PULASKI HEIGHTS
United Methodist Church

THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE LOVE, EMBRACE CHRIST, ENGAGE THE WORLD NOVEMBER 2026

Advent & Christmas with Pulaski Heights UMC

Hanging of the Greens

A church tradition of preparing the Sanctuary for the Christmas season with music and liturgy. This service is led by our children.

November 29 | 4pm | Sanctuary

Service of Hope & Healing

For those struggling with grief or loneliness during the holiday season, come for a service of lament, prayer, and a word of hope

December 6 | 5pm | Sanctuary

Service of Lessons & Carols

December 13 | 9 & 11am | All services

phumc.com/christmas

Christmas Eve Worship

December 23

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
6pm | Sanctuary | Rev. Pearce

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
2pm, 6pm (full choir), 8pm (full choir) | Sanctuary | Dr. Robbins

Children-Led Candlelight Communion
4pm | Great Hall (Gym) | Rev. Pearce

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
6pm | Wesley Hall | Rev. Pearce

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
11pm | Sanctuary | Rev. Pearce



OFFICE OF INCLUSIVTY, ACCESSIBILITY, & BELONGING UPDATE

Earlier this year, PHUMC launched a new ministry with a simple but far-reaching question at its heart: Who isn't yet able to fully belong here, and what would it take to change that? The Office for Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging (IAB), led by Director Melanie Buchanan, exists to help every person who walks through our doors, or joins us online, experience Pulaski Heights as a place where they are known, welcomed, and able to participate fully in the life of the church.

The office began by listening. Through our Inclusion, Accessibility & Belonging survey, over 500 members and friends of PHUMC shared their experiences, hopes, and honest observations about our congregation. These responses are now shaping the office's priorities, and we're grateful to everyone who took the time to share.

In addition to listening, we've started making our campus more mobility-friendly, repairing and improving assistive hearing devices, and begun to implement ways to make sure everyone has a voice.

We're thrilled to share that PHUMC has received a grant of $20,000 from the Methodist Foundation for Arkansas to provide translation and interpretation services at our 9AM Classic and 11AM Modern worship services!



Thanks to your generosity, our Diaper Bank partnered with KATV and Edwards for the Spirit of Arkansas Diaper Drive, and together we collected almost 80,000 diapers for children and families across our community! Each diaper represents comfort, care, and hope for parents who might otherwise have to choose between diapers and other basic needs. Diapers are one of the most essential items a family with a baby, yet they aren't covered by programs like SNAP or WIC. For many parents, that means stretching every dollar and making impossible choices. A steady supply of clean diapers keeps little ones healthy and comfortable. There are many ways to volunteer, from packing and bundling diapers to handing them out and welcoming families on distribution days. If you are interested, reach out to Rev. Katye Chambers at **kchambers@phumc.com**



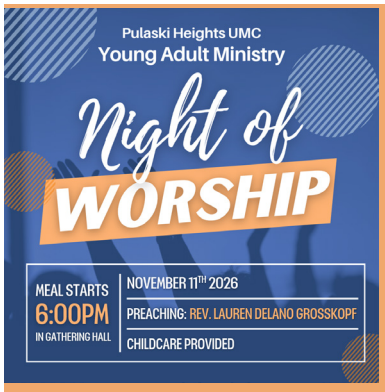
Want an opportunity to bring Christmas cheer to a family? Here's your chance! PHUMC is sponsoring over 200 Wakefield Elementary children for Christmas, and we need sponsors to purchase items on the lists these children and their siblings have prepared! Sponsor packets will be mailed before Thanksgiving, and gifts are due back to the church on Sunday, December 13th.

If you would like to sign up please email Nancy Delacerda at **ndelacerda@comcast.net**, and let her know how many children you would like to sponsor, and where to mail your packet. If you've got questions please call Nancy at 501-517-4609 or the church at 501-664-3600. You can also donate money by going to **phumc.com/give** and selecting Christmas Families.

Veterans Celebration Luncheon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 | NOON | GREAT HALL

RSVP: WELCOME DESK, 501-664-3600, OR
PHUMC.COM/VETERANS



Join the Young Adult Ministry for a meal and night of worship on Wednesday, November 11th! We will begin serving the meal at 6PM in the Gathering Hall with worship and a sermon by Rev. Lauren DeLano Grosskopf to follow. Please RSVP by going to **phumc.com/yam**.

Questions? Contact Melanie Buchanan at **mbuchanan@phumc.com.**



Did you see our new kneelers? Church member Mark Wilson, of Cliffdale Cottage Designs, donated his time to make these for us! You may recognize the wood, it was part of the wall in the choir room that had been refurbished during the renovation of that space. Thank you so much Mark for all of your hard work into giving this beautiful pattern new life!



