

the BELLRINGER



Official Newsletter of Holman UMC



Lean into Possibility

JANUARY 2024

OUR MISSION

To fulfill the Great Commission by inviting people into discipleship with Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OUR VISION

*A place where bells are rung as we
GATHER for dynamic worship,
GROW through inspired learning,
GO into joyful service, and
LIVE the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

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The Giving Season



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Walden's Words



Rev. James M. Lawson Jr. Mile

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WALDEN'S WORDS



Best wishes for the new year!
Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Michelle Walden

JANUARY 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 31 8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday Sch 11am Worship Service | 1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED | 2 5:30 Lay Leader | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 9am Church Council via Zoom |
| 7 <i>Epiphany</i> 8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service Mark 1:4-11 "The Holy Spirit" | 8 11:30am HUMC Staff Meeting | 9 6:30pm SPPRC | 10 12 pm Prayer Shawl | 11 8am Interfaith Prayer Breakfast 1pm Bible Study 3pm -9pm Lawson Mile Dedication | 12 7:30am Prayer Svc | 13 9am Holman United Methodist Men 10am Ignited Light at BHCP 7pm ICYOLA at Skirball |
| 14 <i>Epiphany</i> 8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service John 1:43-51 "Do You Believe?" | 15 Dr. King's Birthday OFFICE CLOSED | 16 7pm Trustee Board | 17 | 18 1pm Bible Study | 19 7:30am Prayer Svc | 20 |
| 21 <i>Epiphany</i> 8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service Rev. Sunny Kang, Guest Preacher 3pm BMCRC Mtg | 22 11:30pm HUMC Staff | 23 6:30pm Finance | 24 12pm Prayer Shawl | 25 1pm Bible Study 6pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Homeless Count (ends on 1/26) | 26 12am Homeless Count 7:30am Prayer Svc | 27 |
| 28 8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service Mark 1:21-28 "What Is This?" | 29 11:30am HUMC Staff | 30 | 31 | 1 1pm Bible Study | 2 7:30am Prayer Svc | 3 |

Beyond the Battlefield 24/7 PRAYER LINE

Bible Study (Phone)*

Prayer Service (Phone)*

Adult Sunday School Class*

Children's Ministry/Sunday School*

(323) 703-1545

(605) 313-4179/Code: 399683

(605) 313-4179/Code: 399683

Sundays @ 9:30am

[Electronic newsletter](#)

*Contact the office for details: (323) 703-5868

Holman Apportionment Deadline

EXTENDED

Sunday, January 7, 2024

@ midnight

An individual congregation's apportionment is its contribution to the Conference in support of the work of the church as a whole. Supported ministries include the World Service Fund, Black College Fund, Ministerial Education Fund, Interdenominational Cooperation, Africa University, and General Administration Funds. Using our online giving platforms, Givelify and Vanco, you may contribute until midnight on January 7. Thanks in advance for taking part in this essential community effort.



**Greater Los Angeles
Homeless Count**

January 25, 8:00 PM - January 26, 12:00 AM

Please **register for the 2024 Homeless Count** at theycountwillyou.org. Enter zip code 90018 and select Holman if not automatically designated.

Plan to gather at Holman at 6:30 p.m. in L.L. White Hall. Be sure to view online training.



CONGRATULATIONS
JANUARY 2024 CELEBRANTS

1 DAVID R. SEARS

2 ADDIE L. ARBOR

9 BARBARA WILLIAMS

10 MASSA MINAH

13 CLIFFORD HOOE

13 CHEYENNE RODGERS

13 JACKI WILLIAMS-JONES

14 MARGIE ELLINGTON

14 MARY THOMAS

15 MELIDA SKEETE SMITH

16 CLARENE LONG

18 JOYCE M. STEPHENS

19 ELTON BAILEY

19 MYRON JACKSON

22 FREDDIE MUSE, JR.

23 GENEVIEVE JOHNSON

26 VILMA DAWSON

26 ROYETTA RODGERS

28 EVELYN JOHNSON

29 MAE CAMPBELL-JONES

30 RAVEN LAWSON

31 JASON RABB

Bless them with Your presence and surround them with Your love, that they may
enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to You.

