



Bookwalter United Methodist Church

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March 2024

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director
Todd Spangler, Pianist

Edie Jo Hall, Children's Director
Taylor Stephens, Youth Director

*Sharing God's love with our neighbors,
inviting them to share in the joy of Jesus Christ.*

ARTICLE

Several church members gathered on February 3 for our second annual "Brainstorming Session." We reviewed and evaluated things we had implemented from last year and then opened it up for new ideas.

The development of the "Theme Team" that works on visual aids for worship has been well received. Upon consultation with the Conference and the Knoxville Police, we have decided to not pursue a new food ministry at this time. We received a grant to fund our birthday box ministry called "Destination Celebration" but it has not caught on well yet. We are planning on changing the name to make it clearer what is involved.

The Teddy Bear collection also went well, and we hope to do other similar initiatives over the course of 2024 collecting for groups such as the Wesley House and again for Susannah's House. For example, snacks during finals for the UT students at the Wesley Foundation.

Coffee House Church on the fifth Sundays of the month remains popular and we are planning on incorporating a brunch during the Sunday School hour to coincide with those dates.

It was mentioned that the Fellowship Time before Sunday school has been missed. Acknowledging that buying donuts every week gets expensive, we propose a sign-up sheet for people to bring in homemade goodies. Look for it in the Fellowship Hall.

Other items such as dinners or gift baskets for local firemen and police officers were discussed. We may do some Active Listening training for church and community as well.

Bear in mind, you do not have to wait until another session to share an idea. We may not be able to do everything, but we welcome all suggestions. *Steve*

CHURCH CLEANING DAY

We plan on having a deep cleaning day on Saturday, March 23 beginning about 9:00 a.m. This includes chores both inside and outside the church to prepare for Easter. Please consider coming by to help for any amount of time you can spare.

EASY WAYS TO GIVE MORE

This is just a reminder of a couple of ways you can help serve the community and the church with no real extra cost to you.

If you donate goods to KARM you can sign up for their "Corners of the Field" program and list Bookwalter as the beneficiary. This gets us gift cards we can then in turn use at the KARM stores. We give these to folks who come by with that type of need.

Also, If you shop at Kroger, you can designate Bookwalter as a recipient of funds from their Community Rewards program. This provides us with a check for our Helping Hands fund on a quarterly basis. This is about \$50 on average. Our organization number is UW322. If you want technical assistance to sign up, just tell Pastor Steve.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

This annual ancient dreadful ritual will once again befall us on March 10th despite objections from nearly all sentient beings on earth. So, remember to "Spring Forward" and set your clocks appropriately.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

You would likely do this on your own, but since St. Patrick's Day falls on a Sunday this year, we encourage all you lads and lasses to wear your green to church the morning of March 17.

HOLY WEEK / EASTER SUNDAY

The Children's Department is tentatively planning an Easter Egg hunt on Palm Sunday (March 24) during Children's Church.

We will gather in the parking lot on Easter Sunday morning (March 31) at 7:00 a.m. for our Sunrise service.

We will not have a fifth Sunday Coffee House Church since it falls on Easter. We are looking to perhaps have an April date instead. Stay tuned.



CHURCH COUNCIL

We will meet on Monday, March 11 at 7:00 PM both in person in the Chapel Class and online via Zoom.