



Dear Church Family,

The new school year is here and before we know it we'll be preparing for the holiday season. It is important during this time that we don't neglect our need for continual spiritual preparation for all God has for us. Matthew 5:48 exhorts us to "Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect." However, in Romans 3:10, we are reminded that in our humanness, none of us are "perfectly" righteous. Thank God for GRACE! The journey toward discipleship is full of detours. For example, we are commanded not to judge, but as a member recently shared, he/she believes that having an opinion is not judging. Should Christians grumble? Philippians 2:12 tells us to "Do everything without grumbling or arguing." Everyone falters from time to time, but I'm talking about lifestyles here. In 2 Corinthians 12:20, we are warned of other potential detours, "discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance, and disorder. Those seeking to live their lives patterned after Christ's example run from the division these kinds of behaviors cause. Once souls start down this path, the enemy steals their joy and if these ways that "appear to be right" become a lifestyle, "in the end it leads to death."

But, there is great joy in walking the path of Christian discipleship. Remember no one gets it right all of the time. This is why we need Jesus and His grace. We should seek unity and prefer one another in love. Our motivations should always reflect the fruit of the Holy Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23) All we think, say, and do must always point to the cross.

There is a revival coming! Prepare your hearts. Don't take any detours. The Lord keeps telling me that revival is merely an opportunity. It is no more and certainly no less. Revival is an opportunity to let go and let God have His way in our lives. Everyone needs some kind of miracle. It may be a miracle of love. It may be a miracle of forgiveness. It may be a miracle of peace in our heart or in our family. It may be a miracle for the entire church. And of course, we can't leave out miracles of healing, deliverance, and many more. God is a good God, and He knows what we need before we even ask.

I have great expectations for the revival with Reverend Hobbs. He is anointed and entertains the presence of the Lord. John is going to bless our lives and bless the entire church if we are only open to what God may do. May I encourage your participation and prayers as we move forward together in His all consuming love.

Grace and His peace,  
Pastor Ralph

# Children & Youth

**Children & Youth—Sunday Nights:** Our Children & Youth Program will kick off on Sunday, September 11 at 5pm. Children that didn't register for VBS can register online by September 4 at [WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/CHILDREN](http://WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/CHILDREN). If you don't pre-register, come early on the 11th to fill out a registration form so we can have up-to-date information for your child. Schedules with special nights and meals will be handed out on the first night, and will be also be available online and in the Information Centers.

**Children's Musical:** Mrs. Joanna will be directing our Christmas Musical again this year. It takes a lot of work and we're starting early. Mrs. Joanna will have auditions for speaking parts and solos on September 11 at 4:30. Those with speaking parts will need to commit to practices at 4:30pm on Sundays. All other children will learn songs during KK/CK on Sunday nights. The play will be at 10am and 6pm on Sunday, December 11.

**Pumpkin Patch & Porch Jams:** We are very excited about these fun outreach and fundraising opportunities in October. This is a great time for our congregation to volunteer and help raise funds for our youth going to camp, retreats and on mission trips. All proceeds will be used for our youth ministries. Signups to volunteer are in the Gathering Area. Watch for more information about other fun activities going along with the sale, including crafts, story times for kids and more.

**Fall Retreat:** We have a large group signed up for Fall Retreat at Camp Willow Springs on the 16th—18th. Be sure you have your medical form, code of conduct and CWS form turned into the office ASAP. All forms can be found at [WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/PATHFINDERS](http://WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/PATHFINDERS). Remaining balance of \$30 is due by September 11.

**Pathfinders Guidebook:** Pathfinders can view their Fall-Advent Guidebook online or get a hardcopy in the Gathering Area. This book has all the information you need to get involved in exciting activities this fall.

**Sunday School:** Build lasting friendships and explore and learn strong Biblical teachings. In these groups, 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.

**Scouts:** We have several Scouting groups that will resume meetings in September. If you are interested in Cub Scouts, contact Michael Harrell at 252-459-6030. Girl Scouts can contact Regina Saiers at [sgsaiers@yahoo.com](mailto:sgsaiers@yahoo.com).

**Hometown Heroes 5K:** Nashville Elementary is hosting a 5K and Pathfinders are going to have a team running together to support and encourage each other. The Bishops will be serving breakfast at their house for you to recharge. To sign up visit [WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/PATHFINDERS](http://WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/PATHFINDERS) and communicate with Marguerite (864-508-4553) that you want to join in on the team!

**Camp-4-Kids Flower Sale:** Our children and youth campers will be selling mums in various colors and sizes and flats of pansies for fall plantings. Contact Bobbie Smith at 903-9859 for more information. Order forms are available in the Gathering Area. Orders are due by September 18 and plants will be delivered on September 23.

