

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 30,
2025

11:00 AM



GATHERING

✠ Rise in body or in spirit
The congregation speaks /
sings the text in **bold** type.



For information about the
ministries, mission, and
activities, please visit
duluthmc.org.



Children of all ages are
welcome in worship.
Children's activity sheets
& crayons are available at
the main entrance to the
sanctuary to help guide
them in active participation
of worship.
Children newborn through
Pre-K are invited to go to
Childcare Corner, near the
Gathering Room.



Listening devices are
available during all worship
services. Please see an usher
or greeter for assistance.

Chiming the Trinity

✠ Welcome, Greeting One Another

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles
Associate Pastor

Attendance Registration, Announcements

Voluntary | *Meditation on Veni, Veni, Emmanuel* – arr. Paul Fey

Seouyoung Lee, *Organist*

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

✠ Hymn 211 | *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* – VENI EMMANUEL
stanzas 1, 2, 6, & 7

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Raleigh and Mary Davis

The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more".

Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

✠ Sung Response

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Anthem | *Come, Messiah!* – Lloyd Larson

Katie Jones, Stephen McLemore, Verena Anders, *Vocalists*

Susan Johnson, *Pianist*



Your giving is the sole support of the ministries of Duluth First United Methodist Church. For online giving: duluthumc.org/online-giving, or scan the QR code.



Ministry Moment | *Crossing the Finish Line*

Ann Fleming

Receiving God's Tithe and Our Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory | *Keep Your Lamps!* – Arr. Andre Thomas

Chancel Choir

✠ Doxology | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* – VENI EMMANUEL

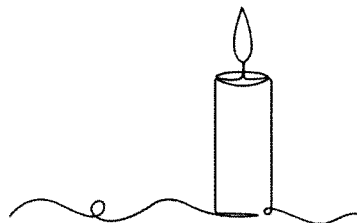
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
God, all crea-tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall
come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

WORD & RESPONSE

Hymn 206 | *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* – HOUSTON
stanza 1

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles



✠ Scripture | Revelation 21:1-6a

Rev. Terry Tippens
Senior Pastor

New Revised
Standard Version,
Updated Edition

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon | *We Need New Life*

Musical Response | *Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes* – Mark Sirrett

Chancel Choir

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs, nor by anything he wears.
Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by a crown nor by gown,
but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony,
which his coming makes in thee.
Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING

For questions regarding membership, contact
Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles-
arawles@duluthumc.org
or 770.476.3776, x. 128.

Those who wish to join
the church today are
invited to come forward
as we sing the final hymn.

ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Acolyte:

Evelyn Williams
Emily Anne Klayman

Audio/Visual Team:

Charlie Greene
Lee Castleberry
Frank Loose

Usher Captains:

David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

✠ Hymn 213 | *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* – TRURO

Reception of New Members (as applicable)

Hymnal, pgs. 34, 38

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

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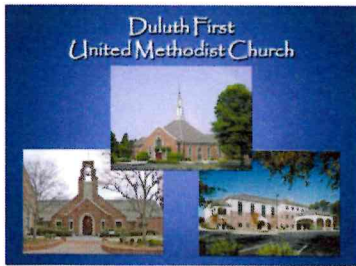
The Sunday Supplement



NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Welcome to Duluth First United Methodist Church!

We are glad that you came to worship with us today. The mission of Duluth First United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. If you are looking for more information about Duluth First United Methodist Church and its ministries, Bible studies, and other programs and events, please be sure to visit our church's website at www.duluthumc.org.

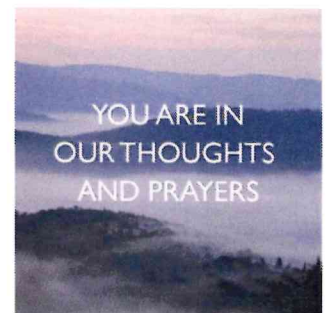
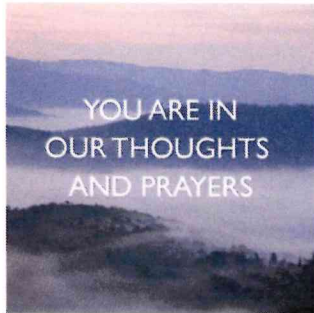


To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

If you have any questions regarding membership or you are visiting and would like additional information, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.

Prayer Concerns

- Tracy Balkcom • Donna Bowman's granddaughter, Nicole Stutts
- Bill Evans • Rosemary Hall • Shamain Hallett
- Carol Hitchcock • Linton Jones
- Tracy Brinker's father, Jerry Keyees • Susan Paschal
- Charlie Pierce • Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles daughter, Tilly
- Ann Reifert • Ethel Sales
- Clara Truesdell • Dale VanPelt



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION.

