

## Worship OPPORTUNITIES

### Sunday, April 7

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

#### Worship with Communion

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

Rev. Chuck Starks

"A Lasting Aroma"

John 12:1–8

#### Wednesday Lenten Services

#### Wednesday, April 10, 12 noon

Week 5: First Baptist Church

Lunch is provided following the service.

Donations are appreciated.

#### Holy Week Services at Church Street

#### Palm Sunday, April 14

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. in the Nave

#### Maundy Thursday, April 18

Worship at 7:15 p.m. in the Nave

#### Easter Sunday, April 21

Sunrise Service: 7 a.m. in the Courtyard  
(breakfast follows in Parish Hall)

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. in the Nave

Gathering music presented by the

Tennessee Brass begins at 8:15 a.m.

and 10:45 a.m. respectively.

#### Singles Fun Night & Dance

Friday, April 5, 8 p.m., Parish Hall

(Doors open at 7 p.m. for lessons starting at 7:15 p.m.) \$8 admission (\$5 for students)

Everyone is welcome!

## CHURCH-WIDE RUMMAGE SALE

Friday–Saturday, April 5 & 6

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Church Street Gym

Hosted by Church Street's Children's, Youth and Music Ministries



Proceeds support CSUMC ministries!

#### VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED ...

- Volunteer to help set-up and price items, April 3 & 4
- Volunteer to work the sale, April 5 & 6

To access our volunteer sign-up form, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084daeae22a0f49-rummage>



#### QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Call or text Katie Heatherly  
[615.712.4925](tel:615.712.4925)

## Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

Are you a Sunday School teacher at Church Street? If so, we'd like to say thank you!

The Education Committee will host a drop-in Teacher Appreciation Breakfast Buffet on **Sunday, April 7, 8–10 a.m.** in the Kay Room in the Church Life Center.

Sunday School teachers of our children, youth and adult classes, youth NightLife volunteers, small group Bible study teachers, and other instructors are invited to this annual breakfast.

There will be a variety of breakfast foods such as bagels, muffins, biscuits, fruit, breakfast casserole, coffee, juice and more for teachers to enjoy, as well as a free raffle drawing for a great book related to Christian education. Teachers can drop by at their convenience between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

We are so grateful to our children, youth and adult teachers for all that they do in making disciples of Jesus Christ! We hope you can join us for breakfast on April 7 and look forward to seeing you.



## CLERGY

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### Let's think together about the questions Church Streeters have asked about the decision from General Conference (continued):

As we continue with more questions from March 3 it is good to reaffirm that God's love is for all, regardless of who the person is or how the person self-identifies. Jesus identified Himself first and foremost through His love for God and was perfectly obedient to God. Therefore, He could also love all persons. His self-giving love was rooted in love for God. As we walk with Jesus, He will lead us to love God and love all persons in our lives (family, church members, co-workers, friends, enemies, neighbors) including persons who identify as LGBTQIA. So, let us all love God and love people with the love of Jesus Christ.

There is disagreement in our denomination, congregation and even within our own families regarding same-sex marriage and ordination of "self-avowed practicing homosexuals." At the same time, it is crucial that we decide and determine to love each other in the face of our disagreeing. Can love be authentic while disagreeing? Did Jesus love, any less, the persons who turned away from Him in John 6 because His teaching was too hard? Of course, we can disagree, and our love still be authentic, if we, like Jesus, love God first.

• From March 3, "We need more information on many selected Bible verses. One example, Jesus said only men and women should marry." *The divide about same sex marriage is pronounced. Instead of going to the prohibitive passages in Leviticus and Romans, called "clobber passages" by the Reconciling Ministries Network, let's consider the positive passages, in their context, about marriage. Consider the passages that affirm historic traditional marriage and those that affirm same sex marriage. Exegete (interpret the text in its context as much as is possible allowing the text to speak its truth) the passages without embracing the practice of eisegesis (interpreting a text by reading into it one's own ideas).*

• From March 3, "Can we have confidence the clergy of CSUMC will follow the UMC Book of Discipline?" *All United Methodist clergy are expected to support and adhere to the UMC Book of Discipline. When that does not happen, the Book of Discipline outlines steps to be taken to address the violation.*

I believe that in spite of the controversy and pain that we now experience as a denomination and congregation these are exciting days in which to be alive. I wouldn't want to live in any other time of history than right now. Why? Because this is the time God has chosen for me, and of course for you. For this short period of time we get to see and be part of the unfolding and revealing of God's perfect plan. I embrace it. God is at work in each step!

