



MIDDLESETTLEMENTS

METHODIST CHURCH



November 2025 NEWSLETTER

"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name forever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works—and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you. They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever." Psalm 145 NIV

November at Middlesettlemets could be described as a whole season of Thanksgiving!

On All Saints Sunday, November 2, we celebrate the "great cloud of witnesses" that surrounds us. We will remember and give thanks to God for their triumph and witness - and we'll give thanks that their faithfulness encourages us to run the race of faith with perseverance.

On November 23, we celebrate that here, for hundreds of years, the gospel has been proclaimed and received - and that God is still at work at Middlesettlemets and invites you to be part of His work! *We are receiving new members on this Sunday – if you'd like to join the church, contact the church office (865.982.4799 or office@middlesettlemets.com).*

November 27th marks Thanksgiving, a national holiday that helps us remember to be thankful. As Christians, we are a people of thanksgiving! On Thanksgiving, we give thanks for the work of God we've seen in our lives, our friends and family's lives, and our church's life. We give thanks for how He has blessed us, even in ways we don't know or understand, and we remember with thanksgiving the lives of those who have entered into glory ahead of us, even as we miss them at our tables.

And November 30th launches Advent, the season where we remember and give thanks that God **always keeps His promises**, including those about the Messiah who has come and will come again.

So let us give thanks to the Lord: He is good! His love endures forever! He is "always at work, even to this very day," and we are so excited and grateful for all that He has done, is doing, and will do in our lives, church, and community.

—Pastor Magan

Faithfulness

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

Attendance

Attendance	S.S.	Worship	
October		Morning	MorningView
5	67	81	15
12	70	112	15
19	52	90	14
26	56	94	18

Oct	Designated Budget	Undesignated Budget	Total Budget
5	\$9,508	\$215	\$9,723
12	\$4,302	0	\$4,302
19	\$6,002	\$97	\$6,099
26	\$2,282	\$120	\$2,402

Budget amount needed for 2025: \$193,113

Budget amount received in 2025: \$209,510

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: \$1,020

Evangelism/backpack/shoebox: \$230

Parking Lot: \$16,500

Memorial: \$24; Bounty Table \$2

Costa Rica Mission Trip: \$200

"Remember the Church in your will."

Advent Devotionals (please submit by November 16)

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 MMC’s 2025 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. Thank you!

Help - tell us your Christmas memories and traditions!

In our 2025 Advent Devotional, we’d like to include MMC-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.



November Birthdays

November 9—Tyler Davis
 November 11—Emily Esquivel
 November 12—Robby Clemens III
 November 13—Steve Carpenter
 November 14—Jake Turnmire
 November 16—Diane Kuhlman
 November 17—Kathryn Charbonneau
 November 18—Owen Story
 November 21—Randy Bolton
 November 22—Curtis Moore
 November 24—Robby Clemens IV
 November 26—Abby Caldwell
 November 27—Irene Tomlinson
 November 30—Wanda Stephens
 December 2—Joel Puckett
 December 4—Melinda Andes
 December 6—Lucille Tallent

November Anniversaries

November 5—June & Mark Shaw
 November 9—Curtis & Carolyn Moore
 November 24—Randy & Judy Bolton
 —Bobby & Cindy Alloway
 November 27—Frank & Jane Story

Wednesday Night

Thanksgiving Break: November 27

All Wednesday night activities will be off for Thanksgiving break on November 26. We’ll pick back up with our regular schedule the next Wednesday, December 3!

Women’s Circle Meeting

The Women’s Circle will meet on **Tuesday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m.** at **Pastor Magan’s home** (1159 Mildred Drive, Alcoa, TN). Our **November mission emphasis** will be the **Blount County Veterans Food Pantry**—details about needed items will be shared soon. As always, **new members and visitors are warmly welcome!**

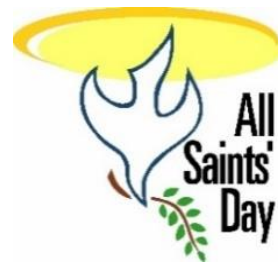


We Have New Email Addresses!

