

The Open Door

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / DECEMBER 2012

Dear Friends,

Bethel Presbyterian Church

203 S. Kentucky Street
Kingston, TN 37763

To contact us:

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Email:

1bethel@bellsouth.net

On the web:

www.bethelpcusa.org

Office Hours: 9-3:00 M-F

Sunday Schedule:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
for all ages

10:30 a.m. Fellowship/
Coffee

11:00 a.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Youth

Sacrament of Holy

Communion is celebrated

On the first Sunday of each
month.

*Bethel
Presbyterian
Church ~ a
community*

*of faith coming together,
for fellowship, study and
service...seeking God's
peace, justice and love ~*



We are on the cusp of one of my favorite church seasons - not necessarily cultural seasons, but church seasons. Advent is the beginning of the New Year in the church. We change liturgical colors, we sing songs we usually only sing once a year and we slow down, or at least we are invited to slow down and ponder.

It is the pondering that I love. I have to fight against myself every year to go slower and actually ponder, like Mary did after Gabriel left her and as she walked to her cousin Elizabeth's house and again as she did when the shepherds went on their way. I love to ponder what God was thinking sending a baby, who the baby would be, who I want the baby to be.

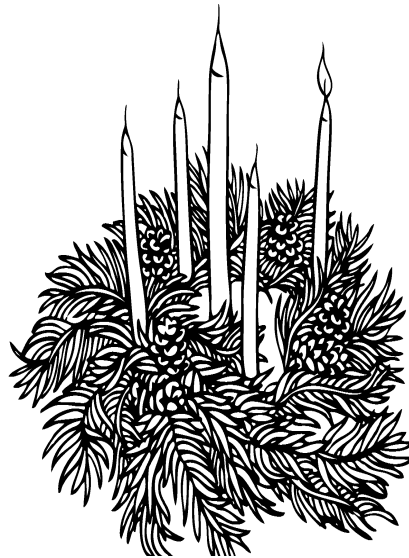
The time of year lends itself to pondering with shorter days and cooling temperatures. It

is just right to snuggle under a blanket with a cup of tea and dream and imagine and make plans. Or if the mood strikes to put on the coat and lace up the shoes and walk along the lake trail, gazing and deep in thought. It is good pondering time.

So if you haven't thought about Advent as pondering time, I invite you to ponder over the next four weeks. Think about this baby for whom we are preparing. Who will he be, what will he do, what will he offer to you, to us, what will he ask of you, of us? What are your hopes and dreams for the church, for the county, for the nation, for the world? What about hope, peace, joy and love? How do those work into your dreams?

Slow down, sip your drinks, and gaze off pondering this great gift

that will again come to us for the sake of the world.



*Grace and peace,
Wendy*

2.....The Open Door

Serve Team:

A Gift For Friends Who Already Have Everything

Give them the gift that keeps on giving: a donation in their honor to Heifer International. You donate, Heifer sends a card to your loved one.



Your donation of any of 30 types of animals or money for education programs helps transform not just one family but their entire community. Extra agricultural products such as milk, eggs, wool, and honey can be sold at market or shared. Project partners learn how to propagate their animals and donate the offspring to other community members -- your gift keeps growing and going. And when several families gain this new sustainable food source and income, they have new opportunities to invest in their community, microbanking, building schools, starting agricultural co-ops, and strengthening relationships with neighbors.

Heifer is also a great teaching opportunity for the children in your life: give them a Heifer catalog and \$20, and guide them in choosing a gift of ducks or chickens or silk-worms or a share of a dairy cow or llama. Get 'em hooked while they're young! ;D

Keep an eye out for a Heifer insert in your bulletin this month. Heifer is on the web at <http://www.heifer.org/ourwork/mission> and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/heiferinternational>

Fellowship Team



Members of the Fellowship Team will host a wedding shower to honor Amy Evans and fiancé, Chris Rourke, on Saturday, December 8, from 2:00-4:00 P.M. Amy and Chris are registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond, and would prefer Gift Cards as they will soon re-locate to Norfolk, VA for Chris to attend PA school, and this will help in the moving process!

Welcome to one of Bethel's newest visitors to Sunday worship service and to David and Jessica Choate's recent addition to family, Liam Gage! We celebrate this joyous occasion in their lives and wish to honor Liam with our gifts. Please join Fellowship Team members to feather the nest of this young family's expansion and re-fitting of their nursery needs. Bethel members and friends are invited to participate in a Gift Card Shower for Liam. Gift cards will be collected through December 30 and may be placed in the Sunday offering or left in the Bethel office.

Fellowship Supper/ Christmas Pageant

Fellowship Team members will host the monthly Potluck Fellowship Supper that is scheduled for Wednesday, December 19, at 6:30 P.M. prior to the Christmas pageant. Join us after the pageant back in the Fellowship Hall to complete the evening's meal with assorted finger desserts. We welcome you to share samplings of your most treasured holiday treats!

