

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

**Saturday School:** We are still needing volunteers for this program, but for those who have already signed up we are having a training classes on Jan. 10th, 2026 at 10am. Please be there!

### **Upcoming Events:**

**BIBLE STUDY:** Please join our last Grief and Grace Bible Study session in person this Wednesday the 17th starting at 6:00pm and our Blue Christmas Service starting at 6:30pm. We also will be having our last online Sacred Saturday session for Grief and Grace this Saturday at 7:00am.

**JOY NIGHT:** Our fantastic and whimsical Joy Night is approaching soon. Please come and invite your love ones to enjoy a evening of praise and delight this Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th at 5pm in our Sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you there.

**NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE:** We will be hosting a Noon Day New Years Eve Service at 12:00pm. And discovering our new commitment of service for this upcoming year. We pray we have your presence and participation.

**AS WE GATHER:** Is a ministry dedicated to providing resources, tools, activities and adventures for our seniors. AWG promotes technology, knowledge and building a community without boundaries. If this interest you contact Shakeria Mitchell at shakeria@2ndmilejax.com or 904-372-3382 also visit their website at www.2ndmilejax.com.

**ALL info can be found on our church website and social media platforms!!!**

**GARDEN MINISTRY:** Come join us for harvesting and cleaning the garden on Fridays at 11am during the fall. Enjoy fellowship and even take some produce!

### **Other Ways To Give:**

Zelle- office@fumc-jax.org

CashApp- \$FUMCJAX

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**To those who are celebrating a birthday and/or an anniversary we cheerfully celebrate along side you!!!**

### **Prayer list**

Kitty and Jake McGill, Joni and Agnaldo Alexandre, Bruce and Haley Jones, Mozelle Thomas, The Stephens-Smith Family



## Order of Worship

Sunday, December 14, 2025

\*=Those who are able, please stand

### We Gather For Worship

#### Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Song** "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" UMH #89

#### Opening Prayer

God of joy, You turn sorrow into gladness and make paths of hope through our wilderness. Fill us with rejoicing in You, that our lives may sing of Your faithfulness. Amen.

#### Call To Worship

*Leader:* The wilderness shall blossom; the desert rejoice and blossom abundantly.

*People:* Strengthen the weak hands, say to the faint: "Be strong!"

*Leader:* We light the third Advent candle --- the candle of Joy.

*All:* God with us, bring life and gladness to our hearts.

#### Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

**First Reader:** In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

**All:** We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).

**Second Reader:** We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

**Morning Hymn** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" UMH # 220  
**\*Lighting the Candles** Acolytes

### Let us Affirm Our Church's Mission and Vision

*To be Loved Period, Love God, Love Neighbor, Love Self!* **We believe in teaching gospel truths; We believe God is with us and we are the living body of Christ. We are the hands, feet, and heartbeat of God. We believe the Spirit of God calls us to freedom, and we are not free until all of us are free.**

#### Glory Be to the Father

UMH # 70

### A Service of Giving

#### Offering Prayer

Rev. Bruce Jones

#### Offering Song

#### Tithes, Mission, and Public Offering

### We Listen To The Word

#### The Reading of God's Word

**Matthew 11: 2-11**

#### Song of Preparation

"Go Tell It on The Mountain" UMH #251

#### Theme:

God with Us: Joy's Highway

#### Sermon

**"Misunderstanding Jesus"**

**Rev. Bruce Jones**

### We Respond In Faith/Reaffirmation of Faith

#### Song of Commitment

"Jesus" ( I )

### We Depart To Serve

#### \*Closing Song

"Jesus"

#### \*Extinguishing the Candles

Acolytes

#### Congregational Response

Pastor and Congregation We have come to worship **because we have a heart for God**. We leave to go into the world to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable, **because we have a heart for humanity**. On mission for God:  
**Let's do it**

#### \*Benediction

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

## Christmas Sock Tree

We all have felt it, winter is surely just around the corner, and with it the need for gloves, hats and warm winter socks, underwear, and T-shirts.

This year we are expanding our efforts to help

2 downtown agencies:

DESC at 215 N. Ocean St. and City Rescue Mission 234 W. State St.

FUMC Annual “Sock Tree” will be up in the Duval Street entrance to the church from Sunday, November 30th until Sunday, December 21st . Jake and Kitty McGill would be willing to shop for you if you would like to donate money to this project. Cash in offering envelope or check made out to FUMC and on **For** line: Sock Tree.

We are looking forward to decorating the tree with as many gloves, hats, and socks etc. for MEN, WOMEN, and CHILDREN as its branches will be able to bear!

Your donations will warm our hearts!

