

**Our Mission:**

- Minister to people where they are;
- Equip disciples on the journey;
- Glorify God in all things

*God, grant us the wisdom to know your plan for us and the strength to carry it out. Amen.*

**Church Staff:**

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**David Westfall**, Minister of Youth & Young Adults  
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# VISIONS

The newsletter of  
Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church



**Joe Kenaston, Senior Pastor**

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

I am amazed that we are in Advent and the count down for Christmas has begun. I love the season and started decorating the house the weekend before Thanksgiving when Judi and her sisters were gone to their mother and father's house to start the sorting and cleaning process. I had someone ask me if it was a chore, and I responded that I love Christmas and Judi enough that I was happy to get the process started. On Sunday, November 20th, a lot of us stayed after worship and decorated the church. There are dinners, a children's musical, cantata, concerts, art classes, parsonage open house, sharing our nativity sets with each other, advent candles to light, parties, gifts to be bought through the Angel tree, worship services, and Christmas Eve and Christmas day celebrations to plan and experience. All of these opportunities are designed to help us cherish the gift of Christ and enrich our lives.

Last year we celebrated "Coming Home for Christmas," and this year we are focusing on "A Season of Hope." I believe hope is missing in a lot of people's lives. It is easy to get down and sometimes even reach a point of despairing. There are many reasons why the lights may seem dim in our lives. Advent and Christmas don't discount the reality of the challenges some people face, but they do offer hope.

In the rush of December, it is important that we take the opportunity to remember that Jesus is the gift of hope for us. At Forrest Burdette, we have many offerings that offer hope and joy for not only the holidays, but for all of life. I encourage you to carefully read the newsletter and prioritize worship, giving to the church and others, and fellowship to enhance your holiday season. May this December truly be a season of hope for you.

Grace and peace,  
Joe



## Parsonage Open House

**Sunday, December 11, 2022**  
**3:00—5:00 p.m.**

Pastor Joe & Judi Kenaston  
invite the congregation  
to celebrate the holidays  
with them!

110 Mulberry Drive, Hurricane

## Christmas Eve & Christmas Day at Forrest Burdette

**Saturday, December 24, 2022**  
Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Services

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**  
Christmas Day

10:30 a.m. Casual Worship  
with Carols and Storytelling

Children can even wear their pj's!

(No Sunday School on 12/25 and 1/1/23)



**Forrest Burdette UMC  
Presents:**



**One time performance of:  
A Christmas Yarn**  
Sunday, December 4th  
6:30PM

Everyday is Christmas at the U.G.L.Y. Sweater Factory, but when a storm threatens their deadline, Sam Ebenezer and her crew might need some inspiration from a Christmas classic to find the real meaning of Christmas.

## David Westfall Minister of Youth & Young Adults



### Uth events:

- Sunday, December 4th - Come eat dinner (5:00 PM) and support the FB Children in their Christmas Play (6:30 PM).
- Wednesday, December 7th - Wednesday Night Bible Study from 6:30 - 7:30 PM
- Sunday, December 11th - SNL - Community Service Project from 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 14th - **UTH CHRISTMAS PARTY** from 6:00 - 8:00 PM - Wear your ugliest Christmas Sweater for the Christmas Sweater Contest, and bring a gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange. Come hungry!
- Tuesday, December 20th - \$5 Movie Night at the Teays Valley Cinemas - Avatar 2 (Time TBD)



Join us for our Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 7:00 PM or 11:00 PM.

Join us for our Christmas Day Service on December 25th at 10:30 AM (no Sunday School)

### Young Adult events:

Friday, December 23rd at 6:00 PM - **Young Adult Christmas Party** - We will decide on a restaurant and catch up! (RSVP by emailing or texting David: youth@forrestburdette.com or 304-541-3913).

Reminder to those who purchased tickets for the Church Family Christmas Dinner: dinner is served from 5:00-6:00 p.m., which gives you time to get settled before the show!

## Cathy Daley, Director Children's Outreach Ministries



Hello, everyone! Another month has come and gone, and I really need the time to slow down. We rush and rush and still fall behind. There is always something else that needs to be done. I'm sure many of you feel the same way.

Here at COM, we are truly blessed to be able to spend our days with the children, to see the world through their eyes, to have fun, and to discover new things with them. Being able to take the time to do this is a gift that I hope we are all extremely thankful for. But, life can get hard, and heavy, and busy, until we just get caught up in it.

