



# Middle Settlements United Methodist Church

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**Pastor Magan Stubblefield** [pastor.middlesettlements@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.middlesettlements@gmail.com)  
**Editor Joyce Overton** [tnauntjo@gmail.com](mailto:tnauntjo@gmail.com)

**Pray For  
General  
Conference**   
**April 23 – May 3,  
2024**

  
**WELCOME  
April  
NEWSLETTER  
2024**

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:4-9*

Worrisome things are...worrisome. There's a lot out there to make us anxious—and we can find plenty of things that keep us from rejoicing. Sometimes these words sound more like Pollyanna than Paul, but the fact that it *is* Paul speaking makes these words a lot more difficult to dismiss. Paul faced ridiculous hardships, but he believed he had reason to rejoice. He had a lot to worry about (church divisions, grumbling & rebellious churches, false prophets, persecution, shipwrecks, imprisonment...) but he believed peace could be found through prayer.

I don't know what gets you anxious, but I know that Scripture and scores of saints all say prayer is the answer. Turning over anything and everything to God, dwelling on all the good things God has done and is doing: this is what will give us peace and cause for rejoicing.

If you're anxious about upcoming elections or the UMC as the General Conference approaches, Paul's words are a reminder to us all that the right place to turn is God, both with our petitions and our anxieties. However things turn out, **God has revealed to us how to handle triumph, disappointment, and division:** with lots of wisdom, love, patience, humility, and forgiveness.

May the peace and joy of God be yours this season, no matter what comes your way!

*Pastor Magan*

## Wednesday Adult Bible Study

Beginning at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall (while enjoying 2nds, dessert, and coffee), our adults are making their way through the whole bible, one book at a time. Join us for a short video and discussion! Our last Spring 2024 bible study is May 8<sup>th</sup> – we'll pick back up in August.

- **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** – Book of Luke, chapters 10-24
- **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** – Book of Acts, chapters 1-12
- **Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>** – Book of Acts, chapters 13-28
- **Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** – Book of Romans, chapters 1-4
- **Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** – Book of Romans, chapters 5-16

## Wednesday Dinner

Welcome to dinner, Church! MUMC hosts dinner every Wednesday night beginning at 5:30 pm and everyone is welcome! Our last meal for Spring 2024 is on our **May 15<sup>th</sup> Spring Fling** at the Field of Dreams.

- **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** – UMW Fundraiser
- **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** – Taco Beef, Fajita Chicken, Beans, Rice, Corn, Salsa, Cheese Dips, & Chips
- **Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>** – Beef Lasagna, Chicken Penne, Baked Veggie & Cheese Ravioli, Spaghetti Marinara, salad, & garlic bread
- **Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** – Beef Pot Roast, Chicken Pot Pie, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Mac & Cheese, & Baked Bread
- **Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** – VBS Fundraiser
- **Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Spring Fling @ the Field of Dreams

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

## Faithfulness

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

February	S.S.	Worship	Offering
4	77	110	\$9,294
11	72	115	\$5,869
18	80	130	\$2,952
25	76	122	\$2,735
March	S.S.	Worship	Offering
3	78	126	\$10,308
10	73	101	\$7,086
17	69	109	\$3,607
24	67	125	\$1,637
31	94	192	\$4,980
Morning View Sunday Evening Worship Attendance			
2/4	30	3/3	27
2/11	15	3/10	19
2/18	14	3/17	18
2/25	19	3/24	21
Budget amount needed for 2024: \$63,557			
Budget amount received in 2024: \$63,526			
Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$495			
Evangelism/backpack: \$160			
Lenten Special Offering: Feb. \$70 - Mar \$170			
Costa Rica Mission Team: \$100			
Trustees/Maintenance: \$100, Upper Room: \$53.90			
<i>"Remember the Church in your will."</i>			



### 2024 Hands-On Mission Project

#### Zimbabwe Holston Annual Conference

*Unlike school supplies, food items*

*have expiration dates. Be sure to check the dates and ensure they do not expire until 2025 to cover transport time and have a useful life for the people in Zimbabwe.*

The Smoky Mountain District has been asked to put together 400 Food Buckets for the 2024 Holston Annual Conference Hands-On Mission Project. Note: A \$5.00 donation for packing and shipping is to accompany each bucket. The **\$5.00** is to be on top of the bucket (please do not put money in the bucket!). The deadline to turn it in is Sunday, June 2.

