

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR: If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, call the office or email Shantae at shantae@douglasfirst.com. Available dates are January 20th & 27th.

ANGELS OF PRAISE meet on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in Robertson Hall. For more information please contact Loreli Rogers at 904-556-1136, Patti Vick at 706-455-0559 or Robin Clemmer.

ATTENTION ALL CRAFTERS! A Sewing/Prayer Shawl Ministry at DFUMC in The Refuge Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 p.m. There are six sewing machines set up in one room for the sewing ministry and sofas in the other room for the prayer shawl ministry. Please contact Vicki Pridemore (912-389-6322) or Jackie Greene (912-393-4429) if you are interested.

CASSEROLE PATROL – The Casserole Patrol was started from 40 Days of Community. We deliver casseroles to children cancer patients and their families and to members within DFUMC that are going through medical treatment. We need volunteers that would be willing to make a casserole or contribute monetary donations to help purchase supplies for those making casseroles and to make deliveries. For more information please contact Barbara Abercrombie at 384-2849 or Shantae at the church office.

GIVEPLUST⁺ is an on-line giving app for those who would like to begin giving financially to Douglas First UMC. We invite you to download the app and put in 31533 (zip code) and Douglas First will come up. You will be required to put in your home address, debit/credit card information or checking account. Any questions contact Chris Tuten, Finance chairperson or church office.

PROJECT MUNCH – We meet at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in The Refuge. We serve elementary schools with over 500 munch bags for students each week. We need volunteers to pack bags weekly. Contact the church office for more information.

HEAVEN'S HELPERS want to know who needs assistance with fixing a small project at your home. Many of you are not able to climb a ladder or go into the attic any longer and you just need assistance. Please call us at 912-293-7087. Pastor Doug and his helpers are ready to go to work.

CARING AND CONCERN MINISTRY is getting started again at Douglas FUMC! Many of remember when we had "Caregivers", a grief support team, fifteen years ago. Many of you were a part of it. Do you know someone hurting from a death, a divorce, or some major issue within their lives? Call the church and get hooked up to a caring, compassionate person.

**MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15TH.
ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

Our Church provides a brief communion opportunity for shut-ins on Sunday afternoons after regular communion services. If you know of members who are unable to attend church and desire this service, please call Shantae at the church office with the name, address, and phone number.

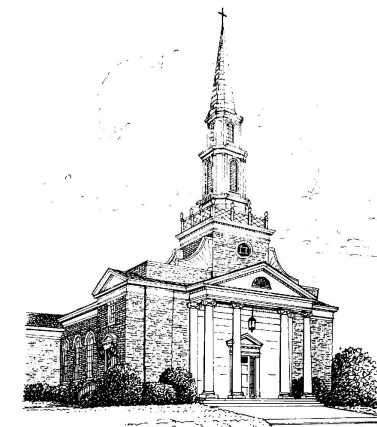
Monthly Meetings & Upcoming Events

- February 3: 12:00 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting – Sanctuary
- February 10: Boy Scout Sunday
12:00 p.m. Second Sunday Luncheon – Robertson
- February 11: 5:00 p.m. Outreach – Pennell
- February 15-17: Youth Winter Retreat – Gatlinburg, TN
- February 18: 6:00 p.m. Finance – Pennell
- February 19: 10:00 a.m. Card Ministry – Pennell
- February 21: 5:00-7:30 p.m. El Salvador Pancake Supper – Robertson
- February 23: 11:00 a.m. Tom Williams' memorial service – Sanctuary
- February 25: 11:30 a.m. Keenagers – Flyin Cowboy

Doug Walker	Pastor		
Dana Calhoun	Financial Secretary	Tania Myers	Organist
Josh McLemore	Youth Director	Clara Hayes	Preschool Director
Shantae Dockery	Sec./Receptionist	Norman Dockery	Facilities Manager
Sloane Cliett	Children's Director		CCL# 1585573

Douglas First United Methodist Church
311 North Madison Avenue
P. O. Box 738
Douglas, GA 31534
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Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

**Douglas First
United Methodist Church**

Sharing God's Love
through Discipleship

311 North Madison Avenue † www.douglasfirst.com † 912-384-4404

February 2019

FRUITFULNESS!

