

Bookwalter United Methodist Church

4218 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

April 27, 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.

This is a companion piece with my sermon from this past Sunday:

The air was crisp and there was just enough of a breeze to rustle the field grass. Most of the sheep were asleep, but this one was awake. She is grazing, a midnight snack, a clover salad. Continuing to nibble, she catches a scent besides the green blades. This is not a pleasant smell, but it does not ruin her appetite. Then something brushes up against her.

She feels hot, rancid breath in her face and she looks up. The sheep gasps at the sight of the wolf eyes staring back at her. The animal's nostrils flare as the cold empty eyes bear down. The wolf pulls its lips back in what at first looks like a smile, then a snarl, then a gaping mouth full of teeth.

The sheep stares blankly. She does not even move as the wolf lunges. Out of the corner of her eye, the sheep sees the hired hand running away for his life. The jaws of the wolf clamp down on her neck. The life begins to squeeze out of her. She is slipping away when she realizes this wolf is in a pack, for they are many. From all sides, the sheep is attacked and torn.

Suddenly, the grip on her neck is wrested free. The beast reels and yelps as it feels the brunt of the staff of the Good Shepherd. The sheep stares in disbelief at her savior who strikes the

rest of the pack. There is much gnashing of teeth.

The Good Shepherd bends down to see if the sheep is all right. Kneeling there, the Shepherd realizes the pack is regrouping around them. He continues pouring medicinal oil on the sheep's wounds. Snarling and growling, the pack surrounds the Shepherd. He turns to face them. His thoughts are of the sheep first. This is what he was born to do. From the moment he was old enough, he was in the fields. Unlike the hired hands, these were his lifelong companions. He may be called upon to lay down his very life.

The circle of dogs tightens and he tightens the grip on his staff. They close in and attack at once and from behind him. The wolves bite and claw, piercing the shepherd with their teeth as he defends the sheep. He fights bravely and soon has the animals lying about him on the ground, defeated. But the wounds received by the Good Shepherd drain the life from him. He dies with his head resting against the nameless sheep he saved. Steve

Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet Sunday, April 29th, in the chapel following morning worship.

Sunday: Grief Support Group meeting 3:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Holston Home – Please pray for the ministry of Holston Home for Children, and be prepared to give generously on **Sunday, April 29th**.

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

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We extend our love and sympathy to Zach, his mother and family in the death of his father, Reverend David Smith.

Women's Spring Consignment Sale, Thursday, May 3rd - Saturday, May 5th, 2:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the United Methodist Women's Mission Projects.

Keenagers next meeting will be on May 8, 10:30 a.m. Patsy Blalock will have devotions. **Call reservations or cancellations to Nancy Dickerson, 689-8126, by Thursday, May 3rd**. Invite someone to come with you. Remember to bring non-perishable food items for Emerald Avenue Food Pantry.

Church Council's next meeting – May 14, 7:00 p.m.

Our Service

April 29, 2018
5th Sunday of Easter

Acolytes	Rachel Byrd, Ella Wilhoit
Nursery	Rose Baker
Ushers	Peyton Allen, Ed Bryson, Pam Ferguson, Ray Mills

Plan to join us for worship on Sunday, April 29th as we worship the Lord. Scripture will be Matthew 12:1-14 and the sermon is "THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW"

Our Presence and Our Gifts

April 22, 2018

Morning Worship	101
Sunday School	61

Change for Children	\$2.00
Budget Offering	\$4,040.00
Roof	\$20.00

Prayer List:

Porta Chamberlain
Eddie Cox
Leroy Cox – cancer
Doug Estes, John Bawcum's brother-in-law
Joe Hurst
Jo Ann Learn
Phyllis Maples, Joyce Rasar's sister
Stephanie Melton
Tommy Stanberry

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.