



*The mission and desire of Middle settlements United Methodist Church is to reach out and lovingly touch lives as Jesus Christ did, both by word and example*

# Middle settlements

United Methodist Church



OCTOBER Newsletter 2020

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*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”—Hebrews 12:1*

Halloween might look a little different this year, but it’s still a wonderful holiday for Christian families to celebrate. The name tells the story: All Hallows Eve was the night before All Hallows Day (November 1<sup>st</sup>). “Hallow” basically means “holy”: we use it all the time when we pray the Lord’s Prayer and say, “hallowed be thy name.” So, on All Hallows Day, which is also known as All Saints Day, we remember the holy people of the church who have gone before us. All Hallows (Saints) Day was the Church’s response to the unsaved peoples around them being fascinated and terrified by death. “Worried about death?” the Church asked. “Let me tell you about the Lord who has defeated death! And let me tell you about those who have faced death with no fear thanks to their trust in Jesus!”

So the Church began to celebrate All Hallows (Saints) Day with All Hallows Eve as the vigil held the night before—like Christmas Eve for Christmas Day. Just like Christmas Eve helps us prepare for the celebration of Christmas Day, All Hallows Eve helps us prepare for All Hallows (Saints) Day. Of course, All Hallows Eve is long to say, so people shortened it. People dropped the “all”, and then shortened evening to “e’en” instead of “eve”, and then they just made it all one word: Hallow-e’en...or as we like to spell it, Halloween.

There are lots of different ways to celebrate Halloween, including rejoicing that as Christians we have nothing to fear from darkness and death. With all in our culture that wonders and worries about death, ghosts, and graves, we know that we worship a God that triumphs over anything death and darkness can deliver. That’s absolutely a reason to dress up, eat candy, and have fun (even if you do it at home). Use this holiday as a chance to tell the good news about Jesus, who defeats darkness and death and grants us that victory.

Another way to celebrate is to give thanks for all of the Christians who have gone before us, whether people in the bible, church history, our church, or your families. Take time to read or tell about those who have lived faithful lives and helped make it possible for us to confess Jesus as Lord. There are so many people in the “great cloud of witnesses” whose lives have been gifts for us to help us grow in faith and love.

Specific ways for you and/or your family to celebrate might include:

- Choose a Christian something that a deceased loved one used in their faith and share it with your family. You might read from a favorite book/devotional/bible passage, from their bible that you’ve kept, or serve in a way that they loved to serve, or eat their favorite dish, and tell your kiddos about how you saw Jesus in your loved one’s life.
- Set out (or tape up) pictures of favorite bible heroes or members of the Church Triumphant near wherever you eat. Let it be a meal reflection/conversation as you consider/share what it is you’re inspired by. If you’ve got kiddos, encourage them to place pictures of Christians who inspire them too.
- Read some of the “spookier” stories we have in the bible together – for extra fun, you can tell them around a bonfire or with candles lit in the darkness :) Favorite spooky scriptures include: 1 Samuel 28:3-19 (King Saul & the Witch at Endor), Ezekiel 37:1-14 (Valley of the Dry Bones), Hebrews 11:32-12:3 (Great Cloud of Witnesses), Job 4:12-21 (Vision of Eliphaz the Temanite), Revelation 12:1-12 (the War in Heaven), and Matthew 14:22-33 (A Ghost on a Dark & Stormy Night).
- Read some of the verses about Jesus triumphing over death: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, John 5:21-29, John 6:27-40, and 1 Corinthians 15. Talk about what happens when we die and what our hope in Jesus means for the future.

Celebrate and give thanks this month for all of those who helped lead you to the Lord. Enjoy the “treats” as you celebrate their birthday into eternal life—and be encouraged and challenged by their example of faithful discipleship.

–Pastor Magan

**Record of Faithfulness**

*"I will support the church with my presence, prayers, gifts and service!" (Membership vow)*

	<b>S.S.</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Offering</b>
<b>August</b>	S.S.	10:30 a.m.	
<b>2</b>	Home Worship		\$2,887.00
<b>9</b>	Home Worship		\$6,724.25
<b>16</b>	Home Worship		\$4,307.00
<b>23</b>	Drive-in-Worship 68		\$1,788.00
<b>30</b>	Drive-in-Worship 82		\$7,080.00
<b>Sept</b>	<b>S.S.</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Offering</b>
<b>6</b>	Drive-in-Worship-75		\$8,878.00
<b>13</b>	Drive-in worship		\$3,169.16
<b>20</b>	Drive-in Worship 84		\$2277.00
<b>27</b>	Drive-in Worship 80		\$3620.00
Budget amount needed 2020: \$171,639		Budget amount received 2020: \$178,248	
Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$380 Evangelism/backpack/Shoebox Ministry: \$130 Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$600 Bounty Table: \$50, Good Neighbors: \$200 Memorials: \$395, Memorial LCAC: \$50			
<b><i>"Remember the Church in your will"</i></b>			

**Advent Devotionals**

Preparations for Advent are gearing up – including for our own in-house Advent Devotional.

Advent means “coming” or “arrival” and the season of Advent is a time of looking forward to the *advent*—the coming or arrival—of Jesus. Advent invites us to both remember how Jesus has come to us before—how as a baby “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” — and how Jesus will someday come again in glory.

As we prepare MUMC’s 2020 Advent Devotional, we are looking for authors! If you would like to write an Advent devotion, please contact Pastor Magan at [magan.stubblefield@gmail.com](mailto:magan.stubblefield@gmail.com) or 865.300.1831. Thank you!