United Methodist Book of Worship

The Giving Season...Is it over?

Hello Holman Family,

My name is Ida Younge. My husband, Fitzroy, and I have attended Holman United Methodist Church for 46 years. We raised our three daughters here and have been blessed by the Holman legacy and community.

I am currently serving on the Finance Committee and having a newfound appreciation for the staff and members who manage the income, tithes and offerings that keep Holman United Methodist Church's reputation and legacy alive in the Los Angeles Community and beyond.

By the time you read this message we will have come through yet another holiday season. The past six weeks of every year are my favorite. There is a hub of activity at home, at church and in the community. It is a time to re-connect with family and friends and even former co-workers. We visit or have visitors, opening our homes and hearts to those we hold dear. There are festive decorations everywhere and there is an abundance of cheer at every turn.

It is also a very special time at Holman. The choirs and guests re-kindle all the special memories of the seasons that can only be found in church. I reflect on the many concerts, children's pageants, and sermons I have witnessed over the years. I realize how much I depend on these annual rituals and how they define the season in our household. I missed them so much during the COVID shutdowns.

It's the same feeling I had when our children were little, and we would travel "home" to Oakland and Berkeley to visit family and spend time with the grandparents. When we turned off the freeway onto my street, I could smell my mother's turkey and dressing in the oven. I knew my father would be pacing on the porch, waiting to help unload the girls and all their gear. It was the same every time. I knew exactly what to expect.

So it is with Holman. When we turn off the freeway onto Arlington and make our way to Adams Blvd., I can hear the choirs and musicians getting ready. I know that Ms. Jackson or Ms. Levi have plugged in the coffee pot and are preparing for the hospitality that will follow each service. Reverend Walden and Reverend Chase are in the Sanctuary. The media team is checking the sound system and preparing for the YOUTUBE and radio broadcasts. The flowers have been delivered to adorn the altar and honor loved ones past and present. It's all waiting as we enter the church. All we must do is show up or tune in. We will be greeted by friendly faces and offered the weekly bulletin so that we can follow the order of service. It all appears so seamless.

All these rituals are made possible through the generosity of the Holman family and contributors. There are so many pleas for our time and treasure as many of us experienced these past few weeks. My inbox and mailbox were full of requests to donate to one worthy cause after another. Who can turn down, Doctors Without Borders, St. Jude's Children Hospital, the United Negro College Fund, the list goes on. We help where we can. We also know that the funding needs of the Church are extensive. Mortgage Reduction, Saturday School, Apportionment, monthly tithes, the annual budget, emergency repairs, all require our attention. We see our contributions in action every week as they make the Sunday worship service and all it represents possible.

As we reflect on the past year and prepare for the new year, know that your contributions are appreciated, valued and necessary. We make sacrifices for the things that are important, for the things that help sustain us and enrich our lives. Yes, the pumpkins and poinsettias have been packed away for another year. However, the pledge cards and our gifts to the church are ongoing. Working together and giving together will support the Holman Church and Community and provide us with the essential elements for our spiritual growth and continued development as faithful, God loving people.

**Give, and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed
down, shaken together, running
over, will be put into your lap;
for the measure you give will be
the measure you get back.**

Luke 6:38

Peace and blessings to you and your families. Happy New Year.

May we all be abundantly blessed in 2024!

Ida Young



Ida Younge is member of the Holman Finance Committee, Class of 2026.

December in Review



Clockwise from the left: Members of Holman music ministries celebrate the holidays at the parsonage; Advent Task Force members adorn the sanctuary for Christmas services.



Sharon, we never knew ya!