As part of our ongoing efforts to refresh and rebrand Middlesettlements Church, we are excited to announce that our email addresses have been updated. This change will help streamline communication and make it easier for you to connect with the right ministry or staff member. Please make note of the following new addresses:

- **General Mailbox / Joyce** –
Office@Middlesettlements.com
- **Pastor Magan** –
Pastor@Middlesettlements.com
- **David (Worship Ministry)** –
Worship@Middlesettlements.com
- **Kate (Student Ministry)** –
Students@Middlesettlements.com
- **Media Inquiries** –
Media@Middlesettlements.com

We encourage you to update your contact list and begin using these addresses right away. Thank you for helping us move forward in this new season of ministry!



All Saints Services

November 2

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 tnauntjo@gmail.com). Your loved one's name and photo will be lifted up during the Sunday service on November 2. The deadline to provide a picture is October 31.



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

The deadline to turn in your shoebox is Nov. 2.

Don't forget to include your \$10 with your box. Cash or a check made out to the church, please.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

We're excited to participate again this year in the **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry!** For many years, this project has blessed children around the world and shared the love of God in a tangible way.

Deadline: Please turn in your shoeboxes **no later than November 2.**

For more information, visit www.samaritanspurse.org.

This ministry truly is a blessing!

What to Pack in a Shoebox

Most Recommended Items:

- Plastic cup, real teaspoon, and washcloth
- School supplies – small chalkboard & chalk, pencils, sharpener, scissors
- Toys – soccer ball with pump & needle, dolls, small cars, etc.
- Hygiene items – toothbrush and holder (*no soap or toothpaste this year*)
- Clothing & accessories – shirts, dresses, socks, shoes, gloves, scarves
- Fishing kit (for ages 10–14) – line, hooks, sinker, bobber
- Small sewing kit (great for older girls)
- Playing cards or small games
- Hair bows, barrettes, bracelets
- Harmonica (always a favorite!)

Personal note or photo from your family (you may include your name/address)

Please Do Not Include:

Used or damaged items, toy weapons, food, liquids, lotions, medications, vitamins, breakable items (glass, snow globes), or aerosol cans.



Family Promise Training

There will be a training session for those interested in helping with Family Promise at its new location. We'll also have the opportunity to tour the facility that evening.

Thursday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Family Promise, located at the former **Sycamore UMC** on Clydesdale. For more information, contact **Linda Hearn** at **865-256-3086**.

MIDDLESETTLEMENTS METHODIST CHURCH

COUNCIL MINUTES October 14, 2025

Attending: Keith McAmis, Kathy Puckett, Kate Keylon, LeAnne Moore, Magan Stubblefield, Brenda Crisp, David Lewis, Sam Love, Laura Floyd, J.B. O'Connor, John Davis, Richard Davis

Meeting was opened with prayer by Keith McAmis.

Minutes from the September 2 meeting were approved.

Motion: Sam Love; second: John Davis. Motion carried.

Treasurer – David Lewis

--Amount received as of 10/5/2025 = \$193,914

--Amount needed for budget = \$181,440

--Amount over budget = \$12,474

--One big expense has been for insurance around \$9,000. But finances are good.

Finance Committee – Laura Floyd

--No report.

Pastor's Report – Magan Stubblefield

--Magan has been doing pre-marriage counseling, weddings and funerals.

--Wednesday evening services are going great. Cindy Alloway is leading a new Bible study named Heaven.

--We have new kids attending the children's ministry and many are not in church. We hope we can connect them.

--The young man named Enoch who interviewed for pianist is playing for the second Sunday of the month services at Morningview.

--Charge Conference is November 1.

Nurture Ministry – Kate Keylon

--We have had some volunteers move around to help on Wednesday evenings with the children's ministries. We are working through the Bible with them.

--The youth are doing fellowship on Wednesday nights. We are starting a new curriculum for the youth.

