



Dear Church Family,

In Matthew 7:24, Jesus tells his disciples, "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock." Currently, the global United Methodist denomination is in a time of great uncertainty. Persistent and escalating disobedience to the order and discipline of our church has created anarchy. The Western Jurisdiction has ordained a practicing lesbian as bishop while ignoring the Bible and the Discipline of the church, and some pastors are engaging in practices that celebrate perversion as well. Those responsible continue to disobey the Judicial Council, the body responsible for enforcing the Discipline. While we are commanded to love every person, regardless of circumstance or lifestyle, we are not expected to condone sin. As a result, there is a great schism among the people called Methodists. It is not the first in our history and probably will not be the last. Matthew 24:24 and 1 Timothy 4:1 speak of these things. We have leaders who desire for the name of the Lord to be deleted for fear it is too masculine. Some wish to delete the term father in reference to our Heavenly Father. Scripture says that God does not change but throughout time some have tried to create God in their own image. Jesus said that He did not come to bring peace but a sword. Luke 12:53 speaks of division even in families for the gospel's sake. Tom Lambrecht, who is on the Commission on a Way Forward, has said, "It is not if division is coming, division is already here."

The evangelical community is speaking out. The Wesleyan Covenant Association has been formed in response to all of this by grass roots Bible believing Methodists. The WCA has become the voice of Scriptural Methodist. Its membership includes Bible believing bishops, district superintendents, pastors, and a host of laity. You sent Pastor Luke, Sammy McKeel, who is SPRT chair, and myself to Chicago for the first WCA gathering. You then sent Pastor Luke, Sammy, and Chris Cobb, Chair of Finance, to the second gathering of the WCA in Memphis. The third gathering is at hand. NUMC will be a simulcast site for this historic event. The gathering is currently scheduled for Oct. 14, from 10am till 4pm with lunch provided. See page 7 of this newsletter for info on registering.

If you would like to know where the WCA stands come. If you would like a glimpse into our future come. If you would like to celebrate Scriptural faith come. There will be praise and worship, dialogue, and dynamic bible based preaching.

It is a privilege to stand with you during this time. May we stand together in the face of sin and lift the name of JESUS higher and give glory to our Heavenly FATHER.

Grace and His peace,
Pastor Ralph

Children & Youth

Weekday School Registration: Weekday School classes begin on Sept. 5. There are just a few spots still open. Visit www.NASHVILLEUMC.NET/WEEKDAY_SCHOOL for more information and an application.

Children & Youth—Sunday Nights: Our Children & Youth Program will kick off on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 5pm. Everyone should register online at www.NASHVILLEUMC.NET. King's Kids (PreK-5th grade) who participated in KK or VBS this past year are asked to take a quick moment to sign up so that we can keep our records current.

Christmas Musical: Mrs. Joanna will be directing our children's Christmas musical again this year! Auditions for speaking parts will be held Sept 10 at 4:00pm prior to the start of King's Kids (KK). Those with speaking roles must be willing to commit to practices before KK on Sundays. All other children will practice songs during KK on Sunday nights and will receive practice CDs. The musical will be performed on Saturday, Dec 2 at 6:30pm and Sunday, Dec 3 at 10am.

Children's Church Update: Beginning Sept. 3, Children's Church will only be offered to students in PreK-3rd grade. However, all ages are still invited down for the Children's Moment. This change is to ensure that we can best serve our youngest students with age-appropriate lessons and activities, and adequate volunteer-to-child ratios. For our 4th & 5th graders, we will start a program similar to our Jr Communion Servers to allow older students a chance to participate as a helper. If your older child is interested in serving, please email Nichole@NashvilleUMC.net.

Pumpkin Patch: We are excited about this fun outreach and fundraising opportunity coming 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. If you'd like to be involved, come to an informational meeting on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 4:30 in Cockrell Hall.

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.

Pathfinders Fall Retreat – Fall Retreat this year will be Sept 15 -17 at Camp Willow Springs. The theme is Wildfire and will focus on Acts 2:3. The total cost for the retreat is \$115, which includes meals, snacks, lodging, transportation, and the t-shirt. It will be a weekend full of fun, fellowship, and most importantly - spiritual growth. Visit the registration link on your weekly update sent by Kaitlyn. There is also a link on the website's Pathfinders page. Contact Kaitlyn@nashvilleumc.net with any questions.

Children & Youth Email Updates: The best way to stay updated on children and youth events is through the Weekly E-mail Updates. To get on the distribution list, contact nichole@nashvilleumc.net (children), info@nashvilleumc.net (Pathfinders), or ps1powell@suddenlink.net (Youth PAC).