On Sunday, November 22nd be sure to bring your appetite and your wallet. The United Women in Faith are having their annual bake sale in the Gathering Hall and Wesley Hall Welcome Center!

Questions? Call the church office at 501-664-3600 or contact Rev. Katie Goss Pearce at **kpearce@phumc.com**.

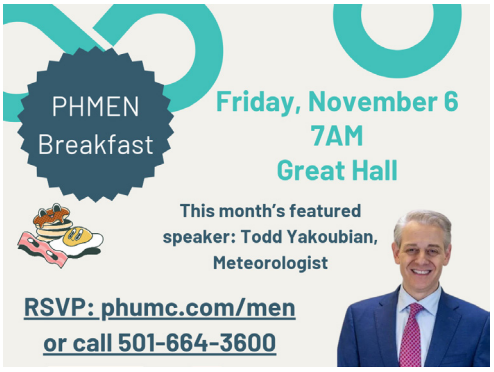


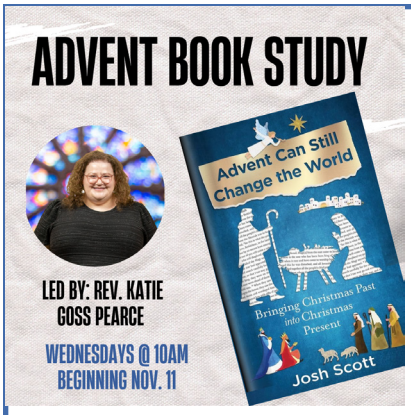
This Advent, our theme is "Christmas Through a Different Lens," a season-long look at the Christmas story through many different perspectives. To guide you along the way, we've created an Advent Devotional Booklet in which members and staff reflect on favorite Christmas movies and what those films reveal to them about the meaning of the season.

Booklets will be available beginning November 22nd. You can pick one up at the Welcome desk, outside Wesley Hall, the PHUMC App, or call 501-664-3600, and we will mail you one! You can also get the daily devotionals in your inbox by signing up at **phumc.com/christmas**.



Join us for our Cancer Friends Christmas Luncheon on **Thursday, December 3rd from 11:30AM-1:00PM** in Wesley Hall. Our guest speaker will be our new Director of Inclusivity, Accessibility, and Belonging, Melanie Buchanan. We will share a meal and remember those we have lost during the past year. RSVP by calling the church office at 501-664-3600, going to phumc.com/cancer-friends, or by filling out the Reservation book at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions, call 501-664-3600.





Beginning Wednesday, November 11, Rev. Katie Pearce will lead an Advent book study of Advent Can Still Change the World by Josh Scott. Together, we'll explore the nativity narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke within their historical and cultural setting, and see how the birth of Jesus answers the long-held hopes of the Old Testament. These are familiar stories, but read in their context, they can surprise us all over again.

The group will meet Wednesdays at 10 AM in Room C236. Whether you've studied these passages for years or are coming to them with fresh eyes, this study is an invitation to slow down, ask good questions, and prepare your heart for the coming of Christ. Come discover how a story told two thousand years ago still holds the power to change the world, and to change us.

Books are available to borrow or purchase from the church. Just call the church office at 501-664-3600.



Christmas poinsettias 'in honor' or 'in memory' of a loved one are available for $20 each beginning **October 26th**. They will be placed in the sanctuary during Advent and may be picked up after the 11:00PM Christmas Eve service or from the church on Dec. 29-31. Orders will close on **December 14th** and will be listed in the December 21st bulletin as well as the January Tower Newsletter. You can purchase them by going to **phumc.com/poinsettia**, calling the church office at 501-664-3600, or filling out the Poinsettia Form at the Welcome desk! Contact Theresa Smith at **tsmith@phumc.com** with any questions.





ROSE WINDOW CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS FOR SALE

Christmas ornaments are officially on sale! This year we have lovely Rose Window Ornaments for $20 each. They may be purchased at the Welcome Desk during office hours (Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm; Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm) and on Sunday mornings, 8:30am-12:00pm. If you are unable to make it in-person, you may request an ornament be mailed to you by emailing **mmcmurray@phumc.com**. Quantities are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



PHUMC Memorials & Honoraria

The following gifts were received for the following funds: Afghan Refugee Family, Building, Children's Choir, Diaper Bank, Guatemala Mission, Helping Hands, Operating, PHUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry, PHUMC Youth, This Place Matters, TV Ministry, and the glory of God.

