

Worship OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

*Parish Adult Choir and The Tennessee
Brass Quintet Present A Service of
Lessons and Carols*

*Gathering music begins at
8:15 and 10:45 a.m.*

Matthew 11:2-11

Wednesday, December 18

Blue Christmas Service

12 p.m. - Chapel

Rev. Jan Buxton-Wade

Blue Christmas is designed for anyone who has experienced a loss. Lunch will follow in Parish Hall at 12:30 pm (\$8.00).

Christmas Eve by Candlelight

12 PM • 3 PM • 5:30 PM • 10:30 PM

IN THE NAVE

Selections from Vivaldi's *Gloria* presented at 5:30 and 10:30 pm by the Church Street Parish Adult Choir. Childcare is provided at the 5:30 service. The 3:00 service is crafted for families with young children. Holy Communion at each service.

HAPPENING AT CHURCH STREET

You're Invited to Celebrate Rev. Palmer Cantler and Husband Brent Gregory

Please join together in celebrating the marriage of Rev. Palmer Cantler and Brent Gregory on Sunday, December 15 in the Welcome Center at 9:40 am. Palmer and Brent were married on September 28 in Johnson City, and we are excited to celebrate their marriage as a Church Street family this Sunday.



Volunteer for Christmas Worship

Please click the QR code at right or call Gabe Blake at 865-300-8186 to sign up to greet Christmas worshipers at Church Street. There are still several time slots in which we need this critical hospitality support.



Christmas Pageant Next Sunday, December 22

All are invited to the annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 22, at 10 am, in the gym. (Children should go to the Children's Hall at 9:40 to prepare.) Join our children and families as we gather for this festive and meaningful event celebrating the story of Jesus' birth the Sunday before Christmas. Cocoa, cookies, and coffee to follow as we enjoy this event together in the gym.

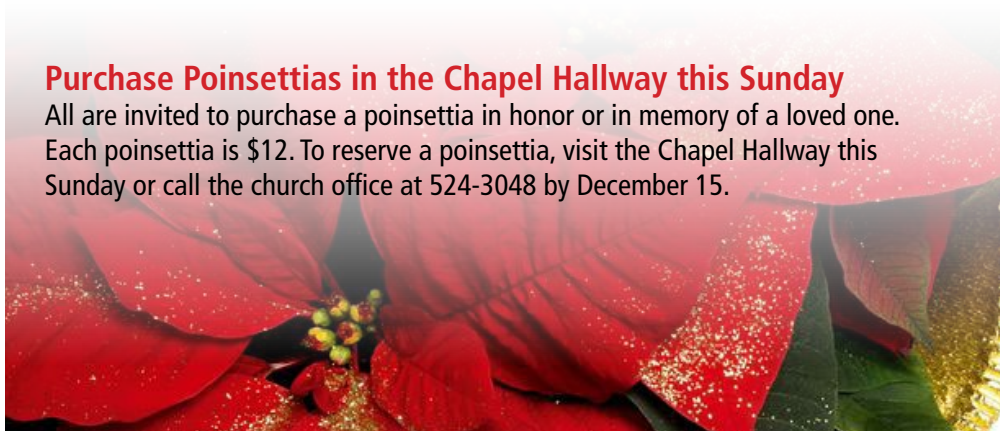


December 29 - One Service Only

Please mark your calendar for our Sunday, December 29 service change. We will have only one worship service, at 11 am, with Sunday School at its normal time of 9:40 am.

Purchase Poinsettias in the Chapel Hallway this Sunday

All are invited to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. Each poinsettia is \$12. To reserve a poinsettia, visit the Chapel Hallway this Sunday or call the church office at 524-3048 by December 15.



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.