Duluth First UMC Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one emotional care and support to those in our church and community who are hurting.

Contact Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at ckfuino@duluthumc.org or call Stephen Leader Ann Fleming at 678-644-9108 for more information.



Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: December 3rd

Our Food Ministry staff, along with our amazing Dinner Belles and Beaus volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends. The menu for Wednesday, December 3rd, is Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti noodles, sautéed zucchini, Brussels sprouts, garlic bread, and dessert. For the kids – pizza. Dinner service hours are 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., with to-go boxes available from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

The prices for Wednesday Night Dinners are:

- \$10.00 for adults (including seniors and from 11 years up);
- \$7.00 for children 10 years and younger;
- \$30.00 for family meals (nuclear family members only – husband, wife, their children under 18 years);
- \$7.00 for salad bar only, which includes the salad bar, a choice of baked potato or sweet potato, dessert and a drink.

Credit/debit card payments, as well as cash and checks, are accepted.



Advent Devotional Calendar

The wonderful volunteers of our church library, The Louise McDaniel Memorial Library, have put together an **Advent Devotional Calendar** for everyone to use during their journey this Advent season. The **Advent Devotional Calendar** will be available:

- In worship handouts on Sundays, November 30th and December 7th;
- Available for download on the **Advent and Christmas Eve** page on the church's website - duluthumc.org;
- At the Information tables located in the Narthex (the main entrance to the Sanctuary) and in the back of Hinton Hall on Sunday mornings;
- Available for download by using your smart phone or tablet to scan the QR code located to the right.



Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gathering: November 30th

Students in the 6th through 12th grades are invited to join us on Sunday nights for **Sunday Night Gatherings** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank"), located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center (unless otherwise noted). **Sunday Night Gatherings** include great dinners, fun games, amazing worship, inspirational and relevant messages and life-changing small groups.

Join us on Sunday, November 30th for our **Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").

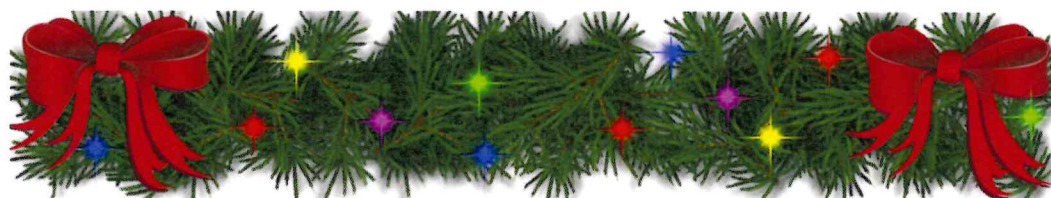
Please visit the **Youth Ministry's** website at <https://dfumcstudents.org> for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at mlee@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.

**SUNDAY NIGHT
GATHERING**

**SUNDAY NIGHTS
5:30PM-7:30PM
THE FISH TANK**

Christmas Trivia Game Night: Wednesday, December 3rd

Join us Wednesday, December 3rd, in Hinton Hall, located on the 2nd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, as we come together for a **Christmas Trivia Game Night**. The game will begin at 5:45 p.m. We hope that you join us for **Wednesday Night Dinner** beforehand.



Help Make This Christmas Special for a Child:

Donate a Toy to the Hands of Christ Christmas Shop

Would you like to help make a difference in a child's life this Christmas? Duluth First UMC will be partnering with the **Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op** this year in a toy drive to help stock the **Hands of Christ Christmas Shop**. The **Christmas Shop** will help families in need provide gifts for their children this Christmas.

If you would like to help us provide Christmas for all of these children in our community, your generosity can make sure that happens. Beginning Sunday, November 30th, you can bring in unwrapped toys and place them under the Christmas tree in the Veterans Memorial Gathering Room, or under the Christmas tree in the back of Hinton Hall. **We will be accepting toy donations through Wednesday, December 18th.**

We hope that you will prayerfully consider helping to make Christmas a joyous day for all the families that **Hands of Christ** assists every day and every year. Thank for your generosity and your faithfulness!



Wednesday Night Food Drive: December 3rd

The **Wednesday Night Food Drive** at Duluth First UMC for the **Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op** is our weekly mission project, combined with the many Wednesday evening activities offered at the church. **On December 3rd we ask you to bring canned fruit.** A table for donated items will be located outside of the main entrance to Hinton Hall.

