



Our *Much Obligated* campaign is still underway! Our sincere appreciation to all who have submitted an estimate of giving card thus far, either in person or online at www.fairhopeumc.org. Make our joy complete! Submit your card today!

As of 12/13:

Pledges	197
Pledged	\$1,200,892

51% of Ministry Plan for 2022

Stewardship: YTD through November \$1,829,349

We planned for 83% of the budget through November

We have received 77% of the budget through November

Thank you so much for your continued support to Fairhope United Methodist Church.

Jeff White, Business Administrator

Year End Giving Note:

According to the IRS, all contributions for 2021 must be received by 2:00 pm on December 31 in the church office or postmarked by that date if mailed.

Invitation To Join The Church

Present this to the pastor during the last song.

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Joining by Transfer of Church Membership

Transferring from: _____

_____ Joining by Profession of Faith (have not previously been baptized or a member of a church).

_____ Joining by Reaffirmation of Faith (have been baptized but not sure last church where membership was held).

If you are not yet ready to join but would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend Coffee with the Pastors on January 9th at @9:45 am in the CLC-Fellowship Hall.



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Advent
The Gathering: December 19, 2021

GATHERING MUSIC

Linus and Lucy
Feliz Navidad

Dena White

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 80:1-3, 7

WELCOME

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

SONGS FOR WORSHIP

Gloria
The Little Drummer Boy
The First Noel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ~ Phil and Teresa Webb

Scripture: *Micah 5:2-5a*

Let us pray:

God, whose origin is from ancient of days, we seek your presence. Help us usher in the coming Christ Child during this season of holy waiting. Come in hope. Come in love. Come in joy. Come in peace. Come, O Lord. Amen.

MUSIC OF THE SEASON

What Child Is This
Away In A Manger
Winter Snow
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem
Joseph's Lullaby
O Holy Night

Hannah Kingry
Mitch Johnston
Dena White
Jeff Farrow
Shea White

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Children 4 years-2nd grade can meet at the side doors for Children's Church.
They are to be picked up immediately following the service in the CLC Fellowship Hall.
Nursery is also available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.

OFFERING

Christmas Song

Shea White

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:39-55 ~ Perdue Family

MEDITATION

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING SONG

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Assisting in Worship Today: Dr. Darren M. McClellan

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Robert Hammon, Jamie Waldhour, Amelia Koser



We love knowing you were here today. Thank you for choosing to worship with Fairhope UMC! If you are a member, regular attender or a visitor, scan this QR code and register your attendance for today.

Prayers for the People

Medical personnel and first responders

Kentucky Disaster Recovery

“As we continue to pray for those who have been all but devastated by the recent storms in our nation’s heartland, I am grateful to share this update from our Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference. Additional Missions baskets will be available in our worship spaces this Sunday for those who would like to contribute to this effort”

The Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church immediately responded to the tornado outbreak that left a deadly trail in six states by sending financial support to the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference. We also need your help to show our connectional love and support. Please consider **a monetary donation** which can be sent through our conference, 100% of the donations will be sent to the Tennessee-Kentucky Conference.

At this time, **supplies and ERT teams are not yet needed**. Money will allow our brothers and sisters to provide relief in areas that were damaged in the coming days and weeks. We will continue to communicate needs as we hear of them. Finally, please keep those who experienced loss or trauma from the storms in your prayers. Suffering after a storm is unimaginable, especially during Advent and Christmas.



December 19, 2021 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 & 11:00am Sanctuary Traditional Services:

Rev. Laura Parker ~ "Expect the Unexpected"

11:00am The Gathering Contemporary Service in the CLC

Music Celebration: Christmas Unplugged

December 21, 2021

Church Office Hours: 8:00am - 10:00am

December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve

3:00, 5:00 and 8:00pm with Dr. Darren M. McClellan in the Sanctuary

"Those, Then, and Now *This*"

3:30 and 5:30pm with Rev. Laura Parker in the CLC

"Move Over, Mr. Grinch!"

December 26, 2021

8:30am Sanctuary Traditional Service & 11:00am (Combined worship in the CLC)

Sunday School will not be meeting.

December 27 and 28, 2021

Church Office will be closed

January 3, 2022

Church Office will be closed



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FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 2021

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Not in the mighty places of power, but in little Bethlehem, in a room out back:

The Messiah is coming.

Not born in nobility and wealth, but of Mary and Joseph, who pondered and planed wood:

The Messiah is coming.

Not announced by prophets, priests, and kings, but by two women, who were the first to know:

The Messiah is coming.

