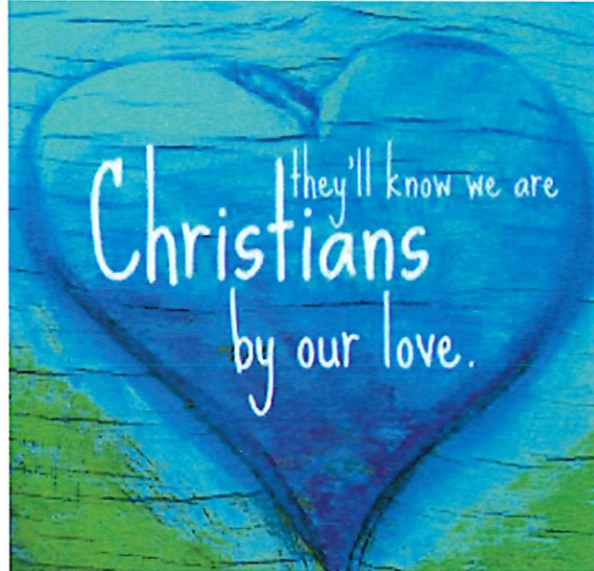


Central United Methodist Church



**Laity Sunday
October 27, 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

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

arr. Heather Sorenson

Welcome

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

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod

Opening Prayer

Mark Walker

† Call to Worship

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?

We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.

Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?

We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.

Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?

We long to live lives of holiness and light.

God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask. Come near, people of God!

Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

† Opening Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (1,2,4)

UMH 384

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou are all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

We Listen to Hear God's Voice

Scripture

James 1:5-8

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

I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he hath made known,
nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.

[refrain] But I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able
to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day.

I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
nor how believing in his word wrought peace within my heart. [refrain]

A Time for Young Christians

Allison Malone

*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

Laity Medley

Strathdee, Damon & Willard

Sermon

Mr. Wil Davenport

We Respond to God's Great Love

Song

Lovely, Needy People

Rev. Sherrod and Tiffany Mynatt

Ministry of the Laity

Jabette Carlson, Lay Leader

Prayers of the People

Pastor: We go with hope, O God, with an engaged faith.

By paying attention to your grace already at work in every life.

Wherever we meet those made in your image, we share stories of the grace that has reshaped our own lives.

As we come to see resonant patterns of grace, we find you repairing the world's shattered wholeness.

Lay leader: For a new resolve to listen to the stories of people made in your image.

God, hear our prayer.

Lay leader: With all who are called to become all love through your son, Jesus.

God, hear our prayer.

Lay leader: For those whose loneliness and isolation call for listening love.

God, hear our prayer.

Lay leader: With friends in faith who serve and witness through deeds and words that heal and free.

Savior, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Hear our prayer, O God, and help us embody your glory and presence –
vessels of grace bringing mercy and justice to your world. **Amen.**

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.

Ministry Moment

Prayer group/Breakthrough Prayer Initiative

Caring Team

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Offertory

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Mark Hayes

† Dedication of Gifts

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

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: [refrain]

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (Refrain)

† Benediction

Postlude

Praise His Greatness

arr. Mark Hayes

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† Please stand in body or spirit

The altar flowers today are given by Gangaware families in honor of Jean Gangaware's 95th birthday on November 1st.

Prayer List
Sunday, October 27, 2024

The **family of Pat Keyes**, who died October 18 in Decatur, Georgia. There will be a memorial service at Central on Saturday, November 16, at 1:30 p.m. Peter's address is 2806 N Decatur Rd, Apt. 514, Decatur, GA 30033. The address for her daughter, Mary Souther, is 2888 Belvedere Ln, Decatur, GA 30032.

Melanie Reseigh is recovering at home after knee-replacement surgery on October 14 (2346 E 5th Ave, 37921).

Bud Cottrell was released from the hospital Tuesday afternoon after being hospitalized with pneumonia (4217 Woodvale Dr, 37918).

Michael Dearen's (Patty Parham's nephew) cancer has now spread to his liver. He is still receiving medication for the pancreas and will receive an additional dose for the liver (7900 Stephanie Cove, Bartlett, TN, 38133),.

Susanna Dearen (Patty Parham's sister), has cellulitis on her lower leg and will have a procedure done on November 7 to help that heal.

Ford Deese (Mary Humes's grandniece) is more than half-way through her proton radiation therapy. Her address in Jacksonville is Ford Deese, Room #210, Ronald McDonald House, 824 Childrens Way, Jacksonville, FL 32207. You can follow Ford's progress on <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/forddeese>

Karen Till Johnson (friend of Susie Knable) has been diagnosed with a mass in her kidney.

Charles Sartwell (Ann Sartwell's father and former CUMC member) has moved to a rehabilitation facility. His family is trying find appropriate living arrangements once he is released. During the next week, cards can be sent to 1016 Pacific Grove Ln, Apt 1, Pacific Grove, CA 93905.

Tiffany Mynatt is working with a large family whose housing has been 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), **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), **Larry Ketron** (Jodie Overton's father), **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).

Laity Sunday celebrates the ministry of all Christians as they love God and neighbor. On Laity Sunday, we continue to lift up the evocation of all to follow the way of Jesus and lead others to him.