Note from Nichole

Treasures in Heaven

With a cup of coffee in one hand and Asher asleep in the other, I sat in the recliner of our living room watching the Today's show coverage of Hurricane Harvey and the catastrophic flooding in Houston. As the images of children and families being rescued from their homes filled the screen, tears filled my eyes.

There was a preschooler in a Puddle Jumper life vest being hoisted into a rescue boat, an infant sleeping on the chest of his mother as she clung to the arms of an emergency responder, and two more children holding onto both sides of a police officer as he waded through the waist-high waters carrying them to higher ground.

There was a man trudging through the water with his dog afloat in a cooler beside him to stay safe. There were families huddled together on their rooftops awaiting rescue. There was a father walking with a plastic bag slung over his shoulder, which held what I'm guessing were all the belongings his family could quickly grab as they watched their home engulfed by the release of a nearby reservoir.

A pang of heaviness hit deep as I watched their losses from the comfort of my warm and dry living room. I was reminded of how quickly everything can change, and how temporary and fleeting this life is (and how trivial everything in it). I was also reminded of the words of Jesus in Matthew 6:19-21:

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Where is your treasure? And more importantly, where is your heart? Is your storehouse filled with eternal things, or things marked by earthly worth? *Because we all know the latter doesn't last.* The tighter our grip on the things of this world, the looser our grasp of the Father's hand.

As we pray for those in southeast Texas and look for ways to aid in their recovery efforts, let's all take an internal inventory of what it is we treasure. May we love people over things, and may we invest our time, energy, and resources in others. For where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also.

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

Begin Band

It's time for an awakening in our midst. But that awakening begins with us! It's time to take a more intentional step in the direction towards holiness as we live out our calling to be disciples of Jesus Christ. This first step, however, can be confusing – especially not knowing where to begin.

In a letter to a friend, John Wesley, the Father of the Methodist Movement, had this to say about how to start being intentional disciples:

“O begin! Fix some part of every day for private exercises. You may acquire the taste which you have not: what is tedious at first, will afterwards be pleasant. Whether you like it or not, read and pray daily. It is for your life; there is no other way; else you will be a trifler all your days, and a petty, superficial preacher. Do justice to your own soul; give it time and means to grow. Do not starve yourself any longer. Take up your cross and be a Christian altogether. Then will all children of God rejoice (not grieve) over you in particular.”

– John Wesley in a letter to John Premboth on August 17, 1760.

Wesley was simple. *Just begin.* Start reading the Bible, start praying. Although these instructions were written to a fellow preacher, are we not all called to be witness bearers of the Good News that Jesus is risen? It might be tedious at first, but it will become pleasant. And as Wesley said, *“It is for your life; there is no other way.”*

In the spirit of the great Methodist Movement, we are starting a “Begin Band” here at NUMC. No, it's not a new music band, but a group or 'band' of people looking to start something big in their Christian faith. A people who want to intentionally 'begin' walking down the road of Christian discipleship both *individually* through daily quiet times and *collectively* in community through weekly meetings.

Interested in joining? Here's how the Begin Band will work. Every morning a “Daily Text” will be sent out in one of two ways: through email or through an App that is available on compatible devices. Band members will spend time in the provided Scripture and commentary each day and then engage with the Word, write notes, offer insights, and pray together online. Finally, on Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 7:30pm beginning September 13, Begin Band members will faithfully meet in the basement to discuss how the Holy Spirit is transforming us, what is standing in the way of that transformation, and how we can continue on towards the perfect will of the Father, through the love of Jesus, and the power of the Spirit.

If you are looking to intentionally begin turning your whole life towards Jesus, I encourage you to join the Begin Band @ NUMC and let's see what the Holy Spirit does as we band together for a great awakening!

Begin Band

To join the Begin Band @ NUMC, send an email to info@nashvilleumc.net and request to join. From there, you will receive an email with a unique link that will allow you to sign up and give you access to the Begin Band @ NUMC, led by Pastor Luke. **Please know that accountability in life, faithfulness in attendance, and a desire to grow in your walk with Jesus is required to be in this Band.**

Hebrews 10:24 tells us to stir one another up towards love and good works. Nashville, it's time to start stirring so that the love of Jesus might fill us to overflowing into our communities so that we might see a great awakening and revival here in our midst. I look forward to our time together as we trust Him who can do more than we ask or imagine.

