



The VINE

The newsletter of Soddy United Methodist Church



Let's put together a new church directory!

Did you know that our last church directory was made in 2015? A lot has changed since then! Wonderful members have gone home to be with the Lord, and new members have joined our fellowship. Children have grown. It's time to put together a new directory.

Now before you roll your eyes, grimace at the thought of having to sit through a sales pitch for 30 dozen portraits you don't want, or having to dress up and come to an appointment at the church—

Relax!

We aren't planning to do any of that! The administrative board recently voted to do a new church directory—but without involving a professional directory company. We want something that can be produced in-house.

Sue Hultgren has volunteered to help with this project. Together, she and I will handle the design and layout of the directory. In an effort to make it as easy as possible on everyone, digital photos will be done on Sunday mornings (before and after worship). No need to dress up special. No sales pitch to buy a package of portraits. Just your smiling faces from the shoulders up!

continued

From Pastor Todd, continued

Just like our current directory, you'll be able to submit digital photos for members who can't have one taken. We'll still include the names, addresses, and phone numbers; and we'll have some candid shots from church life and activities. We can print and assemble the directories here at the church.

A time hasn't been set to get this started, but we anticipate it'll be early in the new year. We'll probably have something like a two-month window to get all the pictures taken, then another couple of months to get everything laid out, proofed, and printed. God willing, we might be able to have new directories in-hand by next summer.

More information will be made available in the new year as dates are set. We hope a new directory will be beneficial to you and your family—especially if we can make the process as “pain-free” as possible!

When You Can't Pray—Give Thanks

by Bethany Hayes

I once heard of a little boy who refused to say his evening prayers one night; not out of defiance, but simply because he couldn't think of anything he wanted. He didn't see much point in praying when there wasn't anything to ask for. When his mother heard his dilemma, she suggested he give thanks for all the things he had instead. So the little boy got on his knees and thanked the Lord for everything he could think of – from his favorite toy to the fact he wasn't blind like the boy down the street. His evening prayers were longer that night, because he was thankful for more than he wanted.

We often have the opposite dilemma.

We find it hard to pray; not because we don't have anything to ask for, but because we're too disheartened to pray. Our prayers seem to hit a stone ceiling; our prayers go unanswered for years; or we simply don't receive the peace we used to enjoy in times of prayer.

But maybe we can't pray, because we've forgotten to be thankful.

Like this little boy, what if we took some time and turned our prayers into words of only thanks? When you pray today, don't ask for one single thing. **JUST give thanks.** While you drive to work, list one thing after another you're grateful for. **And thank the Lord ONLY.** When you have a few quiet moments, think of things you know are gifts. **And ONLY thank the Lord.** When you can't pray . . . **give thanks.** Your prayers might be longer than usual, because you find yourself thankful for more than you want.

Welcome

We're delighted to welcome **BRENDA EASTER** into membership of Soddy UMC! She joined our congregation on Sunday, October 10th, by transfer of membership from Mount Pleasant UMC in Chesapeake, Virginia. Then on Sunday, October 23 we received **GENE & HEIDI KNIPP** into membership! They transferred their membership from Light of the World Church in Fort Worth, Texas.
WELCOME, Brenda, Gene, and Heidi!

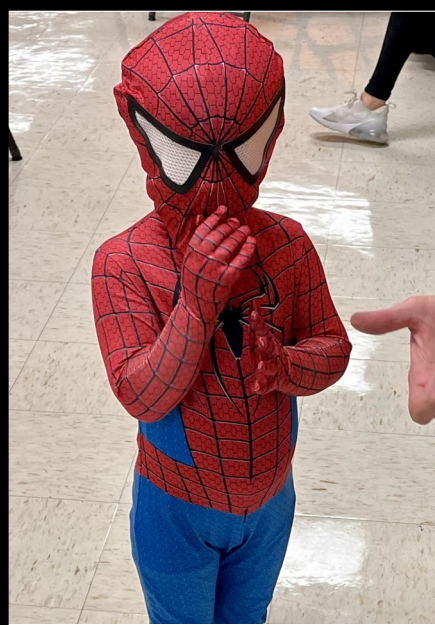


Pastor Todd will be visiting his parents after the holidays. He will be out of town from December 25th to January 1st. If you have any special needs during that time, please contact Kathy Jones or Cindy Cunningham.





FUN AT THE FALL FESTIVAL



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November Birthdays

- 2 Shirley Adams
Jim R. Posey
- 8 Hugh Lyons
- 9 Liam Mullins
- 16 Claudia Inwood
- 17 Karen Ward
- 23 Alan Gram
- 25 Karah Carson
- 26 Jimmie Lou Mulkey
- 28 Nancy Woodall
Teresa Jordan
Pat Ricketts

November Anniversaries

- 21 Scott & Barbara Musgrave
- 25 Tom & Teresa Lynch
Gene & Heidi Knipp

*“Whatever our souls
are made of his and
mine are the same.
~ Emily Bronte”*



December Birthdays

- 1 Skip Sheeks
- 4 Vivian Parrott
- 5 Angie Carson
- 11 Carole McLaughlin
- 13 Teresa Lynch
- 22 Corbin Jolly
- 23 Karen Elliott

December Anniversaries

- 8 Ron & Trish Jordan
- 15 John & Martha Bramlett
- 24 Ron & Ann Reahard

*“The older you get
the better you get,
unless you are
a banana.
— Betty White”*





Tuesday, November 1st

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)
LIFE OF DAVID BIBLE STUDY (6:00 PM)

Wednesday, November 2nd

Potluck dinner (5:45 PM)
Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Sunday, November 6th

SERMON SERIES: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
"Going Against The Odds"
YOUTH (6:00 PM)

Monday, November 7th

OUTREACH TEAM MEETING (6:30 PM)

Tuesday, November 8th

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)
LIFE OF DAVID BIBLE STUDY (6:00 PM)

Wednesday, November 9th

Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Sunday, November 13th

SERMON SERIES: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
"What Are We Building With?"
YOUTH (6:00 PM)

Tuesday, November 15th

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)

Wednesday, November 16th

Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Thursday, November 17th

United Methodist Women (6:00 PM)

Sunday, November 20th

Hymn sing

North Hamilton Mission Network CHARGE CONFERENCE
3:00 PM at Burks United Methodist Church

YOUTH (6:00 PM)

Thursday, November 24th

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 27th

First Sunday in Advent

SERMON SERIES:
THE NAMES OF JESUS IN ADVENT
"Immanuel—God Is With Us"





DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 4th

Second Sunday in Advent



SERMON SERIES:
THE NAMES OF JESUS IN ADVENT
"Son Of God"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

YOUTH (6:00 PM)

Tuesday, December 6th

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)

Wednesday, December 7th

Potluck dinner (5:45 PM)

Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Sunday, December 11th

Third Sunday in Advent



SERMON SERIES:
THE NAMES OF JESUS IN ADVENT
"Jesus"

Tuesday, December 13th

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)

Wednesday, December 14th

Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Thursday, December 15th

United Methodist Women (6:00 PM)

Sunday, December 18th

Fourth Sunday in Advent



SERMON SERIES:
THE NAMES OF JESUS IN ADVENT
"The Word"

Tuesday, December 20th

Marys & Marthas Bible study (10:00 AM)

Wednesday, December 21st

Choir practice (6:30 PM)

Saturday, December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION

Sunday, December 25th



Christmas Day



SERMON SERIES:
THE NAMES OF JESUS IN ADVENT