



Ellisville First Methodist Church

December 2025

From Bro. Mark

"The Wonder Of It All"

This is a glorious and beautiful time of the year! Special services are held in communities everywhere. Efforts are made to respond to the needs of people faced with difficult circumstances; those who are hurting, lonely, etc. Groups compile lists to make sure no one is forgotten. Indeed, it is the time we are most sensitive to ways of reaching out.

What sparks all of this? Why do we do it? It's not like we're free from worries of our own. Whose idea is this anyway? Somebody tell me, please!

The "Story" has it that the whole idea originated in the heart of God. The "Story" goes back for a long, long time, but somehow it never grows old and must be retold over and over again. Indeed, it must be "*The Greatest Story Ever Told*," or else it would've been forgotten by now. Of course, God is the reason it's not forgotten. He won't let us! By divine grace we're given a glimpse of what can be when people are touched and moved by compassion.

So, once again, we are in a time of preparation to experience "*the wonder of it all*." It's called Advent. As we make ready for the Christ Child, God does His work of grace in us; hope is born and peace grows. No wonder we want to express goodwill to everyone! We're simply echoing what the angels sang on that first Christmas day, "*Peace on earth and goodwill to all people!*"

It's a contagious thing and once we have it, we're never quite the same again. I wish for you all the wonderful blessings of God as made known in His Son. May His coming be experienced anew in every heart!

Grace and Peace,

Bro. Mark

Volunteers for December

Children's Church

December 7 — Cheryl Jordan
December 14 — Tracy Haynes
December 21 — Haley Walley
December 28 — Lindy Farmer (music)

Audio/Visual Technicians

December 7 — Garrett Mixon & Marley Mixon
December 14 — Garrett Mixon & John Wesley Longwitz
December 21 — Garrett Mixon & Gary Herring
December 24 — Garrett Mixon & Gina Mixon
December 28 — Garrett Mixon & Marley Mixon

Acolytes

December 7 — Archer Manning & John Wesley Longwitz
December 14 — Mae Walley & Liza Endom
December 21 — Isaac Alexander & Harvey Kerr
December 24 — To be determined
December 28 — Amelia Manning & McClellan Cooley

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages
10:45 AM Morning Worship

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:15 PM Prayer Service
6:30 PM Youth & Young Adults
meet at their designated rooms
7:00 PM Choir Practice

December Meetings

Methodist Men - Sunday, December 7, 8:00 a.m.

Finance - Sunday, December 14, 8:30 a.m.

Advent Activities

- Wednesday, December 3 at 5:30 p.m. – A Night in Bethlehem – Family Advent Night with Mediterranean food served
- Wednesday, December 3 & 10 at 5:00 p.m. – Organ Meditations in the Sanctuary
- Saturday, December 13 from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. – Drive-through Nativity Scene
- Wednesday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m. – A Service of Lessons and Carols presented by the choir with light hors d'oeuvres served after the service
- Wednesday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Throughout the month of December, offerings will be taken to provide sheet sets for the residents at Magnolia Gardens. Please note on your donations (envelopes or checks) that your donation is for Magnolia Gardens. If you choose to donate via Pushpay, please select the Local Missions tab and enter as a note that it is to be used for Magnolia Gardens.

**Ellisville First
Methodist Church**

P.O. Box 59
Ellisville, MS
39437

Address Service Requested



December 2025



*“A Service of Lessons and
Carols”*

Presented by the Choir

Wednesday, December 17

5:30 p.m.

*Light hors d'oeuvres to be served
after the service*



Wednesday, December 24

6:00 p.m.

December Birthdays

1 — Archer Manning
3 — Carla Bounds
Missy Garick
Kelly Rounsville
5 — Bradley Thrash
7 — Jennifer Rogers
Jan Wansley
11 — Jim Clark
17 — Haley Walley
29 — Sue Coker
31 — RaLeen Haynes
Randy Hill

Prayer List

Kitty Bounds – Homebound
Shari Bryan – Cancer treatments
Terry & Marilyn Buckhault – Homebound
Sue & Charlie Coker – Homebound
Cathy Dean – Homebound
Mac Haynes – JCRH Rm 109
Joann McKenzie – Homebound
Frances Munn – Homebound
Frances Reynolds – Homebound
Dave Robertson – Homebound
Dwight Sanders – SCRM C Rm 245
Mary Frances “Tootsie” Stringer – Jones County Rest Home Rm 408
Larry & Diann Walters — Homebound
Jan & Jerry Wansley – Homebound