

# M THE CHURCH STREET MESSENGER



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

Volume 74 • No. 46 • December 4, 2012

## Worship OPPORTUNITIES

**Sunday, December 9**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

### Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – Nave

Rev. Andy Ferguson

“Word Spoken”

John 3:1–6; Malachi 3:1–4

This Sunday, our Youth, Chorister and Primary Choirs will sing Advent and Christmas music selections during both services.

**Monday, December 10**

### Community Worship

6:00 p.m. – Chapel

Rev. Darryll Rasnake

Upcoming Community Worship  
Hospitality Hosts

December 10: Partners

December 17: Cornerstone

**Wednesday, December 12**

### Midweek Advent Worship & Communion

11:40 a.m. – Recital featuring:

Don Trentham, Piano

12 noon – Service in the Nave

Rev. Sarah Varnell

“Life Changes—Mary”

Luke 1:26–38

Lunch follows the service this week.  
RSVP (524-3048). Cost: \$6.50



## Calling all Wise Men and Women

The Christmas Pageant, formerly Community Christmas, will be held this Sunday, December 9, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. We will begin in Parish Hall with a light meal and then progress to the Nave for a unique Christmas pageant where everyone can participate.

How do I volunteer? Contact

Sue Piper at 690-5188 or

[spiper1072@aol.com](mailto:spiper1072@aol.com) for

more information and to  
volunteer.



**This Sunday, December 9, 5:00 p.m.**

## UMW Christmas Program and Lunch

**This Saturday, December 8, at 11 AM**

This year we are moving our annual Christmas program and lunch to a Saturday in hopes that this change will better accommodate our members who work during the week. We will gather on **December 8, in the Nave at 11:00 a.m.** for our program, followed by an enjoyable lunch together in Parish Hall. Rev. Jodi Ihfe will deliver our message, and we are so excited to have this former Duke intern back with us for the special occasion. The cost for lunch is \$8. Make checks payable to Church Street UMC and turn in to your circle treasurers as soon as possible. Circle members may decorate tables in the Parish Hall after 2:00 p.m. on Friday and after 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.



## Mitten Tree Ministry

Mitten Trees are set up around the church and ready to be “decorated” with mittens, gloves, socks, scarves and hats in all sizes. **These items will be distributed to our guests at the Christmas Pageant on December 9.** Trees are located on the first floor next to the library, on the second floor in the Children’s wing and in the Day Care. All contributions are appreciated!



## Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be on sale this **Sunday, Dec. 9**, in the hallway outside the Chapel (and through the office during the week). Help beautify the church by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. The cost is \$10 per plant.

## Final Shopping Day this Sunday for the SERRV Market

Every year we have the opportunity to purchase exotic gifts all while helping artisans from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. You are invited to shop SERRV's unique and handcrafted fair trade items from around the world. Give special fair trade gifts that improve the lives of artisans and farmers worldwide. Come shop with us this Sunday, **December 9, beginning at 9 AM in the Parish Hall.** All proceeds are returned to SERRV participating artisans. For more information, please visit [www.serrv.org](http://www.serrv.org) and see the *Fair Trade* article in the UMW News insert.

## Alaska Mission Trip

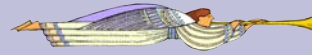
As part of our outreach program, Church Street will be taking a mission team to Willow UMC in Alaska in late June 2013. Fran Lynch is the diaconal minister there and one of the sponsored missionaries through our Community and Global Outreach and Mission committee. Among the things we will be doing is helping local church folks replace some of the metal roofing on the church building, as well as cutting firewood for the upcoming winter for needy families.

We will also spend one day working in their Food Pantry and one day with the Summer Reading and Lunch Program at Willow. There will also be time to see some of the beautiful surroundings of Willow, located 75 miles north of Anchorage and about 3 hours from Denali National Park.

If you would like to learn more about joining the team, please plan to attend an interest meeting with Fran on Monday, January 14, at 7 p.m.

## Kay Center Cards

Support the Kay Center when you buy groceries for the upcoming holiday dinners! How? On the second and fourth Sundays of each month, you may purchase gift cards to Kroger and/or Food City at the Welcome Center in the CLC. Cards are available for \$50 and \$100. The stores donate 5% with each card purchased. We all have to buy groceries, and the donated money is used to support the daily activities of the Kay Senior Center.



### Flowers for Sunday, December 9

**The Chancel Altar Flowers** are given in loving memory of Bishop and Mrs. Eugene M. Frank, by daughter Gretchen Beal and family.

**The Chapel Altar Flowers** are in loving memory of Charles Sterchi on the occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, given by Mildred Sterchi.

## Has Christmas got you stressed out over money issues?

Plan to attend Financial Peace University (FPU) this coming year. Orientations for FPU will be held at 1:00 PM on Sundays, January 20 and 27. Cost for the 13-week course on how to budget, reduce debt, invest and more is only \$75 for Church Street members and \$100 for non-members. **Questions?** Contact J.R. Hertwig at (865) 384-7049 or [jrhertwig01@yahoo.com](mailto:jrhertwig01@yahoo.com) or visit [www.daveramsey.com/fpu](http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu).

