



MIDDLESETTLEMENTS

METHODIST CHURCH

August 2026 NEWSLETTER



“These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ²so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. ³Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you & that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk & honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. ⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” —*Deuteronomy 6:1-9*

On the bank of the Jordan River, Moses prepared the people of God for the Promised Land by giving them a history lesson about what God had done for them. He reminded the people of how God had gone with them as a pillar of fire by night and cloud by day. He reminded them of how God had been with them through their wanderings in the desert and how they had lacked nothing. And then Moses reviewed the Law, the ways of God the people had been learning and practicing for the last forty years. It wasn't enough to just *know* the ways of God—the ways of God were meant to be “on their hearts.” The people of God were called to know God's ways and teach them to the children, talk about them at home and on the road and as you close and begin the day. Anything that could help form you in God's words and way of life was game: clothing, jewelry, architecture, decorating, whatever!

This past month, we've seen our church use a lot of ways to help form our youngest disciples in the way of God. Vacation Bible School lessons, VBS songs, VBS volunteers displaying God's love in a variety of silly and serious ways, prayers over backpacks, blessings over schools and students: we have been doing our best to live out Deuteronomy 6 as a congregation!

God's call to learn and teach the way of life with Him is still coursing through our Sunday morning plans – and that won't end as we launch into our Fall worship. The VBS theme might not be there, but God's call on each of us to continue to grow and help each other grow is still present.

Let's honor God in all that we do, with all that we have, and with all that we are (even if it does change how we schedule or spend or talk at home)! He is worthy of all our life's praise!

—*Pastor Magan*

Wednesday Night Study – The Service Practice

After dinner (5:30 pm) and before choir (6:45 pm), all are invited to the Fellowship Hall to learn about the spiritual practices that Jesus used and modeled. For six weeks (beginning on August 12) or so, we'll be specifically looking at service and embodying the self-giving love of Jesus!

Weekly Wednesday Night Choir (starting back 8/12)

Summer schedule comes to an end this month and our regular weekly practices (Wednesdays 6:45-7:45 pm) resume on August 12th. We'd love to have you join this ministry in leading our church in worship – a choir helps the whole congregation sing with joy!

Faithfulness

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

Attendance

Attendance	S.S.	Worship	
June		Morning	MorningView
7	68	101	14
14	67	110	14
21	71	110	13
28	62	97	No service
Attendance	S.S.	Worship	
July		Morning	MorningView
5	63	110	13
12	57	99	10
19	74	130	17
26	75	127	15
Jun	Designated Budget	Undesignated Budget	Total Budget
7	\$7,381	400	\$7,781
14	\$12,025	0	\$12,025
21	\$2,687	0	\$2,687
28	\$2,587	0	\$2,587

July	Designated Budget	Undesignated Budget	Total Budget
5	\$7,289	\$400	\$7,689
12	\$4,256	0	\$4,256
19	\$3,739	0	\$3,739
26	\$3,604	0	\$3,604

Budget amount needed for 2026: \$140,550

Budget amount received in 2026: \$163,673

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.)

June & July

Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$700

Bounty Table: \$380

Church Maintenance: \$500

Missions: \$1525

Outreach \$1525

Evangelism: \$274

Backpack: \$1,130; Summer Food: \$50

Pastor's Discretion: \$40

Memorials: \$130

"Remember the Church in your will."



Birthdays and Anniversaries

August Birthdays

August 5, Tristyn Jennings
 August 11, Mattie Nguyen
 August 13, Bobby Alloway
 August 14, Brenda Crisp, Bridget Jenkins
 August 15, Molly Carico
 August 20, Ryan Spurgeon
 August 21, Paul Davis
 August 23, Tim Buckner
 August 29, Jessie Clemens
 September 1, Edward McMurray
 September 6, Pastor Magan Stubblefield
 September 7, Ryan Hill

August Anniversaries

August 5, Steve & Pam Carico
 August 7, Roland & Leona Mote
 August 9, Howie & Rachel Ammons
 August 16, Mike & Kay Long
 August 25, Keith & Leslie McAmis

Weekly Wednesday Night Dinner

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

- **Wednesday, August 5th** – Wednesday Welcome Back Supper @ the Field of Dreams (*Panchos Mexican*)
- **Wednesday, August 12th** – Breakfast for Dinner
- **Wednesday, August 19th** – Lasagna, Veggie Pasta, salad, chicken pasta, Spaghetti Marinara, & Garlic Bread
- **Wednesday, August 26th** – Calhoun's Pork BBQ, Chicken BBQ, Spinach Maria, Slaw, Baked Apples, Baked Beans, Tater Tot Casserole, and Mac & Cheese
- **Wednesday, September 2nd** – Pot Roast, Chicken Pot Pie, Mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, mac & cheese.

