

# Celebrations

- ◆ We blessed over 400 kids through Operation Christmas Douglas County and 62 kids through our Adopt-A-Child for Christmas at Burnett Elementary.
- ◆ We provided 67,680 meals to hungry children in Venezuela this year thanks to your giving through a special offering.



## NEW YEAR *New You!*

### TRANSFORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

*Make 2019 your greatest year yet!*

**Discipleship Group Coaching Session**  
Wednesday, January 9  
6:35-7:45pm  
Huffine Hall

**Kids' P.R.A.Y. Program**  
Wednesdays, January 9, 16, 23, 30,  
February 13  
6:30-8:00pm  
For Kids (Grades 1-5) and Parents

**Ministry By Strengths**  
Wednesdays, January 16, 23, 30  
6:45-7:45pm  
Identify your strengths and find your  
unique "sweet spot" for life in Christ

**Small Groups**  
Start February 11



## CONNECTING

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Traditional** (Sanctuary)

Sundays 8:30am and 11:00am

**Contemporary** (Patricia Tidwell Hall)

Sundays 11:00am

**Dinner Church** (Good Samaritan Center)

1st and 3rd Saturdays 5:00pm

### DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Sunday School- Sundays 9:45am

Small Groups- Begin Again February 11

Young Adults- Sundays 5:00pm

### CONTACT US

Phone (770) 942-3146

### WEBSITE

[douglasvilleFUMC.org](http://douglasvilleFUMC.org)

### "IN THE LOOP" TEXT UPDATES

Text LOOP to 770-285-5600

### "MY CHURCH" DFUMC SMARTPHONE APP

Text DVILLE APP to 77977

### GET SOCIAL WITH US



## WELCOME GUESTS

We're glad that you are here and hope that you're blessed by the experience. Please be sure to fill out the connection card or just text the word WELCOME to 770-285-5600 for quick registration. Our Pastors would love to meet you following the service.

### KIDS

We love kids in worship but if you prefer, a nursery is available for infants and those up to age four (exit forward, take a right and go all the way to the end of the hallway and take another right). A greeter is happy to escort you there.

### RESTROOMS

Exit forward, take a right, and the men's restroom is on the right and the women's is straight ahead at the end of the hallway.

### WIFI (DFUMC-Guest)

Password: #lovedouglasville

## INVITATIONS

### AN INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS

Jesus loves you and desires to be in relationship with you. Jesus offers you abundant life (peace, joy, meaning, purpose, love, fulfillment) now and forevermore.

### AN INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

While membership is not required to worship or participate at Douglasville First UMC, membership is integral for the maturing believer. Along with devotion to Christ, the Christian life includes learning, living and growing together with other Christians as a part of the Body of Christ. To be a member is to be part of a living organism- a vital community animated by the Spirit to love and to serve.

To discuss either invitation, please contact Rev. Brett DeHart via email at [BrettD@douglasvilleFUMC.org](mailto:BrettD@douglasvilleFUMC.org) or call 770-942-3146.



*Connect people to Jesus, make disciples, transform the world.*

DECEMBER 24, 2018

# WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

\*Please stand as you are comfortable. | Please silence cell phones. | Hearing devices are available if needed.  
Acolytes- Kurt Meador and Jackson Wynn

GATHERING MUSIC.....Wayne Gilreath

## WELCOME

PRELUDE: “Prelude and Fugue on ‘Adeste Fidelis’”.....Marcel Dupre

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE.....Lonnie, Amy, and Laila Thigpen

**\*HYMN (UMH #246)** “Joy to the World” (verses 1, 2 and 4)

## PASTORAL PRAYER

**\*HYMN (UMH #240)** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MESSAGE: “Responding”.....Rev. Brett DeHart

OFFERING: “Gabriel’s Oboe”.....Morricone/arr. Wilma Jensen

## HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

**\*HYMN (UMH #239)** “Silent Night, Holy Night”

**\*COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING-** May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the Magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Amen & Merry Christmas!

