payment are now available for your convenience. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the church office at 912-283-2077.

**Waycross First United Methodist
Church Staff**

Senior Pastor *Rev. Christy Bandy*
seniorpastor@waycrossfirst.com
Music Ministries *Cindy Taylor*
bachtorock@yahoo.com
Children & Sr. Adults *Ivy Kratzer*
activities@waycrossfirst.com
Secretary *Jennifer King*
office@waycrossfirst.com
Preschool Director *Ann Lane*
fumcpreschool2015@gmail.com

Looking Ahead...

- **JAM 345 at Okefenokee Swamp Park, Sunday, December 17th. Meet at church 5pm.**
- **Christmas Day Camp is Thursday, December 21st, 10am -2pm. Guaranteed to be a festive fun day for all to enjoy. Cost is \$20/kiddo.**
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5pm.**
- **Sunday, December 31st is Fifth Sunday Breakfast.**
- **Weekly Church Night Suppers return on January 10th.**



**First United
Methodist Church**

410 Williams St.
Waycross, Georgia
(912)283-2077
December 17, 2023
10:30 a.m.
www.waycrossfirst.com

Prelude

Mrs. Cindy Taylor

Opening Prayer (Year of Prayer – Breath Prayer)

Rev. Christy Bandy

Read: John 1:6-8, 19-28 (Inhale – True Light, Exhale – Live in me!)

Dear Heavenly Father,

We remember your servant who proclaimed the ONE who is the Messiah. John who most known for his baptizing his followers and Jesus in the Jordan was that servant. His bold spirit confronted the establishment. Give us that same bold spirit. And, while let us offer our praise and thanksgiving with thankful hearts.

Hear our prayer, in the name of the Babe of Bethlehem, Jesus!
AMEN!

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bandy

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Dr. Reuben & Betsy Flanders

Matthew 2:10-11

“When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (NIV)

Opening Hymn

p. 240 (UM Hymnal)

“Hark, the Herald Angels”

***The Apostles’ Creed**

**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.**

*Please stand as you are able.

December 17, 2023

We’re glad you’re here!

We are delighted that you joined us to worship today! So that we may know you better, please take a moment to complete the following and place in the offering plate.

Also, please **update** any information that we may already have on file.

This connection card helps the office keep attendance that is turned in to the conference on a monthly basis.

Your attendance is important!

Please Print. Thanking you in advance!

Name _____

Children _____

Address _____

City, St., Zip _____

Contact# _____

E-mail _____

1st time guest _____

Regular Attender _____

Member _____

Prayer Request:



**No need to miss a worship service!
Here's how to stay connected:**

1. On Vyve Cable TV: Channel 15
2. Online: Go to waycrossfirst.com. Choose "Sermons" then "Watch Live Sundays." You may watch live or recorded Sundays.

Food Pantry

Donations Needed

Please donate non-perishable food items to our church food pantry!



***Gloria Patri**

GREATOREX

**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.

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Rev. Bandy

Sharing of Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Bandy

Morning Prayer and Our Lord's Prayer

Rev. Bandy

Children's Moment

Ivy Kratzer

***Hymn of Preparation**

p. 236 (UM Hymnal)

"While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks by Night"

Laity Prayer

Mrs. Martha Fey

Special Music

Choplin

"Tiny Miracle"

Scripture

Rev. Bandy

Luke 2: 8-12

Sermon

Rev. Bandy

"Joy in Waiting"

Invitation to Discipleship

Hymn of Invitation

p. 249 (UM Hymnal)

"There's a Song in the Air"

Benediction

Rev. Bandy

Benediction Response

p. 204 (UM Hymnal)

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Postlude

Mrs. Taylor

**Please stand as you are able.*



Betty Barber, Lea Barnard, Bryant Bishop, Patsy Blalock, Bowman Baby, Claire Boyle, Tammy Brown, Kimberly Chapman, Penn Clark, Barbara Coggin, Layne Coleman, Stephanie Coley Coleman, Cindy & Randy Conley, Norm Cover, James Crouch, Bess Davis, Brittini Deal Family, Savannah Deal, Wesley Edge, Jennifer Fesperman, Rick Fey, Faye Fletcher, Coralyn Gaston, Olive Griffin, Bill & Ruth Grimes, Rhonda Hart, Bryant Hayman, Jim Hull, David Jackson, Rev. Jim and Barbara Jensen, Matthew Jernigan, Garrett Jolly, Kathy King, Betty Knowlton, Cheryl Lott, Rev. Sonny Mason, Larry Mathison Family, Jeffery Maxwell, Nancy McBride, Jennifer McGhin, Ann McIntosh, Mack McKown, Lanier Melton, Kathy Metzger, Military Service Members, Sarah Jolly Murray, Shirley Nettles, Chris Ober, Kensley O'Berry, E. B. Price, Tyreq Purcell, Lucie Putala, John Rentz, Johnny Register, Tyler Ronan, David Grey Russell, Andee Jolley Schroeder, Don Scott, Trent Scott, Saralyn Singletary, Nita Skerratt, Desiree Slaughter, Mimi Smith, Jim "Papa" Stewart, Jim Sweat, Joe Sweat, Adam Swindell, Jamar Taylor Family, Brock Thrift, Tyrone Williams, Henry Williamson, Mary Woodruff, Sharon Worton and Barbara Young

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the music department (Handbells and Chancel Choir) for the Amazing Worship experience you provided this past Sunday! In addition, thank you to the accompanist, Mrs. Carole Parker. And, to everyone who participated, help set up, and provided audio & video support. Special thanks to Mrs. Cindy Taylor for directing and coordinating all the moving parts.

With a Grateful Heart,
~Pastor Christy ~

Advent Daily Readings!

In 2023, let's take a journey through the book of Luke!

Monday, December 18th—Luke Chapter 18

Tuesday, December 19th—Luke Chapter 19

Wednesday, December 20th— Luke Chapter 20

Thursday, December 21st—Luke Chapter 21

Friday, December 22nd— Luke Chapter 22

Saturday, December 23rd— Luke Chapter 23

Sunday, December 24th— Luke Chapter 24