



## Meet Karissa Marcum, MMC's New Pianist!

Hi! My name is Karissa Marcum, and I'm so excited to serve at Middle Settlements 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 4<sup>th</sup>, and we're thrilled to have her with us!*

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### Welcome New Members!

On Homecoming Sunday, the Donnie Moore and Spurgeon families joined the Middle Settlements 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	Morning View
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 7<sup>th</sup>** – Soup Dinner Provided by the church as we *labor* together to undecorate the church!
- **Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>** – Chicken Casserole, Sides, & Dessert (*a fundraiser for Karen & Andrew Lewis' Costa Rica Mission Trip!*)
- **Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>** – Beef Lasagna, Chicken Penne, Baked Veggie & Cheese Ravioli, Spaghetti Marinara, salad, & garlic bread
- **Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>** – 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup>, 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

Ann Smith

Bridget Jenkins

J. B. O'Connor

Brenda Crisp

John Davis

Patsy Webb

Josh Marler

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)*

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### 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**

<b>PANEL OF 2026</b>	<b>PANEL OF 2027</b>	<b>PANEL OF 2028</b>
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**

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

**Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Chairperson: LeAnne Moore**

<b>PANEL OF 2026</b>	<b>PANEL OF 2027</b>	<b>PANEL OF 2028</b>
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 <sup>th</sup> 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 &amp; 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

# MISSIONS



across the street & around the world  
Middlesettlements Missions Update for 2025

**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 Middle Settlements 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 Middle Settlements 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

### Middle Settlements 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