Join us for a delicious dinner and fellowship in Hinton Hall, pick up a to-go dinner for your family, join us for any of our Wednesday evening activities, and drop off food items to help other families in need. We thank you for your support.

Christmas Carol Sing-Along: Wednesday, December 10th

Join us Wednesday, December 10th, in Hinton Hall, located on the 2nd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, as members of our **Music & Worship Arts Ministry** lead us in a **Christmas Carol Sing-Along**. Caroling will begin at 5:45 p.m. and will feature favorite sacred and secular songs. We hope that you join us for **Wednesday Night Dinner** beforehand.



Christian Beginnings Christmas Program: Thursday, December 18th

All are invited to attend our **Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten's Christmas Program** on Thursday, December 18th, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Church members are invited to join our students' families to come and see each grade put on a holiday show. We look forward to seeing you there!



Operation Christmas Child: You Can Still Fill a Shoebox Online

You can still fill an **Operation Christmas Child** shoebox online through the month of December. The cost of the Build Online Shoebox is \$30, and this is a quick and easy way to participate in this mission - no shopping going store to store, no lines, no driving. **The DFUMC Goal Page is active and you can complete an online shoebox by:**

- Scanning the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet to complete your shoebox online.
- Going to the church's website - duluthumc.org - clicking on the **MINISTRIES** tab and then clicking on the **MISSIONS** tab, where you will find information about **Operation Christmas Child**.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Charlie Doerlich by email at chaz3d@gmail.com or call 678-662-2115. Thank you for your support!



Item Donations Needed for Ferguson Elementary School's Holiday Shop

Ferguson Elementary School needs our help again this upcoming holiday season. Ferguson Elementary, a Title 1 school located in Duluth, has a wonderful tradition each year of students shopping in the **Holiday Shop** for their families for Christmas by using their behavior points. The students work hard all year to earn their behavior points, so they can spend them on their families. After the students purchase their gifts, the staff wrap them before the students take them home. For many of these students, the **Holiday Shop** is the only opportunity they have to purchase holiday gifts for their families.



To help make the **Holiday Shop** happen, Ferguson Elementary needs our donations. If you have any items that are new or gently used from the following list, you can leave them in collection areas in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall, and outside Hinton Hall **no later than Friday, December 12th**. Items needed include:

- Toys
- Home decor
- Candles
- Jewelry
- Perfume
- Men's items
- Tissue paper for gifts bags
- Games
- Holiday decor
- Craft/art supplies
- Lotion
- Soap
- Gift bags

Thank you for your generosity.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



3208 Duluth Hwy. 120, Duluth, GA 30096

Office Phone: 770-476-3776 • Fax: 770-623-8511

Website: www.duluthumc.org

Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc

Church Staff Directory

Johnathan Ancell

Director of Worship Technology
jancell@duluthumc.org

Verena Lucía Anders, Ext. 116
Minister of Music & Worship Arts
vanders@duluthumc.org

Tracy Brinker, Ext. 112
Receptionist
tbrinker@duluthumc.org

David Burchett, Ext. 124
Assistant Pastor
dburchett@duluthumc.org

C. Kay Fuino, Ext. 117
Associate Pastor
ckfuino@duluthumc.org

Sherry Griffeth, Ext. 110
Executive Assistant
sgriffeth@duluthumc.org

Susan Johnson, Pianist

Jan Jones, Ext. 113
Financial Assistant
jjones@duluthumc.org

Min Lee, Ext. 119
*Director of Youth Ministries
& Contemporary Worship Music Director*
mlee@duluthumc.org

Seoyoung Lee, Organist

Benjamin Rah, Ext. 120
Church Administrator
brah@duluthumc.org

AnnaKate Rawles, Ext. 128
Associate Pastor
arawles@duluthumc.org

Marilyn Scheiwe, Ext. 111
Event Coordinator
mscheiwe@duluthumc.org

Lee Stribling, Ext. 136
Director of Maintenance/Security
lstribling@duluthumc.org

Pat Szathmary, Ext. 131
Christian Beginnings Assistant Director
pszathmary@duluthumc.org

Terry Tippens, Ext. 114
Senior Pastor
ttippens@duluthumc.org

Juan Venegas, Ext. 145
Food Ministry Manager
jvenegas@duluthumc.org

Linda Wettlaufer, Ext. 213
Childcare Director
lwettlaufer@duluthumc.org

Ken Willi, Ext. 127
Director of Communications
kwilli@duluthumc.org

Leslie Yokeley, Ext. 138
*Director of Children's Ministries
& Christian Beginnings*
lyokeley@duluthumc.org

**Louise McDaniel Memorial
Church Library**
library@duluthumc.org

Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten
Office Phone: 770-497-1743

