

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of Charlotte and Doug Mason by Dave Mason.

ACOLYTE (10:30am) Iyana Singh Massengill
CRUCIFER (10:30am) Samantha Gorghis

DECEMBER USHER TEAMS

8:15am Capt. Rusty Cantwell, Dick Copeland, Ron Reel, Ralph Stelzman, Donna Winstead
 10:30am Capt. Bob Schwalb, Matt Drinnon, Carrie Hoffmeister, Gary Johnson, Rob Kelly, Rich McGowan

Lay Reader (8:15am) Ellen Fisher (10:30am) Alice Shugart

Music Notes

Where the Promise Shines
 Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan
 Music: Bob Moore/arr. by Joel Raney
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This year our **Christmas Offering** will benefit the **flood relief** in East Tennessee and Western North Carolina through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (**UMCOR**). This will be an opportunity for us to share God's abundance with our neighbors as we celebrate the coming of Christ. Any offering received in the Christmas envelopes found in the sanctuary and gym will be included in this special gift. Thank you for your continued generosity for those who lost so much.

Place Your Order for Poinsettias!

We are taking orders for poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary and gym December 15th, 22nd, and 24th, for a cost of \$15 each. To order, fill out the form below and return to the church office with your payment *or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday morning*. Make checks out to "FUMC" and mark them "Poinsettias." Quantities are limited so order soon. Plants may be picked up after the 5:00pm Christmas Eve service. If you need further information, please call the church office at 581-2180. **Orders received by Dec. 10th will be listed in the bulletin on Dec. 15th**

by: _____

(check one) In Memory of In Honor of Gift

of Plants _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

For more information about activities/events or calendar items, please go to the Church Center app. If you need assistance operating the app, see Lisa Cavallucci or Ben Stapleton. They are happy to assist you. You may also pick up a FUMC calendar of events in the narthex or gym.



Community Advent Services | Dec 9 and 16 | 6pm

Join us for our ecumenical Advent services in December. Dec. 9th is at All Saints Episcopal with Rev. Bill Carr preaching, and Pastor Asa will be preaching at Good Shepherd Lutheran on December 16th.

Chancel Choir Christmas Music Sunday | December 15th | 8:15 and 10:30am

Mark your calendars for December 15th and join us in the sanctuary to hear the Chancel Choir present a beautiful program of Christmas music with harp and marimba.

Love Feast | Dec 22nd | 6pm | Sanctuary & Gym

Join us for a service of scripture readings, carols, and choral music by the Revelation Youth Choir and handbell music by the Carillonneures. Afterward we proceed to the gym and enjoy cinnamon rolls and hot beverages. Sign up on Church Center for this free event.

Amahl & the Night Visitors | January 5th | 6pm | Sanctuary

On January 5th members of the Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, and other musical guests along with a full orchestra will perform an opera entitled *Amahl & the Night Visitors*. This is the story of an imaginative young boy and his mother who receive a visit from the wise men on their way to see baby Jesus.



Joyful Hearts | December 12th | 11am

Join Joyful Hearts in the Community Room for a time of fellowship and some wonderful music. Favorite Strings will be offering a dulcimer presentation and Bill Burkett will be playing the Euphonium.



Blue Christmas | Dec 19 | 6pm | FUMC Sanctuary

A service of hope, healing and support to recognize the difficulties of life, death, disease, poverty and other losses. All are invited to come rest and reflect.

Cookies & Caroling | December 18th | 5pm

Join us in the Community Room for cookies and caroling! We start the night with pizza at 5pm and leave for caroling at 6pm. We return to the community room afterward to enjoy cookies and fellowship.

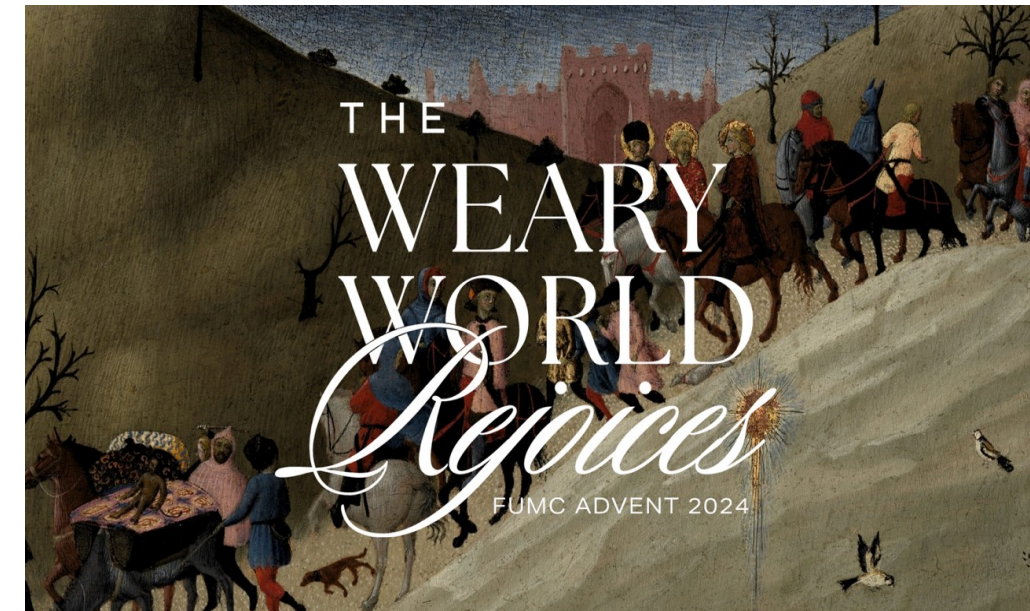
UWF Deborah Circle | Dec 10 | 6pm | Cornerstone

