



**PULASKI
HEIGHTS**
United Methodist Church

THE TOWER NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE LOVE, EMBRACE CHRIST, ENGAGE THE WORLD DECEMBER 2024

LET US Sing

Advent & Christmas with Pulaski Heights UMC

Hanging of the Greens

An old church tradition of preparing the sanctuary for the Christmas season with music and liturgy

December 1 | 5pm | 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 8 | 5pm | Sanctuary

Service of Lessons & Carols

December 15 | 9 & 11am | All services

Christmas Eve Worship - Dec. 24

Modern Candlelight Communion

12 & 6pm | Wesley Hall

Rev. McMurray Preaching

Classic Candlelight Communion

2, 6, & 8pm | Sanctuary

Dr. Robbins Preaching

Children & Family Christmas Eve

4pm | Argue Great Hall

Rev. Clark Leading

Classic Candlelight Communion

11pm | Sanctuary

Rev. McMurray Preaching



We are so thankful to Kate Bowler for joining us last month for our Raney Series. Kate gave a wonderful lecture at our clergy luncheon and then answered questions moderated by Dr. Robbins to a packed house in the evening! We are so fortunate that Kate came to Arkansas and shared her wisdom. Thank you to our staff, volunteers, congregation, and especially the Raney Family for making this event happen!



Our church offices will be closed December 25-27. If you need to contact the church, call 501-664-3600 to reach the Pastor on Call. You can also send in your end of year gift by mail or drop it in the box outside of Entrance 1.

Inflatables, costumes, popcorn, games, and lots of candy were enjoyed in October for Trunk or Treat. We had a Spook-tacular time! Thank you to our over 100 volunteers who catered to our over 900 attendees! Big congratulations to our "Best Trunk" winners: the Hampton Class "Alice in Wonderland" trunk and the Hankins family's "Harry Potter" trunk! We are so excited for next year!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF
YOUR LOVED ONES

phumc.com/poinsettia

Christmas poinsettias 'in honor of' or 'in memory of' a loved one are available for \$20 each. They will be placed in the sanctuary during Advent and may be picked up in the Gathering Hall after Christmas. Orders will close on **December 15th** and will be listed in the December 22nd 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.

Advent Devotional Booklets

DAILY DEVOTIONALS FOR THE
ADVENT SEASON!

This year, we are observing a theme of "Let Us Sing" during the Advent Season, which will explore the music and carols that define much of the Christmas experience. In exploring these songs, we hope you discover a greater anticipation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We've created an Advent Devotional Booklet to help you on your journey! Booklets are available now. To receive your copy, pick one up at the Welcome desk, outside Wesley Hall, download our church app and find it there, 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.

Walking the Mourner's Path



IN-PERSON GRIEF GROUP



SIGN UP @ BY GOING TO PHUMC.COM/MOURNERS-PATH
OR CALL 501-664-3600

After exploring other grief groups after the passing of her husband, Amanda Craven was initially apprehensive to try Walking the Mourner's Path. When she eventually relented, she discovered profound comfort in the program. Reflecting on her experience, she emphasizes its strategic approach and gradual pathway to healing, affirming its transformative impact on her journey of recovery. Walking the Mourner's Path stands as a beacon of hope, illuminating the promise of divine solace amidst life's most challenging passages. She says "Mourner's Path is the single most important thing that helped me heal."

Our next Walking the Mourner's Path group will run on Sundays from Jan. 5 through Feb. 23 from 3:00-5:00pm, led by Pam Hunter. There is a \$60 fee for materials. If you'd like to sign up, go to phumc.com/mourners-path or call the church office at 501-664-3600.

JOIN US

FOR OUR CANCER FRIENDS
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

December 5 @ 11:30 AM
WESLEY HALL

Sign up by calling the church
office at 501-664-3600 or
phumc.com/cancer-friends.

Join us for our Cancer Friends Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 5th from 11:30AM-1:00PM in Wesley Hall. Our guest will be Alyssa Frisby. She is a registered and licensed dietitian, faculty instructor, and senior brand manager for the Culinary Medicine program at UAMS. She will be performing a cooking demo to show how to accommodate specialized diets for cancer patients around the holidays. We will eat a meal, and remember those we have lost during the past year. Cost is \$10/person. 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, feel free to give us a call at 501-664-3600.

