



Worship OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, November 24

Christ the King Sunday

Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

Foundations

Rev. Palmer Cantler

Colossians 1:11-20

There will be no Wednesday worship service this week. Please call the Pastor On-Call number if you need to speak with a member of our clergy team.

Pastor On-Call
865-320-9100

Charge Conference on Monday, December 2, 6 pm

Our annual Charge Conference with the District Superintendent will be Monday, December 2, at 6 pm in the Chapel. This will be our annual reporting time with the District Superintendent. A brief called Church Council meeting will be held Sunday, December 1, following the second service to hear a recommendation from Staff-Parish Relations Committee regarding our pastors' salaries and housing prior to Charge Conference.

HAPPENING AT CHURCH STREET

Celebrating our Strengths, Discerning Our Future, Nov. 22-24

Listening circles are this weekend, November 22-24. You should have received or will receive an email or phone call confirmation this week about your time if you have signed up. Please remember that these listening circles are our first opportunity – not our last – to have these conversations with one another. Join us as we prayerfully walk through the entirety of this process, in pursuit of the grace of Jesus and with love for one another.



UMW Holiday Bake Sale and Service Circle Sale

Join in this festive annual kickoff to the holiday season by purchasing delicious baked goods of all kinds, Marie's famous rolls, candy, casseroles, and more, as well as projects created by the Service Circle. All proceeds will go to UMW Missions to help women and children locally and across the globe. The sale will be held in the CLC Hallway beginning at 8 am on Sunday, November 24, and will be available throughout the morning.

Thanksgiving Basket Blitz

Let's provide for our neighbors in need! This **Sunday at 9:50 in the gym**, all are invited to join together to "blitz" pack food baskets for those served at Beacon of Hope, Wesley House, and our Benevolence program. These are truly gifts to our community, and we invite you to share in the excitement of packing 120+ boxes in under an hour!



Last Chance: Deadline - Sunday!

2019-2020 Master Arts Series at Church Street UMC

Christmas Dinner & Concert

Thursday, December 12: 6 PM Dinner | 7:30 PM Concert

... comes, let us adore Him

Call 865-521-0278 to make your reservation by Nov. 24.
Pay online at <https://bit.ly/csumcgive> or by check. Dinner is \$42 per person.

All are Welcome at Church Street!

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, status, economic condition, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religious affiliation. We respect diversity of opinion and expressions of Christian faith. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally! As God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR CHURCH STREET?

Calendar: November 24 - November 30

Worship

Worship
Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave
Rejoice! TV Broadcast
Sunday, 8:00 am, WVLT-TV
No Midweek Noonday Service/Lunch

Sunday School 9:40 AM

Children & Youth

Open Gym
Sunday, 3:30 pm, Gym
NightLife
Sunday, 5:15 pm, CLC
Wesley House Tutoring
Tuesday, 4:15 pm, Offsite
Gameday Parking
Saturday, All Day, Parking Lots

Music

Parish Youth Choir
Sunday, 4 pm, rm-306
Chorister Choir
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm-306
Primary Choir
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm-304
Kinder Choir
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm-212
Handbell Choir
Sunday, 6:15 pm, rm-303

Singles & Fellowship

Bridge Group
Monday, 6 pm, rm-201C
Yoga
Monday, 7 pm, rm-204
Singles Council Meeting
Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Offsite

Meetings & Ministry

Thanksgiving Baskets Blitz
Sunday, 9:50 am, Gym
Celebrating Our Strengths,
Discerning Our Future Listening
Circles
Sunday, 9:30 am, 1:30 & 3:30 pm
CLC 123 - *Youth at 5:30 pm in
Lower Level CLC*
Congregational Care Committee
Sunday, 12:15 pm, rm-201A
Benevolence Team
Monday, 12 pm, Office
Sharing Shop
Monday, 12 pm, CLC 126

Limited Messenger

Please submit written articles and photos that you wish to be published in the first December edition of *The Messenger* by 12/1: communications@churchstreetumc.org.