## The Messiah

will be sung at 5 PM this Sunday, December 9, at **First Christian Church** (211 W. Fifth Avenue, Knoxville). People are encouraged to sing along with the choruses. Everyone is invited!

## Church Street UMC Calendar: December 9-15

### Worship

Morning Worship  
Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave  
*Rejoice!* TV Broadcast  
Sunday, 8:30 am (WVLT-TV)  
Sunday, 10 am (WVLT2)  
The Christmas Pageant  
5:00 pm: Meal, Parish Hall  
5:30 pm: Pageant, Nave  
Community Worship  
Monday, 6 pm, Chapel  
Meal follows in rm 118  
Midweek Advent Service  
Wed., 11:40 am, Nave

### Sunday School – 9:40 AM

### Music

Adult Handbell Rehearsal  
Sunday, 6:50 pm, rm 304  
Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 306  
Brass Rehearsal  
Saturday, 1 pm, Nave

### Leisure Activities & Fellowship

Young Men's Basketball  
Tuesday, 6 pm, Gym  
Wednesday Fellowship Lunch  
Wed., 12:30 pm, rm 118  
Men's Basketball  
Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Gym

### Walk Through Bethlehem

Set-up / Build Bethlehem  
Mon-Fri, 9 am-6 pm, Parish Hall  
Walk Through Bethlehem Event  
Sunday, Dec. 16, 1-6 pm

### Youth

Basketball Practice  
Monday, 6 pm, Gym  
High School Bible Study  
Tuesday, 8:30 pm, off-site  
Middle School Girls Bible Study  
Wednesday, 5 pm, off-site  
Basketball Practice  
Thursday, 6 pm, Gym

### Personal & Spiritual Growth

Christian Believer Class  
Sunday, 4 pm, rm 202  
Wednesday Ladies Bible Study  
Wednesday, 9 am, rm 202  
Pastor's Bible Study (Ferguson)  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 201-A

### UMW

Circle #11  
Wed., 6:30 pm, CLC 120

### Singles

Bridge: Mon., 6 pm, CLC 120  
Yoga: Monday, 7 pm, rm 204  
Line Dance: Thurs., 7-9 pm, Gym  
Friday Games Night  
Friday, 6:30 pm, Gym/CLC

### Meetings & Ministry

SERRV Market  
Sunday, 9 am, Parish Hall  
Stephen Ministry Group  
Sunday, 1:30 pm, rm 201-A  
Benevolence Team  
Monday, 12-4 pm, CLC 124  
Preschool Training  
Wed., 3:30 pm, rm 201-A  
Soup Kitchen  
Thursday, 11 am, lower CLC

### The Lectionary READINGS

**December 9**  
Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

**December 16**  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

## Reflections

—Rev. Andy Ferguson

Joseph must be the patron saint of the third-wheels of the Christmas story. On paper, he was the father of Jesus. When it came time to pay the bills each month, he was paying to feed, house, and clothe Jesus. He married Mary and conducted himself as the perfect gentleman—despite the strange goings on. From what I can tell, he never saw for himself the miracles the adult Jesus would perform. He never heard Jesus preach to stir the crowds. He lived his whole life trusting God and trusting Mary—trusting what he would never see. Now, after all these centuries, we are still a bit tongue-tied trying to explain how Joseph fits in the Christmas story.

Have you ever felt like a third-wheel in someone else's exciting story? Have you ever felt like you were present but did not quite belong? I think we often feel that we don't fit, don't matter and aren't necessary—that we are invisible in our own life story.

**Take comfort from Joseph; your story is in the Bible through his.**

And take note: Joseph was faithful and trusted God even though he got no big payoff. Living in such trust cost him something every day of his life. Still, his trust in God and God's ways is an inspiration for us. Faith means trusting God and God's ways even though it costs us something. Faith means trusting God's ways even when we feel like a third wheel.

Scholars have pointed out that Jesus could not have been born without Joseph's protection. Mary would have been thrown out (at best) and into poverty without Joseph's marriage. He was necessary to God's Christmas plan whether anyone patted him on the back or not.

**And so are we—necessary to God's Christmas plan.** Surely, God sent the angel to speak to Joseph with a word of instruction and assurance. But, what if Joseph had just slept through it all? What if Joseph had merely refused? What if? But, Joseph, the third-wheel in the Christmas story, said, "Yes," to God, to Mary, and finally to Jesus. We may be the third-wheel sometimes, but we can never be discarded if we are God's-wheel. Merry Christmas.

## Four-Course Fellowship begins in January

**Sign-up deadline is Sunday, December 16**

The next 4-month rotation of Four Course Fellowship begins in January, and you can be a part of it! In this fun "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 becomes the host pair, and all pairs rotate the portion of the meal for which they are responsible.

**Here's how to sign up:** To sign up or for more details, please contact Julia Kelley at 228-0554 or [jkelly2306@bellsouth.net](mailto:jkelly2306@bellsouth.net) by **Sunday, December 16.**

### COLLEGE LIFE news

College Sunday School meets weekly at the Gourmet's Market on Kingston Pike in Bearden at 12:15 PM. Email **Merry Reid Sheffer** at [mrsheffer@comcast.net](mailto:mrsheffer@comcast.net) for more info.

