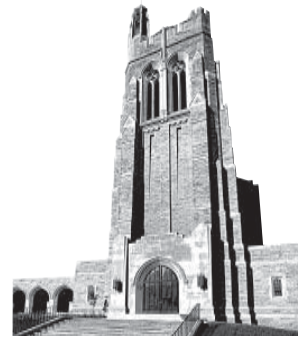


M THE CHURCH STREET MESSENGER



FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE



Second Sunday in Advent

Sacrament of Holy
Communion

• **Sunday, December 4**

Worship

8:30 am & 11:00 am – Nave
Rev. Andy Ferguson

• **Monday, December 5**

*No Community Worship on this date
...will resume Monday, Dec. 12*

Community Worship Hospitality Hosts
Dec. 12: Partners

• **Wednesday, December 7**

Advent Communion Service

11:40 am - Nave
Recital by Karns High School Concert Choir
"God's Deliverance & Comfort for the World"
Rev. Andy Ferguson

Have You Thanked God Today?

**2012 Pledged Contributions
to date:**

**400 pledges totaling
\$1,712,786**

*I will be loyal to The United Methodist Church
and support it with my prayers, presence,
gifts, service and witness.*

**Please bring or send your pledge
card to the church this week!**

Volume 73 • No. 44 • November 29, 2011

Next Four Course Fellowship begins in January



Sign up in the breezeway this Sunday!

The next 4-month rotation of Four Course Fellowship begins in January 2012. In this "dinner club" fellowship opportunity, groups will be established and locations, appetizers, salads, entrees and desserts will rotate monthly within the group.

• **Here's how it works:** You sign up (with a spouse, relative or friend) and are placed in an 8-person group to share a meal and fellowship. Your group gets together once a month (for four months). The days and times of the meals are determined by your group to be convenient for all eight persons.

The host pair provides meat, beverage and home; the second pair provides appetizer and vegetable; the third pair provides salad and bread; and the fourth pair provides dessert. Each month a different 2-person team in your group becomes the host pair, and all pairs rotate the portion of the meal for which they are responsible.

• **Here's how to sign up:** Visit the breezeway on **Sundays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18**, before or after Sunday School. You may also contact Julia Kelley at 693-6239 or jkelly2306@bellsouth.net by **Sunday, December 18**.

Be a part of "The Christmas Pageant"

Sunday, Dec. 11 • 5 to 6:30 pm

All Church Streeters are invited to *The Christmas Pageant*. Formerly called Community Christmas, the evening begins in Parish Hall at 5 pm on **Sunday, December 11**. After a light meal and fellowship time, we'll progress to the Nave for a unique Christmas pageant where everyone can be a shepherd, an angel or a wiseperson!

Volunteers are needed to welcome our homeless and inner-city guests to Church Street. Each adult Sunday School

class has received sign-up sheets with a variety of needed tasks (making sandwiches, baking cookies, helping with costuming, being a greeter or mingler, etc.). **Please return the volunteer sheet to the church office by Dec. 4.** Additional sign-up sheets may be found on the large bulletin board outside the main office.

To volunteer or for more details, please contact Sue Piper at 690-5188 or spiper1072@aol.com.



Order your Christmas Poinsettia now!

Poinsettias, in memory or in honor of loved ones, will beautifully decorate the Nave and Chapel on the last two Sundays of December. **Poinsettias may be ordered on**

Sundays, Dec. 4 and 11, for \$12 each in the Chapel Hallway or through the church office until noon on Dec. 12.

The listing of donations will be published in the Dec. 13th *Messenger*.

CSUMC: "A beacon...Living Christ, Teaching Christ, Offering Christ"

UMW Christmas Service & Luncheon - Dec. 6



The annual UMW Christmas Service and luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 6**. The service begins in the Nave at 11 am with speaker, Rev. Sarah Varnell. The always-festive luncheon, with the church staff as the special guests, follows in Parish Hall at noon.

Please note: This year, UMW **tables can not be decorated on Monday** due to the final Madrigal Dinner. Circle members may come to Parish Hall anytime after 8:30 am on Tuesday morning to decorate their tables.

It's almost time to fill the Mitten Trees

Mitten trees are located in the **hallway outside the church office**, in the **2nd floor children's hallway near the elevator** and in the **Preschool area**. Please help us fill the trees with lots of gloves, mittens, scarves and caps (for all ages).