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you!

—REV. CHUCK STARKS

## Calendar: Sunday, April 7 – Saturday, April 13

### Worship

Worship  
Sunday, 8:30 am, Nave  
Sunday, 11 am, Nave  
Rejoice! TV Broadcast  
Sunday, 8:30 am, WVLT-TV  
Downtown Lenten Service & Lunch  
Wednesday, 12 pm,  
First Baptist Church

### Sunday School—9:40 AM

### Music

Youth Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 4 pm, rm 306  
Primary Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm 308  
Chorister Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, rm 306  
Adult Handbells Rehearsal  
Sunday, 6:15 pm, rm 303  
Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 306

### CSUMC Preschool

Week of the Young Child  
Monday–Friday, Apr 8–12  
Preschool Family Picnic  
Friday, 5:30 pm, CLC 120

### Meetings & Ministry

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast  
Sunday, 8-10 am, CLC 123  
Stephen Ministry Training Group  
Sunday, 1:30 pm, rm 201A  
Stephen Ministry Meeting  
Sunday, 1:30pm, rm 202  
Discover Church Street Class  
Sunday, 4 pm, Chiles Room  
Benevolence Team  
Monday, 12 pm, CLC 124  
Sharing Shop  
Monday, 12 pm, Gym  
Congregational Care Committee  
Tuesday, 6 pm, rm 201A  
Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, 5:30 pm, rm 201A  
Soup Kitchen  
Thursday, 11 am, Parish Hall

### Youth

NightLife  
Sunday, 5:15 pm, Lower CLC  
Wesley House Tutoring  
Tuesday, 4:15 pm, Wesley House  
Youth Band  
Wednesday, 6:45 pm, CLC 11  
High School Prayer Breakfast  
Thurs, 7:15 am, Chik-fil-A (W. Hills)

### Spiritual Growth

Letters of Paul Study  
Sunday, 4 pm, CLC 120  
Dr. Wender's Bible Study  
Sunday, 4 pm, rm 204  
Men of God  
Tuesday, 10 am, rm 202  
Women's Bible Study  
Wednesday, 9:30 am, rm 201A  
Meditation & Prayer Group  
Wednesday, 10:30 am, rm 211  
Lenten Bible Study  
Wednesday, 7 pm, rm 204

### Singles

Bridge Group  
Monday, 6 pm, rm 201C  
Yoga Class  
Monday, 7 pm, rm 301  
Line Dance Lessons  
Thursday, 6:30 pm, Gym

### UMW

Circle #6  
Monday, 1:30 pm, Parlor  
Circle #10  
Tuesday, 10 am, rm 204  
UMW General Meeting & Lunch  
Tuesday, 11 am, Chapel  
Lunch follows in Parish Hall  
Circle #11—Mary & Martha  
Wednesday, 7 pm, Parlor

### Beacon of Hope

Benevolence Team  
Tuesday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC  
BOH Sharing Shop  
Thursday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC

### Leisure & Fellowship Activities

Open Gym  
Sunday, 4 pm, Gym

### Newsletter Deadline:

Please submit written articles that you wish to be published in the April 9 edition of *The Messenger* by Sunday, April 7 at midnight to:  
[communications@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:communications@churchstreetumc.org)

## Open Doors Class

On Sunday, April 7 at 9:40 a.m. in the Parish Hall, Open Doors welcomes **Andy and Susan Sneed**. The Sneeds will present "Christianity vs. Christianity," an exploration of how our culture and our politics shape our faith and vice versa. All are welcome to join us!

