

Central United Methodist Church



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

10:45 a.m.

Our Vision:

***Making Christ known by extending hospitality,
serving the community, pursuing justice and embracing all.***

201 - 3rd Avenue Knoxville TN 37917

www.knoxcentralumc.org

We Gather to Praise God

Prelude

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod

Opening Prayer

Rev. Stephanie Parrott

† Call to Worship

We come, for God gathers us here,
with that community called faith:
 where the hungry are served first,
 where the thirsty drink life's water.

We come, for God welcomes us here
into that home called grace:
 where we are clothed in robes of hope;
 where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.

We come, for God reunites us here,
sisters and brothers in that family called love:
 where the imprisoned model justice,
 where the sick are cradled in God's peace.

We come to worship the God of love, mercy and justice. **Amen.**

† Opening Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

UMH 139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder a new what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

We Listen to Hear God's Voice

Scripture

Exodus 22:21-23; 25-27; † Matthew 25:31-46
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young Christians

Rev. Parrott

Sunday school for nursery through 5th grade is offered every week following children's time except on Sundays when we celebrate Holy Communion (typically the first Sunday of each month).

Anthem

A Community of Faith

Grace Hawthorne & John Purifoy

Sermon

Let Justice Roll Down: Together in Community

Rev. Sherrod

We Respond to God's Great Love

† Hymn

For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread;
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

[refrain] And God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when
we are creators of justice, justice and joy.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a child
in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong. [refrain]

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be, to work to speak out
to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free. [refrain]

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering our Gifts

We will not be receiving an offering during the service, however, we invite you to give your offering and God's tithes using the plates as you exit the sanctuary or online at Knoxcentralumc.org/getinvolved

Offertory

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

† Dedication of Gifts

The Doxology

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We Are Scattered to Serve God In Our World

† **Closing Hymn**

The Servant Song

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

To God Be the Glory

arr. Paul Mickelson

† *Please stand in body or spirit*

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of
Charles and Patty Parham's September 15 anniversary.

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Looking Ahead ~ Our Calendar

Weekly: AA, Monday and Thursday at 10:00 am
Builder's Class Bible Study via Zoom, Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Downtown REO, Wednesday at 8:30 am
Choir, Wednesday at 6:30 pm

September 17	Serving Team Interest Meeting, Noon, Room 210
September 21	Mom's Group, 6:30 pm, Play and Pray
September 23	Writers Guild, 10am – Noon, Fellowship Hall
September 24	Outdoor Worship Service, 10:45 am, Play and Pray
September 25	Leadership Council, 6:30 pm, Room 210
September 26	Bible Study, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Room 208
September 27	Bible Study, 10:00 – 11:30 am, Room 208
September 26-30	Friends of the Library set up and sale, First floor
October 1	Book Discussion, 5:00 pm, Play and Pray

We are exploring a ministry opportunity at Volunteer Ministry Center's brand new Caswell Manor on Winona Street in East Knoxville. We will be having an interest meeting with our serving team **TODAY** immediately after worship in Room 210. If you have been involved in our serving ministries or you have an interest in serving in some capacity, please join us! This meeting will be no more than 30 minutes! For more information, contact Melanie Gangaware via text: 865-256-4280.

September Book Club - If you are reading *Demon Copperhead*, we invite you to join us for a discussion group meeting on Sunday, Oct 1 at 5pm. Bring a sack lunch and drink along with a lawn chair and we will meet in the play and pray space. If it rains, we will move to the fellowship hall. This book touches on many justice issues and is a very uncomfortable book to read. We plan to discuss all of that and then plan a follow-up time to discuss the book's impact on us and on our church.

Mom's Group - Our next meeting will be on Sept 21 (Thursday) at 6:30pm. Let's meet in the Play and Pray at church this month. Bring a lawn chair and a sack dinner. I will have a dessert on hand for all of us. We are going to discuss possible books we could read and how we can instill faith in our kids at all ages! I hope you will come and bring a friend. Please RSVP to stephanie@knoxcentralumc.org so I will know how many are coming.

Norwood Food Ministry - Dates for Norwood lunches have been set for the next three months. Please mark your calendars to join us on Sept 23, Oct 21, and Nov 18. We meet at Norwood UMC around 10:30-11 am for setup and are usually finished by 1pm. This is a great way to do hands on service and all ages are welcome! If you are free on the Fridays before each of those dates, they always need help prepping the food. They meet for prep days at 10am. If you have questions or would like more information, reach out to stephanie@knoxcentralumc.org.

