



Phone 865-690-8641

Fax 865 539-4636

www.middlebrookpike.com

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

March 28

3:00 PM – 5:30 PM

108 Golf Club Road

(home of Rick and Gracie Murphree)

DO NOT PARK ON STREET

PARK AT LIBRARY OR LUTHERN CHURCH



Easter Egg Hunt Rain Plans ~ March 28, 2010

Please come to the church at 4:00. Bring your Easter basket and place it in the hall outside the Family Life Center. We will have a magician in the Family Life Center at 4:15. While you are watching the magician, Easter friends will put surprises in your basket. Following the magician, children will look through their goodies. Those with the golden eggs will find the Easter Bunny to claim their prize. Dinner will be served at 5:00.



March 28 ~ Palm Sunday Worship Services

April 1 ~ Maundy Thursday ~ 7pm in the Sanctuary
Choir Cantata with Holy Communion
"Lift High the Cross"

April 2 ~ Good Friday Service ~ 7pm in the Family Life Center, led by our youth

April 4 ~ EASTER SUNDAY ~ Sunrise Service ~ 7am
led by the Haiti Mission Team
Breakfast will be served.

8:45 and 11am ~ Contemporary Services

8:30 and 11am ~ Traditional Services

A service of Holy Communion will be offered after the 11:00 services in the Sanctuary.

Please bring flowers from your yard to decorate the cross on the front lawn of the church on Easter Sunday!!

PARKING ON EASTER SUNDAY ~ ~ If you are able, please park in the far back parking lot to leave the front spaces for our visitors. Thank you.

MARCH 24, 2010

The Messenger

On Campus Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 28 ~ PALM SUNDAY

- 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)
- 2:00 Stephens Ministry (Room 40)
- 4:00 First Place Class (Room 27)
- 4:30 Youth Choir (Room 31)
- 5:30 Revelation Choir
- 5:30 Youth Snack Supper
- 6:00 Youth Group (Gym)
- 7:00 "GiG" Youth Small Groups
- 7:45 "Slingshot" Youth/Young Adult Worship

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (LCR)
- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful
- 6:30 Good & Beautiful God Class (Library)
- 7:00 Open Gym

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

- 6:00 Beth Moore Study (LCR)
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir
- 6:45 "Ignition" Youth Fellowship
- 7:00 Chancel Choir
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 30)
- 7:45 Youth Games

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

- 9:30 CEP
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC)
- 5:00 CWS Praise Team
- 6:00 Disciple III (LCR)
- 6:00 STEPS Co-Parenting Class (Old Bldg.)
- 7:00 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 Toastmasters (Room 30)
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 31)

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED TODAY

- 7:00 Good Friday Service (FLC)

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

- 9:00 CWS Praise Team
- 9:00 STEP Co-Parenting Class (Old Bldg.)



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

MARCH 21, 2010

Sunday School— 241 Worship— 488

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

March 21, 2010

BUDGET	\$21,925.82
PAVING THE WAY	\$1,218.00
MEMORIALS	
SPECIAL OFFERINGS:	
FISH	\$165.50
DESIGNATED OFFERINGS	\$1,067.55
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$24,376.87



- April 2** Ginny Thurston
- April 3** Travis Boyd, Kim Cerny, Hudson Shepherd
- April 4** Amy Dunn, Suzy Kington, Ken Rochelle
- April 6** Molly Bush, Stanley Griffin, Sandra Valukas, Michelle Spangler

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



SUNDAY, MARCH 28

**Breakfast will be served by
the UMW ~
The Mary Rayfield Circle**

please join us!



HELP NEEDED WITH SPRING YARD WORK

A big thank you to Dale Murphy, Bill Tucker and Beth Long who worked Saturday morning raking and clearing flower beds in preparation for mulching.

There's additional work to be done and we need your help. If you can work an hour or two (or more) this week or next please call Archie Berry, 661-7381. He'll appreciate your help. If you can work this Saturday from 10:00 am to noon please call Iris Long, 588-5714 or email ediris@comcast.net.

