



Nolensville First United Methodist Church

Our Vision: *a neighborhood church where people experience
a life-changing relationship with Jesus in a welcoming church family*

Our Mission: *loving God and neighbor where we live*

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January 2018 Newsletter

A Note from Pastor Jimmy

The New Year's Resolution

It is that time of year again. It is time to make promises we intend to keep based solely on our willpower. It is time for our New Year's Resolutions. The self-help, diet, and physical fitness markets go crazy this time of year. The market reacts to our desire to be better people and our willingness to pay for this worthy goal. Unfortunately, this tradition does not make much sense. We basically promise to use our willpower to overcome faults that we have failed to overcome before. We promise ourselves we will have the willpower to do it this year, and yet usually by February or March we are disappointed again. There is always next year!

I personally never make it more than three weeks. I must admit that my willpower is quite weak. While I certainly desire to be better, as a Christian, I understand that it is Christ's will I seek and Christ's will that can create something new of me. In fact, Methodists have a service called the Covenant Renewal Service that was first celebrated by Methodists in 1755. In this service, participants examine how they have responded to God's call on their lives. We seek forgiveness and make plans to rely upon God's grace in the coming year.

The point is that we do not become better people or better Christians based on our willpower. Instead, we become a new creation based on how well we will submit our will to Christ's will. The first step is to recognize that we are *not* capable and that God *is* capable. We must also recognize that God is willing. We must answer the question of whether we are willing to be changed. When we are willing, we must ask God for the grace to become willing servants. This has always been our goal. From our baptism, we have been seeking closer union with God through Christ. We are not to accept our sinful nature, but to seek the One who is willing and able to overcome it. God is longing to make us anew!

My hope this year is that you might join me in renewing our covenant with God. If we do not know and trust God, we cannot submit to God's transforming grace. A great place to start is in setting aside time each day for study, reflection, and prayer. Worship is the place that we can admit our powerlessness, submit to God, and find the grace to change. Seriously taking the call to worship regularly can help us, too. Lastly, unlike all other resolutions, when we fail, *go to God in prayer and find the grace to begin again*. We do not have to wait until next January. God is willing — are we?

I would like to leave you with the prayer from the opening of our Covenant Renewal Service from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. May it lead you into a renewal of your covenant with God.

*O God, Searcher of all our hearts,
You have formed us as a people and claimed us for Your own.
As we come to acknowledge Your sovereignty and grace,
and to enter anew into covenant with You,
reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.
Let Your Spirit impress Your truth on our inmost being,
and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Far from perfected, but still seeking God,

Pastor Jimmy

Rev. Jimmy Hendricks
pastorjimmy@nolensvilleumc.org

Transforming Grace
ROMANS 12:2



being a neighborhood church

Go Tell It: A Twelfth Night Jazz Concert

Come celebrate the twelve nights of Christmas with unique original musical arrangements of popular carols in a modern jazz setting on Sunday, **January 7**, at 6pm.



United Methodist Women

On December 13, the UMW had their annual Christmas Party with seventeen members present. Patsy Elliot decorated the tables with Christmas figures, and she lead the gift giving section of our meeting. Karen Hoffmeister lead us in prayer before we all dove into the delicious meal catered by Jackie Green. The Christmas party was enjoyed by all.

In January, the UMW will be collecting soup and crackers for GraceWorks Ministries' Fuel Bags program for school children. The fuel bags items will really be needed with the colder weather upon us. Also, Barb Belden will check with GraceWorks to see when they might need the UMW to do some volunteer work.

Anyone interested in the Nolensville First UMW group is warmly welcomed. We meet in the Fellowship Hall every second Wednesday of the month at 10:30am; the next meeting will be **January 10**. Please join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Karen R. Hoffmeister, Secretary



Red Cross Blood Drive

Give blood and help save lives! Nolensville First UMC will host a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, **January 11**, 1:15-7:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment at www.RedCrossBlood.org today! Streamline your donation experience and save up to fifteen minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



The need is great; help save a life!

Second Sunday Breakfast

Please join us on **January 14** at 9:30am for Second Sunday Breakfast. Bring a favorite breakfast dish to share and come fellowship between the services with church family from the other service!

The **Fellowship Sunday School Class** is responsible for set-up, drinks, and clean up on January 14. Please remember that the class responsible for Second Sunday Breakfast is also requested to provide cookies, donuts, or other snacks for all other Sundays of the month.

Please put all food away after fellowship on ALL Sundays. We are called to be fishers of men, not of mice and ants! This class is also responsible for returning the Fellowship Hall to "Sunday Setting" after breakfast. Diagrams are posted on the kitchen doors.

Christmas Eve Offering

On Christmas Eve, your generosity gave over \$2,400 to be split between Southeast Williamson County Meals on Wheels, GraceWorks Ministries, and the Nolensville Volunteer Fire Department. Thank you!

