

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>DEC 13</b> Womans Christmas Tea 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	<b>DEC 17</b> Polar Express Movie 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>DEC 20</b> Grinchmas Movie 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM
<b>DEC 21</b> 9am Service Skit and Christmas Cantata	<b>DEC 24</b> Christmas Eve cookies & Crafting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<b>DEC 24</b> Christmas Eve Candle Lighting. 7PM
<b>DEC 25</b> Christmas Meal 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>JAN 7</b> Wednesday Night Bible Study 6:30pm-7:30pm	

### ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS

If you would like to order poinsettias to help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas, please submit an order form along with your check in the Sunday offering plate or drop it off at the FLC office.

Poinsettias are \$10.00 each. Order forms are available on the Information Desk in the entry, and you may also call the church office to place your order.

### WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Craft Ladies	Tues., 2pm - 5pm	Craft Room
Choir Rehearsal	Tues., 7pm - 8pm	Choir Room
Promiseland Children	Weds, 6pm-7:30pm	Promiseland Room
Needles Group	Thurs., 9am - 12pm	Craft Room
Men's Breakfast	Sat., 7am - 9am	FLC Fellowship Hall

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Gina Schmidt	12/01	Marilyn Harrigan	12/06
Marlys Templeton	12/02	Cheryl Lawson	12/19
Jackson Mack	12/04	Jolene Luke	12/26

## WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDIES

# GROWING IN FAITH

WITH **PASTOR ANTONIO**  
**JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> - FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
6:30 PM-7:30 PM - LIBRARY ROOM


---

# GENESIS

WITH **CHARLIE DITTMAR**  
**JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> - FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
6:30 PM-7:30 PM - CONFERENCE ROOM

Sign-up sheets available in the Overflow.

Give To Wesley Memorial UMC  
SCAN QR CODE



#### THERE ARE MULTIPLE WAYS TO GIVE:

1. Online- [wesleytampa.org/give/](http://wesleytampa.org/give/)
2. Mobile: Text the word "donate" to 813-548-6100
3. In Person: Drop in offering plate or bring to church office
4. Mail: Mail donation to:  
6100 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL 33615



(813) 769-9157 | [office@wesleytampa.org](mailto:office@wesleytampa.org)  
6100 Memorial Hwy, Tampa, FL 33615  
[www.wesleytampa.org](http://www.wesleytampa.org)

Like us on Facebook & Instagram @wesleymemorialtampa



Rooted in Love. Growing in Faith. Serving with Joy.



# JOY

## Breaks in

### ADVENT 2025

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 2025**

**9:00 AM | 11:00 AM**

Rev. Antonio Christie, Senior Pastor  
6100 Memorial Highway, Tampa FL 33615  
[www.wesleytampa.org](http://www.wesleytampa.org)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 9:00 AM

\*THANK YOU FOR SILENCING YOUR PHONE

GATHERING MUSIC Ding Dong! Merrily on High Jean Rowe

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT Bruce Wright

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice! The desert is beginning to bloom.

**People: Joy breaks in—right where we least expect it.**

Leader: Strengthen your weak hands; steady your trembling hearts.

**People: God is coming with healing, hope, and renewal.**

Leader: Like John, we may wrestle with questions and wait for signs.

**People: Yet God's promises are already taking shape among us.**

Leader: The blind see, the lame walk, the poor hear good news.

**People: Joy is rising! Christ is near!**

All: Let us worship the God who turns wilderness into wonder and sorrow into singing.

\*OPENING PRAYER

**Holy and Joy-Giving God,  
In a world that feels dry and weary, You speak life.  
In places where we expect nothing to change, You plant seeds of hope.  
In hearts weighed down by questions, You whisper courage.**

**Open us, O God, to the joy You are growing in our midst—  
joy not dependent on circumstance,  
joy that breaks in even before the answers come,  
joy rooted in Your faithful presence.**

**As we worship today,  
steady our spirits, renew our strength,  
and help us recognize the signs of Your kingdom unfolding all around us. We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
the One who brings good news to the weary and hope to the waiting. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #213

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Joy and Promise,  
We confess that we do not always see Your work in the wilderness.  
We give more power to our fears than to Your faithfulness.  
We grow discouraged when life does not change quickly enough.  
We question Your presence when joy feels delayed.**

**Forgive us, Lord.  
Open our eyes to the signs of Your kingdom already breaking in.  
Open our hearts to trust that joy can bloom even in hard places.  
Open our hands to receive the newness You are planting within us. In Your mercy, renew us.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news:  
God is not distant. God is doing a new thing.  
The desert is already blooming,  
and joy is already breaking in.

In Jesus Christ, grace has come near,  
hope is alive, and you are forgiven.  
**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

ADVENT Hymn Light One Candle For HOPE, PEACE, JOY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Bruce and Jamie Wright

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERTORY Advent Celebration Chancel Choir

\*PRESENTATION OF TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of joy and promise, shine Your light upon Your Word today  
Open our eyes to see Your work among us, our ears to hear  
good news, and our hearts to receive the joy You are growing—  
even in hidden places. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10 Sashani Lowers

SPECIAL MUSIC Christmas Has It's Candle Susan Ivins

\*NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 11:2-11

SERMON Joy Breaks In Rev. Antonio Christie

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORDS PRAYER

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

For those wishing to become members in this congregation of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church either by profession of faith or transfer of church membership, please contact Rev. Antonio at antonio@wesleytampa.org.

\*CLOSING SONG There's A Song In The Air #249

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Antonio Christie

CLOSING

MODERN WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 11:00 AM

OPENING SONG

Joy Faniel Pradel

OPENING PRAYER

\*SINGING OUR PRAISE

Prince Of Heaven

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Joy

OFFERING

Joy To The World

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rochelle Mock

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

Herman Small

SONG OF PREPERATION

\*NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 11:2-11

SERMON

Joy Breaks In Rev. Antonio Christie

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING SONG

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Antonio Christie

PRAYER REQUESTS

We invite you to share your prayer needs or join us in praying for others. Please scan the QR code to submit your prayer requests or visit [wesleytampa.org/prayer-request](https://wesleytampa.org/prayer-request)



Curt & Sharon Hadrava  
Christine & Jaymi  
Family of Jim Danielson  
Jane and Jan  
Van  
Rose Harper  
Sherry  
Linda and George Weiland  
Karen Marotz  
Michael Murphy  
Joe and Gloria Rocci

Marjorie Schramm  
Christy and Steve  
Madeline  
Grant  
Kitty  
Sandra Dettori  
Nancy Klein  
Jasmine James  
Tom & Jane Cross  
Faith Scheirer  
Mariyah Muckle