

**Sunday Morning**

- 8 a.m. Worship Service—Traditional in Sanctuary
- 9 a.m. Worship Service—Contemporary in Family Activity Center
- 10 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Dossett Chapel Sunday School
- 11 a.m. Worship Service—Traditional w/Children’s Church in Sanctuary

**The Message—Pastor Rickey Wade**

**The Twelve Days of Christmas**

Most of us have heard the song, “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” The song has been around in one form or another for several hundred years. Likewise, several variations of the song exist. In most versions the first day’s gift is a partridge in a pear tree, but in one version from 1892 the first day’s gift was a “very pretty peacock in a pear tree” (Earl W. Count, 4000 Years of Christmas [New York: Henry Schuman, 1948]). It may be interesting then to examine the meaning of the various gifts, or at least a possible meaning.

Here is a list of the most common gifts and a possible meaning of each: A partridge in a pear tree – the One God, Two turtle doves – the Old and New Testaments, Three French hens – Faith, Hope, and Love (1 Cor. 13:13), Four calling birds – the Four Gospels, Five golden rings – The Pentateuch (first Five Books of the Old Testament), Six geese a-laying – the six days of creation, Seven swans a-swimming – the seven gifts of the Spirit (although I count nine, 1 Cor. 12:8-10), Eight maids a-milking – the eight Beatitudes (although I count nine, St. Matthew 5:3-11), Nine ladies dancing – the nine fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), Ten lords a-leaping – The Ten Commandments, Eleven pipers piping – the eleven faithful apostles, and Twelve drummers drumming – the twelve points of doctrine in The Apostle’s Creed ([http://www.carols.org.uk/the\\_twelve\\_days\\_of\\_christmas.htm](http://www.carols.org.uk/the_twelve_days_of_christmas.htm)).

These may not be the only gifts you have heard, and these may not be the meanings you have heard, but this is at least a common version. It is also rumored that in years past the song was used as a form of catechism, used to teach the faith. Distinguishing fact from fiction about the song may be hard to do, but one thing remains, “The Twelve Days of Christmas” connects us to our faith, and to the Word made flesh.

Furthermore, the song reminds us of the Christmas Season. Our commercialized society would have us believe that Christmas begins after Thanksgiving (maybe Halloween), but this song reminds us that Christmas begins with the birth of the Christ child and moves on from there. The Christmas Season begins on December 24th (Christmas Eve) and goes to January 6th (Epiphany). As you have time, take out a calendar and count. Christmas Day is the first day of Christmas, and January 5th is the twelfth, accordingly, the Twelve Days of Christmas!

Another interesting bit of information would be this: The eighth day of Christmas is always January 1st. Scripture tells us that on his eighth day the Christ child was presented in the Temple, circumcised, and given the name of Jesus. To me, a bit of irony comes to play when one considers that we begin a new year with resolutions and such on the day our Lord was named. By the way, Jesus means Savior, or save us. Each year on January 1st I remember that God Incarnate had a purpose for all of us – to save us from our sin, and give us more than a new year- new life. Our Christian heritage is deep and filled with meaning. This year, allow the presence and awe of God’s love to be your greatest gift.

*God bless,  
Pastor Rickey*

**Ongoing Activities**

**Wednesdays**

- Dossett Chapel 3:15-5 p.m.
- Middle School Youth Group 6-8 p.m.
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30-7:45 p.m.
- High School Youth Disciple I 6:30 p.m.
- Adult Bible Study 6:30-8 p.m.

**Thursdays**

- Henry Center Food Pantry, Financial Assistance, & Clothes Closet 12-2 p.m.
- Handbells 5:30 p.m.

**Sundays**

- High School Youth Group 5-7 p.m.

**Tuesdays**

- Henry Center Food Pantry & Financial Assistance 12-2 p.m.
- Boy Scouts 7-8 p.m.

***Christmas Parade***

Friday, December 1st, at 7 p.m.  
We will be serving hot chocolate in front of the church. Come join us for Tullahoma’s 61st Annual Christmas Parade!