# Letter from Luke

I love the coast, anyone who knows me knows very well my obsession with the beach, the water, the sand, the salty air – even the stickiness doesn't bother me. I also love history, which could perhaps be the reason the Outer Banks is my favorite place in the whole world. Often times when we are blessed enough to travel east on 64, I consider what it was like for the first Europeans to set foot on the shallow shoals that make up the edge of our continent. Every step was an adventure as they explored swamps and sounds, forests and fields. It was newness; something their family and friends has no idea about back home. These people were explorers and living very differently from the way it was back home.

Living as a disciple of Jesus Christ is very similar to this as many days it seems we are explorers of living a life so vastly different from the rest of the world. Being salt in a salt less world is different and can be quite difficult. Paul said that those who followed the Way would be like stars shining in the universe (Philippians 2:15). A life of discipleship is nothing less than being a pioneer, exploring a different way of life that's not like others. Each situation arises an opportunity to live in a type of way that follows, not the standards of the world, but the way of the Kingdom – the Kingdom of God.

As redeemed Image bearers, living according to the Spirit we must be skeptical of any lifestyle that fits in with the world. Our ways are different, for we are pioneers. We are not just Christian by classification, we are redeemed Sons and Daughters by the work of Christ and the power of the Spirit.

The author of Hebrews (no one knows who it is) gives us a beautiful glimpse into the life of a disciple, we are afforded any opportunity of what it means to be pioneers in a world that is satisfied with the status quo. Within the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter we read strange ways of living life here on planet earth, "Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have..." (vs. 1-5a).'

Wow, now that's a pioneer type lifestyle! Love one another? Show hospitality to strangers? Remember those in prison? Keep marriage pure? Be content with what you have? Not only is this a pioneer but this will make us stick out in the world! People might talk about us as being these weird Christians who are living differently. Good.

We are supposed to be different. We aren't supposed to be normal. Normal isn't the way of the Kingdom. We are pioneers for the Gospel, we follow the one who is Love, Himself.

So fret not, fellow friend – we are not seeking approval of man. You were meant to be a pioneer, an open vessel exploring new ways to love and proclaim the Gospel with your mouth and your life.

Choose Joy,  
Luke

## Events & Announcements

**Revival Prayer Groups:** We're excited about our revival in October and have several prayer teams that you can support to lift this event up in prayer. You can sign up to pray during the weeks leading up to revival. From September 29 to October 6, we'll have all day prayer vigils. We'll also have a sign up for those that would like to fast for one meal per week as a reminder to pray for God's anointing during revival. Sign up in the Gathering Area with Emmitt Frazier and Marilyn Poll.

**Fall Softball:** The NUMC softball team has started their games. Watch for schedules in the Gathering Area and take the family out to support our team.

**Bells of Praise:** Bells rehearse on Mondays at 7pm. They would love to have others who are interested in learning to play this fun instrument. Commitment is way more important than musical training. Contact Laveita Brinson 567-8134 if you have any questions.

**Disciple III:** Join Lynn Ward for this continuation in the Disciple Bible Study. Disciple III focuses on the prophets and letters by Paul. Don't worry if you didn't attend the other Disciple courses—you can start with this class. They'll meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:00 starting September 6 in the Men's Bible Class. No need to register, just come.

**Women's Bible Study:** Join us for the Armor of God (7 week) Bible Study. We'll have a study on Monday nights beginning September 12 from 6:30-8:30 and a Tuesday morning study beginning September 13 from 10-12. Books are \$14. Signup's have been extended through September 4 at [www.nashvilleumc.net/womens\\_ministries](http://www.nashvilleumc.net/womens_ministries) or in the Gathering Area.

**Women's Ministry Planning Meeting:** All ladies are encouraged to come and help plan the next steps of our Women's Ministry. Join them on Tuesday, September 6 at 6:30 in the basement. Childcare will be provided.

**Methodist Men's Breakfast:** All men are invited on September 11 at 7:30am in Cockrell Hall for great food, fellowship and a short meeting to discuss upcoming ministry events.

**New Sunday School Class:** If you are a prayer warrior/intercessor please consider joining a new War Room class. Come once a month or whenever you feel the need. It will be open to all ages and classes. This free-flowing class will have "soaking music" and a prayer manual to assist if desired. Learn more at an organizational meeting on September 11 at 10am in Cockrell Hall. Contact Victoria Frazier at 459-2396 or [vcfrazier@embarqmail.com](mailto:vcfrazier@embarqmail.com) with questions.

**Prayers with the Pastor:** Join our Prayer Warriors every Tuesday morning at 7am in the Parlor as we pray for those in our congregation and community.

**Walk-for-Life:** Women and families in crisis pregnancies need you! Teens need to hear the message of saving sex until marriage. Come and walk in Your Choice Resource Center's Walk For Life, Saturday, September 17 at Englewood Park. For sponsor forms and Walk information, contact Pattie Mercer at 459-2146 or get forms in the Information Centers.

