



Community Prayer Service for Peace

at MPUMC On Sunday January 24 at 6PM, our church will be hosting a community prayer service for peace. The service will be led in partnership with First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge. At the service, you will get to learn how a group of youth from Oak Ridge are working in a real and profound way for peace in the Middle East. You will also have the chance to be a part of the prayer initiative begun by our own Mickey Rosenblum to have 1 million Christians praying for peace by praying for our enemies in January of 2010. Please mark your calendars now!



Phone 865-690-8641

Fax 865 539-4636

www.middlebrookpike.com

Slingshot Worship at MPUMC

Have you heard about our new youth and young adult worship experience called "Slingshot" - Sunday nights at 7:30 p.m. in room #52? We've had great turnouts the first four months - all ages of people - age 10 and up!

Come check out our January sermon series - "**Pop Goes Religion**" Whether we like it or not, popular culture shapes the way we look at a lot of things - including our faith.

Join us this month at the intersection of faith and culture!

And...don't forget to look for the Slingshot worship community on Twitter at "Slingshot411." Over 110 people follow us on Twitter and/or receive daily text messages devotional moments from the Slingshot Worship Team.

God & Science Sermon Series

Is it possible to believe in both God and science?
Can we prove that God exists?
What does the Bible say about creation and evolution?
Where is God when natural disasters and diseases claim innocent lives?

January 10 - Faith & the Scientific Method

January 17 - Creation & Evolution

January 24 - God, Disaster, & Disease

Join us in worship as we explore these questions together in January 2010!

JANUARY 6, 2010

The Messenger

On Campus Events

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

- 8:30 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 9:00 MPUMC Breakfast (FLC/FH)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 Brass Voices
- 5:30 Revelation Singers
- 5:30 Youth Snack Supper
- 6:00 CWS Praise Team
- 6:00 "GiG" Youth Small Groups
- 7:30 "Slingshot" Youth/Young Adult Worship

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

- 7:00 Boy Scouts (Old Building)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (LCR)
- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC)
- 10:30 Prayer at the Altar
- 6:30 Christian Believer Class (LCR)
- 7:00 Open Gym

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

- 5:15 Youth Handbell Choir
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir
- 6:15 Angel Choir (Room 26)
- 6:15 Cherub choir (Room 21)
- 6:15 Friendship Choir (Room 30)
- 6:45 "Ignition" Youth Fellowship
- 7:00 Children's Handbell Choir
- 7:00 Chancel Choir
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 21 and 30)
- 7:45 Youth Games

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC)
- 6:00 Disciple III
- 6:00 NCD Meeting (FH)
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 23 and 31)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED BY
YOUTH GROUP

PLEASE JOIN US.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

JANUARY 3, 2010

Total Worship - 443 Sunday School - 225

Tithes & Offerings for 1-3-2010

Received for

Budget

2009 \$20,881.00

2010 \$19,114.44

Paving the Way

2009 \$28,375.00

2010 \$1,550.00

Memorials

Judy Boyd

Special

Offerings:

FISH

\$1,515.00

ESL

\$700.00

Christmas offer-
ing undesignated

\$200.00

Other - Desig-
nated Offerings

\$720.01

Total Receipts

\$73,055.45



- January 9** Martha Sparrow, Sam Bratton, Jay Montague
- January 10** Nancy Saylor, Jake Bronkala
- January 11** Jeanne Richards, Ann Knox, Jennifer Voss, Shelby Bowers, Kiki Himebaugh
- January 12** Scott Krebs
- January 13** Janet Adams Ronny Pennington
- January 14** Madison White, Rich Holly, Jonathan Fox, Andy Uglow
- January 15** Christopher Wahler, Annie Duncan
- January 17** Jerry Gilley, Matt Bratton, Adam Delahoussaye, Alex Mefford, Taylor Knox

Tithes & Offerings for December 20, 2009

Received for Budget 2009		\$17,845.37
Received for Budget 2010		\$4,850.00
Paving the Way		\$7,492.00
Memorials	Judy Boyd & Jean Holbert	
Honorarium	Sonny Melton	
Special Offerings:		
FISH		\$2,417.44
Christmas undesignated		\$1,330.00
ESL		\$930.00
Other—Designated Offerings		\$6,248.42
Total Receipts		\$41,113.23