URGENT! Beaumont Snacks Are Needed Desperately!! Our donations help ease the burden on the teachers who try to ensure no child in the class is hungry during school. They need to be in individual bags or packets and no nuts or peanut butter due to allergies. Remember to add these snacks to your grocery list and drop them off at the church each week. Some of the most requested: Cheez Its mini bags, Goldfish mini bags, Apple sauce pouches, granola bars – no nuts, Veggie straws, Popcorn, Baked chips, Crackers.

Weekly Prayer List
Sunday, September 17, 2023

Patty Parham is moving around better and sees the orthopedist Monday afternoon.

Tana Slater will have knee-replacement surgery September 18.

Dan Taylor completed his radiation treatments Thursday.

George Whedbee has an abscess in one of his lungs. They are treating with antibiotics.

Joe Dearen (Patty Parham's brother-in-law) remains hospitalized in Bartlett, Tennessee. He is receiving dialysis every other day and will be moved to a rehabilitation facility when he is able.

Rev. Natalie Justice's Wednesday's cancer surgery went well. She is not expected to need any further treatment.

Please continue to remember **Virginia Colson** (1965 Stewart Ln, Louisville, 37777), **Pat Cowart** (Melanie Gangaware's mother), **Bill and Haley Dockery** (5215 E Sunset Rd, 37914), **Geoffrey Greene** (Penney Helms's brother, 4701 Cabbage Ln, 37938), **Sancy Hail** (7545 Thunder Ct, Powell, 37849), **David Helms** (801 E Inskip Dr, 37912), **Blaine Honea** (son of Linda Stalsworth Honea, former member of Central), **Allen Knable** (Room 512A, 283 W. Broadway Blvd., Jefferson City, 37760), **Diane Lowe** (7125 Meadowbrook Cir, 37918), **Richard and Joan Moon** (7655 Apple Cross, Corryton, 37721), **Doris Jean Moore** (7404 Kentfield Dr, 37919), **Nancy Morgan** (3105 Atoka Ln, 37917), **Mike O'Tool** (Ron O'Tool's grandson), **Kelli Ragsdale** (wife of Stephanie Parrott's cousin), **Sandra Temple Potts** (friend of Penny Helms and Becky Hutton), **Billy Varnell** (4121 Riverstone Ln, 37918), **Kathy Whaley** (friend of Penney Helms), and **Bill Winans** (1658 Wisteria View Way, 37914).

Did Jesus Really Say That? A new Bible Study led by Pastor Jimmy on Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings beginning September 26th and 27th. Over the course of 6 meetings, we are going to focus on some of Jesus' words found in the Gospel of Mark. There are no materials required for the study except your Bible. The study will take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm and Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Pick one that works best for your schedule! You can just show up, but an RSVP will help us know how many to plan for each day! RSVP to Pastor Jimmy via e-mail: jimmy@knoxcentralumc.org. (We will not meet on October 10th, 11th and 31st.).

Welcome Visitors!

If you are visiting with us today, we invite you to let us know you were here. In front of you in the pews you will find a visitor card. If you are willing, leave us your name and phone number or e-mail address so that we can connect with you and find out more about you and share more about who we are as well.

Care and Prayer

If you have a prayer request, let us know so we can be in prayer for you. Either use the visitor cards in front of you or e-mail Kathy Gant at gants@att.net

Sunday Morning Coffee

The coffee is on! Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am, you are invited to join us for coffee. Connect with Central folks for fellowship and conversation. Coffee is available from 9:30 until 10:45 am.

The Central Hub

Keep up with what's going on each week by subscribing to our weekly e-newsletter. You can subscribe by going to knoxcentralumc.org and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

Spiritual Discipline of Giving and Financial Update

Giving financially is a spiritual discipline and has the power to shape and transform us. When we give, it expresses priorities in our lives. All are encouraged to give out of the abundance that God has provided us. We aren't currently passing the offering plates, but we do ask you to consider giving to the ministries of Central Church in one of the following ways.

- Place your gift in the offering Plate on Sunday Morning. You'll find them as you exit the sanctuary.
- Mail a check to 201 Third Ave. or bring it by the office.
- Give online (text to give) and through the Vanco Mobile App.
- Set up an automatic withdrawal through your checking account. Please reach out to Laurie in the office to sign up.
- Scan the PayPal QR code to donate through PayPal:



Or Vanco:



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www.knoxcentralumc.org



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