## Discover Church Street on April 7

The next Discover Church Street class for all prospective members will be on **Sunday, April 7 at 4 p.m.** in the Chiles Room. This one-time class is great for persons who have been visiting Church Street for just a short time or those who have been visiting for months. This class is designed to help persons know more about The United Methodist Church and its beliefs, Church Street UMC and its ministries, and it gives opportunity to ask questions about the church. You can also find out the process for joining Church Street. The class is led by our Senior Pastor, Rev. Chuck Starks and includes a building tour and a light supper. **If you want more information about the class or want to let us know you will be attending, contact Rev. Rick Isbell, Minister of Discipleship at [risbell@churchstreetumc.org](mailto:risbell@churchstreetumc.org).**



## UMW Book Review

**Wednesday, April 17  
at 1:30 p.m. in room 204**

Elaine Ralston will lead the review of the book *The Golden Cage* by Shirin Ebadi. The UMW book review is an informal, informative, and fun event. If you've never attended one, this is the month to start!

## All Are Invited to Hear ...

**Who:** Jim Harb, a native of Knoxville with a Palestinian Christian Heritage, and has been active in efforts for peace in the Middle East for 47 years

**What:** Presentation on "Christians in Palestine"

**When:** April 9, 11:00 a.m. with lunch at noon to follow presentation (\$10; please RSVP to church office [524-3048](tel:524-3048))

**Where:** Presentation in the Chapel; lunch in the Parish Hall

Hosted by Church Street United Methodist Women



## The VBS Tree

Located in the Welcome Center

It is time to start getting excited and ready for Vacation Bible School (VBS). Due to the budget concerns, we are asking for everyone's help in supplying some of our basic VBS needs.

To help, all you have to do is to take a COLORED leaf off of the tree trunk that is in the Welcome Center and purchase that item(s) or give the suggested monetary donation.

If you take a leaf, please let us know by entering your name, phone number/email, and leaf number in the provided notebook.

Thank you for your help and for partnering with our Children's Ministry!

## Join Us for a Morning Mingle

The Hospitality Team invites all Church Streeters to join us in the Welcome Center for a "morning mingle" on **Sunday, April 14**. We would love to have you stop by **between 9:15 and 9:45 a.m.**, before Sunday school or after the 8:30 worship service, for a time of light refreshments and warm conversation with friends both old and new. It's a great opportunity to enjoy our new Welcome Center and greet others who come to church that day. All ages are welcome—we hope to see you there!

Have you remembered  
Church Street  
in your will?

## LECTIONARY READINGS

**April 7**

Isaiah 43:16–21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3:4b–14

John 12:1–8

**April 14**

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalm 31:9–16

Philippians 2:5–11

Luke 22:14–23:56



## EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for 10 a.m. on **Saturday, April 20** at Whitlow Park in Sequoyah Hills.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR CHURCH STREET?

## Our Prayers

### *In the hospital*

Park West: Virginia Fowler,  
Paula Buckner  
Vanderbilt: Matt Strutner

### *Christian love and sympathy to:*

Barbara Shipley on the death of her son, Paul Shipley, who died on March 30 in Knoxville.

### Our Presence: March 31

Sunday School	301
Sunday Worship	589

### Our Gifts: March 24

Received toward Budget	\$ 32,028.79
Building for Christ Campaign	\$ 1,132.50
Other	\$ 2,929.24

## Altar Flowers

*Sunday, April 7*

The Chancel altar flowers are given in loving memory of Eugene White by Virginia and family.

The Chapel altar flowers are given in loving memory of Wilbur Warwick by Ann and family.

The Narthex flowers are from the wedding of Amber Russ and Michael Gallagher and are given in memory of Amber's father, Steve Lawson, her grandfather, James Fagg, and Michael's grandmother, Anna Gallagher.