During this season of wonder I hope that we can pass on to the children not only the gift of enjoying the time we spend with one another, but also the added bonus of slowing down to be present in that time, to engage, and enjoy each little excitement they experience and share with us. To take the time to watch as they discover new and exciting things, as they make memories with one another and with us, and to share in the magic. Thank you for all you do for us so that we can continue to serve each and every child who comes through our door.

♥Have fun, and make a difference.♥

## A Note of Thanks

Dear FBUMC Congregation,

Thank you for your financial assistance in completing my project. I could not have done it without you, and I hope that you continue to bless others the way you blessed me. I also



want to thank the Board of Trustees for working with me, and I also could not have done it without them. —Tanner Kelly

*Tanner's Eagle Scout project is complete! If you would like to check it out, it's the toddler playground connected to the east side of the church building, moved to a safer location with new fencing.*

In other news, our **Scouts BSA and Cubs** collected 1,142 items for the Christian Community Cupboard during their annual "Scouting for Food" drive. On November 23, Cameron, Brady, and Jacob from Scouts BSA Troop 236 taught children from our Children's Outreach Ministries (COM) about how long it takes for various materials to biodegrade/decompose and the importance of caring for our environment.



## Sunday Worship Series

Join us for worship as we celebrate “A Season of Hope.” Our Advent and Christmas series is leading us to the gift of hope that was born in Bethlehem and can be born in our hearts today. The sermons and worship will rely on the prophet Isaiah.

12/4	Isaiah 11:1-10	A Season of Hope: A Little Child
12/11	Isaiah 7:10-16	A Season of Hope: Promise of Emmanuel
12/18	Isaiah 35:1-10	A Season of Hope: The Cantata – “Hope!”
12/24 7 & 11pm	Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 2	A Season of Hope: A Son Is Given
12/25 (no Sunday School)	Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14	A Season of Hope: CASUAL service with lots of Carols and the Telling of a Christmas Story
1/1/23 (no Sunday School)	Isaiah 63:7-9 Jeremiah 31:31-34	A Season of Hope: Saying Yes to God
1/8	Isaiah 60:1-6 Mt. 2:1-12	A Season of Hope: God’s Epiphany

## From the Church Record

Christian sympathy is extended to Jo Bess and family upon the death of her husband Clarence Bess, November 12, 2022.

## Generosity for Ministry

Following is financial information for October 2022:

October offerings received.....\$50,474.77  
 Offering needed each month .....\$66,998.33  
 Operation Christmas Child.....439 shoeboxes,  
 including shipping costs and *The Greatest Journey*

## Grief Support Group

Join us for a potluck dinner as we remember the loved ones we have lost, watch some fun holiday movies, and discuss managing grief at the holidays. Bring a dish or snack to share and a \$10 wrapped gift for a white elephant gift exchange. We will meet on **Thursday, December 1st** at 6:30 in room 207/213. Registration is not required; simply come to the meeting. Questions? Call/text Stacey Holley at (304) 532-8659 or Robbie Parsons at (304) 542-0981.

**JOY Fellowship(55+)** will hold its monthly covered dish lunch on Thursday, December 15, at 12:00 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share with your church family, and enjoy a travel presentation by Pastor Joe and Judi!

## Hurricane Civic Chorus Concert

The Hurricane Civic Chorus presents “Once Upon a Silent Night”, **Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 p.m.**, at Forrest Burdette. The concert is free. Donations will be accepted.



## Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones will be placed in the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Poinsettias may be picked up after Christmas morning worship, December 25. Please fill out a poinsettia order form (found in a Sunday bulletin, E-Connection, or requested from the church office) along with your cash or check, and return to the Church Office **no later than December 11**. Make your check payable to Forrest Burdette UMC. Poinsettias are \$10 each (6.5” container, 1 plant, 4-6 blooms, red with pot cover & bow) and purchased through Gritt’s Midway Greenhouse.



## Angel Tree



We are providing gifts of toys and clothing for 67 children this season. **There are still angels on the Angel Tree**, and we need a sponsor for each one! If you are unable to pick out an Angel in person, contact Karen at the church office (304-562-5903) to request one be mailed to you. Or, if you prefer not to shop for an Angel, you can adopt one, and the Angel Tree Coordinators would be happy to shop for you! Remember to mark your giving to the “Angel Tree”. **All gifts (unwrapped) are due back at the church by noon on December 18**. If you have any questions, call or text either JoAnn Kennedy (304-561-7100) or Lisa Fawcett (304-539-2860). The Mission Outreach Team thanks you for your continued support.

