

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### CHURCHWIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Today | 3:30 | Meet in Fellowship Hall

Your family is invited to church-wide caroling as we share Christmas joy with our neighbors in Cloverdale.

### PRAYER, CHORE, DEED 2019 CALENDARS

"Prayer, Chore, Deed" 2019 calendars are located on tables in the Children's Building. These calendars emphasize the importance of saying a prayer, doing a chore and a kind deed every day. Please pick one up for your family.

### MARK YOUR 2019 CALENDAR

Vacation Bible School | June 10 - 14  
Camp Lee | July 24 - 27 | Grades 3 - 5

### SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School (all ages) - 9:45 - 10:45 in the Children's Building  
Children's Church - (age 3 - 1st grade) during 8:45 and 11:00 worship services

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### TREE OF LIGHTS - LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR LIST IN!

Help support Youth Mission projects for only \$8.

### NO MYF TONIGHT | DECEMBER 23

### MOVIE NIGHT | DECEMBER 28

Check out Instagram and Facebook soon for details on a fun night out at Chantilly movie theatre.

### WINTER RETREAT | JANUARY 19-21 | CAMP HARGIS

There are only 3 spots left! The cost is \$225. Our speaker this year will be our own Bria Rochelle. We will focus on the hills and valleys of life and how to stay rooted in Christ through all circumstances! The band will be a group from the Wesley Foundation in Tuscaloosa.

### COSTA RICA | JUNE 15-22

For those signed up to go on our mission trip this summer, the next payment of \$300 is due ASAP. If you have not paid please talk to the youth staff. The third payment will be \$300 due on January 23rd.

### GET CONNECTED

Make sure to follow us on our social media accounts for updates on upcoming events and pictures of past events!



FUMC Montgomery-  
Connect Student Ministries



FUMC.CONNECT

### Weddings

Brice Hill and Dawson Sellers  
December 8, 2018

Lundy Starke and Collier Williams  
December 15, 2018

### In Memoriam

Lynn Hobbie Andrews  
December 3, 2018

### Sympathy

To Jason and Deborah Manasco and their family  
upon the death of Jason's mother,  
Paula (Patsy) Manasco

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FUMC MONTGOMERY

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting, we hope you will consider becoming a member of our church either by profession of faith or transfer of church membership. To join, please come forward at the end of the service, indicating your desire, or for more information about joining our church family, please contact Rev. Gillian L. Walters at (334) 834-8990 or [GLWalters@fumcmontgomery.org](mailto:GLWalters@fumcmontgomery.org).

### LITURGICAL SEASON: ADVENT

The season of Advent starts the new Christian year. Advent is a season of four weeks, including four Sundays. Advent derives from the Latin word, adventus, which means "coming." The season proclaims the comings of Christ - whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate. Each year, Advent calls the community of faith to prepare for these comings, with each Sunday having a distinctive theme. The fourth Sunday of Advent focuses on the events just prior to the birth of Jesus.

## AROUND THE CONGREGATION

To learn more, or to sign-up for the below events, please visit [www.fumcmontgomery.org/events](http://www.fumcmontgomery.org/events).

### CHURCHWIDE CAROLING IN CLOVERDALE

Today | Meet in Fellowship Hall | 3:30 p.m.

Join us as we spread Christmas cheer through song to our surrounding Cloverdale neighbors. Hot chocolate and Christmas cookies will be served before venturing out into the neighborhood.

### NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER AND CHAPEL

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

Normal Wednesday night supper and chapel schedule will resume January 9, 2019.

### PLUG-IN AND RECHARGE ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

Starting in January, the Sunday School class with the highest attendance and highest percentage of attendance each week will be announced in morning worship. Our current average attendance is 515 and our goal by the end of January is 700. Be thinking of ways you can reach out to guests and Sunday School members you have not seen in awhile and invite them to come with you in January!

### END OF 2018 GIVING REMINDER

All giving must be received in the finance office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2018 in order to be applicable for 2018 tax purposes. The Finance Office will be open until 5 p.m. on December 31.

