



**Calendar for December 15– December 21, 2019**

**Dec 15, Sunday, 8:45 am**, Celebration Service, Gym; **10:00 am**, Sunday School;  
**10:55 am**, Christmas Cantata by Chancel Choir, Sanctuary; **12:30 pm**, Martin Sunday School Class Party, Gathering Room; **5:00 pm**, Children's Christmas Play and Happy Birthday Jesus Party, Gym  
**Dec 16, Monday, 9:00 am**, Exercise Group, Gym;  
**Dec 17, Tuesday, 5:00 pm**, Yoga, Gym; **6:00 pm**, LuVerna Waid Circle, Home of Gail Spotnitz;  
**6:30 pm**, Mosaic, Back Forty  
**Dec 18, Wednesday, 6:00 pm**, Youth Christmas Party, TBA; Children's Christmas Party, TBA  
**Dec 19, Thursday, 9:00 am**, Exercise Group, Gym; **5:30 pm**, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary  
**Dec 20, Friday, 11:00-12:30 pm**, Ladle of Love

**Christmas Cantata, This Sunday in the Sanctuary, 10:55 am**

**Serving This Sunday**

**Sound Tech:** Mark Casey  
**Ushers:**\* Mark Condra, Ken Casey, Grover Kitchens, Chris Thrasher  
**Greeters:** Peggy Casey, Carol Thrasher  
**Acolytes:** None  
**Children's Church**  
**Celebration:** Allison Casey  
**Tradition:** Kelly Carr  
**\*Head Usher**

*In Memory of Her Life*  
**Kathryn Overton**  
 December 11, 2019



**Memorials and Honoraria**

*The Johnson Family Children's Library*  
 "Here Comes Santa Cat" has been donated in honor of Teleah Cody by the ELC Staff.

**Newsletter/Bulletin Deadlines**

Information for the bulletin/newsletter and worship folders is due by noon on Wednesday each week. This includes all announcements or requests for special inserts.

**Bulletin Deadlines for Holiday closings**

**Wed. Dec 18-** info for Sunday Dec 22 & Dec 29

**Fri. Dec 27-** info for Sunday Jan 5

Your help in giving us the information to keep our deadlines is appreciated!

**Church office closed: Dec. 24 & 25 and Dec. 31 & Jan. 1.**

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of*  
*Hayden Elise Winters*  
 December 4, 2019  
 Parents - Lindsey & Karen




*Given by the Children's Ministry and the ELC*

**Immediate Prayer Concerns**

Kathy Ferguson DeLeath Rives  
 Teleah Cody Patsy Powers  
 Ernest McBride June Longshore  
 Joanne Hightower Dot Thompson  
 Glen Thompson (Debbie Leach's Dad)  
 Thomas Jehn (Jeff & Cathea Poland's Grandson)  
 Panthea Nabors (Cathea Poland's mother)  
 Family of Kathryn Overton

**Continuing Prayer Concerns**

Madeline Beck Bill Haller, Jr.  
 Tom Quinn Ina Davis  
 Susie Blackman  
 (Mary Hager's sister)  
 Gloria Vickery   
 (Chris Thrasher's sister)  
 Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)  
 Carolyn Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's mother)

**Birthdays.....**

**Dec 15** Danna Dean, Doug Turnipseed, Helene Haller, Tammy Jackson  
**Dec 16** Cindy Norris, Jen Hester  
**Dec 17** Ed Thompson, Leone Norris, Lenora Arnold, Genevieve Corley  
**Dec 18** Mary Ann Watkins, Jim Moss, Brandy Berry, Dylan Skipper  
**Dec 19** Grover Kitchens, Nancy Beane, Jesse Norris, Drew McNair  
**Dec 20** Laura Condra, Cheryl Midgley, Sara Kate Thornburg  
**Dec 21** DeLeath Rives, Robert Branch, Mikeal Martin, Matt Ross, Davis Varner



**Text to Give: 256-344-8464**  
**Online Giving @ [www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)**

**Week of December 8, 2019**

Total Attendance	297	Mosaic	19
Traditional Service	168	Thursday	18
Celebration Service	86		
Sunday School			
Volunteer Service Hours	180		
People Served	360		
General Offering Budget	\$14,879.00		
General Offering Received	\$19,599.00		
YTD General Offering Budget	\$729,071.00		
YTD General Offering Received	\$692,756.04		

**Sunday's Schedule**

8:45 am, Celebration  
 10:00 am, Sunday School  
 10:55 am, Traditional Service

**Monday-Thursday**

ELC will return January 6, 2020

**Monday**

9:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym

**Tuesday**

5:00 pm, Yoga, Gym

6:30 pm, Mosaic, Back Forty

**Wednesday**

All Wednesday activities will resume January 8, 2020

**No Choir Practice**

**Thursday**

9:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym

5:30 pm, Thursday Worship

**Friday**

11:00 am-12:00 pm, Ladle of Love

**Church Office 256-543-8200**

**Mon-Thur 8:00 am-4:00 pm**

**Friday 8:00 am-1:00 pm**



# Sounds of the Season

Presented by the Chancel Choir  
and String Players

10:55 am Sunday, December 15

Join us for two sermon series during Advent:

