

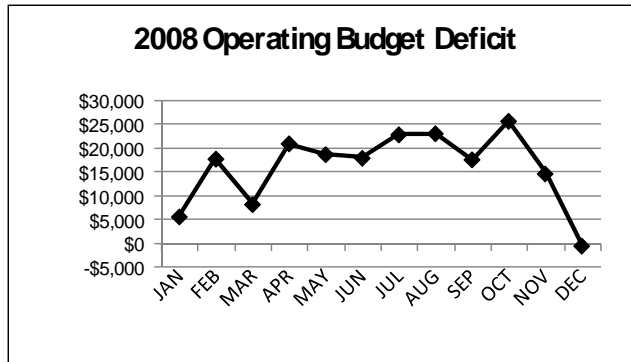


# 8:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE WILL START AGAIN JANUARY 18 COME WORSHIP WITH US.

Thanks be to God for his many blessings and to you the generous congregation of MPUMC! The final numbers are in for 2008, and the yearlong budget deficit was completely resolved during December. We actually received \$501.59 more than we needed to cover the year's expenses. In 2008 you gave a total of \$1,024,067 for the operating budget, \$253,473 for "Paving the Way" (debt retirement and capital fund), and \$273,660 for other special giving including the organ fund, FISH, and Habitat for Humanity. This is particularly amazing considering the disastrous economic times and current struggles of other churches and charitable organizations. During my term as Finance Chair, the Lord has taught me a great lesson in faith and relying on Him to provide for every need. It has been so gratifying to see time after time how faithfully our church responds to God's call to ministry and missions, and the giving that makes them possible. God bless you!

Harriet Miller  
2008 Finance Chair

Phone 865-690-8641  
Fax 865 539-4636  
www.middlebrookpike.com



JANUARY 14, 2009

# The Messenger

Martin Luther King Day Parade with KIN  
*KIN (Knoxville Interfaith Network)*

MPUMC has been a KIN member for four years. This social action team has been instrumental in getting Meals on Wheels to seniors, addressing "bullying" in our schools and recently submitting neighborhood surveys with regard to blighted properties and crime to our local mayors and government officials. KIN is made up of many faith communities who work together, to bring to the attention of our government leaders, issues that affect all Knoxvilleians.



Please join us as we march in the Martin Luther King Day Parade on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>! The parade begins at Tabernacle Baptist Church - 2137 Martin Luther King Jr Ave, Knoxville, TN 37915 at 9:15am. This is a terrific way to come together in our community to celebrate our unity!

We can carpool from MPUMC, but there is parking all around the church. Dress warmly—but **be prepared for your heart to be warmed by walking for peace with other Knoxvilleians!** There will be a worship service at Greater Warner AME Zion Church after the parade! Questions? Call Deb Holly 693-1370.

# On Campus Events

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

- 8:30 Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 MPUMC Breakfast (FLC/FH)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 Communion (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 Brass Voices (Room 31)
- 5:30 Revelation Singers (Choir Room)

## MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- 7:00 Boy Scouts (Old Building)

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (Choir Room)
- 10:30 Prayer at the Altar (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 Cub Scouts (Old Building)
- 6:45 Girl Scouts (Room 30)
- 7:00 Open Gym (FLC/Gym)

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

- 5:15 Wednesday Night Connection (FLC/Gym)
- 6:00 Book Club (Room 2A)
- 6:15 Children's Choirs
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:15 Friendship Choir (Room 30)
- 6:15 Youth Group Activities
- 6:15 Youth Handbell Choir
- 7:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:00 Children's Handbells (Room 31)

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Beth Moore Study (Room 30)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC/Gym)
- 6:00 Men's Basketball (FLC/Gym)

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

- 9:00 FISH

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

- 8:00 Sr. High Basketball (FLC/Gym)

(See other enclosed calendars within this publication for additional activities.)

