



# THE MESSENGER

CHURCH  
STREET  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

***Vol. 83 + No. 18***

*May 6, 2021*

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## **Update from the COVID-19 Task Force**

We have entered a time of cautious optimism with more people getting vaccinated and new COVID-19 cases declining. Knox County and state mask mandates have been lifted. The Holston Conference COVID-19 Task Force lifted its protocol May 1 (the full article may be found at [www.holston.org](http://www.holston.org)), allowing local churches to make decisions on their own. This does NOT mean we can return to pre-pandemic status. Vaccinations have not yet opened up for our children and younger youth.

Holston Conference leaders have issued the following directive in lieu of the protocol:

- Face masks and social distancing are still required during in-person gatherings.
- Continue use of a safety protocol based on CDC guidelines.
- Inform District Superintendent of revised plans.
- Vaccinations are strongly encouraged.

The CSUMC COVID-19 Task Force continues to meet weekly to monitor local data, review new scientific findings, and develop plans for moving forward. The spiritual and emotional needs of the congregation are factors in our decisions.

Recent decisions by the task force are listed below.

### **1. Return pew cushions, envelopes, and prayer cards.**

The CDC noted in April that the risk of contracting COVID from touching a contaminated surface is less than 1 in 10,000. Wearing a mask also decreases touching of the nose and mouth. Disinfectant sprays will be used after any worship service held indoors.

### **2. No congregational singing.**

Singing is considered a high-risk activity because of increased projection of

aerosolized particles and masks don't always fit snugly. Knox County continues to hover at a level of moderate risk for transmission, so at this time it does not seem safe to make a change.

**3. Develop plans to return in-person Sunday School classes in phases.**

Classrooms are being assessed for space to allow social distancing and adequate ventilation. Sunday School leaders are being consulted to identify desires of each class. Additional information will be forthcoming.

**4. Allow food service of catered/plated meals by gloved and masked individual or boxed meal.**

No communal / buffet food service. Social distancing also applies.

On the church campus and at church events, we will continue to use the five core actions to prevent transmission of COVID-19, which are: Social distancing, Facial coverings, Hand hygiene, Disinfection of contact surfaces, and Self-exclusion for illness or risk of illness.

Knox County Health Department is reminding everyone to "Stay in the Game!" This is not the time to let our guard down. Get vaccinated and encourage everyone you know to do the same. Vaccine clinics no longer require an appointment. Call the church office if you need information or assistance, and a member of the Parish Health Team will be glad to return your call.

The task force is grateful for the support and cooperation you have shown. We are blessed to be part of a congregation that faithfully demonstrates love for one another and our neighbors.

Submitted by: Vicky Shelton, D.Ph. on behalf of CSUMC COVID-19 Task Force

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**Sign Up for Change the World Weekend on Saturday, May 15**

Change the World Weekend is an effort to rethink church beyond our sanctuaries to the world and communities we inhabit. Change is incremental and hard, but when we work together, we can make a large impact.

The UMW and Missions Team are partnering to provide hands-on, intergenerational ways to be in service to our local community this weekend that also adhere to Covid-19 safety protocols in place at the church. We can change the world by starting in our own backyard. We'll be sharing more about our mission projects and ministry partners in the coming weeks -- you can check out the hands-on mission projects that will take place on Saturday, May 15.

*If you would like to sign up, please call Rev. Palmer Cantler at 865-521-0298 and she can walk through the opportunities with you.*

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***Worship Opportunities***

**Sunday, May 9**  
***Sixth Sunday of Easter***

## ***Senior Sunday***

**Join us!**

**At 8:30 am & 11 am at 900 Henley Street**

Please call the church office for assistance registering at 865-524-3048.

*and*

**at 11 am on YouTube**

[www.YouTube.com/ChurchStreetUMC](http://www.YouTube.com/ChurchStreetUMC)

**Mary Kate Holladay, Caroline Powell, and Margi Troxler**

**Senior Speakers**

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

**Music**

In the Nave at 8:30 am

Hear My Words

Stephen Paulus

*Parish Young Men's Ensemble*

In the Nave at 11 am

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Robert Lau

*Parish Ensemble*

Online at 11 am

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson

*Shelby Berkley and Hannah Berkley, soloists*

***Lectionary Readings for this week:***

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

## ***Sunday School Opportunity***

### **Open Door Class is Doing Good**

"Doing good, like doing no harm, is a proactive way of living."

