

A photograph of the Nashville UMC church building, a red brick structure with a steeple, and a colorful playground in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

NASHVILLE UMC

Offering Better Life Through Christ

Connecting Point - April 2018

Dear Church Family,

Jesus said, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples." He said, "Love one another as I have loved you." This is the Royal Law. He also said, "Love your enemies, too." These are central Christian principles. What we say, do, write, or act out should be in Christian love. Others should feel uplifted and never beaten or bullied. God says in 1 Corinthians 13:

"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

As a "truther" seeking balance, may I encourage you that we must never forget the word of grace lying at the center of the word of love.

Grace and His peace,
Pastor Ralph

Children & Youth

Sunday Nights: Kings Kids (3 year olds - 5th grade), Youth PAC (Middle School), and Pathfinders (High School) meet on Sunday nights at 5:00pm. Invite a friend and come for supper, fun activities, and to grow closer to Christ with friends. We will not meet on April 1, 8, or 15. We will meet as usual on April 22 & 29.

Safe Sanctuaries Training: Wayne Lamm will offer Safe Sanctuaries training on Sunday, April 22 at 4pm in Cockrell Hall. Training is required once each calendar year for anyone working with children, youth, or vulnerable adults. Its purpose is to keep everyone safe in God's House. If you're not sure if you are due to retake the class, contact Jackie at 459-7178 or Jackie@nashvilleumc.net

WDS Registration: The NUMC Weekday School will be offering an 18-24 month Monday and Wednesday class for the 2018-2019 school year. Registration is currently open for everyone. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a visit, contact Denise Calloway at school@nashvilleumc.net or 459-7636.

KidSpace Registration: It's time to start planning for your child's summer activities. Enroll now for our Summer Day Camp. Applications and more information are available at WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/KIDSPACE.

Children & Youth Email Updates: The best way to stay updated on children and youth events is through the weekly email updates. To get on the distribution list, contact nichole@nashvilleumc.net (King's Kids), ps1powell@embarqmail.com (Youth PAC), or kaitlyn@nashvilleumc.net (Pathfinders).

Senior Scholarships: NUMC has several Endowment Scholarships available for high school seniors planning to further their education. If you'd like to be considered for a scholarship, visit WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/YOUTH, complete the application, and submit it along with supporting documents to the church office by May 7.

Pathfinders - Shine On! Invite a friend and join Luke and Kaitlyn on Wednesday mornings for breakfast and Bible study at the Sheetz on Old Carriage Rd. at 6:15am.

Sunday School: Build lasting friendships and explore and learn strong Biblical teachings in Sunday School. High School meets in the Basement, Middle School meets upstairs in A201, and Children meet in the classrooms behind Braswell Hall at 10am.

La Estrella: Youth looking for a way to give back to the community by tutoring Hispanic children are invited to serve at La Estrella in Stanhope. Visit WWW.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/SERVE#LAESTRELLA for a link to signup. If you have questions about this ministry, contact Kay or Dennis Coggins at dkacog@embarqmail.com.

Note from Nichole

Hearing the Whole Story

Over the past several weeks, the children who attend our Sunday night ministry *King's Kids* have been learning more about the chronological events leading to Easter. Each Sunday after dinner, as we fill the seats of Braswell Hall or line the sanctuary pews for our large-group lesson, we play two short video clips designed to help unpack and reinforce the central passage of the night.

Most weeks the animations are lighthearted and upbeat, but that wasn't the case as we approached the crucifixion of Jesus. Simply, there isn't an easy or lighthearted way to tell the Easter story without discussing Jesus' death on the cross. (*And to tell the Easter story without discussing the death of Jesus is not telling the Easter Story.*)

On the way home from church that night, my children had some follow-up questions for me. I tried to explain again why Jesus was crucified as best I could to my 8 and 10-year-olds, and as I did, the words I spoke began to resonate... with *me*.

We sing about running out of graves. We rejoice about conquering death. But do we really understand what that means? To live like we serve a Risen Savior? Death is not the end, folks. Not for a Believer. *That's why how we choose to live on earth is so important!* Jesus' resurrection showed the world that physical death holds no power over the One who created life. Without the giving of His life for us, we couldn't experience real victory over sin, or see that the enemy cannot contain the power of the Almighty.

*"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

1 Corinthians 1:18

As this Lenten season comes and goes, I challenge you: Are you listening to the whole Easter story, or have you been settling for a Peeps and jelly bean version? One looks sweet, but I encourage you to crave more! *"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."* –Psalm 34:8

To truly live, we must willfully choose to follow the One who willfully endured suffering for us, to the point of death. We can't let the power and sacrifice of Jesus' crucifixion be lost on us. Hear the whole story: Resurrection of new life only comes once we've first experienced death. But then my friend, run out of that grave!

