



**PULASKI  
HEIGHTS**  
United Methodist Church

# THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 165, NUMBER 33

LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR, CHANGE THE WORLD

DECEMBER 20, 2019

## From Darkness to Light

*The word became flesh. Ultimate Mystery born with a skull you could crush one-handed.*

Frederick Buechner, Whistling in the Dark

Have you ever thought about the hours of darkness? They can be disturbing, threatening, even terrifying moments in time. Yet, some of the world's most significant faith events have taken place in darkness. Samuel heard the voice of the Lord calling to him from the shadows of sleep. The Hebrew people fled the oppression of Pharaoh in the darkness of night.

Jesus' life and ministry were marked by the hours of darkness. Nicodemus sneaked in at night to have a life-changing conversation with the Lord. Jesus' disciples celebrated the Passover feast with him by candlelight. Arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane came by the light of a torch. Finally, at the hour of Jesus' death, darkness fell over the land.

And what about the genesis of our Lord's life? When we consider the Christmas story we discover that Jesus' birth was surrounded by the deep darkness of night. In essence, the starlit skies over Bethlehem became a womb for the Savior.

My Christmas prayer for you is that, in the darkness of this winter season, you may be bathed with God's extraordinary and miraculous light.

Join us this weekend and December 23 and 24, as we celebrate the good news with fourteen different worship celebrations at both our Pulaski Heights and St. Luke campuses.

In faith, hope & love,

Britt Skarda  
Senior Pastor



**PULASKI  
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## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**NOON | 2 P.M. | 6 P.M.  
8 P.M. | 11 P.M.**  
7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.  
**Organ and brass recitals**  
*Sanctuary*

**4 P.M. | KID-FRIENDLY  
SERVICE**  
*Gym*

**4 P.M. | ST. LUKE  
CAMPUS SERVICE**  
*6401 W. 32nd St.*

**DEC. 23 6 P.M. | EVE EVE  
SERVICE**  
*Wesley Hall*

**CHILDCARE PROVIDED AT ALL SERVICES EXCEPT 11 P.M.**

### WORSHIP WITH US

December 20 & 22

#### FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Christmas in Low Places  
Sermon Series

"A Servant's Choice"  
Matthew 1: 18-25

#### Worship Services

Friday, December 20, 6 p.m. - Sanctuary · Rev. Britt Skarda

Sunday, December 22, 9 & 11 a.m.

Sanctuary · Rev. Britt Skarda

New Heights · Rev. Betsy Singleton Snyder

Sunday, December 22, 9:30 a.m. - St. Luke Campus

A Service of Lessons and Carols

## Still Time to Support PHUMC in 2019!

Year-End Giving

You should be receiving your 2019 Contribution Statement for the period January 1 through December 4 this week. Please review it carefully to ensure its accuracy and that you have fulfilled your 2019 Operating Fund financial commitment to PHUMC. If not, you can –

- ◇ place your contribution in the **offering plate** during worship services,
- ◇ consider using our new **Giving Kiosks** located outside of Wesley Hall and in the Gathering Hall by clicking “Give” and following the instructions on the iPad anytime you are at the Woodlawn Campus,
- ◇ **mail your contribution** to PHUMC, 4823 Woodlawn, Little Rock, AR 72202 (must be postmarked in 2019),
- ◇ **give online** at [phumc.com/give](http://phumc.com/give) and click the Online link,
- ◇ use our **Text to Give** option by texting the amount you wish to give to 501-200-4823,
- ◇ **drop your contribution off** at the Welcome Center during business hours (8:30 am – 4:30 pm weekdays),
- ◇ or place your **contribution in the outside mail box** located on the back of the handicapped door opener at Entrance 1.

If you have any questions regarding this statement or payment options, please contact the Finance Office at 501-664-3600 or via email at [finance@phumc.com](mailto:finance@phumc.com).



In partnership with Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, there will be a **“Meet the Kings! Family Fun”** event prior to the opera performance at **6:30 pm in the Gathering Hall**. Activities for children include crown-making and cookie-decorating with an opportunity to meet the three kings.

General Admission is free with a \$15 suggested donation benefiting Opera In The Rock performances and outreach programming. Childcare available at the church with RSVP only by calling 501-664-3600 with ages and number of children. For more information and tickets, please call 501-681-9640.

