

Bookwalter United Methodist Church

4218 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

December 8, 2017

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director

John Bawcum, Organist

Church Phone: (865) 689-3349

Page: www.bookwalter-umc.org

Rusty Boggs, Pianist

Edie Jo Hall, Children's Director

Zach Smith, Youth Director

Ministry to God through prayer and worship.

Ministry to one another through caring discipleship.

Ministry to others by meeting needs and winning them to Christ.

I spent the better part of yesterday seeking inspiration for this week's newsletter. I finally began looking over some things I wrote years ago. I found one that struck a chord with me so I updated it for Advent 2017.

I heard a story on the radio about a young boy heading into surgery for a tumor in his arm. His father watched him being wheeled back to pre-op and the whole trip the boy was pumping his arm up and down. The father asked the boy if everything was okay. The boy answered "Yes, I feel great!" "Then what was the arm pumping all about?" asked the dad. "Oh," said the boy, "In case I lose this arm, I want to get as much use out of it as possible." The boy was able to focus not on his potential loss, but on what he had.

As I write this, it was 40 years ago today that I lost my younger brother so I find myself again reflecting on all that was taken from my family. He would have been 50 this January, which is hard for me to fathom. My sister and I were robbed of a brother, my parents a child, my children an uncle they would never meet. Time, as they say, does heal...but you keep the scars. When I think of all that could have been, it is hard not to dwell on the loss. So I have to make myself look at what we had... what was gained.

The reason I still grieve is because Vince was a blessing. If he were not loved dearly his passing would have meant little. But I had a loving, funny, playful, thoughtful, charming, endearing little brother. There are many people and families who find themselves with the same struggles around the holidays. There is an unspoken agreement to quietly grieve so we

do not ruin anyone's "Christmas spirit." Part of advent for me, however, is finding hope in the face of despair, joy in spite of tragedy and light for a people who live in darkness. This is the promise of Advent. Steve

Sunday evening, Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m. and Women's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m..

Wednesday evening activities, 6:30 p.m. for children, youth and adults.

Visiting of homebound members by children and all others interested in visiting, please meet at the church on **Wednesday evening, December 20th, 6:30 p.m.**

Keenagers

Next meeting will be **December 12th, 10:30 a.m.** Carolyn Zachery will have devotions and the program will be music by the O'Connor Singers. This is a program of beautiful Christmas music so invite someone to come with you. Remember to bring non-perishable food items for Emerald Avenue Food Pantry.

Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 9th, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Thank you to those who have signed up to bring cookies. We hope to make this year's Open House a huge success, even better than last year!

Christmas Post Office - The youth will again be delivering Christmas cards at a cost of 25 cents a card. Collection box in fellowship hall. **Please limit to in-church members only.** Thank you for supporting our youth.

If you would like to mail a Christmas card to our homebound members, we have printed some address labels for your convenience.

You can pick up labels from the bulletin board next to the fellowship hall. Homebound members like to receive mail from their church family.

The Knoxville Nativity Pageant, Saturday, December 9th at 3:00 pm; Sunday, December 10th, 3:00 pm; Monday, December 11th, 7:00 pm at the Civic Coliseum. Free admission.

The combined choirs of Bookwalter and Cedar Lane United Methodist Churches will celebrate the Christmas season with "Invitation to a Miracle." The concerts, featuring a full orchestra, will be performed at **Bookwalter on Saturday, December 16th at 7 p.m.** and at Cedar Lane Sunday, December 17th at 7 p.m.

The two evenings will be filled with wonderful music, scripture, messages, fellowship and worship. The choirs are under the direction of Bailey Hueser. The arrangements are by Joseph Martin and orchestration by Bryant Adams. A reception follows each performance.

**PRAY KNOX – 1 CITY – 1 MOVEMENT
365 DAYS OF UNIFIED PRAYER**

In 2018, join us as we engage in 365 days of prayer for our city. We are gathering voices from across Knoxville to guide us to pray for the same prayer target each day. More information will be available at a later date to guide us in our prayers for Knoxville and surrounding areas.

Our Service

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

Acolytes	Ellis Banks, Seth Laws
Nursery	Brooklyn Haun, Kayla Walker, Kana Wilhoit
Ushers	Peyton Allen, Ed Bryson, Pam Ferguson, Ray Mills

Plan to join us for worship on Sunday, December 10th as we worship the Lord on this Second Sunday of Advent. Scripture will be Luke 1:26-38 and the sermon is "ANGEL BABY."

Our Presence and Our Gifts

December 3, 2017

Morning Worship	93
Sunday School	52
Budget Offering	\$6,329.00
Roof	\$220.00
Music Department	\$1,075.00
Change for Children	\$2.00

Prayer List:

*Continuing Prayers: (please list **requested by** after names)*

- Mike Allen – Linda Comer's friend
- Fran Bailey, cancer
- Will Boggs
- Ashley Brown
- Pat Burnett, cancer, family friend of Marlene Webb
- Bill Combs, brother-in-law of Beth Ford Ericson
- Eddie Cox
- Dorris Dennison
- Megan Emehiser, stage 4 cancer – friend of Karrie Melton & Kensley
- Bill Ferguson
- Beth Ford
- Charlie & Patsy Gardner
- Sarah Hawkins, wife of David Hawkins
- Joe Hurst
- Joy & Earl Hauther
- Kathy – kidney failure
- Kermit and Martha Kitts
- Stephanie Melton – surgery
- Becky Newberry
- Micah Nicely, 20 year old with brain tumor
- Parker Pass, 4 year old child
- Pat – breast cancer
- Briana Rose
- Amanda and Zak Smith, cousin of Carolyn & Sue Wilson
- Tom Stansberry, Melissa Wiedemann's father
- Bill Townsend
- Don and Maggie Turpin
- Roy Walker, Doris Dennison's brother

Continuing Care:

- Shirrell Baker, Joe Broom, Kermit & Betty Campbell, Samantha Collier, Sarah Hawkins, Joan Leslie Hickman, Margie Johnson, Lynn Mashburn, Jama Newman, Jean Painter, Roy Skeen, Ann Turner, Betty Uhlman, Carolyn & Sue Wilson, Joanne Wilson.