UMW

Bake Sale and Service Circle Sale
Sunday, 8 am, CLC Hallway

Beacon of Hope

BOH Benevolence Team
Tuesday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC

PLEASE NOTE:

Church Street Office will be closed Nov. 28-30 for Thanksgiving. Please use the Pastor-On-Call number (865-320-9100) to reach a member of our clergy team.

UMW News

UMW Christmas Program & Luncheon

When: Saturday, December 7, 11am Program, Lunch to follow | **Where:** Nave
We will take a large group photo of UMW immediately following lunch!

Service Circle Projects of 2019

On **Sunday, November 24**, the Service Circle will be having a sale in conjunction with the UMW bake sale. We will have quilts, baby gifts, Christmas placemats, and all sorts of "gift" things sewn by Service Circle members. Come, shop, and support this ministry. Enjoy reviewing the production numbers from this year's Service Circle efforts:

Prayer Shawls—56	Placemats—6 sets	Caps for Children's Hospital—16
Little Dresses—69	Tote Bags—10	Wreaths—5
Bibs for Nursing Homes—15	Aprons—4 sets	Teddy Bears—2
Fidget Blankets—26	Quilts—6	Burp Pads—6
Walker Bags—42	Pillows—4	Homeless Mat-1
	Mug Rugs for Congregational Care—130	

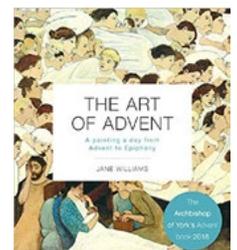
Shop the World Gift Market

Need Christmas gifts and want to make an impact in the world? Come by the Shop the World Market on Sunday, December 1, from 8 am-12 pm and 5-7 pm in the Welcome Center. Shop the World will have tables full of fair trade gifts, jewelry, and clothing that support artisans all over the world. Bill and Joan Cochran have brought Shop the World to the Holston Annual Conference and are coming to share their incredible gifts again here at Church Street. Please come browse their display before and after worship and during the Advent Craft Festival on Dec. 1. You might be able to finish your Christmas shopping early and support a wonderful cause!



Advent Sunday School Study

Beginning December 1, the Joyful Sojourners Sunday School class will begin a study and discussion of *The Art of Advent*, by Jane Williams, who is Dean and Lecturer of Systematic Theology at St. Mellitus College. The study journeys through nearly 40 famous and some lesser-known masterpieces of Western art and challenges the Christian to reflect more deeply about what he/she believes and why and how it affects and influences our lives. Joyful Sojourners meet in the CLC, room 124, across from the Gym each Sunday at 9:40 am. All are invited to join. If interested, please contact Shirley Kanipes (865-742-6808) to order a copy of the study (\$10.50, payable to Church Street UMC).



CLERGY CONNECTION

Together, let's think about... *Lord, of All to Thee We Raise*

Folliott Pierpoint of Bath, England, at age 29, in 1864, wrote the poem, *For the Beauty of the Earth*. He was enthralled by the beauty of the countryside which surrounded him. Praise for God flowed from his soul, his thoughts and pen.

I believe gratitude and praise are deeply connected. If gratitude is genuine and authentic, it will erupt in praise. And praise will always have within it a river of gratitude.

So, here we are at Thanksgiving. What will be our focus of gratitude? Family, food, football, freedom, friendship? All of these are good. But aren't they really focused upon us as individuals or even as a people? What will propel us to give unashamed praise to the giver of all good gifts?

Pierpoint's 1864 poem had this refrain: "Christ, our God, to Thee we raise this our Sacrifice of Praise". But over the years we've changed it to: "Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise". After taking some time to reflect, I'm sorry that we decided to leave out the word "sacrifice". Why? Because Biblically the call to sacrifice has in its foundation the decision, of our own free-will, to give our first (as in the first-born of the flock or first fruits), our best (as in "without spot or blemish). In other words, to sacrifice, is to give that which costs us. To sacrifice is NOT to give "something" or a "left-over" but to give when it costs us.

