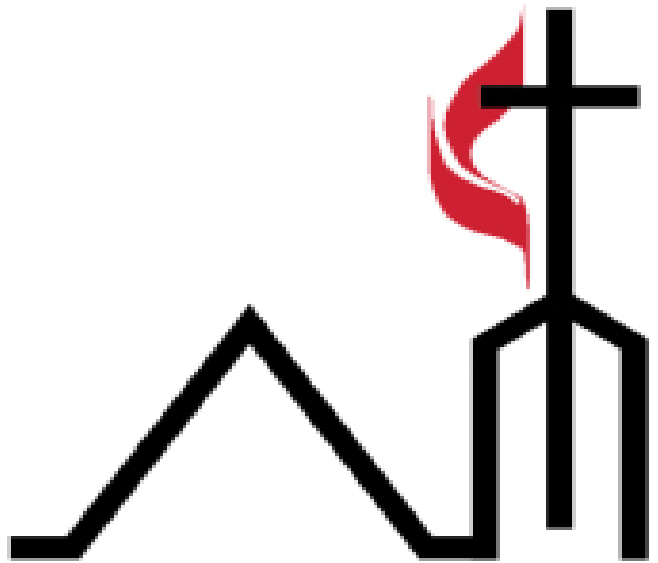


BEACON

week of
December 24, 2023



Shalimar United
Methodist Church

Shalimar UMC



Lead Pastor

Dr. Alan
McBride

Pastors and Staff

Dr. Brad Bradford

Rev. John Kelsoe

Gerald Batton

Chris Bennett

Chris Bennett

Pat Brantley

Tanner Dubose

Denise Heath

Sarah Hicks

Karen Jadin

Tony Mallini

Heyward McKenzie

Amanda Marshall

Sara Morrison

Leigh J. Rice

Dawn Rozofsky

Ben Savage

Jeremy Thiess

Worship Pastor

Associate Pastor

Custodian

Facility & Maintenance Manager

Interim Youth Director

Office Administrative Assistant

Communications Assistant

Financial Secretary

Children's Director

Preschool Director

Interim Church Administrator

Chef

Nursery Coordinator

Financial Assistant

Respite Director

After School & Camp Director

Director of Worship Arts

Ministries Assistant

Stay In Touch!

Shalimar United Methodist Church
1 Old Ferry Road, Shalimar, FL 32579
(850) 651-0721
office@shalimar-umc.org

Our Vision

Christ-centered, multi-generational,
family & community relevant ministries through
WORSHIP, **DISCIPLESHIP**, and **MISSION**.



Our Mission

We **REACH** our community with the good news of Jesus Christ.
We **TEACH** how to love God and to love one another as ourselves.
We **SEND** disciples into the world to share their experiences of Jesus.

Our Office is Closed For Christmas Break

We will reopen on
December 27



MERRY

CHRISTMAS

**THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
NEW YEAR'S DAY**

WE WILL REOPEN ON JANUARY 2

New Year's Eve *Services*

9 traditions
10 brunch
11:07 contemporary

You're invited to New Year's Eve worship services on Sunday, December 31!
We encourage families of all ages to worship at 9 a.m. and 11:07 a.m. services.

Traditions Service | 9 a.m. | Sanctuary

Brunch | 10 a.m. | FLC

Freedom Service | 11:07 a.m. | FLC

** Nursery provided in the FLC for children 4 years old and under*



The **GIFTS** *of the* **WISE**

new series beginning january 7

This five-week series follows the story of the Wise Men, and how their seeking after God, studying, journeying, and giving provides us an example of what it means to "Follow Jesus" as disciples serving God through the Church. Like the Wise Men, we'll take a next step in our discipleship journey as we offer our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to honor Jesus Christ our Lord.

Join us for *The Gifts of the Wise* beginning Sunday, January 7!

— This Week in Worship —

Sunday, December 24, 2023

TRADITIONS – SANCTUARY

9:00 a.m. – In-Person & Online

Message by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride

Make Room for Peace

Luke 2:1–20

The Baptism of Eleanor Curry Williams

Worship Led by Rev. Dr. Brad Bradford

Bill and Will Curry – It Came upon the Midnight Clear
and God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