Cards and Letters

Dear Bethel,

Thank you for your support after I broke my leg. From the wheel chair to the walker to the only shoe I seem to fit in, this was a crazy few months. I appreciate all you have done for me.

Amy Coen

Dear Bethel,
Thank you for your continued prayers and support. The many cards, calls and offers to help have been very special and made me appreciate even more the wonderful friends I have at Bethel. I believe I am now through the worst part of my treatment, the chemotherapy. I still have radiation left in front of me. It has been wonderfully helpful to have Bethel's love, support and prayers.
Love in Christ,
Sue Jones

(Editor's note: the following note was mistakenly omitted from the November newsletter):

Thanks to my wonderful Bethel family for honoring me with a beautiful plaque and generous gift upon my retirement as Bethel's handbell choir director. I have many fond memories of my over 50 years of service in various capacities to Bethel, and the handbell choir ranks at the top.
Love, Chris Badger

Are you looking

for simple gift giving ideas this year? The Ignite/Fusion Kingston Youth Ministry has God's Creation calendars on sale for \$7 apiece. Each calendar contains beautiful pictures of nature. Sample calendars and an order form are located in the Greeting Area.

Transitions Fellowship

Check out these sites for pictures and information regarding up-to-the minute details for the ministry:

Facebook

Twitter: @bpckumcyoungadu

Our blog at <http://www.ignitefusionkingston.wordpress.com>

Text messages

December 2- Hanging of the Greens at Bethel and KUMC

KUMC:

10:30 AM- Hanging of the Greens service

6:00 PM- Family Dinner and Advent crafts in the Fellowship Hall
KUMC students and families, bring your favorite holiday dish and enjoy as we make Christmas wreaths.

Bethel:

3:00 PM-8:00 PM- Join us for
-Hanging ornaments and decorating the church.

-Assisting with mission outreach Christmas baskets.

-Activities with children

-Food Setup

-And more

We will have a meal of soup and sandwiches and worship.

December 4 @ 7 PM- Let's go shopping for our Angel Tree and grab a bite to eat!

December 8 @ 7:00 PM- Christ-

mas concert for Christmas baskets. Join us to listen to some great Christmas music and support our Christmas basket ministry.

December 9 @ KUMC

9:30 AM- Fellowship Breakfast

10:30 AM- Combined worship and choir concert

6:00 PM- Carols and Candles (Informal Gathering)

December 18- Christmas Party & Transitions Birthday! Let's celebrate the holiday and the Transitions Birthday at the same time! We will meet at 7 PM. The location will be TBA.

December 23 @ KUMC

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Services

6:00 PM- Carol and Cookie Fellowship

December 23 @ Bethel

4 PM- 6 PM- Caroling at shut-in member's homes and gathering at the King's house afterwards.

December 25- Merry Christmas!!!

Upcoming Events

February 1-3- Divine Rhythm- Young Adult Retreat in Gatlinburg, TN. The cost is \$80. The deadline for scholarships and registration will be January 15th. A late fee of \$25 will be assessed for late registrations.

Don't forget to check out our young adult blog. It will be updated every other week with a new study. Take your time and leave your thoughts, prayer requests and more on the site.

<http://tfkingston.wordpress.com/>

Do you have scrap metal that is taking up space in your home or garage? Donate it to our young adult program! You can get rid of your scrap metal and help the young adult program at the same time!

We accept:

Old extension cords and wiring (no phone cable)
Aluminum cans
Scrap Metal
Copper
Brass

News from Faith and Evangelism Team — Save these Dates

Thanksgiving is past and Advent is here with Christmas not far behind. How on earth could we be thinking of Lent? The Faith Team is planning an SOS (Save Our Saturday) program for the Saturdays in Lent. On each of those Saturdays, you will have an opportunity to "give up" what is so difficult to give - your time. You will have an opportunity to give your time in service to community and to others. Keep your eye on the kiosk, the Open Door and the bulletin for more information.

Interested in being an acolyte, an usher and/or liturgist on Sunday mornings but not real sure what to do and how to do it? Bring a brown bag lunch for a training and information session led by Pastor Wendy after worship on January 13th. You will learn all the details.

Faith and Evangelism Team is always looking for people interested in joining the team. Several members have moved or retired and we would love to have you join in this great team. Contact Nancy King or Celia Simon if you have questions or pick up the Opportunity Catalog in the gathering area. We usually meet on the first Sunday of the month after worship.