Calendar: December 15 - December 21

Worship

Worship
 Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave
Rejoice! TV Broadcast
 Sunday, 8:00 am, WVLT-TV
 Blue Christmas Midweek Service & Lunch
 Wednesday, 12 pm, Chapel
 Lunch, 12:30 pm, Parish Hall (\$8)

Sunday School 9:40 AM

UMW

Circle 12 Lunch for Wesley House
 Monday, 11:30 am, Parish Hall

Meetings & Ministry

Reception for Rev. Cantler & Brent Gregory
 Sunday, 9:40 am, Welcome Center
 Advent Bible Study
 Sunday, 5 pm, rm-201A
 Food for Kids Packing
 Tuesday, 5:15 pm, rm-118
 Finance Committee
 Tuesday, 6 pm, rm-204
 Advent Bible Study
 Wednesday, 9:30 am, rm-201A
 Soup Kitchen
 Thursday, 11 am, Parish Hall
 Downtown Church Tour
 Friday, 5 pm, Nave

Children & Youth

Wesley House Tutoring
 Tuesday, 4:15 pm, Offsite
 Youth Band
 Wednesday, 6:15 pm, CLC Lower Level
 High School Prayer Breakfast
 Thursday, 8 am, Offsite

Singles & Fellowship

Bridge Group
 Monday, 6 pm, rm-201C

Singles & Fellowship

FOCUS
 Tuesday, 6:15 pm, Offsite

Beacon of Hope

BOH Benevolence Team
 Tuesday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC
 BOH Food Co-Op
 Thursday, 9:30 am, Vestal UMC

Music

Community School of the Arts
 Holiday Concert
 Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Nave
 Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal
 Wednesday, 7 pm, rm-306

Next Messenger

Please submit written articles and photos that you wish to be published in the next edition of *The Messenger* by Friday at noon to communications@churchstreetumc.org.

UMW News

UMW Ends 2019 with Program & Luncheon

Many thanks to our United Methodist Women for their incredible contributions of missions around the world supporting women and girls. See you in 2020!



2020 Officers for United Methodist Women at Church Street

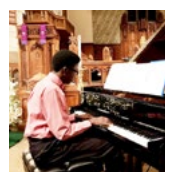
President: Jana Davison | **Vice President:** Elaine Ralston | **Secretary:** Nancy Christmas | **Treasurer:** Nancy Goodson
Program Resources: Susan Dominick | **Archivist:** Donna Schroeder | **Communications:** Dona McConnell
Coordinators: **Spiritual Growth:** Pat Bellingrath | **Education & Interpretation:** Ann Reego | **Nominations:** Judy Grubb
Social Action Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Parker & Joanna O'Hagan | **Membership Co-Chairs:** Phyllis Eldridge & Jean Galyon
President's Society: Verna McLain | **Yearbook:** Sylvia Davis

Youth Christmas Party 2019



CSA Holiday Concert

On Tuesday, 12/17, all are invited to the Nave at 6:30 pm for the Community School of the Arts Holiday Cheer Concert. Hear talented young artists and enjoy the festive music!



CLERGY CONNECTION

Together, let's think about something that is...

Impressive.

Our United Methodist Women (UMW) held their annual meeting on Saturday, Dec. 7. It was, in a word, **impressive**. There were celebrations of their mission work locally and around the world.



These women touch the lives and circumstances of women, children and youth, on a daily basis. They honored women and men who had given their efforts important assistance during the past year. Dawn brought a thoughtful sermon about going to Bethlehem historically and currently as well as literally and metaphorically.

There was a celebration of the transition of leadership for the UMW. Verna McLain has given deeply dedicated leadership as President for

the past 3 years. Now Jana Davison picks up the mantle. And Maria Thompson, one of our youth (an aspiring nursing student following graduation) was **impressive** as she both played and sang at the grand piano. There was a wonderful spirit of fellowship that caused the delicious lunch to be even better as people felt the freedom to linger in their enjoyment of each other's company. Yes, the event was **impressive**.



the worship we offer God through their enthusiasm and dedication. All of this is made possible under the excellent leadership of Tim Ward and

Edie Johnson. It is also made possible because parents have willingly chosen to support their children and youth in this foundational life experience. That too is **impressive**.

Let us give thanks to God for blessing us in these days, in these ways, through these persons. When you stop and really consider these things, it is **impressive**.

God bless you in these High and Holy days of Advent and Christmas.

— **Chuck**

Pictured above left is UMW president Verna McLain. Pictured above are our Youth and Children's choirs.



Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 12 pm in the Chapel

The service is designed for those who have experienced any kind of loss. Lunch follows (\$8) in Parish Hall. Make a reservation by calling the office at 524-3048 or emailing reservations@churchstreetumc.org.