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



The Women's Circle will meet on Tuesday, August 18, at 6:30 p.m. at Julia Keylon's home, 3306 Bluff View Dr/, Louisville, TN. Our mission emphasis for August will be preparing two theme baskets for the LCAC fundraiser at the Fall Festival on September 12, Town of Louisville. For more information, please see Joyce. As always, we welcome new members and visitors.



Memorial Scholarships - 2026 Recipients

Since its inception in 1983, the Memorial Scholarship Fund has presented **\$89,253** in scholarships to Middlesettlements young people to use for their college education. A total of **166** scholarships have been awarded since 1983. Each year in May, a special offering is taken for the Dale Love Memorial Scholarship. The Robert and Callie Goddard Scholarship is funded by the interest earned from the Goddard trust fund. It is wonderful that the families and friends of Dale Love and Robert and Callie Goddard established and have supported these scholarships through the years.

Each recipient for 2026 will receive **\$1,000** from the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

This year's recipients are:

Emilie Floyd – Sophomore at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga in Psychology and Child and Family Studies with plans to be a child life specialist.

Wesley Lewis – Junior at Tennessee Tech University in Finance with plans to go into banking and later get his Master's in Business Administration.

Karissa Marcum – Junior at the University of Tennessee Knoxville in Music Education. Her goal is to teach music at the elementary school level and later pursue a Master's in choral conducting.

Dawson Wells – Senior at the University of Tennessee in Creative Media in the College of Communication and Information. He plans to pursue options in further education and as a business owner.

We congratulate each of these young people in their endeavors to obtain their education and will pray for God's blessing on their studies, plans for the future, and their lives of faith.

MIDDLESETTLEMENTS METHODIST CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES June 7, 2026

CALLED MEETING

Council voted unanimously to create a paid position of Media Coordinator for \$5,600 per year and hire Josh Marler to fill that role.

Josh has accepted the position.

Submitted,
Kathy Puckett



Upcoming Dates ~ August

8/2 - Morningview at 6:30 pm - Dinner after
(provided by youth ministry)

8/5 - FOD - Dinner & Waterslides
(wear your swimsuit/ bring a towel)

8/9 - Pool Night - Donnie & Patti Moore home -
4 - 6 pm (1976 Middlesettlements Rd)

8/12 - Wednesday - Youth Room - 6 - 7 pm

8/19 - Wednesday - Youth Room - 6 - 7 pm

8/26 - Wednesday - Youth Room - 6 - 7 pm

8/30 - Sunday School Fellowship - Youth Room -
breakfast provided

8/30 - Lake Fun Day - Chris & Julia Keyton -
4 - 7pm - Dinner will be provided

Save the Date

Hearts on Fire - November 20 - 21, 2026 - Pigeon Forge

New Preschool Sunday School - Starting this Sunday, August 2nd, we will have a preschool Sunday School class available for ages 3-5-year-olds. It will be located across from the infant nursery.

Middlesettlements Memorial Fund



Make check to MMC and, in the memo, write who the memorials are for. Then put them in the mailbox for Memorials outside the Church office, in the offering plate, or in the mail to the Church.

Given in memory of Norma Lambert

by Judy Cohan

by John and Margie Davis

by June and Mark Shaw

by Joe and Ann Smith

by Joyce Overton

by The Blanche Class

MMC CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - July 21, 2026

Attending: Keith McAmis, Kathy Puckett, Joyce Overton, Karen Lewis, David Lewis, Laura Floyd, John Davis, Richard Davis, Sam Love, Magan Stubblefield, Patsy Webb, Bridget Jenkins, Kate Keylon, Starla Davis

Meeting was opened with prayer by John Davis.

Minutes from the May 12 and June 7 meetings were approved. Motion: Laura Floyd; second: Davis Lewis. Motion carried.

Treasurer – David Lewis

--Amount received as of 7/5/2026 = \$146,381

--Amount needed for budget = \$126,495

--Amount over budget = \$19,886

--Finances are looking good. We are ahead of schedule as far as giving. Insurance will be due soon and is a large bill.

Finance Committee – Laura Floyd

--No report.

Pastor's Report – Magan Stubblefield

--Details are being worked out for a youth confirmation class.

--New people who are attending are feeling warmly welcomed.

--Several young families who attended VBS are interested in regular attendance.

Nurture Ministry – Kate Keylon, Starla Davis

--VBS was a big success.

--Starla and Laura are looking for Sunday School literature for this fall.

--Promotion Sunday is this Sunday.

--Nurture ministry will be meeting soon to make plans for the next several months.

Outreach Ministry – Karen Lewis

--Summer deliveries for Middlesettlements School students are completed.

--The next project will be Christmas gifts for these same students.

--We will be buying groceries for Matthew's family, which includes his mother and brother, when they move to Maryville the end of July.

Worship Ministry – David Wells

--No report.

Media Ministry – Josh Marler

--Magan reported that Josh has been working on voicemail issues and is extending Wi-Fi to the basement of the church.

--Josh did a great job with the VBS media work.

Trustees – Sam Love

--Sam discovered some tabs broken off by the wind on the roof cap. These should be removed and done correctly. We will probably need a roofer to fix those.

--Sam will have the metal sign in the cemetery sandblasted and painted.

Church Property Tasks Completed since last report:

--Paving project complete. Punch list complete.

Released \$6,200 final payment.

--Mike Ridenour replaced the door in the kids' room downstairs. Also re-attached ceiling boards in the sanctuary and repaired the soffit on the fellowship hall.

--Mike Ridenour installed flashing to deter invasive animals at FOD.

--Gilbert Kuhlman installed fire pit at FOD as Eagle Scout project.

--Installed handrails on new steps to Fellowship Hall.

--SkyHigh/Strictly Windows washed the sanctuary windows.

--Bushhogged roadside and wooded area going up to Field of Dreams

--Weed-eated roadside inaccessible by bush hog.

--Repaired tractor mowing attachment, serviced tractor and mowing attachment.

--Sprayed weeds in shrubbery beds and playground at FOD.

--Checked leak on FOD tractor, greased, checked fluids, aired up tires.

--Replaced blades on tractor mowing attachment, greased, purchased extra set of blades.

--Replaced blades on zero-turn mower, greased, changed oil, oil filter, air filters, aired up tires, purchased extra set of blades.

--Stripped dead weeds from shrubbery beds from 1st spraying at FOD. Sprayed 2nd application of herbicides in shrubbery beds at FOD. Applied pre-emergent herbicide to shrubbery beds at FOD.

--Applied residual herbicide to playground at FOD. Blow debris into lawn to be mowed up.

--Cleaned gutters on sanctuary.

--Applied herbicide to church window wells, church A/C graveled area, and rip rap drainage swale between parking lot and Hanson's property.

Ongoing Tasks:

--New South Blount Utilities District Water Line – in process of engineering and bidding, approximately 1 year in future – Cost to Church - \$0

SPR – LeAnne Moore

--Pastor Magan reported that a search is ongoing for a worship leader. Magan will be talking to someone who is interested. Magan will direct the choir with help from others until a worship leader is found.

Old Business

--Church directory – Magan will check status.

New Business

--2027 budget – Laura asked chairs of the different areas should look at what is allocated this year and see if changes are needed. Send the information to Laura. She will hold a finance committee meeting with the goal of submitting a budget to the Council by Sept.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 1, 7:00 pm, Blanche SS classroom

Submitted by Kathy Puckett



2729 Middlesettlements Rd
Maryville, TN 37801

Return Address Requested

Staff

Melinda Andes, Organist
Starla Davis, Student Ministry Co-Coordinator
Kate Keylon, Student Ministry Co-Coordinator
Karissa Marcum, Pianist
Joyce Overton, Secretary
Rev. Magan Stubblefield, Pastor

**UPCOMING
Events**

Altar Flowers for August – Disciples Class

August 5, 5:30 p.m. Welcome Back Meal (Field of Dreams)

August 6, Clergy Picnic at the FOD

August 18, 6:30 p.m. Women's Circle (home of Julia Keylon)

Altar Flowers for September - Genesis Class

September 1, 7:00 p.m. Church Council (Blanche Class)

September 6, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Baby Shower in honor of Carson and Maggie Wells and Baby Boy Wells

September 9, 5:30 p.m. Women's Circle Fundraiser

September 12, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Louisville Fall Festival (Louisville Town Hall). Check out **LCAC Fundraiser Booth**

September 15, 6:30 p.m. Women's Circle

September 20, 11:30 a.m. Traditional Potluck and Wedding Shower in honor of Ty & Madison Lawhorn.

Thank You

Dear church family, thanks so much for the church scholarship for camp! I had lots of fun! – Ashling

I want to thank everyone for your kindness. The prayers, cards, phone calls, and food were so appreciated. I have a long road ahead of me, but I know God is with me and will lead me through this. My family and I are so thankful for friends like you. May God Bless each and every one of you.

Susan Roberts

To our church family, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the prayers, phone calls, cards, care packages, meals, visits, and generous gifts of support during Chip's cancer treatment. Your love and faithfulness have carried us through some very difficult days and have been a constant reminder that we are not walking this journey alone. We are truly grateful to be part of such a caring church family. Please continue to keep Chip, our family, and his medical team in your prayers as we trust God through the days ahead.

'Always,

Chips and April Smith

I would like to thank the MMC family for your kind words, cards, hugs, and special lunch together. It has been a real joy to serve with you over these many years in different ways but especially in leading worship. You have allowed me to share my heart and voice, which has been the true gift you have given me. -- David Wells