

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER 16-21

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:45 a.m.	A Service of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	A Service of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary
4:30 p.m.	Disciple 2 - Gillian Walters	WH 207
4:30 p.m.	Jan McQueen Piano Recital	Choir Room
5:00 p.m.	Disciple 1 - Lucas Tribble	WH 201
5:00 p.m.	ELMO	Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

10:00 a.m.	Respite Ministry	WH Various
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 a.m.	Jeremy's Men's Bible Study	Epworth Room
7:00 a.m.	Men's Covenant Group	WH 207
10:00 a.m.	Respite Ministry	WH Various
12:00 p.m.	Cathedral Bell Practice	Bell Room
4:00 p.m.	Senior Ladies Exercise - Wigginton	Gym
5:45 p.m.	Allegro Bell Choir Practice	Bell Room

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 a.m.	Heritage Club	Adult Lounge
9:00 a.m.	Fix-it-Shop	WH Various
9:30 a.m.	First School Christmas Play	Sanctuary
10:00 a.m.	Children's Chapel	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	Wednesday Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Chapel Service	Chapel
5:30 p.m.	Longest Night Service	Sanctuary
5:45 p.m.	Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	FB 305
6:00 p.m.	Covenant Advent Group - Hampton Hook	WH 104
6:30 p.m.	Cathedral Choir Practice	Choir Room




THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:00 a.m.	Yoga Class	WH 105
11:30 a.m.	Covenant Advent Group - Jan Pringle	WH 104
12:00 p.m.	Covenant Group - Leslie Bingham	WH 207
4:00 p.m.	Senior Ladies Exercies - Wigginton	WH 301

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 a.m.	Stimulate Your Brain	FB 203
2:00 p.m.	Church offices closed	

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All Tower Chimes mailings are lovingly handled by volunteers!

If you are in need of a minister after hours or on weekends, please contact pastoralcare@fumcmontgomery.org.

Sunday, December 16, 2018
 Morning Worship at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
A Service of Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, December 19, 2018
 Chapel Service and Holy Communion
 Rev. Lucas S. Tribble

FB=Fellowship Building WH=Wesley Hall CB=Children's Building



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

TOWER CHIMES

DECEMBER 13, 2018

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 50

'Tis the Season: The Music of Advent and Christmas

I don't know if it's hearing Silent Night on Christmas Eve in a Sanctuary lit by candlelight or if it's singing with the orchestra on "Word of the Father" in "O Come All Ye Faithful" at *A Service of Lessons and Carols* or if it's one of the many favorite carols of the season, but this is my favorite time of year for music and for singing! Over the next couple of weeks, there will be lots of opportunities to enjoy and partake in the music of the season. Three special events and services I want to highlight are:

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 16th | 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

On Christmas Eve, a little more than a month after the close of World War I in 1918, the Dean of King's College, Cambridge, England introduced a new, more imaginative worship service to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. The Festival of the Service of Lessons and Carols has been held in the Cathedral of King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve ever since. Now, exactly 100 years later, churches around the world continue the tradition of the telling of the birth of Jesus through scripture readings, carols, anthems, and hymns. This year, our very own Service of Lessons and Carols will be led by the Cathedral Choir, Adult Ensemble, and Orchestra. The music will include new compositions by American composers, timeless classics from the English repertoire, traditional carols that we all know and love, and even the telling of the story of the birth of Jesus from the perspective of a Native American. Join us for a morning of worship that you will not want to miss!

Churchwide Caroling in Cloverdale

Sunday, December 23rd | 3:30 p.m.

Join us as we spread Christmas cheer through song to our surrounding Cloverdale neighbors. We will meet at 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for hot chocolate and Christmas cookies before venturing out into the neighborhood. You don't have to be a professional singer or a member of the choir to enjoy caroling with your church family and sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors. Join us the day before Christmas Eve as we sing carols in Cloverdale!

Special Music for the Services of Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve, the Music Ministry will offer a wide variety of music for all of our services. At the Noon Communion Service, the Youth Choir will combine with Youth Choir alumni to lead our worship. At the 3:15 p.m. Family Service, the voices of children will lead us with the Wesley and Agape Children's Choirs singing. And at the 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Services, the Cathedral Choir will be joined by a string quartet to offer special music for Christmas Eve. Our organist, Dr. Joshua Coble, will join the string quartet to present a 30 minute prelude prior to the 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. services. Join us for these beautiful services of worship on Christmas Eve!

First United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation.

Children's Ministry

'TIS THE SEASON FOR ELMO

Sunday, December 16 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. | Grades 3 – 5

This fun December ELMO includes gingerbread house decorating, games, and a devotional. Bring friends and \$10.00 to help pay for a gingerbread kit and supper.

NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON DECEMBER 16

Children's Church will not meet on Sunday, December 16. Children may remain in worship to enjoy the Lessons and Carols service with their families. A nursery will be available if needed.

PCD CALENDARS

"Prayer, Chore, Deed" 2019 calendars are located on tables in the Children's Building. These wonderful 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 2019

June 10 – 14

Camp Lee 2019

July 24-27 | Grades 3-5

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR TEACHERS

For those who would like to remember our wonderful children's Sunday School teachers during the Advent season, a complete list may be found on the church website.

Thought for the Week:

"Dear Lord, as we prepare for Christmas, help us remember that you are the most important part. Amen."