Pastor Luke

Coming Soon



Vow Renewal Ceremony

Brian and Denise Lindquist will be having a vow renewal ceremony on Oct. 21 at 2pm in the sanctuary. A reception will follow in Cockrell Hall.

There will be a special time in the service for all guests to renew their wedding vows. They invite everyone to this special time. RSVP to Brian at link2brian@aol.com or 252-314-7211.

Website Upgrade

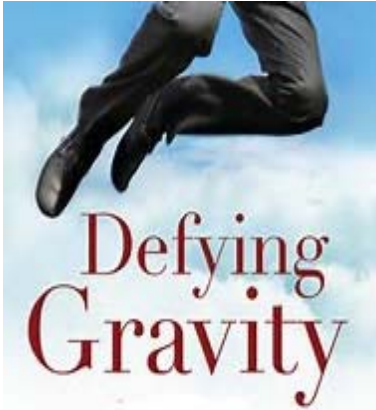
We have been busy working on a website upgrade over the summer. Watch for the new mobile friendly site—going live in September.



Pumpkin Patch

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October 14-31, 2017

Fall Bible Studies



Defy Gravity: Stuff. And more stuff. And even more stuff. The next thing you know, we're pulled into the orbit of materialism! We'll join together as a church body to study *Defying Gravity* by Tom Berlin. This book, which will be available to everyone, takes a look at the difference between "want" and "need" and illustrates how possessions can create an unbearable weight on our lives. Beginning Sept. 24, Pastors Ralph and Luke will be preaching on how much *stuff* affects our ability to serve and thrive. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join in as we

explore what is required to sustain a vibrant life. Free books will be available to everyone. Get yours in the Gathering Area in September.



Disciple Bible Study: Lynn Ward and Chris Cobb will be leading "Disciple II—Fast Track" beginning Sept. 5 at 6:30pm in the library. This in-depth Bible study consists of 12 weeks on Genesis-Exodus (fall) and 12 weeks on Luke-Acts (spring). Contact Lynn Ward at 459-5679 for more info.



Windows Into the Bible—Jewish Roots of our Faith: This is a 5-week study to aid in the understanding of scripture through the culture, people, and history of biblical events. We'll begin on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7:30pm. The Bible is the text- no additional material is needed. Come to Thursday Praise & Worship at 6:30 and stay for this study.



Ladies Bible Study: A new 6-week study will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Join us as we study the Book of John with "Finding I Am" by Lysa Terkeurst. You can come to the morning study from 10-11:30am or the evening study from 6:30-8pm. Sign up online.

WCA Simulcast



The Wesleyan Covenant Association ("WCA") will hold its 2017 Global Gathering on Saturday, October 14, 2017, at a live venue at The Woodlands United Methodist Church, near Houston, TX. The event will be simulcast to regional sites throughout the United States. We are honored to be one of those sites!

The theme of this year's gathering is *"Move: On Mission with God."* Methodism at its best is a movement - a movement initiated and empowered by God. Sure, we are methodical - that's how we got our name. We are disciplined and organized. Church historians cite the Methodist movement from its launch by John and Charles Wesley through its heyday in the mid-1800s as perhaps the best example in history of an apostolic movement since the early church. However, The United Methodist Church in the United States is experiencing decline which is escalating. Have we lost the missional DNA which made Methodism such a powerful force at God's disposal? Has institutionalism subverted mission and movement?

The WCA is committed to igniting a new movement of God among the people called Methodist. We are living in a time of great uncertainty. Regardless of which theological perspective people identify themselves with, there is general agreement that the church which brought us to this place in history is not the church which will lead us into the future. Now is the time for us to embrace the Next Methodism.

Join us for our 2017 Global Gathering as we commit to once again becoming an apostolic movement advancing the Kingdom of God globally. We will experience powerful worship, inspiring preaching, and passionate messages as we seek the face of God and surrender to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Doors open at 9:00am. The simulcast will begin at 10:00am and concludes at 4:00pm. Register at www.WESLEYANCOVENANT.ORG. NUMC is a member of the WCA, so everyone from our congregation is eligible for the \$30 discounted price.

Events

Methodist Men's Breakfast: Our September UMM Breakfast will be on Sunday the 10th at 7:30am in Cockrell Hall. All men are invited for great food, fellowship and a short meeting to discuss upcoming ministry events.

Clergy Day Apart. NUMC is hosting this conference event on Sept. 12 from 9:30-noon. Bishop Hope Morgan Ward will be speaking to pastors throughout the NC conference. We need lots of help directing cars, preparing and serving breakfast hors d'oeuvres, and welcoming guests. If you are able to help in any way, contact the office at 252-459-7178.

