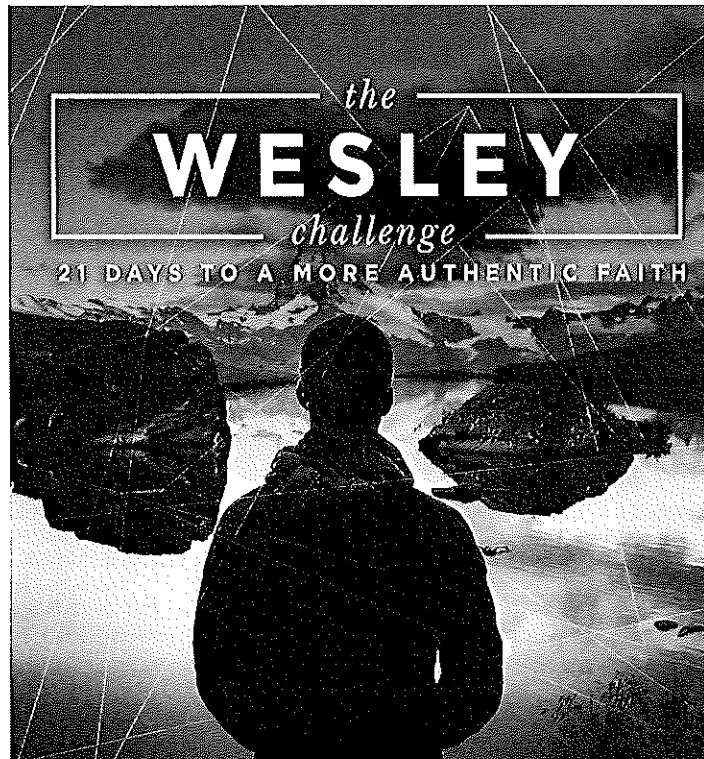


Central United Methodist Church



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024

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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

arr. Joel Raney

Welcome

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

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod

Opening Prayer

Rev. Diana Brown Taylor

† **Call to Worship**

Creator God, you call us to hospitality; to give as generously to others as you have given to us.

For there are angels among us.

Loving God, you call us to give you glory in the compassion we show to one another.

To love without judgment, of ourselves or of others.

We gather as one Body, seeking to walk in the way you have set for us.

We gather as one Body, to worship the one who is Love. Amen.

† **Opening Song**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (vv. 1-3)

UMH 89

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

We Listen to Hear God's Voice

Scripture

I Corinthians 13:2-13; † Luke 18: 9-14

This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young Christians

Holly Walker

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

Hear Us, O Father

Nancy Price and Don Besig

Sermon

The Wesley Challenge: The Greatest of These...

Rev. Sherrod

We Respond to God's Great Love

† **Hymn**

Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

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.

Introduction to Centro Hispano de East Tennessee

Claudia Caballero, President and CEO

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Offertory

Speak, O Lord

Jason D. Payne

† **Dedication of Gifts**

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We Are Scattered to Serve God in Our World

† **Closing Hymn**

The Gift of Love

UMH 408

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

You Shall Go Out With Joy

Douglas E. Wagner

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† *Please stand in body or spirit*

Prayer List
Sunday, September 29, 2024

Pat Keyes is a patient in Emory Decatur Hospital. Prayers and cards are appreciated. The hospital address is 2701 N Decatur Rd, Decatur, GA 30033.

Ford Deese (Mary Humes's grandniece) is back in Charleston, with frequent clinic visits while her blood cell counts recover from chemotherapy. Once she has recovered, she will have a course of radiation treatment (to reduce the chances of recurrence) in Jacksonville. You can follow Ford's progress on <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/forddeese> The family's address in Charleston is 104 Dorothy Dr, Charleston, SC 29414.

Tiffany Mynatt is working with a large family whose housing is being sold and is looking for a new rental within their financial constraints. She asks prayers that they can find an affordable place to live.

Please continue to remember **Pat Cowart** (Melanie Gangaware's mother), **Michael Dearen** (Patty Parham's nephew, 7900 Stephanie Cove, Bartlett, TN, 38133), **Emalie and Haley Dockery** (5215 E Sunset Rd, 37914), **Lena Frye** (friend of Lauren Gangaware), **Brenda Bacon Goble** (friend of Susie Knable), **David Helms** (801 E Inskip Dr, 37912), **Peter Keyes** (2806 N Decatur Rd, Apt. 514, Decatur, GA 30033), **G.R. Lewis** (wife is friend of Ali Umbarger), **Diane Lowe** (7125 Meadowbrook Cir, 37918), **Joan Moon** (7655 Apple Cross, Corryton, 37721), **Nancy Morgan** (3105 Atoka, 37917), **Donna Shirley** (Larry Ward's sister, 4133 Stephanie, Jonesboro, AR 72405), **Mike O'Tool** (Ron O'Tool's grandson), **Billy Varnell** (4121 Riverstone Ln, 37918), **Carroll and Lucy Varnell** (4408 High School Rd, 37912), **Kathy Whaley** (friend of Penney Helms, 200 Nodding Oak, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516), **Bill Winans** (1658 Wisteria View Way, 37914), and **Rev. Grady Winegar** (5503 Pinecrest Rd, 37912).

