



First United Methodist Church Newsletter

First United Methodist Church 1403 Sunset Street Nashville, Arkansas 71852
December 2022 www.fumcnashvillear@gmail.com



It's the most wonderful time of the year, isn't it? A season ripened by anticipation. We're waiting for the big day to come--a day sure to be full of joy, reflection and peace. Right?

You're likely thinking I'm alluding to Christmas Day--which, in our United Methodist Tradition, we observe on December 25 (like most other Christian denominations). Culturally that seems to be the big focus this time of year. In the church, our congregation is preparing for our Christmas observances and celebrations. The time leading up to Christmas is known as "Advent". It is a time of heavy anticipation. It focuses on waiting for a big occurrence. But the anticipated occurrence or event is not actually fully realized on Christmas. During Advent we're anticipating the full realization of something that began at the first Christmas (when Jesus Christ was born) but isn't yet fully realized. Technically Christmas begins on December 25. Everything leading up to that date is Advent.

The Advent and Christmas season is wonderful because of the way that we connect with people in ways we don't during our regular times. In the wonder and hustle and bustle remember to slow down and include time to give a gift to

yourself – a gift of spiritual reflection, a gift of joyfully thanking God for those you encounter through the holidays.

God's blessings are all around us, so with childlike wonder take them all in! Get excited! Be thankful! Appreciate that God so loved us ...

Bro. Gary

Church Tithes & Offering Update

December leads us into the last 4 Sundays of 2022, which is traditionally our strongest giving as we end the year. We need everyone to help to finish this challenging year in the black. We are not only short in making our budget, we are short in paying our bills and had to borrow \$10,045 from Special Funds. We have had some designated funds to pay it down to \$8,765. We have to pay this back by the end of the year so all books are in balance. I ask that you keep our Church and its finances in your prayers. We thank each of you for remembering the Lord with your giving in this time of need to keep our church strong.

Church Budget after 48 weeks thru Nov. 27

Budget needs:	\$ 261,552
Received thru 11/27:	\$ 201,842
Difference:	- \$ 59,710 or -22.83%

Robert Nannemann, Finance chair

South Central Jurisdiction Announces Rev. Laura Merrill as New Arkansas Area Bishop-Elect



November 3, 2022 | HOUSTON, Texas

The Rev. Laura Merrill, currently serving the Rio Texas Conference, has been assigned to the Arkansas Annual Conference as Bishop for two years, beginning January 1, 2023.

Delegates elected Laura Merrill, age 59, at the South Central Jurisdiction's meeting at First United Methodist Church in Houston, on the first ballot on November 2, 2022. She received 99 votes and needed 77 votes to be elected.

Merrill was elected by the South Central Jurisdiction's 160 total delegates, an equal number of United Methodist clergy and laity, from the 12 Annual Conferences forming the South Central Jurisdiction.

Merrill was the endorsed candidate of the Rio Texas Conference (2020 and 2022) and the South Central Jurisdiction Women's Leadership Team (2020).

She has been Central District superintendent for the Rio Texas Conference since 2021 and on the conference cabinet since 2010.

Before her current position, she was assistant to the bishop and director of clergy excellence for Rio Texas. A former church secretary, she served as assistant to the dean and director of communications for Candler School of Theology at Emory University before becoming associate pastor at a church in Victoria, Texas, then pastor of churches in Los Fresnos and Wimberley, Texas.

Merrill also served as a missionary in Chile for the Desert Southwest Conference.

She received a bachelor's degree in international studies from Southwestern University in 1984 and a master's in divinity from Candler in 1995.

A third-generation United Methodist pastor, she has two children.

In The United Methodist Church, bishops are ordained elders who are called to "lead and oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of The United Methodist Church." Bishops, in consultation with district superintendents, are responsible for appointing clergy. They also preside at annual conferences, jurisdictional conferences, and General Conference, the denomination's top lawmaking assembly.



- December 3 - Valerie Bohn
- December 4 - Nancy Dowdy
- December 8 - Dusty Chambers
- December 10 - Andy Whitaker
- December 10 - Keith Couch
- December 12 - Dalton Wilson
- December 12 - Grant Boyce
- December 13 - Christy Rodriguez
- December 14 - Cassey Morris
- December 16 - Kami Lewis
- December 20 - Joy Barr
- December 21 - Rhonda Moses
- December 22 - Jennifer Ackley
- December 23 - Debbie Teague
- December 29 - Majie Martindale

Ushers

- December 4.Volunteers
- December 11.Volunteers
- December 18.Volunteers
- December 25.Volunteers

Liturgist

- December 4. Mike Myers
- December 11. Telia Dunn
- December 18. Gerald Moses
- December 25. Connie Castleberry

Acolytes

- December 4. Talon Stanley & Wyatt Kuykendall
- December 11. Presley Bennett & Minka Stanley
- December 18. Annabelle Schooley & Ember Boyce
- December 25. Jayci Stanley & Jaylee Hughes

Children's Church

- December 4. Mary Boozer
- December 11. NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH
- December 18. Deadra Washburn
- December 25. NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Sermon

- December 4. Andra Washburn
- December 11. Judy Cassady
- December 18. Carol Ackley
- December 25. Telia Dunn

Money Counters

- December 4. Mary Boozer & Gary Dan Futrell
- December 11. Robert Nannemann & Telia Dunn
- December 18. Mary Boozer & Marilyn Hockaday
- December 25. Robert Nannemann & Gerald Moses

