



MIDDLESETTLEMENTS METHODIST CHURCH



January 2026 Newsletter

Meet Karissa Marcum, MMC's New Pianist!

Hi! My name is Karissa Marcum, and I'm so excited to serve at Middlesettlements as a pianist for God's glory.

A little bit about me: I was born and raised in Knoxville; I've lived in South Knox my whole life. I am in the process of moving into Maryville and am on track to be in my new apartment by the end of the month. For work, I am both employed and enrolled as a full-time student at Pellissippi State Community College. My major is a double major in Music and Education, with a focus in piano performance and elementary education, respectively. I will graduate with my associate's degree in May and then transfer to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Fun Questions for Karissa:

**1. What's your favorite place in the world?
Why?**

My favorite place in the world right now is right in our backyard! I absolutely love Foothills Parkway, the views, the trails, the ambiance, all of it is so special to me. I recently took a day trip with my boyfriend, and we were blessed with peaceful time together, seeing God's work everywhere around us.

2. What is the first thing you bought with your own money?

The first 'significant' thing I bought with my own money was a hoverboard for \$149 dollars when I was 9 years old. I was very proud I saved up for it, despite only using it and maintaining interest for a few months!

3. Do you collect anything?

I collect many different bracelets that track an animal! When I get a bracelet, it has a code that allows me to track where my animal moves each day. My favorite animals I have right now are an elephant, polar bear, and koala.

**4. What's your favorite Bible verse/story?
Why?**

My favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:8, which says, "*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*" This is my go to verse daily. When I was younger, I learned this verse to help me through various struggles, and I called it "the whatever verse" as a reminder that God has me in his hands despite "whatever" being thrown my way. It has reminded me to look for all the good things God puts in every situation I am in.

Karissa's first official Sunday was January 4th, and we're thrilled to have her with us!

Welcome New Members!

On Homecoming Sunday, the Donnie Moore and Spurgeon families joined the Middlesettlements family – look forward to finding out more about them in our February newsletter!

Faithfulness

"I will support the church with my presence, prayers, gifts, and service!" (Membership vow)

Attendance

Attendance	S.S.	Worship	
December		Morning	MorningView
7	58	105	cancelled
14	66	122	15
21	58	126	16
28	48	80	13

Dec	Designated Budget	Undesignated Budget	Total Budget
7	\$8,235	\$35	\$8,270
14	\$3,585	\$610	\$4,195
21	\$925	\$5	\$930
28	\$2,745	0	\$2,745
Budget amount needed for 2025: \$233,532			
Budget amount received in 2025: \$247,126			
Designated Budget (100% of your gift will support Middlesettlements Methodist Church.)			
Undesignated Budget (10% of your offering will be tithed to the United Methodist Church.)			
Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$270 Parking Lot: \$5,450 Christmas Eve: \$150 Donation (use of Fellowship Hall): \$105 Mission Breakfast: \$898			
"Remember the Church in your will."			

Weekly Wednesday Night Dinner

Welcome to Dinner, Church! Middlesettlements Methodist hosts weekly dinners every Wednesday night beginning at 5:30 pm. Below are the January menus – we'll also continue to have a kids' table (bread, peanut butter, jelly, and fruit) and a dessert table. Everyone is welcome!

- **Wednesday, January 7th** – Soup Dinner Provided by the church as we *labor* together to undecorate the church!
- **Wednesday, January 14th** – Chicken Casserole, Sides, & Dessert (a fundraiser for Karen & Andrew Lewis' Costa Rica Mission Trip!)
- **Wednesday, January 21st** – Beef Lasagna, Chicken Penne, Baked Veggie & Cheese Ravioli, Spaghetti Marinara, salad, & garlic bread
- **Wednesday, January 28th** – Taco Beef, Fajita Chicken, Beans, Rice, Corn, Salsa, Cheese Dips, & Chips

If you're willing to provide a dessert, sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office (office@middlesettlements.com).



If you notice during the year that your birthday or anniversary isn't listed, please let us know by leaving a message at 865-982-4799 or emailing us at office@middlesettlements.com.

Birthdays January

January 3—Howie Ammons
January 5—Jeff Bolton, Amy Long
January 5—Ashling Wolfe
January 6—Poppy Keylon
January 7—Michael Milligan, Lindsay Perkins
January 9—Emilie Floyd
January 11—Peggy Morgan
January 12—Jan Kerr, Bryson Perkins
January 14—Cindy Alloway, Judy Bolton, Caroline Marler
January 16—Saylor Davis
January 17—Betty Rogers, Walter Jordan
January 18—Leona Mote
January 20—Mike Long, Dee Loveday
January 23—Kaitlyn Luckadoo
January 27—Wesley Lewis
January 28—Patsy Webb, Vivian Spurgeon
February 4—Jo Cromwell

Anniversaries in January

January 1—Gary and Diane Kuhlman

Church Calendar for 2026

If you are planning an event in 2026, please contact me at 865-982-4799 or office@middlesettlements.com so it can be added to the church calendar. This includes events at the **Field of Dreams**, as some dates are already scheduled. Thank you for your help! — Joyce

Weekly Wednesday Night Study

Beginning at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall (while enjoying 2nds, dessert, and coffee), our adults are learning about the spiritual practices that Jesus used and modeled. Through February 4th, we'll be specifically looking at prayer!