The items will be given to our guests at **The Christmas Pageant** on Dec. 11.

Advent devotional booklets still available

Be sure and pick up your copy of the 2011 Advent Devotional Booklet, written by Church Street members with illustrations by several Church Street children. Booklets may be found in various literature racks, the new Welcome Center, and other areas around the church and from the church office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Financial Peace University (FPU) begins in February 2012.....Orientations scheduled

FPU Orientations will be held at 12:15 pm on Sundays, Jan. 22 and 29...with the series beginning on Feb. 5.

FPU is a 13-week program on personal finance designed to empower people to manage their money better, eliminate debt and build wealth. Cost for the 13 weeks is \$75 for Church Street members and \$100 for non-members.

Questions? Contact J.R. Hertwig at (865) 384-7049 or jrhertwig01@yahoo.com.



Walk Through BETHLEHEM

Volunteer STATUS Report

This year's *Walk Through Bethlehem* is less than 3 weeks away, on **Sunday, Dec. 18**, and we still have major slots to fill.

Needs for 1st shift (1 to 3:30 pm)

- Mary & Joseph

Needs for 2nd shift (3:30 to 6 pm)

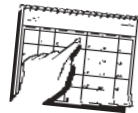
- Innkeeper, Shopkeepers for Carpentry, Medicine & Textile Shops, Non-costumed Church Life Center Greeters

Needs for both shifts

- Wise Men, Census Taker, Storyteller, Non-costumed Hospitality Room Supervisor

To help, please sign-up on the "needs" board in the 2nd floor hallway near the elevator or call Sue Isbell at 521-0282.

Messenger to take holiday break



The final *Messenger* of 2011 will be the December 20th edition. The *Messenger* will return with the January 3rd edition.

Join the Picture Patrol!

Especially during the holiday season, if you have good photos taken at Church Street events and services, please submit copies to Teresa Williams for future use (bulletin boards, archives, brochures, website, etc.).

Note: We especially need pictures taken at the upcoming *The Christmas Pageant* on Dec. 11 and *Walk Through Bethlehem* on Dec. 18.

Pictures (hard copies or CD) should be delivered to Teresa's mailbox in the church office soon after the event. Digital pictures may be sent to twilliams@churchstreetumc.org.

CHURCH STREET UMC CALENDAR: DECEMBER 4-10

WORSHIP

Morning Worship
Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave
Rejoice!
Sunday, 8:30am (WVLT-TV)
Sunday, 10am (WVLT2)
Advent Recital & Worship
Wednesday, 11:40 am, Nave

Sunday School • 9:40 A.M.

MUSIC

Youth Choir Practice
Sunday, 4 pm, Choir Room
Primary & Chorister Choirs
Sunday, 4:30 pm - Choir Room
Adult Choir Practice
Wednesday, 7pm, Choir Room

LEISURE ACTIVITIES & FELLOWSHIP

Bridge: Mon., 6:30pm, CLC 120
Yoga: Mon. & Thurs., 7 pm, rm 204
Swing Dance Lessons
Mon., 7pm, Beginning, Gym
Mon., 7pm, Intermediate, CLC 11
Wednesday Lunch
Wednesday, 12:30pm, Parish Hall
Men's Basketball
Wednesday, 6:30pm, Gym
Line Dance Lessons
Thursday, 7pm, Gym

Pastor's Bible Study
See Lectionary Listings on back page for Sundays, Dec. 11 & 18

PERSONAL & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Disciple IV (R. Isbell)
Sunday, 4pm, rm 202
Study of Book of Isaiah (Wender)
Sunday, 4pm, rm 204
Men's Bible Study
Sunday, 6pm, rm 103
Women's *Beth Moore* study
Wednesday, 9am, rm 202
Pastor's Bible Study (Ferguson)
Wednesday, 7pm, rm 204

YOUTH

Youth Girls Basketball Practice
Thursday, 6 pm, Gym
Youth Ministry Visioning Retreat
Friday-Saturday, CLC 11

MEETINGS

Benevolence Team
Monday, 12noon, rm 118
UMW Christmas Gathering - Tuesday
Program, 11 am, Nave
Luncheon, 12noon, Parish Hall
Properties Committee
Wednesday, 5:30pm, rm 202

SINGLES

Singles Leadership Team
Monday, 6pm, rm E-03
Thursday Nights Together, 6:15 pm
Dinner & Program, rm 118
Friday Fun Night Dance
Friday, 8 pm, Gym & CLC



“Reflections....on smoking candles!”