## COMING UP @ PHUMC

STRANGER THINGS

### JANUARY SERMON SERIES STRANGER THINGS: WHEN THE WORDS OF JESUS DON'T MAKE SENSE.

Most of what Jesus has to say is uplifting or inspiring or challenging. But let's face it: sometimes Jesus says stuff that is really confusing, perplexing, or even offensive. Join us for a new sermon series in January as we look at a strange statement Jesus makes, the biblical context of the passage, and what it means to take Jesus' message to heart in a new way.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE CANDLELIGHT LABYRINTH WALK

Tuesday, December 31  
8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Wesley Hall

Come walk the labyrinth or just sit quietly in the glow of over 120 candles as we reflect on the year of 2019 and the possibilities of the new year to come!

DECLUTTER YOUR LIFE

### NEW WOMEN'S MINISTRY DECLUTTERING: INSIDE & OUT

Sunday, January 5 at noon

Decluttering: Inside and Out will explore ways to declutter our physical surroundings as well as our minds and souls. Featuring tips from organization expert Mallory Lindsey. Will meet the first Sunday of each month from noon – 1:30 p.m through October. Call the church to RSVP.



## IN HONOR OF

**Emily, Jeff, Charlotte and Anderson Stotts, Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson** by Elise Argue  
**Holly Anderson** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**Liz and Stan Anderson** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**Elise Argue** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**The Argue Class** by Dorothy and Paul Young  
**Marion Baker** by Jamie, Matty, Jack and Julia Dempsey, Margie, John, Anna and Jay Buzbee  
**Chip Bartlett Family** by Nancy and David Bartlett  
**Sherry Bird** by Allen Bird  
**Cathy Bozynski** by Tony Bozynski  
**Rayni, Tyler, Bentley and Caitlyn Bozynski** by Cathy and Tony Bozynski  
**Cindy and Kevin Burns and Family** by Jeffrey and Lester McKinley  
**Our Children and Grandchildren** by Polly and Laudies Brantley  
**The Choir Bass Section** by Charles F. Cole, Jr.  
**Suzanna's mother, Suzanne Clark** by The Abston Family  
**Martha Sue Clem** by Sarah Anne Clem  
**Sarah Anne Clem** by Sadie, Scarlett and Christian Harris  
**Terry and David Cowan** by Sarah Cowan and Baxter Knowlton  
**Stan Cox** by Susan Dunn  
**Dee and Susan Dietz** by Joey, Amanda, Ella, Emma and Anna Claire Scott  
**Kearney Dietz** by Dee and Susan Dietz  
**Kearney Dietz** by Fred and Kathie Osborne  
**Pat Dillahunt** by Ted, Worth and Cate Penick  
**Minnie Englade, Pauline Voit, and Cathy Englade** by John Englade  
**Ceile "CeCe" Faulkner** by Sydney, Annie, Mary Wyn, Marie and Addison  
**Gayle Fiser** by Brenda Guillet  
**The Friday Morning Study Group** by Jennie Cole  
**Joyce Logan, David Gillison** by Sara and Chris Lagon  
**Art Gillum** by The Roundtable Class  
**Pat and Judy Goss** by Jamie, Matty, Jack and Julia Dempsey, Margie, John, Anna and Jay Buzbee  
**Rhett and Lane Grummer** by Garth and Joann Martin  
**Brenda Guillet** by Pet Ministry  
**Dr. Jeff Hampton** by 2019 Stephen Ministers  
**Dr. Jeff Hampton** by Phyllis and Larry Norris  
**Clyde Horton** by Laura and Mark Doramus  
**Judy and Jim Irwin** by Clark and Cole Irwin, and Ted, Worth and Cate Penick  
**Melissa, Sarah and Joe** by Arthur Paul Bowen  
**Jo Knight** by Dorothy C. Morey  
**Kathryn Lively** by Sadie and Scarlett Harris  
**Jim Maase** by Susan Dunn  
**Jim Maase** by Carol and Gary Isom  
**Julie and Lynn Marshall and Family** by Jeffrey and Lester McKinley  
**Howard Marshall Family** by Nancy and David Bartlett  
**Cathie Matthews** by Barbara Moore  
**Mary Alice and Tracy McGraw** by Gavin, Renee, Emma and Ava Claire McGraw  
**Carolyn McLeod** by George McLeod  
**Tate and Grayton East, Blake, Kinley, Brayden and Addison Mitchell** by Mary Carolyn and Tom East  
**Lynn and Jim Monk** by Andrew and Bennett Duke  
**Barbara and Mack Moore** by Jeffrey and Lester McKinley  
**PHUMC Music Ministry** by Jim Maase  
**Jack, Henry and Tommy Nolan** by Cara and Jeff Nolan  
**Of the recent marriage of Derek Osborne and Brenyn Martin** by Fred and Kathie Osborne

