



*Please join the Chancel Choir
& The Young Singers
Sunday, December 9 at 6:00PM
For
Our Music of Christmas*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel arr. Stan Pethel

The Music of Christmas Joseph M. Martin

Jesus Child John Rutter

A Christmas Introit (Hodie Christus Natus Est) arr. Audrey Snyder

All on a Silent Night Becki Slagle Mayo

Christmas Joy Joseph M Martin

Sing We Now of Christmas arr. Mary McDonald

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

Breath of Heaven Chris Eaton

O Holy Night Adolphe Adams

Night of the Father's Love Pepper Choplin

Mary Had a Baby Lloyd Larson

Christmas Praise (The Glory of Christmas) arr. Goss

Hallelujah- Joy to the World Handel & Mason

Reception to follow in Great Hall

MOVIE NIGHT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 6PM
GREAT HALL



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 9AM
GREAT HALL



CHANCEL CHOIR
& YOUNG SINGERS
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 6PM
GREAT HALL



BLUE CHRISTMAS/LONGEST
NIGHT SERVICE WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 12 6PM GREAT HALL



LIVE NATIVITY WITH
LESSONS & CAROLS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 6PM
FRONT LAWN



CHURCHWIDE CAROLING
& COCOA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19 6PM



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
5 & 7PM GREAT HALL



Associate Pastor, Britney Toner



My elementary school music classroom had these two posters of a happy face and a sad face. Under that happy face was written 'MAJOR,' signifying that songs sang in this key made us feel happy; likewise, under the sad face was written 'MINOR,' as these songs were supposed to make us feel sad. Music can be put into these two categories: major and minor. Often our lives are divided into these contrasts, too. We can either feel happy or sad.

My favorite song for this time of year is "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." It's in a minor key, which according to my music teacher, this song should make me feel sad. It does, in a way, but it also makes me feel something else. It's a sad song about hope.

Advent is a season about longing for Christ to come, both at the time 2,000 years ago and now. Longing is a way of saying "desperately hopeful." It's a positive emotion, hope, with a negative emotion, desperation.

That's what this season feels like today. It's excitement about Christmas coming, while also longing for the day we won't have broken ornaments in the debris of our house. It's excitement about Christmas Eve service at church, but longing for the day when we can hold candles in the sanctuary again. Advent and life right now are a both/and. It's really uncomfortable, if we are honest.

Advent is also a time when we remember pregnant Mary, great with child, and traveling on the back of a donkey with her betrothed, Joseph. Talk about uncomfortable. Christmas is why we have the uncomfortableness of Advent. It is a celebration of hope that has been fulfilled! Christmas is about the minor becoming a major, our desperation answered in the Christ child.

May you let yourselves be uncomfortable this December. May you know that you aren't alone in your longing. And may you find joy in the midst of the dirty, like our Lord being born amidst the hay.

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Britney



Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service Wednesday, December 12 6PM in the Great Hall. Sometimes the holidays are not the most wonderful time of the year, especially for people who are grieving. This service will be a special healing service for those who are struggling this season — especially in the wake of Hurricane Michael. Join us for a Blue Christmas Service where we express our longings and pain and find healing from the one who was born in Bethlehem when the nights were dark and long.

Julie Hodges, Youth Director



- Wednesday, December 5th:** 5:30pm Dinner
6:00 – 7:00 pm Youth
- Saturday, December 8th:** Volunteer w/ Breakfast with Santa 9 – 11am
Christmas Parade
- Sunday, December 10th:** 11am Sunday School (2nd Sunday of Advent)
- Wednesday, December 12th:** 5:30 to 7pm Youth Christmas Party @ Hodges House
Dinner will be provided. Bring a \$10 or less Dirty Santa gift
- Sunday, December 16th:** 11am Sunday School (3rd Sunday of Advent)
Practice 4pm (DO NOT BE LATE)
Dinner will be provided
Live Nativity with Children @ 6pm
- Wednesday, December 19th:** 5:00 – 5:30pm youth serve dinner
5:30 – 6pm dinner
6:00 – 7:00pm Church wide Caroling
Hot Chocolate and Cookies to follow in Great Hall
- Monday, December 24th:** Worship Service times: 5pm and 7pm
REGULAR YOUTH starts back JANUARY 9, 2018

Krystal Terry, Children's Director



What's going on with FUMC Children?

Hurricane Michael may have knocked us back for a bit, but we are so blessed to be back in session! I have missed seeing all of the precious children at FUMC. It's time to come back better and stronger than ever! We have so many wonderful things planned for the upcoming months. I want every child to be apart! Grab and friend and join us for some special time with God and fellow Christians right here in the Great Wall! Can't wait to see you soon!

Sunday, December 2nd: FUMC children and youth ministries will host a community-wide movie: "Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors" in the grassy area between PSJES and football field at 6:00pm. Refreshments will be served. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs.

Saturday, December 8th: "Breakfast with Santa" for children of all ages (9:00-11:00) Children join us for a pancake breakfast in your pajamas and enjoy a special visit from Santa.

