



Bookwalter United Methodist Church

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November 2024

Reverend Stephen K. Doyal, Pastor

Bailey Hueser, Choir Director
Todd Spangler, Pianist

Betsy Payne, Secretary

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

In about a week, half of our country will be elated, and the other half will be convinced America is going to the pits. This will be the case regardless of who is elected on November 5th. My prayer is not so much about who is going to ascend to the office of President as much as for the people who make up these United States. I hope some measure of unity and healing will be possible in the wake of this contentious season.

As polarized as things are now, it might be of some comfort to remember that the U.S. has weathered arguably worse. The election process was different in 1800 when the one with the most votes became president, while the runner-up became vice president. Under this system, Thomas Jefferson and his chosen V.P. pick, Aaron Burr, tied for first place, sending the decision to the House of Representatives. There Alexander Hamilton would be instrumental in swaying the vote Jefferson's way. And you know how well Burr took that.

In 1824, there was again no clear majority of electoral votes and again it went to the House. John Quincy Adams would win over Andrew Jackson with what he called a "corrupt bargain." Old Hickory would be back though.

The presidential election of 1860 literally led to Civil War. Abraham Lincoln, a steadfast opponent of slavery, was not even on the ballot in most Southern states. Just weeks after Lincoln's victory, South Carolina voted to secede. Six more Southern states followed, forming the Confederate States of America in February 1861.

I will not outline here what happened in 1876, but I encourage you to discover how Rutherford B. Hayes won. Also look up the 1912 election between William Taft, Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. Of course, you likely remember 2000 and hanging chads. The point is we have faced challenges before and still managed to come together when needed. Let's do so again.

Steve

HOMECOMING

Homecoming is this Sunday, November 3rd and our guest speaker this year is Rev. Mary Thompson, the executive director of Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries. Before she began working in the camp ministry, she served Christ United Methodist in Chattanooga from 2009-2017.

She completed her master's degree in divinity at Candler School of Theology in 2013 and was ordained in Holston Conference in 2013. Rev. Thompson lives in Athens, Tennessee with her husband, two sons, and two dogs.

This will also be **All Saints Sunday**, which we will observe by lighting white candles for people we have lost since last November. Please bring a free-standing white candle if you would like to participate. Oh...and **FALL BACK!**

VETERANS PRESENTATION

We will have our annual recognition of Veterans on Sunday, November 10. We do this with 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.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Our next Church Council meeting (and the last of 2024!) will be Monday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m. in person in the Chapel Class or online via Zoom.

ZOOM CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our annual meeting with the District Superintendent and other churches in the Tennessee Valley District will be held online via Zoom on Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00 pm. Let Rev. Doyal know if you would like that link.

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION

We will once again be collecting food items for Friends of Inskip baskets. Bookwalter is responsible for 200 units of the following: boxes of stuffing, packs of gravy (not jars), 4 lb. bags of sugar and packs of unsweetened Kool-aid.

THANK YOU

Dear Bookwalter family,

Words cannot fully express my gratitude for all the blessings I have received not only in the celebration recently but over the last 24 years. I will always be grateful for the friendships I have made and the welcoming attitude of the congregation, pastors, and staff. Thank you for the cards, gifts, and abundant expressions of appreciation that have been outpouring since announcing my retirement. This is not a goodbye but rather a "see you later!"

Love and blessings, Betty Lenoir

ADVENT STUDY

Pat Newman will be leading an Advent study next month. This year's title is "Faithful: Christmas Through The Eyes of Joseph." You must let Pat know by this Sunday, November 4th if you wish to participate.

The study will begin on Sunday December 1st at 3:00 p.m. and then be held on Wednesday December 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30 PM.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Our Trunk or Treat was once again a great success. We had 14 vehicles and a steady stream of guests for an hour and a half. Thanks to all who supported and participated!