FREEDOM SERVICE – FAMILY LIFE CENTER

11:07 a.m. – In-Person & Online

Message by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride

Make Room for Peace

Luke 2:1–20

Worship Led by Ben Savage

The Freedom Worship Team

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – FAMILY LIFE CENTER

3:00 p.m. – In-Person & Online

Christmas Story as told by Rev. Dr. Alan McBride,

Rev. Dr. Brad Bradford, and Rev. John Kelsoe

Including Holy Communion and Candle Lighting

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS – SANCTUARY

5:00 p.m. – In-Person & Online

Worship Led by The Youth Choir and Alumni – Dance of Joy,

Gospel of Love, and Messiah,

Bella Holt, soloist

Including Holy Communion and Candle Lighting

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS – SANCTUARY

7:00 p.m. – In-Person & Online

Worship Led by The Chancel Choir – Come to Us Jesus

and Sleeping Adonai,

Tracy Mank, soloist

Rejoice – One Small Child

Including Holy Communion and Candle Lighting

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – FAMILY LIFE CENTER

11:07 p.m. – In-Person & Online

Message by Rev. John Kelsoe

Luke 2:1–20

Worship Led by Ben Savage

The Freedom Worship Team

Including Holy Communion and Candle Lighting

Wednesday *Fellowship* Dinner

December 27
& January 3

**NO FELLOWSHIP DINNER
DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK**



DOWNLOAD OUR APP

SEARCH "SHALIMAR UMC" IN
YOUR DEVICE'S APP STORE

C
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B
A

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CUBA MISSION TRIP

GRAB A LIST OF NEEDED
ITEMS & DROP OFF TO
FLC LOBBY BY JAN. 15

MISSION TRIP
JAN. 19-29, 2024

Christmas Eve

Traditions service | 9 a.m. | Sanctuary
Brunch | 10 a.m. | FLC

Contemporary service | 11:07 a.m. | FLC

Children's Christmas Eve | 3 p.m. | FLC

Service of Lessons & Carols | 5 & 7 p.m. | Sanctuary

Contemporary Christmas Eve | 11:07 p.m. | FLC

New Year's Eve Services

9 traditions
10 brunch
11:07 contemporary

Church Life

Cuba Mission Trip Items Needed

Grab a flyer from the FLC Lobby and consider donating the items listed for the 2024 Cuba Mission Team to bring to Methodist churches and a Retirement Center in Cuba. Donated items can be placed in the designated box in the FLC Lobby through Monday, January 15. We also request your prayers for our team's safety and for your financial support. To make a financial gift, please note "Cuba Mission" in the memo line however you usually give.

New Year's Eve Services

You're invited to our special New Year's Eve worship services on Sunday, December 31! We encourage families of all ages to worship at 9 a.m. and 11:07 a.m. services.

Christmas Eve Services

Invite a friend to worship with you at our Christmas Eve services this year! Advent week four begins with morning worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:07 a.m. These services will fill our hearts with anticipation for the peace that Christ will bring at his arrival. There will also be a fellowship brunch in the Family Life Center beginning at 10 a.m.

Then, we have four unique evening services to attend – each service intentionally designed to center our hearts and minds on the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ. All services include Holy Communion, with candle lighting at the 5 p.m., 7 p.m., and 11:07 p.m. services.

9 AM | Brunch | 11:07 AM | 3 PM | 5 PM | 7PM | 11:07 PM

Year End Giving

If you wish to include your gifts in the 2023 financial statements, please ensure they are postmarked by Sunday, December 31.

Good of the Church

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Our staff wish you all a very Merry Christmas! We look forward to worshipping with you on Christmas Eve!



Offering Moment

ADVENT OFFERING

This time each year, we intentionally set aside the desire to receive what we want and find ways to give to the needs of others in our community. One way we do that is through the Advent Offerings. This year, we are giving to local non-profits:

CHILDREN IN CRISIS, EMBRACE FLORIDA KIDS, DESTIN HARVEST, & SHELTER HOUSE. You can find more information about these programs in the Beacon. Designate your gift to the Advent Offerings by giving your usual way and including "ADVENT OFFERING" in the memo line.

Attendance 12.17.23

8:	10
2930:	70
11:	125
1107:	94
Kids:	28
Bay Port Chapel:	24
Livestream:	132
TOTAL:	575



ADVENT OFFERING

CHILDREN IN CRISIS
EMBRACE FLORIDA KIDS

DESTIN HARVEST
SHELTER HOUSE

Children in Crisis

CIC is committed to "Providing Homes...Keeping Brothers and Sisters Together." Since 2008, they have given a safe home to abused, neglected, and abandoned children in our community. For more information about CIC, visit childrenincrisisfl.org.

Embrace Florida Kids

Formerly the United Methodist Children's Home, Embrace Florida Kids strengthens biological and foster families by providing resources, and a safe, stable environment for children. Learn more about their story and their work advocating for vulnerable children and families at embraceflkids.org.

