

Bookwalter United Methodist Church

4218 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

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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.

"No Regrets" is a phrase I struggle with. It is an admirable goal to live your life as such. The best I have been able to muster thus far echoes Ol Blue Eyes, "Regrets, I've had a few." I have made a ton of mistakes and had my share of tragedies. That is not what I mean. For me, a regret is a decision I have made where upon later reflection I wish I had done something differently.

This has come up a couple of times in recent conversations. Watching the Ken Burns "Baseball" documentary led me to lament I did not pursue that sport further than 5th grade little league. On a trip to New York City when I was in high school, I was given a choice between seeing an actual Broadway play or the NIT championship at Madison Square Garden. I regret that I chose the very forgettable basketball game. I also second guess my decision to not take more English classes in college simply because I had met the requirement.

On the other hand, a favorite notion of mine is how everything in our lives, both good and bad, adds up to bring us where we are today. If you are at all content or happy with your life, then one could say they have no regrets. The ups and downs were perhaps an inextricable part of the path to your present. For example, my wife does not wish she had not married her first husband because that union resulted in two children she dearly loves. To live with no regrets is indeed a worthy goal because the past cannot be changed anyway. Rather than dwell on how things might have been, we instead face what is yet to come. Still, I will go to my grave regretting that I ate that sausage in Guatemala. Steve

TRUNK OR TREAT

It's time to collect candy and toys for our Trunk-or Treat for Saturday, October 30 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. The Big Blue barrel is in the fellowship hall ready and waiting for donations. We need individually wrapped candy and treats. We are also collecting small toys and non-candy items for those children with allergies. In addition, we need TRUNKS. Not swimming or elephant trunks, but car trunks, truck beds, or tables to be decorated and hosted by Bookwalter family and friends. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make it to Bookwalter with Trunk-Or-Treat in the memo.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

This year's Advent study is, "Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience". (In-person and Zoom)

In 1741, John Wesley preached his famous sermon titled "The Almost Christian" in which he encouraged people to follow Christ wholeheartedly. We should not

be satisfied with being almost Christian but rather strive towards being altogether a Christian.

In Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience, author and pastor Magrey deVega leads a group of authors to explore how we can make the same commitment to Christ during Advent, connecting our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace. In this book, deVega and the other authors break down the barriers that prevent us from experiencing an "altogether" love, hope, joy, and peace in Christ in our lives and in the world around us.

If you are interested in this Advent study, please call/text Pat Newman @ (865) 394-3295, or email, patn.106@gmail.com, so a book can be ordered for you. The books will be ordered on Oct. 20th. If you are financially able, the book is \$10.00. If paying by check, please make your check to Bookwalter UMC and indicate on the memo line, "Advent Study." If paying by cash, please use an envelope labeled, "Advent Study." If you are unable to purchase the book, there is assistance to help with the cost. Please inform Pastor Steve or Pat if you need assistance. If you prefer an electronic version of the book, that is available, too. Also, if you need transportation, and would like to attend in-person, please contact Pat.

The dates for the study are Sunday, Nov. 28 @ 3 p.m. and then Wednesdays Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15 @ 6:30pm.

Please consider participating in this Advent study. It is certain to enlighten, challenge, and encourage us to seek the promises God offers to us. Through God's leading we will have an invitation to claim the promises of Advent and celebrate an "altogether" Christmas.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We want to extend an invitation to adult Sunday school class each week at 10 a.m. The different adult classes are meeting together for now both in person and online. Linda Comer is leading very interesting lessons with great group participation. If you would like to join them in person, they meet in the fellowship hall where there is plenty of room to spread out. If you prefer online, let Rev. Doyal know to put you on the email list that receives the Zoom link each week.

CONSIGNMENT SALE

Thank you to all who helped with the consignment sale. The money raised is going to help fund the 2022 Camp in the Community.

"Heads Up! Something exciting/big is happening on Nov. 3rd! More info coming soon.

NOVEMBER 7

Homecoming this year is going to again be a bit subdued because of the continued concerns over Covid. We will not have a guest speaker this year nor a dinner following worship. We do plan on having a bit of Bookwalter trivia though so bone up on your church's history.

Sunday, November 7 is also All Saints Sunday. We have recognized this occasion in the past by lighting a white candle in memory of anyone we have lost in the last 12 months. We will do the same this year as we did last year. If you are present, please bring a free-standing white candle to place on the altar during the service. However, if you are not planning on attending in person, please let Rev. Doyal know for whom you would like to have a candle lit. We will provide one and say the name of your person on your behalf during the service.

Also, please make a note that Daylight Savings time ends on this day as well. So remember to Fall Back!

VETERANS RECOGNITION

We will have our annual recognition of Veterans on Sunday, November 14. We do this by a special slide show and music. If you have submitted a photo and information in the past, we still have that on hand. If you have not, please email a digital photo of your Veteran along with basic information such as which branch of the military they served, their rank and where and when they were posted.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

We will participate in an online multi-church Charge Conference this year. This will be Tuesday, November 16 at 7:00 PM.