

The Message—Pastor Rickey Wade

Friends,

My prayer is that you are enjoying a blessed Advent. The expectation of Christ’s coming seems to grow moment by moment. No matter how many times I travel through this time of Advent-Christmas-Epiphany, the wonder and awe of all that God has done, is doing, and will do amazes me. May such wonder also be yours.

I would like to use my newsletter column this week to share with you a bit of how we are changing our newsletter. Our current newsletter is normally four pages and comes your way each week. Beginning in January 2018, our newsletter will be twelve pages and come your way once a month. I realize that news of this change may leave some of you feeling that you will miss out – that is the opposite of our intent. My hope is that a monthly newsletter will provide you with more information, not less! In the new edition, each ministry area will have a full page to share information, ideas, and announcements of upcoming events for the month. This new addition will have room to share news of the ministries going on at the Henry Center, Dossett Chapel, and Partners for Healing. We will also be adding a space for stewardship such that you can see how we are participating in the work of God with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. The stewardship area will include our attendance and financial statistics as a way of communicating overall congregational health. We are also planning an improved calendar that will keep you on top of events in the church, and a space that keeps you in touch with the volunteer possibilities around the church. Finally, we will have a space for Bible games, word searches, Sudoku, and the like. My prayer is that our new edition will be your “one stop shopping” for all that is going on around the church and allow you time to plan your participation.

Allow me to say just a bit more about communication throughout the church. Communication is always the most important aspect of any organization, and it is also one of the most difficult things to do well. In an attempt to communicate well, we are organizing to use the following methods to keep you informed of the information you need to be most productive in your work for Christ. As noted above, our monthly newsletter will be our main packet of information. It will contain inspiration, information, and invitation to follow Christ. The weekly bulletin will not only lead us through worship each Sunday, it will be a follow up to the newsletter with happenings and events for the week. We will begin emailing or mailing the bulletin weekly to those who are unable to attend on Sundays, to provide them the needed weekly updates and connections. We will communicate with email, text, and phone tree to provide updates, schedule changes, etc. as needed, and in the event of needs such as special announcements or deaths. Finally, we will provide much of the same information on our website and Facebook page such that you can find what you need from your phone or computer most any time and any place. Please note, we will not post financial information and the like on the website or Facebook – some information is only pertinent to us.

Finally, any information you would like included in the monthly newsletter must be in the office by the 20th of each month. We plan to publish the newsletter in the last week of each month, therefore ensuring you have what you need before the new month begins. In addition, we ask that you have any bulletin information in the office by Tuesday. My goal is to put a system in place that connects you to Christ, provides the information you need, and allows you to find what you need from a single source, and yet in many places.

*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.

Advent Sermon Series

“No Room in the Inn”



December 17th
“Room in My Life”

December 24th
“Room in My World”

The Church Office will be closed on Monday & Tuesday, December 25th & 26th, and also on Monday, January 1st.

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



Happy Birthday!!!

December

Coleen Saunders 15
Barbara Buckner 17
Willo Anne Hawkins 19
Patty Gadeken 20
RE Alexander 20
Carl Ledbetter 21
Dewitt Cox 25
Marty Bond 27
Amanda Kaupp 27
Shirley Miller 27
Mary Jackson 30
Joanne Roberson 30
Brac Thoma 30
Cathy Diller 31

Happy 67th Wedding Anniversary to Don & Marty Bond, December 15th.

Senior Ministry—Esther J. Sims

Thought of the Week: "I am willing to make new discoveries."

This Week's Events...

Saturday, December 16th - Living Christmas Tree, Huntsville (leaving FAC at 2 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 19th - Encouragers' Luncheon, Emil's, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20th - Church Family Movie Night, "Elf", 6 p.m., FAC

Coming Events...

Thursday, December 21st - FUMC Book Club, 6:30 p.m., (Margaret Savelle's)

Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Services

Sunday Morning Worship at 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. only with Sunday School at 10 a.m. (no 8 a.m. service)

Christmas Eve Special Services at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. with Sounds of the Seasons at 10:30 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday, December 25th & 26th - Church Office closed (in case of emergency you may call a staff member)

Sunday, December 31st - Watch Night Service, 11 p.m.

Monday, January 1st - Church Office closed

Thursday, January 18th - Quilling Class, 3-4:30 p.m.; \$10

I hope you have heard by now that starting in January, our newsletter will be published monthly. This will be the last weekly newsletter of the year. You will receive your January newsletter at the end of December. Check the Senior Adult Bulletin Board and social media weekly for updates, photos and additional information that appears in newsletter. You can always call me if you have questions about Senior Adult events. It would be a good idea to keep up with your monthly newsletters so you will know what's going on in your church. If you have important dates that you wish to see published in the newsletter or a human interest story to share, just contact me. I think you will enjoy the monthly newsletter once you get use to the change.

Did you ring a bell for the Salvation Army Fundraiser? Thank you if you did and may God continue to bless you. It was an hour well spent. One lady even shared her personal story with us about how the Salvation Army made a difference in her life when she was a child. As our Christmas season progresses, look for ways to bless others and honor our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas to each of you!

Missions Moment—Holt Cason



In recent years, Tullahoma FUMC has sent Volunteers in Mission teams to countries in Europe, Central America, and the Caribbean. While

the countries are vastly different in culture and language, we still worship the one true God and celebrate the birth of our Savior at this time of the year. From the Missions teams and the countries we have served, we wish each of you a Merry Christmas.