## Poinsettias



**Beth Page** by The Argue Class  
**Beth and Roger Page** by Dorothy and Paul Young  
**The Pairs and Spares Class** by Charlie Coleman, Jim Faulkner and Skip Rutherford  
**Shiree and Joseph Peldun** by Gavin, Renee, Emma and Ava Claire McGraw  
**Carole Provin** by 2019 Stephen Ministers  
**Bobby Raney** by Susan and Robert Dunn  
**George Regan** by Susan and Robert Dunn  
**Rachel, Paul, Mary Ellen, Charlotte and Catherine Richey** by Cathy and Tony Bozynski  
**Kathy Roberts** by Bev and Buddy Villines  
**Jennifer and Mike Shannon and Family** by Bev Villines  
**Rhys and Braden Shipley** by Jamie and David Shipley  
**Jenny Smiley** by Becky Fitzhugh  
**Mary Smith** by Carol Isom  
**Amanda Bolls Smith** by Deborah Jackson  
**Cathy and Bill Spivey and Family** by Jeffrey and Lester McKinley  
**Lou Ellen Stevens** by Bev and Buddy Villines  
**Emily Stotts** by Your Secret Pal  
**Jeff, Emily, Charlotte, and Anderson Stotts** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**The Sunday Night High School Bible Study** by Jimmy Faulkner  
**Stacey Swafford, Scott Englade and Beth Englade** by Cathy and John Englade  
**Ellen Tarkington** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson

## IN MEMORY OF

**Alan's mother, Barbara Abston** by The Abston Family  
**Jane Adamson** by Nikki Lawson  
**Dr. Drew and Ruth Agar** by Bob and Cynthia East and Family  
**Felton and Ruth Allbritton** by Jim and Marsha Allbritton  
**James B. Argue, Jr.** by Elise Argue  
**Jim Argue, Jr.** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**Jim, Sr. and Ann Argue** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**Betty Atkinson** by Mary Jane Weindorf  
**Ferris Baker** by Jamie, Matty, Jack and Julia Dempsey, Margie, John, Anna and Jay Buzbee  
**Michelle Bartlett** by Nancy and David Bartlett  
**Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bennett** by The McFarlin Family  
**Nick Benson** by Debbie and Chris Benson  
**Nick Benson** by Kathy and Ron Goss  
**Stanley Berry** by Arminta Berry  
**Mabel and Edwin Bird** by Allen Bird  
**Laurabelle Brewer** by Kathy Roberts  
**Melba Broyles** by Jim Maase  
**Ruby Carey** by Sarah Argue and Matthew Anderson  
**John Churchill** by Billie and Skip Rutherford  
**William and Marian Cobb** by Karen and Bill Cobb  
**Brent Coker** by Daryl and Brian Coker  
**Margaret and Audra Cowan** by The Cowan Family  
**Frank and Wanda Curtis** by Carolyn and Laura Dowling  
**Betty Ruth Davis** by Steve and Mary Earl Smith  
**Floy Jean Dietz** by Joey, Amanda, Ella, Emma and Anna Claire Scott

