

# Welcome to Worship at Valdosta FUMC

November 29

1st Sunday of Advent

Blue

**Sanctuary**

**11:00 AM**

THE PRELUDE.....Cindy Lovan  
*Now Thank We All Our God- arr. Larson*

ADVENT HYMN.....No. 203  
*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

THE INVITATION TO WORSHIP.....Rev. Dr. Anthony McPhail

ADVENT HYMN .....No. 196  
*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

ADVENT READING.....*To be Announced*

THE MORNING PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Rev. Diane Shedd

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE..... Brad Tarpley

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION.....Mike Godwin  
*Great Is Thy Faithfulness-arr. Schafer*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Hansell Watt

THE OFFERTORY.....Linda Downing and Cindy Lovan  
*Give Thanks! -arr McDonald*

THE ANTHEM.....Ensemble  
*Walk Worthy- Martin*

THE SERMON.....Redeeming the Unredeemable: Finding Awakening.....  
Mark 13:24-37 Dr. McPhail

\*ADVENT HYMN.....No. 204  
*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

\*THE BENEDICTION AND BLESSING.....Dr. McPhail

\*POSTLUDE.....Cindy Lovan  
*For the Beauty of the Earth- Traditional*

- Please stand if able.

**Nursery is available for children ages infant to 5 years**

## #GIVING TUESDAY

### Special giving Opportunity:

While we paused our campaign back in March, we have continued to see contributions and pledges come in and **we are already halfway to our goal of \$1,825,000!** Our goal for Giving Tuesday is to hit \$1.2m, which is roughly two-thirds of the total project cost, and then we will resume and conclude the campaign in 2021. We want to encourage everyone to give *something* according to how you are able to give, and to prayerfully consider being a part of this special one day emphasis.

Whether you have already given, plan to start a pledge or simply want to be a part of this one day campaign, we just want to say thank you!

### An Account of Our Stewardship

11/22/2020

Total In-Person Worship Attendance	117
Total Online Worship Attendance	449
Sunday School Attendance	49
YTD Income	\$786,845.09
YTD Expenses	\$807,116.61
2020 Budget	\$1,120,925.00

Follow us on social media @valdostafumc and use our hashtag #valdostafumc when sharing your FUMC moments! To assist with our website, publications and social media; please email your FUMC photos to [epreaves@valdostafirstumc.org](mailto:epreaves@valdostafirstumc.org). All photos are appreciated and do not need to be recent, "throwback" pictures encouraged!

## Directory

Rev. Dr. Anthony McPhail..... Senior Pastor  
Rev. Diane Shedd..... Associate Pastor  
Emily Reaves..... Director of Student Ministries  
Kenji Bolden..... Director of Music Ministries  
Brad Tarpley..... Director of Children's Ministries  
Vacant..... Preschool Director  
Cindy Lovan..... Organist/Children's Music Director  
Linda Downing..... Pianist  
Vacant..... Nursery/Childcare Director  
Laura Leonard..... Congregational Care/Visitation  
Lily Spittal..... Financial Administrator  
Cheri Fugate..... Administrative Assistant  
Davis Nipper..... Audio/Visual Tech Assistant  
Wendy Hart..... Audio Tech Specialist  
James Siler..... Custodian/Church Host  
Carri Bedene..... Custodian  
Mary Ann Saliba..... Church Hostess  
Matt Mullis..... Ministry Intern

Office Address: 109 W. Valley Street Valdosta, GA 31601

Phone (229) 242-4050

Fax (229) 242-8791

church email: [cfugate@valdostafirstumc.org](mailto:cfugate@valdostafirstumc.org)

church website: [www.valdostafirstumc.org](http://www.valdostafirstumc.org)



## THE BULLETIN

November 29, 2020

*Celebrating Our 161st Year*

*Alive Together in Christ. Loving, Growing, & Serving.*

### Waking Up to Something Different

Earlier this year I saw a challenge online that involved living on a small private island for 30 days with no electricity or contact to the outside world, but your every move would be live streamed for the entire world to see. I have to be honest; I might have been up for the challenge at various points this year! The mindboggling part of the challenge was I saw it posted around the time that our state went under a shelter in place order. I could not help but think how odd it might be for someone to go away for 30 days in early March, and to return to everything being shut down without any context as to why. It reminds us of tales like *Rip Van Winkle*, where someone goes into a deep sleep and awakens to a completely different world.

As we open up the season of Advent this week, we find ourselves encountering a passage that calls upon us to "stay awake" or "stay alert". Advent means "coming" and during this season we celebrate Christ's first coming, we anticipate his second coming, and we utilize the season as an opportunity to nurture our spiritual lives and the ways that Christ comes to us. The challenge throughout the season is to stay alert, and to experience each aspect of preparation for and then ultimately our celebration of Christmas.

Within the life of our church, we have some variances in our worship schedule, so we want you to "stay alert" and take note of what lies ahead so that you can participate fully and "prepare for Christ" each week:

November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> – Normal Schedule

December 13<sup>th</sup> – Both Services in the Sanctuary (Music Ministry Christmas Special)

December 20<sup>th</sup> – Outdoor Service (11am) at the Woods Home (children's nativity, carol singing, Christmas sweaters, hot cocoa, and a fire!)