Don't forget the Bell Choir!
Jackie Rylander
Brandau is directing the choir after Chris Badger retired. All youth and interested adults welcome.



igniteFUSION KINGSTON

December is here! This is a busy season of family, exams, Christmas, Advent and life in general. Take time to enjoy this season at Youth. Watch for opportunities to ring the Salvation Army bells at Food City. Please note that all activities and times are subject to change. Check out these sites for pictures and information regarding up to the minute details for the ministry:

Bethel home page: www.bethelpcusa.org/youth

Facebook

Twitter: @ignitefusingston

Instagram: ignitefusingston

Our blog at <http://www.ignitefusionkingston.wordpress.com>

Text messages

Check out our youth blog at:

<http://www.ignitefusionkingston.wordpress.com>. It will be updated weekly with thoughts about Advent. Take your time and leave your thoughts, prayer requests and more on the site.

December Events:

December 2- Hanging of the Greens at Bethel and KUMC
KUMC:

10:30 AM- Hanging of the Greens service

6:00 PM- Family Dinner and Advent craft in the Fellowship Hall
Bring your favorite holiday dish and enjoy as we make Christmas wreaths.

Bethel:

3:00 PM-8:00 PM- We need your help to:

- Hang ornaments and decorate the church.

- Assist with mission outreach Christmas baskets.

- Activities with children

- Food Setup

- And more

We will have a meal of soup and sandwiches and worship.

December 8 @ 7:00 PM- Christmas concert for Christmas baskets. Join us to listen to some great Christmas music and support our Christmas basket ministry.

December 9 @ KUMC:

9:30 AM- Fellowship Breakfast

10:30 AM- Combined worship and choir concert

5:45 PM- Youth Caroling at Wellington Place & Jamestowne. We will leave KUMC at 5:45 PM, go caroling, eat dinner out and return at 7 PM.

6:00 PM- Carols and Candles (Informal Gathering)

December 12 @ Location TBA

5:00 PM- We will go shopping for our Angel Tree Children and then have the Christmas party of the year. Watch for details.

December 16 @ KUMC:

6:00 PM- Children's Christmas Program

December 19 @ Bethel:

Time-TBA Bethel Family Dinner and Pageant

December 20 @ KUMC:

10:00 AM- Christmas basket assembly

December 21 @ KUMC:

9:00 AM- Christmas basket distribution! The church needs your help to assemble and distribute the baskets.

December 23 @ KUMC:

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM- Services

6:00 PM- Carol and Cookie Fellowship

NO IGNITION

December 23 @ Bethel:

4 PM- 6 PM- Caroling at shut-in member's homes and gathering at the King's house afterwards.

December 23- NO IGNITION

December 24 @ KUMC:

6:00 PM & 11:00 PM- Communion Christmas Eve Service

December 24 @ Bethel:

7:00 PM- Christmas Eve Service

December 25- MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

Upcoming Events:

January-February- The Project at Ignition

January 17- Love Kitchen at First Presbyterian Harriman

January 25- Resurrection 2013

Registration is open for Resurrection 2013. The cost is \$70. Scholarships and the general deadline is January 20th. Registrations received after January 20th will be assessed a \$25 late fee. There are a limited number of spaces available so sign up soon! Contact Will for registration information.

March 2-4- Youth Summit in Gatlinburg

Memorials

In memory of Marc Sherrod from Mark and Kathy Banker
In memory of Wanda Carter from Charles and Brenda Hutzler
In memory of Cathy McDowell's mother from Bill and Marianne Shadden
In honor of Micki Anderson and Andy Avel from Glenn and Anne Horner

December Birthdays

- 1 Mac Robbins
- 2 Chuck Allen*
- 4 Don Gasparetti
- 12 John Walker
- 13 Orlando Vanegas, Jr.
- 14 Bob Jones
Donna Walker
- 16 Ted Dailey
- 22 Tom Pickel, III
- 23 Madge Mounger
- 28 David Standridge
Maria Vanegas
- 29 Brennan Foy
Jim Schall

Prayer Reminders

Assisted Living and Nursing Homes

Jamestowne	851 Lawnville Road, Kingston 37763
Nelle Griffith	Room 206
Dick Hettrick	Room 102
Louise Pickel	Room 209
Mac Robbins	Room 305
Sophie Simon	Room 302
Lill Walton	Room 408

Wellington Place	1098 Bradford Way, Kingston 37763
Jack & Sue Muecke	Room 206
Jan Parker	Room 107

Renaissance Terrace	257 Patton Lane, Harriman 37748
Marge Maki	Room 108A

The Bridge at Rockwood	5580 Roane State Hwy Rockwood 37854
Margaret True	Room 349

Brakebill Nursing Home	5837 Lyons View Pike Knoxville 37919
Anne Smith	Room 416-B

In Need of Prayer: Anneke Oonk, Lil Walton, Amy Coen, Lucy Webb, Bill & Marianne Shadden, Molly Cooper, Tammy and Danny Holloway, Sue & Bob Jones, Jean & Don Dice, Helene Ricker, Barbara Baird and her brother, Justus Baird, Becky Grant (*Larry Strickling's niece*), Dianne Swinler (*Brenda Strickling's sister*).

