



*Oh
light*

Contemporary Worship

December 28, 2025



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

We are so glad you are here, and we would love to connect with you. Let us know you are here by scanning this QR code or by visiting:

www.canterburyumc.org/attendance

We look forward to connecting with you!

Senior Pastor - Rev. Keith Thompson

Pastor - Rev. Hill Carmichael

Pastor - Rev. Tori Hastings

Pastor - Dr. Bill Morgan

Pastor - Rev. Matthew Montgomery

Pastor - Dr. Rick Owen

Youth Pastor - Rev. Gann Waters - Wright

Bishop in Residence - Dr. Mike Watson

Director of Contemporary Music - Natalie Moon



Who Are We

As people of the church, we are committed to following Jesus with an authentic faith. We seek to be real and authentic in every part of our lives because we believe that Jesus wants to know us. We also believe that Jesus wants to meet us wherever we are in life. At Canterbury United Methodist Church, this is what it means to be in relationship with Christ. Jesus said the most important thing we can do is to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love our neighbor as our self. This simple yet profound statement represents the real grace and real love Jesus has for all people, particularly those whom the rest of the world often overlooks. This statement from Jesus also represents the very nature of who God is. Through sharing real grace and real love with people, Jesus brought healing into their lives. At Canterbury, we seek to follow Jesus' example, striving to share and experience real grace and real love in our real life.

Real Grace

Grace stands as a central tenant to our community. It is at the very core of who we are as children of God because it is part of our lives before we are even aware of it. We confess that we are each imperfect, regularly falling short of our own standards and God's. God loves us anyway just as we are. God initiates every relationship with us through grace. God's grace can never be earned, it is all gift. We, as God's children, strive to do the same with each other. We start with grace given to us by God. We live offering the same grace to ourselves and one another.

Real Love

In a world where people are sometimes criticized for being different, the people of the church are called to be intentionally different. Our Holy Scriptures remind us that we are all created in the image of God; and, if God is Love, then we are created in the image of love. God as revealed in Jesus Christ is what real love looks like. When we are most true to who we are created to be, we are loving. At Canterbury, we seek to embody that love is patient and kind ... and we particularly like it best when it is a verb.

Real Life

God constantly invites us into a life of full connection with God and others through Jesus Christ. This is the real life we are created for. Nothing but relationship with God and each other will truly satisfy the longing inside us. We believe this is the path to real, abundant life. Our desire is to walk this path together.

Welcome to Canterbury

We are so glad you chose to worship with us today!

We want you to feel at home. Through close relationships, the study of scripture, education, and caring for others, our goal is to connect you to God, each other, and His world in a real and meaningful way. We want to be a place where you will meet Jesus exactly where you are. You will find a community of real people, led by leaders who express their real experiences to help renew and empower you to follow Him. So no matter where you are in life, we invite you to come as you are and to live for something greater. If you need help finding your way around, we have welcome guides located at our main entrances and outside the worship areas. We look forward to connecting with you!

WORSHIP:

Children in Worship All children are welcome in worship! The sights, sounds, and interactions of worship are appropriate for every age. Worship Activity bags, Sensory bags, and other resources are available as you enter. If you have a child with sensory challenges who might need a break from worship, we have a Sensory Room located on the 2nd floor of the Children's Building. Excellent nursery care is available to children through 4 years.

- *Make sure your children get a worship activity pack from the wall when entering Canterbury Center.*
- *The Children's Comfort Room is in the back hallway.*

Worship Online We strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us! All worship services are available online:

Website:

www.canterburyumc.org/worship/worship-online

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CanterburyUMChurch

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/@CanterburyUMC

NEXT STEPS

If you are new to Canterbury, this is a great class for those who want to learn more about our church. Held on Sunday mornings, it provides an overview of what makes Canterbury thrive. You can find out more about the church, ask questions, and make personal connections. Sundays, 9:15-10:15 AM in the Dining Room. For questions or to sign up for the next session, please contact Becky King at becky.king@canterburyumc.org.

MEET WITH OUR PASTORS:

Our pastors would love to meet with you over coffee and get to know you. You can bring any questions you might have and get to know a little more about Canterbury, and anything else you want to talk about. Contact Matthew Montgomery at matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org or 205-868-6588, to set that up.

