



# THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 164, NUMBER 29 LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR, CHANGE THE WORLD DECEMBER 2018

## THE GIFT OF JOY!

I have always loved the “Baby Jesus” story at Christmastime. As a child, Luke’s biblical account of this miraculous birth captured my heart in a way the story of Santa Claus and the North Pole never could. I confess, however, that in my youth I was also head-over-heels in love with the secular idea of receiving Christmas presents. All those beautifully wrapped packages under the tree with my name on them made my young heart leap for joy!

As I’ve matured over the past half century, I continue to love the “Baby Jesus” story as much as ever (actually more), but receiving gifts no longer carries weight with me. I’ve come to embrace the philosophy that “it is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). Giving is what truly fills my heart with joy, whether it’s giving to Karen, our children, grandchildren, friends, neighbors, and most importantly to the Christ Child through the church.

I hope you feel this way as well. I hope you feel blessed enough and thankful enough to give generously of your financial resources to Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church that blesses all of us, our community, and the world in so many ways. Stop! Think about it! What would we do if PHUMC suddenly disappeared forever? The loss would be immeasurable, wouldn’t it? Our lives would be impoverished. We would never be the same again.



Help us complete this record year of transforming ministry by responding to God with the record giving of your financial resources. It will be the most meaningful and important gift you give all year long. I promise! Gifts may be mailed to PHUMC, 4823 Woodlawn, Little Rock 72205 or by giving online at [phumc.com/give](http://phumc.com/give)

Thank you in advance for your joy-filled response!

