



Dear Church Family,

Would you become involved with me in a trip to Israel? Will you help someone go? Will you go yourself? Will you pray for everyone involved? We will leave from Raleigh on October 30, 2017. I have travelled to Israel three other times. It always changes me. To experience the land of promise first hand stirs the heart and expands the spirit.

The sites are revered holy and grow faith in those who make the trek. We will drink from the only well in Nazareth where Jesus drank. We will go onto the Sea of Galilee and hear of Christ walking on the water. We will see Calvary, Gethsemane and the Upper Room. I have felt the anointing in many places where the Lord ministered, fellowshiped, suffered and died. The sites are wonderful and the presence of God is everywhere. Can you imagine walking into the Jordan River? You may crawl out of Lazarus' tomb or stand on the Holy Mountain. The place of Christ' birth is never forgotten.

We will have the opportunity at a festival night to see and hear Jewish culture, dress and music. There will be lots of good food. Baklava anyone? Our accommodations are the best. Our guides - the best. We'll have the best busses and the best security. Educational Opportunities has never lost a tourist! Israel is covered with EO staffers who network moment by moment for everyone's safety and comfort.

The word aliya means immigration of Jews to Israel. There have been many aliyas in history from countries around the world. The "Greatest Aliyah of All" is when every Jew returns home. We are adopted the children of God. His family is Jewish. Therefore, when we go to Israel we too are part of the aliya.

Begin with prayer. Seek the heart of God. He will make a clear path for you. Pray that His will be done and pray for traveling mercy. If you want to know more, please contact Dana in the office.

Grace and His peace,
Pastor Ralph

In Grace and His peace,
Pastor Ralph

Children & Youth

Children & Youth Sunday Night Programs

King's Kids (3 year olds—5th grade)
Youth PAC (Middle School) Pathfinders (High School)

Invite a friend and join us at 5pm for supper, fun activities,
and to grow closer to Christ and each other.

Night of rest on March 12. Enjoy the Sabbath with your family!

Children Singing: King's Kids will sing during the 8:30am and 11am services on March 12 and April 9. The kids have been practicing worship songs with Mrs. Joanna on Sunday evenings and are excited to perform during the Children's Moments on these Sundays. Mark your calendars!

Weekday School & KidSpace Registration: Open registration will begin March 6 for the Weekday School. Registration information and applications are available at WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/WEEKDAY_SCHOOL. Enroll now for our Summer Day Camp. Applications and more information are available at WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/KIDSPACE.

Girl Scouts Sunday: March 12 is Girl Scouts Sunday. We encourage all Daisies, Brownies, Girl Scouts, and adult leaders from any troop to wear their uniform to be recognized. Contact nichole@nashvilleumc.net for more information.

Confirmation: For 2017, we will offer confirmation during a Fall Retreat for all youth wishing to confirm their faith and join the church. Be watching for more information coming this summer.

Children & Youth Updates: Weekly updates are sent to parents of Pathfinders, Youth PAC and Children. If you do not currently receive these or need them sent to a different or additional e-mail, contact nichole@nashvilleumc.net (children), info@nashvilleumc.net (Pathfinders), or ps1powell@suddenlink.net (Youth PAC).

Children's Sunday School: We need additional volunteers to help lead our Children's Sunday School classes. If interested, contact Nichole at Nichole@nashvilleumc.net to learn more about joining a Pre-K through 5th Grade rotation team. Sunday school is one of the most intentional ways you can invest in the spiritual lives of the children at NUMC. We ask that you prayerfully consider joining this ministry.

Sunday School: Build lasting friendships and explore and learn strong Biblical teachings. In this group, you'll feel free to join in discussions of Bible topics and share your insights. High School meets in the Basement, Middle School meets upstairs in A201, and Children meet in the classrooms behind Braswell Hall at 10am every Sunday.

Shine On! Pathfinders meet at Sheetz at the intersection of Old Carriage and Sunset on Wednesday mornings at 6:15am for a time of prayer and encouragement. We will not meet when school is out, but encourage everyone to come on school days and see what all the excitement is about!

Nursery Help Needed: Our nursery is growing and we need more volunteers as we work

Note from Nichole

I was in college the first time I honored Lent. I'm not sure that I fully understood why or what I was observing, but I heeded a challenge from a few girls in my Bible study and followed suit, giving up what I considered to be a true sacrifice at the time: Diet Coke.

