

# THE MESSENGER

## Worship OPPORTUNITIES

### Sunday, March 10

*First Sunday in Lent*

#### Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

Rev. Palmer Cantler

"Great-Grandmother's Poems"

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

### Wednesday Lenten Services

Downtown Community Lenten Services begin at 12 noon at a different downtown church each week in Lent.

Lunch is provided following each service.

Donations are appreciated.

### Wednesday, March 13

Week 1: Church Street UMC in the Nave

### Wednesday, March 20

Week 2: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

### Wednesday, March 27

Week 3: St. John's Episcopal Cathedral

### Wednesday, April 3

Week 4: First Presbyterian Church

### Wednesday, April 10

Week 5: First Baptist Church

**SPRING FORWARD**



**Daylight Saving Time**

**begins on Sunday, March 10**

Adjust your clocks forward one hour!

### A Call to Prayer and Self Denial Service

On **Tuesday, March 12** at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel, United Methodist Women invites all who wish to participate with us in this special service.

Our guest speaker will be **Caryl Griffin Russell, MSN MDiv**, who is an ordained elder of the Holston Conference. The message she will share is entitled: **"The Healing Power of a Woman's Touch: Love in Times of Turmoil."**

Caryl served at First Broad Street UMC in Kingsport and as the Director of the Wesley Leadership Institute, which provides continuing education for pastors and lay leaders in the Holston Conference.

Caryl lost her daughter Beth in a laboratory accidental exposure to a monkey virus while Caryl was in seminary. Her daughter's preventable death led Caryl to working with people facing crises and end-of-life situations, finding hope and life in that journey because of her experience of God through the faith community during this dark hour in her life.

She and her late husband, William C. Griffin, MD, established the Elizabeth R. Griffin Foundation and Caryl serves in the extension ministry of the Foundation, which reaches around the world. The foundation works with global leaders, the Gates Foundation, universities, the United Nations, and corporations addressing some of the world's most imminent threats to health security and seeking the development of effective, practical, and sustainable solutions to meet international standards of practice.



Her daughter's preventable death led Caryl to working with people facing crises and end-of-life situations, finding hope and life in that journey because of her experience of God through the faith community during this dark hour in her life.

The offering collected during our service will support programming and advocacy for children by the United Methodist Women worldwide.

A luncheon will follow the service. Please [contact the church office \(524-3048\)](#) for lunch reservations by Friday, March 8.

MASTER ARTS SERIES EVENT

### Student Spotlight: Meghan Mayes

*with Edie Johnson, accompanist*

**Tuesday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join us in the Nave for an enchanting evening with Church Street UMC Scholarship singer Meghan Renée Mayes. The recital will include arias and art songs by Mozart, Debussy, Douglas Moore, and Brahms.



# CLERGY

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Given the events of the past two weeks in the United Methodist Church, I've been thinking a lot about timing. Perhaps it was God's timing at work to have guided those planning the Special Called General Conference to occur right before the season of Lent was set to begin. No matter how you feel about the outcome, there can be no doubt that the decisions made by the conference have caused pain and harm to LGBTQI persons, both outside the church and within the congregation of our beloved Church Street.

This week we gathered to contemplate our mortality by the marking of our foreheads with ashes, and we committed to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by

## Together, Let's Think About the Next 40 Days ...

prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. Over the next forty days we are called to consider our sins and the places in our lives that need attention. We will then walk with Jesus through the pain and suffering of trial, conviction, and crucifixion on a cross.

During these forty days, I urge us all to pray for our brothers and sisters who are feeling the weight of pain and rejection by the church that has nurtured them in the faith and raised them to be followers of Jesus Christ. No matter how we feel about the decision, it is important to acknowledge that pain has been inflicted by those who hold greater power.

We must repent of the sin of causing pain and suffering. And we must cling to the hope that resurrection lies on the other side of this present suffering. Christ will indeed rise from death. And we will be nourished by his presence and teaching through the great fifty days of Easter, until the day of Pentecost, when we will gather to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to all and the birth of his church.