The word on my mind as we move into the new year of 2019 is FRUITFULNESS! At our leadership session this past month the leaders embraced this message. Jesus said, "This is how your Father in Heaven is glorified that you bear much fruit (John 15:8)." Bearing fruit is a central thought in the minds of farmers when they plant the crop in the Spring. Everything they do is for the single purpose of the HARVEST. If farmers do not produce the fruit, then they are out of business.

We as Christians are called to produce fruit in our lives. What kind of fruit is God longing to see in us? Maybe the fruit of RIGHTEOUSNESS (Psalms 1) speaks of this. Jesus said, "Let your light shine so others can see and give glory to God." We can produce the Fruit of Justice when we see and hear of God's people suffering and experiencing hardships we respond as James 2:14 states "we see someone naked or hungry or in prison" . . . we respond to them. Jesus spoke (Matthew 9:36-38) of the **Fruit of Salvation** (Conversion). The greatest fruit we long to see in this day and time is someone coming to faith in Christ and experiencing His amazing grace and purpose for their life.

Sadly, many churches have fallen into the deadly habit of BUSY-NESS. plenty of activities, plenty of movement, but very little FRUIT. It is time for us as a church to ask a simple question, "Where are we seeing the fruit?" Our ultimate mission is to MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD. **When we begin a program or ministry, we must ask ourselves: are we will be making disciples through this activity?**

In the farming business a farmer practices something that we all need to learn, and it is called PRUNING. Pruning means you cut back that what is unnecessary so that we can produce much fruit. What needs cutting back in our church? Thankfully, our leadership team is cutting back on meeting times so we can have more time with families. We have stream-lined our decision-making process to help leaders get into their ministries. It is wise to cut back things in our life that cause stress and strain in our world. (If you have any suggestions, don't hesitate to send them my way.)

In 2019 we are going to be asking a simple statement, "So That." When we have a Sunday school ministry we will ask, "So that . . . what will happen." Our Wednesday programs are taking place . . . WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE! Our choir ministry says, "We sing our music every Sunday morning **So that** we might become channels of the Holy Spirit." Lives are changed! Healing! Restoration and Conversion takes place. It's time to simply ask, Who is bearing fruit? The Fruit of Righteousness, Justice and Conversion. **Jesus said, "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit."**

Pastor Doug Walker

OUR STEWARDSHIP				
Attendance	1/6	1/13	1/20	1/27
Sunday School	92	92	93	108
8:30 AM	35	33	31	
11:00 AM	142	153	125	151
Total Worship	177	186	156	
Church Budget (YTD through December 2018)				
Amount Budgeted	\$612,825			
Amount Given	\$616,753			
Difference	\$3,928			

Our Prayer Concerns: Brett Williams, Paige Davenport, Staci Warren, Dallas Suttles, Jan Adams, Cole Suttles, Hazel Patton, Hilary Patterson, Lora Riner, David Nelson, Anne Peterson, Peggy Guthrie, Sonny Owens, Jenifer Raulerson, Kathy Howard, Harry Cohen, Walker Smith, Meg Minchew, Mary Clyde Scott, Wesley Adams, Judy Hall, Tony Fletcher, Manor House & Lakeside Residents, Venita Milhollin, Sheryl Youngblood

Christian Sympathy to Rev. Dr. John McGowan and family upon the death of his brother, Samuel McGowan.

Christian Sympathy to Valerie Blankenship Cumbass and family upon the death of her father, Hughie Edward Fuller.

IN MEMORIAM

Fred Blakley Roberson, Jr.
May 29, 1925 – December 17, 2018

Congratulations to Matthew and Amy Starling Pridemore upon the birth of their daughter, Abby Grace Pridemore, born January 28, 2019. Abby weighed 3lbs 3oz and measured 16" long. Paternal grandparents are Frank and Vicki Pridemore.

