



Bookwalter United Methodist Church

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September 2024

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director
Todd Spangler, Pianist

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

ARTICLE

Backpacks are packed, buses are on the roads and bells are ringing in the halls. Classes are in full swing again and I find myself missing it. There was a simplicity to school life I did not fully appreciate when I was living it. It had a regular and predictable schedule. There were clear rules, instructions and expectations. I split time between the jocks and the brains and had friends across the social spectrum. You were as likely to find me in the library or lab as much as in the gym or on the track or field.

I was an oddball in the sense that I actually liked tests. Whether a pop quiz or a final exam, I loved the challenge. There was unambiguous feedback with the grading system. As I make my way through work and family life, I long for a report card that says I am doing an A+ job.

Sure, there was stuff I hated about it and would not want to go back to school. I do not miss bullies, homework, peer pressure or cafeteria milk.

There is at least one thing I still have despite having gone through all my graduations: A love for learning. Nothing prevents my pursuit of ongoing knowledge. Whether it is figuring out how something works, what something means or what happened in history, I will always continue my education.

WWII documentaries and nature shows are some of my favorite things to watch. I love being able to say, "I did not know that!" because it means I just learned something new. As I have said before, I hope heaven will be an opportunity to explore space and time.

Proverbs 1:7 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me." The Lord gave us a sense of curiosity and He encourages us to learn of Him and His creation. There is always more to seek in the Kingdom of God so keep it up.

Steve

YOUTH BAKE SALE

Our youth will have a bake sale on Sunday September 8th before and after church. This is to raise funds for Resurrection in January.

We welcome any donations of baked goods as well as encourage everyone to come pick something up that day.

SOCCER CAMP

Our Bookwalter sponsored Soccer Camp is coming up on Saturday, September 14. The first session is 2:00 – 4:15 PM and the second is yet to be determined.

This will be held at the AYSO Region 337 Soccer Complex located at 2065 Rifle Range Road here in Knoxville.

We had 86 students sign up for this while we were at the Pack-A-Backpack distribution at Inskip Elementary. We want to send each child home with a T-shirt and a soccer ball.

We need monetary donations for the “Jesus Saves” T-shirts with the church name on the back. They are \$6.50 apiece and volunteers can contact Jason French ASAP if you want one also. Jason also has a line on some balls through Adidas which we also need donations to buy.

We will also need bottled water and fresh fruit the day of the camp. Thank you for your support!



“There is Enough...More than Enough”

We have been conditioned to believe that resources are scarce. We are told that if you do not have enough, you are not working hard enough. In God’s creation, however, we see the abundance of all that we need. What would happen if we allowed Jesus to not only bless our resources, but also guide our distribution of the world’s resources? Early Christians lived by collecting and distributing based on EVERYONE’S needs.

The food insecurity rate in Knox County is 12.3%. One in six children face hunger and the level of people aged 60+ continues to grow. We can change these statistics, if we allow Christ to direct how we use the resources God has given us.

During the month of September, we will be focusing on hunger. There are calendars available for the month with a focused scripture each day to guide your prayers and reflections. On Sept. 29 during Coffee House Church, we will collect canned goods to assist Cedar Lane UMC with their food bank. Please begin now to gather canned food items for this very important ministry.

As people of faith, we trust in the abundance of God’s creation, therefore, let us strive to rededicate ourselves to ending worldwide hunger. Peace and Blessings!! **Pat**

P.S. We could also use some small pop-top items like Vienna sausages, beanie weenies, tuna, peanut butter crackers and so forth to keep at the church office for folks that may come by our church for assistance.

RUMMAGE SALE

The dates for the Rummage Sale are Friday and Saturday October 4-5. On Friday the hours will be 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and this will be a half-price day.

Please bring in your donations sooner rather than later so that our volunteers can sort and price them. Thanks