Nothing will be impossible for God, but when and where we least expect it,

look among the straw and the stars:

The Messiah is coming.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

8:30 Wendy Robertson, nephew and nieces: Hackett, Adelaide and Harbour Robertson

11:00 The Rowland Family: Rusty, Christy, Ashton and Arabella

Scripture: *Micah 5:2-5a*

Let us pray:

God, whose origin is from ancient of days, we seek your presence. Help us usher in the coming Christ Child during this season of holy waiting. Come in hope. Come in love. Come in joy. Come in peace. Come, O Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #234

O Come, All Ye Faithful, vs.1-3

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

*GLORIA PATRI

PSALTER #801

Psalm 80:1-7

8:30 Natalie Woodrow 11:00 Ken Cooper

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN'S TIME (11:00)

Children 4 years-2nd grade can meet at the side doors for Children's Church.
They are to be picked up immediately following the service in the CLC Fellowship Hall.
Nursery is also available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.

HYMN OF PREPARATION #219

What Child Is This

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Mighty One, who scatters the proud and fills the hungry, by your Holy Spirit let your word leap in us and bring to our yearning the joy that comes with new beginnings and renewed lives.
Amen.

FIRST GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:36-45

SECOND GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:46-55

Readers: 8:30 Carol Danforth and Sandy Frailie
11:00 Emmie and Hayley Crocker

SERMON

"Expect the Unexpected"

Rev. Laura Parker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN #230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

arr. Marianne Kim

Assisting in Worship Today:

Dr. Darren M. McClellan, Rev. Laura Parker, Rev. Ontonio Christie, Emily Garner

Acolytes: Darby Butler, Judd Determann (8:30)

Crucifer: Elliot Determann (8:30)

Music: Tom Hood, John Richardson

Media and Sound: Peyton Phillips, Colin Richardson

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Stay connected!

THE LINK

Weekly Newsletter

DEC. 19, 2021 – JAN. 2, 2022



WE SEND THIS BY
EMAIL WEEKLY
NOT ON OUR EMAIL LIST?
SUBSCRIBE USING
THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR
PHONE CAMERA:





Pathways
FAIRHOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pathways!

...Finding your way to community at Fairhope UMC; visitors, new members, longtime members...anyone is welcome who wants to know more or dive deeper!

**Join us in early 2022 for these opportunities.
All classes taught on Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:40.**

Marks of a Methodist ***Sunday, January 16, 2022***

- Exploring faith in Jesus Christ and the distinctives of Methodism.
- How does the concept of “grace” mark who we are as God’s people?
- Church “membership” through the lens of covenant-making.
- Facilitated by Dr. Darren McClellan

Growing in Grace ***Sunday, January 23, 2022***

- Establishing the disciplines of the Christian lifestyle.
- Exploring tools for a healthy devotional life.
- Exploring avenues for Christian accountability.
- Facilitated by Rev. Laura Parker

Finding your Fit ***Sunday, January 30, 2022***

- Learning about how spiritual gifts function within the body of Christ.
- Exploring the results of a spiritual gifts inventory.
- How do spiritual gifts, passion, life experiences and personality work together to prepare you for service?
- Learning about opportunities to serve at Fairhope UMC.
- Facilitated by Katie Turner

Conquering the Campus ***Sunday, February 6, 2022***

- Participate in a campus tour.
- Identify where staff offices are located.
- Learn where the various ministries take place on campus.
- Gain confidence that this is YOUR church...you are welcome here!
- Facilitated by Rev. Antonio Christie, and friends...

Scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to register

OR visit <https://www.fairhopeumc.org/pathways/>



A Disciple's Path:

*...Deepen your relationship with Christ and the Church.
A 6-week Wednesday evening class: 6:00-7:15 pm.*

This study combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with the practice of spiritual disciplines of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

A Disciple's Path Workbook offers six weeks of daily readings (five per week), Scripture, a message for the day, and prompts for personal reflection. A special introductory session includes material on the history, beliefs, and structure of The United Methodist Church.

Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm beginning January 12th.

Facilitated by Rev. Laura Parker

Cost of materials: \$10



Scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to register
OR visit <https://www.fairhopeumc.org/pathways/>



CARING MINISTRIES



Support Groups continue to meet...

Grief Support Group meets each Monday from 3:00 to 4:00 pm in B-114 off Wesley Hall.

Caregivers Support Group will be meeting Tuesday, December 21 at 9:30am in the Church Library.

Church Office will be closed December 27, 28 and January 3 – NO SUPPORT GROUPS ARE MEETING ON THOSE DAYS.



Caring Ministries extends
a heartfelt Christmas blessing
to each of our families and wishes
for a very Merry Christmas!

Our Stephen Ministers are available to walk this unprecedented time with you as we all face daily challenges. Please contact Dr. Ann Pearson at 251-928-1148 or ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org if you would like more information.

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2



Luke Bible Study

The Luke Bible study will resume Monday, January 24 at 1:00 pm in Wesley Hall.





WEEKLY PROGRAMS

SWIFT, PIER, PIER34, & Children's Choir activities are taking a holiday break. Activities resume January 12, 2022!