### SINGLES news

- **First Friday Dance** is this Friday, December 7. Cost for admission/snacks is \$7. Dance begins at 7 PM in the gym.
- **Singles Lunch Bunch** is Sunday, Dec. 9, at Louie's (4661 Old Broadway) just after the 11 a.m. service. Join us!

### MUSIC news

- Vienna Boys Choir Tickets
- Seraphic Fire Tickets
- Parish Choir Duruflé CDs
- Church Street Greeting Cards

**On sale in the breezeway each Sunday between worship services.**



### Thinking about Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve, we will have four candlelight communion services at Church Street—each one designed to meet a slightly different need. We hope that one of these services can become part of your Christmas tradition. This would be a wonderful occasion to invite extended family and neighbors to join you at church.

**5:00 and 10:30 pm**—These are the great services of Christmas Eve that everyone knows well. The times are the beginning of the musical prelude. The liturgy begins 30 minutes later in each case. The Parish Adult Choir will sing excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*, accompanied by a chamber orchestra. Each service usually lasts about 90 minutes including the musical prelude.

**3:00 pm**—**The Family Service.** This service, which includes candlelight and communion, is designed for families with young children. This service is designed around the Children's Sermon; the children are actively involved in several ways. This service lasts 50-60 minutes.

**12-noon**—**The Midday Christmas Eve Service.** This new service, which includes candlelight and communion, is designed for those who want to come out and get home before dark. We will sing many of the traditional Christmas carols. This service should last about 50-60 minutes.



# THE MESSENGER



CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
P. O. Box 1303  
900 HENLEY AT MAIN  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

Return Service Requested

## Our Church Family

*In Memoriam*

**Thomas Edwin Nabors**

Joined: 06/10/1974 Died: 12/03/2012

## 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:

UT: Daniel Ellis

VA, Johnson City: George Legg

Tennova Phys. Regional: Frances Thomas

#### Home from the hospital:

John Craig

Henry Russell to Arbor Trace

#### Christian love and sympathy to:

Dian Lynn Nabors and the family on the death of Dian's husband, **Thomas Edwin Nabors**, on December 3, in Knoxville, TN.

### Our Presence

Sunday Worship 817

Sunday School 486

Weekly Worship Services 96

### Our Gifts

Received toward budget \$ 66,022.31

Other \$ 2,758.50

### Memorials

in memory of

#### • Matthew Bates

*Matthew Bates Counseling Fund:*

Todd & Kimberly Badeaux,

Marty & Lynn Bates, Bailey Rich

#### • Kathleen Goff

*Rejoice! Ministry:* Elizabeth Walter

## Contact Us

Church Office (865) 524-3048

Hours: Mon–Fri., 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Fax number (865) 521-0261

Pastor On-Call Number (865) 236-1518

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.

On the Web:

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

Watch *Rejoice!* streamed on our web site.

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

## Staff Directory

### Dial 521-0 + extension

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

Child Care Coordinator Jamie McKinney–290

Youth Director Marc Gamble–287

Preschool Director Beth Libby–524-3511

Kay Center Director Judith Winters–293

Kay Center Kay Center Staff–289

Church Administrator Kate Bledsoe–268

Bookkeeper Francine Jenne–267

Food Services Director Bobby Tolley–273

Communications Director Caroline Lamar–299

Administrative Assistant Kelly Woods–262

Ministers' Secretary Emerita Loretta Best–280

Executive Secretary Doris Lively–271

Part-time Secretary Julie Hill–278

Receptionist Brenda Flenniken–270

Sterchi Lodge Caretaker Essie Burgin

Building Superintendent Walt Sands–295

Head Custodian Mike Plyler–274

Custodians Brandon Amburn, Matt Newberry,

Nita O'Dell, Leo Thibeault

## Domestic Violence Helpline

(865) 521-6336

# Christmas

AT CHURCH STREET

## Family Festivities

### Dec. 9: Christmas Pageant

5 p.m. in Parish Hall for supper followed by pageant in the Nave

### Dec. 16: Walk Through Bethlehem

1–6 p.m. in Bethlehem (Parish Hall)

## Sunday Morning Services

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Nave

### Dec. 9: "Word Spoken"

Youth & Children's Choirs

### Dec. 16: "Restored"

Parish Adult Choir

Brasswinds Quintet

### Dec. 23: "Blessed"

### Dec. 30: Combined Worship

11:00 a.m. service only this day

## Wednesday Advent Services

12 noon in the Nave w/ Communion

### Dec 12: "Life Changes—Mary"

Recital at 11:40: Don Trentham, Piano

### Dec 19: "Life Changes—Us"

Luke 2:1–18; Rev. Darryll Rasnake

Blue Christmas in the Chapel

## Christmas Eve Services

Join us for worship in the Nave with Candlelight and Communion

### Dec. 24: "Fulfilled"

12 noon – Daytime Service

3:00 p.m. – Family Service

5:00 p.m. (music begins)

10:30 p.m. (music begins)

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