

Worship OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 14

3rd Sunday in Advent

Worship Times

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM – Nave

Rev. Andy Ferguson

This Sunday, the Parish Adult Choir will present a Service of Music @ Readings during both services.

Wednesday, December 17

Blue Christmas

Noon - Chapel

Rev. Nicole Krewson

Lunch will be served in Parish Hall after the service this week.

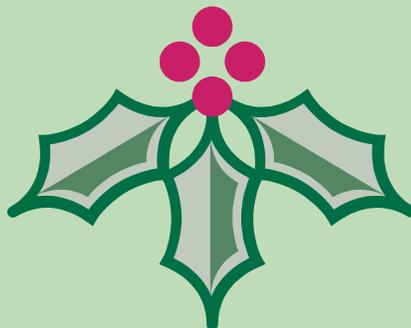
RSVP by calling 524-3048

Thursday, December 18

Community Worship

Noon -Chapel

Rev. Matt Hampton



Walk Through Bethlehem

Sunday, December 14, 1-6 p.m. in Parish Hall

Experience what the village of Bethlehem might have been like over 2,000 years ago – right in our Parish Hall and surroundings. Visit the shops, listen to the storytellers, learn in the synagogue, talk with the townspeople, taste the local Bethlehem foods, see the animals on the hillside, and try to find the special baby born that night.

Note to our helpers and volunteers:

- All first-shift workers need to be in costume and in Parish Hall by 12:45 p.m.
- Please eat lunch before you come.
- Snacks for the break room on Sunday can be brought to the kitchen on Sunday morning.

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 17, noon in the Chapel

Again this year we will offer a Blue Christmas service in the Chapel. This service is designed for those who might have suffered some type of loss during the past year – a death, an illness, a loss of relationship or employment, and just about any life change. The invitation is to all who find themselves feeling “blue” this year to join us for this service of hope.

The service begins at noon in the Chapel and will last about 30 minutes.

Lunch will be served in Parish Hall following the service; cost is \$7 per person.

Please call 865-524-3048 or e-mail reservations@churchstreetumc.org by

Monday, December 15, to make a meal reservation.

Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be on sale this Sunday, December 14, in the hallway outside the Chapel. Help beautify the church this Advent by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. The cost is \$12 per plant.



Greeters Needed For Christmas Eve

We have the greatest number of visitors at one time on Christmas Eve. This year there will be four Christmas Eve services, and the Outreach Committee needs greeters to be at the primary entrance doors from the parking lots to greet and welcome our guests. If you can help, please indicate which service your family plans to attend and we will assign a location for you at that service. The services on Wednesday, December 24, will be held at noon, 3 p.m., 5 p.m., and 10:30 p.m. You should try to arrive about 30 minutes prior to the service since we always have larger groups joining our worship. If you can help, please contact Cindy Hollingsworth at cindyhollingsworth@comcast.net. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve our church during this most Holy season.

Four-Course Fellowship begins in January

Sign-up deadline Sunday, December 21

The next 4-month rotation of Four-Course Fellowship begins in January, and you can be a part of it. In this 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 eight-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 Kathy Alexander at 379-5249. Sign up at the Welcome Center in the CLC Hallway, or e-mail kr_alexander@att.net by Sunday, December 21.

Please Remember Holston Home This Christmas

This could be the first Christmas they have plenty to eat, for some it might be the first time they receive gifts, for others, it might even be the first Christmas they are safe from harm and abuse. These are the children in the care of Holston Home for Children. Let us remember them this Christmas season, and include them in our thoughts, prayers, and giving. Please designate your gifts to the Holston Home Christmas Fund. You may place a designated check in the offering plate or give on the church website at www.churchstreetumc.org by clicking "Online Giving" on the homepage.

Parish Adult Choir Music Special

Special music from the Parish Adult Choir will air on WVLT-TV four times this holiday season:

- **Sunday, December 21 - 8:30 a.m.**
- **Wednesday, December 24 - 7 p.m.**
- **Thursday, December 25 - 5:30 a.m.**
- **Thursday, December 25 - Noon**



Church Street UMC Calendar: December 14 - 20

Worship

Morning Worship
Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave
Rejoice! TV Broadcast
Sunday, 8:30 am (WVLT-TV)
Blue Christmas Service
Wednesday, noon, Chapel
Community Worship
Thursday, Noon, Chapel

Sunday School—9:40 AM

Music

Youth Choir, Trebles and Chorister Choir
Sunday, 2:30-3:15 pm or 3:45-4:30 pm
Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 306

