

Bookwalter United Methodist Church

4218 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

March 2, 2018

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director

John Bawcum, Organist

Church Phone: (865) 689-3349

Web 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 have grown immensely weary of all the "either/or" rhetoric that defines most modern debates about nearly any issue. You are in this camp or that one. There is no in between, no real discussion and each side mocks the other. They come with their talking points and do not listen. Everyone is so certain of their position, all their energy is exerted trying to convince others of their "rightness" so that it never enters their mind they could possibly be wrong.

As a result, no one seems capable of compromise or ever changing their minds about anything. Changing one's mind is seen as a lack of character or leadership. I have my convictions, but I also have changed my mind about a lot of things through the years. I used to love tomatoes, but now not so much. The opposite is true with avocados and guacamole. I love them now. What if I told you that being able to change one's mind was a strength, not a weakness? A virtue, not a vice. Of course, I don't mean someone who is wishy-washy and shifts as the wind blows. I mean a person strong enough to examine a situation, weigh options and perhaps look at something a new way.

I ran across a 2011 article about this very thing in Psychology Today. Dr. Alex Lickerman says, "*The ability to change one's mind, to admit implicitly or explicitly that we were wrong ultimately boils down to an issue of character—of our ability to transcend our small-minded ego and care more that value is being created than we're the ones creating it.*" (The whole article is worth a read:

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/happiness-in-world/201108/changing-your-mind>

Christians can sometimes be the worst at this hardnosed stubbornness. We are so entrenched in our positions we never consider that some of what we believe came straight to us from God is actually just an interpretation or a tradition. The irony is that one of the main things Jesus preached about was changing your mind along with your heart. That is literally what the word "repent" means. The Christian walk is supposed to be one of always changing as we become more like Christ. That's hard to do if we remain inflexible. Examining our lives for areas that need changing is another excellent Lenten exercise. Steve

Sunday evening, Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study on Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. We will be studying Beth Moore's "Jesus, The One and Only"

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

Staff-Parish Relations Committee will be meeting March 6th, 7:00 p.m. **Members are:** Angie Peterson, Chair; Carrie Ellis Colandro; Laura Stone; Charles Gault; Christy Edmundson; Porta Chamberlain; Doris Dennison; Jack Oglesby. **Ex-officio Members:** Lay Leader, Ken Mahoney; Lay Delegate, Linda Comer.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 11TH.

Meetings on the calendar:

Finance Team on March 8th, 7:00 p.m.

Outreach on March 12, 6:30 p.m. and **Church Council** at 7:00 p.m.

Henderson Settlement will be the Children's March Mission Project – This year the children, along with your help, will be collecting mugs and pots (colored or clay) that are about the size of a mug, and decals to decorate plain pots. Henderson Settlement has greenhouses, and each year they host a Mother's Day Event the week before Mother's Day. Local schools bring the children in to "shop" for a plant to give that important person in their life. Flowers are placed in donated mugs, planters, and decorated pots for the children to purchase at a special cost just for them. They get to buy a present, visit the greenhouses, and have fun doing it.

Save the date: March 25th - The children will be presenting "Hallelujah! He Did It!" on Sunday, March 25th immediately before the choir's Easter Cantata, "The Offer Still Stands."

Keenagers – Next meeting will be on March 13, 10:30 a.m. Program will be Brenda Boggs of Choice Tours, and Kay Steppen will have devotions. **Call reservations or cancellations to Nancy Dickerson, 689-8126, by Thursday evening, March 8th.** Brenda will have a very good program on her plans for travel this year. Invite someone to come with you. Remember to bring non-perishable food item for Emerald Avenue Food Pantry.

Plan to join us for worship on Sunday, March 4th as we worship the Lord. Scripture will be Luke 22:1-38 and the sermon is "MARCH TO THE CROSS: PRIDE."

Our Presence and Our Gifts

February 25, 2018

Morning Worship	94
Sunday School	58
Budget Offering	\$2,773.00
Roof	\$20.00
Change for Children	\$4.00
Music Department	\$50.00

Prayer List:

Pat Collier
Joe Hurst
Bill Ogle

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.

Our Service

March 4, 2018

Third Sunday in Lent

Acolytes	Seth Laws, Ella Wilhoit
Nursery	Idonna Bryson, Porta Chamberlain
Ushers	A.J. Allen, Howard Darnell, Mary Mahoney, Carolyn Peters