

2018 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 November 4th, 11th, & 25th.

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.

GIVEPLUS⁺ 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 5:00 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.

JOY Fellowship – You don't have to be a trained musician to enjoy good music and good fellowship! Join us each Monday morning at 10:30 in the choir room as we make a JOYful noise and prepare some special music for the Christmas season. Invite your friends from other faiths (we don't all have to be Methodists) and plan to fellowship around the table afterward if you are able to stay for lunch. All ages invited! No One is too old or too young, and we need men as well as women!!

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 13TH.
ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Monthly Meetings & Upcoming Events

- November 4: Stewardship Sunday
12:00 p.m. Covered Dish Luncheon/
UMW Cooking & Crafting Celebration
3:00 p.m. UMW District Officer Training
- November 12: 6:00 p.m. Preschool Meeting - Preschool
6:30 p.m. Outreach Meeting – Pennell
- November 13: Newsletter Deadline
- November 16-18: Encounter Retreat – Epworth
- November 19: 3:00 p.m. Circle 4 – Pennell
6:00 p.m. Finance – Pennell
- November 21: No WNS or Activities
- November 25: 4:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens
6:00 p.m. Illuminate – Robertson
- November 27: 10:00 a.m. Card Ministry – Pennell

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

Douglas First United Methodist Church
 311 North Madison Avenue
 P.O. Box 738
 Douglas, GA 31534
 Address Service Requested

Bulk Rate
 Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit No. 78
 Douglas, GA 31534



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

November 2018

Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving!
Psalm 100:4

What is the most beautiful word in the English dictionary? Cicero called it the "parent virtue." William Shakespeare said, "We should ask God to give us a heart full of this quality." William Law asked who is the greatest saint in the world? And he answered his own question with this response, "It is not the one who prays the most, or gives the most money, but the person who is full of GRATITUDE. The Bible speaks often of this quality from the Old Testament to the New Testament! Ruth (2:10) asked Boaz why she had been shown such favor. Elisha (2 Kings 4:13) desires to show gratitude to the Shunammite woman who had given him something to eat. King Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:22) appointed soldiers to express gratitude to God as they watched Him defeat their enemy. The Psalms are loaded with expressions of gratitude to God. For example, Psalm 107 says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever." That phrase is expressed 5 different times in that one Psalm. Jesus one time before performing the miracle of bringing Lazarus back from the dead, stopped and prayed a prayer of gratitude unto His heavenly Father (John 11).

This past month our theme scripture came from Philippians 4:6 where it says, "be anxious for nothing but in all things through prayer and supplication and with THANKSGIVING let your request be made known unto God." The apostle Paul was constantly giving thanks for his remembrance of the Philippians. He even gave thanks for the "negative" things like hardship, trials, and difficulties of life. The writer of James (1:2) says "count it all joy when you encounter various trials knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance." Wow! I long to be like that, but I am not yet.

Maybe during this month of November we can do what the old song says to do, "Count your blessings and name them one by one." Start right now! Write them down! Who! What! How! Where! When! Why! One time a biblical scholar told that the Greek word for "thoughtful" was the same word for "thankful." He summarized that a thoughtful person is a thankful person. The more we think of God's amazing creation; God's wonderful grace; God's infinite forgiveness – our hearts well up with the PARENT VIRTUE called **GRATITUDE!**

I am thankful to God for YOU!
 Doug Walker

OUR STEWARDSHIP

<u>Attendance</u>	10/7	10/14	10/21	10/28
Sunday School	83	85	82	116
8:30 AM	36	45	39	33
11:00 AM	128	132	107	154
Total Worship	164	177	146	187

Church Budget (YTD through September 2018)

Amount Budgeted	\$459,618
Amount Given	\$435,973
Difference	\$-23,645

Our Prayer Concerns: Hilary Patterson, Lora Riner, David Nelson, Zach Lord, Staci Warren, Anne Peterson, Peggy Guthrie, Sandy Mingledorff, Sonny Owens, Jenifer Raulerson, Marlene Baldree, Kathy Howard, Diane Harrison, Harry Cohen, Walker Smith, Meg Minchew, Mary Clyde Scott, Wesley Adams, Judy Hall, Leslie Spires, Tony Fletcher, Manor House & Lakeside Residents, Venita Milhollin, Sheryl Youngblood

ATTENTION ALL HOME CHEFS AND TALENTED CRAFTERS! On November 4th, the United Methodist Women will be hosting a Cooking and Crafting Celebration before, during and after the Sunday luncheon to raise money for missions. We would appreciate donations of all kinds of homemade goods (cakes, cookies, candies, pies, canned fruit, veggies, pickles, salsa, jellies or jams) as well as items crafted from fabric, yarn, wood, metal, canvas or plants. Come ready to buy what others have given and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to join us and purchase items to help fund local, national and international missions. For further information please call Robin Clemmer 912-359-3906. Hope to see you there.