Meetings & Ministry

Benevolence Team
Monday, noon, CLC 124
Finance Committee
Tuesday, 6 pm, rm 204
Soup Kitchen
Thursday, 11 am, Parish Hall
Staff Parish Relations
Thursday, 5:30 pm, rm 201-A

Youth

Wesley House Buddy Program
Tuesday, 3:45, Wesley House
Middle School Girls Bible Study
Wed., 5:30 pm, CLC 17
Youth Band Practice
Wed., 6:30 pm, CLC 11
High School Prayer Breakfast
Thursday, 7:15 am, Chick-Fil-A

Leisure Activities & Fellowship

Bridge
Monday, 6:30 pm, CLC 120
Yoga
Monday, 7 pm, rm 204
Young Men's Basketball
Tuesday, 6 pm, Gym
Men's Basketball
Wed., 6:30 pm, Gym

Personal & Spiritual Growth

Pastor's Bible Study
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 201-A

Lectionary READINGS

December 14
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Walk Through Bethlehem
Sunday
1-6 p.m. in Parish Hall



December 21
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:47-55
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Reflections

—Rev. Andy Ferguson

This Sunday, Church Street returns to worship in our Nave. It has been a long time – three months worshipping in the gym, as I recall. What is fixed? The floor, which was buckling and bulging, is now a normal floor. The oak flooring is new throughout the Nave and Chapel.

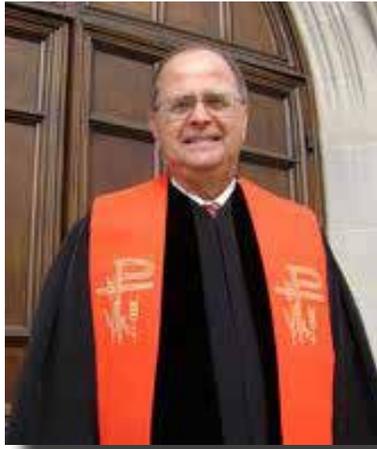
Further, the project is not quite complete, even though we can return to worship there. The front organ must be cleaned and will not be available until December 21. The cork expansion strip has not been installed. The Chapel floor must be re-sanded and refinished because of scratches. All of these problems are minor and will not keep us from using our Nave and Chapel for the remainder of Advent and Christmas.

This place where we worship defines us and our spiritual experience.

- Our church is an imposing sight. Just approaching from the front speaks of the greatness of God.
- Then, entering the narthex throws us into a relative darkness. The area is smallish and dark, suggesting that the trappings of the world are being stripped away. This is no lobby or CLC hallway with its high windows and light. The narthex is not the place to hold a bake sale; the narthex has a different, spiritual purpose from a lobby.
- Finally, we step into the Nave with high ceilings leading our eyes toward heaven. The massive walls are stone, whispering, “A Mighty Fortress is our God.” The stained glass windows use the dominant blue color to suggest the light of heaven.
- Listen to voices singing on any Sunday morning. Even singing sounds different from singing in other kinds of buildings. It suggests the sound of angel choirs in God’s Heaven.

The return to the Nave this Sunday is significant and welcome. This place defines us and our experience of God. Since childhood, this has been my holy place. Unfortunately, every other church was measured according to this standard. On the other hand, every time I have returned to worship here, the simple act of walking into the nave is a moment of spiritual return.

This Sunday, we return to our holy place. “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise” (Psalm 100.4).



PARKING news

Reminder: if you visit the church Monday-Friday during regular business hours, please park in the Magnolia lot or the Hill Avenue lots. Other parking lots are designated for University of Tennessee parking.

SINGLES news

Please join us on Tuesday, December 16, for the next FOCUS. We will celebrate the season with a potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. in CLC 120. The FOCUS group is a Singles Ministry event, however everyone is invited to attend.

BENEVOLENCE news

Do you know about the Benevolence Team? Do you know what they do and how they do it?

We have a 30-minute slide show that will answer all these questions. Benevolence Team members would love to show you how they help others and answer any additional questions for your Sunday School class or church group. Contact Doug Spencer at 804-4369 or Dan Kelley at 385-1187 to arrange a presentation.

ONLINE giving

Did you know you can support the programs and ministries of our church by giving online? Log on to www.churchstreetumc.org and click “online giving” on the home page. You can choose a one-time payment or set up a recurring gift.