Lighting the Advent Candles

- December 4. The Boyce Family
- December 11. The Cox Family
- December 18. The Kuykendall Family
- December 24, The Harrison Family

Memorials

In Memory Of

Verna Hockaday

Sandy Davies



JoJo Reed

Ruth & Jim Foltz

December 2022



First United Methodist Church Nashville, Arkansas Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Schedule: 9:45 am Sunday School 10:50 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Youth				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Howard County Historical Society present Hometown Christmas Open House 2-4pm at Lyons Complex-Old City Hall/Fire Station	FUMW Christmas Potluck 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall	Mother's Day Out 9-2	Kids Club 3:00pm-5:00pm Children's Choir 5:15pm Chancel Choir 6:15pm Handbell Choir 6:45pm	Mother's Day Out 9-2	Mother's Day Out 9-2	
11 Christmas Cantata 10:50am & 4:00pm Children's Choir Christmas Party right after Church in the Fellowship Hall Youth Christmas Party, deliver poinsettias & Caroling 12:00pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Church wide Christmas potluck luncheon 12:00pm Open House at the Parsonage 2:00pm-4:00pm 	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Howard County Master Gardener Meeting 5:00pm Staff Christmas Party 6:00pm	Mother's Day Out 9-2	Chancel Choir Christmas Party 6:00pm at Fisherman's Cove	Mother's Day Out 9-2	Mother's Day Out 9-2 MDO Christmas Program 1:30pm	Bingen Christmas Party 6:00pm 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Merry Christmas Morning Worship Service Only @ 10:50am	School Out for Christmas Break—No Wednesday Activities or Youth					
	<i>Holiday Office Closed</i>		Chancel Choir 6:15pm Handbell Choir 6:45pm			


 First United Methodist Woman

December 5, 2022
FUMW
Old Fashion Christmas Party


Pot Luck - 11:30 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall


Program - Music provided by Becky Posey

Right Left Game : Christmas ornaments, baked goods or white elephant bagged
Your Choice

Price under \$10.00




CHRISTMAS
 THE STORY OF GOD'S FAMILY

December 11 at 10:50am and 4:00pm
Christmas Cantata
Chancel Choir
Accompanied by Handbell & Children's Choir
You don't want to miss this.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!
 Howard County Historical Society presents
Hometown Christmas
Open House



Sunday December, 4th 2-4pm

Visit Santa at the
 Lyons Complex-Old City hall/ Fire station
 and make a craft!
 Enjoy Refreshments and
 Tour the EA Williams Chapel Museum

Fire station - 115 W Sypert &
 Chapel - 200 W Hempstead
 Nashville, Arkansas

Historic Washington State Park
36th Annual Christmas & Candlelight

You and your family will be in awe of the natural beauty that candlelit streets provide as you stroll through our historic village. Decorations, music, and more set the mood for your historic holiday experience. The homes of yesterday are adorned with historic period decorations and thousands of luminaries will light the streets throughout the town. Tour venues will open at 1 p.m. and will continue until 8 p.m. Luminary lighting and music programs will begin at 5 p.m. Plan to enjoy an evening meal at Williams Tavern Restaurant from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Our Chancel Choir will sing at the Methodist Church in Old Washington from 5:00pm-5:30pm. Hope you make plans to be there.

Youth Christmas Party
Sunday, December 11th

There will be a Youth Christmas Party/
 Christmas Caroling and delivering poinsettias
 right after church.

You will need to meet in the Youth room right after the Morning Worship and will leave in the church van to Simple Simon's and on to Christmas Caroling and delivery of poinsettias.

Nashville First United Methodist Church



CHRISTMAS EVE
Candlelight
SERVICE

6:00pm



*C*HRISTMAS
MORNING SERVICE

Nashville First United
Methodist Church
10:50am Church Service Only
(No Sunday School or Nursery)



Mother's Day
Out
Christmas
Program
December 22
at 1:30pm
in the
Fellowship Hall

Operation Christmas Child
Update
FUMW were able to pack
160 boxes this year.
Thanks to all who helped
make this a success.

November 2022 Photos of our Church Services



Children's Choir, November 20



November 13, Presentation of the Flags



Wyatt Kuykendall passing flags out to our Veterans



November 6, Bro. Gary
The Lord's Supper



Agape Handbell Choir November 27



Nov. 6 Offertory,
Jaree & Kristi



CHURCH STAFF

Bishop

Rev. Gary E. Mueller

Southwest District Superintendent

Dr. Ann Ferris

Minister

Rev. Gary F. Harrison

Choir Director

Mrs. Kristi White-Eggers

Pianist & Handbell Director

Ms. Becky Posey

Organist

Mrs. Jaree Hall

Youth Director

Mr. Michael Eudy

Church Secretary

Mrs. Jean Ryan

Treasurer

Mr. Robert Nannemann

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Edward Ryan

Webmaster—FaceBook

Robt. Nannemann/Heather Cox

Childcare Attendant

Mrs. Sue Gosnell

Custodian

Mr. Michael Eudy

Sound, Media, & Video Techs

*Mr. Tim Dean, Mr. Thomas Dupree,
Mr. Robert Nannemann*



First United Methodist Church

1403 W. Sunset Street
Nashville, Arkansas 71852

Phone: 870-845-3030

Fumcnashville.org

*Christmas
Potluck Luncheon*

Sunday, December 18th
12:00pm

Bring your favorite
dish/dessert. FUMW
has furnished a ham.

*Parsonage
Open House
Sunday, December 18th
2:00pm-4:00pm*



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Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

Permit 102

Nashville, AR 71852

Returned Service Requested