**\*POSTLUDE:** “Angels from the Realms of Glory”.....Floor Peeters

## Christmas Offering

Our Christmas offering goes to Douglasville Dinner Church and our international mission partner in Thailand. Please write “Christmas Offering” on the memo line of your check to DFUMC or give online at [www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/give](http://www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/give).

## Combined Worship, December 30

We will only have one service next Sunday morning. Join us at 11:00am in the Sanctuary for one combined service. Dress is casual. There will not be breakfast, Kids and Youth Sunday School, or Kids’ Church that day.

## “New Year, New You” Discipleship Coaching, January 9

Make 2019 your greatest year yet! As a follow-up to the January 6 sermon, our Pastors will be offering a special one-night discipleship group coaching session from 6:35-7:45pm in Huffine Hall. Bring a completed “Self-Reflection” document (will be handed out in worship January 6) and receive free dinner at 5:30pm.

## Kids’ P.R.A.Y. Program starts January 9

We are excited to introduce a new five-week program (January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 13) for kids (Grades 1-5) and parents on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. You will develop a deeper relationship with God and to understand how God is active in our lives and in the world around us. Upon completion, students will receive their P.R.A.Y. Award, which has been approved for wear on the official uniforms of the Boy Scouts. Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls. All are eligible to participate in the program, even if you are not in a Scout unit. Please register by January 4 by emailing [JessicaS@douglasvilleFUMC.org](mailto:JessicaS@douglasvilleFUMC.org) and bring payment (\$25 - cash or check) to the first class meeting. Scholarships are available if needed.

## Red Cross Blood Drive, January 16

Give the gift of life at Douglasville First UMC on Wednesday, January 16 from 3:00-8:00pm in Patricia Tidwell Hall (B-Building). To schedule an appointment go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: [douglasvillefumc](http://douglasvillefumc.org). All donors receive a t-shirt and free Wednesday Night Dinner.

## Ministry By Strengths, January 16

A key to personal transformation is discovering your unique God-given strengths and maximizing them to be all that God created you to be. In the three-week *Ministry By Strengths* course, you will identify your strengths and develop strategies for finding your unique “sweet spot” for life in Christ. Classes will meet Wednesdays, January 16, 23, and 30 from 6:45-7:45pm. Prior to the first class, attendees should purchase the book, *StrengthsFinders 2.0* by Tom Rath. To register, text MBS0119 to 770-285-5600.

## Please Remember the Church in Your Year End Giving

- ◆ Recurring, Consistent Gifts Online or on the App
- ◆ In the offering during worship
- ◆ On our DFUMC “My Church” App
- ◆ Text **DVILLE** to 77977
- ◆ Online- [www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/give](http://www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/give)
- ◆ In the Grey Donation Boxes
- ◆ Mail a Check to the Church
- ◆ Give IRA Distributions, Stocks/Bond
- ◆ Remember the church in your will or trusts

## Last Chance to Record 20,000 Hours of Love for 2018

We want to know the impact that Douglasville First UMC has made in our community this year. Please go to [www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/20000](http://www.douglasvilleFUMC.org/20000) and record your service hours for 2018. You can also fill out a paper card available in the postcard racks around campus. Hours can be for any volunteer service in the community (through church programs or your own individual initiative). While we greatly appreciate all you do to serve inside the walls of the church, please don’t record those hours for this tally.

## Fresh Expressions Vision Day, February 23

A Fresh Expression is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of those who are not yet part of any church. Our Dinner Church is one example of a fresh expression of church. Douglasville First UMC will host a full-day vision day for the North Georgia Conference (UMC) on Saturday, February 23. Our goal is for 100 DFUMC people to attend and discern how God might be calling us to expand our reach in new ways.

## Download Our “My Church”App for Smartphones

Sermon notes, read the Bible, give to the church. Text **DVILLE APP** (leave a space between the two words) to 77977 for a link to get the free app.

## Text Notifications

Get Douglasville First UMC news and important weather closure notifications by signing up for our “In the Loop” text service. To sign-up, text the word LOOP to 770-285-5600. To be informed by text when church members die, please text the word FUNERAL to 770-285-5600.