Top: Sharon Jackson and her sister, Thresa Thomas, join actor Samuel L. Jackson at the gas pump. “Cousin” Sam proved a great sport. *Clockwise from top right:* Volunteers at CYFC’s Christmas Extravaganza. First Lady Michelle Walden at the board during music ministries holiday party at the parsonage. CYFC Executive Director, Lydia Cincore-Templeton, with holiday Extravaganza participants, December 16.





Opposite page: The lines and the smiles stretch from Holman to Arlington Avenue during CYFC's Annual Christmas gift-giving event for foster youth on December 16. *This page:* CYFC Volunteers pose for the camera. *Above:* Holman musicians ring in the holidays at the parsonage.



*Clockwise from the top: Young adult families gather at the parsonage for the holidays. On December 10, soprano Yolanda West delivers a stirring solo during services before bringing down the house in Handel's *Messiah* that afternoon. Pastor and Mrs. Walden welcome the new year.*

Opposite: UWF annual Christmas celebration at the Proud Bird.



Community Voices: *Vilma Dawson*

BR *Are you a native Angelina?*

DAWSON I am native to Los Angeles having grown up in South Los Angeles. I attended Washington Preparatory High School and Loyola Marymount University (LMU) as an undergraduate.

BR *How long have you attended Holman?*

DAWSON I was introduced to Holman United Methodist Church by a friend of mine, Judith Tilghman, who worked with me in the printer systems division of Xerox Corporation, El Segundo. This must have been in the late 1980's before we both ended up enrolling in a Master's program in Business at USC's Marshall School of Business. Rev. Lawson was still the Sr. Pastor of Holman UMC when I started attending Holman on a regular basis. I remember sermons in which the foundation and history of non-violent political action in the United States, prior to and including the 1955 Montgomery (Alabama) Bus Boycott, through the March on Washington and the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act were woven into New (and Old) Testament lessons.



BR *In which Holman ministries do you participate?*

DAWSON I participate in the Friday Morning Intercessory Prayer Group when it was an in-person gathering in the Holman Chapel and now I participate via weekly Zoom; Both my husband Ivor and I participate in the Advent and Lenten Bible studies when they are held on a yearly basis. I have also occasionally served as a Lay Liturgist during 2023.

BR *Who or what drew you into politics?*

DAWSON The late Commissioner Jacquelyn 'Jackie' Hawthorne, a former President of United Methodist Women, among other leadership roles, was a both a mentor and personal friend who was also president of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles District of California Pacific Conference in the 2004 timeframe. The Trustee Board hired me as Director of Operations for the Los Angeles District of Cal PAC reporting to Rev. Grant Hagiya who was District Superintendent at the time.

After I left the District for another opportunity, Jackie and my path's crossed accidentally when she was campaigning for the election of Mayor Garcetti's first term in 2014. Jackie invited me to join the Los Angeles African-American Women's Political Action Committee (LAAWPAC) who was working on a outreach strategy for the Garcetti campaign in the local community.

From that point, I followed Jackie's lead into the Los Angeles County Democratic Party when she was elected as a member of the Assembly District 54 Delegation to the LA County Party in 2016. Jackie offered me the role of her Alternate on the Assembly District Delegation, which means the person who 'stands in the gap' when the elected delegate is not able or available to conduct party business.

Prior to 2014, I was politically aware but not necessarily politically active as far as local or for that matter, national politics were concerned.

When I look back on it now, from the perspective of my political activism, Rev. Lawson's life experiences, mission and service laid the kindling from the pulpit of Holman United Methodist Church; Jackie Hawthorne's influence and mentorship lit the match.