Kroger Community Rewards

Dear Nolensville First United Methodist Church,



The Kroger Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to local communities. We do this through a variety of activities, including charitable giving, sponsorships and the unique Community Rewards Program of Kroger.

Your supporters (seventeen households) who shopped at Kroger between September and November, 2017, have contributed to your \$83.97 total donation. If you have any questions or would like to sign up to help contribute, please visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com and link your Kroger card with Nolensville First UMC. Thank you for your continued support of your local Kroger store.

Thank you, Community Rewards Staff

experiencing a life-changing relationship with Jesus

Lunch and Training

On Sunday, January 14, 12-2pm, Pastor will have a leadership and staff training on polity (the organizational structure of the church) and how it focuses us on our vision and mission. Lunch will be provided and the entire church is invited to attend.

Youth Events in January

- Sun - Jan 7 - Confirmation Pizza Party (12:30pm)
Parent Meeting (4pm)
Youth@514 (5-6pm)
- Wed - Jan 10 - Youth@Midweek (5-7pm)
- Sun - Jan 14 - Confirmation 8th grade & Up (3-4:30pm)
Youth@514 (5-7pm)
- Tue - Jan 16 - Confirmation 6th & 7th grades (5-6:30pm)
- Wed - Jan 17 - Youth@Midweek (5-7pm)
- Sun - Jan 21 - Confirmation 8th grade & Up (3-4:30pm)
Youth@Play (3:15-5pm)
- Tue - Jan 23 - Confirmation 6th & 7th grades (5-6:30pm)
- Wed - Jan 24 - Youth@Midweek (5-7pm)
- Sun - Jan 28 - Confirmation 8th grade & Up (3-4:30pm)
Youth@514 (5-7pm)
- Tue - Jan 30 - Confirmation 6th & 7th grades (5-6:30pm)
- Wed - Jan 31 - Youth@Midweek (5-7pm)



CONFIRMATION CLASS IS COMING! Confirmation class is a time for youth to learn what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ. We will have an informational pizza party on Sunday, January 7, at 12:30pm. Confirmation classes for 6th and 7th grade will be Tuesdays, 5-6:30pm, starting January 16 and for 8th grade and older on Sundays, 3-4:30pm, starting January 14. Please sign up on the sheet available during worship or at goo.gl/RKuAyZ.

PRAYER PARTNERS — We are also looking for Prayer Partners for these young people during their Confirmation classes. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet available during worship or at goo.gl/CzSLzs.

YOUTH PARENT MEETING — ALL youth parents are encouraged to attend a brief parent meeting at 4pm on Sunday, January 7, in the Youth Area. We will go over the spring calendar and discuss summer mission trips!

YOUTH@PLAY: ABOVE ALL — Sunday, January 21, we are meeting at Above All in Cool Springs from 3:15-5pm for an afternoon of bouncy fun! Cost is \$20! Let Meggie know if you are planning on attending or if you would need a ride!

Weekly Programming:

YOUTH@514: SUNDAYS 5-7pm — Join us for a time focused on growing together in our faith through food, games, worship, a lesson, and small group discussions.

YOUTH@MIDWEEK: WEDNESDAYS 5-7pm — Join us for a time of food, fun, and fellowship. This time is laid back and you are welcome to bring homework and friends! We will always begin our time with dinner and end with a short devotion.

Peace, Meggie McDowell, Youth Director, youth@nolensvilleumc.org

resources & administration

Church Council of Stewards

A summary from December 12, 2017:

Pastor Jimmy introduced a visual aid and Ministry Action Plans, which are tools to help us stay on target with our new mission and vision. Pastor will be holding classes in 2018 for training in how to use these tools. We will start with a leadership training lunch on January 14. The entire church is invited to these classes.

Don Hoffmeister presented the 2017 year-to-date financial reports. Although we are still outspending our income, we expect to be even at the end of the year.

The 2018 Budget draft presented last October was approved.

The Council decided that this year's Christmas Eve offering will be split evenly to Southeast Williamson County Meals on Wheels, GraceWorks Ministries, and the Nolensville Volunteer Fire Department.

January

Birthdays

1/2 Zack Martin; 1/3 Ashton Reed; 1/4 Shelby Fitts, Hayden Fitts; 1/6 Carrie Ozburn, Chris Clore, Erica Duty; 1/9 Jim Warpinski; 1/11 Joyce Patton; 1/12 Joe Wisniewski, Drake Woodward; 1/13 Sandy Johnson; 1/15 Erin Leach; 1/17 Mike Hagan; 1/18 Kenneth Moore; 1/19 Sullivan Tuck, Bobby Shelton; 1/20 Randy Matlock, Jared Cathey; 1/22 Sylvia Wilkerson, Caroline Clark; 1/23 Marcia Woodcock, Sherry Paschall, Abby Hendricks; 1/24 Chris Campbell; 1/25 Alan Redman; 1/29 Tom Crawford, Jennifer Hendricks; 1/30 Sandy Green

Anniversaries

1/18 Lynette & Mark Jones (26); 1/23 Barbara & Fred Jeffries (58); 1/26 Donna & Dave Burdge (61); 1/31 Peggy & Frank Wilson (65) and a very special congratulations to Sharon & Bruce Bowater who will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary on January 15!