Tithes & Offerings for December 27 2009

Received for Budget		\$10,706.50
2010 Budget		\$1,200.00
Paving the Way		\$3,573.00
Memorials		
Honorariums	Hope McGee & Sonny Melton	
Special Offerings:		
FISH		\$2,050.00
ESL		\$1,095.00
Christmas Undesignated		\$3,178.65
Holston Home		\$25.00
Other - Designated Offerings		\$7,288.44
Total Receipts		\$29,116.59



MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES...

This calendar does not include basketball practices or games.
See your coach for further details.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Breakfast of Champions – 7:00 a.m. - Cost: \$5.00
Location: Shoney's (Walker Springs & Kingston Pike)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Youth prepare and serve breakfast...meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30

Youth Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11:00
"Crossroads" Contemporary Worship - 8:45 & 11:00

Resurrection Counselors Meeting - 4:30 p.m.
Those who have conflicts will be contacted next week with pertinent trip information.

5:30 - Snack Supper - \$3.00 - Fellowship Hall

6:00 – Special Youth Group Event
“RESURRECTION 2010 PREVIEW”
6:00 to 7:15 p.m.

Resurrection participants are **strongly encouraged** to attend!

“SLINGSHOT” Worship Service
7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
In the room #52. Please come and join us!

YOUTH SUPERBOWL HOAGIE SALE

Enjoy a great sandwich with the Super Bowl or for a quick Sunday lunch and help our youth program by ordering your hoagies today. The \$8.00 price includes a six-inch hoagie sandwich, pickles, potato chips & a chocolate chip cookie.

Each sandwich will be packaged with separate lettuce, tomatoes and condiment packets to maintain freshness and provide individual preference. Order forms will be available at the Sunday morning worship services. Fill out the order form and place it in the offering plate or basket. All orders may be picked up and paid for after the early and late services in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 7th.

Confirmation?

Confirmation is a faith-building and faith-affirming experience for 6th, 7th, & 8th graders.

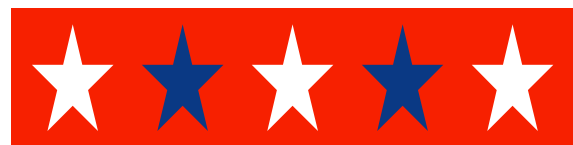
The experience will begin with a special orientation for youth, parents, and mentors on Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the MPUMC youth rooms. Potential confirmands should sign-up with Eric Bronkala and select their mentor. This person should be an adult church member who the confirmand sees as a good example of what it is to be a Christian disciple. Mentors will serve as “big brothers and sisters”, assisting the youth throughout the entire Confirmation experience. Detailed information will be sent to each confirmand and mentor by Monday, February 1.

Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries
ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net

Jonathan Hamilton
Jordan Leslie – grandson of Jen Webb
Robert L. Kelly – grandson of Bill and Marie
Cooper – stationed in Iraq
Major Reed Berry – Judy Berry’s son
Christina Olsen – cousin of Nate Valukas
Coleman Harrell, USAF – nephew of Sam and
Diana Clark – stationed in Germany
Robert Haas – son of Don and Joyce Haas –
stationed at Wright-Patterson, Ohio
Daniel Clark – grandson of Don and Joyce Haas
– stationed at Fort Dix, NJ
Jacob Clark – grandson of Don and Joyce Haas
– stationed in Norfolk, VA
Nicholas Bible – Samantha Frederick’s cousin –
stationed in Iraq
Troy Arquette – stationed in Louisiana
Matthew Gardner – Erin Green’s husband –
USAir Force

Andrew Cooper – Larry Cooper’s son in the
Marines
Joshua Neas
Jessee Booth USN—Nancy Booth’s grandson
Rick Burnette—Kent Milsaps’ nephew and Julia
Milsaps grandson –stationed at Ft. Gordon, GA
Blake Thompson—Bob and Elaine Ruth’s
son-in-law-stationed in Iraq

PRAY FOR OUR



MILITARY

Scrapbookers--Get your projects ready!!