**Advent Sermon Series**  
“No Room in the Inn”

- December 3rd**  
“Room in My Mind”
- December 10th**  
“Room in My Heart”
- December 17th**  
“Room in My Life”
- December 24th**  
“Room in My World”

**FUMC Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 3rd, 6 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir & Instrumental Ensemble

**Olde Towne Christmas**

- Tuesday, December 5th
- 6:00 p.m. - Combined TCS Elementary School Choir
- 6:30 p.m. - THS Band Chamber Ensembles
- 7:00 p.m. - THS Aristocrats



**Nativity Museum**

Our Nativity Museum will be open after the Christmas Concert Sunday night and again during Olde Towne Christmas on Tuesday night.



# Senior VIBES

## Ongoing Events...

### Adult Art Group

Fridays  
10 a.m. - noon  
Art Room, main building



### Knitting Group

3rd, 4th, & 5th Tuesdays  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
FAC Bldg., Room #4



*Thank you for signing up for our Sunday of Service on November 26th. We had a tremendous turn out from the Senior Members of our church working in many areas. What a blessing!*

## Senior Ministry—Esther J. Sims

**Thought of the Week:** *"Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 7:25*

### This Week's Events...

**Thursday, November 30th** - Christmas at Beersheba; leaving FAC Building at 9 a.m.; returning around 3 p.m.

### Advent Season begins

**Tuesday, December 5th** Golden Circle, 11:30 a.m.; program by Sam DiNicola  
*We will be playing the game 'The Right Family Christmas' and decided at the last meeting that everyone should bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift to join in the game. With this game everyone leaves with a gift!*

### Coming Events...

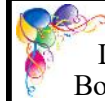
**Saturday, December 9th** - Tullahoma FUMC  
Salvation Bell Ringing at Walmart; sign-up sheet on bulletin board outside Finance office

**Wednesday, December 13th** - A Service of Hope and Remembrance, 6 p.m.

**Saturday, December 16th** - Living Christmas Tree Trip; Huntsville

**Wednesday, December 20th** - Church Family Movie Night, "Elf"

## Happy Birthday!!!



### November

Lynn Cason 27th  
Bob Mahrenholz 27th



### December

Janis Giaimo 2nd  
Barb TeVrucht 5th  
Dona Rhudy 8th

## Missions Moment—Holt Cason



"Why did Jesus come to earth?" Anyone with even a cursory knowledge of the Bible knows the answer. It was to restore the relationship that was broken between God and man. Everything Jesus did on earth had this mission in mind. When He has returned to Heaven, He left this mission to us, as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:18, "All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." God has called each of us to love Him and to share that love with those that need our help and love, especially at this time of the year.

## First Light & Outreach Ministry—Jeff Harrison



We have some great opportunities for you to serve First Light in the coming week. On Friday night we will be serving hot chocolate in front of the church during the Christmas parade. We need volunteers to help with this around 6:30 Friday night. On Saturday we will be decorating the gym for Christmas after Breakfast with Santa clears out. I don't have a specific time on this, but if you contact me, we will be in contact with you on Saturday. On Sunday and each Sunday during advent, we will need Advent Readers to read and light the advent wreath. If you would like to participate in any of these opportunities, please call me at the church office or email me at [jeffhfumc@lighttube.net](mailto:jeffhfumc@lighttube.net)

*In Christ,  
Jeff*

### Save the Date!

#### Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 10th, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Services (Halos singing at 11 a.m. service only)



#### A Service of Hope and Remembrance

Wednesday, December 13th, 6 p.m.

#### Family Movie Night

Wednesday, December 20th, at 6 p.m., "Elf"



### Sunday School Challenge



December's challenge is gently used toboggans and gloves for the Henry Center Clothes Closet. They are also in need of winter coats for children ages pre-K through elementary school. These items can be left in the small chapel or the Hope Sunday School Class in the main building. Thank you for the generous giving and let us continue to serve our neighbors.