--Once per month we do an outing for the Kids' Club and one for the youth.

--The youth are serving at Morningview once per month.

--The youth will be attending Hearts on Fire in November.

--We are not sure about attending Resurrection in Jan.

--Kate's maternity leave will start on November 16 until the kids/youth activities resume in January.

Outreach Ministry – Karen Lewis

--No report.

Worship Ministry – David Wells

--Worship ministry is healthy and going well without a hired pianist.

--Considering moving choir to 6:30.

--Preparations are being made for Advent.

Media Ministry – Josh Marler

--Media ministry is starting to come back online. New cameras and software have been installed and are working limitedly. Thank you to David Wells and David Lewis for finding the designated funds to make these much needed repair and upgrades. We have an issue with some latency in video going on the sanctuary screens during the children's sermon which may be an internal network issue. Josh wants to get a quote from Aleveia Technologies on helping resolve our network issues.

--The church now has @middlesettlements.com email addresses for Pastor@, Office@, Students@, Worship@ and Media@.

Trustees – Sam Love

--We have a new vendor for pest control that costs less and will give us better service.

--Church property tasks completed since last report:

-Trustee Craig Forcum repaired wheelchair ramp to Fellowship Hall, not quite finished.

- Contacted 6 paving contractors, disqualified 3 contractors, received 2 estimates, not going to wait on last one.

- Installed Directional signs at 5 locations – Louisville Road Roundabout, Dug Gap/Louisville Road intersection, Miser Station/Miser School Road intersection, Miser Station/Gray Ridge Road intersection, Middlesettlements Road/West Hunt Road intersection.

- Field of Dreams sign - Shortened and capped poles, removed excess hangers and hardware, applied etchant primer and painted poles.

- Cemetery sign - Removed and discarded vandal cover and frame. Removed old paint. Applied etchant primer and painted frame, re-installed sign faces. All sign projects are now complete.

- Pressure washed remaining tombstones, all complete.

- Cleaned FOD playground equipment of mold, mildew, and lichens.

- Applied herbicides to FOD shrubbery beds and playground for weed control.

- Assimilated deeds, provided hard copies and electronic copies to Carolyn Hanson for surveyor to establish property lines and correct and update deeds if necessary. Will split cost between Ms. Hanson and Church.

- Retrieved estimates to refinish front doors to church, awarded to Fresh Coat Painters for \$700. Will complete week of 10/20/25.

- Norm Goodson replaced white board trim between front doors of church, replaced with raw wood for Fresh Coat painters to stain and finish along with doors.

- Church downstairs A/C cycling on and off, discovered thermostat set to “heat,” resulting in upstairs and downstairs systems fighting one another. Returned thermostat to cool position.

- Repaired FOD tractor fuel shutoff, service mower attachment to sharpen blades, add gearbox grease, grease all fittings.

--Tasks remaining for 2025:

- Replace 2 broken windowpanes in kids’ playroom.

--Ongoing/On-Hold Tasks:

- New South Blount Utilities District water line – in process of engineering and bidding, approximately one year in the future. Cost to church is \$0.

SPR – LeAnne Moore

--Still searching for a pianist.

--Magan suggested paying for an ad on Indeed. She will pursue.

Old Business

--Paving parking lot: Sam Love presented two quotes: Bevco for \$244,296 and Advanced Grading for \$230,450. Quotes include working on better drainage, tearing out replacing all bad areas, filling in cracks and other areas, cap over the entire parking lot and entrances including curbs where needed, and re-stripe new parking spots. A motion was made by Laura Floyd and seconded by LeAnne Moore to accept the \$230,450 bid from Advanced Grading. Motion carried. Keith McAmis will inform the congregation that donations are needed.

--Exploratory Committee: Sam Love explained that the answer to the latest letter he sent to the Conference explained that there is no way for us to get out of the UMC as it stands presently. We are living on faith that a way will be provided sometime in the future, and we will continue to press toward that.

