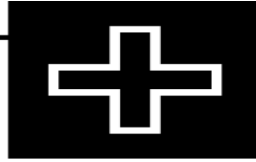




Middle Settlements
United Methodist Church
Est. 1796 | www.MiddleSettlements.com

October 2024
Newsletter

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Editor Joyce Overton umc.middlesettlements@gmail.com



All Hallows Eve

A Service of Candlelight & Communion

8PM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31
BEGINNING IN THE CEMET

MIDDLESETTLEMENTS UMC
WWW.MIDDLESETTLEMENTS.COM

All Hallows Eve Service

We love Halloween at Middle Settlements – with such a wonderful history of saints and such a lovely graveyard next door, we'd be crazy to not! As a short introduction, the name tells the story: All Hallows Eve was the night before All Hallows Day (November 1st). "Hallow" basically means "holy": we use it all the time when we pray the Lord's Prayer and say "hallowed be thy name." So on All Hallows Day, which is also known as All Saints Day, we remember the holy people of the church who have gone before us. All Hallows (Saints) Day was the Church's response to the unsaved peoples around them being fascinated and terrified by death. "Worried about death?" the Church asked. "Let me tell you about the Lord who has defeated death! And let me tell you about those who have faced death with no fear thanks to their trust in Jesus!"

The Church began to celebrate All Hallows (Saints) Day with All Hallows Eve as the vigil held the night before—like Christmas Eve for Christmas Day. Just like Christmas Eve helps us prepare for the celebration of Christmas Day, All Hallows Eve helps us prepare for All Hallows (Saints) Day. Of course, All Hallows Eve is long to say, so people shortened it. People dropped the "all", and then shortened evening to "e'en" instead of "eve", and then they just made it all one word: Hallow-e'en...or as we like to spell it, Halloween.

With this history in mind, Halloween is the perfect opportunity to celebrate and testify about the good news of Jesus. And a great way for you and/or your family to celebrate includes attending our All Hallows Eve Service! We start in the darkness of the graveyard and process into the church by candlelight. During the service, stories of martyrs and saints will be told, scripture will be read, and communion shared. It's pretty much what you've longed for out of Halloween your whole life, even if you didn't know it until now.

Faithfulness

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

August	S.S.	Worship	Offering
4	73	138	\$10,240
11	70	126	\$4,072
18	74	124	\$3,709
25	71	116	\$3,228
September	S.S.	Worship	Offering
1	74	121	\$11,231
8	66	113	\$4,835
15	72	125	\$4,165
22	63	120	\$1,536
29	60	107	\$5,214
Morning View Sunday Evening Worship Attendance			
8/4	17	9/1	18
8/11	18	9/8	14
8/18	17	9/15	21
8/25	18	9/22	12
		9/29	
Budget amount needed for 2024: \$190,671			
Budget amount received in 2024: \$184,907			
Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$820			
Costa Rica Mission: \$440			
Holston Flood Special Offering: \$246			
Memorials: \$50; Paving: \$1,000			
Evangelism/backpack/shoebox: \$410			
"Remember the Church in your will."			

Welcome New embers

Tim and LuJean Buckner joined our church on August 25—what a joy it was to welcome them in! Tim and LuJean are family to several of our members and now to all of us, too!

Here are a few things to know about Tim and LuJean as we welcome them into our church family. Their kids are grown and married with their own families. Abby Brown and her husband Carter have two children, Junie and Simon. Charlton Buckner and his wife Katelyn have two children, Tatum and Axel. Eden Clamon and her husband Cameron have no children. LuJean was baptized as an infant at Middlesettlements UMC. Tim was baptized at nine years old at Salem Baptist Church in Halls. "

LuJean was a member at Middlesettlements UMC until they married in 1988 and moved to Kingsport, where she and Tim joined Mt View UMC. She taught a youth Sunday school class for 15 years and was part of a women's Bible study ministry at Mt View for 25 years. Tim was a member at Salem Baptist Church as a child, Mt Lebanon Baptist until 1988, then joined Mt View UMC in Kingsport, TN. Tim taught a Sunday school class for 15 years, was the day-school board chair, was the staff parish chair, was the finance committee chair, and was the men's Bible study leader for two years.

