



# The Tree of Life

December 1, 2016 | The Newsletter of Madison United Methodist Church

## Mark Your Calendar

**Children's Christmas Program**  
12.4 @ 9:45

**Sara Cochran Baby Shower**  
12.4 @ 2:00 pm

**Charge Conference**  
12.4 @ 3:00 pm

**Christmas Cantata**  
12.11 @ 8:30 and 11:00 am

**Katherine Imsand Luncheon**  
12.11 @ noon

**UMW Meeting**  
12.14 @ 10:00 am

**Wonderful Wednesday**  
12.14 @ 6:00 pm

**MCCO Concert**  
12.16 @ 7:00 pm

**Christmas at the Parsonage**  
12.18 @ 2:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Services**  
12.24 @ 1, 3, 5:00 pm

**Christmas Day Service**  
12.25 @ 11:00 am

**New Year's Day Service**  
1.1 @ 11:00 am

**Easy Wednesday**  
1.11 @ 5:30 pm

Dear Madison Church,

Do you believe in miracles? Despite all the negativity that we see in the news these days, 2016 so far has been a year of miracles. If nothing else it was miraculous because the Chicago cubs won the World Series. But I was thinking of those every day miracles that I have seen as the Holy Spirit acts through people of our church.

I see miracles through the generosity of the people in our church: volunteering their time at Valley View, outpouring of love from our church with the angel tree ministry, servant evangelism events, and then the old standards of worship study, and prayer. There are many miracles in the life of our church.

Of course they all spring from the creative power and love of God The Father, the filing of the Holy Spirit, and that miraculous presence in the manger. God the Son was contained in that little miraculous baby on that first Christmas day.

However He didn't come to remain a baby. He came to grow into a man. And the reason for that is there were many more miracles to do.

I am praying for you. And I'm praying that you will reflect on the many miracles that are in your life right now. The most important is Jesus Christ. God bless you. Have a wonderful advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Dr. Travis N. Wilson - Lead Pas-

# Announcements — office@madisonum.org

## ***Church Office Closed for Christmas*      Monday, December 26—Friday, December 30**

- In emergency, call Trav at 256-698-3784.
- Year-end donations mailed to the church will be credited to 2016 if they are postmarked by December 31.

## ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

**December**

- No regular meeting in December.
- Will meet on Monday, December 19, at 9:00 am and take cookie tins to shut-ins.
- If you would like to donate cookies, please leave them in the kitchen marked ‘shut-ins’.
- Everyone is welcome to joins us as we deliver the cookies.
- Call Maralee Swanson for more information at 256-852-7069

## ***A Christmas Musical Worship Celebration***

**Sunday, December 11**

- A special worship service presented by the Chancel Choir and Church Street Boys at 8:30 and 11:00 am
- Includes music from Lloyd Larson’s “A Noel Celebration” and familiar carols of the season.
- All are invited to attend as we celebrate the Birthday of our King with music and carols.
- Nursery and Children’s Church will be available at both services.

## ***Luncheon Celebrating Katherine Imsand on her Retirement***

**Sunday, December 11**

- Help us to honor Katherine’s 46 years in the Music Ministry.
- Luncheon immediately following the 11:00 am service in the CLC.

## ***Volunteer Opportunities***

**November and December**

- Wednesday, December 7 thru 10th, 5:30 to 9:00 pm at Toys-R-Us, Bridge Street Town Center, volunteers needed for free gift wrapping event.
- Saturday, December 10, 9:00 to 11:00 am, Shop-With-A-Hero gift wrapping event hosted by Flint River Baptist Church at Walmart, Highway 20 in Madison.
- Contact Ricardo Jaramillo at 256-683-1205 or [rjaramillo.frc@gmail.com](mailto:rjaramillo.frc@gmail.com)

## ***UMW Monthly Meeting***

**December**

- Christmas Luncheon hosted by Marjorie Palmer on Wednesday, December 14 at 10:00 am.
- Meet at 98 Wood Creek Drive, just off of Wall Triana Hwy beyond Grace Presbyterian Church and past the new Kroger’s. Call Katie McAlister for more information at 256-464-7961.
- We will allocate monies for our yearly missions. Festivities to follow.
- If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, bring a gift costing no more than \$15 to place under the tree.

## ***Madison City Community Orchestra Concert*      Friday, December 16 — 7:00 pm — CLC**

- Presenting “Believe” for Christmas with Special guests Madison Church Chancel Bell Choir.
- Reception to follow.

