

Windcrest

United Methodist Church
Boldly Serving God's Kingdom

December 2025



CONNECTION Newsletter



Merry Christmas

Coming in December

- 5th— Christmas Fireside Fellowship 7:00 pm
- 6th— River City Ringers 1:00 pm
- 7th— Christmas Extravaganza 4:00 pm
- 12th—Christmas Puppet Shows 6:30 & 7:30 pm
- 13th—HO HO HO Market 2:00—6:00 pm
Christmas Puppet Shows 6:30 & 7:30 pm
- 14th—Christmas Puppet Show 1:00 pm
- 16th—Windcrest Bike Night 6:00 pm
- 19th—Windcrest Day School Christmas Program
6:00 pm
- 21st—Blue Christmas Service 4:30 pm
Family Movie Night Polar Express 6:00 pm
- 24th—Family Christmas Eve Service 4:30 pm
Handbell Concert 6:30 pm
Candlelight Christmas Service 7:00 pm

Celebrate
Christmas
with Us
Windcrest United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve
Family Candlelight Service 4:30 pm
 Handbell Concert 6:30 pm
Candlelight Service 7:00 pm
8101 Midcrown Dr. • Windcrest • Texas • 78239
210- 654-0404

Wifi- WUMC-Guest
Password: disciples
MinistryOne app



Worship Services - Sundays: Traditional 9:00 am • Contemporary 11:00 am • Wednesday 6:30 pm
Sunday services are also streamed live on Facebook at [WUMC Facebook](#) and posted for you to view at anytime [on the WUMC website](#). You may also view on [WUMC YouTube channel](#).

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/windcrestumc

Instagram: [windcrestunitedmethodistchurch](#)

YouTube: [@windcrestunitedmethodistch2990](#)



FROM THE WINDCREST UMC CHURCH OFFICE

MOVING? CHANGED YOUR PHONE #? Don't Forget Us! From the church office

When your address, phone number or email address changes, don't forget to let the Church Office know! We want to stay in touch with you and appreciate receiving updates of your contact information.

You can call the church office at 210-654-0404 or email m.williams@windcrestumc.org. And, don't forget, if you aren't receiving our weekly email blasts – which are full of important information – let us know and we will get you signed up!

Love Offering

Windcrest United Methodist Church has a tradition of presenting our paid staff with a generous love offering during the Christmas Season. This year, we will be collecting this offering through December 31. During 2025, Windcrest UMC was served by a staff who blessed us all with their talents, dedicated work, and love.



You may write a check to WUMC, marked "Staff Love Offering" on the memo line, or place your contribution in an offering envelope. You may also make your contribution through our on-line giving or in the WUMC app. Your gifts are tax-deductible.

Our staff worked very diligently this year on your behalf and this is an opportunity for us to show our love and appreciation for a job well done.

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Online



Visit www.windcrestumc.org

scan the QR Code to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.



Church App

Stay Connected with OUR MinistryOne app. Register for events, view your donation history, contact us and more all with the convenience of your phone.



BY THE NUMBERS—Financial Status

Month	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Expenses	Net Income	% Apportionments Pd to Date
July	\$42,571.09	\$63,481.64	\$53,577.80	\$9,903.84	\$0.00
August	\$42,571.09	\$38,737.68	\$44,584.66	-\$5,846.98	\$0.00
September	\$42,571.09	\$45,441.28	\$46,336.74	-\$ 894.46	\$0.00
October	\$42,571.09	\$43,965.18	\$40,507.18	\$3,458.00	\$0.00
YTD Totals	\$327,716.06	\$487,127.19	\$481,664.84	\$5,462.35	

FROM PASTOR ROBERT WADDLE

As we enter the month of December, our hearts naturally turn toward the story that changed the world forever—the **birth of Jesus Christ**, the Light of the World. In a season often filled with activity, noise, and busyness, the message of Christmas gently invites us to slow down and remember that **God stepped into human history** to bring hope, peace, and salvation.

John 1:5 tells us, *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”*

This is not just a poetic line—it is a powerful reality. No matter what darkness we may face today—uncertainty, grief, financial pressure, family strain, or personal struggle—the **light of Jesus continues to shine, undefeated and unwavering.**

As we wrap our trees and homes with lights, let us remember that the only light God wants is that His light shines in our hearts - so that the world sees Jesus shining through us to reach a dark world.