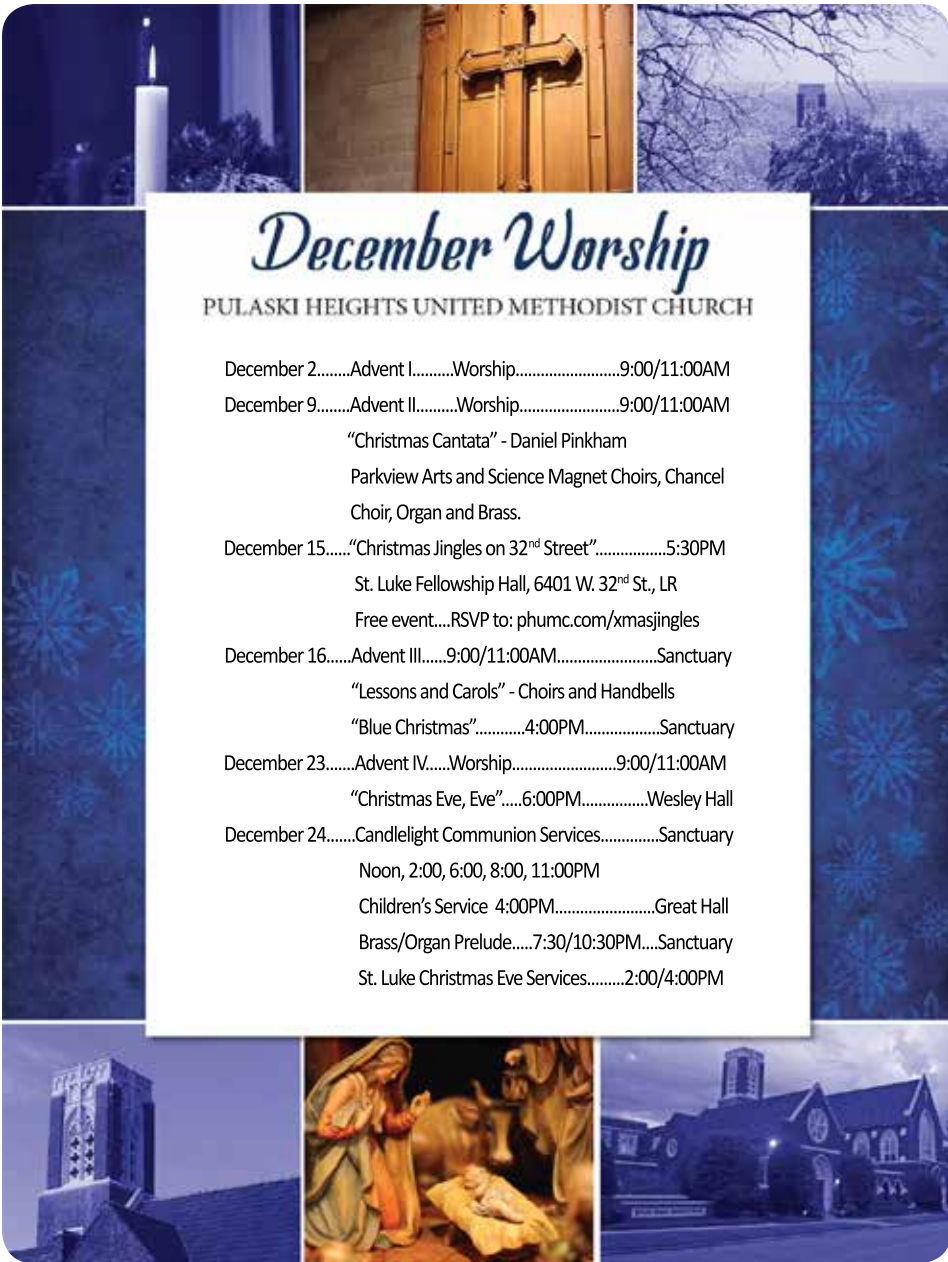
Britt Skarda  
Senior Pastor

## THIS WEEK: SETTING THE STAGE

November 30 & December 2  
Romans 8:22-25

### Sermon Series: The Gift of the Nutcracker

Advent is a season of waiting, but for what are we waiting? What might happen when our expectations go unmet?



# December Worship

PULASKI HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- December 2.....Advent I.....Worship.....9:00/11:00AM
- December 9.....Advent II.....Worship.....9:00/11:00AM  
 "Christmas Cantata" - Daniel Pinkham  
 Parkview Arts and Science Magnet Choirs, Chancel  
 Choir, Organ and Brass.
- December 15....."Christmas Jingles on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street".....5:30PM  
 St. Luke Fellowship Hall, 6401 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St., LR  
 Free event....RSVP to: phumc.com/xmasjingles
- December 16.....Advent III.....9:00/11:00AM.....Sanctuary  
 "Lessons and Carols" - Choirs and Handbells  
 "Blue Christmas".....4:00PM.....Sanctuary
- December 23.....Advent IV.....Worship.....9:00/11:00AM  
 "Christmas Eve, Eve".....6:00PM.....Wesley Hall
- December 24.....Candlelight Communion Services.....Sanctuary  
 Noon, 2:00, 6:00, 8:00, 11:00PM  
 Children's Service 4:00PM.....Great Hall  
 Brass/Organ Prelude.....7:30/10:30PM.....Sanctuary  
 St. Luke Christmas Eve Services.....2:00/4:00PM

Thank  
You

Thank you, Church, for your support of the Annual United Methodist Women's Bake Sale held the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The net proceeds of over \$1,300, along with funds from prior years, will be used to support local missions such as MIWATCH, Camp Aldersgate, Ozark Mission Project, PHUMC / St. Luke Children's Learning Centers and others. The UMW Unit (all Circles as a whole) will vote on the use of these funds at the meeting on December 3.

Thanks to all those who baked, made jelly, knitted/sewed items and otherwise helped make this a successful event.



Pick up a free copy of the 2018 Advent devotional at both Welcome Centers or the Narthex. The devotionals have been provided by the Society of St. Andrew.

## United Methodist Women Holiday Luncheon featuring the Central High School Madrigals



**Monday, December 3  
11:30 in Wesley Hall**

For reservations, call 664-3600  
or sign up in the Reception Areas  
(Welcome Center and Wesley Hall)  
or on the ConnectCard by  
noon Thursday, November 28

There is no cost for lunch.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# SPONSOR CHILDREN FOR CHRISTMAS

Please help! We have about 60 more Wakefield children who need to be sponsored for Christmas! If you have already signed up to sponsor a child - or children - thank you so much! If you have not, would you prayerfully consider doing so? Here's what a sponsor does:

1. Sign up online at [phumc.com/wakefieldxmas](http://phumc.com/wakefieldxmas) or call 664-3600 and give them your name, email address, and phone number for staff to complete the online entries for you.
2. Pick up your child's information packet at the church when they let you know it's ready.
3. Shop for the child you're sponsoring spending about \$100.
4. Wrap presents and follow the instructions in the packet about bundling them.
5. Deliver the gifts to the church gym on Sunday morning December 16.




If you have not returned your Commitment Card for the 2019 Stewardship Campaign, please do so today. Envelopes and cards are available in the pews, Narthex, and Welcome Center.