Hot Topics: Back by popular demand, Pastor Luke and Nichole will discuss gender, marriage, and sexuality on Sept. 6 at 6:30pm in the basement. We'll discuss ways to gracefully defend our faith in a society where evangelical Christianity is counter-cultural. Be sure to call the office by the 5th if childcare is needed.

Mission Trips: We have two mission teams that are preparing for mission trips in 2018. The Costa Rica team helps with building improvements and ministering in Liberia. They go in late January. The Appalachia Service Team (ASP) goes to a location in the Appalachia Mountain area in late June to make home repairs to those in need. Contact Reid Hildreth (373-1131) or Dennis Coggins (908-4033) for info on Costa Rica Missions and Lewis Smith (903-9848) for info on ASP.

Fall Softball: Sign up by Sept. 6 for Fall Softball Wooden Bat Men's Church League. Games will begin on the 11th and be on Monday and Thursday nights. Contact Matt Reams (469-3411) or Adam Richardson (213-5678) for more info.

S.A.M.: After a summer break, our Senior Adult Ministry will have their first meeting on Sept. 19 at 12pm. Invite a friend and bring your own sandwich. Contact Victoria at 459-2396 for more information.

Blood Drive. Our annual Fall Blood Drive will be held on Monday, Sept. 11 from 2:30-6:30pm 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 Rapid-Pass, 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 contact Brian Lindquist at Link2Brian@aol.com or 314-7211 or visit www.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG.

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

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: Every child is wanted by someone. "Help make a difference." Come and walk (or sponsor a walker) in Your Choice Resource Center's Walk For Life at Englewood Park on Saturday, Sept. 16 at 8am. Sponsor forms and Walk information are in the Information Centers or contact Pattie Mercer at 459-2146.

Blood & Organ Donor Ministry: An organizational and information meeting will be on Sept. 13 at 7pm in the Library This will be to discuss how to become a blood and organ donor and plans for the UMC Tissue and Organ Special Sunday on Nov. 12. For more information, contact Brian Lindquist (link2brian@aol.com or 252-314-7211).

Safe Sanctuaries Training: Wayne Lamm will offer one more training session for the fall on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3:30pm in Cockrell Hall. Be sure to attend if you will be working with children or youth in any capacity this fall.

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.

Church Cards: We have new church information cards printed. Pick up several in the Information Centers to use as an easy way to invite others to church.

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/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: 262

Traditional: 96

Thursday Nights: 57

Average of all Services: 441

Includes combined
and special services.

Team Meetings:

Sept. 5 Trustees, 7pm : A205

Sept. 6 Admin Chair Breakfast
6am : Dortches

Sept. 10 Pathfinders Leaders
3:30 : Library

Stephen Ministry
5:00 : Men's Bible Class

Sept. 13 Sunday School Leaders
7:00pm : Parlor

Sept. 18 Holy Land Grp Dinner
6pm : Cockrell Hall

Sept. 19 WDS Meeting
6pm: Chapel
Finance, 7pm : Parlor

Sept. 25 Church Council
7pm : Cockrell Hall

Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

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

Weekly Events

Sundays

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

Monday

- 7:00am WICK Emmaus : Hardee's
- 6:30pm Disciple II : Men's Bible Class
- 7:00pm Ladies Bible Study : Basement
(beginning 9/19)
- 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. 4 & 7 - NUMC @ Compassion Café
11am : Bus Garage

Sept. 5 - Disciple II—Fast Track beginning
6:30pm : Library

Sept. 6 - Hot Topics
6:30pm : Basement

Sept. 10 - UMM Breakfast
7:30am : Cockrell Hall

Safe Sanctuaries Training
3:30pm : Cockrell Hall

Camp4Kids & Pumpkin Patch Interest
Meeting, 4:30pm : Cockrell Hall

Children & Youth resume - 5:00pm

Sept. 11 Blood Drive, 2:30 : Cockrell Hall

Sept. 12 Clergy Day Apart
9:30am : Braswell Hall

Sept. 13 : Begin Band Interest Meeting
6:30pm : Basement

Blood & Organ Ministry Interest Meeting
7:00pm : Library

Sept 14 - Windows Bible Study begins
7:30pm : Library

Sept 15-17 - Pathfinder's Fall Retreat
Leave from Hilliard St. lot at 4:15

Sept. 16 - Walk-4-Life
8:00am : Englewood Park

Sept 19 - S.A.M, 12pm : Cockrell Hall

Ladies Bible Study begins
10am & 6:30pm : Basement

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 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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