Let us hold on to the hope of resurrection during this difficult time, and let us hold on to one another, especially those who are hurting, that we may all know the comfort and grace that we have found in Jesus Christ our Lord.

—REV. DAWN CHESSER



## Calendar: Sunday, March 10 – Saturday, March 16

### Worship

- Worship  
Sunday, 8:30 am, Nave  
Sunday, 11 am, Nave  
Rejoice! TV Broadcast  
Sunday, 8:30 am, WVLT-TV  
Wednesday Lenten Service  
Wednesday, 12 noon, Nave  
(Lunch follows in Parish Hall)

### Sunday School—9:40 AM

### Music

- Youth Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 4 pm, rm 306  
Primary Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm 308  
Chorister Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm 306  
Adult Handbell Rehearsal  
Sunday, 6:15 pm, rm 303  
Master Arts Series Recital  
Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Nave  
Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 306

### Meetings & Ministry

- Stephen Ministry Training Group  
Sunday, 1:30 pm, Ft. City UMC  
Benevolence Team  
Monday, 12 pm, CLC 124  
Sharing Shop  
Monday, 12 pm, Gym  
Congregational Care Committee  
Tuesday, 6 pm, rm 204  
SASH Committee  
Tuesday, 6 pm, rm 202  
Worship Committee  
Tuesday, 6 pm, rm 201A  
Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, 5:30 pm, rm 201A  
Soup Kitchen  
Thurs, 11 am, Parish Hall
- UMW**
- Circle #6  
Monday, 1:30 pm, Parlor  
Circle #10  
Tuesday, 10 am, rm 204  
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial  
Tuesday, 11 am, Chapel  
Circle #11, Mary & Martha  
Wednesday, 7 pm, Parlor

### Spiritual Growth

- Letters of Paul Study  
Sunday, 4 pm, Chiles Room  
Dr. Wender's Bible Study  
Sunday, 4 pm, rm 204  
Men of God  
Tuesday, 10 am, rm 202  
Women's Bible Study  
Wednesday, 9:30 am, rm 201A  
Lenten Bible Study  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 204

### Youth

- NightLife  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, Lower CLC  
Wesley House Tutoring  
Tuesday, 4:15 pm, Wesley House  
Youth Band  
Wednesday, 6:45 pm, CLC 11  
High School Prayer Breakfast  
Thurs, 7:15 am, Chik-fil-A (W. Hills)

### Singles

- Lunch Bunch  
Sunday, 12:30 pm, off-site  
Bridge Group  
Monday, 6 pm, rm 201C  
Yoga Class  
Monday, 7 pm, rm 204  
Line Dance Lessons  
Thursday, 6:30 pm, Gym

### Leisure Activities & Fellowship

- Open Gym  
Sunday, 4 pm, Gym  
Wednesday Lunch  
Wed, 12:30 pm, Parish Hall

### Beacon of Hope

- Benevolence Team  
Tuesday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC  
BOH Sharing Shop  
Thursday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC

### Newsletter Deadline:

Please submit written articles that you wish to be published in the March 12 edition of *The Messenger* by Sunday, March 10 at midnight to:  
[communications@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:communications@churchstreetumc.org)

# GROW WITH THESE LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES THIS SEASON

## Lenten Countdown

"When wealth is passed off as merit, bad luck is seen as bad character...But poverty is neither a crime nor a character flaw." —Sarah Kendzior

An 86-year-old apologized for needing help after an expensive trip to the pharmacy. With an already strained budget and fixed income, it was the tipping point that led her to the food pantry. In tears, she explained she didn't have enough money left to buy groceries.

A middle-aged man spoke with shame in his voice about unemployment. He had a good job in carpentry for years. When his marriage ended in divorce, it was the tipping point that led him down a trail of depression, job loss, and ultimately homelessness.

A crying mother said she was sorry for needing help. A victim of domestic violence, the tipping point was when her partner threatened their children. She was faced with starting a new life and had nothing but the clothes on their backs and a handful of dollar bills.