Treble Choir Joins Symphony Holiday Concert

The Church Street Treble Choir, made up of Church Street’s Chorister Choir (grades 3-5) along with the treble voices of the 55-voice Parish Youth Choir (grades 6-12), will be performing with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra this December. Tickets are on sale now for the 28th Annual Clayton Holiday Christmas Concert. The choir will be singing in all four performances at the Knoxville Civic Auditorium: Friday, December 19, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 20, at 3 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, December 21, at 3 p.m. To purchase tickets, please call 865-291-3310. We hope you can be a part of these special concerts!



Sermon Scripture

Sunday, December 14

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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: Joe Golden

Christian Sympathy to:

Norma Conklin on the death of her sister-in-law, Pat Tracy Prator.

Sandra Inman on the death of her mother, Margaret Holloway, on December 5.

Christina Inman Routh on the death of her grandmother, Margaret Holloway, on December 5.

Our Presence

Sunday Worship	978
Sunday School	529

Our Gifts

Received toward budget	\$24,145.01
Other	\$17,154.23

CareNotes Provided for Life's Situations

Everyone will go through life situations that are stressful, filled with anxiety or just plain difficult. The Congregational Care Committee is aware of those life situations and wants to help. In the hall outside the Chapel there is a rack full of helpful literature dealing with difficult life situations called CareNotes. Whether it is a serious illness, death, grief, everyday stress, or anxiety, there are helpful tracts written in an easy to understand format. So the next time you need another perspective or some helpful words, pick up one of the CareNotes in the rack and know that we do care.

Mark Your Calendar!

Christmas Stories
with Steve Roberts
Sunday, December 28
9:40 a.m.
Parish Hall

Our Church Family

Baptism:

- **Julia Blair Weaver**, daughter of Kent & Meredith Weaver, was baptized on Sunday, December 7, at the 8:30 a.m. service.

New Members:

- **Missy & Greg LeMense** joined by transfer of membership on Sunday, December 7, at the 11 a.m. service. Missy comes by transfer from Southside Baptist Church in Knoxville, TN, and Greg comes by transfer from Church of the Ascension, Knoxville, TN. The couple has three children; Jordan, Emma and Bryson.

Altar Flowers for Sunday, December 14

The Altar flowers are given by Marty, Lynn & Sarah Bates in memory of their beloved son and brother Matthew.

Honorariums

In Honor of:

- **Rev. Cabel Trent**
Rejoice: Bill & Brenda Griffith

Memorials

In Memory of:

- **Rev. Bill Balch**
Music: Verna McLain
Renovation: The Arnold Kramer Family
- **Lyla Boehms**
Soup Kitchen: Mr. & Mrs. William Norton
Soup Kitchen: Gaye Collins
Soup Kitchen: A.R. Godsey
- **Robert Elliott**
Renovation: Mr. & Mrs. Jim Bond and Bill
- **Carolyn Brown Lawson**
Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Seekers Class
- **Bertha Lees**
Soup Kitchen: Carol Moore Vermillion
- **Nancy Powell**
Soup Kitchen: Carol Moore Vermillion
- **Ann Sturdivant**
Memorial: Bob & Mary Carmichael
Soup Kitchen: Circle 7
- **Dorothy Vola**
Rejoice: Judy Seale
- **Kathleen Weigel**
Renovation: Mr. & Mrs. Gene Parrott
Soup Kitchen: Carol Moore Vermillion

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.

On the Web:

www.churchstreetumc.org
Watch *Rejoice!* on our web site.
Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Staff Directory

Dial 521-0 + extension

Senior Pastor	Andy Ferguson-260
Associate Pastor	Matt Hampton-279
Associate Pastor	Ashley Helton-263
Associate Pastor	Nicole Krewson-298
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	Jenny Darden-287
Preschool Director	Beth Libby-524-3511
Kay Center Director	Judith Winters-293
Kay Center	Kay Center Staff-289
Church Administrator	Kate Spencer-268
Bookkeeper	Francine Jenne-267
Communications Director	Caroline Lamar-299
Administrative Assistant	Kelly Woods-262
Ministers' Secretary Emerita	Loretta Best-280
Executive Secretary	Doris Lively-271
Receptionist	Brenda Flenniken-270
Food Services	Mike Weatherly-273
Part-time Secretary	Julie Hill-278
Sterchi Lodge Caretaker	Essie Burgin
Building Superintendent	Walt Sands-295
Head Custodian	Brandon Amburn-274
Custodians:	Matt Newberry, Jason Mallette, Joe Holmes, Jonathan Irwin
Beacon of Hope	Richard Ginn 599-5047



CHURCH
STREET
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

PO Box 1303
900 HENLEY AT MAIN
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901