Canned Meat (Ham, Tuna, or Spam-one 2-lb size or two 1-lb sizes)

1 bag Self-Rising flour (4-5 lb.)

1 bottle of cooking oil (48 oz. or less)

1 box powdered milk (56 oz. or less)

1 2lb. bag dried beans

1 2lb. bag rice

**Pack in a NEW 5-gallon bucket with a lid.**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays in April

April 7, Ethan Davis  
 April 8, Ann Smith  
 April 9, Dee Carpenter  
 April 13, Steve Carico, LeAnne Moore  
 April 16, Robin Turnmire  
 April 17, Ben Carico  
 April 20, Barbara Roberts  
 April 21, Whitney Marler, Mark Shaw  
 April 22, Gilbert Kuhlman  
 April 23, Suzanne Gregg  
 April 24, Laura Floyd  
 April 25, John Davis  
 April 26, Andi Love Lawhorn  
 April 27, Jim Lifford  
 April 28, Jason Stubblefield  
 April 30, Carolyn Moore  
 May 1, Lois Malkemes, Gary Kuhlman  
 May 4, Margie Davis  
 May 5, Chris Caldwell  
 May 7, Ellen Jenkins

### April Anniversaries

April 3, Dee & Steve Carpenter  
 April 11, David & Nell Jenkins  
 April 14, Bryson & Lindsay Perkins  
 April 24, Jeff & Tammy Rule  
 April 27, Steven & Kate Keylon

**The United Methodist Women** will meet on Tuesday, April 16, at 6:30 pm at the home of Bridget Jenkins (728 Lovecrest Dr., Maryville). The Mission Emphasis for March will be Family Promise. Suggestions are stamps for mailing, copy paper, 30-quart to 50-quart totes with lids for storage, silverware sets, Lysol wipes, and laundry detergent. Linda will have our devotion.



**Middlesettlements Cemetery Association** will meet on **Tuesday, April 9**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Blanche Classroom to plan for Decoration Day (Mother's Day) on May 12.

**MIDDLESETTLEMENTS U.M.C.  
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES  
March 12, 2024**

Attending:

Keith McAmis, Kathy Puckett, Magan Stubblefield, Joyce Overton, Karen Lewis, David Lewis, Bridget Jenkins, LeAnne Moore, Harold Brown, Kate Keylon, Laura Floyd, John Davis, Sam Love, Richard Davis

The meeting was opened with prayer by Magan.

Minutes from the January 9 meeting were approved.

Motion: Karen Lewis. Seconded: Joyce Overton.

Treasurer – David Lewis

--Amount received as of 3/1/2024 = \$40,330

--Amount needed for budget = \$39,816

--Amount above budget = \$514

--Our budget is on schedule so far. We are \$500 above where we need to be.

--Endowment checks came in: Ben Ross fund \$7,200, Sharp fund \$8,100, Goddard fund: \$3,600, Mable Love-Brown fund: \$1,325, Pete Brown fund: \$625.

The majority of these funds are designated funds.

Finance Committee – Laura Floyd

--The General Fund is good.

Pastor's Report – Magan Stubblefield

--We brought back our Wednesday night meals and activities. We have more people attending.

--The special Easter services are already planned.

--Have done a lot of visiting people who are sick or homebound.

--Pastor Magan is serving on five committees for the Holston Conference.

Nurture Ministry – Kate Keylon / Megan Marcus

--We are still praying for teachers and volunteers.

--We are finalizing our agenda for VBS this coming summer.

--Nurture team met and planned activities through the fall.

--The Youth group is going really well.

Outreach Ministry – Karen Lewis

--We have 15 people leaving Sunday for mission work in Costa Rica for seven days. We will be joining 20 people from Dotson Memorial Church.

--We will be giving Easter food bags to the families of the children we sponsor at Middlesettlements School.

--The Young at Heart lunch is scheduled for the first Saturday in April.

Worship Ministry – David Wells

--No report.

Media Ministry – Josh Marler

--No report.

Trustees – Sam Love

--We are working on issues as to why the septic tank is filling up so quickly.

--We are gathering paving quotes. We need to begin figuring out how to pay for it. The Finance Committee will meet regarding this project.

--There are street lights not working at the FOD. We will get them fixed.

--We need a spring cleaning of the church buildings. We will make plans to have a cleaning in early to mid summer.