Go Green Tip from Creation Cares:

Helping care for the earth also helps care for your pocketbook. Consider changing your old light bulbs to CFLs (compact florescent light-bulbs). Don't let the price of a CFL fool you; they last 5 times longer and cost less than half of other light bulbs to run, saving big dollars on your utility bills.

Spring into action and remember to care for God's creations!

Children's Corner

Dates to Remember ~

- March 19- Parent's Night Out (Middlebrook Pike UMC)
- March 28 - Easter Egg Hunt (Rick and Gracie Murphree's home)
- April 11 - New Rotation (Ruth)
- May 9 - Eric Bronkala teaches 5th graders.
- May 16 - New Rotation (Miracles)
- May 21 - Parents Night Out
- June 7 - June 11- Vacation Bible School
- June 13 - Eric teaches 5th graders.
- June 27 - Summer Rotation begins
- July 16 - Parents Night Out
- July 25 - Eric Bronkala meets with rising 6th graders and their parents at 9:45 (Theater).
- August 22 - Bible presented to rising 3rd graders. Information will follow.

Camp Wesley Woods

Summer is right around the corner. Please come by the office and receive a Camp Wesley Woods magazine. As you know, camp fills up quickly. Please see Ann if you need assistance.

Missions: Change for Children – ongoing FISH – Peanut Butter

The Easter Egg

The empty Easter eggs will be in the baskets in the Narthex and Family Life Center beginning February 21, the first Sunday in Lent. Please take one (or two) and fill with coins, dollars, checks, or all. Return your Easter eggs by Easter, April 4. There will be baskets in the Narthex and Family Life Center. The money collected will be given to Change for Children. Each year, churches give loose change to benefit children's ministries in Holston Conference and in Africa. And each year, several groups receive that pocket change in the form of grants. Change for Children grants support new and existing ministries with economically disadvantaged children, from birth to age 12, and their families. Holston churches and related United Methodist agencies are eligible for these funds.



*We will be selling the candy eggs on
Sunday, March 28th
in the Fellowship Hall.
This will be the last day to purchase your
eggs!!*

*Proceeds will go to support 2010 UMW local,
national and global missions.*

Dear MPUMC,

Thanks to everyone for all the prayers, cards, visits, calls and delicious food received during my recovery from back surgery. A special thank you to Eric for coming to the hospital so early in the morning of the surgery. His kind and reassuring words were such a blessing.

May God Bless You,

Mary, Bill and Keith Tucker



THANK YOU, TROY LAWSON!!

We wish to express our thanks to Troy Lawson (father of Lou Ann Sliger) for the beautiful processional cross which he has crafted and donated to Middlebrook Pike UMC. Troy is a faithful member of Fountain City UMC and has been for many years the donor of his talents in woodworking and other service projects. He made the candlesticks and the cross we are currently using on the altar, has made bell stands for our handbell choirs, and made the step rails for the chancel area. The new cross will be used on special occasions beginning with Holy Week services this year.

Thank you, Troy, for these beautiful gifts to our church.



MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES...

Sunday, March 28

8:30, 8:45, & 11:00 – Worship
 9:45 – Youth Sunday School
 4:30 – Youth Choir
 5:30 – “Fish Food” Snack Supper
 6:00 – Special Event: “OLYMPIC SPORTS SPECTACULAR” –
 Theme: *Training for life – 1 Tim. 4:7-8*
 7:00 – “G.i.G” small groups – Eric may meet with some
 Good Friday participants for extra rehearsal.
 7:45 – Slingshot Worship – rm. #52

Wednesday, March 31

NO Youth Handbells
 6:45 – Youth Group Prayer, Announcements, &
Rehearsal of Good Friday Service.
 7:45 – Open gym and games room for youth

Friday, April 2

No “Breakfast of Champions” due to holiday – rescheduled for
 April 9.

3:30 – individual music & tech rehearsal for Good Friday Service
 4:30 – all participants including Youth Handbell Ensemble
 6:00 – dinner break (bring a sack dinner – drinks provided)
 7:45 – Good Friday Service

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:30, 8:45, & 11:00 - Worship
 9:45 – Youth Sunday School
 No **evening** youth activities or Slingshot Worship Service on
 Easter Sunday, April 4!

