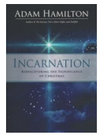
Announcements and Upcoming Activities



Joy Sunday School Class

Kemp Wright leads the JOY Sunday School class that meets on Sundays at 10:00 am. They are studying *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas* by Adam Hamilton. **They will wrap up this study next Sunday, December 28th.**

Men's Prayer Group

Sam Sweat leads this group Mondays at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join with other men to share accountability and support one another. **They will NOT meet December 29th.**

Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve will offer two opportunities to worship together with incredible music, communion, candlelight, and the story of the birth of Christ. Join us on **Wednesday, December 24th at either 5:00 pm or 8:00 pm** and invite a friend or neighbor.

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

Our office will be closed for the Christmas/New Year's holidays **beginning December 24th through January 5th.** The office will reopen and resume the normal schedule **on January 6th.**

END OF YEAR GIVING REMINDER:

If you wish to have your tithes and offerings recorded as 2025 contributions, please have your checks dated **no later than December 31, 2025**. Any checks dated for **2026**, will be entered as having been received in the New Year.

GLOW RUN

Save the Date! We will support **Bridging the Gap's Glow Run 1k or 5k on January 24th.** This is an evening run (or walk) in Newnan and proceeds support Bridging the Gap Ministries.
Go to runsignup.com and click on **"Find a Race".** Type in **BTG Glow Run.**
Select **"Join a Team"** and find Senoia UMC's team to join!

Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!

Thanks to the North Georgia Conference for our $1,000 Spark Grant to support our feeding ministries. We will be feeding our neighbors a chicken dinner **TODAY** after Worship. Everyone is invited to stay, pack, and deliver meals.

Christmas Break

Small groups and Bible Studies will take a short break during the holidays. Stay tuned for new and returning classes in January.

Welcome to Senoia UMC

We welcome you to Senoia United Methodist Church. If you are a guest with us today for the first time, please let an usher know so you can be given a welcome gift. Please complete the yellow Guest Card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate. A nursery for children birth to under 4 years old is available. Please see an usher for assistance. Restrooms are located in the hallway and the Fellowship Hall, which can be reached through the rear Sanctuary door by the organ.

Activities This Week

Sunday 12/21
Fourth Sunday in Advent
9:45 am Christmas Breakfast
No Sunday School
11:00 am Sunday Worship
12:15 pm Chicken Delivery

Monday 12/22
7:00 am Men's Prayer Group

Tuesday 12/22
Last Day in Office

Wednesday 12/24
Christmas Eve
Office Closed

Wednesday 12/24 cont'd
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
8:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Thursday 12/25
Christmas Day
Office Closed
7:00 pm AA

Friday 12/26
6:00 pm NA

Next Sunday 12/28
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Sunday Worship

Those Assisting in Worship Today
Fourth Sunday in Advent
Acolyte: Aurelia Meares
Ushers: Kemp Wright & Vijay Purugulla
Reader: Sharon Boyer
Counters: Carlotta Ungaro & Mary Pearman
Greeters: LeAnn & Brent Burgard

Those Assisting in Worship Next Sunday - 12/28
Acolyte: Addie Hughes
Ushers: Maurice & Carlotta Ungaro
Reader: Alice Walker
Counters: Jean Cotton & Jeff Miller
Greeters: Judith Glover & Vijay Purugulla

Dr. Julie Schendel, Pastor
Julie@senoiaumc.org
Nancy Lewis, Director of Music
nancylewisumc@gmail.com
Amie Fuller, Administrative Assistant
office@senoiaumc.org
Bereatha Brooks, Nursery Coordinator
Polly Watson, Housekeeping
John Felbinger, A/V Technician

Senoia United Methodist Church

December 21, 2025

Lessons & Carols

"People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way."

Dr. Julie Schendel, Pastor
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office@senoiaumc.org ✝ 770-599-3245
www.senoiaumc.org

Gather ♦ Grow ♦ Go

Worship

We Gather to Worship

Greeting Dr. Julie Schendel, Pastor

Chiming of the Hour Nancy Lewis, Organist/Pianist

Words of Welcome Dr. Schendel

Prelude *People, Look East* Handbell Choir

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Lighting of the Candles

***Call to Worship**

We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light;
We, who lived in darkness, on us a light has shined.
For a child has been born for us, A Son given to us,
He shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!
He will rule with justice and righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore! Amen.

***Hymn** *Once in Royal David's City* UMH 250

***Affirmation of Faith**

We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and still we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.

***The Gloria Patri** *Glory Be to God, the Father* Regent Square

Glory be to God, the Father; Glory be to God, the Son. Glory be to God,
the Spirit, ever three, and ever one. Come and worship,
come and worship Light of Light, our star, our sun.

The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle John & Nancy Felbinger

Congregational Response

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

The Bidding Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Dr. Schendel

Congregational Response

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in the thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

A Service of Lessons And Carols

Meditation *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Combined Choirs

First Lesson

God Encounters Adam and Eve in the Garden
Genesis 3:8-15 Jan Purcell, Reader
***Carol** *All Earth is Waiting* UMH 210, V1-2

Second Lesson

Christ's Birth and Kingdom are Foretold
Isaiah 11:1-9 Kemp Wright, Reader
Carol *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming* Ladies Ensemble

Third Lesson

The Prophet Micah Foretells the Glory of Bethlehem
Miccah 5:2-4 Sharon Boyer, Reader
***Carol** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH 230, V1-3

Fourth Lesson

The Angel Gabriel Greets the Blessed Virgin Mary
Luke 1:26-38 Lori Kolbenschlag, Reader
Carol *To a Maid Engaged to Joseph* Chancel Choir

Fifth Lesson

Saint Matthew Tells of the Birth of Christ
Matthew 1:18-21 Vijay Purugulla, Reader
***Carol** *There's a Song in the Air* UMH 249

Sixth Lesson

The Shepherds Go to the Manger
Luke 2:8-20 Jim Garver, Reader
Carol *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* Chancel Choir

Seventh Lesson

The Magi are Led by the Star to Jesus
Matthew 2:1-11 Rod Glover, Reader
Carol *We Three Kings* Bell Choir

Worship with Tithes and Offerings The People

In the Bleak Mid-Winter Combined Choirs

***Presentation and Doxology** Tune: Veni Emmanuel

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Eighth Lesson

Saint John Unfolds the Great Mystery of the Incarnation
John 1:1-14 Jan Fenner, Reader
Carol *See Amid the Winter's Snow* Chancel Choir

We Go To Serve

***Benediction and Blessing** Dr. Schendel

***Sending Forth**

Green and silver, red and gold
And a story borne of old.
Peace and hope and love abide,
As Christ draws nigh.

By Our Prayers...

Prayers & Praises: Jan Fenner, and Kay Pinkney.

You can make your prayer requests (including updates or to remove a request) by either email or calling the church office.
A list of ongoing prayer concerns is available in the Narthex.

Prayer Cards

Prayer cards are located in the Narthex as you enter the front of the church. Please pick one each Sunday and pray for that person throughout the week.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given
to the glory of God by Jim & Melinda Garver in honor
of their 59th wedding anniversary.

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*Those who are able please stand.

UMH (United Methodist Hymnal)
TFWS (The Faith We Sing)
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The candle on the altar table is lit in memory of those who have died due to gun violence and in awareness of this ongoing tragedy.