

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

4th Sunday of Advent - Blue

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH - The Bullington Family

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

INTROIT Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN OF PRAISE Angels From the Realms of Glory 220

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

*GLORIA PATRI 71
*Children are dismissed for children's church, which is located in the Children's Building (Ages 3 through 1st grade only)

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE Send Your Word

ADVENT REVOLUTION PRESENTATION

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY 95

*HYMN OF PREPARATION Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 216

ANTHEM In the Bleak Midwinter

*THE WRITTEN WORD John 1:14, 18

THE SPOKEN WORD "We Have Seen His Glory" Rev. Scott Stanfill

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT Once in Royal David's City 250

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH SONG My Master, See, the Time Has Come

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able, please stand. This service is broadcast live at 11:00am on WTUF at 106.3FM and online: www.youtube.com/@ThomasvilleFirstMethodist

THE CHURCH STAFF

Please note the church email domain is [@thomasvillefirstmethodist.com](mailto:thomasvillefirstmethodist.com)

Rev. Scott Stanfill - Senior Minister
email: sstanfill

Nicolas Mandolini - Youth Director
email: nmandolini

Rev. Dr. Ken Myers - Director of
Discipleship - email: kmyers

Kym Naylor - Office Assistant
email: office

Tim Peck - Director of Worship Arts
email: tpeck

Dr. Jess Pouranfar - 3rd-5th Children's
Music

Kathryn Prothro - Director of YLA
email: kprothro

Martha Rumfelt - Director of Children's
Ministries - email: mrumfelt

Peggy Taylor - Financial Secretary
email: ptaylor

Steven Turner - Organist
email: sturner

Barbara Waits - Visitation
email: bwaits

Floyd White - Church Administrator
email: fwhite

Custodial Team:

Ralph Minor - Custodian
Martin Naylor - Custodian

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Thomasville First
Methodist Church



December 21, 2025

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Christmas is my favorite time of the year. And I imagine for many of you, it's your favorite time of the year as well. It's a time, especially in the days of our childhood and youth, that is filled with "Christmas magic," filled with excitement and anticipation about what is to come. There is so much to love about this season: the sights and sounds, the songs and smells, the decorations, the trees, the lights, the food. Some of you even love those Hallmark and Lifetime movies they've been showing since September! And all of this has me thinking, why do we love this so much? Why do we descend into such celebratory madness at Christmas?

I believe it's because there is something deep within all of us that wants to believe in the Christmas magic, especially in a world of sin, brokenness, and sorrow. There is something within all of us that wants to believe in the possibility of real hope and transformation, not only for our world but even more so, for our own lives.

We celebrate Christmas because we as Christians dare to believe that the magic for which so many long this time of year is true. But unlike the world around us, we believe it is not found in a feeling or sentiment or particular present. We believe it is found in a person: Emmanuel, God with Us. In every way our lives are twisted and torn by sin and sorrow, Jesus has come to dwell among us, to forgive sin, to console sorrow, and to bring hope to a weary world.

Verse 3 of "Joy to the World," captures the essence of this celebration. "No more let sins and sorrows grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found." Christmas is a declaration that neither evil nor death, suffering nor loss, sorrow nor tears will have the final word; for the Lord has come to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found. And so, in our lights and ornaments, in our trees and decorations, in festive carols and delicious meals, we proclaim that joy has invaded our world, and we anticipate the great celebration that awaits the children of God. "Behold," the angel said, "I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." Merry Christmas!

Faithfully,

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24: – Christmas Eve Service
4pm Contemporary Service (Fellowship Bldg)*
6pm Traditional Service (Sanctuary)*
Services include Communion & Candle Lighting
Sunday, December 28 – 10:30am Unified Worship (Sanctuary)
*No Sunday School
*Nursery Care available where indicated

HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025	Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025
8:45am Contemporary Worship	12:00pm Office Closes until Monday
9:45/10:00am Sunday School Classes	4:00pm Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship
11:00am Traditional Worship Service	6:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve Worship
4:00pm Intercessory Prayer Team	
NO SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH	
	Thursday, Dec. 25, 2025
	Merry Christmas

HOSPITAL AND CONCERNS
Prayer Concerns: Janet Barnes, Gary Blair, Pat Gainey, Welch Goggins, Diane Hayes, Gerrie Dixon Harris, Cheryl Harvey, Billy Hunt, Marie Hunt, Nell Jones, Charlie McPherson, Amanda Ponder, Becky Sanders, Andy Seery, Jr., Jacquee Smith, Hilda Walker, Beth White, Mable York
**If God has answered the prayer and/or you would like to be removed from this list call the church office and let us know.*

BIRTHDAYS
12/21: Charlotte Arnold, Jackie Crew, Jeanne Hamil, John Higgins
12/22: Bubba Bullington, Frances Campbell
12/24: Brice Ponder
12/25: Jason Hand
12/26: Toby Knifer

ATTENDANCE	
Total In-Person Worship Attendance December 14th:	
8:45 Contemporary Worship Service	235
11:00 Traditional Worship Service	<u>142</u>
Total	377

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Jennifer and Scott Smith on the birth of their granddaughter Clementine Claire Campiglia (Rebekah & Parker Campiglia parents).

MISSING BIRTHDAY?
Sometimes we miss birthdays because we don't have your information in our database. Use your Realm account to check/update your information.