BR What are some opportunities for growth and change in our community

DAWSON The demographics of our community are in flux and have been for at least 2-3 decades; as a community we will have to consider the needs of a multi-ethnic, multi-generational constituency when developing outreach and legislative policies which benefit the interests of all in a fair and equitable manner. Some opportunities for growth/change I see are:

- Independent Redistricting - The Los Angeles City Council is in the process of engaging in much needed redistricting reform; an initiative to establish an independent redistricting Commission will be on the November, 2024 ballot. If we remember, there was an uproar created in 2022 by hearing the recorded conversations of three members of the City Council discussing how to chop up the districts to increase their own political and legislative influence over the physical assets in the districts of their fellow colleagues. The conversations were an indicator of the need to make transparent decisions regarding the legislative priorities that affect our immediate community as well as the City and County of Los Angeles.
- Reduction of gun violence – although California is a state that has stringent gun laws, we are experiencing a higher levels of mass shootings in public places across the country including Los Angeles County; we need to ban the sale and distribution of assault weapons and limit the sale of high-capacity ammunition;
- Identification of local opportunities to leverage the \$45B infrastructure investment in the state of California from the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Assemblymember Bryan's California Justice 40 Act;

- Redevelopment of South Los Angeles/plan – As a previous asset manager of real estate portfolios in both for profit and non-profit environments, with experience managing affordable housing portfolios, I have an interest in the City’s plans for not only development of affordable housing but commercial and industrial businesses development as it can favorably impact the black wealth gap in our communities;

BR How does faith and or membership at Holman inform your public service?

DAWSON Holman has been graced with a number of politically active and progressive senior pastors. Their example of translating liturgy into non-violent social action and legislative initiatives has offered me a blueprint of how to realize the Good News in very divisive and contentious times.

BR What can each person do to benefit the community?

DAWSON In March 2024, I will be running for a seat on the Assembly 55 Delegation to the Los Angeles County Democratic Party. Not everyone can participate in this way. If you can’t run, vote.

I encourage the Holman church community and the surrounding community in our Assembly District 55* and beyond, vote by mail or at the polls in the March 5th, 2024 Presidential Primary Election and again for the November 2024, Presidential Election. Identify candidates and legislative initiatives which emulate the values we hold in common.

If I can paraphrase Michelle Obama’s comments during the 2020 Democratic Presidential convention:

“... make a plan to vote and be prepared to vote like your (our) lives depend on it.”

Holman UMC is located within Los Angeles Assembly District 55. Read more about the district and Assembly member Isacc Bryan [here](#).



SCC

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The Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Reverend William D. Smart, Jr.
President

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Conductor

AND

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024 • 7:00PM

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THE INNER CITY YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF LOS ANGELES

PERFORMING MUSIC IN CELEBRATION OF

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Amanda Gorman
for orchestra and chorus

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OR VISIT [SKIRBALL.ORG](https://www.skirball.org) TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

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PRESENTS



Martin Luther King Jr.'s Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

MOVING IN PRAYER, LEADING WITH RECONCILIATION, AND FORWARD TO ACTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024 | 8:00 AM



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER &
SPECIAL HONOREE**
Rev. Dr. Ken Walden, PH.D.
Senior Pastor, Holman Church



Pastor William D. Smart, Jr.
President and CEO
Southern Christian Leadership
Conference - So. Cal.



Nirinjan Singh Khalsa
Executive Director,
California Sikh Council



Dafer M. Dakhil
Executive Director and
Official Spokesman for
Omar Ibn Al Khattab
Foundation



Sherry L. Purcell, IHM, Ph.D.
President and PEO
Immaculate Heart Community



**HOLMAN UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
3320 W ADAMS BLVD., LOS ANGELES

RSVP: SCLC-SC.ORG

Sponsored by:



Los Angeles
Department of
Water & Power

Holman Joins the City in Honoring Pastor Emeritus James M. Lawson, Jr.

Thursday, January 11, 2024

beginning 3:00 p.m.

at the corner of Crenshaw and Adams Boulevards

Days shy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Councilmember Heather Hutt and AFL-CIO President Yvonne Wheeler will lead a march on Adams Boulevard from Crenshaw to Holman UMC. The walk, accompanied by music from the Holman choirs, commemorates the August 1968 March on Washington and sets the stage for dedication of a stretch of Adams Boulevard as Rev. James M. Lawson Mile.

Walk with us at 3:30 or join us, 4:00 p.m. at the church, for the formal dedication of Rev. James M. Lawson Mile.