So, what might be a "Sacrifice of Praise"? Is it not to decide to move our thoughts away from our own self-centeredness and self-adulation and self-congratulation? Let us focus our thoughts upon the One Who has chosen to give us breath and brains,

life and love. Let us sacrifice thinking first of ourselves. Let our thinking be raised higher to Holiness, Love, Purity, Righteousness, Generosity and Graciousness. Let our thinking be lifted up desiring to see God's Glory.

With Pierpoint, we can be enthralled with the "Beauty of the Earth", the wonder of God's creation. But, in truth, that, grand as it is, is only the evidence of God's Glory, not the Glory itself. Let's stop at nothing less than a decision to seek to see the Glory of the One True Living Holy God. Let's sing with Pierpoint, "Christ, our God, to Thee we raise this our Sacrifice of Praise"! That is much more likely to truly lift our spirits and create in us true thankfulness.

God Bless you with His abundant Grace and Peace,

— Chuck

Lend a Helping Hand to Our Neighbors in Need

Items Needed for Sharing Shops Currently:

- Blankets
- Children's coats-all sizes
- Youth hoodies-all sizes
- Shoes-adults
- Reusable shopping bags -

we are encouraging our shoppers to use reusable bags and would love to have a supply to share. Would like to have any kind/size reusable bag.



Bless a Child in Need this

Christmas! The Giving Tree is located in the Chapel Hallway. This special Christmas tree contains ornaments that represent the children of Beacon of Hope, whose families need assistance at Christmas. If you are able to be a blessing to one of our children served by BOH, pick up an ornament (which contains a "wish" list) and make a BOH child's Christmas special. Contact Dona McConnell with questions: beaconofhope@gmail.com

Thank you so much your continued support of our Sharing Shops. We continue to serve many shoppers each month and we could not do this without your help and support. As we reach out to our neighbors, we are reminded that we "serve one another in love" (Galatians 5:13).

We are grateful for this opportunity to be in mission and in relationship with our brothers and sisters. And we are grateful for the many who help make this possible.



Let's Sweeten Up the Food Co-Op at Beacon of Hope this Holiday Season

Beacon of Hope is in need of the items that help make a holiday meal special. These include baking items like cake mixes, brownie or cookie mixes, and frostings. BOH also needs full-sized condiments.

Contact Dona McConnell with questions: 599-5047 or beaconofhope@gmail.com



Parish Health Ministry



Surviving The Holidays When You Are Grieving

The demands of the holidays can be stressful under the best of circumstances, but when you are grieving, they may seem unbearable. While others are bustling around, preparing their homes and hearts to welcome the gifts of the season, you may be overwhelmed with emotions of loss, sadness, anger and emptiness. They weigh heavy on you, preventing you from participating and engaging. It's hard, it hurts, and it can even seem unfair. Particularly at this time of year, the Parish Health Ministry Team would like to share a few suggestions with you as you move through the holiday season with grief.

- 1) **Participate.** The church offers many special events and activities between now and the New Year, including a special **Blue Christmas** service on Wednesday, December 18 (noon). Please let others meet and support you in your grief.
- 2) **Be present in the moment.** Reviewing and replaying past events or reaching too far into the future can be exhausting and wastes your precious energy. As you may know all too well, this moment is all we have; embrace it and be fully present with those still in your midst.
- 3) **Practice self-compassion.** Everyone grieves differently because everyone's relationship with what is lost is different. Be patient, pray, meditate, eat well, get quality sleep, and stay as mentally and physically active as possible.
- 4) **Petition others for help; you do not have to suffer alone.** Your clergy staff, Stephen Ministers and the Parish Health Ministry Team members are trained and ready to help in any way possible.

May God give you peace on your grief journey,

Rev. Diana Brown Taylor, LCSW

Diana is a licensed therapist at Healthy Mind Counseling and a member of the Parish Health Ministry Team.