Destin Harvest

Destin Harvest provides weekly food deliveries to programs in Okaloosa and Walton County who are battling food insecurity—including our very own Bread House! They receive daily overages from local grocery stores and deliver directly to faith-based feeding outreach programs, food pantries, soup kitchens, backpack programs, homeless shelters, low-income afterschool programs, meals-on-wheels, and even subsidized mental health clinics. Learn more at destinharvest.org.

Shelter House

Shelter House provides free and confidential services to sexual assault and domestic violence victims in Okaloosa and Walton County.

Articles & Announcements

DID YOU KNOW?

The SUMC Missions & Outreach Committee connects with many agencies in our local community. One of those agencies is One Hopeful Place. This is a ministry for our homeless to go during those cold freezing nights to be warm, fed, and given the opportunity to wash clothes and bathe.

One Hopeful Place currently has a need for can goods, rice, and paper products. If you are interested in donating to this cause, please reach out to Ms. Sherry Jones, Community and Public Relations Director at 850-376-3509.



YEAR END GIVING

GIVING MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 31
TO BE INCLUDED IN 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

WEDNESDAY *Dinner Menu*

adult entrée: \$7
kids meal (ages 3–10): \$3
family: \$25



JANUARY

- 10 BBQ Pork
Kids: Pizza
- 17 Mexican Taco Bar
Kids: Tacos
- 24 Spaghetti
- 31 Meatloaf
Kids: Hotdogs



The church office will be closed for Christmas on Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and New Year's Day on Monday, January 1.

The office will reopen with limited hours between Wednesday, December 27, and Friday, December 29.

Next edition of the Beacon will be January 12th.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Are you passionate about helping people feel welcome and enjoy themselves over a delicious meal? If so, consider serving on the Hospitality Team during the weekly fellowship time at Wednesday night dinner and Sunday morning brunch. Contact Chef Heyward McKenzie during the fellowship times for more information.

The church office will be closed for Christmas on Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26. The office will reopen with limited hours on Wednesday, December 27. We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

So You're in the Know... [a Shalimar UMC podcast] will not be recording new episodes over the holiday season. Look for special things coming Lent 2024!

If you wish to include your gifts in the 2023 financial statements, please ensure they are postmarked by Sunday, December 31.



Hey friends!

We went to the pre-school Christmas performance with our friends yesterday. Before the children walked in, Richard spotted a man in uniform sitting nearby. We all know Richard....he went over the man and said...."I know you, Jacksonville". He then pointing to a patch on the man's uniform and said, "I used to have one like that, but I lost it". The other man, stood up, acknowledged Richard, shook his hand then took the patch off his uniform and gave it to Richard. It was such a heartwarming moment.... the other man was so receptive, and we were all touched by his kindness. Look closely and you can see the patch clipped to Richard's name badge.



We are wrapping up the year with JOY and thankfulness. Our fellowship hall is not as full because we've lost so many friends recently, but our hearts are full. Last Thursday, our friend RUSS said that LOVE RICOCHED OFF the walls of our room and I agree with him 100%. Right now, there are 7 families with interest in joining us. Let's all pray that the new year will bring Susan, Bill, Christine, George, George S, Sandy and Brenda to us.

Tomorrow is our Christmas luncheon. All are invited, we will have plenty of food, so please come share in the JOY!

Look for new sign-up invitations through signup.com. You won't hear from me next week but I hope to see you in 2024!

Love to you all!

Be Joyful Always,

Leigh





Need Prayer?

PRAYER@SHALIMAR-UMC.ORG

Through the years, one of the foundational pleas of the Prayer Team has been that "Our church would forever be a House of Prayer." With that as our inspiration, we would like to present our **Congregational Prayer Focus Plan** for December. The December Prayer Focus will be available in the Sanctuary Narthex and in the FLC. They can also be downloaded from the church webpage.

This week we are praying for:

This week we are praying for the Christmas Eve morning and evening worship services, Pastors and worship teams.

Jim Brantley, Shalimar UMC Prayer Team Coordinator



As Shalimar UMC has done for many years, we will be sending a mission team of nine members on this January 19–29 to serve Christ and love our Cuban brothers and sisters. This trip will focus on serving three Cuban Methodist churches and a Retirement Center with whom we have special relationship.

Please consider donating the following items for the team to bring to the churches of Cuba:

- **Medicines and vitamins of any kind**
- **Personal hygiene products (male and female)**
 - **Perfume or cologne**
- **Musical instruments (keyboards, guitars, brass instruments, etc)**
 - **Tools of any kind**
 - **Reading glasses**
 - **Sporting equipment**
- **Craft items (for children's Vacation Bible School)**
 - **Spanish Bibles**

Donated items can be placed in the designated box located in the FLC Lobby through Monday, January 15.