– Andy Ferguson, senior pastor

Last Wednesday, we were gathered for the Wednesday Communion service in the chapel. The service had begun; Doug Spencer was up to read the scripture just before the sermon. Suddenly, our brand new fire alarm system registered the smoke concentration above acceptable limits. The fire alarm went off with strobe lights and a blaring sound that could not be ignored. The custodians came running to see what was going on; the system reported the problem located right where we were in the chapel. After 10 or more minutes and three automatic calls to the Knoxville Fire Department, they were able to silence the system.

As it turned out, the problem was correctly indicated by the new fire alarm system; the candles on the altar were burning too high and smoking. Looking up toward the ceiling, smoke from the candles could easily be seen. The chapel ceiling is so high, of course, that two smoky candles were no problem for those of us sitting at floor level.

What I want you to realize is that we are going to have some growing pains as we adjust to this necessary safety system. You are aware that most commercial buildings in Knoxville have fire alarm systems. They watch for fires; we go about our business; this is the way this is supposed to work.

As a church, we are different from common businesses – like stores in the

mall. Most stores have no reason to have an open flame ever. We, on the other hand, burn candles as part of worship. And worship happens every week in the chapel and the nave. Worship could happen with similar candles in any Sunday School classroom on any given day. This is a state-of-the-art smoke detection system.

I hope that the only adjustment we will have to make is taking great care to trim the candles that we use in worship – so they do not burn with a smoky flame. In addition, we might have to get up to correct a smoky candle that we notice after a worship service has begun.

(This should be no more disruptive than attending to a squirming baby, right?) We will see. At the least, we will have to be constantly attentive to this detail before and during each worship service.

There is one “perfect storm” coming; you might have guessed already. On Christmas Eve, we will light and blow out 800 candles at three services: 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, and 10:30 pm. The Board of Trustees was quite clear when this system was being planned that we would have our candles at Christmas Eve Communion services. And so we will.

Last Sunday, as Pastor Sarah was preaching, I saw a smoky candle not far from my seat in 11:00 am worship. It was all I could do to restrain my hand from snuffing it out! It is truly a new day in which we live!



Coming through January 1, 2012

- Dec. 3-5 Madrigal Dinners (Pre-purchased tickets required)
- Dec. 6 United Methodist Women’s Christmas Program & Luncheon
- Dec. 7 Wednesday Advent Worship (11:40 am)
- Dec. 9 Singles Friday Fun Night Dance
- Dec. 11 The Christmas Pageant (formerly called Community Christmas)
- Dec. 14 Wednesday Advent Worship (11:40 am)
- Dec. 15 Singles Lakeshore Party (& Dinner)
- Dec. 18 Festival Service of Music by the Parish Adult Choir
- Dec. 18 Walk Through Bethlehem (1 to 6 pm)
- Dec. 21 Blue Christmas Service (12 noon)
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Services (at 3 pm, 5 pm & 10:30 pm)
- Dec. 25 Sunday morning worship at 11 am only / Fellowship time at 10 am
- Jan. 1 Sunday morning worship at 11 am only

News & Needs

Children’s News

- Get ready to help at *Walk Through Bethlehem* on Dec. 18. Families are needed! Sign-up on board in Children’s hallway.

Youth News

- **Hey Youth!** Our Youth Visioning Retreat is coming next week, Dec. 9-11.
- We hope you will volunteer for the upcoming “The Christmas Pageant” (formerly Community Christmas) and *Walk Through Bethlehem*.

Singles News

- **Christmas Stocking Project** will be held in Parish Hall at 7 pm on Thursday, Dec. 8. The final 2011 TNT Dinner begins prior to the project at 6:15 pm. Call 524-3048 for meal reservations.
- The **Friday Fun Night Dance** for December will be held on Friday, Dec. 9 instead of Dec. 2. The theme is “Christmas Formal.”

Web News

www.churchstreetumc.org

- **Listen to and watch REJOICE!**, streamed on our website at www.churchstreetumc.org/stream.php.
- **Like us on FACEBOOK!** Just go to www.facebook.com and search for “Church Street United Methodist Church.”



