



Messiah Sing-Along

December 10 at 4:00 PM

COME SING ALONG WITH MUSIC PROVIDED BY THE CHURCH, OR JUST COME TO ENJOY THIS TIMELESS CLASSIC FOR CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA.

Christmas Concert is Sunday

This year's Christmas Concert at our church will be a "Messiah Sing-Along," this Sunday, December 10, at 4:00 p.m. The Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah will be presented by the FUMC Christmas Choir, a professional orchestra, and the audience!

Concertgoers will have the option to sit in general seating to listen, or may be seated near the front according to voice parts to sing along with the choruses. We will provide sheet music for those interested. The Christmas Concert is always a highlight of the season, and we hope to see you there.

Parents and Grandparents Grief Support Group Meets

The Parents and Grandparents Grief Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, December 11, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. in Room 203. The group provides a safe and supportive environment for those who have lost children or grandchildren to explore and express their grief.

The co-facilitators for the group are Reverend Bob Cantrell, a retired United Methodist pastor, and Gilda Reese, a retired schoolteacher who lost her 14-year-old daughter to cancer. All parents and grandparents are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Reverend Jenny Caughman at (865) 483-4357 or jcaughman@fumcor.org.

Youth Group Needs You!

Our youth group is growing, and it is a holy honor to share their faith formation with them. They have begun to invite their friends to come also! To keep the momentum going, we would like to open the loft for youth to enjoy on Wednesday afternoons starting on January 3, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Do you have Wednesday afternoons free? Can you help chaperone youth in the loft? We will not be able to offer this weekly event if we do not have appropriate supervision of the youth. If you are willing to help, please contact Pastor Denna at dhornby@fumcor.org. Thank you for nurturing the next generation of disciples!

First Things Transition to Magazine Format

If you have not yet signed up to receive our newsletter via email, please do so soon! Our office will no longer mail paper versions of First Things after December. Our First Things magazine will always be available, both on our website and via a link emailed to the congregation. And, of course, we will also continue to email electronic versions of our weekly newsletter to the congregation.



If you are willing to deliver copies of our new magazine to one of our homebound members, please contact Rev. Jenny Caughman. These deliveries will be wonderful opportunities for you to have a monthly one-on-one with one of our most seasoned members!

Wear Your **Ugly Christmas Sweater**

JOIN OUR YOUTH IN CELEBRATING THE SEASON BY WEARING YOUR UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER TO CHURCH ON DECEMBER 10.

Ugly Sweater Sunday!

Get festive and join us on December 10 in all services that day! The youth ministry is excited to invite you to be a part of our Advent fun by wearing your most outrageous, over-the-top, ugly Christmas sweater. Let's bring the joy and laughter of the holiday season to our congregation as we celebrate together. From the whimsical to the tacky, there's no limit to the creativity and fun we can have with our festive attire. Our youth kids are eagerly looking forward to seeing us all decked out in our holiday garb. So, mark your calendars, dust off those ugly sweaters, and let's make this Sunday a memorable event! For more information, feel free to contact Pastor Denna at dhornby@fumcor.org.

Church Building to Close after Christmas

To ensure that our staff can spend time with their families after a busy holiday season, our church building will be closed from Monday, December 25, through Friday, December 29.

In Celebration

We celebrate the joyous union of **Donnie Macklin and Teri Smith-Pearson** as they were wed on December 5.

We celebrate with Josh and Erica Gambrell the birth of **Eleanor Jane** on December 3. Proud grandparents are Peggy and Mike Gambrell.

In Sympathy

We ask for prayers for the family and friends of **Joe Tracy**, who died on December 2, 2023.

In the Hospital

Betty Pitts

Discharged

Dick Schreiber

Our Giving:

Weekly offering:	\$ 24,009
2023 YTD offering:	\$ 1,216,651
2022 YTD offering:	\$ 1,224,337
Mission offering:	\$ 1,605

Worship for December 10

Second Sunday in Advent

Scripture: John 14:26-27

Sermon: See With New Eyes: Peace

8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Multipurpose Room
Preaching: Rev. Mark Flynn



1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Return Service requested

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Spread Holiday Cheer!

Every Christmas, a group of dedicated volunteers visits our homebound congregation members. Many of these individuals were actively involved in FUMC for years, making it difficult for them to no longer participate in our worship services and programs.

This year, our visitation will take place from December 16 to 18. We will meet in the Choir Room on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and park in the lower lot. Visits can be made and flowers can be picked up at any time during that weekend. Let's come together and spread some Christmas cheer to those who may be feeling isolated. To participate, please sign up on the website (fumcor.org/visitation) or contact Betty Lou Alspaugh at 865-310-1672 or alspaughbl@gmail.com, or Jenny Caughman at jcaughman@fumcor.org or 865-483-4357.

Senior Adult Lunch

Sign up now to attend our next Senior Adult Luncheon on Wednesday, December 13, where we will enjoy the Oak Ridge High School Madrigal Singers. Experience the joy of Renaissance Christmas celebrations brought to life through beautiful costumes, intricate counterpoint melodies, and great food! Judy Dodd Catering will provide a feast centered around Champagne Chicken. Call the church office to reserve your spot!



pies for community meal

The joy of Christmas dinner is epitomized by the rich, delightful flavors of our favorite pies. It's hard to imagine a festive Christmas dinner without this quintessential dessert gracing our tables. This year, as we prepare to extend our warmth and hospitality through our free Community Meal, let's keep this cherished tradition in mind. On Wednesday, December 20, we are excited to provide a heartwarming meal to those in our community, and we aim to make it even more special by offering each family a pie as a symbol of the holiday spirit.

To make this happen, we are kindly requesting donations of pies. These pies should be ones that do not require refrigeration, ensuring they remain fresh and delicious for our guests. We welcome your generous contributions from December 18 to December 20. Please note that the final deadline for pie drop-offs is 3:00 p.m. on December 20. You can deliver your donated pies to the Main Office or leave them at the Welcome Center.

Pastors Mark Flynn, lead • Jenny Caughman, spiritual care • Denna Hornby, associate
Contact Information 865.483.4357 • www.fumcor.org • Pastor on call: 865.272.9862