Youth Ministry

TREE OF LIGHTS

The youth are sponsoring the Tree of Lights this year to help raise money for mission projects throughout the year. For a contribution of \$8, the youth will mail a card to the person you would like to honor, or the family of the one you wish to remember. This is a wonderful way to honor loved ones, Sunday school teachers, supper club members, circle members and anyone else special to you this Christmas season. Start making your lists, and let someone know you are thinking of them this year!

SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES | DECEMBER 16

There will be no MYF this Sunday. We are praying for everyone as they take their exams. Study hard and good luck!

MOVIE NIGHT | DECEMBER 28

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

WINTER RETREAT

Join us for our annual trip to Camp Hargis January 19-21. **We only have 3 spots left!** The cost is \$225. Our speaker this year will be our own Bria Rochelle.

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.



FUMC Montgomery-
Connect Student Ministries



FUMC.CONNECT

No Wednesday Night Dinner

The kitchen will reopen on Wednesday, January 9.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Annual Young Adult Christmas Party

Friday, December 14 | 6:30 p.m. | 1100 Woodward Ave., Montgomery, AL 36106

Throw on your tacky Christmas sweaters and join this time of fellowship as we celebrate together. We hope to see you there and don't forget to bring a Dirty Santa gift! For more information please contact Lucas Tribble at ltribble@fumcmontgomery.org

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 for more information.

Salvation Army Christmas Bell Ringing

This Christmas season, we will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at the Walgreens on Carter Hill Road and Wal-Mart on Chantilly Parkway. There are still shifts available on December 21 and December 22. Sign up for your shift on our website.

Advent Devotional

The Advent season is here! If you are signed up for electronic communication from FUMC, be on the lookout for a daily email with the annual Advent Devotionals, written by members of our congregation. If you would like a printed copy, they are now available for pick-up at the church.

Plug-in and Recharge Sunday School 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 will be open until 5 p.m. on December 31.

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 or call 334-315-1408.

Oxygen Ministry Nature Hike

Saturday, January 12, 2019 | Lagoon Park

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.

For more information, or to register for some of the events above, please visit www.fumcmontgomery.org/events.

AROUND THE CONGREGATION

Wedding

Brice Hill and Dawson Sellers
December 8, 2018

Sympathy

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

Hospital/ Rehab List

Nov. 30- Dec. 6

Henry Chappell
Susan Gammage
Lessie Harris
Margaret Mock

In Memoriam

Lynn Hobbie Andrews

December 3, 2018

Memorials

John Morgan Foshee Jr.
Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barnes, Edith Crook, Sternenberg Construction, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde S. Bear II, R & H Supply Company, Inc., Dr. and Mrs. Jackie Bushman III*; Memorial Fund: *Judge and Mrs. Randy Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. James Turner*

Carolyn Wagner Thornton

Memorial Fund: *Judge and Mrs. Randy Thomas*

Ernest Samuel Butner

Memorial Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chappell*

John Sanderson Bowman Jr

Building Fund: *Rose Baker and Kit Andrews*

Bob Paine

Memorial Fund: *Robert and Pamela Paine*

Margaret Rowlen Elliott

Building Fund: *Carolyn Slater, Mr. and Mrs. John Stallings*

Clarence Franklin McCorkle

Respite Ministry: *Dr. and Mrs. Jackie Bushman III*

In Honor

Waldo and Dorothy Reese

Respite Ministry: *Danny and Mikki Reese*

Joseph and Junera Stone

Respite Ministry: *Danny and Mikki Reese*

Respite Volunteers

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Young Boozer, Sandra Patrick, Dr. and Mrs. Roger Duggar*

Daphne Johnston

Respite Ministry: *Gloria Rawlings, Maureen Brown*

Larry and Cindi Carter

Respite Ministry: *Joyce and Paul Sweatt*

Mrs. Leita Coleman

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Richard Humphrey*

Dae Miller

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Richard Humphrey*

Mr. and Mrs. Billy McQueen

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Richard Humphrey*

2019 Altar Flowers

If you are interested in placing flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of someone for 2019, please contact Tammy Holcomb at 334-834-8990 or THolcomb@fumcmontgomery.org.

Did You Know?

Did you know that 1942 was the first year that Tower Chimes was published? Enjoy this excerpt from the Friday, December 18, 1942 issue of the Tower Chimes as First Church celebrated the Advent season much like we are now.

"In a beautiful service of pageant and song the ageless story of Christmas will be told again Sunday afternoon at 5:30 p.m. at the White Christmas Vesper. The four choirs of the church will combine to sing the traditional Christmas music.

'The Promised One', a pageant of the first Christmas, will be presented under the direction of Mrs. Gaston Foote. The musical program for the Vesper is interesting. Included in the service are a beautiful arrangement of "Fairest Lord Jesus" for two choirs, "O Holy Night" by Adam, solo arrangements of "Sweet Li'l Jesus Boy" by Robert MacGimsey, "The Star of Bethlehem" by Plogstedt and of "Gesu Bambino" by Yon, an antiphonal effect from the balcony for "Silent Night, Holy Night" and glorious "Hallelujah Chorus" from "The Messiah" by Handel as the closing number.

Children from the Beginner's Department and from the Primary Department will sing in the opening part of the service. The processional, in which the Wesley Boys' Choir, the Choristers, the Motet Girls, and the Chancel Choir will all join, begins promptly at 5:30 p.m.

The White Christmas Offering will be made at the close of the service, for those who were unable to be present at the morning hour. Following the Vesper service all members of the church are invited into Wesley Hall for a fellowship hour. There will be Christmas treats, stories and songs - an informal good time for the church family. Everyone is welcome."