

THE BULLETIN

Vol. 1

December 24, 2023

No. 26

Worship God
Grow in Christ

Build Community
Bless the World



CAIRO FIRST CHURCH

(1867-2023) – Celebrating Our 156th Year

318 South Broad Street • Cairo, Georgia 39828-2717

Rev. Sam Vernon, Pastor

☎ Church Office: 229-377-3051 @ www.cairofumc.org ✉ adm.cairofum@syrupcity.net

📍 Cairo First Church ☎ Upper Room Prayer Line 1-800-251-2468



CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 24TH)

8:15 am Chapel Worship

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

11:00 am Traditional Worship

5:00 pm **CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION**

Casual Dress. Music by Ed Self, Brian and Stacey Morgan. After a short message by Rev. Vernon, communion will be served with bread and the small cups of juice. Weather permitting, we will finish outside with a candlelight singing of Silent Night.

NEW YEARS EVE SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 31ST)

11:00 a.m. Worship (Only Service this day)

Jeff Davis and his wife will lead our music. Jeff was recently inducted into the Georgia Country Music Hall of Fame. Rev. Allen Hartsfield will preach. Allen is a retired Methodist preacher who now lives in Whigham.

Sam

MEMORIAL GIFTS:

Memorials have been given to the church in loving memory of

- MR. PERRY BROWN**
- MR. MARK CARROUTH**
- MRS. SAMMIE HARPER**
- MRS. BETH WIGHT**

By: Chuck and Celeste Tyler

MR. WAYNE PITCHFORD

By: Mr. Dale Helms
Perkins Men's Group
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stafford

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION

5:00 PM:

Join us for this special service. Ed Self, Brian and Stacey Morgan will do the music.

After Rev. Vernon preaches, we will serve communion using the small individual cups. Weather permitting, we will finish outside with candlelight and singing "Silent Night".

DECEMBER 31:

Only one (1) service at 11:00 am. Rev. Allen Hartsfield will preach.

CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE:

Office closed December 25, 26 for Christmas.

Office also closed January 1 for New Year's Day.

NO MAILED BULLETINS THE WEEK FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS:

Bulletins for the December 31 service will be available at the Church only. We will resume mailing bulletins the first week of January.

BE GOOD STEWARDS:

When you leave the sanctuary on Sunday morning, please take a minute to replace the hymnal and/or Bible in the rack. Also, please take your used tissue and bulletin with you upon departing.

Thanks for your assistance as we do not have custodians coming in after Sunday services.

ADVENT:

The word Advent means "the coming".

The Advent Season is the four weeks before Christmas. During Advent, Christians celebrate the original "coming" of Christ when He was born some 2000 years ago in Bethlehem.

One of the ways we celebrate Advent in the church is with the Advent wreath and candles.

- *The **Advent wreath** is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches.
- *The **circular** green wreath symbolizes the everlasting love of God, having no beginning and no end. **Green** represents eternal life.
- *The **4 candles** represent the 4 weeks of Advent.
- ***Purple** in ancient times was expensive, and was considered the color of royalty and Kings. Christians proclaim Christ as the "King of Kings".
- *The 3 purple candles represent **HOPE, PEACE** and **LOVE**.
- *The pink candle represents **JOY**.
- *The large white candle in the center is the **Christ candle**.
- *The beauty and brightness from the glow of all 5 candles is a reminder that Christ's life was the **light for all of earth's people**.