Merry Christmas from my family to yours with love pastor Waddle

Pastor Robert Waddle

r.waddle@windcrestumc.org



Pastor Waddle invites you to join his weekly Bible study where we will start the Book of Revelation on 11/11/25 (**there will be no study on 11/4**). Every Tuesday from 11:00 am until 12:00 pm, we will meet in Room 303 in the McClung Building. Come join us as we get closer to God through the scriptures.



Men's Steak Night & Study is on break and will resume on January 24, 5:00 pm

All men are welcome. For more details, contact the church office.



WUMC BIRTHDAYS/MINISTRY

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 - Carol Hobaugh | 14 - Joey Crews |
| Terrie Horkulic | 17 - John Tarnow |
| 2 - Melissa Garza | Becky Achterberg |
| Patrick Lazzaretti | Kathy Buckner |
| 3 - Francie Reese | 18 - Shelly Burnam |
| Christal Harper | 19 - Bruce Siler |
| 4 - Brady Watson | 24 - Ron Wood |
| Gregorio Garcia | Christel Sibert |
| Michael Woodwick | 25 - Ron Buckner |
| Dede Winn | 28 - Shirley Gilbreath |
| 6 - Robert Abel | 30 - Cindy Richardson |
| 8 - Blakely Hill | Hope Sparks |
| 9 - Marjorie Hampson | 31 - John Lindsey |
| Dave Cannon | |
| 10 - Kristin Rodriguez | |
| 11 - Lee Lipscomb | |
| 12 - Marcy Williams | |

We don't want to leave anyone out! If you have a birthday but don't see your name on the list, please notify the church office. It could be that for some reason we don't have your birthdate in our database.

**Submissions due by Wednesday
December 12 for the
January Connection**

If you would like to receive a mailed copy of the monthly *Connection*, please contact the church office to request one. Thank you.



4/December 2025



Methodist Children's Home

Offering Hope Since 1890

ADVENT MISSION PROJECT

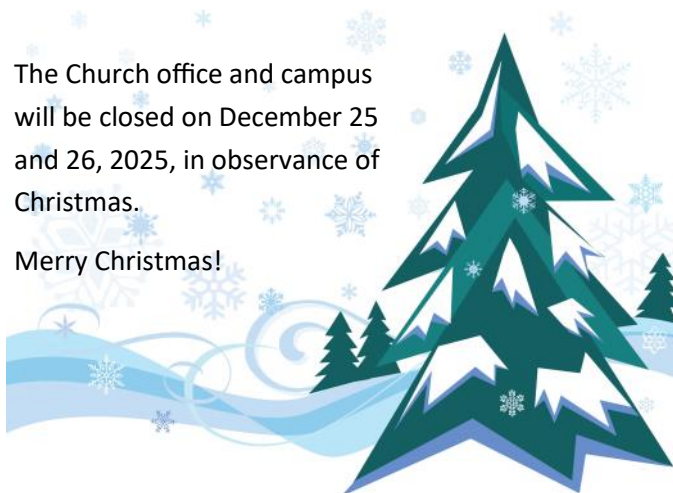
In lieu of an Angel Tree this year, we ask that you consider a monetary donation to the Methodist Children's Home. The Methodist Children's Home was founded in 1890 and is a nationally accredited, nonprofit childcare ministry that relies on the generosity and support of individuals and churches, which empowers all they serve to experience life to the fullest. Throughout their history, they have been blessed with resources that have enabled them to provide the highest quality of care and facilities for children and youth. Today, MCH serves children and youth through residential programs on the Waco campus and Boys Ranch, and through foster care, transition services and a variety of services in communities throughout Texas and New Mexico.

We ask that as you count your own blessings from God throughout this holiday season, you prayerfully consider supporting MCH and the children and youth who are blessed by this amazing ministry.

Please make checks to WUMC and write "MCH" in the memo line. You can also donated online through our giving app. Thank you for your generosity.

The Church office and campus will be closed on December 25 and 26, 2025, in observance of Christmas.

Merry Christmas!



EVENTS



We've all heard the refrain that Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year.

However, for many, that's a sentiment that feels distant from their Advent experience. It could be in the mourning of the death of a loved one, whether it's recent or many years past. It may be in being far from home or bearing the weight of illness, addiction, or estrangement. It may be in loneliness, financial struggle, or coping with trauma associated with the season. It may be in mental health struggles such as seasonal affective disorder. It may be in looking at the pain, need, and violence in our world and struggling for hope.