Music News



- **Sunday, December 11**
Youth & Children’s Choirs – morning worship
- **Sunday, December 18**
Parish Adult Choir with Brasswind Quintet
-morning worship

- **Saturday, December 24**
Parish Adult Choir & Instrumentalists
Traditional Candlelight Communion Services
Services begin at 5 pm & 10:30 pm

NOTE: Family Service (designed for young children) begins at 3 pm.

- Tickets are NOW on sale in the church office and music office...and will be on sale in the chapel hallway on Sunday mornings in December.

The Westminster Choir

of Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ
Friday, January 13 - 7:30 pm - Nave
Ticket Prices: Adults - \$20 Students - \$5

THE MESSENGER



CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

P. O. BOX 1303
900 HENLEY AT MAIN
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Stewardship

We will be loyal to The United Methodist Church and support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Our Prayers

In the hospital:

East Tennessee Children's Hospital: Drake Johnson

Ft. Sanders: Gordon Abbott

Home from hospital:

Steve Roberts, Jimmy Rowland, Nancy Roth (to Shannondale Health Care)

Christian Sympathy to:

the family of Royetta Rouanzion upon her death on Nov. 22.

Our Presence

Worship (including weekday worship) 624
Sunday School 416

Our Gifts

Operating Budget \$42,962
UM Student Day Offering \$320
Other Designations \$687

Our Church Family

New Members - Sunday, Nov. 27

- **Cindy Landon** joined by transfer from Steven's Street Baptist Church, Cookeville, TN. Her daughters, Reagan and Rylie, are added to the Preparatory roll.

Sacrament of Christian Baptism

- **Lyla Jane Morton**, the daughter of Jeffrey and Jane Morton and granddaughter of Andy and Celia Ferguson, was baptized on Nov. 27.

Memorials

in memory of

- **Billie Chesney**
Master Arts Series: Robert Sanders
- **Jim Hung**
Soup Kitchen: Kenneth & Susan Liu
- **Marjorie Lloyd**
United Methodist Women: Pat & Len Bellingrath, Violet Lloyd & Family, Janette Bingham
- **Dr. Lucian Trent**
Stations of the Cross: LaNoka Rhodes, John & Wanda Craig, Brad & Judy Thompson

Honoraria

in honor of

- **Music Ministry**
Master Arts Series: Dave & Betty Craig

Altar Flowers for Sunday, Dec. 4

The Chancel and Chapel Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Claude S. Reeder, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Claude S. Reeder, Jr., by Susie and Paul Siler.



Lectionary Readings

- **December 4**
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8
- **December 11**
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

STAFF (521-0 + ext.)

Senior Pastor Andy Ferguson-236-0951
Associate Pastor Darryll Rasnake-279
Associate Pastor Sarah Varnell-263
Special Needs Pastor Cabel Trent-264
Minister of Discipleship Rick Isbell-266
Director of Music Ministries Tim Ward-276
Music Associate/Organist Edie Johnson-277
Children's Director Sue Isbell-282
ChildCare Coordinator Jamie McKinney-290
Youth Director/Trav. Mission Marc Gamble-287
Communications Director Teresa Williams-299
Preschool Director Beth Libby-524-3511
Kay Center Director Judith Winters-293
Kay Center Kay Center Staff-289
Church Administrator Charlotte LaFevor-268
Food Services Bobby Tolley-273
Bookkeeper Francine Jenne-267
Administrative Assistant Kelly Woods-262
Ministers' Secretary Emerita Loretta Best-280
Executive Secretary Doris Lively-271
Secretary Julie Hill -278
Receptionist Brenda Flenniken-270
Sterchi Lodge Caretaker Essie Burgin
Building Superintendent Walt Sands-295
Custodians -274

Brandon Amburn, Tim Montgomery,
Matt Newberry, Mike Plyler, Anita O'Dell

MAIN OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Church Office: (865) 524-3048

FAX: 521-0261

Pastor-on-Call Number: 236-1518

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

Feeling Down?



Our Stephen Ministry can help!

Stephen Ministers aren't just there for "big" crises. They're also available for the little ones, because many times the little things can really add up. So don't wait until you have a really big crisis; consider Stephen Ministry if the little things have you feeling down.

For details about Stephen Ministry, please contact a member of our clergy staff.

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Visit us
on the Web



www.churchstreetumc.org