Advent Calendar
Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
in the *Names of Jesus*



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 30th <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> Advent Candle: HOPE Alpha and Omega <i>"I am the Alpha and Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." (Rev. 1:8)</i>	1 HOPE Son of God <i>"The angel answered. 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the most high will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'" (Luke 1:35)</i>	2 HOPE Cornerstone <i>"So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.'" (Isaiah 28:16)</i>	3 HOPE Jesus <i>"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)</i>	4 HOPE Light of the World <i>"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)</i>	5 HOPE Redeemer <i>"The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the Lord." (Isaiah 9:20)</i>	6 HOPE Messiah <i>"...I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." (John 4:25)</i>
7 Second Sunday of Advent Advent Candle: PEACE Prince of Peace <i>"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)</i>	8 PEACE Lamb of God <i>"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)</i>	9 PEACE Advocate <i>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John 2:1)</i>	10 PEACE Mediator <i>"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ." (1 Timothy 2:5)</i>	11 PEACE Good Shepherd <i>"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep." (John 10:11)</i>	12 PEACE Glory of the Lord <i>"And the Glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it." (Isaiah 40:5)</i>	13 PEACE King of the Jews <i>"Where is the one who has been born the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2)</i>
14 Third Sunday of Advent Advent Candle: JOY The Word <i>"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and mercy." (John 1:14)</i>	15 JOY Branch <i>"In that day the Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel." (Isaiah 4:2)</i>	16 JOY Author and Perfector of Our Faith <i>"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2)</i>	17 JOY The Great High Priest <i>"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)</i>	18 JOY Prophet <i>"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him." (Deuteronomy 18:18)</i>	19 JOY The Builder <i>"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything." (Hebrews 3:4)</i>	20 JOY Bread of Life <i>"I am the bread of life. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." (John 6: 48, 51)</i>
21 Fourth Sunday of Advent Advent Candle: LOVE The Way, The Truth, The Life <i>"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6)</i>	22 LOVE Living Water <i>"Jesus answered her (Samaritan woman), "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." (John 4:10)</i>	23 LOVE Sacrifice <i>"And live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:2)</i>	24 LOVE Immanuel <i>"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel—which means God with us." (Matthew 1:23)</i>	25 LOVE Savior <i>"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11)</i> Merry Christmas!	May the hope, peace, joy and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you this Advent season and always. From The Volunteer Staff of The Louise McDaniel Memorial Library of Duluth First UMC. (Amy, Annette, Megan, Laurie & Mary)	

Order Your Christmas Poinsettias:
Through Sunday, December 14th

The Worship Committee invites you to remember or honor a loved one with a poinsettia this Christmas season. The poinsettias will be used to adorn the Sanctuary and Hinton Hall on Sunday, December 21st, and on Christmas Eve. **The cost per poinsettia plant is \$20. You may pick up your poinsettia/poinsettias following the worship services on Christmas Eve.** Printed copies of the poinsettia Remembrance/Honor listings will be available at the worship services on Sunday, December 21st, and at the three worship services on Christmas Eve.



All proceeds go to **Seeds of Hope**, whose funds are used to help meet the needs of God's people living in Duluth and Suwanee--often strangers, widows, orphans, homeless, those who are lost, and those who are without hope--who come to Duluth First United Methodist Church seeking assistance. **In 2025 the number of assistance requests has been much higher than in the past.** If you would like to contribute extra above/beyond the cost of your poinsettia(s), we thank you for your additional support of **Seeds of Hope**.

You can place your order for poinsettias online with a credit/debit card payment. Anyone wishing to pay by credit/debit card must complete their order form online. To order online, please go to the church's website - www.duluthumc.org - and then click on the **POINSETTIAS** slide on the homepage.

If you wish to pay by check or cash, please complete the order form information below.

In Memory of _____
PLEASE PRINT

In Honor of _____
PLEASE PRINT

By: _____
PLEASE PRINT

Phone #: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Order Total: \$ _____

Please display the poinsettia in the: _____ Sanctuary _____ Hinton Hall. (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

One "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" per form, one form per plant. Additional order forms will be available at the Information Centers in the Narthex (main entrance to the Sanctuary), in Hinton Hall, and in the Atrium.

Please place your completed form/forms, along with a check made payable to **Duluth First UMC** and marked **Poinsettias** in the memo section, or cash, in the Church Staff Drop Box located in the Atrium, or send to Duluth First United Methodist Church, Attn. Ken Willi, 3208 Duluth Highway 120, Duluth, GA 30096. **NOTE: All orders must be received by Sunday, December 14th, by 5 p.m.**