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

October 27	Flower Guild Meeting, 12noon-1pm, Room 210
October 28	Leadership Council, 6:30 pm, TBD
October 29	Retired Teachers, 10am-12noon, Room 210 Bible Study, 6:30-8pm, Room 209
October 30	Bible Study, 10am-11:30am, Room 209
October 31	Autism Up Halloween Party, 9:30am-2:30pm, Fellowship Hall
November 3	All Saints Day
November 5	Election Day Café and Voting
November 5	Bible Study, 6:30-8pm, Room 209
November 6	Bible Study, 10am-11:30am, Room 209
November 9	Violin Recital, 2pm-4:30pm, Fellowship Hall
November 10	Praising Team Meeting, 12noon-1pm, Room 210 Grace Cares Card Making Class, 3:00pm-5:00pm, Room 210
November 14	Justice Knox Meeting, 7-8:30pm, Sanctuary & 2 nd floor rooms
November 16	Pack Fulton Thanksgiving boxes, Fellowship Hall Memorial Service & Reception for Pat Keyes, 1:30 pm, Sanctuary & Room 213
November 18	Distribute Fulton Thanksgiving boxes Centro Hispano Parents Meeting, 5:30-8:15 pm, Fellowship Hall 4 th and Gill Meeting, 6:30 pm, Room 210
November 25	Leadership Council, 6:30 pm, Room 210
November 26	Vocational Discernment Meeting, 10am-1pm, Room 209
November 28,29	Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday

We're hiring! We're seeking a Director of Families with Children to join our dynamic team. The position is part-time (15 hours a week). Please pass this along to folks you may know who might be interested in helping our families with children grow in their faith and spirituality! Candidates should submit resumes to Rev. Jimmy Sherrod at jimmy@knoxcentralumc.org. Please be in prayer for our team as we search for the right candidate to fill this position.

What is Service? A valuable experience. An intangible offering that doesn't result in a person owning a physical product but rather a valuable experience or benefit. This particular definition stood out to me as the **Rewards are of the Spirit** when you give your time and energy to help folks who are less fortunate. I can't explain it. You just have to experience it for yourself! Central provides various opportunities to have such an experience through serving our community. On **Wednesday, November 6th**, we serve a meal at **Caswell Manor**, a residential location of the Volunteer Ministry Center, VMC. A second opportunity to serve is when we provide a meal at the **VMC on November 15th**, the 3rd Friday in the month. Both events start at 11:45 am and you can sign up electronically on our website, or the link below. You can also just show up. Spontaneity is welcome!

Election Day Café – It's finally here! Tuesday, November 5, is only a few days away. This is the big one, so our neighborhood voter turn out should be a large number. Our neighbors enjoy voting at Central UMC because they are greeted by friendly people and great refreshments. Sign-up sheets for snacks are on the table under the sign-up board. Thank you for your Volunteer spirit! Look for our table in its new Welcome Center location!

Sunday, November 10th – 3:00 p.m., Room 210 We will make Holiday Cards for Minvilla Manor & Caswell Manor Residents. A list of first names of residents will be available so you can personalize and help the residents in Permanent Supportive Housing feel special for the holidays! We will make a total of 6 cards (3 choices – 3 to keep and 3 to share). Suggested donation for supplies - \$5.00 To help us have adequate supplies, please reserve your place on the Ministry Team Sign-Up Board or let Gaye King know you are coming.

Breakthrough Prayer Initiative - This is an intentional prayer followed by intentional listening to the voice of God's Spirit for guidance. We let go of our opinions and preferences and Let God. This is a churchwide practice of the Holston Conference that Central's Prayer Group has prayed about, has composed a prayer, and is being introduced to our congregation today. Each person will be given a small card with the Breakthrough Prayer at the end of worship. We are asking you to participate in praying this prayer daily along with your other prayers. Imagine all of us praying this same prayer to the God whose Power resurrected Jesus Christ from the grave on Easter morning. A helpful book [Dynamite Prayer](#) has been written by Sue Nilson Kibbey (dynamite comes from the Greek work "dunamis" – meaning "power" - and is used 120 times in the New Testament in reference to Jesus' miracles).

It is a time to be Grateful!

It is a time to share a bountiful meal with our neighbors in celebration of Thanksgiving, an American tradition that we all love! November is right around the corner, folks! This year, we will continue our commitment to help the families at **Fulton High School** that cannot afford to buy extra for the holiday meal. It is a tradition at Central to bestow boxes of perishables and nonperishables for the neediest families. Fulton asked us if we could provide **65** boxes this year and we responded with an enthusiastic **YES!** There are many ways to get involved in the coordination of this service opportunity! Please see the below schedule and let us know if you want to be part of blessing these families with love and food for the holiday! You can help us shop, purchase the \$20 Kroger gift cards, or donate money towards this grand project. We also need volunteers to help on the **distribution day, Monday, November 18th from 11 am to 7:30 pm**. Please see the sign up on the sign up board outside of the sanctuary for the various time slots. It's as easy as one, two, three as follows:

1 - Grab a bag with the list of items to purchase. The filled bags of the nonperishables need to be at the church no later than **Tuesday, November 12th by 4 pm** as we close the church at 4:30 pm.

2 - Help the Project Grad Fulton Students pack the perishables on November 16th from 11 am to Noon and join us for a pizza lunch afterwards!

3 - Sign up to help with distributing the boxes on Monday, November 18th, shifts from 11 am to 7:30 pm are available. If you are open to helping deliver, please let us know!

Many of us at Central are Fulton grads and this high school is dear to our hearts! It's a great time to help those in need in our community so their holiday is as festive as everyone else's. Please join us this year for **Blessings will abound!**

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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www.knoxcentralumc.org



Pastoral and Administrative Staff

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