

FIRST NEWS

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December 2025

As we are eating up the last of the Thanksgiving leftovers our thoughts turn to the next thing, and for many that is the tradition of observing Advent as the beginning of our church year. I have heard it said this is a time that starts with just one candle that breaks through the dark days of Winter, it indeed lights the way for the coming of the Christ Child. In addition to the tradition of weekly lighting the Advent Wreath during worship, we look to the familiarity of the poinsettias, the glittery symbols on the Christmas Tree, the fun of sharing cookies, the opportunity to give to the children and teens served so well by Embrace Alabama's Kids, and of course the ringing of the handbells, communion and candlelight singing of Silent Night on Christmas Eve. On this most holy of nights, we will remember the one candle that began our journey and light the glorious Christ candle in celebration of the long-awaited birth. Join us at First U.M.C. as we visit these traditions and start new ones together.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Pam Barnhardt

Our food bag collection was a blessing, we collected food from our congregation and in partnership with St John's Episcopal church, and the community food drive to prepare over 100 bags.

Thank you to our Angel Tree sign up day volunteers who enrolled over 200 children for this year's program. If you would like to volunteer or adopt an angel, see Pam Barnhardt.

In Memoriam
Cecelia M. Ingram
November 7, 2025

In Memoriam
Dr. Roy Cleveland Adams
November 10, 2025

YTD Giving Received:\$236,779.71(Nov.2025)
YTD Giving Needed: \$255,948.00 (Nov. 2025)
**As Of Print Date (Nov. 20,2025)*

Children & Youth



Keep up to date on upcoming events on our website, Instagram and Facebook pages!



Youth Prayer Breakfast at AJ's will meet at 6:45 on December 3rd , we will not meet December 10th , 17th 24th or 31st .



Sunday November 30th at 5:00 children and youth are invited for an evening of projects, crafts, and hot cocoa bar in Wesley Hall.



Sunday December 7th at 5:00 children and youth will meet for an Advent lesson in Wesley Hall.



Sunday December 14th all (children, youth and adults) are invited to an Angel Tree Gift Wrapping party in Wesley Hall at 5:00.

Children and Youth do not meet for evening activities on Sunday December 21st .

Handbell Choir

Thursday December 4th the Handbell Choir from FUMC kicks off the Christmas at Coastal Alabama Community College Event at 5:15. It will be in the courtyard of the Library Building.



On Sunday December 14th you are invited to take part in our special offering for Embrace Alabama's Kids (formerly U.M. Children's Home). During worship we will light birthday candles and you may bring your gift to the altar when the candle for your birthday month is lit. We also invite you to bring a batch of cookies for church after church, we will enjoy them, share them and deliver them to some of our friends at home.



Advent Sundays are November 30th , December 7th , December 14th and December 21st .



Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion and Handbell Concert will be on December 24th in the Sanctuary. The Handbell Concert will begin at 4:45 and Worship will begin at 5:00.



- 1 Michelle Rainey
- 2 Penelope Hines
- 3 Molly Wiggins
- 4 John Farish Ard
- 5 Cal Carter
- 8 Milton Coxwell
- 9 James Boulter
- 10 Kay Dobson
- 12 Carole Dean
- 14 Sammie Carter; Max Carter
- 17 Fielding Wiggins
- 20 Virginia McQueen
- 22 Charlie Martens
- 23 Sue Sellers
- 24 Lindsey Coxwell; Sharon Dykes
- 27 Sarah Dyess
- 31 Becky Barnett

FUMC CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Pam Barnhardt
Carole Dean
Caroline Hardin

Senior Pastor
Interim Musician
Church Business Manager

Regular Church Service

Sunday:

9:00 am Sunday School
10:05 am Morning Worship
11:00 am Church After Church
5:00 pm Children/UMYF

Wednesday:

Prayer 6:45 am Youth Breakfast
9:00 am Wednesday Men
10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
4:15 pm Youth Bible Study
5:15 pm Ladies Bible Study

*First United Methodist Church services are broadcast by radio
every Sunday at 10:05 am by WMFC-FM Monroeville 99.3
Livestream each Sunday at 10:05 am Monroeville Fumc-Youth*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

24-25 Office Closed



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