Wednesday night series, "The Epic of Eden", at 6:20 p.m.

- Week 11 (November 7th) -- David
- Week 12 (November 14th) -- The New Covenant

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.

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Harrell Haley "Bitsey" Hayes
November 26, 1932 – September 30, 2018

The family of Margaret Harrell Haley Hayes thank each of you for your blessings of sympathy through your presence, family meal, cards, memorials, flowers and kindness during the recent loss of our mother and grandmother. ~Dewey, Clara, and Jon Dewey

Keenagers News: Keenagers trip to Alhambra (December 8th) – cost is \$55.00! The price includes meal and musical show! Christmas program will be "Elf". For more information contact Vicki Pridemore at 384-7372.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project

- We will be packing shoeboxes on Wednesday, November 14th so we will need any items prior to that date.
- There is a need for personal care items such as the following:
 - Comb
 - Hairbrush
 - Hair Accessories (combs, hair clips, hair ribbons, elastic hair bands, etc.)
 - Wash Cloth
 - Hand Towel
 - Plastic Soap Containers
 - Compact Mirror
 - Stick Deodorant
- Empty Shoeboxes. We hope to pack 100+ shoeboxes and will need a lot of boxes!
- Items can be placed in the OCC baskets in the entry to Robertson Hall and the Sanctuary choir room entrance.

Youth News:

Teaching series for November

We all want to know who we are — what we're good at, what we're not-so-good at, what makes us unique, and why we matter. Unfortunately, we spend a lot of time (especially as teenagers) creating identities based on all the wrong things. In this 4-week series, we will discover that we will never fully understand who we were created to be apart from the God who created us. He's a God who **knows us**, who **gives us a place to belong**, who **helps us understand** ourselves, and who **helps us become** everything He has created us to be.

November 16-18 Encounter Retreat

Encounter is a weekend retreat designed for 6th - 12th grade students where everyone will ENCOUNTER God, and each in a very unique way. This retreat will offer passionate worship, relevant Bible study and a meaningful time with other teens at Epworth By the Sea on St. Simons Island. Cost is \$135 per person, but let Josh know if you need help. Sign up by November 1 or before!

November 25 Illuminate/Hanging of the Greens

The last Illuminate of the year will be from 6-7pm on November 25. Join us before Illuminate in the Sanctuary to decorate for Christmas and then come over to Robertson for some food, fellowship and Christmas music!

Community wide Christmas Cantata "The Mercy Manger" will be performed Sunday, Dec. 2 at 6 pm at Eastside Baptist Church. Choirs from several area churches are coming together to present this new cantata. Several members of our choir are participating.

Wreaths Across America – American Legion Post 515 is seeking financial assistance for the 2018 Wreaths Across America Project. A wreath can be laid on a Vet's headstone for a \$15.00 donation. Please remember that 100% of the money raised by American Legion Post 515 will be utilized in a local cemetery that we sponsor. Checks may be made payable to The American Legion, Post 515. Please indicate WAA on the memo line. Deadline for donations is November 15, 2018. Please contact Lee Cliett at 912-850-0955 for more information.



Caring Christmas Tree

2018 Douglas First United Methodist Church

The Caring Christmas Tree is one more way for us to share our love of Christ with others. This year we will again be offering gifts for eligible children and youth served through the Hope Center. For some, our gifts will be all they will receive for Christmas this year. There are 2 ways to share:

1. Individuals can purchase needed items for one or more children, or
2. You can make a monetary donations.

Option 1: Gift information sponsor forms will be available at the 8:30 service and on a table in the Narthex at the 11:00 service on **Sunday, November 11th**. You will see instructions for filling out the information at the bottom of the sheet, tearing it off, and leaving it in the basket. Gifts should be brought to Robertson Hall by Sunday, December 16th. They will be picked up after the 11:00 service by the Hope Center Staff. The Hope Center asks that \$150 be spent on the child you sponsor for clothing, toys, and other items.

Option 2: You or a group (Sunday School Class, Family, UMW Circle, UMM, etc.) can make a cash donation for the Hope Center. These monetary gifts need to be made on or before Sunday, December 9th so Christmas gifts for the children can be purchased by the Hope Center staff & other volunteers. Please make your check to DFUMC and on the memo line write Hope Center/Caring Christmas Tree. Then place your check in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your generosity and support of this ministry.

Elizabeth Cottingham
912-384-4135

For unto us a child is born! Isaiah 9:6

The Outreach Meal is usually prepared & delivered on the last Saturday of the month, but since that would be the weekend after Thanksgiving, we are postponing for one week and will prepare & deliver on Saturday, December 1st.