In addition to the items listed above, we also request your prayers for the safety of our team, and your financial gift support would be very welcome as well. To make a financial gift, please note "Cuba Mission" in the memo line; however you usually give to Shalimar UMC.

Please contact Mr. Pete Peters at (703) 395–2437 or Pastor Alan McBride at (251) 747–3567 with any questions or special ideas to offer this mission experience.



WELCOME TANNER!

JOIN US IN WELCOMING
TANNER DUBOSE TO
OUR STAFF AS THE
COMMUNICATIONS
ASSISTANT



Tanner Dubose started this week as our new Communications Assistant! He joined the staff after graduating with a Bachelor of Communication from UWF. Tanner has been part of our church for many years, including serving on staff last year as a Summer Youth Intern.

New Year's Eve *Services*

9 traditions
10 brunch
11:07 contemporary

You're invited to our special New Year's Eve worship services on Sunday, December 31!



This new five-week series dives into the story of the wise men in Matthew 2, and how their example teaches us to steward what we have been given to serve God. During this series, we'll take the next step in our discipleship journey as we offer our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the King of kings and Lord of lords. Join us on Sunday, January 7, for the beginning of The Gifts of the Wise!

Scrapbooking

January 5-6

CROSS CORNER

CONTACT: PAT BRANTLEY | (850) 830-1355

2024 YOUTH CHOIR DINNER THEATRE REVEAL

*Sunday, January 7
4:00 pm
Music Suite*

Food | Fun | Prizes

Our Youth Choir is hosting its annual Dinner Theater Preview Party in the Music Suite on Sunday, January 7, from 4–5 p.m. There will be door prizes, food, and fun!





SHALIMAR UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
**ADVENT
CALENDAR**
FOR THE YEAR 2023

“Make Room” Sermon Series
Sundays, December 3–24

Youth Choir Musical
December 3 | 9:30/11:07 a.m. services | FLC

Children’s Musical
December 3 | 6 p.m. | FLC

Breakfast with Santa
December 9 | 8–10 a.m. | FLC

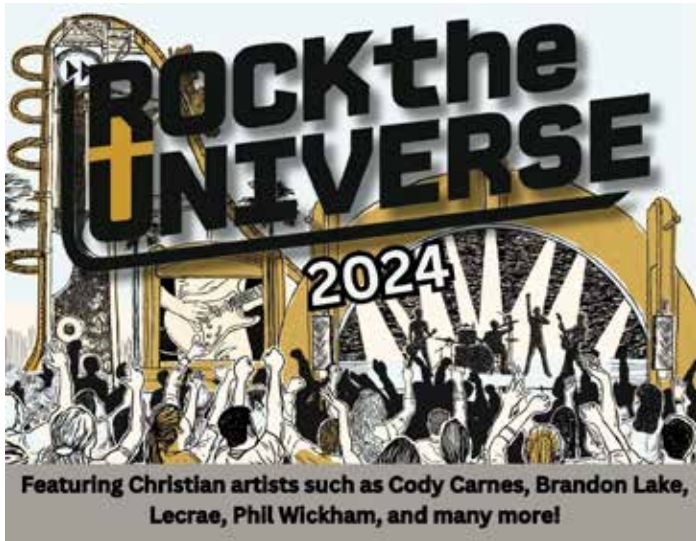
Chancel Choir Musical
December 10 | 8/9:30/11 a.m. services | Sanctuary

Hope for the Holidays
December 20 | 4 p.m. | Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services
Traditions | 9 a.m. | Sanctuary
Brunch | 10 a.m. | FLC
Contemporary | 11:07 a.m. | FLC

Children’s Service | 3 p.m. | FLC
Lessons & Carols | 5/7 p.m. | Sanctuary *
Contemporary | 11:07 p.m. | FLC *
Holy Communion served in all evening services
*candlelight services only

New Year’s Eve Services
Traditions | 9am | Sanctuary
Brunch | 10am | FLC
Contemporary | 11:07am | FLC



**January
26-28**

\$210 per ticket

**Must sign up by
January 7 with a
\$50 deposit**

**A parent
meeting will be
held on January
14,**

Rock The Universe will be held at Universal Orlando Resort on January 26-28, featuring Christian artists such as Cody Carnes, Brandon Lake, Lecrae, Phil Wickham, and many more! Tickets are \$210 per person. Students interested in attending must sign up by Sunday, January 7, with a \$50 deposit. A parent meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, for those attending the trip.