Would you like to catch up on some scrapbooking projects or just learn the basics? Your chance is coming up on Saturday, January 16th from 9-1. Bring your supplies (or just photos if you've never tried it) and join us in the Fellowship Hall for a good time! Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

There is no cost, but please call Gracie Murphree @588-5158 to sign up so we'll have enough space.

Ladies!

Need a New Beginning??

First Place is a faith-based health program addressing the physical, spiritual, emotional and mental aspects of our lives. Through behavior modification, Bible study and group support, we seek to honor God with our bodies and our lives. If more times than not you find yourself 'running on empty' and carrying too many pounds in the race, please join us in January as we begin our winter/spring session.



Orientation is mandatory: Sunday, January 10 at 4 p.m. on the ground floor of the Old Sanctuary Bldg.

Children's Corner

Dates to Remember ~

**January 15, 2010 – Parent's Night Out
(Middlebrook Pike UMC)**

January 17, 2010 - New Rotation (Paul)

Missions:

Change for Children – ongoing
FISH – Peanut Butter

Volunteers needed ~ ASAP

We need shepherds and teachers for the 2009/2010 Sunday School Year. Please check your calendars and all Ann if you are able to give some time. If the positions are not filled, we will combine classes which make it difficult to teach age appropriate material.

~ Thanks ~

Thanks so much for the wonderful Christmas gifts. Throughout the year please remember to take the time to thank God for his wonderful gift to us.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year and let it be filled with joy and happiness.

Blessings in 2010!

Grow Spiritually this Winter

A 10—Week Study Beginning

Tuesday, January 26, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

The Good and Beautiful God

Falling in Love With the God

Jesus Knows

“God wants me to try harder.”

“God blesses me when I’m good and
punishes me when I’m bad.”

“God is angry with me.”

We all have ideas we tell ourselves about God and how he works in our lives. Some are true—but many are false. James Bryan Smith (author) believes those thoughts determine not only who we are, but how we live.

In the pages of this book you are invited to put your ideas to the test to see if they match up with what Jesus himself reveals about God. Once you’ve discovered the truth in Scripture, you can engage in a process of spiritual formation that includes specific activities aimed at making these new narratives real in your body and soul as well as your mind.

This deep, loving and transformative book will help you discover the narratives that Jesus lived by—to know the Lord he knew and the kingdom he proclaimed—and to practice spiritual exercises that will help you grow in the knowledge of our good and beautiful God. (from the book)

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please drop in offering plate or return to church office by January 17.)

_____ - _____
(Name) (Phone) (email)

__# of copies of The Good and Beautiful God @ \$16.00 each

You may email Pastor Rieger the above information: erieger@middlebrookpike.com

January Ongoing

Prayer List

Blanche Wright (Sabra Buchheit's mother)
Carol Buchheit (John Buchheit's mother)
Jamie Chamblee (Rick and Sally Lovin's nephew)
Jayden Wise (Peggy Reed's nephew)
Phil Moore and his son Dustin
Jonathan Keas
George Kindred (Betty Turnbow's brother)
Bobbie Wray
Alice Moore
Bobby Gordy (Dawn Galle's father)
Dorothy Cole (Emily Guffey's mother)
Fred Rosenblum (Mickey Rosenblum's father)
Karen Posey (Mike Moses' niece)
Bill Cooper
John Ray (Shelia Cooper's father)
Catherine Cole (Bonnie Cole and Kathy Rinaca's mother)
Bobby Counts (Larry Katcham's cousin)
Danny Anthony (Ray McDonald's nephew)
Danny Mount (son of John and Kathy Mount)
John T. Mount (John Mount's father)
Linda Mefford and her father Alex and brother Mike
Monica (Betty Earl's grandniece)
Bob and Pat Jackson (Becky Gompf's aunt and uncle)
Georgia Bird (Jim Bird's step-mother)
Frank Bird (Jim Bird's uncle)
Andy Walker (Josh Walker's brother)
Bill Swaggerty Jr.
Paul Ellis (Wendy Evon's father)
Darlene Demaree (Loren Demaree's mother)
Jess Lockyer (Rosemary Lockyer's brother)
Chris Emmett
Carrie Hawley (Drew Hawley's mother)
Ruth Masterson (Charlie Harr's sister)
George and Billie Sliger (Fred Sliger's parents)
Debbie Cooper
Cheryl Chambers Whitus