Rueben P. Job

This coming Sunday, May 9, the Open Door Class will continue their series of lessons based on John Wesley's General Rules and Rueben Job's book *Three Simple Rules*. On Sunday the class will explore the second rule of "Do Good." We will look at what the rule means, what the scriptures have to say, and how we can practice the rule. The rule is simple but putting it into practice requires a continual lifestyle of "seeing the need and taking action." (*Three Simple Rules for Christian Living* by Jeanne Finley)

Join us on Sunday, 9 am on Zoom. The door is always open!

Call in: 1-929-436-2866, Meeting ID: 826-2519-6733#, Passcode: \*987123#

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***Children's Summer Opportunities***

## ***Camp Hogwarts***

**June 1 & 2, 9:15 am-4:30 pm**

Children who have completed K-5th grade

*The cost is \$50 per child, which includes a boxed lunch, snack, and all materials. Mask will be required and we will be outside as much as possible.*

If you have any questions or to sign up, please contact Katryn Bancroft at [kbancroft@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:kbancroft@churchstreetumc.org).

## ***VBS: To Mars and Beyond!***

**June 21-24, 6-7:30 pm**

Children age 3-rising 6th graders

*Masks will be required and we will be outside as much as possible. Volunteers are welcome!*

If you have any questions or to sign up, please contact Katryn Bancroft at [kbancroft@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:kbancroft@churchstreetumc.org).

## ***Children's Choir Camp!***

Sign up today for CSUMC's Children's Choir Camp, Monday, July 12- Wednesday July 14 9 am- 1 pm. This fun-filled camp will include singing, music games, fellowship and activities in downtown Knoxville. In addition to exercising our minds and voices, we'll play at World's Fair Park, enjoy some ice cream and maybe even strike up some fun at a nearby bowling alley! Rising 1st - 5th grades.

If you have any questions or to sign up, please contact Edie Johnson at [ejohnson@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:ejohnson@churchstreetumc.org).

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## ***UMW Offerings***

### **UMW General Meeting on May 11, 11 am on Zoom**

We are fortunate to have Kara Finger, the Executive Director of the Wesley House, as our speaker. The Wesley House, founded in 1907, is a community center with a long history of service to low-income families in Knoxville. The focus is now on children and senior citizens. Kara is a dynamic leader committed to the growth and success of Wesley House.

+ Call in to the meeting: +1929-436-2866, 844 9904 6104#, \*739705#

### **UMW Book Review on May 19, 1:30 pm**

Join us as we watch the documentary about the passage of the 19th amendment in Tennessee's role in this historic event. It will be presented via Zoom on Wednesday, May 19 at 1:30 pm. The documentary is about 30 minutes, and we will have time for discussion afterwards. Please join us!

“Of all the battles waged on Nashville's doorstep, the final throes for the passage of the 19th Amendment were among the most heated, controversial and colorful. In July of 1920, all eyes were on the Tennessee capital as anti- and pro-suffragists each fought for their vision of a socially evolving United States. PERFECT 36: WHEN

WOMEN WON THE VOTE chronicles the dramatic vote to ratify this amendment, and the years of debate about women's suffrage that preceded it.”

+ Call in to the meeting: +1929-436-2866, 82214241785#, \*820265#

## Calendar

See the calendar listings below. **Meetings occur on Zoom**, unless otherwise noted as an in-person event. If you would like a link to one of the following Zoom meetings, or if your group would like to set up a Zoom meeting, please contact Kate Spencer at [kspencer@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:kspencer@churchstreetumc.org) or 865-521-0268, she will help set you up on the church account!