Looking Ahead ~ Our Calendar

Weekly:

Builder's Class Bible Study via Zoom, Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Handbell Rehearsals, Wednesday at 5:30-6:15 pm

Choir, Wednesday at 6:15 – 7:45 pm

Worship, Sunday at 10:45 am

Monthly:

1st Tuesday – Prayer Group, 10am, Room 213

Caswell Manor Lunch Prep

1st Wednesday – Serve Caswell Manor Lunch

3rd Thursday – VMC Lunch Prep

3rd Friday – Serve VMC Lunch

4th Thursday – Help at Minvilla Manor

Second Harvest Food Pantry

September 29	Wesley Challenge Book Study, 9:30 am, Room 210 Centro Hispano Congregational Tour, Noon, 3 rd floor Young Adult Bowling, 6pm, Fountain Lanes Strike & Spare
October 1	Centro Hispano Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 8am Prayer Group, 10am, Room 213 Bible Study, 6:30-8pm, Room 209
October 2	Bible Study, 10am-11:30am, Room 209
October 3	4 th and Gill Potluck Dinner, FH
October 8	Bible Study, 6:30-8pm, Room 209
October 9	Bible Study, 10am-11:30am, Room 209
October 12	Writers Guild Workshop, 10am-Noon, Room 210
October 13	Ministry Team Meeting, Noon-2pm, Room 210
October 15	Bible Study, 6:30-8pm, Room 209
October 16	Bible Study, 10am-11:30am, Room 209
October 17	Discipleship Pathway Team, 6:30 pm, Room 210
October 18	Centro Health Fair, 8am-2pm, Fellowship Hall

You're invited to go bowling with the CUMC Young Adults! We're going to gather this Sunday at 6pm at Fountain Lanes Strike & Spare. Hope to see you there! Please contact Tyler if you're able to go. tylerdlew@gmail.com
573.575.9636

Serving the Community

Founded by Cokesbury Church in 2014, **Susannah's House** is an independent 501c3 non-profit organization. Their mission is to provide a source of hope for the pregnant or parenting mother following detox from opioids. These are women who want to maintain their sobriety. I met Cheryl, the House Coordinator at Susannah's House, who came through the program and is now celebrating three years of sobriety! Cheryl was able to regain custody of her daughter who is now four years old. Cheryl explained to me that the classes and the support from Susannah's House included involvement from the community and all of this was a huge part of her recovery! This place saved her life. We, at Central, want to lift up these women and their children with our prayers and physical gifts needed for them to grow and recover. They have an Amazon list for donations, and we are collecting items to deliver to them on a weekly basis. The needed items are shampoo, conditioner, body wash, clock radio, drawstring trash bags (medium, large, xl) 5 gallon trash cans with lids, crib mobiles, sound machines, waterproof crib mattress protector, first aid kit, bathroom accessories (towel rack, toilet paper holders, etc) and towel sets. **Please leave items in the far left corner of the Fellowship Hall.** Thank you, Central, for being a light in the lives of these women and children!

Snacks for Beaumont Academy - When a kid is hungry, it affects how they listen and how they learn. Central identified the need of supplying snacks in our schools through the development of our ministry with Beaumont Academy. Before Central began donating snacks, the teachers would cover the costs of providing snacks on their own. It's not in their job description as a teacher, but they were doing it to help their kids! Then Central stepped in to ease the financial burden on the teachers and to stop the hunger pains of the students. Whether a child eats lunch early (10:30 am) or late (12:10 pm), they have a long period of time in the school day to endure without the help of a snack.

It's been proven that snacks help our brains in between meals regardless of our age! So when you buy *your* snacks this week at the grocery store, pick up **additional snacks** for our kids at Beaumont. Please remember they need to be individually packaged and no nuts or peanut butter to avoid allergies. Thank you, Central, for helping our children grow and learn.

You are invited to join Pastor Jimmy for Bible Study beginning Tuesday, October 1 from 6:30-8:00 pm. (We'll also offer a session on Wednesdays from 10:00 am - 11:30 am). The study will run for 8 sessions beginning October 1 (or October 2 if you attend on Wednesdays). During this study, we will simply read through books of the Bible. This method will allow us to read what is on the page, engage in theological discussion and ask ourselves how might the scriptures guide us in becoming more deeply committed disciples of Jesus Christ. During this particular study, we will engage with some of the New Testaments writings (TBD). The study will take place in Room 209. If you have any questions, just reach out to Pastor Jimmy (jimmy@knoxcentralumc.org).

Serving or Judging?

"They treat us like criminals." This is what the resident at Caswell Manor said in thanking us for the meal that Central served him. He was grateful for our help and appreciated being treated with love and respect. He felt no judgment from us for having previously been living on the streets.

For the past twelve months, Central has served lunch to the residents of Caswell Manor, the Volunteer Ministry Center's residential property built for the previously chronically homeless. Each month a meal is served without judgment but with smiles and true warmth from the heart. We are imparting Jesus' love with each meal that we serve! Jesus said, "Come to me." He did not say, "Come to me to see if you qualify!"

This coming Wednesday, October 2nd, we are celebrating a year of love with a Pizza Party at Caswell Manor! Come join us to help serve and be part of our Anniversary Celebration! We arrive at 11:30 am and start serving around Noon. You can sign up outside of the sanctuary on the sign up board. It's going to be a good time!

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.



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Sign up for our weekly e-letter, The Central Hub, on our website,
www.knoxcentralumc.org



Pastoral and Administrative Staff

Office: 865-524-1659

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod, Senior Pastor

865-805-5373

Jimmy@knoxcentralumc.org

Brandon Coffer, Music Director and Organist

brandon@knoxcentralumc.org

Jeff Criswell, Custodian

Ron O'Tool, Building Coordinator

Laurie Speranza, Administrative Assistant

Katie Chait, Preschool Assistant

Doug Johnson, Facilities Manager

Laurie@knoxcentralumc.org

doug@knoxcentralumc.org

Facebook: Central United Methodist Church, Knoxville, TN