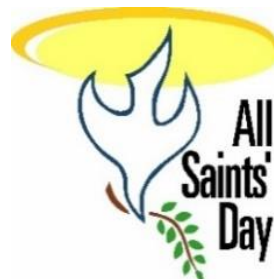


October Birthdays

October 1—Jerome Kleinhans
 October 3—Jane Story
 October 10—Declyn Milligan
 October 11—Corbin Dirmeyer
 October 13—Kate Keylon
 October 14—Dora Hooks
 October 15—Chris Keylon
 October 17—Erin Smith
 October 20—Lowell Sneed
 October 24—Rachel Ammons, David Lewis
 October 25—Corey McAmis
 October 26—June Shaw
 October 30—Heath Rogers
 November 1—Hudson Classon

October Anniversaries

October 1—Ian & Grace Reilly
 October 2—Jared & Melissa Duckett
 —Jake & Robin Turnmire
 October 4—Jason & Magan Stubblefield
 October 8—John & Margie Davis
 October 10—Jason & Leighanne Sisk
 October 16—Justin & Megan Marcus
 October 18—Joe & Ann Smith
 November 5—Mark & June Shaw



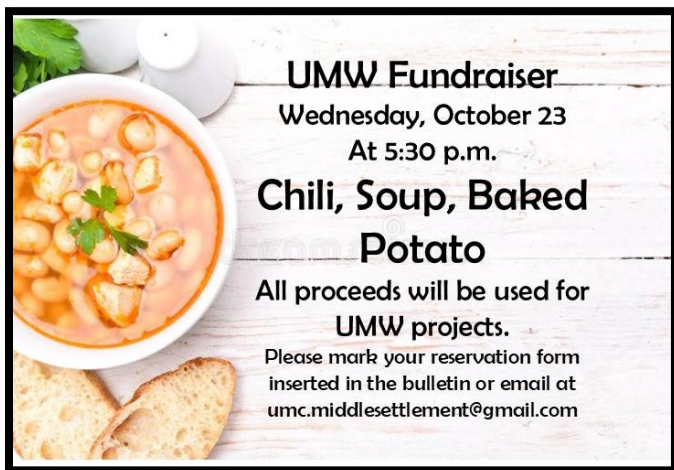
All Saints Services November 3

If you have lost a family member since last year's All Saints Service and want to honor their memory on All Saints Sunday, notify Joyce Overton (865.705.6990 or tnautjo@gmail.com). Your loved one's name and photo will be lifted up during the Sunday service on November 3. The deadline to provide a picture is October 31.



Wednesday Night Pizza & Games: October 2

All ages are invited to Pizza & Games on Wednesday, October 2, 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.! Games will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorite. *Nursery is provided.*

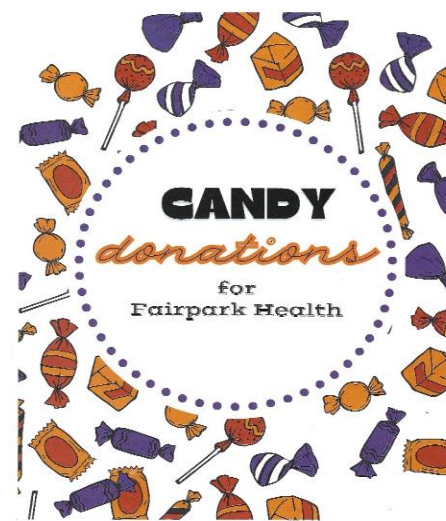


New - Women's Bible Study

Make plans to join us starting Sunday, October 20th, for a short-term study for women. The study will last for six weeks, ending November 24, before the holidays arrive. We will meet during the Sunday School hour in the room beside the youth room. Depending on interest, we plan to start another study after the first of the year.

We will be using the study, "Now and Not Yet" by Ruth Chou Simons. "Have you ever wondered if your current season has a purpose? Do you ever feel like your present moment is so far from where you really long to be, but the answer to all your prayers is "not yet"? During this six-week study, we will study how to live in the present and trust in God's faithfulness - even while hoping for the future. Remembering that God is purposeful and at work in your daily life through every season."

