

**From:** Ashland Place United Methodist Church apumc@ashlandplaceunitedmethodistchurch.ccsend.com  
**Subject:** E- News for December 12, 2024  
**Date:** December 12, 2024 at 2:45 PM  
**To:** millermediaonline@gmail.com



# Ashland Place UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## December 12, 2024 E-News

### A mid-week word from Pastor Darren...

Dear Church Family,

What a glorious week to be the Church of Jesus Christ at Ashland Place!

Last Sunday our worship was highlighted by the sights and sounds of our Chancel choir in our service of lessons and carols. It was a beautiful occasion of blessing as we continue to build our anticipation for the coming reign of Christ in our lives and in our community.

Last night, many in our church family gathered for a night of good food and festivity. The children did a fantastic job in sharing their presentation of the nativity of Jesus. What a story they told! It was so much fun! My heart was full as I drove home last night, imagining how important it is to help foster such love and understanding for all of God's children. It means the world!

The momentum this week has me thinking of a selection of poetry that was likely popular in America in the 1940s:

How Far to Bethlehem?  
By Madeleine Sweeny Miller

It isn't far to Bethlehem Town—  
Just over the dusty roads adown,  
Past Wise Men's well, still offering  
Cool draughts from welcome wayside spring;  
Past shepherds with their flutes of reed  
That charm the woolly sheep they lead;  
Past boys with kites on hilltops flying,

And soon you're there where Bethlehem's lying.  
Sunned white and sweet on olived slopes,  
Gold-lighted still with Judah's hopes.

And so we find the Shepherd's field  
And plain that gave rich Boaz yield,  
And look where Herod's villa stood.  
We thrill that earthly parenthood  
Could foster Christ who was all-good;  
And thrill that Bethlehem Town to-day  
Looks down on Christmas homes that pray.

It isn't far to Bethlehem Town!  
It's anywhere that Christ comes down  
And finds in people's friendly face  
A welcome and abiding place.  
The road to Bethlehem runs right through  
The homes of folks like me and you.

Isn't that the truth!



This Sunday our Ascension Service will be celebrating its version of Lessons and Carols at 9:00. I hope you will join us! Now is a great time to invite someone new. There is always more room in this Inn!

With Joy,

Darren



Sunday, December 1  
1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 8  
Traditional Service of Lessons and Carols  
with the Chancel Choir - 11:00am

Wednesday, December 11  
Last Wednesday Night Supper until January 8  
Children's Nativity Program - 6:30pm - Sanctuary

Sunday, December 15  
Ascension Lessons and Carols—9:00am

Wednesday, December 18  
Longest Night Service - 6:00pm - Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Worship, Tuesday, December 24  
Ascension Service - 3:00pm - Fellowship Hall  
Traditional Service - 5:00pm - Sanctuary  
Ascension Service - 5:30pm - Fellowship Hall  
Traditional Service - 7:00pm - Sanctuary  
Nursery will be available for all services

Sunday, December 29  
One Combined Worship Service - 10:00am - Fellowship Hall

We have a lot of events happening over the next two weeks, especially on Christmas Eve, and there will be a lot of cars coming and going. Please be considerate of our neighbors when parking on Wisteria Avenue and take care not to block driveways. We have ample parking in the lot, and the adjacent grassy area off of Old Shell Rd.

### **Longest Night Service**

December 18, 2024

6:00pm Sanctuary

This worship service provides a space for people to acknowledge grief during the holiday season while looking toward the hope of Christ.



### **HANGING OF THE GREENS**

**Share in the joy of the season by donating to the special Christmas floral and greenery arrangements that will adorn the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on Christmas Eve.**

**Donations may be made in honor or memory of a friend or loved one, and their name(s) will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.**

**Deadline for donations is Wednesday, December 18**

**[Click here to donate in honor or memory](#)**

This Christmas season, we're partnering with @Embrace Alabama Kids, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting vulnerable children and families across Alabama. Every gift, big or small, helps provide homes, healing and hope for those in need. Join us in sharing the love of Jesus this Christmas by donating today. 🌲 ✨

Together, let's make a lasting impact. Learn more and donate by clicking this link.

[embracechristmas.org](http://embracechristmas.org).



A PLACE TO CALL HOME

"My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest."  
— Isaiah 32:18

Learn more at [embracechristmas.org](http://embracechristmas.org).

The graphic features a light green background with white snowflakes. On the left, the text 'A PLACE TO CALL HOME' is written in a blue, stylized font where the roof of the house is the letter 'H'. Below this, there are three small photographs: a family gathered around a Christmas tree, a young girl in pink pajamas holding a gift, and a young boy in a plaid shirt holding a gift. At the bottom, the text 'Learn more at embracechristmas.org' is displayed.



GIVE THEM HOMES,  
HEALING AND HOPE.



Scan to donate.



The Joseph Project is in need of dried beans and grits. These are popular items that have been unavailable recently from their usual source. Please place the items on the shelves in the Fellowship Hall hallway.

*Wednesday Night Suppers*

will resume on January 8, 2025

will resume on January 5, 2025

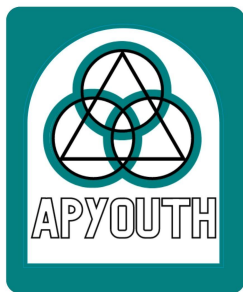
# Ashland Place Children



The children put on a delightful nativity program last night!

We appreciate the hard work by our Children's Director Linda Noble, and her dedicated volunteers, Donna Carroll, Becky Mayhall, Valencia Montgomery, Tricia Garstecki, Gail Lea, and Cindy Childers.

We are thankful for all of these special people and our precious children!



## AP YOUTH EVENTS

Youth events are open to youth in grades 7-12.

Friends are always welcome!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Joseph Griggs at (251)518-8001

### December 15 Progressive Dinner Christmas Party

The party will start at 5:00 pm at 54 Jordan Lane

*Drivers are needed to transport youth from house to house*

**This will be the last youth event for 2024.**

**We will resume Sunday evening gatherings on**

**.January 5 2025**

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR OUR YOUTH  
ON SUNDAY NIGHTS!



### **2025 Sign-up now available!**

**Altar Flowers - Would you like to honor someone, remember a loved one, or celebrate a happy occasion???**

There is a sign-up sheet on the Fellowship Hall Bulletin Board or you may click below for a link to Signup Genius.

Your \$55 donation can be made to APUMC and placed in the offering plate, arranged online ([apumc.com](http://apumc.com)) or delivered to the office. Please include your preferred wording.

### **2025 Altar Flower Sign-up**

## **Around the Congregation...**

### **Circle of Concern**

Please hold these persons in your prayers: John Allen, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Victor Brown (Dee Dee Cook's brother), Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, Peggy Emond (David Mayhall's sister), Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, \*Marcia Golson, Ruffin Graham, Jim Harter, Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Tee Hope, Barbara Hunt, Andrew Irby, Tyler Mazey, David Richards, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Nancy Seibt, Lon Spencer, Peggy Tanner (Cindy Roton's mother), Sherry Thomson, Robert Wheeler (Emily McGough's brother), Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers. (*\*new concern this week*)

Ashland Place United Methodist Church | 15 Wisteria Ave. | Mobile, AL 36607 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)