December 24<sup>th</sup> – Three Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

3:00pm in the Sanctuary (smaller service for those wanting to avoid a crowd)

4:00pm in The Loft (kid friendly)

5:30pm in the Sanctuary

Stay tuned for information about making reservations for Christmas Eve – we want to make sure that we can safely include as many as possible in worship, and so we will keep an eye on our counts in each service to ensure proper social distancing and care for our congregation. I am so excited to join you in observing a holy season of preparation and a beautiful season of celebration during this Advent and Christmas this year!

Anthony<><

**FLOWERS:**

The Christmas decorations in the sanctuary are to the glory of God.

By the Altar Guild

**ALTAR GUILD MINISTRY TEAM December**

**Sanctuary Decorations**– Suzanne Lastinger | Altar Guild

**Communion (December 24th)**

Kaye Meadows | Nisey Wetherington | Georgianna Meadows

**Baptism** - Jennifer Stump

The Altar Guild Assignments for 2020 are posted on the FUMC website under Useful Links.

[www.valdostafirstumc.org/useful-links](http://www.valdostafirstumc.org/useful-links)

**Thank you to all who came and helped decorate the church for Christmas!**

This was a BIG job and we had so much fun and fellowship.

Plan ahead.

We will be undecorating on Wednesday, December 30 at 10:00 AM  
If changes occur, they will be posted on the website.

Thank you in advance!

**Valdosta FUMC Preschool Program/MMO Program**

Now enrolling for January 2021!

Preschool ages 2-4 years old and MMO from 8 weeks-2 years old

For more information email [thompson.gooding@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.gooding@gmail.com) or visit the church website at [valdostafirstumc.org/preschoolmmo](http://valdostafirstumc.org/preschoolmmo)

**College Sunday School:**

The class meets at 9:45 am in the downstairs Loft back room. This is led by Matt Mullis.

**CARING CHRISTMAS 2020**

Thank you to everyone that picked up a Caring Christmas packet. It will help put a smile on a child's face this Christmas!

Gifts can be returned "unwrapped" in the distributed bags Sunday, December 13 at 9:00 am and 11:00 am in the sanctuary carport under balcony area.

**Upcoming Christmas Eve Services:**

3:00 PM Sanctuary for vulnerable adults

4:00 PM Loft for families

5:30 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service



**Week of November 29 - December 4, 2020  
Looking Ahead**

**Sunday, November 29-First Sunday in Advent**

- 9:00 AM Worship in the Loft\*
- 9:45 AM Sunday School\*
- 11:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary\*  
Children's Church
- 3:00 PM Charge Conference

**Monday, November 30**

- 10:00 AM Alignment /Calendar Planning Meeting (The Rock)

**Tuesday, December 1**

- 7:00 AM Men's Group
- 11:30 AM Ladies Bible Study-(Ricketts)
- 12:00 Noon Hybrid Hymn Study with Kenji

**Wednesday, December 2**

- 12 Noon Handbell Practice
- 1:00 PM Choir Ensemble Practice

**Thursday, December 4**

- 6:00 AM Men's Group-Watt
- 6:15 PM Loft Praise Team Rehearsal

**Sunday, December 6– Second Sunday in Advent**

- 9:00 AM Worship in the Loft
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary  
Children's Christmas Program  
Handbells

\*Nursery available for children, age birth to five years



**Remember in Prayer  
Known illness and/or need as of Tuesday**

- |                          |                         |                |                             |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Community</b>         | <b>Church leaders</b>   | <b>Country</b> | <b>Capital Campaign</b>     |
| <i>Sarah Moon Rathel</i> | <i>Teresa Steinberg</i> |                | <i>Nursing home members</i> |

**To Think About:**

And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.  
Mark 13:37

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**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

**November 29, 2020 9:00 AM**

**Redeeming the Unredeemable: Finding Awakening**

**Mark 13:24-37**

**Rev. Dr. Anthony McPhail**

Advent Lighting: Catherine Odom and Family

**Praise Team**

Kenji Bolden, Worship Leader, keyboard

Tori Maxwell, vocals      Matt Mullis, vocals and guitar  
Leslie Smith, cajon

**Youth Ministry**

**6th - 12th grade**

**This Sunday, November 29, 2020**

No Sunday Night Youth—Enjoy your Thanksgiving Break!

**Sunday Mornings:** 10:00 AM Sunday School (youth room next to Loft lobby). For All youth grades 6th-12th.

**Next Sunday, December 6:** Sunday Night Youth (6th-12th grade)

Want to received our Youth Newsletter to stay current on our happenings? Email Emily Reaves at [epreaves@valdostafirstumc.org](mailto:epreaves@valdostafirstumc.org) to get signed up!

**Children's Ministry**

**K - 5th grade**

**This Sunday, November 29, 2020**

- 9:00 AM Children's Moment in The Loft
- 9:45 AM Music with Mrs. Cindy and The Rock Sunday School immediately following
- 11:00 AM Sanctuary Service with Children's Church

**Please mark your calendars:**

\*7 Acts of Kindness for Thanksgiving. Details to follow Sunday at church and on social media.

\*December 6th: Children will perform special Christmas Music at Church.

**Music Ministry**

In efforts to minister and connect with you during the week, our ministry would like to offer "Notes of Inspiration." What you'll receive is a brief commentary on a song or hymn along with a link to listen to the music. No apps or downloads needed to participate.

To sign up for a weekly "note of inspiration" from Kenji Bolden text the following message @notesofi to number 81010. Email [kbolden@valdostafirstumc.org](mailto:kbolden@valdostafirstumc.org) for more information.

Be sure to check the church's Facebook page for "Vintage Friday's with Kenji" insight and inspiration with vintage hymns.