A study book will be provided. Starla Davis will facilitate this study. If you would like to participate, please see Starla, or you can reach her at 865.712.0797.



Fairpark Health **Trick or Treat Trail** is on October 25. Please donate if you can. Your support is very much appreciated. Please use the big tub located in the Narthex for your donation

New Ministry: Judy Goodson would like to start a card ministry in our church since we have a number of members whose health or other circumstances prevent them from attending church services. Anyone interested in participating should call or leave a message for Judy at 865-321-0795. We would likely meet at the church once a month to make and address cards.

**MIDDLESETTLEMENTS U.M.C.
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
September 3, 2024**

Attending:

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

Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Magan.

Minutes from the July 9 meeting were approved. Motion by Laura Floyd and seconded by John Davis.

Treasurer – David Lewis

--Amount received as of 9/3/2024 = \$169,301

--Amount needed for budget = \$174,195

--Amount short for budget = -\$4,894

--We are \$4,894 below where we need to be on the amount received for the budget.

--The total cost for the septic field replacement and associated expenses is around \$50,000.

Finance Committee – Laura Floyd

--The offerings are about the same as they were last year at this time.

--We will be sending out the 2025 budget which will look similar to the 2024 budget. We need to hear if any changes need to be made.

Pastor's Report – Magan Stubblefield

--Wednesday night activities are back and going well.

--The young adult class starts back up Sept. 8.

--Magan has been involved with a lot of phone calls and meetings this month.

Nurture Ministry – Kate Keylon

--This team will be meeting next week for planning.

Outreach Ministry – Karen Lewis

--We are cranking up for our Christmas activities.

Worship Ministry – David Wells

--We would like a few more people to join the choir and see it continue to grow.

--We are continuing to hear the folks are enjoying the worship services.

--We have the systems we use stabilized to solve some of the problems we have been having.

--David will be working more closely with Robby Clemens IV on worship planning.

Media Ministry – Josh Marler

--No report

Trustees – Sam Love

--Some of the costs of the septic project include moving water away from the building and doing the areas that will now be grass.

--Paving is on hold. We will lightly gravel the area we need to use.

--Met in August, discussed, and voted on updating the Church Property Use Policy. Language was added to prohibit the use of any MUMC property for same-sex marriages and all events, celebrations, tokens and support of the LBGTQ+ movement. Measure passed with 8 Trustees affirmative, 0 negative, with one member absent.

--Replaced two leaking evaporator coils on Main Sanctuary A/C units, recharged system. Hooked up new gas lines to furnaces. Will return in cool weather when operating heat to re-calibrate pressures.

--Septic system and drainage system complete. Waiting for optimal seeding season to establish grass in related lawn areas.

--In process of stabilizing banks on either side of church office with 4-10-inch surge stone. Will grade bank, install liner fabric under stone, and level area over abandoned septic field line to use as parking. Will lightly gravel new parking area to make usable until future paving accomplished.

--Sent Steve Carico outline of questions to be answered by Fort Loudon Electric concerning ownership and use of current parking lot lighting at both church and FOD.

--Ongoing tasks: (1) Reduce clutter/junk and organize spare rooms in all areas. (2) Awaiting word on transformer, meter and disconnect feasibility for cemetery streetlight.

SPR – LeAnne Moore

--We are updating job descriptions and working on raises.

New Business

-- Review of Robin Turnmire's letter submitted to the Council. The Council appreciates Robin's input and takes her points seriously.

NEXT MEETING: **NOTE:** October 1 meeting is cancelled unless we receive information back on the submission of the LCC paperwork packet to the District Office before then. The LCC packet was submitted Sept. 19. It is possible that a called meeting will happen sometime in October if we receive information back from the District Office. The next date on the meeting calendar at this time is Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 pm, Blanche SS classroom.

Submitted by Kathy Puckett



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

The deadline to turn in your shoebox is Nov. 3. Don't forget to include your \$10 with your box. Cash or a check made out to the church, please.