Ways to Give

to honor God through the mission and ministries of Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church....

Help PHUMC meet our budget by Christmas Eve! Here are all the ways you can give to the ministries of the church.

- Cash or check mailed or dropped off at 4823 Woodlawn Dr. Little Rock, AR 72205
- Online: phumc.com/give
- Download the App (phumc.com/app)
- Bank draft (phumc.com/eft)
- Text GIVEPHUMC to 1-888-364-4483
- Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA
- Stock gift. Call Megan Rugg at 501-978-0502 if you have questions.

You can see what all our church has accomplished by going to phumc.com/byg and reading our Because You Give Year in Review.

Primitimers

Christmas Luncheon

RSVP:

PHUMC APP

Call 501-664-3600

Front Desk

Thursday December 12

11:30AM

Argue Great Hall

Free

phumc.com/primitimers

PRIMITIMERS MOVIE DAY!

WHITE CHRISTMAS

1:00 PM | 19 DECEMBER

Wesley Hall



Bring Back
Your
Christmas
Gifts for
Wakefield
Students

Sunday,
December 15
Argue Great Hall

PHUMC FOUNDATION MEMORIALS & HONORARIA

The following gifts were received for these endowments: Barnwell Holloway Medical Studies Scholarship Endowment, Betsy S Branton Endowment, Hunter Third Grade Bible Endowment, Villines Family Endowment, and the glory of God.

Memorials

Bob Baine by Beth Baine
Betsy Branton by Mildred Alston, Mack and Donna McLarty, Freddie Nixon, Irene Regnier, and Skip and Billie Rutherford
Tom Capps by Bev Villines
Kathy Churchill by Anonymous
Sarah Davis by Bev Villines
Betty Herron by Bev Villines
Doyle Matthew Jones by Bev Villines
Sally Linebarger by Virginia and Mike Porta
Lucky Meinholz by Cindy and Kevin Burns
Louis Renaud by Bev Villines and Anonymous
Gene Ross by Skip and Billie Rutherford and Anonymous
Mary Russell by Jacque Ptak
Dora Lee Showalter by Amanda and Jacy Daugherty, and Greg and Becky Hubbard
Wanda Smith by Bev Villines and Anonymous
Mike Tindall by Bev Villines
Tommy Van Zandt by Bev Villines
Eve Yancey by Julie and Wally Allen, Donna Bressinck, Cindy and Kevin Burns, Martha and Ron Clark, Linda and David Hargis, Bo and Sunny Hawk, Barbara Hoover, Patsy Janes, Jean Mayes Robinson, Melissa Mayes, and Charlotte Mayes Kline, Steve Morley, Skip and Billie Rutherford, Joe and Mickey Searcy, Scott and Terri Seller, Bob and Judy Shivers, Robin Smith, Bev Villines, and Anonymous

Honoraria

Elise Argue by Bev Villines
Bitsi Bonner by Bev Villines
Corey and Charles Brooks by Bev Villines
Linda Fletcher by Bev Villines
Carol Isom by Bev Villines
Dickie Lunsford by Bev Villines
Betty Gene Mann by Bev Villines
Beth Page by Bev Villines
PHUMC Pastors by Juanita Patton
Belinda Price by Bev Villines
Kathy Roberts by Bev Villines
Lou Ellen Stevens by Bev Villines
Kim and Steve Tribett by Bev Villines
Carole Wilson by Bev Villines

New Members

Kristen Coppola, Deborah Dockens, Daniel Frazier, Cathy Hall, and Erin and Walter McSpadden, Robert and Erica Moore, Sue Mosenthin, Kaitlyn Myers, Amy Sullivan, Tom Tullos, and Sarah and Kent Woodard by Anonymous

Baptisms

Children who were recently baptized by Bev Villines
Hank Gooch, Mary Catherine Marshall, Robert McSpadden, Murphy Moore, Winthrop Rockefeller, Linnea Woodard, and Vance Woodard by Anonymous



Our youth had such a great time at Refuge, an Arkansas Conference event with students from around the state! Thank you to Rev. Ellen Rowland for her leadership and for our adults who volunteered to help these students worship, learn, and have a fun and memorable weekend.

Thank you for voting us
"Best Place to Worship"
 year after year!