### Ongoing Worship, Sunday School, Children, Youth & Music Meetings:

- **Worship:** Sunday at 8:30 & 11 am, Nave, online at 11 am
- **Open Door:** Sunday, 9 am
- **Partners:** Sundays, 9 am
- **Followers:** Sundays, 9:30 am
- **Epworth:** Sundays, 9:30 am
- **Crossroads:** Sundays, 11 am
- **NightLife:** Sundays, 5 pm, Gym
- **Seekers:** Sundays, 7 pm
- **Youth Band Rehearsal:** Wednesdays, 7 pm, CLC Lower Level
- **Friends in Christ:** Monday, 7:30 pm

### Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- **Worship Committee:** Monday, 6 pm
- **Congregational Care Committee:** Tuesday, 6 pm
- **Trustees:** Wednesday, 5:30 pm
- **Young Adults Small Group:** Wednesdays, 6 pm, off-site
- **Soup Kitchen:** Thursdays, 11 am, Magnolia Lot
- **Covid Task Force:** Thursdays, 3 pm
- **Day of Service:** Saturday, 8 am, CLC/Gym/Offsite

**Coming Up:** Church Council: Tuesday, May 25, 6 pm

## Our Prayers

### **Christian love and sympathy to:**

The family and friends of Brenda Gibson Young, sister of Barna Gibson, who died May 2 in North Carolina.

### **In the hospital:**

Herman Sain: Ft. Sanders  
Burl Haun: UT

### **Recently hospitalized:**

Molly and Adaline Wilson

### **New Arrival:**

Adaline Margaret Wilson, daughter of Vance and Molly Wilson and granddaughter of Dan and Devah Armstrong, was born on May 4.

## Our Presence

May 2

Online Worship - 208

Moving forward, we will send a poll once a quarter instead of each week to gauge our online worship attendance trends. The calculation has been steady each week and has given us a good estimate of the multiplier we need to use to get the most accurate online worship attendance possible. Thank you to those who have answered the weekly poll for the last several months!

**May 2**  
**In-Person Worship - 204**  
8:30 am Worship - 95  
11:00 am Worship - 109

***It's easy to give from your phone!***

**GIVE+**Text

### ***GivePlus+ App and Give+Text***

We now have **two new ways to give** from your phone:

1. Download the **GivePlus+ app** from the app store or Google Play, register your account and secure payment info, then give easily.
2. Text to Give ... Text the contact number **844-931-2580** with the dollar amount you'd like to give. You'll be directed to a link one time to set up your text to give info. Once you register, you'll be able to subsequently simply text the amount you'd like to give to **844-931-2580**.

### **Our Gifts**

**May 2**  
Operating Budget \$20,277.24  
Building Fund \$125.00  
Other \$2,194.00

Give securely online at [www.churchstreetumc.org/give](http://www.churchstreetumc.org/give) or send a check:  
Church Street UMC  
P.O. Box 1303  
Knoxville, TN 37901

### ***Memorials***

*In Memory of:*  
**Dr. Virginia (Ginger) Hood**  
Youth Scholarship Fund: Friends in  
Christ Class  
**Shirley Kanipes**  
Beacon of Hope: Lorraine Rajkowski  
**James Langford**  
Building Fund: Stephanie Hopkins,  
Betty Craig

### ***Honorariums***

*In Honor of:*  
**William Y. Carroll III**  
Youth Fund: Bill & Clara Carroll  
**Chandler Rosecrance's Baptism**  
**Anniversary**  
Youth Fund: Kathleen Henderson  
**Ann Warwick**  
Soup Kitchen: Judy & Don Akers

Sterchi Lodge Fund: Betty Sterchi

**Marilyn McCall**

Memorial Fund: Jenny Glover

**Jo Wiegiers**

Memorial Fund: Pamela Maples

**Altar Flowers**

The Chancel Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Holland Stalcup and Fred Stalcup by their family: Clay, Staci, Seth, Aiden, Caroline, Benjamin and Freddie Stalcup.

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***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.*

**Church Street United Methodist Church**

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

P.O. Box 1303, Knoxville, TN 37901

**Office:** 865-524-3048 **Fax:** 865-521-0288 **Pastor On-Call:** 865-320-9100

*Please call the church office to reach a specific member of our staff.*