**Youth Worship:** Our youth have a worship service as part of their Sunday night activities. Everyone is invited to the basement from 6:15-6:45 for music led by the youth band, scripture and sermon by Pastor Luke.

## Events & Announcements

**Brunswick Stew:** Out Methodist Men will be cooking stew on November 5. Be watching for ticket sales coming soon so you can have delicious stew all winter long.

**Blood Drive.** Our annual Fall Blood Drive will be held on Monday, September 19, 3:15 to 7pm in Cockrell Hall. The need for blood has become Urgent! It only takes thirty minutes to donate and help save the lives of up to three people. Several members of NUMC have or are receiving blood during chemotherapy and surgical procedures. Your donation may be the one that they need. Red Cross offers RapidPass, which allows you to complete signup online (a process that's the longest when donating blood). For details on RapidPass or to make an appointment visit [WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](http://WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG) or contact Brian Lindquist at [Link2Brian@aol.com](mailto:Link2Brian@aol.com) or 314-7211.

**Methodism 101:** This class with Pastor Ralph is for anyone interested in joining NUMC or members who want a refresher on our core beliefs and mission. No need to sign up, just come to the Parlor on Monday, September 19 at 6:30pm. Childcare provided.

**S.A.M.:** After a summer break, our Senior Adult Ministry will have their first meeting on September 20 at 12pm. Invite a friend and bring your own sandwich. Contact Victoria at 459-2396 for more information.

**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.

## 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](mailto:info@nashvilleumc.net) to be added to the e-mail or phone distribution list.

Send prayer request to [info@nashvilleumc.net](mailto: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](http://www.NashvilleUMC.net/newsletter).

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



Nashville United Methodist Church  
Children at Nashville UMC



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# Facts & Figures

## Attendance

### Year-to-Date Averages

Contemporary: 253

Traditional: 93

Thursday Nights: 59

Average of all Services: 428

Includes combined  
and special services.

Changes or additions to the bulletin and requests for Sunday morning announcements should be communicated 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 & events and reserving rooms.

## Weekly Events

### Sundays

- 8:30am Contemporary Service
- 10:00am Sunday School
- 11:00am Traditional Service
- 5:00pm Children & Youth
- 6:00pm Ralph's Small Group : Bus Garage
- 6:15pm Youth Worship : Basement

### Monday

- 7:00am WICK Emmaus : Hardee's
- 6:30pm Disciple III : Men's Bible Class
- 7:00pm Ladies Bible Study : Basement (beginning 9/12)
- 7:00pm Bells of Praise : Handbell Room

### Tuesday

- 7:00am Prayers with the Pastor : Parlor
- 8:30am Men's Bible Study : Bus Garage
- 10:00pm Ladies Bible Study : Basement (beginning 9/13)
- 7:00pm Praise & Worship Band Practice
- 7:00pm AA : Bus Garage

### Wednesday

- 6:15am Youth Bible Study : Sheetz
- 6:30pm Choir Practice
- 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study : Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Rockfish Practice
- 8:00pm NA : Bus Garage
- 8:00pm NarAnon : TBD

### Thursday

- 6:30pm Thursday Praise & Worship  
Braswell Hall

### Saturday

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

## Special Dates

Sept. 5 & 8 - NUMC @ Compassion Café  
11am : Bus Garage

Sept. 6 - Women's Ministry Meeting  
6:30pm : Basement

Disciple III Bible Study begins  
6:30pm : Men's Bible Class

Sept. 10 - Hometown Hero's 5K, 7:30am

Ladies Painting Party  
1pm : Cockrell Hall

Sept. 11 - UMM Breakfast  
7:30am : Cockrell Hall

War Room Sunday School Meeting  
10am : Cockrell Hall

Children's Musical Auditions  
4:30pm : Braswell Hall

Children & Youth Resume, 5pm

Stephen Ministry, 5pm : Men's Bible Class

*Fall Retreat \$30 Balance Due*

Sept. 12 : Ladies Bible Study Begins  
6:30pm : Basement

Sept. 13 : Ladies Bible Study Begins  
10am : Basement

Sept 16 - 18 - Pathfinder's Fall Retreat  
Leave from Hilliard St. lot at 4:15

Sept. 17 - Walk-4-Life  
9:15am : Englewood Park

Sept. 19 - Blood Drive, 3:15pm : Cockrell HI

NUMC 101, 6:30pm : Parlor

Sept 20 - S.A.M, 12pm : Cockrell Hall

**SAVE THE DATE FOR REVIVAL | OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>—12<sup>TH</sup>**

**Pick up flyers in the Gathering Area to share with family & friends.**

## Staff

**Senior 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 Nehercutt

**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](mailto:info@nashvilleumc.net)

**Website:** [www.NashvilleUMC.net](http://www.NashvilleUMC.net)

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



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