In His grace and truth,
Nichole

God Is Bigger



Erin Alexis Lindquist (1984-2001)
enjoying a "roller coaster"
ride with her Dad, Brian, in 1997.

Submitted by Brian Lindquist

I first became truly aware of the importance of blood donation with the birth of my first daughter. Almost immediately after her birth, Erin was whisked away from her mother and me. Shortly thereafter, we learned that she had a severe case of hydrocephalus ("fluid on the brain".)

The condition required neurosurgery to implant a shunt (drain) in her brain and over the next seventeen years, Erin underwent over forty revisions or replacements of her shunt. In many of those surgeries, beginning with the first, a blood transfusion was required. Neither the neurosurgeries or the blood products could reverse the cerebral palsy caused by the initial fluid and

pressure on her brain and Erin never progressed mentally beyond a young infant. Never the less, she had a profound impact on me, her mother, my wife Denise, her siblings, and a large number of other people who shared her life.

I was once asked during a Children's Miracle Network interview how I did it (referring to dealing with Erin's condition). I merely said, "One day she smiled and that was it for me." If you ever saw Erin smile or heard her laugh or talked to the many children who knew her as a classmate and friend, you'd never question the existence of God or the necessity and benefit of blood donation.

The story might end there, but circumstances (or as I look back upon it, God's path) took me through my youngest son having to have a blood transfusion, while having his appendix removed and duodenum repaired. This led to his mother becoming involved with Virginia Blood Services and me regularly donating blood and working as a volunteer at blood drives. When Denise and I arrived at NUMC and learned of the church's need for a blood drive coordinator, I found something for which I felt a personal calling. So the next time that you wonder if it is worth the time and needle stick to donate blood, consider that a half hour of your time means a lifetime to so many others like me and my family.

And while you are donating, think about becoming an organ donor. But, that, of course, is my other story.

Nashville United Methodist Church

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Join us as we celebrate 100 years of
worship in our sanctuary

April 13 - 15

ALL EVENTS FREE!

FRIDAY | APRIL 13th | 7pm



Coffee House

Family Event with
Live Music & Memories

SATURDAY | APRIL 14th | 9am



Breakfast & Conversations with Rev. Rob Renfroe

Pastor of Discipleship, Woodland UMC & Pres. of Good News Magazine

Rev. Renfroe will answer questions about his book
Trouble with the Truth and offer insight on how God's Word is
directing the future of the United Methodist Church.

SATURDAY | APRIL 14th | 11am

BLOCK PARTY

Fun for the whole family with

BBQ COOK-OFF

Music & Inflatables

SUNDAY | APRIL 15th | 10am

Sunday Morning
Celebration

Worship with Guest Speaker, Rev. Rob Renfroe
Followed by Lunch on the Lawn

Nursery

Our nursery provides a safe and loving environment where infants through preschoolers can grow in their understanding of God's love. Each team member is Safe Sanctuaries and First Aid/CPR/AED Certified. Volunteers also play an integral part of our ministry! If interested in serving quarterly for the 8:30am service, or to join our nursery listserv contact jennifer@nashvilleumc.net.



Get to know our nursery staff, pictured from left to right: Kaitlynn Mehus, Allison Smith, Ann Kirkman, Jennifer Bunn, Angela Dunbar, Diann Broom, Hannah Whitehead.

Kaitlynn Mehus and **Allison Smith** serve as youth nursery attendants and have attended NUMC since early elementary school. Kaitlynn is a freshman at Northern Nash who is studying Health Team Relations with hopes of becoming an ER nurse. Allison is a sophomore at Nash Central who also hopes to go into the medical field.

Ann Kirkman joined NUMC in 1983 and has taught Sunday School, sung in the choir, worked for our Weekday School, and served as Nursery Coordinator from 2009-17. Ann is a retired RN with an AAS in Early Childhood.

Jennifer Bunn joined our team as Nursery Coordinator in 2017. Jennifer has been a member of NUMC for 3 years with her husband Brandon and daughter Hayden. When not at NUMC, Jennifer is a Deputy Clerk at the Nashville Courthouse.

Angela Dunbar has attended NUMC for 2 years with her husband Steve and daughters Savannah and Madison. Angela works in management at Hobby Lobby and has a background in Early Childhood Education.

