



First United Methodist Church
Welcome! We're glad that you are here.
To all who need comfort, all who need friendship;
all who are lonely and need companionship;
all who want sheltering love, all who sin
and need a Savior; and whosoever will
—we open wide our doors and say, “Come; let us worship together.”
4th Sunday of Advent

10:15 am Sunday Worship	December 21, 2025
LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE	Joe Pasch
MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS	Vivian Eaton
WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Julie Petty

L: We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.
P: That sign is in the One to come--the One that God is sending.
L: We want to know for sure that everything is in God’s care.
P: And so we cry to the heavens in our distress. Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.
L: Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!
P: Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior. AMEN.

***UM-HYMN # 220 “Angels from the realms of glory.”**

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison) Julie Petty**
Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace.
In Jesus’s Name, we pray. AMEN

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE (Love) UMC Men
HYMN #211 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (vs 4 only)

Children’s Moment: LaVona Grissinger
Special song by Ryker McCombie

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 7:10-16 NRSV **Julie Petty**

GOSPEL : Matthew 1:18-25 NRSV **Pastor Fernando**
L: The Word of God for the People of God
P: Thanks be to God

SONG OF PREPARATION:
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” CHOIR

MESSAGE: **LET US HAVE THE OBEDIENCE OF JOSEPH,**
-Pastor Fernando.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS
(call/text Pastor 773-971-7208)

PRAYER FOR PEOPLE
THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our Trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES
*DOXOLOGY #95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of unfolding plans, when our certainty falters, and our expectations collapse, you are still at work, inviting us into grace that redefines and redeems. Like Joseph, we bring our gifts and lay down our plans, trusting that your Spirit can shape our offering into something greater than we imagined. May they help carry Christ into a world still longing for peace, hungry for love, and needing redemption. We pray in the name of the one who is Emmanuel—God with us. Amen.

***UM-HYMN #240 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing.”**

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**
***GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD Vivian Eaton**

IN OUR PRAYERS
Sandy Froehlich-(doing immune therapy), Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling’s friend), Tinslee (recuperating from transplant), Alyssa Volkers, Karen (Paul’s Mayer sister, in hospice), The Norman family, Dan & Sharon Zambo, both have cancer: Mia (Paula’s co-worker), Tim Cavanagh (waiting for heart surgery). Derek Osborn, Vicki & Michael Thomas (Paula Mayer’s friends), Janet Smith (Denise’s sister), The Lars Colgan family. Christa Jachino- Battling breast cancer (daughter-in-law of Linda & John Jachino) Kris Dornbush, the sister of Kim Stuart, has a blood clot in her spinal cord and is paralyzed from the waist down. She is in rehab at Shirley Ryan Rehab in Chicago. Bob Bauer-upcoming surgery. Emily Medley and her brother are dealing with health issues. Salvordor Sanchez (Esther Losh’s uncle) health issues. **Randy Suckling-Heart transplant went well-Praise!** Kris Dornbush, the sister of Kim Stuart, has a blood clot in her spinal cord and is paralyzed from the waist down. Abea- Early pregnancy prayer to go to term.

Our shut-ins: Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Mary Ellen Dreger, Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Florence Bevins-Powell.

Our country & government; Military Personnel & their families; the safety of Ukrainians & end of wars; Haiti; Syria; Israel; the Gaza Strip; peace in the Middle East; people affected by the wildfires, snow, and cold temperatures; the towns, families, students, school administrators, and those who experience everyday violence and their families.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
December 26 – Jackie Walker
26 – Tom & Wallene Neumiller (1971)
27 – Jim & Vivian Eaton (1962)

CALENDAR
Monday, Dec 22
9:00 am to noon – Office open
1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies
Tuesday, Dec 23
9 am to 12 noon – Office open
Wednesday, Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)
9:00 am to noon Office -open
Thursday, Dec 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!
OFFICE Closed
Friday, Dec 26
9:0o am to noon - Office open
Sunday, Dec 28
9 am – Adult Sunday School
10:15 am – Worship

WORSHIP HELPERS

	December 21	December 28
Acolyte	Joe Pasch	Kirk Hoffman
Liturgist	Julie Petty	Sherry Can
Counter	Lori Miller	Vivian Eaton
Verifier	Kay Cavanaugh	Linda Stubbe
Coffee Hour	Jim & Vivian Eataon	Esther Losh
Greeter	Worship cmte	Worship cmte
Ushers	Worship cmte	Worship cmte

Last Week’s Attendance: 72

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member Class – will be given by Pastor Fernando. This will be a 5 week class, once a week, **either in person or via Zoom**. If you are interested or have questions, let the office know.

Kids Kards – Is Next Sunday to make greeting cards for our shut-ins. All materials are provided, and everyone is welcome.

Christmas Eve Service – will be a candlelight service with communion at 7 pm.

Impact Life Blood Drive – will be here at FUMC on Wednesday, January 7th from 3 to 6 pm. Fellowship Hall.

Pledge Cards – Our Church is planning to update our database Please consider returning your Pledge Cards so we may know: Your address, birthday, and anniversary. Ministry area you would I enjoy serving in our Church. **December 28th is the deadline.**

Christmas Eve

7:00 pm
Candlelight Service and Communion



Christmas Reading Plan

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • December 1st - Luke 1 | • December 13th - Luke 13 |
| • December 2nd - Luke 2 | • December 14th - Luke 14 |
| • December 3rd - Luke 3 | • December 15th - Luke 15 |
| • December 4th - Luke 4 | • December 16th - Luke 16 |
| • December 5th - Luke 5 | • December 17th - Luke 17 |
| • December 6th - Luke 6 | • December 18th - Luke 18 |
| • December 7th - Luke 7 | • December 19th - Luke 19 |
| • December 8th - Luke 8 | • December 20th - Luke 20 |
| • December 9th - Luke 9 | • December 21st - Luke 21 |
| • Deceeber 10th - Luke 10 | • December 22nd - Luke 22 |
| • December 11th - Luke 11 | • December 23rd- Luke 23 |
| • December 12th - Luke 12 | • December 24th - Luke 24 |



First United
Methodist Church
Sunday, December 21, 2025
at 10:15 am

Vision Statement

**“Reaching out to all people and
Inviting them to experience the love
Of God through Open Hearts,
Open Minds, and Open Doors”**

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