**JANUARY
UPCOMING DATES
TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

-
- January 1** - Happy New Year!
Church Office Closed

 - January 21 (Sunday)** - 2024
Leadership Installation

 - January 22 (Monday)** - 6:00 pm
First Laity Council
Meeting for 2024

 - January 27 (Saturday)** - Leadership
Retreat



Week of **Dec 24-30**
2023



Remember in Prayer

OUR KNOWN ILL: (AS OF TUESDAY)

Sunday, December 24:

- 8:15 am Early Worship
- 9:00 am † Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am † Traditional Worship
- 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service

Monday, December 25:

Merry Christmas

No Activities - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26:

No Activities - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27:

No Activities

Thursday, December 28:

8:30 am Service on CNS Channel 6

Friday, December 29:

2:00 pm Service on CNS Channel 6

9:00 pm Service on CNS Channel 6

† Live streaming

AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP - 12/17/23

8:15 a.m.	10
9:00 a.m.	80
11:00 a.m.	55
Weekly Receipts	\$19,870.00
Received to Date - Op.	\$312,555.00
Memorial/In Honor	\$200.00
Missions	\$0.00
Bucket Brigade	\$84.67

BUCKET BRIGADE:

The bucket brigade offerings (loose change in buckets) goes to mission projects that the church sponsors throughout the year. The offering for December will go to the **Backpack Ministry**.

TALLAHASSEE MEMORIAL:

Mr. Jeb Owens

TALLAHASSEE, FL:

Mr. Ken Stafford (Brother of Charles Stafford)

ARCHBOLD:

Mr. Rusty Wood (Brother of Becky Hopkins)

GRADY GENERAL:

Mrs. Faye Miller

AT HOME:

Mr. Ray Butler

Mr. David and Mrs. Catherine Elkins

Mrs. Lauren Harrell

Mr. Bob Jones

Mr. Howell McKinnon and Mrs. Eleanor McKinnon

Mrs. Marjorie Taylor

The Church and its ministries, the Church Staff and all Church members.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED

LIVING RESIDENTS:

MAGNOLIA PLACE:

Mrs. Joan Cassels

Mrs. Dot Moses James

Mrs. Nell Mitchell

Mrs. Janet Murphy

Mr. John Shiver

Mrs. Carolyn Trawick

CAMELLIA GARDENS, THOMASVILLE, GA

Mr. John Summers (Father of Clair McCaskill)

SOUTHERN PINES, THOMASVILLE, GA:

Mrs. Doris Rehberg (Mother of Nell Owens)

THOMASVILLE NURSING & REHAB:

Mrs. Mary Meill

PRESBYTERIAN HOME, QUITMAN, GA:

Mrs. Opal Prince

CHESTNUT RIDGE, CUMMING, GA:

Mrs. Vivian Childs

ATLANTA, GA

Ike & Charlene Powell

BRENTWOOD, TN:

Dr. Bob Kral



Birthday Greetings

December 24: Joni Bundrick

December 25: Charlene Powell

December 26: Sonny Marshall,
Santee Rinker,
Breanna Sanders

December 27: Colton Ponder,
Carolyn Wynn

December 28: Helen Brown

December 29: Suzanne Carnline,
Tim Hurst, Jeb Johnson,
Phoebe Meissner,
Emily Moses, Lew Oliver,
Shanda Pyrzs, Rain Singletary

December 30: Keri Hopkins

Sunday December 24, 2023

Traditional Informal – Chapel

8:15 am

*SCRIPTURE LESSONLuke 2:1-7
SERMON24 Reasons I Love December 24th and 25thRev. Vernon

Contemporary – Sanctuary (Livestream)

9:00 am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP

CHILDREN’S SERMONCeleste Vernon

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

READER: Today the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we again light the candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY

CONGREGATION: For the first time, today we light the candle of LOVE in celebration of the Savior’s birth.

READER: 2000 years ago the Christ Child was born in a humble setting. It was the Father’s way of saying to the world “I Love You!”

CONGREGATION: And still today, God the Father tells the world of His LOVE through Jesus Christ!

*AFFIRMATION OF GOD’S WORD

This is God’s Word. I believe I am who He says I am, I have what He says I have, and I can do what He says I can do.

*SCRIPTURELuke 2:1-7
SERMON24 Reasons I Love December 24th and 25thRev. Vernon

THOSE WHO SERVE: 9:00 AM: SS Greeters/Ushers: **Chad Allen, Bill Harrell;**

Worship Team: Brian Morgan - vocals, guitar; Stacey Morgan - vocals, keys;

Tech: Will Bundrick - video; Miller Kate Morgan - streaming;

Amy and Davis Amaro - audio

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

NEWS FROM...ADRIENNE

email: abharrison1@hotmail.com
text: 229-254-2546

- Acolytes:
- Buckets:

No Children’s activities (Children’s Church/Nursery) on December 31!