Blue Christmas services are held on the longest night of the year for prayerful worship among any who are feeling... Well, blue at Christmastime. **Windcrest UMC will be holding a thirty-minute service for just this purpose on Sunday, December 21st at 4:30 pm** in order that we might provide comfort, affirm that it's okay to not be okay, and let the hurting know that they are not alone-- for God is near, and so is the faithful family of WUMC.



Poinsettia Sale

The Altar Guild will offer Poinsettias for sale in the Gathering Place on Sunday, December 7th and 14th, immediately before and after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services, \$15 for each plant. The Poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Persons who purchase a plant may take them home after the Christmas Eve service. You may also order them [online](https://www.windcrestumc.org) at [windcrestumc.org](https://www.windcrestumc.org) through our giving page or MinistryOne app.



WUMC CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

A Pumpkin Patch Thank You



Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's pumpkin patch! Our profit this year was \$5,888.94, which was significantly lower than anticipated. However, the event was successful in many other important ways. The patch served as a safe, family-friendly space for the community, provided free access for families who could not afford admission-based patches, and offered opportunities for fall photos. Two movie nights and the Trunk-or-Treat event were also well attended and positively received. Plans are in place to continue the Pumpkin Patch next year, as it has become a valued fall tradition within the community. Again, thank you for supporting this church outreach ministry!

2025 Christmas Puppet Shows



Come celebrate the season with The Light of Christmas, a show presented by our dedicated youth puppeteers!

Showtimes:

Friday, December 12 – 6:30pm & 7:30pm

Saturday, December 13 – 6:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, December 14 – 1:00pm

Enjoy complimentary cocoa and cookies on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Let's gather in joy and wonder as we share the light of Christmas through puppetry and community spirit!

Cookie donations needed. If you'd like to contribute, please drop off cookie donations by Thursday, December 11 at 5pm.

Pajama Party & Polar Express Movie Night



Date: December 21

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayless Hall

Join us for a cozy and festive evening as we celebrate the Christmas season with a Pajama Party and a special screening of the beloved holiday classic, *The Polar Express*! Wear your favorite pajamas, bring your holiday cheer, and enjoy a night filled with fun, food, and fellowship.

This is a FREE event, so invite your friends and family to share in the joy!

Don't miss this magical evening! Hot cocoa, tasty treats, and heart-warming fellowship await you. Mark your calendars and spread the word.

OUTREACH

"These events are open to everyone—we'd love to see you there!"

Senior Adult Games Day

Every 2nd and 4th Mondays
of every month,
10:30 am – 1:30 pm in Bayless Hall.
Currently, there's Mexican Train,
Hand and Foot, Rummikub, and Pinochle,
but there might be others that we could
start. Bring a sack lunch, and there will be
a snack table if you choose to bring any-
thing else to share (optional).
All are welcome.

Grief & Life-Change Support Group

Join us every
Tuesday at 9:45 am in room 301

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
Thursdays in Bayless Hall, 6:00—8:00 pm

R.O.O.T.S.

Royal Order Of Terrific Seniors

Meets from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm on the third
Monday of each month in Bayless Hall. **Everyone is
welcome regardless of age.** Come and bring a
friend or make a friend. We always have a great
potluck & good speakers. Our motto is "Life is
short, Eat Dessert First" and we do. Program for
December 15 is Rev Julie Brendan Rowe speaking
on her research and study through personal visits
on insight into Israel / Palestine issues.

Sit and Be Fit

Tuesdays and Thursdays

The senior adults enjoy a time of light
exercise on Tuesday
and Thursday mornings at 9:00 am
in Bayless Hall.

Chair Yoga

Mondays 2:00 pm in Bayless Hall.
(Not on third Mondays)
Wednesdays 10:30 am in Bayless Hall.
Fridays 10:30 am in Bayless Hall.



United
Women
in Faith

Hannah Circle – No Hannah Circle in December.

United Women in Faith Potluck Luncheon
Not meeting in December

United Women in Faith Executive meeting,
Tuesday, December 9th, at 5:30 pm, in room 303.

Sarah-Ruth Circle - December 17th, 9:30 am, room
303

WUMC MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes

Important dates to remember for December:

December 6th at 1:00 p.m. we will be hosting the “**River City Ringers**” with **Ring, Swing Christmas!** You don’t want to miss this concert. It will put you in the Christmas Spirit, so we hope to see you on December 6th!