Memorials

Nancy Archer by Sharon and Wayne Greathouse
Susan Axelroth by Rita Mithcell
Robert Wayne Beardsley by Geneva Beardsley
Willam Wesley Boyster by Dana and Sam Boyster
Roy Bradley by Sandra Bradley
Tony Ellis by Mary Ruth Brown, Katherine Jefferson, Mac and Donna McLarty, Richard and Jann Pence, Ray and Lavern Schaap, Rev. Britt and Karen Skarda, Cathy and John Slater, Donald and Mary Thone, Jean and Dick Wallace, and Diane Wood
Lindsey Fairley by Patsy and Rob Janes and Family
Michael Moore by Annadell and Fred Fowler, Lynn Monk, and John and Dee Ostner
Patsy Reed by Sherry Everett, and Sherry Shirley
Connie Staley by Ashley, Noah, and Maddie Anderson, Noah Anderson, Closet Angels, Jacy and Amanda Daugherty, Tish DePriest, Stephanie Streett and Don Erbach and Family, Ryan and Julia Hamra, Justin, Katy, Ben and Ellie Hunt, Cecile and Larry Kimmer, Mickey Lavender, and Kevin and Shelley Turner
Phillip West by Donald and Audrey Evans, and Elizabeth and Tom Small

Honoraria

Yui Carter by Bev Villines
Rev. Jay Clark by David Frueauff
Diaper Bank Volunteers by Beth Page
The Eble Family by The Reynolds Family
Deanna Land by LaJuana Whyte
Martha Landes by Beth Page
Cait Tribett and Garrett McLaurin by Bev Villines
Caroline and Jake Motz by Bev Villines
Mary Paal by Veronica Goodloe
Stacy Sells by Bailey Faulkner
Martha Sharp by Kaye Lundgren
Kim Swindler by Beth Page
Linda Todd by Cathy Spivey
Bev Villines by Cindy Buehling
Mark Wilson by Bev Villines



JOYS AND CONCERNS

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED to Candy Norton and family in the death of her mother, Christine Norton; to Daniel Frazier and family in the death of his grandmother, Shirley Jean Frazier; to Ed Staley, Angie Johnson and Brent Staley, Patterson, Keeton, and Staley Catherine Johnson, and Luke and Levi Staley in the death of their wife, mother, and grandmother, Connie Staley; to Jack Stanley and family in the death of his brother, Jim Stanley; to Betsey Mowery and family in the death of her uncle, Wendell Crow; to Anne Laidlaw and Hays Laidlaw in the death of their father and grandfather, William "Bill" Weaver; to Walker Bowman, Will, Sam, & Whit Bowman in the death of their mother and grandmother, Annie Bowman

WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH of Ava James Aston, child of Ryan and Hannah Aston, grandchild of Shannon and David Aston; and of Henry William Phillips, son of Kendall Byrd and Lane Phillips, and grandchild of Martha Hendrix and Bill Byrd.

WE REJOICE IN THE BAPTISM of John William Morgan, child of Mary Daniel and John Morgan; of Clara Remick Bates, child of Laura and Devin Bates; and of Riley Elizabeth Myers, child of Kaitlyn and Kevin Myers

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Matt Duvall and Brie Alter, Blanche Hodges, Kim Webb, and Maddie Chalenburg.



You're invited to a churchwide movie night on Wednesday, December 16 in the Great Hall as we watch *The Star*, the animated retelling of the Nativity story through the eyes of a small, brave donkey and his animal friends.

It's a sweet, funny, family-friendly film that reminds us how the first Christmas unfolded among ordinary people and even humbler creatures, all of them caught up in something holy. It's a good way to settle into the season together.

Dinner will be provided, so come hungry and leave the cooking for another night. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., and the movie starts at 5:30 p.m.

Thank you for subscribing to our online Tower Newsletter. If you'd like a paper copy for any reason, contact Michael McMurray at 501-978-0524 mmcmurray@phumc.com.

Have you moved or updated your information recently? Let us know at phumc@phumc.com!

phumc.com/facebook

phumc.com/youtube

Visit us at phumc.com

Contact Us

phumc.com • (501) 664-3600
phumc@phumc.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. - Noon





PHUMC FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is a summary of PHUMC operating budget for January-September 2026.

Member Contributions	$ 2,874,799
PHUMC Foundation Contributions	$ 118,550
Other Income	$ 68,954
Total Income	$ 2,799,580
Total Operating Expenses	$ 3,542,505
Tithe Payment payable	$ 109,329
Total Expenses	$ 3,651,834
Net Surplus (Deficit)	$ (589,581)
Operating Cash: August 31,2026	$ 693,456