GIVING IS EASIER THAN EVER!
Your faithfulness and generosity enables ministry! There are now four ways you can give:

- Give online at www.thomasvillefirstmethodist.com
- Give through TXT - text tfmcgive to 73256
- Checks can be mailed (P.O. Box 975 / Thomasville, GA 31799)
- Contributions can be brought to the Church Office

Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.
Privacy Policy - <https://legal.acst.com/privacy-policy>

Terms of Service - <https://legal.acst.com/terms-service-use>

GET REALM!
Our church management software has a lot of features that benefit you and the church! Use this QR Code to download the "Realm Connect" app, and get your account set-up today!

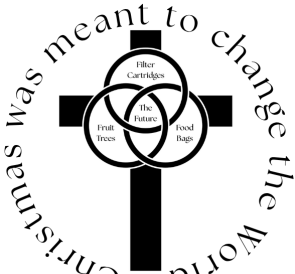


SUPPORT FOUNTAIN OF LIFE
The Fountain of Life Rescue Shelter is in need of undergarments, socks, jackets, towels/blankets, toiletry/cleaning supplies and bottled water. There are still Dinner Donation dates that are open: Feb.15, March 1, April 5, April 19, May 3, May 17, & June 7. The Ornament Fundraiser Sale for \$20 per ornament is being sold in the Fellowship Building. March 21st will be the Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser.

TECH TRAINING WORKSHOP 1/10
If you've ever wondered how to use the technology in our Worship Services, or wanted to get involved in our Tech Booths, join us Saturday, January 10 @ 10am in the Fellowship Building for a Technology Training Workshop with Tim Peck. Members of our Tech Teams will be on hand to help demonstrate the different tech areas, such as Visual Media (computer/slides), lights, camera, video switching, and audio. No experience necessary, just an interest in technology and a calling to serve! Contact Tim Peck for more information: tpeck@thomasvillefirstmethodist.com.

ADVENT REVOLUTION UPDATE

We have started the Advent off strong with over \$12,700 in donations toward our \$30,000.00 goal. Your generosity will build another school room, provide fruit trees, food bags, and water filters in Guatemala. Locally it will provide a washer and dryer for the Foutain of Life homeless shelter, as well as sheets and blankets, coats, mittens, and hats for those using the shelter. Remember, Christmas was meant to change the world!



YOUTH MINISTRY
We are excited to share that Disciple Now 2026 is on the way! This year, we'll be partnering with multiple South Georgia churches for a powerful weekend of fellowship and spiritual growth from Friday, January 16th through Sunday, January 18th, 2026. Don't wait—reserve your spot for this incredible experience! We are also seeking host homes for the weekend. If you are willing to welcome youth into your home from January 16–18, please contact Nic Mandolini. If finances are the only barrier keeping you or your student from attending DNOW, please let us know—we would love to help. For any questions, please reach out to Nicolas Mandolini, Director of Youth Ministry.



JOIN THE THOMASVILLE FIRST FAMILY
If you would like to join Thomasville First Methodist Church, you may do so by profession of faith or transfer of membership from another church or denomination. If you would like to know more about becoming a member, contact Scott Stanfill at (229)226-0840. Come grow with us!

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

8:45am

We aim to worship God with our whole selves in our family-friendly Fellowship Building, seeking to honor God through engaging and reflective Contemporary Worship music. Our Worship Service is centered in the prayers and creeds foundational to our Christian living. There are many ways to get involved in our service too! You are always welcome to worship at TFMC.

<u>Today's Songs</u> <i>Hark the Herald/King of Heaven</i> <i>I Wait</i> <i>Psalms 23</i> <i>Glory in the Darkest Place</i> <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	<u>Today's Teaching</u> "We Have Seen His Glory" John 1:14, 18 Rev. Scott Stanfill
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Worship Team: Delaney Dyksterhouse - vocals; Bree Howell - vocals; Noel Medford - bass; Tim Peck - guitar, vocals; Zach Price - keys; JP Rehberg - drums
Tech Team:

CONFIRMATION 2026
In the Methodist tradition, students in the 6th grade and above have the opportunity to become full members of the church. To help them make an informed decision, the church offers an annual Confirmation class that explores the fundamentals of the Christian faith, what it means to be a Methodist, and what it means to be a member of the church. While this class and retreat are designed for 6th graders, older students who have not yet been confirmed are also welcome to participate. More information will be shared in the next few weeks. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the class, please let Nic Mandolini, Director of Youth Ministry, know. nmandolini@thomasvillefirstmethodist.com

ROOTED STEWARDSHIP 2026
Our Financial Secretary reports that over 84% of the proposed budget for 2026 has been pledged. We are so grateful for your generosity! If you have not yet done so, please make your pledge (through Realm or with a pledge card) so that we may shape the budget for 2026.

FOOD BANK AND OUTREACH CENTER
The Food Bank and Outreach Center is collecting 2026 calendars for our clients. Calendars can be dropped off at the Food Bank during opening hours (holiday hours may vary) or at the church office.

CASSEROLE MINISTRY
Did you know that we have a casserole ministry that delivers home-cooked meals to those who could use some encouragement (illness, surgery, new birth, death, etc.)? This ministry does not work however, if we are unaware of those who could benefit from receiving a meal. If you know of a church member or regular attendee who could benefit from this type of ministry, please call or email the Church Office (229-226-0840 or office@thomasvillefirstmethodist.com).