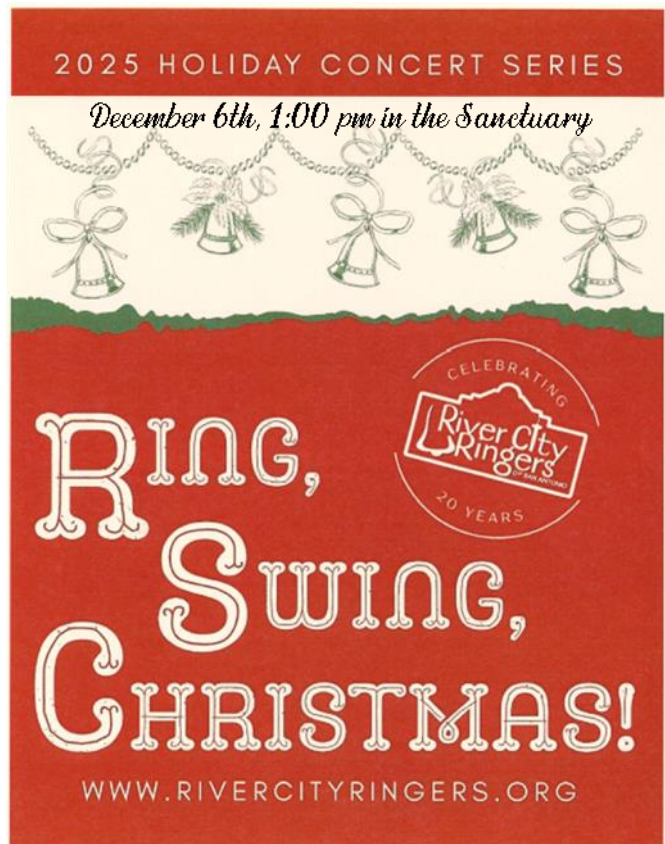
The **Christmas Extravaganza** will be the day after the River City Ringers, **December 7th** at 4:00. We have a great lineup of singers, ringers, dancers and more! Please support your Music Ministry on Sunday, December 7th at 4:00.

On **Christmas Eve** at 4:30 p.m. will be a Family Candlelight Service. Christmas songs, glow sticks for the children and some great music from Michael and the Praise Team. Then at 6:30 will be our Joyful Ringers handbell concert. The handbells have been working on our Christmas music since September. You don’t want to miss it! After the handbell concert we will have our traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service. It’s a very beautiful, peaceful service. There’s a service for everyone!

Hope you all have a blessed and Merry Christmas. Thank you for supporting our music ministry here at Windcrest United Methodist Church. God bless you and yours this Christmas season.

In Joyful Noise,

Debbie Andrews



WINDCREST DAY SCHOOL

Christmas Market Donations Needed!

Our Christmas Market is approaching, and we're looking for items that children can purchase as gifts for their family members. If you are able to donate, we would greatly appreciate contributions such as:

- Socks, ties, scarves
 - Lotions, nail polish, cosmetic bags
 - Costume jewelry
 - Travel mugs, soup mugs, candy dishes
 - T-shirts
 - Note cards/notepads
 - Decorative items, potpourri, candles
- Socks, ties, scarves
 - Lotions, nail polish, cosmetic bags
 - Costume jewelry
 - Travel mugs, soup mugs, candy dishes
 - T-shirts














Please drop off any donations at the school office **no later than December 11th**.

Thank you for helping make our Christmas Market a wonderful experience for the students!

12 DAYS OF



Daily Dress Options

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
Let's get into the holiday spirit! 			12/4 Plaid Day Wear your flannel shirt, dress or pants. 	12/5 Elf Day Keep the spirit of the season going. Dress up like an elf. 
12/8 Snowman Day Feeling Frosty - wear white or dress like a snowman 	12/9 Candy Cane Day Wear your red and white Christmas stripes 	12/10 Polar Express Day Don't sweat it! Break is almost here - wear your sweats 	12/11 Bling & Shine Day Light up like a light. Wear holiday glitter, tinsel, bells, etc. 	12/12 Reindeer Day Dashing through the snow - dress as one of Santa's Reindeer 
12/15 Grinch Day You're a mean one Mr. Grinch. Dress up like the Grinch or wear as much green as you can. 	12/16 Ugly Sweater Day Deck the halls - put on your cute or ugly Christmas Sweater or shirt. 	12/17 Santa Hat & Christmas Socks Day It's almost time for a visit from the big man. Show him some love. 	12/18 Christmas Story Day Silent Night - prepare for the holidays. Wear comfy PJ's /Onesies 	12/19 Everything Christmas Tree & More Galore Day Dress up like a Christmas Tree 

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

Join us every Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:50 am as we open our doors to serve the community through our Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry. (Except the months with a fifth Thursday, the Food Pantry will be close)

On the first Thursday of each month, in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank, we offer an expanded food distribution from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (or while supplies last).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHURCH AND YOUR COMMUNITY

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is having food delivered to our Pantry from the San Antonio Food Bank twice a month to help with the increase in food being distributed weekly.