## Our Church Family

### *Baptisms*

**Avarie Houston Brackett**, daughter of Bentley and Jessica Brackett, was baptized on Sunday, March 31, at the 8:30 a.m. service.

**Elijah Wells Thompson**, son of Matt and Allison Thompson, was baptized on Sunday, March 31, at the 11:00 a.m. service.

### *New Members*

We welcome **Billy and Jill Carroll** and their children, **Hailey, Caitlyn, Lilly and Will**, who joined by transfer from First UMC, Sevierville, on Sunday, March 31 at the 11 a.m. service.

## Honorariums

*In honor of:*

- **Eileen Weber**  
*Music:* Katie Heatherly

## Memorials

*In memory of:*

- **Jim Lees**  
*Building Fund:* Bill & Sandra Roberts
- **Dr. Lynne Taylor**  
*Music:* Myrna Greene, Cindi Greene

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**If your cell phone, home phone, address, or email has changed, please notify the church office**

**865-524-3048**

## Contact Us

**Church Office** (865) 524-3048

Hours: Mon.– Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fax number (865) 521-0288

**Pastor On-Call Number** (865) 320-9100

For emergencies, call the On-Call Number and the pastor on call will answer or you may leave a message and the pastor will return your call.

[www.churchstreetumc.org](http://www.churchstreetumc.org)

Follow us on Facebook: @sumcknoxville,

Twitter: @ChurchStreetUMC and

Instagram: churchstreetumc

## Staff Directory

Dial 521-0 + extension

Senior Pastor	Chuck Starks–260
Senior Associate Pastor	Dawn Chesser–279
Associate Pastor	Palmer Cantler–298
Minister of Spiritual Enrichment	Jan Wade–264
Minister of Discipleship	Rick Isbell–266
Visitation Pastors	Rev. Larry Best: 865-705-2993 Rev. Andy Ferguson: 865-236-0951
Director of Music Ministries	Tim Ward–276
Music Associate/Organist	Edie Johnson–277
Children's Ministry	Katryn Bancroft–282
Child Care Coordinator	Sarah Burtch: 865-567-0913
Youth/College Ministries	Jenny Cross–287
Preschool Director	Beth Libby: 524-3511
Church Administrator	Kate Spencer–268
Bookkeeper	Francine Jenne–267
Administrative Assistant	Kelly Woods–262
Ministers' Secretary Emerita	Loretta Best–280
Executive Secretary	Doris Lively–271
Receptionist	Brenda Flenniken–270
Part-time Secretary	Eileen Weber–278
Director of Communications	521-0299
Sterchi Lodge Caretakers	Jack & Barbara Bratton, 828-622-3524
Maintenance Supervisor	Keith Bailey–295
Head Custodian	Jeffery Rose–274
Custodians:	Dedra Ellison, Robin Crain, Kevin Bailey
Beacon of Hope	Dona McConnell: 599-5047



PO Box 1303  
900 HENLEY AT MAIN  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

## Church Council Summary from March 25 meeting

The CSUMC Church Council met Tuesday, March 25 at the regularly scheduled time. The minutes of the meeting will be available in the office prior to the **next meeting on May 28**. Reports were received from the Trustees, Property Committee, and Finance Committee.

A motion passed to thank the Children's, Youth, and Music departments for their donation to the general budget of funds received from the Rummage Sale on April 6 and the funds from one week of football parking. The generosity of the Children's, Youth and Music programs is greatly appreciated and will benefit the entire congregation.

A second motion passed for the Church Council to draft a statement of welcome and inclusivity for all persons at Church Street. The statement will be read, discussed, and voted upon at the May 28 meeting.

Laity reported on missions and spiritual enrichment prayer opportunities, and our preschool director, Beth Cooper-Libby, presented a wonderful, original poem (in the style of Dr. Seuss) celebrating the 50 years of the Church Street Preschool. Church Council member Elaine Ralston reminded all that there are helpful instructions available for church groups or committees wishing to earn funds by parking cars. Steve Richardson updated the council on the SASH committee projects.