New Business

--The budget for 2026 was presented and explained by Laura Floyd. David Lewis made a motion to accept the 2026 budget. LeAnne Moore seconded. Motion carried.

--David Lewis made a motion that was seconded by Laura Floyd to approve the 2026 housing allowance resolution and 2026 accountable reimbursement policy for Pastor Magan. Motion carried.

--David Lewis made a motion that was seconded by John Davis to approve the Lay Leadership for 2026 as presented by Pastor Magan. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 4, 7:00 pm,
Blanche SS classroom

Submitted by Kathy Puckett



Sunday, November 23. As we look forward to the upcoming Advent season, we want to prepare our church building and hearts. Our annual church potluck dinner and Decorating for Advent are planned for **Sunday night, November 23, at 6:00 p.m.** We ask that you come, share your favorite food, and prepare to work on cleaning and decorating your Sunday School Classroom and the following areas.

Blanche Class - Fellowship Hall and Kitchen Duty

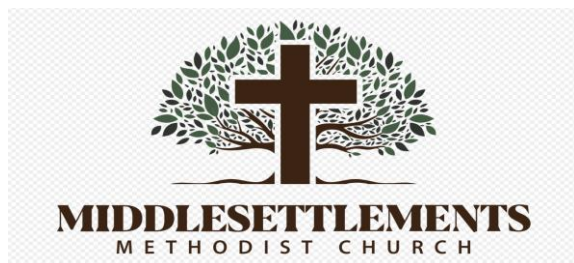
Rose Marie Class - Sanctuary and Narthex

Disciple Class - Family Tree and all Exterior Doors

Genesis Class – Storage, Distribution, and Chrismon Tree

Children's Sunday School teachers are asked to supervise the decorating of their classrooms after dinner and to enjoy a brief time with the members of their class. We anticipate a wonderful and inspirational Advent season, and a great evening of fellowship will be a fantastic way to begin. If you have any questions, please see Melissa Scott, Carolyn Moore, or Patsy Webb

Opportunity to go on a Costa Rican mission trip. We are putting together a team for a mission trip to Costa Rica around March 14-21, 2026. Please pray for this opportunity. Karen Lewis will be organizing and leading the team from our church. If you are considering it, go ahead and get your passport. The trip will be a mix of different types of activities that range from Bible School Outreach to construction/ light repair work. I can't tell you exactly what the price of the trip will be, but most likely it will range from \$1700- \$2000. If you are unable to go with us, but you have a heart for mission, we can definitely use your prayers and or your financial support. PLEASE let Karen know by Dec. 15 if you want to sign up. If you have questions, contact Karen at 865.705.5775.



2729 Middlesettlements Rd
Maryville, TN 37801

Return Address Requested

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

WITH DEEPEST Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathy to the family of **Dennis Cardin**. Please keep **Sally Jo and the entire Cardin family** in your thoughts and prayers.

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 **Dorothy Talbott**
by Marjorie M. Fugate

Thank You!

Dear Middlesettlements,

Thank you so much for your kind donation to our church.

We are so very grateful you chose to support our ministry.

*Blessings to all,
Willow UMC*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, in appreciation for your prayers, cards, calls, and messages, thanks to all of you. Thanks to each of you for your love, care, and concern. --Ina

Dear friends, As of October 30th, I will be moving in with my children, Tim and Dawn. My address will be 1631 Cavet St, Maryville, TN 37803. My phone number will stay the same: 865-803-9808. Thank you all for your prayers and cards.
Irene Tomlinson

Upcoming Events

November 2, All Saints Day
November 5:30 p.m. Women's Circle Fundraiser
November 15, 11:30 a.m. Young at Heart (Mexican Lunch)
November 18, 6:30 p.m. Women's Circle (home of Pastor Magan)
November 23, 6:00 p.m. Potluck and Decorate for Advent and Christmas
11/26/, Thanksgiving Break; Wednesday Night Activities Cancelled
November 30, Mission Day – Breakfast
November 30, Charge Conference (Conference Office)
December 10, Last Fall/Winter Wednesday Night