Wednesday, April 7

5:15 – Youth Handbells
 6:45 – Youth Group Time: “IGNITION”
 7:45 – Open gym and games room for youth

Friday, April 9

“BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS”
 7:00 a.m. at Shoney’s (Walker Springs & Kingston Pike)
 \$5.00 for breakfast bar and a drink...we’ll be done by 7:50 and
 take you to school!

Saturday, April 11

2010 Confirmation Class Meeting – 8:30 a.m. to noon – youth
 rooms

*Confirmands should try to complete either their service or
 worship experience projects before our meeting.*

Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries

ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net



BLOOD DRIVE

will be held on

April 17—

Mark your calendars and plan to
 give.

More details will follow at a later
 date.

THIS IS THE LAST
 SUNDAY TO ORDER
 YOUR EASTER LILIES



You can put a lily on the
 altar in Honor of or in
 Memory of a loved one.

The lilies are \$11 each.

Fill out the order form that you will find
 in the Sunday Worship guide and put it
 in the offering plate with your check.

We are almost there. We are almost to Holy Week and the Triduum Sacrum—what many Christians hold to be the three most sacred and holy days of the year: from sunset on Maundy Thursday to sunset on Easter Day we celebrate the saving events of Jesus Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection.

To appreciate why this is so, I share Richard John Neuhaus’ words with you:

By these three days all the world is called to attention. Everything that is and ever was and ever will be, the macro and the micro, the galaxies beyond number and the microbes beyond notice—everything is mysteriously entangled with what happened, with what happens, in these days. This is the “axis mundi”, the center upon which the cosmos turns. In the derelict who cries from the cross is, or so Christians say, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. The life of all on this day died. Stay a while with that dying.

Every human life, conceived from eternity and destined to eternity, here finds its story truly told. In this killing that some call senseless we are brought to our senses. Here we find out who we most truly are, because here is the One who is what we are called to be. The derelict cries, “Come, follow me.” Follow him there? We recoil. We close our ears. We hurry on to Easter. But we will not know what to do with Easter’s light if we shun the friendship of the darkness that is wisdom’s way to light (Death On A Friday Afternoon, p. 2).

The Apostle Paul held that this was the *axis mundi*: “When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing

while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.” I Corinthians 2:1-2.

From the New World Encyclopedia: *The axis mundi (also cosmic axis, world axis, world pillar and center of the world) is a symbol representing the center of the world where the heaven (sky) connects with the earth. Different cultures represent the axis mundi by varied symbols.*

Our symbol is the cross. The cross is the crux. The cross is crucial. Quoting Neuhaus again: “...Good Friday is the key to understanding what Dante called ‘the love that moves the sun and all the other stars’.”

During this Lenten season, I have been finding out who I most truly am. I am like the disciples that fell asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane; I am like Judas—too influenced by money and my perspective on how to make things work; I am like the disciples who fled when things became risky; I am like the religious leaders who think they know much more about God than they really do; I am like Peter—proclaiming devotion that I don’t live up to; I am like Pilate—too concerned at times about influential friends and very local politics; I am like_____.

Thank God that He bore my sins on the cross, for He knows me and my need better than I know myself. I need to revisit Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, for then I will know true joy on Easter.

Pastor Eric

Recent requests for prayer from our church family...

CONCERNS: Shane Derby (Roger Derby’s son), Susie Skinner, Madison Wilkins (David and Sue Morgan’s granddaughter)

DEATHS: Carol Buchheit (John Buchheit’s mother), Robert Bronkala (Eric Bronkala’s father), Joyce Haun (Greg Haun’s mother), Karen Schmittou (Lisa Jarrell’s sister)

PASTOR ON CALL
March 26-27

Eric Rieger
cell– 964-0030

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY
March 28

PALM SUNDAY
The “Bloody” Truth
Mark 15: 22-32 and Luke 23:34

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

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