Roomsaid Joulu Puhil - Estonia

Priecigus Ziemas Svetkus un Laimigu Jauno Gadu - Latvia

Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i s Novim Godom - Russia

Feliz Navidad! - Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico



Angel Tree

Please have gifts for Haven of Hope and Life Care to the church (back of chapel) by **Friday, December 15th.**

United Methodist Women

3rd Monday Meeting
Monday, December 18th
at 10:30 a.m.

Church Council Meeting & Charge Conference

Our next Church Council meeting will be **Monday, December 18th**, at 6 p.m. Immediately following, we will have our 2017 Charge Conference. Our new District Superintendent, Max Mayo, will be presiding. We hope you make plans to attend.

Encourager's Luncheon

Tuesday, December 19th,
12:30 p.m. at Emil's

Family Movie Night - "Elf"

Wednesday, December 20th, at
6 p.m., Family Activity Center



The **Henry Center** currently needs more plastic bags for providing groceries to our neighbors in need. You can bring them to main building and leave them in the back of the chapel. Thank you for your help!

THE HENRY CENTER

Children's Ministry—Julie Uehlein



Sunday was a great day! We got to hear the children sing at the 9:00 and 11:00 services plus we had our Christmas party where we hosted Blue Monarch and Tullahoma Day-care. A great day, indeed.



Sunday, December 17th

Nursery Hours

8 a.m. - 12 noon

Sunday School

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

Children's Church

11 a.m. service

This Sunday we will recognize the children with perfect Sunday School attendance and those who have been in attendance 11 or more times since September 3.

Camp Cedar Crest registration info coming soon.

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

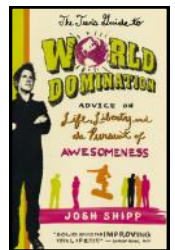
Worship 8, 9, & 11 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m.
HS Youth 5 p.m. - Coffee / Topical Discussion / Dinner

Wednesdays

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



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!



IMPORTANT

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

—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.

First Light & Outreach Ministry—Jeff Harrison



Hey Everyone,

I know December has already been a crazy month for some of you. It seems like the month starts like a pistol being shot at the beginning of a race and it's full speed ahead until New Years. One of the things I am about to accomplish is reading through the whole bible in a year! I am super proud that I have stuck with it, doing a little each day, and I have about three weeks left. I used the YouVersion app on my phone and followed the Bible in a Year reading plan. I have learned a lot this year through reading through the whole bible. I am striving to hide God's word in my heart and I want you to do so as well.



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 chapel or the Hope Sunday School Class in the main building. Thank you for your generous giving and let us continue to serve our neighbors.

**Worship Attendance-
December 10th**

8 a.m.	74
First Light	189
11 a.m.	179
Total	442
Sunday School	118
Dossett Sunday School	12
Total	130

**Sunday, December 17th
Offering Counters**

Bill & Charlotte Bethmann
Mike & Jan Dent

Greeters/Welcome Teams

8:00 a.m.	Diane Chellstorp Linda Thomas
9:00 a.m.	Shanna Brooks Scott Jones
11:00 a.m.	Ann Smotherman Walt Wasilewski Nancy Wood

Please note that this will be the last weekly newsletter. Your first monthly newsletter (for January 2018) will be mailed out by December 22nd.

Keeping In Prayers

Toni Overton	Gloria Pless	Robert Breezley
Michelle Gagnon (family of Mary Smith)	Jerry TeVrucht	Carolyn Graham (sister of Bob Prater)
Helen Coulter (mother of Stuart Coulter)	Inez Crump (mother of Diane Chellstorp and grandmother of Chad Chellstorp)	Leon Smith
Amanda Hand Knauer (daughter of Ann Hand)	Dylan Piche, Matthew Piche, Daniella Lennon (siblings of Angie Smith)	Forrest Frame
Chris & Regina St. Germain & family (family of Mary Smith)	Elsa Andrews	Summer Grace Andrews (granddaughter of Elsa Andrews)
		Billy Roy Murray (Nancy Wright's family)



Worship Services on Sunday, December 24th

9 a.m. First Light Modern Worship, Family Activity Center
 10 a.m. Sunday School
 11 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
 6 p.m. Candlelight Service and Communion, Sanctuary
 10:30 p.m. Sounds of the Season, Sanctuary
 11 p.m. Candlelight Service and Communion, Sanctuary

Please note, there will not be an 8 a.m. service on December 24th

Worship Services on Sunday, December 31st

8 a.m. Traditional Service, Sanctuary
 9 a.m. First Light Modern Worship, Family Activity Center
 10 a.m. Sunday School
 11 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
 11 p.m. Watch Night Service, Sanctuary



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

fumc@lighttube.net

pastorfumc@lighttube.net

931-222-0314

fumc@lighttube.net
 jeffhfumc@lighttube.net
 childrensfumc@lighttube.net
 ejsfumc@lighttube.net
 krisfumc@lighttube.net
 jeffhfumc@lighttube.net
 mark8070@icloud.com
 doug.fumc@gmail.com
 adam.womack@tcsedu.net
 blondinmusic@bellsouth.net
 johnjaniece@bellsouth.net
 financfumc@lighttube.net
 fumc23@lighttube.net
 49crab@bellsouth.net
 janecrab@bellsouth.net



Receive this newsletter electronically and get The Good News faster. Help us save paper, postage and time! Email fumc@lighttube.net to opt out of the printed version. You can also find the newsletter our website, fumctullahoma.com

Postmaster Address Change to Same

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
 208 W. Lauderdale Street
 Tullahoma TN 37388

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
TULLAHOMA TN (USPS 754-990)
 PRINTED WEEKLY EXCEPT
 THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS