



# MIDDLESETTLEMENTS METHODIST CHURCH



## March 2026 Newsletter

### Meet Starla Davis,

#### MMC's Student Ministry Co-Coordinator!

*A beloved long-time member of Middlesettments, Starla has served all over our church, particularly in areas in the areas of nurture and music. She and Kate Keylon (our other Student Ministry Coordinator) have been happily planning youth and children's ministries together for a while and felt God's call to make it a partnership! Starla and Kate will now be sharing Kate's once-solo role and we're thrilled to have her officially on board.*

*A few fun things to know about Starla:*

1. **Where's your favorite place in the world? Why?** Other than being with my family who I love dearly - my husband, Paul (of 23 years) our three sons, Ethan (who is married to Alyssa and parents to our favorite sweet girl & granddaughter, Saylor Ann), Tyler (who is a freshman in college), Noah (a sophomore at Maryville Christian) and Charlie (our 5 year old Goldendoodle) - my favorite place in the world is Cades Cove. To me it is a quiet retreat away from the world- my phone doesn't usually work there which disconnects me from the busyness of life. When something is troubling me and I need to think over and pray about it, Cades Cove gives me the quiet refuge I need.
2. **Where are you in birth order?** I am not only the oldest sibling to my sister, Donna, but also the oldest granddaughter on both sides of my family. So that first born trait definitely plays a role in me knowing I was the boss to not only my sister but all my younger siblings too! I was in charge but also the responsible one, making all things perfect - ha!

3. **Do you collect anything?** I love collecting Christmas ornaments from all the places I travel to. We have one tree we put up at Christmas time that contains all the family ornaments from when my boys were growing up and these ornaments from all my travels.
4. **What is a quirky or unusual fear you have?** My three biggest fears in order of importance - SPIDERS, bridges and sinkholes! Not even sure why sinkholes other than the thought of them is just terrifying to me and every time I see one on the news - it just reignites the fear. My husband even pointed out our home insurance includes sink hole coverage - who knew but what a relief - ha!
5. **My favorite bible verse? Why?** My favorite scripture is Isaiah 40:31 - but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." My hope is in the Lord, and I put complete trust in his plan for my life. This verse reminds me that through life's journey, the highs and lows - that I am not alone. That God will help me rise above the difficulties and give me renewed strength and endurance to face what comes because He is faithful.

### Welcome New Members!

In February, we welcomed **Randy & Debbie Allen** - look forward to finding out more about them in our April newsletter!

## Faithfulness

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

### Attendance

Attendance	S.S.	Worship	
<b>February</b>		Morning	MorningView
1		Snow Day	
8	62	112	12
15	65	99	16
22	68	112	17

Feb	Designated Budget	Undesignated Budget	Total Budget
1	Snow Day		
8	\$9,288	\$420	\$9,708
15	\$6,334	\$25	\$6,359
22	\$8,035	\$323	\$8,358

Budget amount needed for 2026: \$37,480

Budget amount received in 2026: \$39,228

#### 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: \$400

Memorials: \$225

Evangelism/backpack: \$80

Parking Lot: \$250

Costa Rica Deonna: \$1,224

Costa Rica Lewis: \$300 (Feb)

Jan Fundraiser: \$1650 (Lewis)

Costa Rica - Total Lewis: \$1950

**"Remember the Church in your will."**

### Weekly Wednesday Night Study

Beginning at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall (while enjoying 2nds, dessert, and coffee), our adults are learning about the spiritual practices that Jesus used and modeled. For our March studies, we'll be specifically looking at the strange but consistent biblical practice of...fasting.

### Wednesday Night Pizza & Games: March 11<sup>th</sup>

All ages are invited to join us for Pizza & Games on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm – 6:30pm! Games will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorite too. *Nursery is provided.*

### Wednesday Night Spring Break: March 18<sup>th</sup>

All Wednesday night activities will be off for spring break on March 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll pick back up with our regular schedule the next Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>!



### Birthdays in March

March 1—Briley Blankenship  
 March 2—Eunice Greer  
 March 7—Will Carico  
 March 8—Penney Rogers  
 March 9—Melissa Scott  
 March 13—Pam Carico, Jason Martin  
 March 15—Caitlyn Jennings, Jack Loveday  
 March 17—Alex Caldwell, Andrew Lewis  
 March 20—Chip Smith  
 March 24—Jackson Gregg, Leslie McAmis  
 March 25—Tyler Hill, Lucas Nguyen  
 March 27—David Wells  
 March 28—Ty Lawhorn, Patti Moore  
 April 3—Maggie Patterson  
 April 7—Ethan Davis, Alyssa Davis

### Anniversaries in March

March 9—David & Karen Lewis  
 March 21—Bill & Laura Floyd  
 March 22—Chris & Julia Keylon  
 April 3—Steve & Dee Carpenter

### Weekly Wednesday Night Dinner

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

- **Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** – Beef Lasagna, Chicken Penne, Baked Veggie & Cheese Ravioli, Spaghetti Marinara, Salad, & Garlic Bread
- **Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>** – Pizza & Games!
- **Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>** – *Spring Break: Wednesday meal & studies (all ages) cancelled this week*
- **Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>** – Taco Beef, Fajita Chicken, Beans, Rice, Corn, Salsa, Cheese Dips, & Chips
- **Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (Holy Week, before our Holy Wednesday Service)** – Italian Night! (a fundraiser for our Student Ministries)

*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)).*



**Children  
Leading in  
Worship: Palm  
Sunday, March  
29<sup>th</sup>**

On Palm Sunday, children are invited to help open worship by waving palm

branches! Palm-wavers will need to be in the narthex a few minutes before the service begins. All children are welcome!



**Holy Wednesday  
Dinner Church:  
Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>  
- Dinner 5:30pm;  
Service 6:00pm  
(Fellowship Hall)**

During Holy Week,

the Church remembers the teachings and events of the last week of Jesus' life, particularly the stories of his teaching in the temple, being anointed by Mary of Bethany, instituting the Lord's Supper and a "new commandment", being betrayed by Judas, and his trial, crucifixion, and death. Our Wednesday service this year will take place in the Fellowship Hall, at table, as we remember these and break bread together in holy communion.

**Sunrise Service: Sunday,  
April 5<sup>th</sup>  
7:00am (Field of Dreams)**

Our annual Sunrise Service will be at 7:00am Easter Morning at the Field of Dreams (2508 Middle settlements Rd). If

the weather is good, services will be held at the top of the hill – feel free to drive all the way to the top, where there is plenty of parking available. If the weather is bad, the service will be held at the pavilion.



**Camp Wesley  
Woods Week**  
Pastor Magan is the Minister-In-Residence for Camp Wesley Woods June 14 - 19, 2026. Her

sons will be attending camp that week and all Middle settlements students are invited to come along! Scholarships are available through Wesley Woods and through our church (for church scholarships, contact Karen Lewis).

**It's Time to Register for Summer Camp!** All the information you need to sign up for summer camp at Camp Wesley Woods or other Holston camps can be found at [www.holstoncamping.com](http://www.holstoncamping.com). Our Church offers partial -camp scholarships. Please see Karen Lewis for more information (or to get the scholarship code). Last summer, we had a few children go to camp from our Church, and they had an excellent time!!! If you would like to donate to our scholarship fund, please drop it in the offering box. TY-Karen

*March is staff appreciation month here at Middle settlements! We have an amazing staff and want to show them some love!*

*Melinda Andes, Starla Davis,  
Kate Keylon, Karissa Marcum,  
Joyce Overton, David Wells*

*We'll take donations all month and then on March 29 we will gift each of our 6 staff members. Please give as you feel led. Put your donations in the offering labeled: staff appreciation.*

*Thank you for continuing to remember our wonderful staff in your prayers.*

*-SPR Committee*



## 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 JB O'Connor

by Maria Wright  
by Linda & David Nelson  
by Carolyn Leffell Hanson  
by Chris & Pat Handley  
by Mary Ruth Hall  
by Doug & Betty Hale  
by Helen Maxwell  
by Dr. Mary S Lefell  
by Mary Clendenen  
by Irene Tomlinson  
by Judy Cohan  
by Miri Blair  
by Jo & Ann Snith  
by John & Margie Davis  
by Howie & Rachel Ammons  
by Joyce Overton  
by Carolyn Garner

### Given in Memory of Ina Bolton

by Steve & Mary Cassell  
by John & Margie Davis  
by Mark & Betty Harris  
by Anna Davenport  
by Judy Cohan  
by Joe & Ann Smith  
by Keith & Leslie McAmis  
by Amy Bloomer  
by Joyce Overton  
by William B Hickam  
by Christine B. Hickman  
by Carolyn G Lee  
by Mr & Mrs James V. Carter

## Donations made to the Cemetery Fund

### In Memory of JB O'Connor

by Judy Love Cohan  
by Mike & Melinda Andes  
by Lowell Sneed  
by Brenda Clemens

### In Memory of Ina Bolton

by Mike & Melinda Andes

## MIDDLESETTLEMENTS SUNDAY NURSERY SCHEDULE



### 1ST

9:20 JJ Wells & need a 2<sup>nd</sup> volunteer!  
10:20 JJ Wells, Jenna Rogers & Susan Roberts

### 2ND

9:20 Katie Hill & need a 2<sup>nd</sup> volunteer!  
10:20 Brenda Crisp, Staci & Jason Martin

### 3RD

9:20 Kathy Puckett & Ann Connaster  
10:20 Ryan & Morgan Spurgeon & 3<sup>rd</sup> volunteer  
needed!