REGISTER [HERE!](#)

Los Angeles City Councilwoman **HEATHER HUTT**
And AFL-CIO President, **YVONNE WHEELER** Invite you to



Dedication of

REV. JAMES M. LAWSON MILE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

3:00pm - Join us in the intersection of Adams & 6th (Park at Holman United Methodist Church)

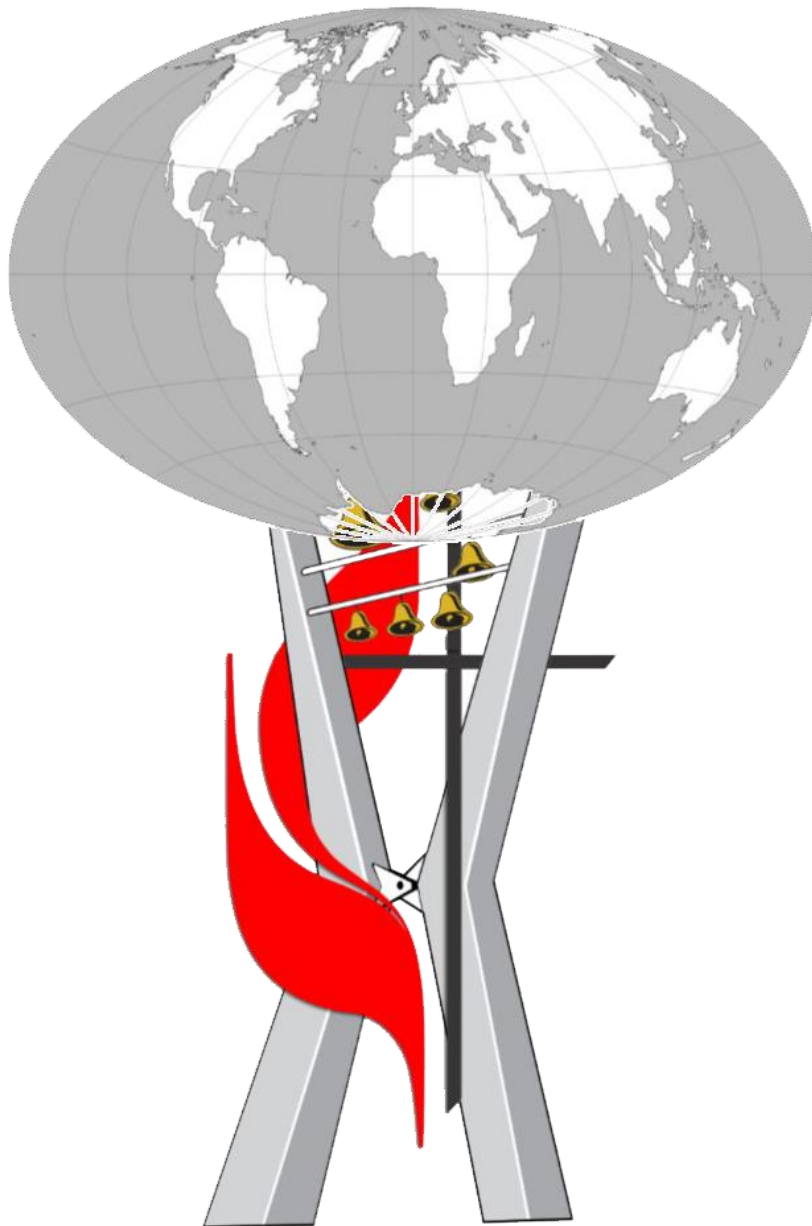
3:30pm - March to Holman Church

4:15pm - Dedication of "Rev. Lawson Mile" @ Holman Church

5:00pm - Private Screening of "Rustin" inside the Holman Sanctuary

7:00pm - Dessert Reception

Please RSVP @ [RevLawsonMile.Eventbrite.com](https://www.RevLawsonMile.Eventbrite.com)



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Holman United Methodist Church

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