We are in need of volunteers to:

1. Watch for the delivery truck
2. Help unload and stock the Pantry

As the "watch" person you would call those volunteers scheduled to help unload and stock the Pantry as soon as the truck arrives.

The monthly food deliveries are:

- 2nd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH (Delivery window is 1:00 - 3:00 pm)
- 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH (Delivery window is 10:00 am - 2:00 pm)

Please contact Francyne Underwood at francyne@prodigy.net or 210-355-1559 for more details and to get scheduled at a day/time that fits your schedule. This will save trips to the San Antonio Food Bank and allows us to take advantage of additional food at no cost to us.

Date: October 2, 2025

SA Food Bank Drive Up Distribution	Qty
# of families served	198
# of people in those families served	766
# of new families served	21
# of volunteers serving	45
# of lbs. of food distributed	11,600

Dates: October 9, 16, 23, 2025

NHN Pantry Distribution	Qty
# of families served	238
# of people in those families served	879
# of new families served	41
# of volunteers serving	69
	14,995

Please help fill our shopping cart with non-perishable food to help restock our pantry shelves. Items needed are:

Canned Vegetables	Peanut Butter
Canned Soup	Mac & Cheese
Cereal	Jelly

A grocery basket is available in the Gathering Place to collect items. Thank you.

WUMC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Chair	Chester Varner
Senior Pastor	Robert Waddle
Finance Chair	Laquita Wynn
Trustees Chair	Dick Davis
Ministry Planning Chair	Betty Sullivan
Pastor Parish Relation Chair	Gary Belcher
Lay Member	Barbara Moody
	Larry Shanklin
	Meagan Allen
	Jaime Daigle
Lay Leader	Darryl Taylor
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Dan Reese

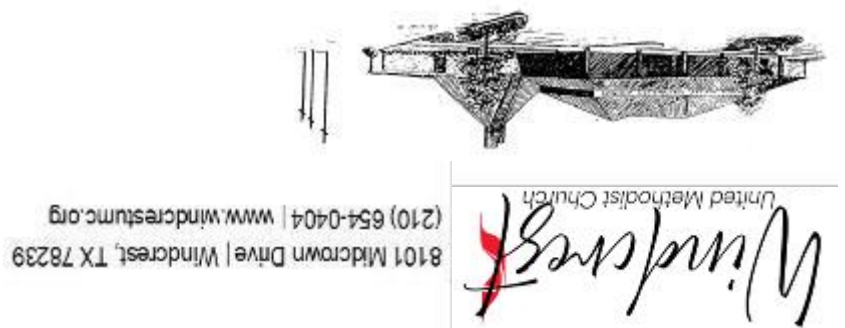
Upcoming Meetings for December:

2th,	6:30 pm - Church Council Meeting, BH
9th,	5:30 pm - United Women in Faith Executive meeting, 303
9th,	6:30 pm - Ministry Planning Team Meeting, BH
9th,	4:30 pm - Finance Team, BH
9th,	6:30 pm - Trustees Action Team Meeting, 303
18th,	6:00 pm - Foundation Board, 305