We will be removing the Christmas decorations from the Sanctuary after the fellowship brunch at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 31. All are welcome to assist with the de-decking of the halls. Contact Pat Brantley at office@shalimar-umc.org with any questions.

Advent



Joy

to the world

1 CEREAL	2 PEANUT BUTTER	3 JELLY	4 PACKAGE OATMEAL	5 CAN/CUP FRUIT
6 PACKAGE PASTA	7 SPAGHETTI SAUCE	8 CAN TUNA	9 PACKAGE RICE	10 CAN GREEN BEANS
11 CAN CORN	12 Mac & Cheese	13 CAN/BAG PINTO BEANS	14 CAN/BAG WHITE BEANS	15 CAN/BAG BLACK BEANS
16 CAN CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP	17 CAN MUSHROOM SOUP	18 CAN TOMATO SOUP	19 CAN CHICKEN	20 PACKAGE DIAPERS ANY SIZE
21 PACKAGE BABY WIPES	22 CHILDREN'S SOCKS	23 WASHABLE MARKERS	24 CHILDREN'S LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRTS sm-lg	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS



This activity will help you to gift those families and individuals served by the SUMC Bread House and Blessings for Children ministries. Here's what you do:

- Get a box. Decorate it if you want – maybe attach the December calendar we've provided here!
- Please return the box to the Bread House on Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 9:00 am and noon. Thanks!

Missions & Outreach Committee

Keep an eye out for the **Advent Mission Box flyers** in the Sanctuary Narthex and FLC Lobby this Sunday. This annual activity organized by the SUMC Missions & Outreach Committee provides us the opportunity to gift those families and individuals served by the Bread House and Blessings for Children ministries.

Here's what you do:

- Get a box and decorate it if you want. Then, attach the Advent Calendar we've provided here.
- Everyday add one of the items listed on the Advent Calendar and check it off. Whatever amount you can donate is appreciated!
- When your box is complete, return it to the Bread House on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

Pray with us

FIND THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS AT
[SHALIMAR-UMC.ORG/PRAYER-MINISTRY](https://shalimar-umc.org/prayer-ministry)



Preschool Registration

Preschool registration for the 2024–25 school year will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, in Room 106 of the Family Life Center. Before registration, please visit The Early Learning Coalition on Emerald Coast's website to get your child's VPK certification. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our Preschool Director, Karen Jadin, at (850) 651-0721 ext. 109 or preschool@shalimar-umc.org.

Week 189 – Dec 15th

Food Distribution Numbers



This Week

478 bags collected
381 bags given out
0 card given out
464 members served

Total

68,462
53,065 (198.9 tons)
239 (\$8735)
52,028

13 New Families visited this week, representing 43 individuals.

**Merry Christmas
from the Bread House!**



Items always needed!

1. Toilet paper and Paper Towels a must need each week!
2. Canned Meat; Tuna, Chicken, Spam!
3. Canned Vegetables: Corn, Green Beans, Mixed!
4. Dried goods, beans and rice!
5. Fruit, potatoes, onions

If you don't have time to shop, you can donate money to The Bread House by sending a check to SUMC, MEMO line put "Bread House."

Questions or want to become a volunteer, contact Pete Peters, 703.395.2437, fpeters1@cox.net, or Robin Hays @ 850-621-7014. We'd love to have you!

Women's Studies Begins January 10

Splash of Joy 1 will be doing a seven-week study by Adrienne Camp. "As for Me" is an opportunity to look at Life through the lens of the Psalms. Some of you may know Adrienne as the singer and wife of Jeremy Camp, as they bless so many with their beautiful music. (Look them up online and listen) The book of Psalms captures the emotions of life and our relationship with God. We will see how those who wrote the Psalms persevered, and their words reveal how we can do the same. Please join us in FLC Room 106, 9:30–11:30 a.m. each week. If you have never been in a study or you'd like to come and be refreshed in the WORD, this is the place for you. If you have questions, call Sara Michaelson at (850) 865–3343.

Splash of Joy II would like to invite you to join us in studying "Jesus and Women." This is a seven-session Bible study by Kristi McLelland. We will start on January 10 in Room 207 of the FLC at 9:30 a.m. We will explore how Jesus generously restores dignity and honor to women in the first century and now. We will gain a deeper insight into the biblical world as we learn about Middle Eastern culture and come to know Jesus more fully, fueling our worship of Him. And this is what we all desire: to be ever-growing in our knowledge and love God. If you have questions and/or wish to sign up, please contact Cathie Buckman at (850) 797-6936 or cathiebuckman@gmail.com.



CONTACT US

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