

The Messenger



Shine His Light

Sunday, December 1st the **Communion Offering** will go toward our Annual **Christmas Share 2019**

As a new Christmas season is approaching, so is another one of our Youth Ministry's annual Christmas Share, Friday, December 20th. Christmas Share is an annual lock-in that allows our youth to gather in fellowship and give back to the community during this season of giving. The kids meet in our gymnasium where they settle in with their sleeping bags and place their Starbucks orders, which are much needed for an event like this. When midnight rolls around, the kids load up in our church van and in the vehicles of some of our very gracious and patient parent volunteers and head over to Walmart where they pick out clothes, toys, and even some day-to-day essentials for the families we are shopping for. This year, our youth will be shopping for a total of 87 kids ranging from the ages of 0-16 years old. With your help through time and monetary donations, we can make this another special time and give our youth the opportunity to spread some Christmas joy which they enjoy doing year after year. It's a big event that requires a lot of help especially during the second part of this event. On the following **Sunday, December 22nd**, the gifts that they picked out and wrapped are delivered to the families that were shopped for and this is a key component that requires a lot of help. If you are interested in helping out in anyway please contact our Director of Youth Ministries, Veronica Dillon. This is a special time for our youth. They enjoy getting together with their friends and doing some good for the community, even showing off their gift wrapping skills which, according to them, are amazing.

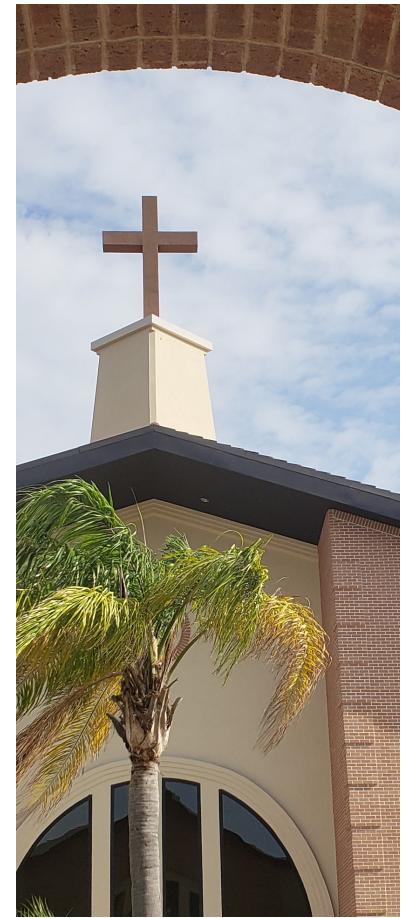
Pastor's Perspective

JOURNEY TO GENEROSITY

Our entire life is a journey. It's a journey from babyhood to adolescence to adulthood and beyond. For the follower of Jesus Christ, we say it is a journey from life here and now to life there and then. Journeys are not necessarily easy, but they can be rewarding, satisfying and joyous. Journeys are indeed a learning experience.

An aspect of the human life and journey that we must learn is generosity. Babies are all about themselves crying to get their needs taken care of. Youngsters have to learn to share, say thank you and express appreciation. How many times have you told a child after they have received something, "Now, what do you say?"

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Worship Information

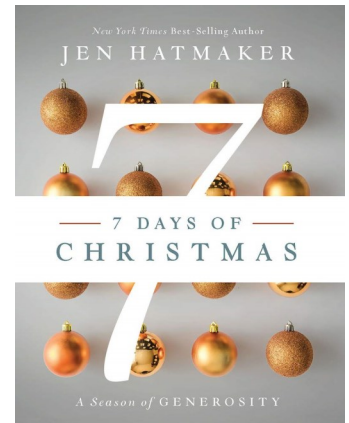
- 8:30 am—Traditional Worship
- 10:45 am—Contemporary (Praise Band) Worship
- 11:00 am—Traditional Worship

Advent calendars for this season of generous serving are found at the Guests Services desks. Come serve with us! Leave behind the exhausting, draining parts of the season and “grab onto all its wonder, all its magic. Jesus is enough, as it turns out.”

WOMEN’S MINISTRY



Grab a calendar in the Foyer and join us on any of these Glorious Advent Adventures. We have t-shirts for sale (\$20) to wear while serving.