### REMINDERS:

- Countdown officially begins on **March 6 (Ash Wednesday)**
- Boxes returned on **April 14 (Palm Sunday)**
- If you need more information, contact Rev. Palmer Cantler, [pcantler@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:pcantler@churchstreetumc.org)

In my experience, many of the people needing charity are hardworking individuals who have been dealt a bad hand. Many hold things together in a delicate balance until a tipping point pushes them over the edge. They find it hard to ask for help, but isn't that one of the universal human experiences? At some point, won't we all need some sort of assistance?

As you participate in the Lenten Countdown mission project, I hope

you will pray not only for the people receiving the items, but also that God will open your heart. Reflect on some of the biases you may have about charity and seek God's guidance as you address those. God has an amazing way of reminding us all that we are much more alike than we are different.

—GABE BLAKE, LCSW

## Lenten Study

On Ash Wednesday, Dawn Chesser and Jan Buxton Wade begin a six-week Lenten Study on Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*. The study will conclude April 10. We meet in room 204 on Wednesday evenings from 7:00–8:30 p.m. All are welcome. Please contact Rev. Dawn Chesser for information at [521-0279](tel:521-0279).

## LENTEN PRAYER CARDS Postcards from the Persecuted



Three haunting faces gaze at us this very moment. What do these three have in common? They represent the staggering number of believers who are persecuted for their Christian faith across the globe: **Saheb of Iran** is being held for trial for promoting Christianity, which carries a 10-year sentence; **Wasihun of Ethiopia** watched as a Muslim mob murdered his father; **Eti of Indonesia** was sentenced to three years imprisonment for leading Sunday school classes for children.

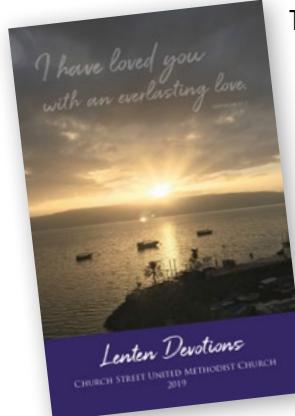
Open Doors World Watch estimates that **215 million Christians face significant levels of persecution** in our world today. They further reported that in 2018 alone, 3,066 Christians were killed, 2363 were abducted, 1,020 were raped, and 793 churches were attacked or demolished.

It is understandable that we are presently focused on the problems within our own denomination here at home; however, during this Season of Lent, let us also make time to peer outward, to consider our brothers and sisters in Christ who reside everyday in fear and terror, and to pray for God's protection and justice.

You are invited to **join fellow Church Streeters in lifting up a daily prayer** for particular persons who are suffering for their faith. This information is presented in the form of a postcard—one for each of the 47 days of Lent. Each card includes a photograph of an individual or group, a short theological reflection, and a prayer guide for each situation. Postcards from the Persecuted are available around the church; pick up your packet and join us in this worthy prayer discipline. Our Lenten prayers will be a major step in combating this pervasive evil. (Please, only one packet per family.)

—REV. JAN BUXTON WADE

## Lenten Devotional Books Available



The 2019 Lenten Devotional booklets are now out around the church. The regular and large print booklets include devotionals written by members of the congregation for the entire Lenten season. Don't forget to pick up soon before they are all gone. Many thanks go to the Congregational Care Committee for coordinating this resource.

## SINGLES EVENTS

### Annual Singles Kick-Off Dinner

**Friday, March 8 at 6 p.m.**

For those who made reservations, cost is \$13 per person and may be paid at the door. The theme of our dinner is "God's Love is Everywhere" and our speaker is Rev. Jan Buxton-Wade, minister of Spiritual Enrichment at Church Street UMC. We look forward to kicking off our year together with an evening of fellowship, music and food.

### Lunch Bunch

**Sunday, March 10 at 12:30 p.m.**

Lunch bunch will meet at Louis Restaurant on Old Broadway in Fountain City following the second service. Host is Lois Smith, [386-5647](tel:386-5647).