Leadership Meetings in 2018

Board of Trustees:

January 2, 7pm
February 6, 7pm
March 6, 7pm
April 3, 7pm
May 1, 7pm
June 5, 7pm
July 3, 7pm
August 7, 7pm
September 4, 7pm
October 2, 7pm
November 6, 7pm
December 4, 7pm

Jacob's Ladder Board:

February 5, 6:30pm
May 7, 6:30pm
August 6, 6:30pm
November 5, 6:30pm



january

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	<p>1 New Year's Day - office closed 7pm Lions Club</p> 	<p>2 7pm Trustees</p>	<p>3 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Praise Band</p>	<p>4 7pm Cub Scouts 297 Committee Meeting</p>	<p>5 1pm Tai Chi</p>	<p>6 Epiphany Day</p>	
<p>7 Epiphany Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 12:30pm Confirmation Pizza Party 4pm Youth Parent Meeting 5pm Youth@514 6pm 12th Night Jazz Concert</p> 	<p>8 3:30pm STEM Scouts 3001 4:30pm STEM Scouts 2003 5pm Girl Scouts 1332 7pm Venturing Crew 299</p>	<p>9 4:30pm STEM Scouts 1003 7pm Boy Scouts 298</p>	<p>10 10:30am United Methodist Women 1pm Staff 5pm Youth@ Midweek 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Praise Band</p>	<p>11 9am Jacob's Ladder Chapel 1:15pm Blood Drive 6pm Cub Scout 297 Den Meetings</p>	<p>12 1pm Tai Chi</p>	<p>13 8am United Methodist Men</p>	
<p>14 8:30am Worship 9:30am Second Sunday Breakfast 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 12pm Leadership and Staff Training 3pm Confirmation Class 3pm Girl Scouts 1139 5pm Youth@514 6:30pm Girl Scouts 2362</p>	<p>15 MLK Jr Day - office closed 3:30pm STEM Scouts 3001 4:30pm STEM Scouts 2003 7pm Lions Club</p> 	<p>16 9am Jacob's Ladder Story Time 4:30pm STEM Scouts 1003 5pm Confirmation Class 7pm Boy Scouts 298</p>	<p>17 1pm Staff 5pm Youth@ Midweek 6:30pm Choir 7pm Girl Scouts 2929 7:30pm Praise Band</p>	<p>18 9am Jacob's Ladder Field Trip 4:30pm Girl Scouts 151 6pm Girl Scouts 2992 6:30pm Cub Scout 297 Pack Meeting</p>	<p>19 1pm Tai Chi</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p>21 8:30am Worship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 3pm Confirmation Class 3:15pm Youth@Play 5pm Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>22 3:30pm STEM Scouts 3001 4:30pm STEM Scouts 2003 7pm Venturing Crew 299</p>	<p>23 4:30pm STEM Scouts 1003 5pm Confirmation Class 7pm Boy Scout 298 Court of Honor</p>	<p>24 1pm Staff 5pm Youth@ Midweek 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Praise Band</p>	<p>25 9am Jacob's Ladder Chapel 5pm Room In The Inn 6pm Cub Scout 297 Den Meetings</p> 	<p>26 10:30am Young Hearts 1pm Tai Chi 5pm Room In The Inn</p> 	<p>27</p>	
<p>28 8:30am Worship 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 3pm Confirmation Class 3pm Girl Scouts 1139 5pm Disciple Fast Track 5pm Youth@514 6:30pm Girl Scouts 2362</p>	<p>29 3:30pm STEM Scouts 3001 4:30pm STEM Scouts 2003</p>	<p>30 4:30pm STEM Scouts 1003 5pm Confirmation Class 7pm Boy Scouts 298</p>	<p>31 1pm Staff 5pm Youth@ Midweek 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Praise Band</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <p>Feb 3 Chili Cook-Off (<i>tentative</i>)</p> <p>Feb 6 Election Day</p> <p>Feb 9-10 IF: Gathering (<i>tentative</i>)</p> <p>Feb 9-11 Warmth in Winter</p> <p>Feb 11 Scouting Sunday</p> <p>Feb 14 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>Feb 18 Linguini & Love (<i>tentative</i>)</p> </div>			