## ***Christmas at the Parsonage***

**Sunday, December 18 — 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

- Join Trav, Becca, Alex and Lucy at the Parsonage (101 Sturdivant Street, Madison, AL 35758) for a Christmas Open House.
- Hors d’oeuvres, snacks and soft drinks will be served. Come as you are for a relaxed time of fellowship and Christmas joy.
- **No gifts please.** This is a gift from our Pastor’s family to us at Madison Church.

Location Key — CLC (Christian Life Center) — S (Sanctuary) — YR (Youth Room)  
N (Nursery) — CMR (Children’s Ministry Room) — P (Parlor) — CFR (Conference Room)  
MPR (Multi-purpose Room) — CHR (Choir Room)

# Announcements — office@madisonum.org

## ***Baby Shower for Sara Cochran***

**Sunday, December 4**

- Everyone is invited to come and celebrate upcoming births of Sara's twin boys.
- 2:00 to 3:00 pm in the Youth Room.
- Hostess is Alice Mockensturm 512-705-1989.

## ***Children's Christmas Pageant***

**Sunday, December 4**

- During Sunday School starting at 9:45 am in the CLC.
- Come and enjoy the program the children present as they praise the newborn King!

## ***Double Nickels***

**December**

- Friday, December 9, 1:30 pm, Christmas Party in the CLC.
- Game Time, Friday, December 30, 1:30 pm in the Youth Room.

## ***Valley View Ministry***

**Wednesday, December 14 and 28 — 2:30 pm — Valley View**

## ***Preschool Updates***

- Mittens, hats and gloves will be collected during the month of December for donation. Bring your donations to Allison Edgecomb or place in the silver bin in the copier room in the main hallway.

## ***Annual Charge Conference***

**Sunday, December 4**

- All church members are invited to participate in this event.
- 3:00 pm at 1300 Meridian Street North, Huntsville, Alabama
- If you wish to go on the church bus, meet in the parking lot at 2:30 pm.

## ***NEW Easy Wednesday***

**Starting January 11**

- Wouldn't it be great to not have to rush home to cook on Wednesday nights?
- Wouldn't it be great after a difficult day to have a well-prepared, catered meal with your family and friends, getting to know them and Christ better?
- Wouldn't it be great if Wednesday was just .. . **easy?**
- Pastor's Bible Study at 4:00 pm.
- Dinner is served from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Limited boxed dinners after that.
- Cost is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Cost cap: \$28 per family.
- Reservation information to follow.
- Youth and Children's Ministry: 6:15 to 7:30 pm.

## ***Christmas and New Year's Worship Schedule***

- Christmas Eve Services (Saturday, December 24): 1:00, 3:00 and 5:00 pm., Sanctuary.
- Christmas Day Services (Sunday, December 25): 11:00 am, Sanctuary.
- New Year's Day Services (Sunday, January 1); 11:00 am, Sanctuary.

## December Anniversaries

December 8	Tim and Laurie McFalls	December 25	Jim and Nancy Sturdivant
December 10	Pete and Nancy Anderson	December 27	Mike and Kelli Finamore
December 13	Robert and Deborah Friend	December 27	Roy and Betty Roberts
December 15	Perry and Sherry Newton	December 31	Stephen and Priscilla Robinson

## December Birthdays

December 2	Katherine Imsand	December 21	Chris Irrgang
December 3	Loree Spencer	December 21	Delaney Mayer
December 4	Jay Willis	December 22	Tommy Clark
December 4	Isabel Stewart	December 23	Karen Compton
December 4	Jennifer Williams	December 23	Allison Edgecomb
December 18	Maralee Swanson	December 24	Chip Timme
December 19	Sue Kula	December 27	Kara Petersen
December 19	Katie Davis	December 29	Elaine Powers
December 20	Bryson Prichard	December 30	Edie Crane
December 20	Miriam Stewart	December 31	Patricia Glover
December 21	Bill Williams		
December 21	Michael Prouty		

## Ushers for December

8:30 Service:	Bill and Sam Maynard
11:00 Service:	Matthew Mockensturm and Donnie Spencer