Sunday, December 16th: Live Nativity Children and Youth night at 6:00

Wednesday, December 19th: Church-wide caroling immediately following Wednesday night dinner. We will begin caroling at 6:00pm.

Monday, December 24th: Christmas Eve services at 5:00 and 7:00.

Ann Comforter, Music Director

December is the time for MUSIC and the Chancel Choir and Young Singers have some for you. Our combined concert is Sunday evening, December 9th at 6:00PM est. Our concert will be held in the Great Hall and a reception will follow. There will be special music, solos, trios and a quartet for you to enjoy. Mark in on your calendar. You DO NOT want to miss this concert. May GOD BLESS US ALL. Ann

Margo Russell, Pastoral Care Chairperson

Condolences are extended to Mindy Pate on the death of her mother, Arlene Smith, 10-25-18.

Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Trudie Downs, 11-11-18.

Condolences are extended to Patsy Cooley, Courtney Knox, family and friends of James "Jimmy" Cooley, 11-13-18.

Condolences are extended to Charlie Norton on the death of his sister, Sarah Norton Johnson, 11-24-18.

Vicki Abrams, Blessing Bags Ministry

Dear Children, let us not love with words or speech, but with actions and truth."

1 John 3:18

Beginning Thursday, December 6th, our Church in Partnership with Highlandview Baptist Church and Port Saint Joe Elementary School will once again begin the Blessing Bags Ministry. This ministry has been a time for not only providing weekend food for elementary age children but also a time of fellowship for our volunteers. We know some of our volunteers have relocated and next week we will be reaching out to each volunteer to see if you can once again participate in this Ministry. We also want to invite others to participate as well. If you are interested or have questions, please feel free to contact Ena Norton or Vicki Abrams

Vicki Abrams - vabrams954@yahoo.com or [9044728949](tel:9044728949) Ena Norton - egnorton1@gmail.com or [850-814-6445](tel:850-814-6445)

Jerry Jessen, Methodist Men

Here's the happy crew building the Nativity Scene. We took a negative, blown down cedar fence panels from Hurricane Michael and created a positive!



Left to right, Norm Carmack, yours truly, Jerry Jessen, Bill Kubitsky, and Boyd Bulger behind the camera.

We've got another crew together and tomorrow we're going to clean up the triangle in front of the church and hopefully, the parking lot!

Jerry

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Church Service 10:00AM Sunday School	3 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting	4	5 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs 5:30PM Young Singers 6:00PM Bible Study 6:00PM Youth 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	6	7	8 9:00AM Breakfast with Santa 6:00PM PSJ Christmas Parade
9 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Church Service 10:00AM Sunday School 6:00PM Chancel Choir Concert 7:00PM Reception	10 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting 6:00PM Charge Conference	11 7:00PM AA Meeting	12 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner 5:30PM Little Lambs 5:30PM Young Singers 6:00PM Longest Night Service 6:00PM Youth 6:15PM Kid's Life (1st-5th) 7:00PM Choir Practice	13 7:00PM AA Meeting	14	15 10:00AM CABI Show
16 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Church Service 10:00AM Sunday School	17 9:30AM Disciple III Class 3:00PM Staff Meeting	18 7:00PM AA Meeting	19 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner 6:00PM Caroling Party 7:00PM Choir Practice	20 PSJ Schools 1/2 Day 3:00PM Staff Meeting 7:00PM AA Meeting	21	22
23 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Church Service 10:00AM Sunday School 6:00PM Live Nativity with Lessons & Carols	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00PM Candlelight Service (Children) 7:00PM Candlelight Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 7:00PM AA Meeting	26	27 7:00PM AA Meeting	28	29 3:00PM Private wedding reception
30 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Church Service 10:00AM Sunday School	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY 7:00PM AA Meeting				



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1st- Andrew Furr
Greg Todd
- 2nd- Michael Bentley
Betty McNeill
Kyle Pickett
- 3rd- Amanda Kent
- 4th- Mary Elizabeth Vaughn
- 7th- Mary Sadler
- 8th- Jim Belin
Emory Cumbie
Barbara Easterbrooks

- 9th- Dot Creamer
Meredith L. Higgins
- 10th- Leonard Costin
Wesley Jones
Kelli Newman
Janis Tankersley
Adam Taylor
Carol Tendler
- 11th- Ed Creamer
- 12th- Betty Bowman
- 13th- Douglas May
Daniel May
- 15th- Dan VanVleet
- 16th- Joan Bentley
- 17th- Linson Pickard
- 19th- Mary Pat Stubbs
Andy Durance

- 20th- Mary Pierce
Matthew Roberson
Boston McGhee
- 21st- Joe Madsen
Tina Williamson
- 22nd- Judy Williams
- 23rd- Laura Taylor
Ralph Roberson
- 24th- Jim Guilford
Bobby Woodham
- 25th- Carol Weber
- 26th- Mallory Terry
- 28th- Mary Hess
Bentley Roberts
- 29th- John Miller
- 30th- Brandon Davis
Gannon Buzzett
- 31st- Sawyer Smith



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 2nd- Stuart & Renee Shoaf
- 10th- Boyd & Paula Pickett
- 12th- Perry & Janie Adkison
- 21st- Wayne & Judy Rowlett
- 22nd- Hubert & Trina Richards
- 23rd- Bill & Sandie Kennedy
- 27th- Rick & Judy Williams
- 31st- Jack & Dana Kerigan

On Sunday, December 2 at 7AM our 12th UMCOR team will travel to Baldwin, Louisiana to serve one of UMCOR'S supply warehouses. These supplies are packaged and loaded to be shipped abroad as well as here in the US. In addition, local residents in need of home repairs and agencies in need of volunteers are served. Please keep the team members in your prayers.