### Angel Tree

Our Angel tree is now up in the main building, by the nursery. We still several have angels available for the Haven of Hope, Life Care, and Dossett Chapel. Please have gifts for Haven of Hope and Life Care to the church (back of chapel) by Friday, December 15th. And the gift cards for Dossett Chapel need to be brought to the finance office by December 10th.



## Children's Ministry—Julie Uehlein



*What a great Sunday of Service we had this past Sunday. I look forward to this becoming an annual event!*



**Sunday, December 3rd**  
Nursery Hours  
8 a.m. - 12 noon

**Sunday School**  
10 a.m. (Main bldg., 2nd floor)

**Children's Church**  
11 a.m. service

**December 10th Christmas Program:** The children will perform at the 9 a.m. First Light Service and the very beginning of the 11 a.m. service. The children will have their last practice during Sunday School this Sunday. Adam Womack, our new choir director, has been leading the practices. The songs the children will sing are: *Silent Night* (vs. 1, 4), *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (all verses) and *Joy to the World* (vs. 1, 4). The lyrics can be found by doing a Google search. Dress for program: whatever the kids want to wear! We will provide Santa hats, headbands, etc...the morning of. **\*\*\*Please wear or bring comfortable clothes to change into for party afterwards\*\*\*** The Halos will sing at the 11 a.m. service only this day, then again on Christmas Eve at 6 p.m.

**Christmas Party:** We will have our "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" Christmas party following the 11 a.m. performance. I am super excited to announce that our special guests will be residents of Blue Monarch and families from Tullahoma Daycare. Our schedule looks like this:

- 11:30 a.m. - Begin serving lunch in Davidson Hall
- 12:00 p.m. - Pastor Rickey will tell the children the story of Jesus' birth
- 12:15 p.m. - We will have fun activities for children OF ALL AGES in the gym
- 1:30 p.m. - The party concludes

*This is a family event so please plan to stay and welcome/ socialize with our guests. This is a great way for us all to be The Hands and Feet of Christ to our community.*

**Attendance:** In August, your child was given a letter explaining our attendance and incentive rewards system that began September 3rd. So many of your kiddos are working hard to get perfect attendance or the 12 Sunday minimum by our December 10th cutoff date and I am so proud of them. I realize that sometimes things prevent Sunday School attendance so I want to offer the kids an alternative to make up 2 of those days. If your child writes a letter of appreciation to his/her Sunday School teacher, volunteered at the Sunday of Service, donates a personal item to the Henry Center, performs a random act of kindness, etc. he/she will receive 1 credit attendance per above act. These are due by December 10th and your child must see me for the credit. Because we did not meeting for Sunday School on November 26th, the 12 time attendance minimum will now be reduced to 11. Please let me know if you have any questions!!

*Jesus said, "Let the Little Children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Mark 10:14-1*

*Be Blessed!*  
Miss Julie (581-8320)

## Youth & Discipleship Ministry—Kris Roberts



### SAVE THE DATE

**December 17th** - Youth Caroling and Christmas Party

**January 12th-15th** - High School Ski Trip

**February 9th-11th** - Warmth in Winter

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### **Sundays**

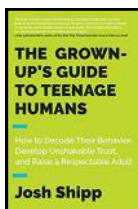
Worship 8, 9, & 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
HS Youth 5 p.m. - Coffee/Topical Discussion/Dinner

#### **Wednesdays**

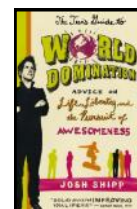
MS Youth 6-8 p.m.- Snack Supper / Topical Discussion / Planned Activities (Gym)  
Disciple Bible Study 6-8 p.m.

### IMPORTANT

It's time to begin registration for the HS ski trip and Warmth in Winter! Parents, please check your email for the registration links.



FUMC PARENTS: If you've got \$20 left in your Christmas budget, I've got an idea. Get yourself a little something, like the book "*The Grown-Up's Guide to Teenage Humans*," by Josh Shipp. And if you've got \$10 more, you might always want to grab Josh's book "*The Teen's Guide to World Domination*" for your teenager. Have a blessed Christmas season!