Thank you for the prayers lifted on our son's behalf as he is deployed to Afghanistan. Some of you have asked how you can send him a card/letter. His address is:
TF 118
SPC Jacob Pollock
FOB Gamberi
APO AE 09354
We appreciate your continued prayers over the next 9-10 months.
Lynn and Doug

There is a spot for you on the Guatemala mission trip to Panajachel on July 13 to July 20, 2019. \$200 deposit is due in January. \$1,500 cost includes flight to and from Guatemala, food, lodging and transportation in Guatemala and team mission activity fee. If you are unable to go with the team, please keep the team in your prayers and/or consider donating to help sponsor those who are going. For more information contact Scott Rogers at ufcheme@hotmail.com or Loreli Rogers at 904-556-1136.

CALLING ALL KIDS!



We are starting a new program on Wednesday evenings called:
Wednesday Whirl Warriors

Kids will begin the program at 3:30 and will participate in activities until 5:30 such as: choir practice, Whirl bible lesson, snack and craft.

You won't want them to miss out!

***For more information, call Sloane Cliett at 912-381-2411**



Take a night off from cooking and join us as our 2019 mission team serves up ~ breakfast for dinner!



Thursday, February 21
Douglas First United Methodist Church
Time: 5:00pm - 7:30pm
Cost: \$8 - per person
(\$4 - children 6 and under)
Dine In or Take Out

Stack'um high for El Salvador!

* All proceeds go to the summer mission trip to El Salvador!

Team members from these local churches...

Douglas 1st UMC, St. Mark UMC, First Baptist Douglas,
Douglas Christian Fellowship

DFUMC Building Assistants

Our Building Assistants faithfully perform a task for the church that most of us take for granted – they unlock the church prior to Sunday services and lock up after the 11 o'clock service. When you see any of these folks at church or in the community, please take a moment to thank them for this most valuable service to our church: Alan Carter, Mike Greene, Milton Clements, David Davis, David Dukes, Steve Wight, Karen Suttles, Craig McCrary, Todd Ursrey, Jane Abler, Jimmy Roberts, Jess Woodard, Zack Fussell, John Rozar, Lee Cliett, Roy Lindsey, Frank Pridemore, Donovan Clements, Vic Suttles, Mac McCrary, Barry Bloom, Kevin Davis, and Charles Cross. Thank you, Wes Abler

Sunday Covered Dish Luncheon: Please join us on February 10th for a covered dish luncheon after the 11am service. The church supplies the drinks and paper products. **Meat is not provided**, so please include that in the thought process about what you are planning to bring. Please plan on joining us. (The 8:30 a.m. worship service will be in the Chapel on this day.)

Wednesday Night Supper and Programs

Adult Programs are . . .

- "Spirit of Jezebel" by Don Griffin (Chapel)
 - Disciple Bible Study with Mike Greene (Pennell Rm)
 - Building Blocks of Life with Pastor Doug Walker (Parlor)
- (Covered Wagon Restaurant will be our new meal providers for this Spring Season!)

YOUTH NEWS:

Winter Retreat - Presidents Day weekend (15th-18th) we are headed to Gatlinburg, TN for a trip like we've never done. We are going to stay in an awesome cabin and spend a few days worshipping and learning about God in the beautiful Smokey Mountains. We will also take a break to visit the Ripley's Aquarium and some other Gatlinburg attractions. Full cost is coming soon but keep that weekend open!

Signs and Wonders

Epiphany – A Season of Light!

"They saw His Star in the East – We have come to worship Him!"

The Christian story is full of "signs and wonders." Sometimes we have to look hard to see them. They may be so obvious that we overlook them. The epiphany season calls us to look with high intensity. Jesus once said to his disciples, "ask, seek and knock." God has much to reveal if we are willing to seek Him as the Wise Men did.

Epiphany 4 (February 3) Today this Scripture is fulfilled
Luke 4:21-30 (Can you say the Scripture is fulfilled in You?)

Epiphany 5 (February 10) Boy Scout Sunday!
Luke 5:1-11 - We have worked mighty hard . . .

Epiphany 6 (February 17) Walking in the Spirit – Beattitudes!
Luke 6:17-26

Epiphany 7 (February 24) Walking in the Spirit – Requires Maturity!
Luke 6:27-38

Transfiguration Sunday (March 3) Son of God – filled with the Spirit
Luke 9:28-36

Mark your calendars now for the next Girl's Night Out! Monday, March 11th will be the next ladies gathering and one that you won't wish to miss. Tickets will be available soon to reserve your place.