That was 18 years ago. And while my affinity for Diet Coke has come and gone over the years, my understanding of this sacred season has only grown. Lent is a period of spiritual preparation, readying our souls for Easter when we receive the resurrected Christ. It's a time of self-reflection, restriction, and repentance intended to deepen our faith and help us grow in grace.

Lent, which comes from an Old English word for "spring," can be seen as a time for spiritual spring cleaning—a season for taking spiritual inventory and ridding ourselves of things that hinder our relationship with Christ. It's a time to consider to whom or on what we've become dependent (be it Diet Coke, Facebook, an overrun schedule, gossip, negativity, or *anything* big or small that keeps us from focusing our eyes on Jesus).

Historically the Lenten season has been observed through increased prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—or the giving of ourselves to those in need. When we intentionally focus on drawing nearer to God, we not only enhance our relationship with Christ, but we also allow the Spirit living within us to become more visible to others.

Pastor Luke often says that before we can experience a resurrection, we have to undergo a crucifixion. As you prepare your hearts for Easter, what areas of your life do you need to put to death? And equally as important, where are you longing for renewed life?

*"Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting."*

Psalm 139: 23-24

This Lenten season, still your hearts, minds, and schedules long enough to listen for the whisper of Jesus. Intentionally look for the fingerprints of God in your life. Read His Word. Follow where He leads. Submit to His authority. Pray, serve, and give. Abstain from that which is distracting your walk. And most of all, praise Him, for *"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said!"* (Matthew 28:6).

In His Love,
Dr. Nichole Huff
Director of Children and Family Ministries

Events



During the Ash Wednesday service, we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. This confession is not a verbal public confession, but rather a non-verbal prayerful confession to God. The service focuses on sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes (placing of ashes on the forehead) can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. At NUMC, we observe the tradition of saving the palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday service and burn them ahead of time to produce the ashes for this service.

Please plan on joining us on March 1 for the ASP Spaghetti Supper at 5:45 p.m. followed by the Ash Wednesday Service at 6:45 p.m.- both in Braswell Hall.

Methodist Men's Breakfast: Our UMM Breakfast will be on Sunday, March 12 at 7:30am in Cockrell Hall. All men are invited for great food, fellowship and a short meeting to discuss upcoming ministry events.

Small Group: The Real Life Living Small Group has started meeting again on Fridays at 6:30pm. This is a great group for families with children and you can bring the kids to play as the adults have "God Time". Contact Tommy Broom (626-2738) for location.

S.A.M: Our Senior Adult Ministry will meet at 12pm on Tuesday, March 21 in Cockrell Hall. They'll have BBQ sandwiches with french fries, beverage & dessert. Mrs. Sharon Simons from Harrison Family YMCA will be the guest speaker. Contact: Victoria at 459-2396 or kvcfrazier@gmail.com. Sign-Up Deadline March 15.

Lilies: Be watching your bulletin and on our website for Easter Lily order forms. Lilies can be ordered to help decorate our church at Easter in memory or honor of a loved one.

Bible Study: Join Pastor Luke on Wednesday nights at 6:15 in the basement as he discusses the Gospel of Mark. Even if you haven't been attending—you can come anytime.

Men's Bible Study: Our Men have a Bible Study every Tuesday at 8:30am in the Bus Garage. This study includes men from several other churches in our area. Come study God's word with others who are growing in their faith.

ASP Sponsorships: You can still support our ASP team with your prayers and financial gifts. Visit www.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/ASP for more information.

Events



Priscilla SHIRER
SIMULCAST

APRIL 8, 2017 11am-6pm

\$15 before March 26 (\$20 after)

LUNCH PROVIDED

LIVE PRAISE BAND

Register @ www.nashvilleumc.net

What's Coming in April?

- Priscilla Shirer Simulcast - April 8 @ 11:00am : Braswell Hall
- Maundy Thursday Service - April 13 @ 7pm : Sanctuary
- Easter Services - Sunrise Service, April 16 @ 7:30am : Forest Hills Cemetery followed by the UMM Mullen Breakfast in Cockrell Hall. Regular Sunday Worship and Sunday School.

prayers

Do you have a prayer request or want to pray for those in need? Join our **Prayer Chain**.

Contact our office at 459-7178 or info@nashvilleumc.net to be added to the e-mail or phone distribution list.

Send prayer requests to info@nashvilleumc.net or call 252-459-7178. Join our Prayer Warriors on Tuesday mornings at 7:00am in the Parlor for Prayers with the Pastor. They'll be praying for our community, country and all known prayer requests in the church.

stay connected

Get schedules for Children, Youth and Adults at our Information Centers located at both entrances.

