

Welcoming & Greeting

Good Morning & Welcome Church, today is the Second Sunday of Lent! Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of people and the world. We want to meet you right where you are and help you take the next steps on your spiritual journey. Please let us know how we can best serve you and your family, by connecting with myself or the Pastor after the service.

Please prepare your souls as we open in prayer. *(Brief Moment of Silence)*

(Please Stand or Rise in Posture)

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Dear God, As I stumble through this life, help me to create more laughter than tears, dispense more cheer than gloom, spread more cheer than despair. Never let me become so indifferent, that I will fail to see the wonders in the eyes of a child, or the twinkle in the eyes of the aged. Never let me forget that my total effort is to cheer people, make them happy, and forget momentarily, all the unpleasantness in their lives. And in my final moment, may I hear You whisper: *When you made My people smile, you made Me smile.* Amen

Call to Worship (Unison)

Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth! Be happy!

Rejoice out loud! Sing your praises!

(Please Be Seated)

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

(Please Stand or Rise in Posture)

Hymn #1: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" #89 UMH

**Prayer, Joys & Reflection (Psalm 7) Lead By Pastor
(A Time of Silence, Reflection & Personal Confession)**

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Guiding Lord, even though we hesitated on our Lenten journey; we vowed to come with you through all the trials and fears toward the Cross. Today we face the challenge which true commitment brings. Are we willing to offer our whole selves to you in service? We would like to think that we can do that, but we are aware of how many times we have turned away from service and instead focused on our own desires. Remind us again of the commitment you would have us give if we are to become disciples. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Lead us forward, gracious Lord, up these steps toward the Cross. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

The journey of discipleship is never easy; but you can be assured that you will not be on this journey alone. Place your trust in Jesus. AMEN.

Children's Message "Finding True Happiness in Laughter"

(Please Stand or Rise in Posture for the Reading of God's Word)

Scripture Reading(s): Nehemiah 8:9-12, The Voice

(Please Be Seated)

Message Series: "Remarkable" Part 11 of V

Today's Message: "A Methodist Rejoices in God" Pastor Harold Long

(Welcome and Offer of Peace)

Hymn #2 "Blessed Assurance" #369 UMH
(Tying of the Quilts)

(Please Be Seated)

Business and Announcements

(Please silence all cell phones/tablets/games)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Offering

(Please Stand or Rise in Posture)

Doxology: "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" #95

Offertory Prayer

God Almighty, we rejoice in your constant faithfulness! You established your eternal covenant with your people Israel. Through the ministry of your Son Jesus, you welcomed all who trust you into your extended family. Just as with Abraham and Sarah, you gave us a new name in baptism: a beloved child of God. Empower us by your Spirit to live as generous people who share freely. May we tell younger generations of your goodness and serve your purposes in the world. As a covenant people, we dedicate our tithes and offerings through Christ our Lord. Amen. *(Genesis 17:1-16)*

Lord's Prayer

Song of Sending: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" #302 UMH

Benediction:

Place your trust in God's guidance. Go into this world that is in such need of hope, healing and laughter with the love of Christ in your hearts. Though the journey is long, God will sustain you. Go in peace, and may God's peace always go with you. AMEN.

Postlude: (Now go in peace to love & serve the Lord)

LaGrange UMC Connect Card

Drop this in the offering plate or give to a greeter if you have a prayer concern or want us to connect with you.

Name (include children) _____

Contact Updates:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

First time guest —

Returning Visitor —

I would like to learn more about:

Sunday School

Kids Activities ___

Ways to Serve ___

Communication Corner

Check here to sign up for: _____

Weekly bulletin e-mail _____

Monthly newsletter _____

Prayer chain text cell # _____

Prayer Requests:

I want only the Pastor to see this _____

I would like the Pastor and prayer team to see this _____

Prayer Request:

Connect me with . . .

Connecting with God

- ___ Coffee with Pastor Harold Long
- ___ I am interested in being part of the Choir and/or Praise Band

Equipping Christians

- I am interested in a small Group
- ___ weekly day of week
 - ___ Monthly
 - ___ Hosting small group
 - ___ Safe Sanctuary Training
 - ___ *Serve in Nursery
 - ___ *Assist with kids worship
 - ___ *Assist in VBS
 - ___ *Lend or Assist with projects/activities/trips for youth
- (*must have Safe Sanctuary Training)

Supporting Community

- ___ I would like to be in rotation for the nursery Sunday worship service.
- ___ I would like Pastoral Counseling

Sharing with the world

- ___ I would like to share special music.
- ___ Serve on Board
- ___ Plan Book
- ___ Ice Cream Social
- ___ Hog Roast
- ___ Prison Ministry/Outreach
- ___ Walk to Emmaus
- ___ VIM (Volunteers in Mission)
- ___ Nursing Home/Home Bound
- ___ Summer Lunch Program
- ___ Community Youth Center