DECEMBER CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Chair Yoga 2p BH Scouts 6:30p BH Bell Rehearsal 6:30p	2 Sit and Be Fit 9a BH Grief Support 9:45a 301 Church Council 6:30p BH	3 Chair Yoga 10:30a BH Wednesday Pot-luck & Communion 6:30p BH	4 Sit N Be Fit 9a BH SA Food Bank/ NHN 8a Tops 6p BH Praise Team 7p Sanct	5 Chair Yoga 10:30a BH Christmas Fire-side Fellowship 7p	6 Angel Breakfast 9a BH River City Ringers 11a Sanct
7 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:15a Traditional Worship 9a Contemporary Worship 11a Christmas Extravaganza 4p Sanct	8 Games Day 10:30a BH Chair Yoga 2p BH Scouts 6:30p BH Bell Rehearsal 6:30p	9 Sit and Be Fit 9a BH Grief Support 9:45a 301 Pastor's Bible Study 11a 303 UWF Executive Mtg 5:30p 303 Ministry Planning 6:30p BH	10 Puppet set-up Chair Yoga 10:30a BH Wednesday Pot-luck & Communion 6:30p BH	11 Puppet Set-up Sit N Be Fit 9a GP NHN 10a Tops 6p 302,303 Praise Team 7p Sanct	12 Puppet Shows 6:30, 7:30p Chair Yoga canceled	13 HO HO HO Market 2-6p Puppet shows 6:30, 7:30p
14 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:15a Traditional Worship 9a Contemporary Worship 11a Puppet Show 1p	15 R.O.O.T.S. Luncheon 11a BH Scouts 6:30p BH Bell Rehearsal 6:30p	16 Sit and Be Fit 9a BH Grief Support 9:45a 301 Pastor's Bible Study 11a 303 Finance Team Mtg 4:30p BH Windcrest Bike Night 6p Trustees Action Team Mtg 6:30p 303	17 Sara Ruth Circle 9:30a 303 Chair Yoga 10:30a BH Wednesday Pot-luck & Communion 6:30p BH	18 Sit N Be Fit 9a BH NHN Food Pantry 10a 301 Tops 6p BH Foundation Board 6p Praise Team 7p Sanct	19 Lifeline Screening 10:30a Chair Yoga canceled WDS Christmas program 6p	20
21 UMM Breakfast 7:30a BH Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:15a Traditional Worship 9a Contemporary Worship 11a Blue Christmas service 4:30p Family Polar Express 6p	22 Games Day 10:30a Scouts 6:30p BH Bell Rehearsal 6:30p	23 Sit and Be Fit 9a BH Grief Support 9:45a 301 Pastor's Bible Study 11a 303	24 Christmas Eve Family Christmas Eve Candlelight service 4:30p Handbells Concert, 6:30 p Christmas Eve Candlelight service 7:00 p	25 Holiday Christmas Day	26 Church office and campus closed	27
28 One Service Sunday 10a	29 Chair Yoga 2p BH Scouts 6:30 pm BH	30 Sit and Be Fit 9a BH Grief Support 9:45a 301 Pastor's Bible Study 11a canceled	31 Holiday	1 New Year's Day Holiday		
 <div>8101 Midcrown Dr. Windcrest, TX 78239 windcrestumc.org Facebook.com/windcrestumc Instagram windcrestunitedmethodistchurch</div>			<div>BH—Bayless Hall (Hilliard Bldg) CR—Choir Room (Jones Bldg.) Sanct—Sanctuary YS—Youth Space/105 (Hilliard Bldg.) PL—Parking Lot CY—Courtyard SH—Scout Hut</div>			



Office Staff

8101 Midcrown, Windcrest, Texas 78239 • 210-654-0404 office

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am –5:00 pm, Friday, 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Website: www.windcrestumc.org • Facebook: www.facebook.com/windcrestumc

Instagram: [windcrestunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.instagram.com/windcrestunitedmethodistchurch) • TikTok: [windcrestunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/windcrestunitedmethodistchurch)



Office Staff:	Name	Extension	E-mail	
Senior Pastor	Robert Waddle	112	r.waddle@windcrestumc.org	
Director of Children & Youth	Dawn Crews	115	d.crews@windcrestumc.org	SU-Th
Music Ministry	Debbie Andrews	118	d.andrews@windcrestumc.org	
Praise Worship Leader	Michael Dale O'Brien		mdaobrien@gmail.com	
Media Tech	Tim Ross			
Church Administrator	Marcy Williams	125	m.williams@windcrestumc.org	M-F
Church Treasurer	Rina Segura	111	r.segura@windcrestumc.org	M, W, F
Communications Coordinator	Lisa Scott	123	l.scott@windcrestumc.org	W-F
Maintenance	Braulio Diaz			M-F
Day School Director	Linda Wilcoxon	120	l.wilcoxon@windcrestumc.org	M-F
Wesley Nurse	Daniela Kulyas	142	DKulyas@mhmc.org	

Worship Services - Sundays: In person and Live online at 9:00 am and 11:00 am <https://www.facebook.com/windcrestumc/>