

**Weekly Calendar  
Schedule**

**Sunday 12/24/23**

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

**Monday 12//23**

**Merry Christmas!**

**Tuesday 12/26/23**

**Office & Children First Closed**

**Worship Attendance**

**12/17/23**

**The Depot — 26**

**Traditional Worship — 59**



**Stewardship**

Budget \$ 530,743.00  
YTD Received \$ 496,175.00  
Monthly Need \$ 44,229.00  
Monthly Received \$ 49,973.00

**Online Giving is available.**

Go to [www.waycrossfirst.com](http://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...**

- 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 24, 2023  
10:30 a.m.  
[www.waycrossfirst.com](http://www.waycrossfirst.com)

**Prelude**

Mrs. Cindy Taylor

**Opening Prayer** (Year of Prayer – Breath Prayer)

Read: Luke 2:1-20 {Inhale – Glory to God // Exhale – In the Highest

Rev. Christy Bandy

**Dear Heavenly Father,**

We hear the sights and signs that surrounded Jesus' birth. Allow them to be real to us on this day. As we journeyed with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, we, too, had thoughts of fear and excitement like the shepherds. Help us to ponder the mystery and beauty of Christ's coming with Mary. Let the Prince of Peace, Jesus, now live in us.

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

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Bandy

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Brent, Tracy, Jane Ansley,  
Barrett, Pat, and Janet Reid

John 3:16-19

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil."

**Opening Hymn**

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

p. 234 (UM Hymnal)

**\*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.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

December 24, 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!



### \*The Apostles' Creed (cont'd)

**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

**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.**

GREATOREX

### \*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

"Joy to the World"

p. 246 (UM Hymnal)

### Laity Prayer

Forrest Sweat

### Special Music

"Angels Came to Earth One Night"

Choplin

### Scripture

John 14: 1-6, 27

Rev. Bandy

### Sermon

"Peace While Waiting"

Rev. Bandy

### Invitation to Discipleship

### Hymn of Invitation

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

p. 239 (UM Hymnal)

### Benediction

Rev. Bandy

### Benediction Response

"Away in a Manger"

p. 217 (UM Hymnal)

### Postlude

Mrs. Taylor

\*Please stand as you are able.



## Prayer REQUESTS

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, 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



These sweet sibling pairs  
helping Mrs. Susan  
Haddock with the monthly  
Mission Project! Making  
sure our sanctuary is  
welcoming for Christmas  
Eve visitors.