Please Visit the church website at

www.mtolivetcharge.org

Or contact the church office at 573-769-3948

Prayer Concerns

Parish: Our Nation and Leaders, Dana Reid, Janet Casbier, Jaunita Griesbaum

Mt. Olivet: Cameron Akerson, Mary Lou Bates, Chet Bailey, Dave & Levon Boyd, Karen Brinkman, Nina Cain, Caitlyn Cook, Troy Disslehorst, Jamie Doen, Sue Duniwon, Elliott, Pauline, Tamala & Terry Dougherty, Paul Dougherty, James Eichor, Zeke Eichor, Jackie Eston, Melinda Griesbaum, Tracy Graupman, Carol Hess, Jackson Holsgrove, Linda James, Amanda Job, Georgia Logan, Evalin McCormic, Marcie Minnick, Mechelle Paylin, Carrie Peiter, Maddie Rager, Dana Reid, Marie Shivley, Asah See, Charilyn Stalder, Gail Sharkey, Dee Stauffer, Lee VonTuhn, Jack Triplett, Kim Triplett, Dave Wilson

Durham: Sherry Bain, Bill Buckner, Keith Clow, Earl Feldkamp, Armenia Giesendorfer, Delbert Hoteling, Dale Johnson, Bill Konigmark, Clem Kroeger, Sandee Lucus, Don Maddox, Elaine Mangold, Edna McMullen, Frank McMullin, Ivan Roberts, Alice Smith, Trudy Roberts

LaGrange: Betty Bronstein & Family, Taylor Cole, Hope Collins, Ronnie Collins, Pat Cottrell, Braydon & Haydon Donaldson, Vena Holt, Helen Waters Fiddler, Judy Fisher, Jay Frieden, Nancy Kraemer, Laiten Lay, Robert Myers, Jason Reeves, Sue Ellen Robertson, Ray Schaffer, Edith Schmuck, Mary Schutte, Judy Scott, Brenda Smith, Debbie St. Clair, David & Donna Stice, Avery Uhlmeyer, Mariah Vaughn, Trish Vaughn, Nick Walker

Nursing Home Members & Homebound Members: Lee Barnard, Bruce Burkhalter, Jerry & Kaye Carpenter, Wilma Chipman, Reghnald Eichor, Lucretia Hinton, John Krietmeyer, Marie Lange, Betty Morrison, David & Donna Stice, Vernon Stice, Arnold Tiemann, Mary Yakley, Wanda Yager

Our Servicemen: Sean Burkhardt, Cody Burkhardt, Brennan Church, Matt Crane, Dean Cooper, Michael Donelson, Morgan Goehl, Jonathan Grawe, Levi Lockett, Scott Morton, Rob Piesen, Dessa Robertson, Jessie Shuck, Nathaniel Seiz, Ryan Ward, Matt Wealer, Cameron Wilson

Parish Calendar of Events

- 25 Mt Olivet Breakfast
- 25 Mt Olivet Movie Night 5:30 pm “The Shack”
- 25 Charge Youth Group 12:30-2:30 pm
Mt Olivet
- March
- 2 Bingo Night LaGrange Youth Center 6:30 pm
- 3 Country Aire Retirement Estate Service 2 pm
- 4 Durham Pancake & Sausage Breakfast 6 am
- 10 Women in Ministry Quilting & meeting 9 am
- 11 Daylight Savings Time
- 11 Mt Olivet Breakfast
- 15 Mt Olivet Bd Meeting 6 pm
- 16 Bingo Night LaGrange Youth Center 6:30 pm
- 18 Youth Group 12:30-2:30 pm Mt Olivet

February & March Birthdays & Anniv.

- 25 Crew Shade
- 27 Kevin Spratt
- March
- 2 Keetan Johnston
- 3 Ronan Kenison
- 5 Matt Rothweiler
- 8 Carolyn Carpenter, Dennis Waters
- 9 Andy & Christine Hudson (a)
- 10 Dave Sparrow
- 15 Austee VonAnn
- 16 Joyce Feldkamp
- 17 Keith Triplett
- 18 Mary Baker
- 20 Collin Felter
- 22 Amy Lewis
- 23 Diane Schrader, Amanda Lewis, Iris Schultz
- 26 Jamie Mendoza
- 28 Jeff Reid & Donna Reid
- 29 Cara Buddy, Danielle Rogers
- 30 Jim Eichor
- 31 Ansel Marquette

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| Pastor | Harold Long |
| Accompanists | Barb Burkhardt |
| Liturgist | Danny Rosencrans |
| Acolyte | Mary Rosencrans & Coleen Brown |
| Ushers | Mary Rosencrans & Coleen Brown |

LaGrange United Methodist Church
February 25, 2018
Our Mission To Connect, Grow, and Serve