### OXYGEN MINISTRY NATURE HIKE

Saturday, January 12, 2019 | Lagoon Park | Time to be Determined

Mark your calendars for the first Oxygen Ministry Nature Hike of the new year on January 12, 2019! This hike will take place at Lagoon Park with 3 miles of easy hiking and mountain bike trails. Reward yourself with hot s'mores at the trail's end! More details to come.

### RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Wednesday, January 23 | 6:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Round up the whole family and join us as our church hosts the fifth Rise Against Hunger meal packing event. Over 30,000 meals will be assembled to be distributed around the world in a great effort to end hunger in our lifetime.

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Saturday, January 26, 2019 | 10:00 a.m. | Epworth Room

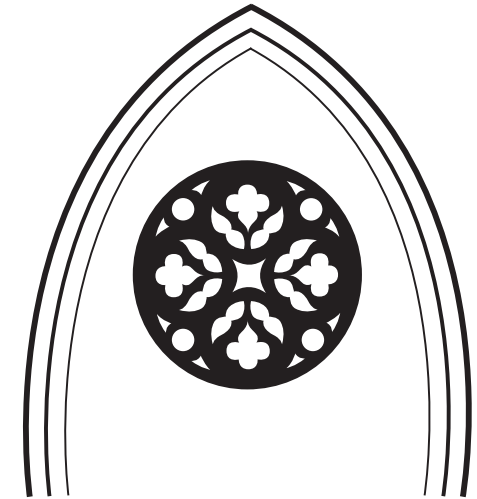
Join the FUMC UMW at their annual retreat as Rev. JoAn Kinrade of FUMC Newnan, GA speaks on "Understanding the Father's Heart for Each of His Children." The cost is \$25 which includes lunch. For questions or more information please contact Linda Singleton at 334-819-9431.

### FUMC CLOTHING CLOSET

Our clothing closet is in need of all sizes of coats and warm clothing for both children and adults. Children's clothes of all sizes are also needed. Please contact Claire Smith at [csmith@fumcmontgomery.org](mailto:csmith@fumcmontgomery.org) for more information.

### JOSEPH MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Joseph Ministry is looking for volunteers to serve in the areas of visitation, luncheon, flower delivery, ushers and emailing. If interested, please contact Susan Jemison by email at [susanjemison1550@gmail.com](mailto:susanjemison1550@gmail.com) or call 334-315-1408.



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

a Stephen Ministry congregation

— DECEMBER 23, 2018 —  
— FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT —

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.*

Dr. Jeremy K. Pridgeon  
Senior Minister

Reverend Gillian L. Walters  
Associate Minister

Reverend Ben A. McDavid  
Associate Minister

Reverend Lucas S. Tribble  
Associate Minister

Reverend Ed J. Deabler  
Associate Minister

Reverend G. Charles Kendall  
Associate Minister

Dr. Karl K. Stegall  
Pastor Emeritus

Dr. James H. Seay  
Director of Music

Dr. Joshua H. Coble  
Organist/Assistant Director of Music

Dr. C. Jason Borders  
Theologian in Residence

Bishop David W. Graves  
Bishop of Alabama-West  
Florida Conference



Reverend R. Allen Newton  
District Superintendent of  
Montgomery-Prattville District

2416 West Cloverdale Park | Montgomery, Alabama 36106  
334.834.8990 | [fumcmontgomery.org](http://fumcmontgomery.org)

# MORNING WORSHIP

DECEMBER 23, 2018  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
EIGHT FORTY-FIVE AND ELEVEN O’CLOCK  
LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

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**Prelude** (8:45) *Variation on “In Dulci Jubilo”* Julia Turner  
*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* Cynthia Dobrinski  
Cathedral Bell Choir

(11:00) *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* Cynthia Dobrinski  
*Master in this Hall* Arnold Sherman  
Allegro Bell Choir

**Welcome and Parish Notices** Dr. Jeremy K. Pridgeon

**Chiming of the Trinity**  
*The three chimes signify the presence  
of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**Introit** *My Spirit Rejoices* arr. Karle Erickson