--Completed tasks since the last update in January:

-Installed cabinet locks on Nursery cabinets, purchased sealable containers for Nursery food articles, and sealed around plumbing to deter mice in the Nursery.

-Delayed LP tank swap due to ice and snow, added 200 gallons LP to supply church until swap over sometime in March. I ordered another 200 gallons to supply church until swap out is complete.

-Hired Roto-Rooter of Knoxville to clear the septic line to the main tank. Used camera service to locate possible source of back up. Cleaned up, mopped, and disinfected areas of septic backup in both downstairs bathrooms and hallway.

-Met with and obtained a quote from Bevco Paving to pave the parking lot.

--Ongoing 2024 church property tasks:

-Reduce clutter/junk and organize spare rooms throughout the church buildings.

-Light/power issues – Contact Ft. Loudon Electric regarding adding 2 LED street lights (one at lower entrance on existing pole and one at existing pole at the corner of the cemetery on Miser Station Road.

SPR – LeAnne Moore

--We are in the process of staff appreciation and are taking up donations during March to give staff in April.

--We are looking at possible pay raises.

New Business

-- Need to appoint the 2024 Memorial Scholarship Committee. The 2024 committee will be Kathy Puckett, chair, Magan Stubblefield, Dora Hooks, Harold Brown, Kate Keylon. Donations may be made to the Dale Love scholarship fund during the month of May. The other scholarships come from endowment funds. The presentation of scholarships will be in June.

--The General Conference is coming up soon. We are praying for God's will during the conference.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 14, 7:00 pm, Blanche SS classroom

Submitted by Kathy Puckett

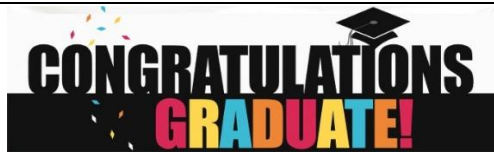
Middlesettlements United Methodist Church  
2729 Middlesettlements Rd.  
Maryville, TN 37801  
**Return Address requested**



Melinda Andes, Organist  
Robby Clemens IV, Associate Worship Ministry Coordinator  
Rev. Susan Groseclose, UMC Deacon  
Kate Keylon, Student Ministry Coordinator  
Joyce Overton, Secretary  
Rev. Magan Stubblefield, Pastor  
David Wells, Worship Ministry Coordinator

### United Methodist Women Fundraiser

Join us on **Wednesday night, April 10, at 5:30 p.m.** for our **UMW** fundraiser. Our menu is Chicken casserole, meatloaf, green beans, mashed potatoes, deviled eggs, rolls, and dessert. All proceeds will be used for UMW projects. Please make your reservation on your bulletin insert.



*We will be recognizing our Seniors on May 5, 2024, during the morning worship service. If you know someone graduating, please call the church office at 982-4799 or email at [umc.middlesettlements@gmail.com](mailto:umc.middlesettlements@gmail.com)*

### Altar Flowers —for our Sanctuary

If you would like to help with flowers for our altar, please contact Joyce Overton at [umc.middlesettlements@gmail.com](mailto:umc.middlesettlements@gmail.com) or 865.705.6990.

## Upcoming Events

*April 9, 6:30 p.m. Middlesettlements Cemetery Association (Blanche Class)*  
*April 10, 5:30 p.m. UMW Fundraiser*  
*April 16, 6:30 p.m. UMW Meeting at the home of Bridget Jenkins*  
*April 23-May 3, General Conference*  
*April 28, Kids Choir Program (evening)*  
*May 5, 10:30 a.m. Graduate Sunday*  
*May 12, Mother's Day and Decoration Day*  
*May 14, 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (Blanche Class)*  
*May 15, Spring Fling – FOD*  
*May 21, 6:30 p.m. UMW*  
*June 9-12, Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska*  
*June 16-21, Youth Mission Trip*  
*July 13-17, Vacation Bible School*

# THANK YOU!

Thank you for the texts, cards, and prayers while I have been recuperating from back surgery. Your thoughtfulness means so much to me. -Donna Sweitzer

Thank you for the prayers, cards, acts of kindness, and calls after my accident. -Koky McCall

## With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Steve & Janice Loveday on the death of Janice's brother, **Wayne Eugene Yardley**; The Talbott Family on the death of **Linda Talbott**; **Steve and Dee Carpenter and their family** on the death of Steve's mother, **Laverne Carpenter**.

### Middlesettlements Memorial Fund



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