Celebration: A Christmas Movie ADVENTure

8:45 am, In the Gym, Pastor Carrie & Pastor Andy

Traditions: Light of the World

10:55 am, In the Sanctuary, Pastor Sam

## Be Bold... In Mission and Service

### Reminders for December Mission Opportunities

**Return all donations for Christmas Stockings or The Angel Tree to the church by Friday, Dec. 13.**

- ◆ Take an angel from the Angel Tree & return unwrapped gifts (may be placed in gift bags) to the church by December 13.
- ◆ Pick up a stocking for a child in three locations around the church-Chestnut St Lobby, Portico Entrance or Narthex. Return stockings by December 13.

### Sunday Mornings:

Sunday School 10 am

Preschool-Nursery-Room 115

Grades K-1st-2nd-Room 114, Grades 3rd-4th-5th-Room 106

Children's Church- December 15

Celebration: Allison Casey  
Traditions: Kelley Carr



**The Children's Christmas Musical "It's a Wonder-Full Life"**

Performance on Sunday, December 15 at 5:00pm. Happy Birthday Jesus Party will follow the performance in the gym.

*It's going to be Wonder-Full!*

### All Children are invited to sing on Christmas Eve!

A special tradition for our Children is singing "Away in a Manger" during our Christmas Eve Service at 6:00pm. Children gather in the Narthex prior to the service. Pastor Carrie will lead them forward for a Children's Minute and to sing. Afterwards, the children join their families for the remainder of the service. All children are welcome!

Youth Sunday School, 10 am-Rm 211

The Book of John

Youth Group, Wednesdays, 6 pm

"Dare to Dream"

Youth Christmas Party: December 18, 6 pm @ the Church

December 24, 5 pm- Live Nativity

December 27-29-Youth Winter Retreat



## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

A Study of Revelation with Pastor Sam  
will resume on January 8

Wonderful Wednesday  
will resume on Wednesday, January 8.

Have a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!

## GUIDELINES FOR END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

In order for contributions to be posted to your 2019 giving record, they must meet one of these requirements:

1. The gift is received and posted to your account before December 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. The contribution is put into the offering plate on December 29<sup>th</sup> or delivered to the office on or before December 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. The envelope in which the gift is mailed is postmarked on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>.
4. An online E-Giving transaction is dated on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>.
5. Gifts of stock should be transferred before the market closes on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please inform Jane at the office about a stock transfer.

## CHARITABLE IRA TRANSFERS ARE TAX-FREE

If you are 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA to a qualified charity and avoid paying income taxes on the money. This type of transaction can be valuable for those who need to take a required minimum distribution from traditional IRAs because it allows them to dodge a big income tax bill on their withdrawals. It is particularly helpful due to the recent tax law changes for people who want to make a charitable contribution but cannot itemize and therefore cannot deduct the gift.

The contribution would count as your required distribution but is not included in your adjusted gross income. Talk with your IRA trustee about details or call Jane at the church office for more information.



# "Light of the World" Traditions Worship

Sunday, December 1, Hanging of the Green, 5 pm, Sanctuary

Sundays of Advent, 10:55 am, In the Sanctuary

December 1, "The Meaning of Memory"

December 8, "The Promise of Potential"

December 15, "Chancel Choir Cantata"

December 22, "The Journey to Joy"

Christmas Eve Worship, Tuesday, December 24

4:30 pm, Christmas Eve Early Worship & Holy Communion

5:00 pm, Live Nativity, Chestnut & 5th St

6:00 pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship and Holy Communion



Gadsden First United Methodist Church, Sanctuary

A special tradition for our Children is singing *Away in a Manger* during our Christmas Eve Service at 6:00pm. Children gather in the Narthex prior to the service. Pastor Carrie will lead them forward for a Children's Minute and to sing. Afterwards, the children join their families for the remainder of the service.

**All children are welcome!**



## December Missions & Outreach Opportunities

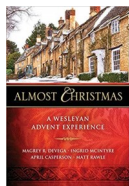
- ◆ Return filled Christmas stockings to the church by 12/13.
- ◆ Return Angel Tree gifts to the church by 12/13.
- ◆ Give to the White Christmas Offering for the United Methodist Children's Home.
- ◆ Shop at the UMW Christmas Boutique, December 1, 8, 15, 22—supports missions.

Thank you for giving!