We will be putting together Christmas bags for shut-ins. Program by Kay Flockhart on Spiritual Gifts. Bring a Christmas snack to share.



101 E. 1st North Street
 fumc@fumcmorristown.org
 (423) 581-2180

WELCOME TO
First United Methodist Church
 - Est. 1852 -



December 8, 2024

Making disciples as we gather, grow, and go.

WELCOME to First United Methodist Church (FUMC). We would love to have you fill out your name and any information you feel comfortable sharing on the attendance pad. If you need help with anything today, please contact one of our ushers, pastors, or security team members. We hope you will join us again as we *Gather, Grow, and Go* at FUMC.



GATHER



GROW



GO

CONNECT WITH US



Scan our QR code to find FUMC on social apps, including the Church Center app, which connects you to our Small Groups, events, calendars, and more!

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

2nd Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Color: Purple

December 8, 2024

8:15am & 10:30am

Please remember to silence cell phones.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and devices for the hearing impaired are available for this morning's service. Please see an usher.

() Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Sleepers Awake for Night is Fleeing* J.S. Bach
(text on UMH 720)

Introit (10:30am) *A Processional For Advent* Rachel Aarons

* **Hymn** UMH 209 *Blessed Be the God of Israel* MERLE'S TUNE

* Advent Wreath Lighting

Sing chorus before and after reading as directed.

Lead us on, _____ lead us on _____ to a morn-ing where the
prom-ise shines, _____ Lead us on, _____ lead us on _____ to a
morn - ing where the prom - ise shines. _____

* A Blessing for Open Arms

Blessed are you with open arms to welcome God this Advent, willing to invite its promises into the center of your longing.

Blessed are you, even now in the waiting.

Open to receiving what is beautiful though clothed in such precarity.

Blessed are you, agreeing to stand still long enough to let your eyes adjust to the darkness until the starlight begins to appear, the dawning of God's promises.

In that gentle light, find a corner of your heart where hope can stay protected. A place from which we can nurture a little gratitude, a little compassion, enough to go around. Some for God and some for yourself. And some for the next unsuspecting soul that wanders into your light.

Congregational Celebrations & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Dennie

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Prayer for Illumination

O Christ, the prophets foretold your coming, the poor longed to see you. Your church praises you in every human language for she has seen your salvation. Give us generous hearts to hear your Word, and produce in us abundant fruit through the power of your Spirit. Amen.

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:68-79

The Word of God for the people of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

* Response

All Sing

Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great-er Son.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to set the chosen people free. ***The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Savior from the house of David.***

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us; ***To show mercy to our ancestors and to remember the holy covenant.***

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

To set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship without fear, Holy and righteous in the Lord's sight, All the days of our life.

Sing Response

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, ***To give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.***

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Sing Response

Solo *Blessed Quietness* arr. by Alicia Lewis
Ben Stapleton

Sermon *The Promise of Compassion* Pastor Dennie

Worship of God by Giving Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (8:15am) *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord* J.S. Bach

Offertory Anthem (10:30am) arr. by Conrad Susa
On December's Frozen Ground

On December's frozen ground, Fear and doubt denying. April wears a flower crown, All the world admiring, From a garden filled with love Springs a blossom from above with a lovely flower, Comes the blessed hour.

God the Father made the night, All in darkness shrouding. Hiding from all human sight, Worry, fear and doubting. Shining through the midnight clear, Brightest light of all the year with a light so bright, with a light outpouring, Heaven stands adoring.

Blooming at our humble feet, Winter's chill defying, Springs a lily pale and sweet, Fragrant and inspiring. All the world can feel its power, Singing in our darkest hour, All the sweetest fragrance, Bless us with your radiance.

* Doxology

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Glo-ry be to God the Fath-er, Glo-ry be to Christ the Son, Glo-ry to the Ho-ly
Spir-it Glo-ry to the Three-in-One. Here we of-fer to you glad-ly all the
gifts that you im-part, as we glo-ry in your presence, giv-ing from a grate-ful heart.

* Prayer of Dedication

* **Hymn** UMH 196 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

* Benediction

* **Sung Benediction** *Blessed Quietness* arr. by Alicia Lewis

* **Postlude** *Improvisation*