CONTACT US:

Church Office: 205-871-4695

To Join: matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org
205-868-6590 x 2327

Pastoral Care Response Line: 205-999-4887

canterburyumc.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORSHIP IS AN AWARENESS AND EXPRESSION OF GOD'S PRESENCE LIVED OUT MOMENT BY MOMENT

We Gather In God's Presence

He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)

Welcome & Greeting

Children's Moment

Baptism

We Prepare Our Hearts With Song

Joy To The World

O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)

We Respond To God

God's People Pray

God's People Give

Love Is Christmas

We Listen For God's Voice

Luke 2:22-33

When The Tree Is Still Up

Noel

We Go To Live Like Jesus

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

PRESENTED FOR HOLY BAPTISM

MARGARET MILLS GREEN

October 9, 2025

Parents: Manon & Jake Green

Grandparents: Tricia & Andy Burris, Heather Heidrich, Jim Green

Great-grandparents: Art & Patsy Hanes

CHRISTMAS MISSION OUTREACH OFFERING

The Mission Outreach United Appeal Fund (MOR) Offering has benefited Canterbury and other ministries for many years. Your gift this Christmas will benefit the following ministries in 2026:

- CANTERBURY UMC - RISE AGAINST HUNGER
- CANTERBURY UMC - MISSIONARY SUPPORT
- AVONDALE SAMARITAN PLACE

Please drop your gift in the offering plate. You may also choose to mail your offering to the Finance Office. Please make your check payable to the Mission Outreach United Appeal Fund.

YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

For your contributions to qualify as a 2025 tax-deductible donation, the IRS requires that they must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2025. Here are the specific deadlines:

- **BY MAIL** | The postmark date on the envelope must be no later than December 31.
- **IN PERSON** | If you wish to drop off your contribution, the Finance Office will be open until Noon on Wednesday, December 31 or you may insert your donation in the receptacle at the round desk.
- **ONLINE GIVING** | Online gifts must be entered before midnight, December 31 at www.canterburyumc.org/giving.
- **TEXT GIVING** | Text gifts must be submitted before midnight, December 31. Text to 205-336-2111 the amount you wish to contribute to the 2025 ministry in the message area. Then follow instructions.
- **STOCK** | Stock gifts must be transferred to the church before the stock market closes at 3:00 p.m. CST on December 31. Please notify Carolyn Phillips upon transfer at 874-1553 by Noon with the details of your stock transaction and to confirm instructions.

Happening at Canterbury

YAC Parent Gathering | January 4

If you are the parent of a youth, join us on January 4 from 3-5 PM at Slice in Homewood for a special gathering. You'll gain insight and learn details on what is happening at YAC in 2026! Questions? Email eleanor.kerr@canterburyumc.org.

Winter Studies | Begin January 7

Join us on January 7 when Wednesday dinner returns along with Winter studies. Our pastors will be teaching topics from their favorite seminary classes. Some of the offerings include:

- Lessons from the Minor Prophets, Hill Carmichael
- The Book of Esther, Eleanor Christiansen
- Intro to Christian Theology, Tori Hastings
- Many more!

Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults

Iron City Men's Event | January 10

Don't miss a morning of inspiration and fellowship at the Men's Ministry gathering on Saturday, January 10 from 9 AM to Noon at TopGolf. This event features two dynamic speakers, Jerry Pate, U.S. Open Champion and Alabama Hall of Fame golfer, and Aaron Feld, renowned strength coach from University of Miami. Enjoy great conversation and connection with men from across the community. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today: \$50 per person or \$25 for college students.

Register: www.canterburyumc.org/mens-ministry

Women's Dinner | January 29 | 6 PM

You're invited to an evening of food, fellowship, and inspiration at the UMW sponsored Women's Dinner on Thursday, January 29 at 6 PM. Enjoy a delicious meal and hear from Ashley McMakin, owner and founder of Ashley Mac's, as she shares her story of faith, family, and building a beloved local business. Tickets are \$25 per person. Come be encouraged and connect with women across our church community... we can't wait to see you there! Register now by scanning the QR code.

Diaper Drive with Bundles of Hope

This Christmas, we remember Mary preparing a manger for the arrival of Jesus, doing all she could to welcome new life with love, hope, and care. In that same spirit, our January 25th Serve Day kids project invites you to help other mothers in our community prepare for their little ones. Kids@Canterbury is partnering with Bundles of Hope to host a special Diaper Drive, and we'd love for you to participate! A manger outside the Kids Check-In Station serves as our collection point. We need:

- New packages of disposable diapers
- Opened, outgrown, or partial packages
- Sizes: Newborn through size 6
- Biggest need: Newborn, 5 & 6

NEXT STEPS

Begins February 1

This Sunday morning class is a basic introduction to our church family and a wonderful time for you to connect with others. If you are interested in making Canterbury your church home, please join us on 2/1, 2/8 and 2/15 at 9:15 AM. To register, please email becky.king@canterburyumc.org.



SERVE DAY RETURNS 01.25.26

Canterbury Serve Day

January 25 | 10:30 AM

After such an incredible experience last year, we can't wait to come together again to serve our neighbors and community. Make plans to



join us for this special Sunday of hands-on ministry, impact, and fellowship. Sign up for your project now by scanning the QR code or visiting: www.canterburyumc.org/outreach

Project List:

Books to Prisons Letter Writing
Bundles of Hope Diaper Project
Little Brown Bag Packing
Panama Bags
Prayer Shawls
Rise Against Hunger
Fellowship Lunch / FLIP Team
Sewing Love
Soup Preparation (At-Home Option)
Spring Cleaning Buckets
Valentine Cards
Valentine Love Baskets





Thank You for Joining Us Today!