

Bookwalter United Methodist Church

4218 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

October 1, 2022

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director

Edie Jo Hall, Children's Director

Todd Spangler, Pianist

Church Phone: (865) 689-3349

Web Page: www.bookwalter-umc.org

***"Sharing God,s love with our neighbors,
Inviting them to share in in the joy of Jesus Christ"***

ARTICLE

Acts 2:42-47 gives us a description of the early church that seems idyllic, but it is not long before these Christians start sounding like us. Some withhold their gifts after promising to share. There are some bitter arguments over the direction of the church, who to include, how to reach out and who is in charge. Yet, God still somehow used them to bring the gospel to the world.

Having unity never meant being uniform. We are not all the same; we do not think the same or have the same opinions. John Wesley once said, "Though we may not think alike, may we not love alike?" God is big enough to bring us all together under His roof. We are like family in ways both good and bad. We may make each other crazy, but we are bound by blood. In the case of the church, it is the blood of Jesus.

I first heard about the idea of the "fifth voice" in an Upper Room devotional years ago. I was intrigued and looked it up. It is something associated with barbershop quartets. The four voices blend and may produce an acoustical effect known as the fifth voice. The four different sounds come together in such a way as to seem like something even greater than the sum of its parts. It goes by other names such as *overtone* or *ringing tone*. The one I like best is called "The angel's voice."

We, too, can work together in all our differences to bring about something holy. This is true within the diversity of one church or

denomination but also amongst other churches. Our differences do not have to mean bitter division.

We have a saying amongst us Methodists, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." It means we stick together on things that really matter and allow freedom in things that are not as critical. But whether the issue is essential or non-essential, we are to conduct ourselves with love. Is this still our witness? This is something to ponder as we celebrate World Communion Sunday this week. Steve

COFFEE DRIVE THRU

In an effort to reach the community in which Bookwalter is located, we are sponsoring a drive-thru coffee/light breakfast event on Oct. 14 between the hours of 6:30-8:00 a.m. We will provide a free cup of Bookwalter Brewers famous coffee/tea and a muffin/honey bun/cereal bar. We will serve in the back of the church, under the covered section of the church.

We pray that we can make someone's day better, help a busy parent who didn't have time for breakfast or help someone who didn't have the money for breakfast and finds this coffee and light breakfast a blessing they can carry through the rest of their day. In essence, our witness will be to offer hope and a smile to all those we serve.

If you can help serve, prepare, or donate the food items, please contact Pat Newman, (865) 394-3295, or patn.106@gmail.com.

HOMECOMING

We plan on having a more normal Homecoming this year on Sunday, November 6th with a guest speaker and a covered dish dinner. More details to come.

That will also be 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. 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.

Please note that Daylight Savings time ends on this day as well. So, remember to Fall Back!

TRUNK OR TREAT

It's time to collect candy and toys for our Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, 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 people to host and decorate car trunks, truck beds, or tables to hand out the goodies. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make it to Bookwalter with Trunk-Or-Treat in the memo.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

We will participate in an online multi-church Charge Conference again this year. This will be Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM. If you would like to participate, please contact Rev. Doyal and he will forward you the link once he has it himself.

VETERANS RECOGNITION

We will have our annual recognition of Veterans on Sunday, November 13. 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 to sdoyal7@gmail.com along with basic information such as which branch of the military they served, their rank and where and when they were posted to Rev. Doyal.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

We are once again participating in a collection with Friends of Inskip to provide food items for the less fortunate in our community. We are joining with other churches and organizations to put food on the tables of these folks at Thanksgiving. We are committed to collecting 200 of each the following items:

Packets (NOT jars) of Chicken gravy

Boxes of instant stuffing

4 pound bags of sugar

Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach effort.