We will resume Sunday Nights on January 21 at 5:30 p.m.

We are in need of snacks and drinks in the children’s building. We would love some small waters, goldfish and animal crackers!

YOUTH MINISTRY

NEWS FROM...SCOTT

email: easom316@windstream.net
cell/text: (229) 977-2247

- December 24 – Sunday School - 10:00 am

PRELUDEMr. Ed Self
In Dulci Jubilo – R. E. Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTSRev. Vernon

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

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CONGREGATION: And still today, God the Father tells the world of His LOVE through Jesus Christ!

*HYMN OF PRAISENo. 234
“O Come All Ye Faithful

OFFERTORY PRAYERRev. Vernon

OFFERING

OFFERTORYMr. Self
He Is Born - R. E. Smith

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

*HYMN OF REFLECTIONNo. 217
Away in a Manger

SPECIAL MUSICMrs. Patricia Mitchell
Mary Did You Know - Schrader

*AFFIRMATION OF GOD’S WORD

**This is God’s Word. I believe I am who He says I am,
I have what He says I have and I can do what He says I can do.**

*SCRIPTURE LESSONLuke 2:1-7

SERMON24 Reasons I Love December 24th and 25thRev. Vernon

*HYMN OF RESPONSENo. 246
Joy to the World

*BENEDICTIONRev. Vernon

+POSTLUDEMr. Self
O Come, All Ye Faithful - R. E. Smith

+You are dismissed after the Benediction.
Please feel free to leave, or if you choose, sit quietly and enjoy the Postlude.

* Please stand as you are able.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EACH OF YOU

From Rev. Sam Vernon
and all the Church Staff.

Non Profit
Standard
U.S. Postage
PD - Permit #24
Cairo, GA

FLOWER CALENDAR:

The flower calendar for 2024 has been placed on the bulletin board in the downstairs hallway.

Please sign up for flowers for 2024. And remember that two arrangements are needed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES:

If you are not currently attending a Sunday School class, now is a good time to start. There are several options and you would be welcome to visit any or all of the classes.

- Burleigh Law: Mostly couples that have grown children and grandchildren.
- Azalee Wight: Mostly couples, some retired, others still working. Various members rotate teaching
- Pairs and Spares: Mixed group of singles and couples
- New Hope: Adults (45+) with teenage and college age children
- Cephas: Adults (30+) with young children

NEXT WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER:

Will be January 17, 2024.

SINNER'S PRAYER

DEAR JESUS,

I believe You are the Son of God. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins 2000 years ago. I confess that I am a sinner. Please forgive me of my sins. Come into my heart and be my Savior and make me into the kind of person You want me to be.

Amen

This is just one example of a prayer that someone could pray to become Christian. For the prayer to be effective it needs to be an honest expression of someone's heart.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
318 S. BROAD STREET
CAIRO, GA 39828

Directory

- Sam Vernon*Pastor*
- Ruth Sims*Adm. Assistant*
- Scott Easom*Youth Director*
- Adrienne Harrison*Children's Director*
- Jeremy Moore*Music Director*
- Ed Self*Organist*
- Brian and Stacey Morgan
.*Contemporary Worship Leaders*
- Ashlei Steele*Preschool Director*
- Church Office*229-377-3051*
- Emergency Numbers **.229-377-1017**
229-403-0428
912-230-6627

EMAILS: When sending emails to the church office, please use the following address:

adm.cairofum@syrupcity.net

E-MAILS ADDRESS/CELL PHONE NUMBERS: Contact with church members is very important. Please turn in email addresses and cell phone numbers especially if you no longer use a land line for your telephone. Thanks

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Cell Number _____

Thanks ever so much!