SLA

"SLA is a great time to renew yourself both physically and spiritually. It is also an amazing time to be in fellowship with other youth." - Clara Suters

"SLA is an opportunity to give yourself a new outlook on your life and your relationship with God. This retreat can also make you feel understood and loved in a safe place." - Anna Cooper

"SLA was such an amazing spiritual experience. I was surrounded by people who love me, and I grew so much in my faith." - Claire Holladay



Advent Events



ADVENT CRAFT FESTIVAL



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

5 PM - POTLUCK IN PARISH HALL

5:45 PM - CRAFTS IN GYM

Everyone welcome for potluck dinner, performances by our youngest choirs, and an evening of fun making holiday crafts in 12 different centers.



Advent Bible Study

DECEMBER 1 (AT 4PM OR 5PM), 8, 15 & 22 AT 5 PM OR WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 4, 11, 18 AT 9:30 AM ROOM 201-A

Amy-Jill Levine's *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*
Led by Rev. Dawn Chesser and Rev. Jim Bailes; Books Available for \$14 in Church Office or Online.

Advent Devotionals Available Dec. 1
Holiday Poinsettias On Sale Dec. 8 & 15
Advent Midweek Services: Dec. 4 & 11, Noon, Nave
(recitals begin at 11:40 am)
Blue Christmas: Dec. 18, Noon, Chapel

Advent & Christmas Music: Dec. 8, 8:30 & 11 am
Families Trim the Tree: Dec. 8, 9:40, Welcome Center
Christmas Lessons and Carols: Dec. 15, 8:30 & 11 am
Christmas Pageant: Dec. 22, 9:40 am

Our Prayers

In the Hospital:

Pamela Reeves: Vanderbilt

Home from the Hospital:

Kathie Bemis
Joan O'Kane

Christian love and sympathy to:

The family of Mildred Sneed, grandmother of Chris Sneed, who died on November 19.

Our Presence: November 17

Sunday School 318
Sunday Worship 405

Our Gifts: November 17

Operating Budget \$39,092.70
Building Fund \$550.00
Other \$34,724.50

Altar Flowers

The Chancel Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Joe R. Shepherd by Claire Shepherd and Susan & Louie Kramer.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 10/31/2019

Look for this information each month in the *Messenger* to stay updated on our financials.

Expected Contributions,

Year to date: \$1,641,685

Received Contributions,

Year to date: \$1,565,031

Shortfall \$76,654

**GIVE
PLUS⁺**

Give Plus App

It's easier than ever to tithe and give to Church Street. In three steps, you can download, set up, and give directly from a secure mobile giving app. Please search for the GivePlus app in your App Store or Google Play, select Church Street UMC, and begin your donation.

Our Church Family

New Members

Rick Cates joined Church Street by transfer from Dutch Valley Baptist Church on November 17.

Ian Quillen joined Church Street by transfer from United Parish Brookline (Brookline, MA) on November 17.

Baptism

Margaret Elizabeth "Maggie" Thompson, daughter of Alex and Megen Thompson, was baptized on November 17.

Wedding

Savannah Dabney and Christopher McCabe were married on November 16 at Church Street, with Rev. Jan Buxton Wade and Rev. Thomas Sweet officiating.

Honorarium

In honor of:

- **David Collins**
Youth: Mary Kirby Collins
- **Joanna Drake Gager**
Soup Kitchen: Linda & Larry Blair

LECTIONARY READINGS

November 24

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

December 1

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

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

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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
Visitation Pastors
Rev. Andy Ferguson, 865-806-0086
Rev. Jim Bailes, 865-919-8328
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
Executive Secretary Doris Lively–271
Receptionist Nancy Keen–270
Part-time Secretary Eileen Weber–278
Director of Communications Katie Strangis –299
Sterchi Lodge Caretakers
Jack & Barbara Bratton, 828-622-3524
Maintenance Supervisor Keith Bailey–295
Head Custodian Jeffery Rose–274
Custodians: Dedra Ellison, Robin Crain,
Kevin Bailey
Beacon of Hope Dona McConnell: 599-5047



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