## —Discipleship—



Do you have a desire to connect with others who are wanting to grow in their faith? We have an opportunity to do just that through our LIFEgroup ministry! Each week people from FUMC meet in homes all over Tullahoma and Estill Springs for good food, conversation around the Sermon, and a time of prayer. If you have not joined a LIFEgroup, please contact Kris Roberts for more information at 931-581-2310.

## Worship Attendance-

**November 26th**

**Sunday of Service  
Unified Worship**

191

**Dossett Sunday School**

8

## Sunday, December 3rd

### Offering Counters

Joy & Dewitt Cox  
Rush & Belinda Bricken

### Greeters/Welcome Teams

8:00 a.m. Fuffy Bearden  
Bobbie Ray

9:00 a.m. Kathy Jensen  
Tina Bond

11:00 a.m. Marissa McKay  
Susie Miller  
Lou Ann Mitchell

### Home Communion Teams

Children's Department  
Larry & Rosemary Crabtree  
Trey & Dolly McNabb  
Linda Thomas & Gail Dean  
Holt & Lynn Cason

### Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who supported the **Annual Turkey Dinner**. We fed 273 people this year - up from 245 last year.

*Bill Bates*

## Keeping In Prayers

Michelle Gagnon (family of Mary Smith)

Helen Coulter (mother of Stuart Coulter)

Amanda Hand Knauer (daughter of Ann Hand)

Chris & Regina St. Germain & family (family of Mary Smith)

Gloria Pless

Jerry TeVrucht

Inez Crump (mother of Diane Chellstorp and grandmother of Chad Chellstorp)

Dylan Piche, Matthew Piche, Daniella Lennon (siblings of Angie Smith)

Elsa Andrews

Robert Breezley

Carolyn Graham (sister of Bob Prater)

Leon Smith

Forrest Frame

Summer Grace Andrews (granddaughter of Elsa Andrews)

Billy Roy Murray (Nancy Wright's family)

Family of **Mr. Ed Horton**. Mr. Horton passed away Monday, November 27th. Services will be Thursday, November 30th, at 2 p.m. at Lynchburg Funeral Home. Visitation is from 12-2 p.m.

### A Note of Thanks

Thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen who either baked, canned, and/or worked at the **2017 Church Wide Food Fair** sponsored by the United Methodist Women. With your help, we were able to sell \$1,933.75 baked and canned goods, and over \$700 of Rada Cutlery. In December, contributions from the 2017 Food Fair and Treasure's Sale will be distributed to local charities.

Many thanks to Elmo, Mandy and Renee for all their help.

*Frances Jones & Charlotte Hatheway  
2017 Food Fair Co-Chairmen*

### Memorials

**Ray Frazier**

from

*Donna Frazier*

**Wendy Surratt**

from

*Nancy Wagner*

**Gene Dawes**

from

*Barbara Buckner*

### Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed!

First United Methodist Church will be providing Salvation Army bell ringers at both doors at the Tullahoma Walmart on December 9th from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This organization provides an amazing ministry helping the poor in our community. I hope you will consider volunteering. There are a few 1 hour time slots left. A sign-up sheet is posted in the hall just outside the finance office.

## Connect

### Senior Pastor

Administrative Assistant  
First Light/Outreach Ministry  
Children's Ministry  
Senior's Ministry  
Youth & Discipleship Ministry  
Henry Center Ministry  
Dossett Chapel  
Instrumental Music Director  
Vocal Music Director  
Organist and Accompanist  
Music Ministry (First Light)  
Financial Secretary  
Facilitator  
Stephen Ministries

**931.455.5434**

### Pastor Rickey Wade

Mandy White  
Jeff Harrison  
Julie Uehlein  
Esther J. Sims  
Kris Roberts  
Jeff Harrison  
Mark Evans  
Doug Clark  
Adam Womack  
Chris Blondin  
John Cook  
Renee Evans  
Elmo Birkhead  
Larry Crabtree  
Rosemary Crabtree

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