You will also find brochures on various ministry groups, Church Council Minutes and more.

Save a tree and postage costs by receiving your newsletter via e-mail or view the newsletter anytime at www.NashvilleUMC.net/newsletter.

For Announcement & Communication guidelines, visit the website under *About Us*.



Nashville United Methodist Church
Children at Nashville UMC



@nashvilleUMCNC



@nashvilleUMCNC

Facts & Figures

Attendance

Year-to-Date Averages

Contemporary: 281 Traditional: 93

Thursday Nights: 60

Youth Worship: 55

Average of all Services: 446

Includes combined
and special services.

Do You Have an Announcement or Upcoming Event?

Events should be scheduled using the Church Event Form located online at NASHVILLEUMC.NET/ABOUT US/FACILITIES or in the work room.

Changes or additions to the bulletin and requests for Sunday morning announcements should be sent to the church office by Mondays at noon.

Newsletter deadline is the 10th. Visit the website under About Us for more info on submitting news, scheduling events and reserving rooms.

Weekly Events

Sunday

- 8:30am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00am Sunday School
- 11:00am Traditional Worship
- 3:30pm Youth Band Practice : Basement
- 5:00pm Children & Youth
- 6:00pm Small Group : Bus Garage
- 6:15pm Youth Worship : Basement

Monday

- 7:00am WICK Emmaus : Hardee's
- 6:30pm Women's Bible Study : Basement
- 7:00pm Bells of Praise : Bell Room

Tuesday

- 7:00am Prayers with the Pastor : Parlor
- 8:30am Men's Bible Study : Bus Garage
- 10:00am Women's Bible Study : Basement
- 6:30pm Disciple III : Library
- 7:00pm Praise & Worship Band Practice
- 7:00pm AA : Bus Garage

Wednesday

- 6:15am Youth Bible Study : Sheetz
- 6:15pm Mark Bible Study : Basement
- 6:30pm Choir Practice : Choir Room
- 7:00pm Rockfish Practice : Braswell Hall
- 8:00pm NA : Bus Garage
- 8:00pm NarAnon : Cockrell Hall

Friday

- 6:30pm Real Life Living Small Group

Thursday

- 6:30pm Praise & Worship

Saturday

- 10:00am La Estrella Ministry
4118 W Hwy 97, Stanhope

Special Dates

Mar. 1 - Ash Wednesday

- 5:45pm : ASP Spaghetti Dinner
- 6:45pm : Service

Mar. 2 & 6 - Compassion Cafe

- 11:00am : Bus Garage

Mar. 5 - Pathfinders @ Defy Gravity

- leave from Hilliard St. lot at 3:30pm

Mar. 6 - Blood Drive

- 2:30 - 6:30pm : Cockrell Hall

Mar. 11 - Pinewood Derby : Cockrell Hall

Mar. 12 - Girl Scout Sunday

- UMM Breakfast, 7:30am : Cockrell Hall

Stephen Ministry Meeting

- 5pm : Men's Bible Class

No Kings/Covenant Kids

Mar. 20 - American Legion Dinner

- Braswell Hall

Mar. 21 - S.A.M, 12pm : Cockrell Hall

Mar. 31-Apr. 2 - Super High Retreat

Administrative Team Meetings

Mar. 6 SPRC, 6pm : Library

Mar. 7 Trustees, 7pm : Parlor

Mar. 8 Fundraiser Meeting
6:30pm : Parlor

Audit Team, 7pm : Library

Mar. 21 WDS Team, 6pm : Chapel

Finance, 7pm : Parlor

Mar. 27 Church Council
7pm : Cockrell Hall

Staff

Pastor : Ralph A. Brown

Associate Pastor : Luke Whitehead

Director of Children & Family Ministries : Dr. Nichole Huff

Director of Welcoming Ministries : Wayne Lamm

Receptionist : Jackie Swindell

Administrative Assistant : Dana Nethercutt

Bookkeeper : Dot Binkley

Minister of Music & Worship : Gary Rapp

Contemporary Worship Leader : Joanna Hale

Thursday Night Praise & Worship Leader: Kevin Shaw

Minister of Visitation : Jim Boehm

Organist and Membership Secretary : Ellen Ward

Weekday School/KidSpace Director : Denise Calloway

Connect:

E-mail: info@nashvilleumc.net

Website: www.NashvilleUMC.net

Phone: 252-459-7178 (office) 252 459 7636 (Weekday School)



Nashville United Methodist Church
Children at Nashville UMC



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QUESTED**