**\*Processional Hymn** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* 220

**\*Call to Worship**  
Leader: Tell the timid to take heart!  
**People: The Lord our God will come!**

**\*Invocation**  
Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us pray together.  
**All: Eternal God, in your providence you made all ages a  
preparation for the kingdom of you Son. Make ready our  
hearts for the brightness of your glory and the fullness of  
your blessing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**  
(8:45) Jim and Elmore Inscoc; Carlyle, Allison, Margaret, and Carlyle Chandler  
(11:00) George & Paulette Thompson; Drew & Adrienne Gunn;  
Harrison, Elizabeth, & Anne Helen Hawke

**Response** *Angels We Have Heard On High* 238  
*Gloria, In Excelsis Deo*  
*Gloria, In Excelsis Deo*

**United Methodist Children’s Home Speaker** Dr. K. Blake Horne

**(11:00) Sacrament of Baptism** Berkley Elizabeth Guntharp  
Daughter of Nigel and Haley Guntharp

**Act of Praise** *The Little Road to Bethlehem* Michael Head  
Cameron Crawford, Soloist

**Old Testament Lesson** *Micah 5:2-5a* Rev. Lucas. S. Tribble

**Concerns of a Caring Fellowship**

**Preparation for Prayer** FWS 2160

*Into My Heart*  
*Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus; come in today, come in  
to stay; come into my heart, Lord Jesus.*

**Pastoral Prayer** Rev. Lucas S. Tribble

**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.**

**Offertory** *The Gift* arr. William Cutter  
Sarah Catherine Hook, Soloist

**\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Doxology** Greensleeves  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing  
Haste, haste, to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

**\*Prayer for Our Nation** America  
*Our fathers’ God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing;  
long may our land be bright with freedom’s holy light;  
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.*

**Children’s Minute** Rev. Gillian L. Walters  
Children ages three through first grade will be escorted to Children’s Church.  
Visitors are welcome to accompany their children.

**\*Hymn of Preparation** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* 230  
(Verse 1)

**Gospel Lesson** *Luke 1:39-56* Mr. Bruce Kuhn

**Sermon** *Joy to the World* Dr. Jeremy K. Pridgeon

**Response to the Word** *Blest Are They* David Haas  
Cathedral Choir

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**  
Those desiring to unite with the church, either by profession of faith or by transfer of  
membership, are invited to join the ministers at the chancel rail during the singing of  
the first stanza of the Hymn of Invitation.

**\*Hymn of Invitation** *Joy to the World* 246  
(Verses 1 and 4)

**\*Benediction** Rev. G. Charles Kendall

**\*Postlude** *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* Keith Chapman

*After the service, please turn and greet those nearest you.*

\*Please stand as you are able.

The chancel arrangement is given to the glory of God by the Worship  
Committee and the Flower Guild for the month of December.

The font flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the  
baptism of Berkley Elizabeth Guntharp by her family.

The wreath on the columbarium is given to the glory of God and in loving  
memory of Joe F. Lassiter III by Clare and Bill Ward, Christine Lassiter, Emily  
Lassiter (Mary Jane and Camille), and Nancy and David Belser.

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## Lectionary Readings for Sunday, December 30

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52

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We are excited to welcome Mr. Bruce Kuhn to our worship services this  
morning. Bruce appears in the currently running Alabama Shakespeare  
Festival production of *The Gospel of Luke*, and has previously appeared in  
the Broadway production of *Les Miserables*. He has taught storytelling at  
Regent College, Oxford University, and the International Fellowship of  
Evangelical Students.

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## New Year Studies

Start the new year off right by growing deeper in your walk with Christ,  
while getting to walk alongside people who are experiencing a similar  
season of life as you. Please take a look at the list below, and join us for one  
of our New Year Studies.

**Financial Peace University** – Taught by Brett Crawford, 13 weeks, Mon-  
days @ 6:00 pm, begins January 7

**Worship Shapes Belief** – Taught by Jason Borders, 8 weeks, Sundays @  
5:00 pm, begins January 13

**The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family** – Taught by Ed Reifenberg,  
5weeks, Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm, begins January 16

For more information, please contact Tammy Holcomb, tholcomb@fumc-  
montgomery.org or (334) 834-8990.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_