*Join us for a season of intentional acts of service sponsored by the Woven Women! We will also be gathering on Monday evenings at 6:00 in Overflow West for particular projects and to discuss Jen Hatmaker’s **7 Days of Christmas** (\$15 in the church office). ALL are invited!!*

A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

Advent Decorating Day
Tuesday, Dec. 3
9:00-11:00 am

FUMC Gardening Day
Saturday, Dec. 7
8:30am-12:00 noon

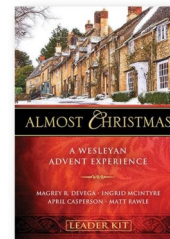
Respite Snack Bags and Care Portal Care Packs Assembly
Monday, Dec. 9
5:00-7:00 pm

Bread Baking for the Food Pantry Guests
Saturday, Dec. 14
9:00 am-12:00 noon

Christmas Breakfast for the Teachers at Escandon Elementary School
Wednesday, Dec. 18
7:30-8:30 am

In *Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience*, Magrey deVega leads a group of authors in exploring how we can truly commit to Christ during Advent, and connect our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace.

ALMOST CHRISTMAS:



A Wesleyan Advent Experience
Wednesdays at 9:45 a.m.

Starting on December 4th in the Sanctuary Overflow East Room

Led by Pastor Robert Perales
Purchase books in the church office (\$13.00)



Join us for an exciting rescue story and musical presented by the WOW Children! Make reservations on the worship bulletin tear-out section on Sundays, online on our app, or at fumcmcallen.com.

Come welcome the children from the Regional School for the Deaf as they Sign and Sing delightful Christmas songs and carols in our Social Room on Wed., Dec. 18th at 10:00 am. Then stay and help us treat them to a celebration following in the Fellowship Center.



Regional School for the Deaf
Sign and Sing & Celebration Party

Wednesday, Dec. 18th

10:00 a.m.
At The Social Room
Come help host from 9-11:30 a.m.

Youth Speak

Register online or contact Veronica Dillon at vdillon@mcfirst.com for details about these events.



FUMC McALLEN
YOUTH MINISTRY

Come shine His light with us!

CHRISTMAS SHARE 2019

**FRI.-SAT.
DEC. 20th-21st
7PM - 7AM**



Come shine His light with us!

SUN., DEC. 22nd 12PM - 4PM

Join us for the gift delivery to the children!!

CHRISTMAS SHARE 2019



FUMC McALLEN
YOUTH MINISTRY

**Support the Youth Ministry Order
Poinsettias**

\$10.00 each

\$10.00 each

Poinsettias in MEMORY or in HONOR of loved ones.
Fill out your order form and return to the church office

Important Dates

Charge Conference

Sunday, December 1st

FUMC Day School & Youth

Poinsettias' Delivery

Tues.-Fri., Dec. 3-6th

8:00AM to 2:00PM

Parents' Night Out Chil-

dren & Youth Event

Friday, December 6th

6:00-10:00PM in the gym

Motet Choir Cantata

A Night for Rejoicing

Sunday, December 15th

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship Services

Regional School for the

Deaf Sign and Sing

Wednesday, December 18th

10:00 a.m. in the Social Room

Silent Night In the Park

Thursday, December 19th

5:35 p.m. at Bill Schupp Park

Witness Band Christmas

Sunday, December 22nd

Sunday, 6:30 p.m

Download the church App for the latest updates or check our detailed calendar online at www.fumcmcallen.com

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Online Information:

You can read current and past issues of our newsletter, The Messenger, and listen to our sermons online at our website: www.fumcmcallen.com

Pastor's Perspective, cont'd.

Journey to Generosity is the name of our 2020 ministry budget campaign. This title recognizes that we never complete the journey to generosity in this life. We are always moving toward generosity. The journey is ongoing for all of us.

Of course, the reason we can even imagine and experience our own generosity is because of the generosity God has shown us, especially in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God has given to us of himself with an abundance of generosity. It is a generosity we can never hope to match, but we honor and worship God as we continue to grow in the generosity of our lives. One of the wonderful blessings of being part of a church is that as we join our generosity together with other people's generosity, great things are accomplished in the lives of hurting people and in our community all to the glory of God. Together we do far more than we could ever do on our own.

Over the next few weeks as we journey through Advent and prepare to celebrate once again God's generosity in the gift of Jesus, we will learn more about this important spiritual truth that "Together, We Do More".

The **Journey to Generosity** campaign will culminate on Baptism of the Lord Sunday, January 12. On that Sunday we will worship with a "Remembering Your Baptism" service and everyone will have an opportunity to make commitment as part of their **Journey to Generosity**.

I ask you to make it a priority to participate in worship each week so we can finish the year strong in our giving and in our serving. See you in worship and around the community.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ricky



Christmas Eve Worship Services



Family Candlelight
Worship Service
5:00 pm

Candlelight Worship Service
with Holy Communion
7:00 PM

Service of Lessons & Carols
with Candlelight & Communion
11:00 PM