Sunday School (3 yr-6th grades)

Sundays, 9:45-10:45, Locations [HERE](#)

Topic this week: Jesus is Born, Luke 2:1-20

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration for Winter Retreat which is Feb 4th-6th (open to 3rd-6th graders) is now open! This is a great time to get a taste of what camp is like at Blue Lake right outside of Andalusia, AL. Join us for a weekend of worship, games, fun, and God! See Mrs. Jenna for a registration packet! If you are interested in volunteering/chaperoning, please contact Mrs. Jenna. **Deadline for early bird registration has passed. Final Deadline is January 16th. This retreat is already halfway full. Early registration is highly encouraged.**



WONDERFULLY MADE, a faith-based sex education course, will be offered to our 5th & 6th graders January 13th-15th, 2022. This class will be led by Dr. Leigh Meekins. Registration fee is \$50 and deadline is January 7th, 2022. To learn more about this class, it's schedule, and to register, visit our website [HERE](#). Parents of 5th and 6th graders will receive more information about this course in the coming weeks. ***This class has limited spots available. Please register early to secure your child's spot.***



We are working on making our children's rooms more connectional! This includes adding some toys to encourage play, community, and connection. Here are some things we are looking for:

- Legos (big and small)
- Building blocks
- Little People
- Dress up/costume play items
- Action figures
- Animal Figures
- Cars/trucks
- Baby Dolls/clothes
- Fake food
- Board games
- Anything that encourages creative play (and doesn't need batteries)

We ARE NOT looking for items that are too large!
(Think of things easy to store or can fit on a shelf)



Children's Ministries is giving a fresh look to its rooms and hallway! To help us out, check out our Amazon wishlist, donate toys, or come work with us on Monday, December 20th! Work starts at 8:30! See you there!

Parents of acolytes, send us your #acolytesinaction photos! It is the Advent season and we know our acolytes are busy serving. So, let's see them in action!

QUESTIONS: Contact Jenna Hood, Director of Children's Ministries
jenna.hood@fairhopeumc.org 251-928-1148 (office) and 251-591-4050 (cell)



NO SUNDAY OR WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH

We hope you enjoy your holiday season and have a very Merry Christmas! Our student ministry (7th-12th grade) will not meet on Sunday or Wednesday evenings for remainder of December. We will resume our regularly scheduled ministry programming on Wednesday, January 5. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year!

While we take this break, the Discovery Weekend Drama team and Speakers will be hard at work using this time for rehearsal to prepare for our retreat in February. If you have a student in this group, please make sure they check their practice schedule in their groupme app. If you are a parent of a DW student leader, let us know if you would like to be added to our app for up-to-date information.



MIDDLE SCHOOL//DISCOVERY WEEKEND February 11th-13th, 2022

Discovery is a 43-hour spiritual retreat designed for Middle School students held on our church campus and led by High School students and Adult Mentors. *Registration for 7th-8th grade participants is can be done online now!*

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

Our Fairhope United Methodist Church college scholarship application is now available for download on the youth page of our church website. The deadline for ALL applications is January 16, 2022.

CONFIRMATION 2022

Begins January 9th

12:30-2:00 pm

A registration link for our upcoming Confirmation Class has been emailed to all parents of current 7th graders. If you did not receive this link, please contact Michael Spicer to make sure we have your most current information. This class will begin on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 12:30 pm with a Student & Parent Orientation lunch led by Pastor Darren. As a reminder, one of our confirmation requirements is to attend the upcoming Discovery Weekend Retreat on February 11-13. A separate registration link can be found for this retreat on our student ministry page of our church website.

HIGH SCHOOL//SKI RETREAT

January 14-16, 2022

9th-12th grade

The high school students will be taking a Ski Retreat to Beech Mountain, North Carolina. **Our trip is currently full; however, we do have a waitlist for those who wish to participate.** You can register for this waitlist on our youth page of the church website. All participants registered should have already received a packing list, hotel and travel itinerary via email. If you did not receive this confirmation email, please contact Michael Spicer (Michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org) for more information.

GET PLUGGED IN

Instagram: @fairhopeumc.youth



Facebook: @fhsaltstudents

Text Message Reminders: Text the word "Saltstudents" to the number "43506"

You can keep up with all that is going on in our area of ministry and get the news first! You can follow us on social media & receive text messages customized just for Student Ministry information.

Angel Tree Christmas Giving

Our Angels are Coming!

THANK YOU for supporting our local Angels!
This year we partnered with DHR Foster Care,
Ecumenical Ministries and Local Schools.

We are so grateful for your support each year!

We still have a few families that we are
supporting this year. If you are willing to help,
please let us know!

More info questions?
Contact Jennifer Myrick
missions@fairhopeumc.org