## College Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications are available now on the CSUMC youth website at: <https://churchstreetyouth.wordpress.com/forms/>. Completed applications along with two references are required, and are due **March 24** to Jenny Cross's mailbox in the main church office. Announcement of recipients will be early May. If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Cross at [865-521-0287](tel:865-521-0287) or at [jcross@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:jcross@churchstreetumc.org).

## Church Council Meeting Notice

Church Council members will meet on **Tuesday, March 26 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Chapel to conduct church business. All are invited to attend.

### Golf Cart Driver Needed

We need a volunteer to help on Sunday mornings driving the golf cart for the 10 a.m.–12 p.m. shift. To help or for more details, contact Daniel Burtch at [daniel.burtch79@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.burtch79@gmail.com). Drivers must be 25 years or older.



### This Sunday, March 10 is Girl Scout Sunday

We will celebrate our Girl Scouts and their service in our communities during worship.

## CONVERSATIONS ON RACE Upcoming Events

### Meet the Author

#### **Postponed: new date TBA**

Due to a death in his family, the presentation by Rev. Rob Lee has been postponed. A new date will be set and announced when details are finalized. Please keep the Lee family in your prayers during this difficult time.

### Book Discussion

#### **Sunday, March 31, 5:00 p.m.**

We will meet at Second United Methodist Church to discuss *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* by Carol Anderson. This academically challenging and spiritually and emotionally harrowing book is well worth your time. Celia Ferguson and Rev. Leah Burns will facilitate the discussion.



## UMW Book Review Wednesday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m. in room 204

Verna McLain will be reviewing the book *Nobody Cries When We Die* by Patrick B. Reyes. The UMW book review is an informal, informative, and fun event. If you've never attended one, this is the month to start!

## Jubilation is coming in May—register now!

The Holston Conference retreat for adults (50+) is coming May 6–8 to Pigeon Forge, TN. This popular event for mature adults has a little something for everyone. The event will take place at MainStay Suites in Pigeon Forge. It features Bishop Ken L. Carder (former senior pastor at Church Street) as the featured speaker and worship leader. The multiple workshops address a variety of topics and the entertainment features Rev. Brad Hyde (aka Forrest Gump) and Jimbo Whaley & the Greenbriar Band.

Registration and complete information brochures can be found around the church. **Registration deadline is March 29.**

Have you remembered Church Street in your will?

## Food for Kids Project

We need volunteers to help pack food into totes for the Food for Kids project on **Tuesday, March 19 at 5:30 p.m. in room 118**. Totes are delivered to South Knox and West Haven elementary schools and distributed to youngsters identified by the program. This requires 10–12 volunteers and about an hour to complete the packing. Packing can be done by children, so this is an excellent way for families to volunteer together. It is also a great ministry for small groups and Sunday School classes who enjoy working side-by-side on a meaningful project. Contact **Beth Stubbs** by text or phone at [865-207-8772](tel:865-207-8772) if you would like to help or need details.



# RESURRECTION 2019 REFLECTIONS



*Our very own senior, Mac Chandler, wrote a fantastic reflection on his experience at Resurrection and what that event has meant to him over the years. It is such a gift to read the words of our own students as they share about their faith. Thanks for your words, Mac!*

**M**y first time going on a Resurrection retreat was overwhelming to say the least. Hearing that thousands of youth from all over the region would be in one place made me both excited and slightly terrified. Worship to me was supposed to be a calm, peaceful experience. Why were there all these bright lights and speakers so loud that the music shook my whole body? At first, I didn't know any of the songs, and I was certain that being surrounded by strangers in a mosh pit at the foot of the stage wasn't really my thing. Yet I soon came to realize that that was the beauty of it. Because by the end of the weekend I was at the very front singing along to every word.