Diann Broom has been a NUMC member for 4 years. Diann has a son and two daughters, and is "Gi-Gi" to 7 grandkids and 1 great-granddaughter.

Hannah Whitehead is a lifelong NUMC member. Hannah is a Certified Nursing Assistant 1 for Amada Senior Care, and is pursuing an AAS in Nursing at NCC.

Grayson Bass [pictured right] has been a member of NUMC for 8 years. Grayson graduated from ECU in 2016 with a Bachelors in Science and is pursuing a degree in MRI/Radiology.



"AND WHOEVER
WELCOMES ONE SUCH
CHILD IN MY NAME
WELCOMES ME."
MATTHEW 18:5

We are a Rainbow Covenant Church

When you give to Nashville UMC, it is an act of worship and supports God's work in our local church and community. A portion of our giving to the local church is extended to vital ministries across the Conference and around the world through our apportionments.

Rainbow Covenant churches demonstrate their support to the connection through 100% support of their apportionments. In addition, they go the extra-mile by supporting 5 additional areas ('Lanes') of ministry: Persons in Mission, NC Conference Advance Missions, National Missions, World Missions, and UMCOR. These 5 Lanes of giving offer each church an opportunity to fulfill Jesus' command to "...go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19-20).

We thank you for your generous support through your tithes and offerings that allow us to extend that generosity in amazing ways throughout the world as a Rainbow Covenant Church. You can learn more about the Rainbow Covenant & Advance online at <https://nccumc.org/outreach/rainbow-covenant/>.

A graphic with a purple and blue background featuring a mountain range. A large white circle on the left contains the word "Easter" in a white script font. Below it, in a smaller white font, is "© NASHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH". To the right of the circle, the following text is listed:

Sunrise Service
@ Forest Hills Cemetery 7:00

Mullen Community
Breakfast 7:45

Contemporary Service
& Confirmation Sunday 8:30

Traditional Worship 11:00

Centennial Celebration T-Shirts

Samples of the Comfort Color Denim T's and order forms will be in the Gathering Area soon.



Events

Methodist Men's Breakfast: Methodist Men will not be having their usual second Sunday meeting in April. They will be busy helping with the Mullen Breakfast and Centennial Celebration. Say a special "Thank You" to our men for always being willing to help prepare delicious food for church events.

La Estrella: We're excited that the children from La Estrella will be singing for us during our 8:30 and 11:00 services on April 8. They appreciate our support and wanted to give back by coming to share their gifts during worship.

Native American Sunday: Support this Methodist Special Offering Sunday on April 15 through your gifts above and beyond your tithe. Find out more about how your contributions assist the spread of God's word through the Native American Culture in the pamphlets in the Gathering Area or online at WWW.UMCGIVING.ORG/MINISTRY-ARTICLES/NATIVE-AMERICAN-MINISTRIES-SUNDAY.

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, April 16 at 6pm. If childcare is needed, contact the church office.

Thursday Nights: Need a mid-week spiritual boost? Come to Thursday Night Worship at 6:30pm in Braswell Hall for passionate worship and ministry in an intimate atmosphere.

Softball: Adult Softball will begin in mid-April. If you're interested in playing on the NUMC team, contact Matt Reams at mrw0204@alumni.ecu.edu or 252-469-3411.

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.

Senior Adult Ministry: Our next fellowship will be on April 17 at 12 noon. This is *Bring Your Own Sandwich* month. Beverage and dessert will be provided at no charge. Invite a friend & come join in the fun. Tom Vesce and Robbie Stone will be our guest speakers. See Ya There! 459-2396 vcfrazier@gmail.com,

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. April worship nights will be the 22nd & 29th.

Servants Needed: We are seeking additional volunteers to join our teaching rotation for our Pre-K Sunday School class and 8:30 Children's Church teams. If interested, contact Nichole at nichole@nashvilleumc.net.

Events

First Responders Sunday: We will be recognizing First Responders on Sunday, May 13. All active and retired police, firefighters, EMTs, etc. are asked to submit a picture by Friday, April 27 to info@nashvilleumc.net for a slideshow to be shown on May 13.

Nashville Elementary Afterschool Outreach is a new ministry that provides tutoring to students which helps them improve their study habits and be more successful in school. If you would like to serve with this ministry, contact Marguerite Bishop at 864-508-4553.

Attention Musicians: If you are interested in playing or singing with our Thursday Night Praise Team or if you would like to sing a special at that service, contact Kevin Shaw at 450-9509 or kevin@nashvilleumc.net for an audition.

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.