### 4TH

9:20 Katie Hill & need a 2<sup>nd</sup> volunteer!  
10:20 David Lewis, Chris Keylon & 3<sup>rd</sup> volunteer  
needed!

### 5TH

9:20 Youth & Kate (Service Sunday)  
10:20 Patsy Webb & 2nd volunteer needed!



**Daylight Saving Time** begins on March 8, 2026. Do not forget to set your clock ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday.



## Pregnancy Resource Center

### Lenten Mission Emphasis 2026

During this Lenten season, we will once again focus our Mission Emphasis on the Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC). If you would like to make a one-time donation at any time during Lent, please note "**Lenten Mission Emphasis**" on the memo line of your check. **About PRC:** The Pregnancy Resource Center is a medical clinic providing pregnancy-related services free of charge. Using a holistic approach, PRC offers support to women before, during, and after pregnancy. Their medical director and registered nurses do not perform or refer for abortions. PRC is a 501(c)(3) organization in Tennessee. Since 1986, the Pregnancy Resource Center of Blount County has compassionately helped women facing unplanned pregnancies explore their options in a supportive, caring environment.

*Thank you for helping her be brave.*

## Women's Circle Missions Update

The Women's Circle would like to thank our church family for your continued support of our projects and mission work. At our recent fundraiser, we were blessed to raise **\$800** to support our outreach efforts.

One of our ongoing ministries is providing meals to families who have lost a loved one. The Women's Circle provides meat and other necessary items to support families during their time of grief.

If you would like to contribute to our **Meat Fund**, please give your donation to Bridget Jenkins or any Women's Circle member. Your generosity allows us to continue this meaningful ministry of care and compassion.

### 2026 Mission Emphasis

- January – Pregnancy Resource
- February – Isaiah 117 House

### 2025 Mission Emphasis

- **Mission Project** – Haiti Youth Sponsorship \$600 One-year sponsorship
- January – Items for Homeless (Warming Center)
- February – Items for Alaska Food Pantry Project
- March – Pregnancy Resource
- April – Family Promise
- May – 2nd Chances Ministries
- June – Bingo Prizes for Fairpark
- July – No Meeting
- August – LCAC Fundraiser (also purchased toilet paper)
- September – Isaiah 117 House
- October – Pregnancy Resource
- November – Blount County Veterans Food Pantry

### 2024 Mission Emphasis

- **Yearly Mission Project** – Haiti Youth Sponsorship (\$600 yearly sponsorship)
- January – Snow (weather cancellation)
- February – Items for Alaska Food Pantry Project
- March – Pregnancy Resource
- April – Family Promise
- May – Items for Shoe Box Ministry
- June – Bingo Prizes for Fairpark Healthcare
- July – No Meeting
- August – LCAC Fundraiser
- September – Isaiah 117 House
- October – Pregnancy Resource

- November – Blount County Veterans Food Pantry
- December – Special Blessing

Thank you for partnering with us as we serve our community and beyond. Your prayers, donations, and encouragement make a difference.

## UPCOMING Events

*Altar Flowers – March – Women's Circle*

March 8, **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

March 11, 5:30 Pizza & Games

March 15, **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

March 17, No Women's Circle this month because of Spring Break

March 18, Spring Break - Wednesday Activities Canceled

March 22, **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

March 29, **Palm Sunday**

10:30 p.m. **Palm Sunday Service**

April 1, 5:30 p.m. **Holy Wednesday Service:** beginning with dinner (Fellowship Hall), continuing with service at 6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

April 3, **Holiday VBS:** Good Friday, (Fellowship Hall)

April 5, 7:00a.m. **Easter Sunrise Service:** Sunday, (Field of Dreams)

April 5, 9:30 p.m. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Sunday (Fellowship Hall)

April 5, 10:30 **Easter Sunday Service**

May 13, 5:30 p.m. **Spring Fling,** Wednesday (FOD)

### Mark your Calendar



**We Love Vacation Bible School!!**

**Join Us  
this Summer**

**Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>**



**MIDDLESETTLEMENTS**  
METHODIST CHURCH

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  
David Wells, Worship Ministry Coordinator

*Thank You*

*Dear*

*Special Church Family, I don't have words to express my love and thank you for the Happy Birthday - Happy Valentine's Day Card I received in the mail. Please know it was greatly appreciated, and lovingly, I will always appreciate my church.*

*Please accept my thanks for all the heartfelt sympathy cards I have received and appreciated so much.*

*Please accept my thanks for loving my brother and best friend.*

*Much love, Marian*

*Our sincere thanks for all the prayers, calls, cards, and food sent during Mom's health issues and her passing. You all have a special place in our hearts, and we love you. Randy, Judy, and the Bolton Family*

WITH DEEPEST ♥  
*Sympathy*

**Ina Bolton** passed away peacefully on February 7. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers during this time of loss.

Bridget Jenkins' uncle, **Don Baxter**, also recently passed away. Please remember his family in your thoughts and prayers as they grieve.