Ruth Byard (Carol Russell's mother)
Susan Fletcher
Ann Tate
Charles Priode
Julia Milsaps
Barbara Baker
Terry Barnett (Kim Cerny's brother-in-law)
Charles Dunn (Greg Dunn's father)
Lisa Hathaway (Gina Giannattasio's sister)
JoAnn Havlicek (Rich Holly's sister)
Laurie Sluder (Sue Coe's niece)
Charlotte Lee (Bernard Grubbs' sister)
Sara Cullison
Carolyn Gass

If you know of anyone who needs to come off this list, please contact Debbie in the church office at 690-8641.

As soon as the clock strikes midnight on January 1 the minds of financial gurus around the world, including our own church administrator Mike Moses, turn to year-end financial numbers. (Actually Mike was probably asleep when 2010 officially arrived, but we are certain he very likely thought about it before he went to bed.) In 2009, our church tried to set our budget very carefully. Given the difficult financial times, we chose to set our budget several thousand dollars less than our total revenue from 2008 to ensure that our church would remain on firm financial footing from which to face the future.

Even so, 2009 turned out to be a more difficult year than expected. As the stock market began to climb again, the job market lagged behind and so did our budget. We spent most of the year with a budget deficit which caused us to trim costs wherever and whenever possible. During the last week of 2009, we were unsure of whether we would finish 2009 in black (with a surplus) or in the red (with a deficit).

Today, we are happy to announce that thanks to your generosity we finished 2009 in the black! Our final 2009 budget numbers will indicate that we received at least \$4,831 more than we spent for the year. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to maintain both the health of our ministries and our financial health in one of the most difficult financial years in recent memory!

Now, do we have significant needs that have been put off due to the recent financial climate that will need to be addressed in order to continue effective ministry in the future? Yes, absolutely. Thankfully through wise financial decision making and your faith and generosity, we have been given a firm foundation from which to pursue those needs in the future.

Here's some more good news: During December 2009, we found out that four of our heating and cooling units

needed to be replaced at an expense of around \$35,000. Normally, such a sudden expense would cause us to have to make a draw on our capital expense loan. However, thanks to an amazing \$52,087 received to go toward our Paving the Way capital expenditures campaign during December, we were able to replace the units and reduce the size of our loan during the month.

Want some more good news? We thought you would never ask. So get ready.

Our final 2010 stewardship campaign pledge numbers are in. For 2010, we have 215 families who have pledged a total of \$923,866 to our church budget. This represents the most pledges we have ever received and the most money that has ever been pledged to our church budget! The number of pledges is up by 17 families over last year and the total amount pledged is up \$56,400!

Due to the lingering effects of the recession and our desire to be wise with our resources, our Church Leadership Council chose to set a budget of only \$16,600 more than in 2009 even though our pledges are up over \$56,000. As we evaluate our actual giving in 2010, we will be ready, of course, to make adjustments either up or down in our budget if we deem it necessary to maintaining our financial strength and the effectiveness of our ministry.

Up to this point we have talked a lot about numbers with good reason. We are very excited about what the numbers currently indicate about the financial health of our church. Please know, however, that what excites us most is what those numbers indicate about the faith and devotion of the people who constitute our church. We invite you to join us taking time this week to pray a prayer of thanksgiving that God provides for the needs of our church. Thanks to you all for blessing our church and community through your faith and devotion to Jesus Christ.

Your Pastors,
Eric and Wil

Recent requests for prayer from our church family...

CONCERNS: Archie Berry, Sarah Beck (Gary Beck's mother), Bieman McKenzie (Nancy Beck's father), Louise Smith

PASTOR ON CALL
January 8-9

Wil Cantrell
cell—919-0647

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

1st Sunday after Epiphany

MIDDLEBROOK PIKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
7234 MIDDLEBROOK PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37909

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