I couldn't tell you exactly what the speaker said that weekend back in 2013, but I do remember feeling like I took a step in my faith. Since then, every Resurrection I have been on has yielded the same result: learning something new, and growing spiritually. This year, we talked about grace, a topic with which Jenny has made us very familiar. Ultimately, everyone has a different faith story. Some people experience big, light switch events, while others figure it out a little bit at a time. The common denominator in both of these scenarios is the presence of God's grace through it all. From cradle to grave, it is there; before we are even born and well after we are gone. And at Resurrection, there is something for everyone to learn no matter what part of the faith journey they are on.

I always look forward to our yearly pilgrimage to Pigeon Forge. The drive through the mountains always seems to bring back great memories of past Resurrections. To me, it is about the fellowship more than anything else. Because when you grow closer to others, you grow closer to God.

—MAC CHANDLER, SENIOR

## SASH Health Care Workers Database

Occasionally, situations occur on our church campus requiring medical attention either temporarily or until first responders arrive. To help in such situations, the Safety, Accessibility, Security and Health (SASH) Committee is compiling an updated list of willing members who are qualified health care providers. This includes physicians, nurses, EMT/Paramedic, firefighters, etc.

In the event of an emergency or medical crisis during worship services or Sunday School, this list would be available to clergy, staff and ushers to summon the assistance of a nearby qualified church member. Circulation of this list will be carefully controlled and accessible to only those responsible groups.

If you are a health care provider who is willing to be part of this database—and if you have not recently signed up for this list through your Sunday School class—please email SASH's coordinator **David Tutor, MD** at [eastnurgentcare@yahoo.com](mailto:eastnurgentcare@yahoo.com) the following information: your name, professional title(s) (e.g., MD, RN, LPN), email address, any special credentials/certifications (e.g., CPR, AED), Sunday School class, and the worship service (8:30 or 11:00) you attend more often. Alternatively, you may call the church office with that information.

## CHURCH WIDE RUMMAGE SALE

**Time to tidy up!** A church-wide Rummage Sale will be held Friday and Saturday, April 5–6, in the Gym. As a discipline for the upcoming Lenten season, we encourage you to consider donating items that you no longer need to our sale. Proceeds from the sale will directly support our music, youth and children's ministries. For details, call or text Katie Heatherly at **615-712-4925**. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 to support these programs! Can you help? Bring items you wish to donate to the Youth Area in the lower CLC on April 1 and 2.

## REZ20 is set for Jan. 24–26

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR CHURCH STREET?

## Our Prayers

### Home from the hospital

Joy and baby Mia Robinson,  
Diane and baby Alessondra Lawhern,  
Ron Kyle, Sherrie Russell, Lisa Sisi,  
Sharon Murphy

### Christian love and sympathy to:

Anne Trent and family on the death  
of Anne's great-nephew, Taylor Finley,  
who died on February 24.

Scott and Jean Wilhoite on the death of  
Scott's mother, Mary Lee Wilhoite, who  
died on February 27.

### Our Presence: March 3

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Sunday School  | 473 |
| Sunday Worship | 624 |

### Our Gifts: February 24

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Received toward Budget       | \$ 20,543.62 |
| Building for Christ Campaign | \$ 8,181.00  |
| Other                        | \$ 3,222.58  |

## Altar Flowers

Sunday, March 10

The Chancel altar flowers are given  
in loving memory of James A. Newman by  
his wife Jacqueline T. Newman and  
his daughter Teressia Newman Blair.

## The Sharing Shops

Thank you for continuing to share with  
our neighbors. Currently, we need:

- shampoo & deodorant
- laundry detergent
- dishwashing liquid

We are NOT accepting clothing  
at this time.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

### March 10

Deuteronomy 26:1–11  
Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16  
Romans 10:8b–13  
Luke 4:1–13

### March 17

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17–4:1  
Luke 13:31–35

## Our Church Family

### New Arrivals

Congratulations and best wishes to Matt  
and Diane Lawhern on the birth of their  
daughter, **Alessondra Eva-Elizabeth**, who  
was born on February 28.