We are excited to be involved in the Shoebox ministry again this year. This ministry has been serving children in need for many years. This is an excellent way to share God's love with children. The deadline to turn in boxes will be no later than November 3. If you have questions, you can visit the website at www.samaritanspurse.org. If you are excited about the shoe box ministry but don't like to shop, please donate \$25 (by Oct. 30) to the evangelism team. This ministry is such a blessing! Drop your check or cash in the offering (or mail it to the church) with **shoe box** in the memo.

Suggestions on what to PUT in Operation Christmas Child Shoebox and what NOT to put in.

Most recommended items to pack in your Operation Christmas Child shoebox:

A plastic cup, a real teaspoon, and a washcloth (because they may not have one)

School supplies – small chalkboards with chalk, pencils, pencil sharpener, scissors

Toys – soccer ball with pump and needle (I always pack extra needle), girls like soccer balls also, dolls, small cars for boys, etc.

Non-liquid hygiene items – bar of soap that floats (please put in a plastic bag) Note: Ivory floats, toothbrush (no toothpaste), and a toothbrush holder.

Clothing accessories – dresses, tops, shoes, shirts, socks, gloves, scarves

Fishing Hooks – Fishing kits that will hold a 30-pound fish, and several different-sized fishhooks. A large pack can be shared in a couple of boxes. A sinker so the light line will sink below the surface where fish swim, and a bobber/marker. Walmart clearance sells these for under a dollar fifty I would include a fishing kit in the 10-14-year-old boxes.

A Small Sewing Kit – This can become an income for a family (Older girls).

Playing Cards or other small brain games

Girls: Hair Bows, Bracelets, Barrettes, etc.

A personal note from your family – if you include your name and address your child may write back to you!

Boys and girls love harmonicas.

Items that should not be included in your shoebox:

Used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures, **no food, Liquids, or lotions** – these can spill and get all over the other items, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, and aerosol cans.

Weekly Wednesday Night Study

After dinner (5:30 pm) and before choir (6:30 pm), all are invited to the Fellowship Hall as we continue to study the bible together! Every Wednesday night features a short video, group discussion, and homemade desserts :)

Beginning October 16, we'll be studying the (sometimes strange) characters in the bible generally described as Spiritual Beings, especially on the Heavenly Council, Angels and Cherubim, the Angel of the Lord, the Satan, Demons, and the New Humanity.

Wednesday Night Fall Break: October 9

On October 9th, all Wednesday night activities will be off for fall break. We'll pick back up with our regular schedule next Wednesday, October 16th!

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

Advent Devotionals

Preparations for Advent are already gearing up—including for our own in-house Advent Devotional! Advent means “coming” or “arrival,” and the season of Advent is a time of looking forward to the advent—the coming or arrival—of Jesus. Advent invites us to both remember how Jesus has come to us before—how, as a baby, “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”—and how Jesus will someday come again in glory.

As we prepare MUMC’s 2024 Advent Devotional, we are looking for authors! If you would like to write an Advent devotion, please contact Pastor Magan at pastor.middlesettlements@gmail.com or 865.300.1831. Thank you!

Help - tell us your Christmas traditions/recipes!

In our 2024 Advent Devotional we’d like to include MUMC-family Christmas traditions, memories, menus, and recipes. Please send in some/all of the following information to help us out! Submissions can be placed in the box outside the church office door or emailed to pastor.middlesettlements@gmail.com.

- A favorite Advent/Christmas tradition for me/my family is...
- A favorite Advent/Christmas memory for me is...
- At Advent/Christmas, we always eat...
- The recipe for our traditional Advent/Christmas food is...

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 Joyce Mays
by Tad and Marilyn Yarde

The United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, October 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Jane Story's home, 407 Old Glory Rd., Maryville, TN. Our mission emphasis for October is Pregnancy. Resource (diapers, wipes, or \$10 gift cards). As always, we welcome new members and visitors.

Upcoming Events

October Flowers – Brenda Crisp

October 5-14. Costa Rica Mission Trip

October 9, Fall Break: Wednesday Activities Cancelled

October 20, 5:30 – 7:00, Fall Fun Evening (for everyone)
FOD

October 23, 5:30 p.m. UMW Soup, Chili, and Baked
Potato Fundraiser

October 31, All Hallow’s Eve Service

November 3, All Saints Service

November 17, Charge Conference

November 24, Homecoming Worship Service