Giving Tree Gifts are Due Now!

We still have several Giving Tree ornaments that were claimed, with gifts not yet returned. If you have not yet returned your Beacon of Hope Giving Tree gifts to the front office or Dona McConnell, please do so immediately. Gifts should be brought to the church office unwrapped. If you claimed a tag but lost the information, don't worry! You can reach out directly to Dona at 599-5047 or beaconofhope@gmail.com to get the info. Thank you to all who have made - and will make - this Christmas one to remember for our children in the Vestal community.

Downtown Church Tours: Friday, December 20, 5-8 pm

Downtown Knoxville churches will be open for you to enjoy their Christmas decorations, music, and architectural beauty. Walk from church to church or ride the free Downtown Knoxville Trolley while you experience a festive evening downtown. This free event will take place at **Church Street United Methodist Church, St. John's Cathedral, First Baptist Church, and First Presbyterian Church**. Your RSVP is appreciated: <https://citypeople.eventbrite.com/>

Food For Kids Packing - Dec. 17

On Tuesday, December 17, all are invited to join in the Food for Kids effort at 5:15 pm in Room 118. If you would like to participate, please text Beth Stubbs at 865-207-8772. This project is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family to help the community and start conversations with children about poverty.

Table Graces Available

In an effort to remind families to pray together at mealtime, this helpful little booklet of table graces has been prepared by the spiritual enrichment team. Designed to sit upright on the dining table, adults and even small children can easily choose among the 42 prayers to offer gratitude regularly for God's provision. This handsome collection would make a fitting holiday gift or stocking stuffer and is available in the office or around the church. A donation of \$5-10 is requested per booklet.



Our Prayers

In the Hospital:

Bert Ritchie: UT

Home from the Hospital:

Allison Gaddis

Christian love and sympathy to:

The family of Dr. Winifred "Winky" Clark, who died on December 2.

The family of Mark Sims, brother of Alan Sims, who died on December 8.

The family of Lucille Darden, grandmother of Jenny Cross, who died on December 9.

The family of Jack Harrison, uncle of Lisa Sisi, who died recently.

Our Presence: December 8

Sunday School	333
Sunday Worship	821

Our Gifts: December 8

Operating Budget	\$59,379.39
Building Fund	\$8,900.00
Other	\$2,161.00

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 11/30/2019

Operating Budget Update

Contributions	
Budget 2019:	\$2,143,285
Received Contributions	
Year to Date:	\$1,806,519
Shortfall	\$336,766

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

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Winifred "Winky" Clark

Joined: 12/23/1979 Died: 12/2/2019

New Members

Bud and Madison Ford joined Church Street by transfer from Lifepoint Church (Minden, NV) on December 8.

New Arrival

Mia Marea Bayer was born December 8 to **Meredith and Ed Bayer** in Raleigh, NC. Maternal grandparents are **Bill and Barbara Penland**, paternal grandparents are **Dave and Cindy Bayer**, and paternal great-grandmother is **Zoanne Bayer**.

Memorials

In memory of:

- **John Longmire**
Building Fund: Kathie Bemis, Jeffrey Corbin & Delaine Sanders, Jackie Pena & Hal Pena, Carey Herring & Shirley Herring
- **Sue Cox**
Building Fund: Rev. Larry & Loretta Best, Dr. Christopher Sneed, David and Betty Craig
Music Ministry: Verna McLain

Honorarium

In honor of:

- **Rev. Chuck Starks**
Christmas Offering: Vance & Davette Gregory

Altar Flowers

The Advent Wreath is given in loving memory of Dr. Lucian Trent, Edward & Kathleen Crawford, and Wilmer & Jo Loveless by Mike & Mary Crawford.

LECTIONARY READINGS

December 15
Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Contact Us

Church Office [\(865\) 524-3048](tel:8655243048)

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

Fax number (865) 521-0288

Pastor On-Call Number [\(865\) 320-9100](tel:8653209100)

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

Follow us on Facebook: [@csumcknoxville](https://www.facebook.com/csumcknoxville),

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, Jacob Jenne
Beacon of Hope	Dona McConnell: 599-5047



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KNOXVILLE, TN 37901