Sunday, December 2 6PM Children & Youth Ministries will be hosting a community wide movie in the grassy area next to the elementary school. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Refreshments will be provided. In case of inclement weather, the movie will be shown in the Great Hall.

Breakfast with Santa will be held in the Great Hall Saturday, December 8 9-11AM. Children wear your pajamas. We will have a pancake breakfast provided by Methodist Men and a special visit and picture with Santa!

Christmas Parade December 8 Children and Youth will be riding in the parade this year. Details to come.

Chancel Choir Concert Sunday December 9 6PM in the Great Hall. Young Singers will be performing, as well. A reception will follow the concert.

Charge Conference Monday, December 10 6PM in the Great Hall. All Church Council members should attend.

Live Nativity with Lessons & Carols Sunday, December 16 6PM on the front lawn.

Church-wide Caroling Party Wednesday, December 19 at 6PM (immediately following Wednesday Night Dinner).

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services in the Great Hall 5PM (with special children's time) & 7PM.

Altar Flowers-If you would like to place flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the flower calendar by contacting the church office. Two weeks prior to your flower presentation, please inform the church office of your specific bulletin announcement.

Alcoholics Anonymous 7PM Tuesdays & Thursdays in the Great Hall.

For help with addiction problems (drugs/alcohol) call Mark4Ministries (Steve Brightwell) 412-716-0426.

Caregivers Support Group 1PM fourth Tuesday of each month. All people in need of support are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 10AM in the Great Hall. Beginners are welcome to join.

Methodist Care Closet is located at 610 8th Street in the old STAC House. Hours of operation : Closed Monday (for restocking), Tuesday – Friday 9AM – 6PM, Saturday 9AM – 4PM. The Care Closet is in great need for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, just stop by the Closet.

Our church is hosting a CAbi Party Saturday, December 15 10AM – 2PM in the Great Hall. This is an amazing opportunity for women of all sizes and ages who have experienced loss of clothing from the ravages of Hurricane Michael. This event is free and is sponsored by the Heart of CAbi Foundation as described in the link below.

<https://jenniebarrow.cabionline.com/foundation/>



It was an honor to have Bishop David Graves and his entire cabinet visit our church and community this week. They were scheduled to have a leadership retreat at the beach elsewhere, but instead they decided to spend the time working and cleaning up after Hurricane Michael like the many UMCOR ERT teams that have visited. They visited the make-shift Methodist Care Closet to give thanks for relief work being done there and then the make-shift Methodist Learning Center where the children shared a song. We are thankful for our bishop's leadership in the church during this difficult time

Sunday School/Small Groups

- 9:00- 9:45AM O Bay Sunday School Class (Constitution Room)
9:00- 9:45AM Alpha Sunday School Class (Monument Room)
10:00-10:45PM Nursery (Monument Room)
11:15-12:00PM Marie Jones Sunday School Class (Constitution Room)
11:15-12:00PM Pridgeon-Rish Sunday School Class (Monument Room)
11:15-12:00PM His Kids Sunday School Class (Great Hall)
11:15-12:00PM Youth Sunday School Class (Rotunda)



Wednesday Night Dinner



Dinner begins at 5:00PM. Donations are welcome.

- Wednesday, December 5 Menu: Chicken & Rice, Lima Beans, Corn Bread, Peach Cobbler Servers: O Bay Class
Wednesday, December 12 Menu: Chicken Pot Pie, Pea Salad, Pound Cake Servers: Youth
Wednesday, December 19 Menu: Taco Salad, Chocolate Mousse Servers: Alpha Class
Wednesday, December 26 No dinner (Christmas Holiday)

Dinners will resume January 12.



- 5:00PM Fellowship Dinner (Great Hall)
5:30PM Young Singers (Choir Room)
5:30PM Little Lambs (Monument Room)
6:00PM Kids Life (Monument Room)
6:00PM Youth (Constitution Room)
6:00PM Pastor's Bible Study (Great Hall)
7:00PM Choir Practice (Great Hall)

Mission Statement

The First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe is called of God to be a Christian fellowship, affirming our beliefs through worship, witness, and service, glorifying God, adhering faithfully to the scriptures, nurturing spiritual growth, and sharing God's forgiveness to all people through the transforming love of Jesus Christ.



The printing of our monthly newsletter, *Salt Life*, is provided by Frank D. May, DMD.

Sunday Schedule

9:00AM Sunday School

10:00AM Worship

11:00AM Sunday School

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