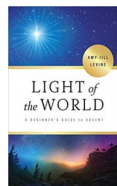
### Advent Studies 10 am on Sunday Mornings:



"The Gift of the Nutcracker"  
Pathfinders  
Room 110



"Almost Christmas"  
Living Waters  
Room 112



"Light of the World"  
w/ Pastor Sam  
Room 201

### Poinsettias

Select the Worship Service and Date  
Cost \$20.00 each

Donated by \_\_\_\_\_ Traditions \_\_\_\_\_ December 22

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of

Name \_\_\_\_\_





# JOIN US ON OUR CHRISTMAS MOVIE ADVENTURE

*Celebration Worship Sundays @ 9:00am*

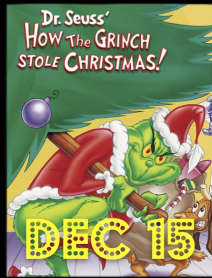
**12/1 HOPE**  
Awake, Sleeping Scrooge  
*Pictures with Scrooge*

**12/8 PEACE**  
Face Your Fears You Filthy Animal  
*Pictures with Santa*

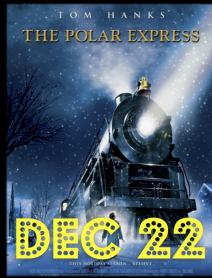


**12/15 JOY**  
How to Grow Your Heart  
*Pictures with The Grinch*

**12/22 LOVE**  
If You Just Believe  
*Pictures in Your Pajamas*



WEEKLY MOVIE GIFT CARD RAFFLE



**GADSDEN FIRST Methodist Church**  
*Changing Lives Giving Hope*  
115 S 5th St. Gadsden, AL  
[www.fumcgadsden.org](http://www.fumcgadsden.org)

## December 27-29



1 Corinthians 9:24-27 The Message (MSG)

**The First Ever**

### Youth Group Winter Games Retreat!

\$100 a person. Includes lodging, 2 days of breakfasts, one dinner, ice skating, Rock City Christmas Lights, Rock Climbing Wall, etc.

\*\*\* This trip only has 27 spots. Reserve your spot by paying a \$25 deposit ASAP. Staying in a giant cabin style house.

Contact Andy Yarnell

**Youth Christmas Party**  
**Wednesday, December 18**  
**6 pm, TBA**

## Children's Christmas Musical

TODAY, 12/15 at 5:00pm

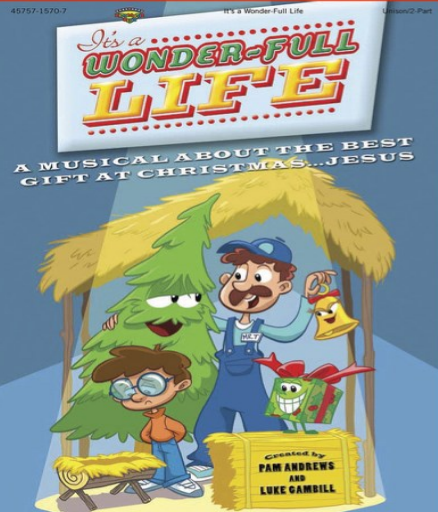
Our Children have been working hard to learn their lines and songs to tell this Wonder-Full Story about what life would be like without the Birth of Jesus! Don't miss it! Immediately following the performance, there will be a Birthday Party for Jesus, which includes finger foods. A special offering for the United Methodist Children's Home will also be collected at the Musical. Hope to see you there!

## Don't Miss These Wonder-Full Children's Ministry Events!



**Kids Christmas Party**  
Wednesday, 12/18  
from 5-7pm

Join us for Pizza, Games, Tree Decorating, Dirty Santa, and Fellowship with our Children's Ministry!



**Happy Birthday**  
**JESUS**  
**PARTY**





## Shop the Christmas Boutique:

2019 Christmas card, Past years' cards, Note cards  
UMW Trinity Body Cream "Peppermint Patty" for your body mind and soul.

# UMW Christmas Boutique

Sunday Mornings, Chestnut Lobby  
December 1, 8, 15 & 22

*UMW supports missions  
around the world through the  
Christmas Boutique.*

### UMW Circle Meetings for December:

LuVerna Waid Christmas Party at home of Gail Spotnitz, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, @ 6 pm. Bring a small gift for "Dirty Santa" Everyone Invited.

### December 1, 8, 15 & 22 Christmas Boutique (bring items to sell each Sunday)

Each UMW Circle will be in charge of a Sunday for the Christmas Boutique. Please make arrangements with your circle members to be present during the boutique hours.

**Each Circle please update the UMW Directory** for any address or phone number changes. Return the books to the church office (UMW box) or your circle leaders by December 14<sup>th</sup>. Lori Varner will update the directory and have it ready for the UMW January meeting.

## CARING ANGELS CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFTS

This month there is a Gift Bag from the Children's Ministry **(On the Credenza)** and another Gift Bag **(on the floor)** from Caring Angels to take to the Homebound.



Please find **your bag(s) with your name on it** and then select **ANY** bag from the Children's Ministry **that is on the Credenza** to take to the member you visit.

**Please deliver before Christmas!**

Thank you. *Eileen Graham*



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Subscribe to the 3D and you will receive the 3D Devotional, weekly sermon notes in your inbox!

In addition, you can receive the weekly news bulletin by email!

**Go to [www.fumcgadsden.org](http://www.fumcgadsden.org) and update your information with the church office and we will add you to the email list.**

***It's easy to invite others, share & post events and save events to your calendar through the new church app and website!***



Website: [www.fumcgadsden.org](http://www.fumcgadsden.org)  
App: First UMC-Gadsden