Women's Circle will meet for its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, January 20, at 6:30 pm at the home of Joyce Overton (2856 Rhett Butler Dr, Louisville). Our mission emphasis will be the Pregnancy Resource Center. Our guest speaker will be Jana Davis.

Lay Leadership for 2026

Church Council

Chairperson: Keith McAmis

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Church Council Secretary: Kathy Puckett

Lay Leader: Karen Lewis

At Large Members:

Richard Davis

J. B. O'Connor

Patsy Webb

Ann Smith

Brenda Crisp

Josh Marler

Bridget Jenkins

John Davis

Staff-Parish Relations Committee,

Chairperson:

Leanne Moore

Finance Committee, Chairperson: Laura Floyd

Board of Trustees: Chairperson: Sam Love

Church Treasurer: David Lewis

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Prayer Team Leader: Dora Hooks

Women's Circle, President: Joyce Overton

Nurture, Coordinators: Kate Keylon & Starla Davis

Outreach/Evangelism, Coordinator: Karen Lewis

Worship, Representative: David Wells

UMYF Representative: Dagen Thomas

Church Historian: Brenda Clemens
& Amy Bloomer

(Members of the Church Council above this line)

Finance Committee:

Chairperson: Laura Floyd

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Lay Leader: Karen Lewis

Church Treasurer: David Lewis

Financial Secretary: Margie Davis

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Joyce Overton

Permanent Endowments, Chairs: David Lewis
& Laura Floyd

Church Council, Chairperson: Keith McAmis

Staff-Parish Relations Committee,

Chairperson:

LeAnne Moore

Board of Trustees, Chair: Sam Love

Nurture Ministry, Coordinator: Magan
Stubblefield

Outreach/Evangelism, Coordinator: Karen
Lewis

Nurture:

Co-Chairs: Kate Keylon & Starla Davis

Team: Karen Lewis (Lay Leader), Dora
Hooks, Josh Clark

Sunday School Secretary: Rose Marie Class

Home Touch Ministry (for shut-ins): Patsy
Webb

Librarians: Leslie McAmis

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Outreach/Evangelism

Coordinator: Karen Lewis

Team: Linda Hearon, Joyce Overton, Shelly
Milligan, Margie Davis, Pam Carico

Mission Team Leader: Joyce Overton

Local Mission fund: Shelly Milligan (Chair)
Margie Davis, and the Pastor

Sign Ministry Team: Mike Long

Family Promise Coordinator: Linda Hearon

LCAC Liaison: Peggy Gilbert & Rachel Ammons

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Worship Ministry:

Coordinator: David Wells

Altar Guild/Communion Stewards: Ann
Connatser and Leslie McAmis

Audio Visual Team: Bill Floyd, Josh Marler,
Chris Keylon, Todd Moore

Social Media Committee: Josh Marler, Magan
Stubblefield, Kate Keylon, Karen Lewis,
Joyce Overton, Dawson Wells.

Church Decorations Team Leader: Melissa
Scott, Carolyn Moore, and Patsy Webb

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Board of Trustees – Sam Love

PANEL OF 2026	PANEL OF 2027	PANEL OF 2028
Jack Loveday	Craig Forcum	Jason Martin
John Davis	Steve Carico	Rex Bloomer
Linda Hearon	Kay Long	Sam Love, Chair

Lay Leadership Committee – Chairperson: The Pastor

PANEL OF 2026	PANEL OF 2027	PANEL OF 2028
Todd Moore	Cindy Alloway	Ann Connatser
Linda Hearon	Dakota Lane	Julia Keylon
Lay Leader: Karen Lewis		

Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Chairperson: LeAnne Moore

PANEL OF 2026	PANEL OF 2027	PANEL OF 2028
Margie Davis	LeAnne Moore, Chair	Donnie Moore
Pam Carico	Deonna Woodlief	
Lay Leader – Karen Lewis		
Lay Member of Annual Conference		