Food Bank: We support Faith Christian Ministries with our 1st Sunday Communion Offerings and food donations. Bring non-perishable food to the donation basket in the Gathering Area.

Prayer Watch: Join with others at NUMC if you desire to pray for the church, our nation, government, and individual needs. Come monthly on the fourth Friday at 6pm to Braswell Hall. Contact Marilyn Poll (252-452-3006) with any questions.

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 email or phone distribution list.

Submit prayer requests to 252-459-7178 or info@nashvilleumc.net. 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 email or view the newsletter anytime at www.NashvilleUMC.net.

To schedule a church event, complete the church event form at www.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/RESOURCES and submit to info@nashvilleumc.net



Nashville United Methodist Church
Children at Nashville UMC



[@nashvilleUMCNC](https://www.instagram.com/nashvilleUMCNC)



[@nashvilleUMCNC](https://twitter.com/nashvilleUMCNC)

Facts & Figures

Attendance

2018 YTD Attendance

Contemporary: 279

Traditional: 85

Thursday Nights: 45

Sunday Night Youth Worship: 50

Average of all Services: 504

Includes combined and special services.

Team Meetings

- Apr. 2 SPRC, 6pm : Library
- Apr. 11 Admin Chair Breakfast
6am : Oak Level
- Apr. 8 Stephen Ministry
5pm : Men's Bible Class
- Apr. 11 Trustees, 7:00pm : A205
- Apr. 17 WDS Meeting
6pm: Chapel
Finance, 7pm : Parlor

Weekly Events

Sundays

- 8:30am Contemporary Service
- 10:00am Sunday School
- 11:00am Traditional Service
- 4:00pm Youth Band Practice : Basement
- 5:00pm Children & Youth
- 6:00pm Ralph's Small Group : Parlor
- 6:15pm Youth Worship : Basement

Monday

- 7:00am WICK Emmaus : Hardee's
- 6:30pm Disciple II : Library
- 7:00pm Bells of Praise : Handbell Room

Tuesday

- 7:00am Prayers with the Pastor : Parlor
- 8:30am Men's Bible Study : Bus Garage
- 7:00pm Worship Team Practice
- 7:00pm AA : Bus Garage

Wednesday

- 6:15am Youth Bible Study : Sheetz
- 6:30pm Choir Practice : Choir Room
- 6:30pm Trouble with the Truth Study
Basement (Through 4/11)
- 6:30pm Worship Team Practice
- 8:00pm NA : Bus Garage
- 8:00pm NarAnon : Cockrell Hall

Thursday

- 6:30pm Thursday Praise & Worship
Braswell Hall

Saturday

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

Special Dates

Easter Sunday April 1

- Sunrise Service*
7am : Forest Hills Cemetery
 - Mullen Community Breakfast*
7:45am : Cockrell Hall
 - Contemporary Service & Confirmation*
8:30am : Braswell Hall
 - Traditional Worship*
11am : Sanctuary
-

Centennial Celebration April 13—15

- Coffee House*
Friday @ 7pm : Gathering Area
 - Q&A and Breakfast w/
Rev. Rob Renfroe*
Saturday @ 9am : Cockrell Hall
 - Block Party*
Saturday @ 11am-3pm : Collins Street
 - Combined Worship*
Sunday @ 10am : Sanctuary
Followed by Lunch on the Lawn
-

Apr. 2 & 5 - Compassion Café
11:00am : Bus Garage

Apr. 1, 8 & 15 - No Children or Youth

Apr. 16 - NUMC 101, 6pm : Parlor

Apr. 17 - S.A.M, 12:00pm : Cockrell Hall

Apr. 22 - Safe Sanctuaries
4pm : Cockrell Hall

Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

All events should be scheduled using
the Church Event Form located at
NASHVILLEUMC.NET/RESOURCES.
Hardcopies are available in the work room.

Staff

Pastor: Ralph A. Brown

Associate Pastor: Luke Whitehead

Director of Children & Family Ministries: Dr. Nichole Huff

Director of Welcoming Ministries: Wayne Lamm

Youth Ministry Intern: Kaitlyn Beal

Receptionist: Jackie Swindell

Administrative Assistant: Dana Nehhercutt

Director of Finance: Dot Binkley

Minister of Music & Worship: Gary Rapp

Contemporary Worship Leader: Jackson Rollins

Thursday Night Praise & Worship Leader: Kevin Shaw

Minister of Visitation: Jim Boehm

Organist and Membership Secretary: Ellen Ward

Nursery Coordinator: Jennifer Bunn

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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