It is with sadness that we share that the church office received notice that our sister in Christ, Elizabeth (Libby) Cuneo, passed away on October 18, 2012 in Ft. Myers, FL.



Looking Ahead...

If you're one of those rare people who is looking past December into the new year, why not resolve to try something new?

You might want to get in touch with your creative side with Bethel Arts Ministry classes (Mondays and Wednesdays), Getting a new camera for Christmas? Bethel's Digital Arts group (2nd Saturdays) could help you improve your photography skills. Or, you could learn a new language (Spanish classes, Tuesdays at 6:30).

If you'd like to share your musical talent, consider joining the choir or handbell choir, or become one of our ensemble musicians.

Taoist Tai Chi meets on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Why not resolve to become more physically active in the new year?

And if you're looking to expand your Biblical knowledge and grow in your spiritual life, we will offer several evening studies in the coming year. Watch the upcoming editions of the Open Door for more details.

Fall Festival Results

The Fall Festival Committee is proud to be handing out checks to Michael Dunn, Hands of Mercy, and Roane State Cooperative Ministries in the amount of \$2012.28 to each organization. Overall, the Fall Festival donations and sales earned \$9446.22 this year, an increase of 20% over last year's receipts. Bethel opened its doors to the community by hosting a youth-sponsored yard sale (done jointly with KUMC), a silent auction, a marketplace of baked goods and hand crafted items, games & horse rides for kids, a petting zoo, book sales, food from our cafe and fellowship breakfast. The Lord blessed us with great weather and a great response from the community. Thank you so much for all the hard work everyone put into this great community mission and once again, Bethel has shown Kingston that caring for others is what we are all about!!

6.....December at Bethel

1

Mac Robbins' 100th Birthday
Celebration
2-4 PM



First Sunday of Advent

2

Children's Christmas Music
Rehearsal after Worship

Hanging of the Greens
3:00 to 6:00 PM: Christmas Bas-
ket Distribution, Decorating, and
Crafts
6:30 PM Soup and Sandwiches,
followed by evening Worship.
All are Welcome!

8

Wedding Shower for Amy Evans
and Chris Rourke



Second Sunday of Advent

9

Children's Christmas Music
Rehearsals after Worship.

15

Wedding of Amy Evans and
Chris Rourke 2 PM



Third Sunday of Advent

16

Children's Christmas Program @
KUMC 6 PM



18

Desserts for Morgan County Prison
(due by 2 PM)



19

Fellowship Supper & Christmas
Pageant 6:30



Fourth Sunday of Advent

23

Christmas
Caroling
4-6 PM;
King's
house af-
terwards



24



Christmas
Eve
Services:
KUMC
6 PM
Bethel
7 PM

25



30

Breakfast for Youth during
SS hour.
Joint Worship at KUMC:
Lessons & Carols
Worship at MCCRX 7 PM



DECEMBER

Weekly Events: Bethel Arts Ministry: Mondays, 10-Noon; 6:30-8:30 PM (Adults) Wednesdays 4-6 PM (Youth) Taoist Tai Chi: Tues. 6-7:30 PM, Sat. 9-10:30 AM Beginning Spanish: Tuesdays 6:30-7:00 PM Advanced Spanish: Tuesdays: 6:30-7:30 PM Ignite/Fusion: Sundays and Wednesdays; check page 4 for times						1 Mac Robbins' 100th Birthday Celebration 2-4 PM
2 No Faith Team Meeting Hanging of the Greens & Christmas Baskets 3 PM	3	4	5	6	7	8 Wedding Shower for Amy Evans/Chris Rourke 2-4 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Wedding of Amy Evans/Chris Rourke 2 PM
16 Children's Christmas Program @ KUMC 6 PM	17	18 Desserts for Morgan County Prison (due by 2 PM)	19 No Property Team Meeting-Fellowship Supper & Christmas Pageant 6:30	20	21	22
23 Christmas Caroling 4-6 PM; King's house afterwards	24 Christmas Eve Services: KUMC 6 PM Bethel 7 PM	25	26	27	28	29
30 Breakfast for Youth during SS hour. No Study Team Meeting Joint Worship at KUMC/Lessons & Carols Worship at MCCRX 7 PM	31	Rehearsals: Choir Practice: Wednesdays 7:00 PM Children's Choir Practice: 8:30 AM Sundays in the KUMC Annex Children's Christmas Music Practice: December 2nd and 9th after worship. Handbell Choir: Wednesdays at 6:00 PM				