4823 Woodlawn Dr. | Little Rock | www.phumc.com

We were voted the best place to worship in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's Best of the Best for the third year in a row! Thank you for your support and for telling people about Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church!



We had so much fun at our Preschool Family Playdate in November. We fellowshiped with old and new friends as we celebrated the season of thankfulness. We played games, made thankfulness bracelets, pudding dirt cups, and shared a meal of corn dogs and tater tots. We are thankful for all who were able to come and for our entire church family!

UPCOMING PHYOUTH EVENTS

December
8
Shop & Wrap
 5th-12th Grade | PHUMC Youth Room

December
13
Christmas Volunteer
 5th-12th Grade | Ferncliff

January
24-25
Confirmation Retreat
 5th-7th grade | Camp Tanako

February
21-23
ACCYM Veritas
 8th-12th Grade | Fort Smith

LEARN MORE:
PHUMC.COM/YOUTH

SOCKTOBERFEST!



This year, we collected over 870 pairs of socks for Socktoberfest! Organizations receiving socks include: Central Arkansas Community Corrections Center, Compassion Center, Jericho Way, Our House, Family Promise, and the Hoover Treatment Center! We want to thank everyone who donated socks and helped contribute to this great mission!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED to Genny Beardsley and family in the death of her sister-in-law, Karen McRaven; to Jason Dashiell, Kay Venetten and families in the death of their wife and daughter, Tammy Dashiell; to Susan Branton Linville and family in the death of her mother, Betsy Branton; to Dianne Yarrington and family in the death of her husband, Dr. John Yarrington; to Dale Garland and family in the death of his uncle, Fred Permenter; to Preston Davis and family in the death of his sister-in-law, Thelma Mothershed-Wair; to David Rice, Rebecca Rice, Jackson Rice and family in the death of their mother and grandmother, Marylyn May Rice; to Juli Chrisman, Payton and Cameron Chrisman in the death of their father and grandfather, Dick Newberg; to Margo Wynne and family in the death of her father, Ross Sanders; to Kathleen McMurray and Michael McMurray in the death of their grandmothers, Lillian Lee and Kathleen Troxclair McMurray; to Kelly Fleming and Drew Herget in the death of their father and grandfather, Dr. Curt Kinard; to Leslie Lee, Jennifer Grinnan, Meredith Katzenberg and Margo Lee in the death of their mother and grandmother, Honey Cannon; and to Paula Watson and family in the death of her brother, Chester Callaway.

WE REJOICE IN THE BIRTH of Charlotte James Williams, child of Kristen Coppola and David Williams.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to Lindsay Lipke and Byron Wilkes in their recent marriage.

WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM of Sally Ruth Davis, child of John and Emily Davis and grandchild of Mel and Sally Davis; and of Rhett Michael Myers, child of Kevin and Kaitlyn Myers

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Dean Agbor Taku Bate and Mercy Akama Makia Nsume Eyong; James Curtis; Jamie Newton; Catherine Smith; and Robbie Braunfisch Riley.

DECEMBER STAFF BIRTHDAYS

JACOB NOLEN - DEC. 21
 JENNIFER GARLAND - DEC. 22
 EMILY STOTTS - DEC. 23
 KRISTIE FINNEY - DEC. 24
 MEGAN RUGG - DEC. 24

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.



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Contact Information

[phumc.com](https://www.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



Young Adults: Kick off this Advent season with your church family on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6 PM in Wesley Hall! Park on the bottom level of the parking garage off of Lee Ave and enter through Entrance 7. Bring an ornament to exchange and sign up at [phumc.com/yam-christmas](https://www.phumc.com/yam-christmas) to bring your favorite holiday dish to share! For more information, contact Brooke Sanchez-Hobbs at bhobbs@phumc.com.

PHMEN
 First Friday
 Breakfast

Friday, December 6
 7AM
 Argue Great Hall

This month's featured
 speaker: Dr. John Robbins

RSVP: [phumc.com/men](https://www.phumc.com/men)

PHUMC FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is a summary of PHUMC operating budget for the period January-October 2024.

Member Contributions	\$ 3,179,947
PHUMC Foundation Contributions	\$ 168,934
Other Income	\$ 58,652
Total Income	\$ 3,407,533
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 3,939,649
Tithe Payment payable	\$ 210,110
Total Expenses	\$ 4,149,759
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (742,226)