**Winslow Drummond** by Katie Drummond  
**David Dunn** by SaraCate and Robert Moery  
**Louis and Dot East** by Tom and Bob East and Families  
**Marie and Will Erwin** by Jimmy and Ceile and Faulkner Family  
**Peggy and Frank Fitzhugh** by Becky Fitzhugh  
**Dorothy Fountain** by Judy and Roger Zachritz  
**Jack Fryer** by Kathy Roberts  
**Bessie Ray Gaines** by Jennifer Oakley  
**Charles O. Gavin** by Sherry Gavin  
**Dr. Charles Logon, Diane Gillison and Sandy Gillison** by Sara and Chris Logan  
**Vonda and Don Goss** by Jamie, Matty, Jack and Julia Dempsey, Margie, John, Anna and Jay Buzbee  
**Ruth and John Gwinn** by Shannon, Geoff and Drew Gwinn  
**Adelbert and Alberta Hamilton** by Deena and Dedra Hamilton  
**Leona and Homer Hamman** by The Porta Family  
**Betty and Bill Hargis** by Carol and Gary Isom  
**Tom Herrin, Jr.** by Tom and LaJauna Herrin  
**Bishop Ken and Elaine Hicks** by Bev and Buddy Villines  
**Mr. Pete Hoover** by Carol and Tommy Hodges  
**Scotty and Ruth Isom** by Carol and Gary Isom  
**Evans and Lillian Kerr** by Karen and Bill Cobb  
**Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Lewing** by The Johnson Family  
**Karen Frances Locke** by Lynda (Locke) Mace  
**Charles, Harriet and Steve Maase** by Jim Maase  
**Carol and Charles McCarty** by Anne and Shelley McCarty  
**Karen and Curtis McCaulley** by Christopher, Brittany and Cameron McCaulley  
**Cara McCollum** by SaraCate and Robert Moery  
**Ernestine McKinney** by Elaine McNiece  
**Helen Jean McNeil** by David McNeil and Family  
**Jack, Dot and Cindy McNeil** by Jim and Marsha Allbritton  
**Suzanne Clark's mother, Felice Burkholder, and her aunt, Louise Messer** by Suzanna and Alan Abston  
**Mr. & Mrs. Joe L. Modisette** by Their Loving Family  
**Joann Cooper Moody** by Barbara Moore  
**Jean and Billy Mack Morgan** by The Robert Powers Family  
**J.C. Morse** by Jim Morse  
**Mary Morse** by Jim Morse  
**Bill Nolan and Edwin Alder Sr.** by Cara and Jeff Nolan  
**Mary Britton "Aunt Boogie" Norton** by Brooks and Tucker Norton  
**Sue and Chas Owens** by Nancy Owens Elizabeth and Bill Palmer by Amy and William Palmer  
**Our Parents** by Beth and Bill Bandy  
**Our Parents** by Polly and Laudies Brantley  
**Bill Paulson** by Tracee and Ernie Paulson  
**Devone Payne, Jr.** by Trey, Margaret, Reid and Cross Payne  
**Carol Ann Penick** by Ted, Worth and Cate Penick  
**Jane and Art Porta** by The Porta Family  
**Mr. & Mrs. Harris Powers, Sr.** by The Robert Powers Family  
**Shirley and Charles Price** by Miles F. Price  
**Rick Purnell** by Nancy Gail Purnell  
**Dr. John and Mary Roberts** by Kathy Roberts  
**John Roberts** by Kathy Roberts  
**John Roberts** by Bev and Buddy Villines  
**Megan Schwartz** by Jane Schwartz  
**Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Sink** by Greg and Nancy Sink  
**Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Smith** by The Robert Powers Family  
**Sybil and Julian Smith** by The Cowan Family  
**Thomas W. Smith** by Nancy Smith  
**Pauline and George Stickler** by The Porta Family  
**Mary Ann Stone** by Jim Morse  
**Robert Tankersley** by Susan Hill  
**Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Webb** by Tom, Mary Carolyn East and family  
**Sue R. Webb** by Terri and Charles Watkins M.D.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED Wed., Dec. 25 through Saturday, Dec. 28**, in observance of the Christmas holiday. All regularly scheduled events are cancelled. No Friday 6pm worship.

**MINISTRY OF PILGRIMAGE** will sponsor a journey of faith to the Holy Land (w/possible extension to Jordan), **January 20-28, 2021**. We will have an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Contact Rev. Jay Clark at [jclark@phumc.com](mailto:jclark@phumc.com).

**COLUMBARIUM FLOWERS 2020**. Please call Jennifer Shannon at 664-3600 to reserve dates for 2020 if you have not already done so.


## JOYS AND CONCERNS


**WE PRAY FOR ALL EXPERIENCING GRIEF AND LOSS THIS DAY AND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO** Scott Clement and family in the death of his step-father, Robert "Bob" Fortney.

**WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH** of Stella French Wynne, child of Jess and Chris Wynne and grandchild of Margo and Robin Wynne; and of Palmer Olivia Wynne, child of Anne-Elizabeth and Grant Wynne and grandchild of Margo and Robin Wynne.

 @pulaskiheightsunitedmethodistchurch

 [youtube.com/pulaskiheightsumc](https://www.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

## CHRISTMAS MISSIONS: REASON FOR THE SEASON!



### PHUMC RINGS THE BELLS

Thank you, Pulaski Heights volunteers, for participating in our 2019 PHUMC Rings the Bell! We had a full group working over 20 locations across Central Arkansas on Saturday, December 7. In total, our group collected \$8,415 for the Salvation Army! A special thanks to Nancy Archer and Susan Wood for organizing this mission!



### CHRISTMAS AT WAKEFIELD

Christmas gifts for 244 Wakefield students were loaded up and delivered this week! Thanks again to everyone who sponsored and a special thanks to Nancy Delacerda for chairing this mission! We had enough sponsors signed up that we were even able to contribute to Rev. Lupita Chavarria's mission at St. Andrew UMC who distributed toys to 75 kids this Christmas.



### PIE AUCTION COLLECTS \$10K

The Gibson family must have a heckuva recipe for Pecan Pie! Each year they host a good old fashioned pie auction around Thanksgiving to raise money for a PHUMC mission. This year they were able to auction off 37 pies for close to \$10,000! Their generous donation will go toward community meals at St. Luke and helping feed children at St. Luke CLC.