## Nativity Showcase!

Join us for a new holiday fellowship event on **Sunday, December 18**, following our morning worship service and the annual Cantata. Bring your Nativity set(s) to the church the week before the showcase; we will store them safely in the Parlor. Or bring them during the set up time Saturday, Dec. 17, 1-2 p.m. On Sunday, we will enjoy the display of our various and unique Nativities in the Fellowship Hall, with refreshments. Contact the church office to register your Nativity set. Questions? Contact Vicki Jarvis at 304-416-3664.



## Christmas Day Dinner: December 25

Preparations are being made to provide another Christmas Day Dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 p.m. Menu consists of baked steak and ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot rolls, and side dishes of your specialty. Please sign up at the Connection Center or call the church office to give us an idea of attendance. —Jill Gilbert

## The Upper Room “Disciplines: A Book of Daily Devotions”

Copies of the 2023 Upper Room Disciplines are available at the Connection Center desk at the discounted price of \$5 each (originally \$12.49). These books make great Christmas gifts. Make sure to get one for yourself as well!

*Have you remembered the church  
in your will?*



## December Birthdays:

- 1 Kambrie Canterbury, Lucy Huggins, Sandy Nesmith, Meredith Vance
- 2 Karen Hyre, Gary Newman, Becky Williams
- 3 Jane Bogan, Todd Landin
- 4 Keith Bowie, Scott Ransom
- 5 Meghan Fawcett, Geneva McGinnis, J.R. Newman, Michael Sword
- 6 David Russell
- 7 Ellen Bowie, Michele Myers, Steve Powers, Kaven Ransom
- 8 Scott Edwards, Bradley Johnson, Dylan Kimble, Pat Litton, Casey Templeton, Matthew Tidd
- 9 Katie Anderson, Roland Fisher, Pam Stinespring, Tara Valent
- 10 Caitlin Campbell, Isaac Gibson
- 11 Nita DeBord, Karen Martinez, Cheryl Stutler, Lorrie Zappitelli
- 12 Alan Cummings, Samantha Hill, Karen Lilly, Bill Painter
- 13 *No birthdays on record today*
- 14 Jim Campbell, Nick Kegley, Andy Peal
- 15 Stephanie Dorsey, Matthew Jarvis, Linda Plumley, Rob Proffitt, Steve Ramey, Pamela Smith, Debbie Young
- 16 Emerson Gibson, Cole Jackson, Boyce Jarrett, Dan Johnson, Ryan Riedel, Dan Salamie
- 17 Ethan Copeland, Linnet McCann, Justin Williams
- 18 Lori Halstead
- 19 Angie Runyon
- 20 Jackson Bucher, Rubie Kauffman, Kristin Lilly, Ashton Warner

- 21 Tess Baker, Gene Brown
- 22 Samuel Burch, Denise Clegg
- 23 Hunter Jackson, Robin Yearout
- 24 Stacey Holley, Brandon Porter
- 25 Kim Herman, Maxine Kessler
- 26 Mike Treadway
- 27 Erica Booker, Charlene Cater, Ethan Johnson, Kelsey Prince, Amy Thomas
- 28 Rosemary Cook, Debbie Pauley
- 29 Becky Brogan, Mary Beth Stewart
- 30 Morgan Cox, Eddie Ellison, Ashley Laton, Keith Smith
- 31 Annette Cartwright, Ali Davidson, Rita Given, Andrea Houston, Becky Lilly, Billy Reed Wickline



## December Anniversaries:

- |                             |                                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5 Ed & Becky Brogan         | 24 John Bayliss & Susan McCracken |
| 5 Rob & Carol Proffitt      |                                   |
| 7 Gene & Traci Brown        | 24 Tom & Linda Plumley            |
| 12 Chris & Leslie St. Clair | 27 Larry & Margie Billups         |
| 14 Marvin & Alpha Lively    | 27 Jim & Karen Campbell           |
| 21 Frank & Hilda Mynes      | 29 Rick & Jill Turner             |
| 23 Curtis & Mia Ferguson    | 31 Scott & Jan Ramey              |

\*\* Birthdays and anniversaries are generated from our church database. Please call the office if you are not listed (304-562-5903).

As you plan your end-of-year giving, please consider making a financial donation to our Backpack Buddies program, through which we supply weekend meals and snacks to 97 local school children.



## VISIONS

The Newsletter of  
Forrest Burdette Memorial  
United Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Worship:  
10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Chapel Worship:  
6:00 p.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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Date mailed: 12/1/2022

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