## Prayer Focus for December

- Madison United Methodist Church
- More of the Holy Spirit
- More Spiritual Gifts
- The One Person or Family
- The Persecuted Church Around the World
- The United States of America
- Our elderly and our young
- Our military, law enforcement, and families
- All unspoken concerns
- Rusty Rhyan—Heart condition
- Michael Ballard
- Rodney Dinkle
- Kathryn Shade
- Luke Sloan
- John Shade
- Heather Westfall
- Kayla Wilson—At home
- Deborah Dawson
- Lee and Elaine Powers
- Dawna Turner
- Susie Amos
- Carolyn Taylor
- Stephanie Murphey
- Mildred Goodness
- Michael Whitmark—Cancer
- Beth Swanson—Chemotherapy
- The Family of Rich Weaver

## Youth Ministry — [jason@madisonum.org](mailto:jason@madisonum.org)

### ***Sunday Night Youth Group!***

**Sundays — 5:30-7:30 pm — YR**

- All students 7th-12th grade are welcome! Free dinner provided.

### ***Wednesday Night Youth Group!***

**Wednesdays — 6:00-7:30 pm — YR**

- All students 7th-12th grade are welcome!

### ***BEHOLD Retreat 2017***

**January 13-15**

- Sign up now for this event. Cost is \$100, due Sunday, December 11. To sponsor a student to attend this event, contact Jason Noland.
- For more information, go to [www.beholdministries.com](http://www.beholdministries.com)

### ***December Youth Update***

- No youth activities in December after the party on the 11th.

### ***Youth Choir***

**Sundays — 4:45 to 5:30 pm — CR**

- Come praise The Lord with us! Bring a love of music, a willingness to learn, and a heart to serve!
- 6th to 12th graders invited. For more information contact Jennifer Salter at 334-549-4939.

## Children's Ministry — [cynthia@madisonum.org](mailto:cynthia@madisonum.org)

### ***Children's Sunday School***

**Sundays — 9:30-10:30 am — CMR**

- Sunday School begins in a large group in our Children's Ministry Room with worship, offering and prayer.
- After service, pick up your child from small group.

### ***Children's Church***

**Sundays — Both Services — CMR**

- Your children aged preschool through sixth grade are invited to join us after the Children's Moment.

### ***Children's Choir***

**Sundays — 4:45 to 5:30 pm — CMR**

- Worship The Lord in song! Ages K thru 5th grade invited. For more information contact Alice Eaton.

### ***Children's Activities Sunday Night***

**Sundays — 4:45-5:30 pm — CMR**

- 4:45-5:30—Children's Choir, K-5th grade

### ***Wonderful Wednesday***

**Wednesday, December 14**

- Jesus' Birthday Party! 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Children's Ministry Room.
- Dinner will be provided and guests are always welcome.
- Contact Cynthia for more information at 256-497-8528 or [Cynthia@madisonum.org](mailto:Cynthia@madisonum.org)

## Nursery Ministry — [nursery@madisonum.org](mailto:nursery@madisonum.org)

### ***Two Nurseries: Infant & Toddler***

**SUNDAYS — 8:15 am to Noon — N**

- Our nurseries are located outside the Youth Room.
- Infant Nursery cares for children aged birth to walking.
- Toddler Nursery cares for children aged walking until age 4.

## Madison Church Staff

**Lead Pastor** — Dr. Travis Wilson  
**Office Manager** — Deborah Bray  
**Director of Worship** — Katherine Imsand  
**Youth Director** — Jason Noland  
**Children's Ministry Director** — Cynthia Stewart  
**Lead Worship Pianist** — Kirk Durbin

**Children's Music Dir./Pianist** — Alice Eaton  
**Youth Choir Dir./Pianist** — Jennifer Salter  
**Nursery Supervisor** — Jolene Farlow  
**Preschool Director** — Allison Edgecomb  
**Maintenance** — [trustees@madisonum.org](mailto:trustees@madisonum.org)

## Newsletter Article Due Dates — [office@madisonum.org](mailto:office@madisonum.org)

To have an article placed in the newsletter, please send an e-mail to [office@madisonum.org](mailto:office@madisonum.org).

### Upcoming Newsletter Mail-out Dates

January 1, 2017  
February 1, 2017  
March 1, 2017  
April 1, 2017  
May 1, 2017  
June 2, 2017

### Articles Due

December 21, 2016  
January 25, 2017  
February 24, 2017  
March 27, 2017  
April 25, 2017  
May 25, 2017

**Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:00 pm**



### *The Tree of Life*

**Madison United Methodist Church**

127 Church Street

Madison, AL 35758

Voice — (256) 772-9761

Fax — (256) 772-9846

[www.madisonum.org](http://www.madisonum.org) — [Office@madisonum.org](mailto:Office@madisonum.org)

Address Service Requested