Congratulations and best wishes to Richy  
and Joy Robinson on the birth of their  
daughter, **Mia Cassidy**, who was born on  
February 24.

## Honorariums

### In honor of:

- **Angela Simmons**

*Handbells:* Crossroads Sunday School Class

## Memorials

### In memory of:

- **Jim Lees**

*Building Fund:* Marie Brabson

*Memorial:* Arlene Rockwell & family

Janice Hayes, John & Adrienne Haley,  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative  
Commission of Greater Knoxville, Inc.

- **Jim and Bertha Lees**

*Memorial:* Tracy and Bob Birdseye & family

- **Fred Stalcup**

*Building Fund:* Anonymous

- **Dr. Lynne Taylor**

*Building Fund:* Marie Brabson, Anonymous

*Memorial:* Sue Cochran, Adele Locker

*Music:* Kay and Thomas Hays,  
Gayle Raulston, Jennie & Bert Ritchie,  
Pamela Reeves & Charles Swanson  
*Sterchi Lodge:* Betty Sterchi

## What qualifies as Special Needs Parking in Magnolia Lot?

- Any vehicle displaying a valid,  
state-issued permanent or temporary  
handicapped placard or license plate
- Any vehicle in which the driver or a  
passenger has a chronic and/or temporary  
condition for which "special needs  
parking" accommodation is reasonable  
and appropriate. Examples include, but  
are not limited to: expectant mothers;  
parents with infant(s) and/or toddler(s);  
reliance on assistive equipment for  
ambulation (including crutches or  
canes); cardiovascular, pain, respiratory,  
balance, and neurological conditions;  
vision impairments; weakening effects  
of surgeries, cancer treatments, etc.

## Contact Us

### Church Office

(865) 524-3048

Hours: Mon.– Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Fax number

(865) 521-0288

### Pastor On-Call Number

(865) 320-9100

For emergencies, call the On-Call Number and  
the pastor on call will answer or you may leave  
a message and the pastor will return your call.

[www.churchstreetumc.org](http://www.churchstreetumc.org)

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Twitter: [@ChurchStreetUMC](https://twitter.com/ChurchStreetUMC) and

Instagram: [@churchstreetumc](https://www.instagram.com/churchstreetumc)

## Staff Directory

### Dial 521-0 + extension

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Senior Pastor                    | Chuck Starks–260  |
| Senior Associate Pastor          | Dawn Chesser–279  |
| Associate Pastor                 | Palmer Cantler–298  |
| Minister of Spiritual Enrichment | Jan Wade–264  |
| Minister of Discipleship         | Rick Isbell–266   |
| Visitation Pastors               | Rev. Larry Best: 865-705-2993<br>Rev. Andy Ferguson: 865-236-0951 |
| Director of Music Ministries     | Tim Ward–276  |
| Music Associate/Organist         | Edie Johnson–277  |
| Children's Ministry              | Katryn Bancroft–282   |
| Child Care Coordinator           | Sarah Burtch: 865-567-0913  |
| Youth/College Ministries         | Jenny Cross–287   |
| Preschool Director               | Beth Libby: 524-3511  |
| Church Administrator             | Kate Spencer–268  |
| Bookkeeper                       | Francine Jenne–267  |
| Administrative Assistant         | Kelly Woods–262   |
| Ministers' Secretary Emerita     | Loretta Best–280  |
| Executive Secretary              | Doris Lively–271  |
| Receptionist                     | Brenda Flenniken–270  |
| Part-time Secretary              | Eileen Weber–278  |
| Director of Communications       | 521-0299  |
| Sterchi Lodge Caretakers         | Jack & Barbara Bratton, 828-622-3524                              |
| Maintenance Supervisor           | Keith Bailey–295  |
| Head Custodian                   | Jeffery Rose–274  |
| Custodians:                      | Dedra Ellison, Robin Crain,<br>Kevin Bailey                       |
| Beacon of Hope                   | Dona McConnell: 599-5047  |



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