— OZARK MISSION PROJECT RAISED \$10,000 ON GIVING TUESDAY... —

**SO REV. BRITT SKARDA IS GOING TO KISS THIS PIG!**

LOCATION:  
Pulaski Heights UMC  
Outside of Sanctuary

DATE:  
Sunday, December 2nd

TIME:  
10:00 am  
Immediately following service



**WE REJOICE IN THE RECENT BIRTH & BAPTISM OF...**



LUCY STEVENS & FAMILY

**Cancer Friends Christmas Tree**

Cancer Friends will decorate the PHUMC Cancer Friends Christmas Tree in the Welcome Center in memory or in honor of loved ones. If you wish to honor or memorialize someone, please complete the form below, detach, and return with \$10 for each loved one to: PHUMC, 4823 Woodlawn, Little Rock, AR 72205 or call 664-3600. Make checks payable to PHUMC with "Cancer Friends" on the memo line. Names will be publicized in The Tower Newsletter in January 2018.

**DEADLINE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Mount Saint Mary's Belles**  
to perform at the  
**Annual Primetimers and Friends**



**Thursday, December 6**  
**11:30 in the Great Hall / Gym.**

For reservations, call 664-3600 or sign up at the Reception Areas (Welcome Center and Wesley Hall) or on the ConnectCard by noon Tuesday, December 4. There is no cost for lunch.

## PREACHING THIS WEEK

### SANCTUARY SERVICES

Friday - Rev. Britt Skarda  
Sunday - Rev. Britt Skarda

### NEW HEIGHTS SERVICES

Rev. Betsy Singleton Snyder

### ST. LUKE CAMPUS SERVICE

Rev. Andrea Cummings

**Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church**  
4823 Woodlawn  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #738  
LITTLE ROCK, AR

## WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

### SANCTUARY SERVICES

Friday at 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

### NEW HEIGHTS SERVICES

Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL @ PHUMC

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

### ST. LUKE CAMPUS SERVICE

Sunday at 9:30 a.m.



@pulaskiheightsunitedmethodistchurch



youtube.com/pulaskiheightsumc



Twitter: @pulaskiheights



@stlukecampus

### Contact Information

Website: [www.phumc.com](http://www.phumc.com) • (501) 664-3600  
Fax: 664-4835 • Email: [phumc@phumc.com](mailto:phumc@phumc.com)  
**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The church is also available seven days a week, beyond regular office hours, for special events or meetings.

St. Luke Campus • 6401 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St. • Little Rock, AR 72204

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## GET THE SCOOP ON UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

### PHUMC RINGS THE BELL

Join the 2018 Red Kettle Campaign and volunteer to help The Salvation Army "Ring the Bell," Sat. December 1, various times.

### JEWELRY ON A MISSION BY KAREN SKARDA JEWELRY PARTY BENEFITING OMP

Join us for shopping and fellowship on Sunday, December 9, between 2 - 4 pm at the home of Karen Skarda, 6 Wingate Dr., Little Rock. 100% of ALL PROCEEDS benefit OMP.

### HENDRIX CHOIR CANDLELIGHT TOUR

Friday, December 14, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Come and hear a wonderful selection of choral music to celebrate the Christmas season.

### ARKANSAS YOUTH CORALE PRESENTS SWEETS AND SONG

Monday, December 17, 7 pm, PHUMC Sanctuary. All are welcome! Sweets to follow.

### ST. LUKE CAMPUS NEEDS HELPERS

If you and your family or an office group, or members of this community want to purchase or prepare and serve a meal for the Community Meal on Thursdays at St. Luke, please contact Monica at [stluke6@att.net](mailto:stluke6@att.net).

### PHUMC SUPPORT MINISTRIES

are available for AI-Anon, AA, Cancer, Divorce (adults & children), Grief (adults & children), Helping Hands Ministry, LGBTQ, and Memory Loss. For more information contact Jeff Hampton, 501-529-0323 or visit [www.phumc.com/caringministries/](http://www.phumc.com/caringministries/).

*Christmas Jingles on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street*

Saturday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 5:30pm

St. Luke Fellowship Hall  
6401 W 32<sup>nd</sup> St,  
Little Rock, AR 72204

RSVP by Wed., Dec. 12 by visiting [phumc.com/xmasjingles](http://phumc.com/xmasjingles) or by calling 501-568-2651

**ST. LUKE**  
A Campus of Pulaski Heights  
United Methodist Church

**FREE EVENT**  
Live Music • Food  
Coat Drive • Holiday Cheer

Support our winter coat drive  
benefitting our community partners

- Bale Elementary
- e-Stern High School (UALR campus)
- St. Luke Learning Center

Help keep a child warm this winter by  
donating coats for ages 0-18 years.

### Poinsettias for Sanctuary

Purchase a poinsettia for worship services in honor or in memory of a loved one for \$12.50. Orders received by Monday, December 3, will be included in the December 23 issue of The Tower Newsletter. Call 664-3600 or email [msmith@phumc.com](mailto:msmith@phumc.com) with your order.