**PLEASE NOTE:  
THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, JANUARY 19 TO OBSERVE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

### Wednesday Night Connection Menu for January 21



**Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes,  
Vegetable, Salad and Dessert**

**Please be sure to make your  
reservation by Monday at noon.**

### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

JANUARY 11, 2009

**Total Worship - 491 Sunday School - 244**

### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

JANUARY 11 2009

RECEIVED FOR BUDGET	<b>\$22,854.50</b>
PAVING THE WAY	\$3,590.00
<b>HONORARIUM: The Fowler Twins</b>	
<b>SPECIAL OFFERINGS</b>	
FISH \$120.00; MS Missions \$3000.00	
DESIGNATED OFFERINGS	\$1,611.68
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$31,176.18</b>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- January 22** Joe Hatton, Clyde Finch
- January 23** Jen Webb, Jack Watt, Sally Lovin
- January 24** Daryll Ray, Carroll Grubbs
- January 25** Martha Jean Bratton
- January 27** Becky McMurray, Bill Swaggerty,  
Daniel Rice, Rita Tate
- January 28** Jonathan Keas, Becky Clay
- January 29** Benetta Newberry

*(If we missed your birthday, we are sorry. Please notify the church office so your birthday can be added to our records.)*

## February Mississippi Team

There will be a meeting for the February 8-14 Hurricane Recovery Mission Team on Sunday January 18 at 4pm In room 30.

**If you are interested in being on the team, it's still not too late.**

Join us in this life changing ministry by attending the meeting or calling Nancy Saylor (980-2864).

**“Jesus According to Jesus”  
Worship Series**

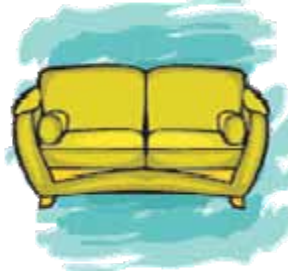
People say a lot of things about Jesus these days. Some say he was just a man. Some say he is God in human form. Some say he was a prophet. Some say he is their



Lord and Savior. Some say he was a good example of how to live. Some say he is their guide. Some say he is a Republican. Some say he is a Democrat. Some say he is a friend. Some say he is a martyr. Some say he is an activist. Some even say he is an action figure. Some say all the stories about him in the Bible are made up. Some say the world was made through him.

Some say he is judgmental. Some say he is merciful. Some say he is our only hope. Some say not to get our hopes up.

Join us for worship in January and February as we look at what Jesus said about himself as recorded in the Gospel of John.



Thanks to the kindness of our congregation, a family in need now has a couch and chair. Thanks to those that donated and delivered.



**Interested in doing an in-depth Bible Study?**

The ladies' Thursday morning Bible study (10:00-noon) will start the newest study by Beth Moore on Esther on January 15th. **We'd love to have you join us.** We meet in Room 30.

If you're interested in joining us or if you have any questions, call Elaine McGinn (693-7629).



**Bandanas - Bible  
School in Yei,  
Sudan**

Children's Ministry will be collecting "new" bandanas for our brothers and sisters in Yei, Sudan. The Young Adult Mission Team of the Holston Conference will be going to Yei, Sudan in March to teach 2000 children that are attending school on United Methodist property about the Bible. The theme will be Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors. Each child will receive a bandana. Choose a bandana that you would like; I know the child who receives it will also like it! Pastor Wil is the Worship Leader and Host for Divine Rhythm. This is a Worship Retreat for young adults in the Holston Conference. He will be taking the bandanas on March 23 to the conference. Let's help Pastor Wil by starting this collection for our brothers and sisters. There will be a box in the Narthex and Family Life Center. We will also collect them during our Children's Gathering Time.

**We are asking everyone (adults included) to be a part of this! Please have the bandanas in by March 21.**

*Thank You!*

I wish to thank my church family for all the cards, phone calls, prayers and visits I received during my recent surgery and recovery. This church means a lot to me and I really appreciate all the love you have shown me in the last few months.

Love,  
*Dot Hyke*

# ♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

## VACANCY -- IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

Available at once, several choice seats in exclusive section of sanctuary immediately behind clergy locations. Great view of Sunday a.m. proceedings. Beautiful surroundings with live music. Seats available Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. No qualification -- no points -- no rent! Pleasant attitude a plus. For more information call 690-8641 or 475-5430 and ask for Sonny: or see in person Sunday mornings or Wednesday

evenings at Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church. Great fellowship with some great people a free bonus. Come and join us!



## Children's Corner

### Dates to Remember

- January 16 - Parent's Night Out (CUMC)
- February 20 - Parent's Night Out (MPUMC)

### Mission Focus:

- ◆ **Change for Children** - ongoing
- ◆ FISH: Canned Fruit (January), Jelly (February)

### Baby Pictures:

Please send your baby's picture for the Baby Bulletin Board.



Ann Cover - Director of Children's Ministries  
acover@middlebrookpike.com

**Baby Rose:** Let Ann know when you will be bringing your "new" baby for the first time so the church can honor him/her with a rose on the altar.



# MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

## Upcoming Events & Activities...

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

### **January 16, 17, & 18**

68 youth & 10 adults attend Resurrection 2009;  
our annual youth Methodist youth convention in Gatlinburg.

### **Sunday, January 18**

**No Sunday night youth activities due to the  
Resurrection 2009 event!**

Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11:00  
Contemporary Worship - 8:45 & 11:00  
Youth Sunday School - 9:45

**Youth return from Resurrection 2009 - 3:30 p.m.**

### **Wednesday, January 21**

**Wednesday Night Youth Connection**

5:15 to 6:00 - dinner  
6:15 to 6:45 - Youth Handbells & "The Gathering"

**6:45 - Youth group activities**

7:45 to 8:30 - Open gym & game room

## HOAGIE SALE CONTINUES...

Enjoy a great sandwich during the  
Super Bowl and help our youth program!

Order your hoagie by filling out the Sunday morning  
bulletin insert and putting it in the offering plate.

The price is \$7.00, which includes a sandwich  
(turkey, turkey & cheese, ham, or ham & cheese),  
lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, and your choice of chips.

All orders may be picked up and paid for in the  
Fellowship Hall after each worship service  
on Sunday, February 1.

## CONFIRMATION IS COMING!

What is *Confirmation*?

Confirmation is a faith-building and faith-affirming  
experience for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> graders who would like an  
opportunity to discover and discuss key elements of  
their identity as Christians and members of Christ's  
church. Youth who wish to participate should contact  
Eric Bronkala by Sunday, February 1.

**Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries**

ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net

## Last Chance for First Place, Winter Session!!

Hoping for better health in 2009? Wishes and hoping alone won't get us there. Come to First Place Orientation Sunday, January 18 at 4 p.m. in the Old Sanctuary Bldg. Hear how modest changes can yield positive results. First Place is a faith-based health program for women who learn, study, pray and laugh (we laugh a lot!) together. To be part of our 12 week winter group, you must attend Orientation (unless you were in the fall, 2008 group). If you have questions, contact Jan Mobley at 691-3057 or [granjj@comcast.net](mailto:granjj@comcast.net). Approximate cost this session: \$50.00 for new participants; \$15.00 for second-timers.

*Come check us out; what have you got to lose??*

### Where is Hope?

"These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock. "But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards." Matthew 7: 24-27

*The Message*

We enter this new year in the midst of circumstances that most of us wouldn't have dreamt of at this time last year. There has been a 40% loss in the stock market—12.4 trillion dollars lost. It seems that there is greed and corruption everywhere; many of us are angry, cynical, and fearful. Many have lost hope.

Hope is to the soul as oxygen is to the body. We thrive on hope. The passage above contrasts two different kinds of life. Jesus says that if you build your life on my teachings, it will be a like a house built on solid

rock, a firm foundation. Jesus contrasts it with a life that doesn't take his teachings seriously or apply and treasure them—it is like a house built on sand. Notice that storms come into both lives; Christians face storms, too. Yet it is the life built on Jesus Christ and his teachings that stands. It is never too late to build a good foundation and "shore-up" our lives with Jesus Christ. His teachings are timeless and life-bringing. To spend time regularly with Jesus in prayer helps anxious feelings dissolve. To spend time regularly with Jesus' words undergird us with faith about who really is in control. To spend time regularly with Jesus' body, the church, helps us to keep hope alive. Where is hope? Please allow these blessed words to sink in: *And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?* Romans 8: 28,31  
May you know hope in 2009 in and through the love God has for you. (Special thanks to Stephen Defur and Millie Meese for some of the above thoughts)

*Pastor Eric*

### *Recent requests for prayer from our church family...*

**CONCERNS:** Phil Moore, Milton Carleston (Lee Carleston's father), Ruby Adkins (Dale Murphy's sister), Paige Troutman, Lucile Thede (Jan Lee's mother), David Smith (Lauren Robinson's father), Ruth Hauk (Elaine Hauk's mother), Jean Begley

### **PASTOR ON CALL**

Eric Rieger

**Friday 01/16 -  
Sunday 01/18**

cell - 964-0030

### **LOOK TOWARD SUNDAY January 18**

***Traditional and Contemporary  
Services***

***Sermon: "I am the "Light of the  
World"***

***Scripture: John 8:12-20***

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

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