Other Appointed Positions

Camp Coordinator.....	Karen Lewis
Scout Coordinator	John Davis
Holston Home Representative/5 th Sunday Emphasis	Linda Hearon
Coordinator of Meals on Death in the Church Family	Joyce Overton & Linda Hearon
Coordinator of Meals for families with a new baby	Karen Lewis
Assistant to Financial Secretary on Sunday Morning.....	Ann Connatser
Charge Conference Secretary.....	
Alternate TO Annual Conference.....	
Vice-Chair of Lay Leadership Committee.....	Karen Lewis

Permanent Endowments Committee

Chairs: Laura Floyd & David Lewis

Pastor: Magan Stubblefield

Finance Committee Chair: Laura Floyd

Treasurer: David Lewis

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Joyce Overton

Representative from the Board of Trustees: John Davis

Three members at large:

Kathy Puckett

LeAnn Moore

Ann Connatser



Below is a report on how we helped people through our Church Mission Budget in 2025.

ISHE ANESU, Zimbabwe, Africa
 New Horizon School Paraguay
 Appalachia Service Project
 Red Bird Mission
 Heifer Project International
 Appalachian Trail Chaplaincy
 World Hunger/Poverty
 UMCOR Disaster Response in U.S.
 Campus Ministry ETSU
 Holston Conf. Camps Bays Mountain
 Holston Conf. Camps Wesley Woods Annual Ministry Funds
 Holston Conf. Camps Bays Mountain-Camperships
 UMCOR Disaster Response in U.S.
 Hispanic Ministries within Holston Conf.
 – Smoky Mountain District
 Emerald Youth Foundation
 Habitat for Humanity Ministries
 Neighborhood Center Wesley House Community Center
 Neighborhood Center Bethlehem Center
 Holston Home for Children
 Change for Children
 Betsy Christiansen Aeschliman, Mission to the World
Salary Support
 Costa Rica – *Salary support* – Paul Priest
 Willow UMC *Pastor Support*
 Kevin & Emily Burnette Ennis PIONEER Bible Translators – *Salary Support*
 Costa Rica Mission support – Elise Davenport
 Costa Rica Mission support - Yorling Angelita Mendoza Salguera
 Middlesettlements Elementary
 Costa Rica (Campamento Nehemias) projects at the camp
 Middlesettlements Elementary (funds to feed backpack families)
 Costa Rica Resurrections 2026

Using the interest from the **Robert and Callie Waters Goddard Trust**, which is designated for missions, we were able to make the following donations, totaling **\$1,150:**

- Pregnancy Resource Center (Maryville) — \$450
- Willow Church, Alaska (Food Pantry) —\$350
- Society of St. Andrew — \$100
- Blount County Family Promise — \$150
- Blount County Good Neighbors — \$100

Joyce Overton – Mission Chair





2729 Middlesettlements Rd
Maryville, TN 37801

Return Address Requested

Melinda Andes, Organist
Karissa Marcum, Pianist
Kate Keylon, Student Ministry Coordinator
Joyce Overton, Secretary
Rev. Magan Stubblefield, Pastor
David Wells, Worship Ministry Coordinator

WITH DEEPEST Sympathy

Friends and family of **Jerome Kleinhans**; friends and family of **Greg Classon**; Dora Hook and her family, her brother-in-law, **Billy Dean Ballou**; Craig and Sandi Forcum and family, her aunt, **Betty Linkous**; the friends and family of **Whitney Hammond** (Joyce Overton's nephew, cousin of Eric and Karen).

Thank you

To all "Heaven: When Faith Becomes Sight" Bible Study attendees:

A huge **"Thank You!"** if you signed up for the study, attended the videos and discussions, helped with the video presentations, or were just an active listener. Every single one of you was a valuable member of the group. I so appreciate your willingness to discuss and share your ideas, and I hope that you were able to gain more insight about Heaven and our forever home! ☺ Cindy Alloway

*Dear Middlesettlements Family,
Every year, I'm thankful to walk with you in ministry. You are a joy for me and my family. I am constantly encouraged and sustained by your love, witness, and faithfulness to our God. Thank you for your words, and gifts of support, encouragement and love. You are a blessing to me in every way, and I am incredibly grateful to be with you.*

With love, Pastor Magan

Middlesettlements Memorial Fund



Write on your check to whom the memorials are for. Then, put them in the mailbox for Memorials outside the Church office, put them in the offering plate, or mail them to the Church.

Given in Memory of **Harold Brown**
for the Music Ministry
By Donna Hammontree

Upcoming Events

2026

Altar Flowers – Blanche Class

January 14, 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Nights
activities Start Back – **Costa Rica Mission
Trip Fundraiser** for Karen & Andrew
Lewis

January 20, 6:30 p.m. Women's Circle (home of Joyce
Overton)

February 1, Traditional Wedding Shower and Potluck
for **Dakota Lane** and **Kaitlyn Lane**

February 15, Shrove Sunday

February 18, Ash Wednesday