**Youth Update:**

We have been meeting on Wednesday nights at the FOD for youth. The Middle Schoolers have Bible study from 5-6pm. Then the High Schoolers join in at 6pm to eat supper and fellowship. Then the middle schoolers leave, and the high schoolers stay for Bible study, 6:30-7:30pm. Jason Roe is leading the Bible Study. Kate Keylon is also helping out with the Middle Schoolers. On Sunday nights, we are still having a mix. We have been either meeting at the FOD for food, bonfires and fun or doing online games together. We are very thankful for the FOD so that we can gather and be distant. It is such a blessing to be able to meet again. We hope to be able to meet at the FOD as long as the weather cooperates.

-Youth Department



**October Birthdays**

- October 1—Jerome Kleinhans
- October 3—Jane Story
- October 7—Trysten Simpson
- October 8—Carolyn Crisp
- October 10—Declyn Milligan
- October 11—Corbin Dirmeyer
- October 12—Kenneth O'Connor
- October 13—Kate Keylon
- October 14—Dora Hooks
- October 15—Dennis Lovin, Chris Keylon
- October 20—Lowell Sneed
- October 24—Rachel Ammons, David Lewis
- October 25—Corey McAmis
- October 26—June Love
- October 27—Ted Martin
- November 1—Hudson Classon, Allyson Simpson
- November 4—Sam Rule

**October Anniversaries**

- October 2—Jared & Melissa Duckett,  
Jake & Robin Turnmire
- October 4—Jason & Magan Stubblefield
- October 8—John & Margie Davis
- October 10—Jason & Leighanne Sisk
- October 16—Justin & Megan Marcus
- October 18—Joe & Ann Smith
- October 25—Andy & Staci Lawhorn
- November 5—Mark & June Shaw

**Adult Ministries** October events have been cancelled because of COVID.

<b>F A I L B A C K</b>		<p><b>Day Light Savings Time Ends November 1</b></p> <p><b>Turn your CLOCKS BACK one hour on Saturday, October 31 before you go to bed, so you wake up at the correct time.</b></p>
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**\*\*New Service Time\*\***

Services offered online ([www.middlesettlements.com](http://www.middlesettlements.com)) and in-person (2508 Middlesettlements Rd) at **10:30am** every Sunday!

If you haven't tried our drive-in service, autumn is a wonderful time (the view at the Field of Dreams is lovely!). No matter the weather, you'll be comfortable in your own car.

**Time & Location?**

Ten thirty in the morning at the Field of Dreams! If you're new to MUMC, the Field of Dreams (FOD) is a property our church owns and utilizes as a ministry in our community. It's close to the church at 2508 Middlesettlements Drive. As you arrive at the FOD, there will be a long gravel driveway and a pavilion & playground off to the right (where we usually hold our Easter Sunrise Service).

**What should I expect?**

The worship of God by his people! We'll have a shortened service (about 40 minutes) with music, scripture, prayers, children's time, and a sermon. Parking attendants will direct you to parking spots to make sure there's room for everyone. Volunteers will take attendance and an offering jar will be available on the way out.

**What should I wear or bring?**

You - and a heart ready for worship! Your car radio should be tuned to 90.9. And wear what you want - you'll be in your car!

**What about the kiddos?**

If you've got kids, bring the toys/snacks/switch/kids bulletins and let them do the climbing all over the car thing that they love to do. My kids eat popcorn :)

# Thank You

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you so much for the delicious “sweet treats” you provided for our faculty & staff! It was a great mid-week-pick-me-up and definitely hit the spot! As we are faced with certain challenges during these unprecedented times, we appreciate your continued support and prayers for our staff and students. Thank you again!

Blessings,  
Suzanne Graves,  
Principal  
Middlesettlements Elementary

Church Family,  
Thank you for the scholarship money that I was awarded this year. I really appreciate the continued support I have received as I pursue my academic and athletic goals at Carson-Newman.

Thank you,  
Carson Wells

*Dear church, thank you so much for the many well-wishes and birthday cards I received for my 39<sup>th</sup> birthday. It's a blessing to be at such a loving church ♥*

*Pastor Magan*

# With Heartfelt Sympathy

To Frank & Ann Connatser and family on the death of Ann's father-in-law **Frank Connatser Sr.** Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

To Harold Brown and family on the recent death of **Nancy Brown.** Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

# Congratulations

Congratulations to Jeff & Taylor Bolton on the birth of a daughter, **Brinley Mae**, born on September 18, 2020. Proud grandparents, Randy and Judy Bolton and great-grandmother Ina Bolton.

## Middlesettlements Memorial Fund



Please write on your check to whom the memorials are for and put in mailbox for Memorials outside the Church office, put in offering plate or mail to the Church.

### Given in memory of **Nancy Brown**

by James & Maria Wright  
by Margaret Ann Murrin  
by John & Margie Davis  
by M. R. & Kay Brown  
by Grace Kimsey  
by Jerry & Mary Hazel Fugate  
by John & Patricia Wagner  
by Mike & Melinda Andes  
by Howie and Rachel Ammons  
by Allan & Vicki Bryant

Given in memory of **Nancy Brown** to the LCAC  
by Judy Cohan

## All Saints Services, November 1

If you have lost a family member since last year's All Saints Service and would like to have their memory honored on All saints Sunday, notify Joyce Overton (865.984.2841 or [tnauntjo@gmail.com](mailto:tnauntjo@gmail.com)). Because of COVID the family members won't be able to light the candle this year. Your loved one's name will be lifted up during the Sunday service on November 1. A slide show will be created and shared on Facebook. Deadline to provide a photo is Oct. 27.

## Charge Conference by ZOOM

Because of Covid-19 we will be having our Charge Conference this year by ZOOM. Information will be shared later for this meeting.

Middlesettlements Charge Conference will be Sunday **November 8 at 3:00 p.m.** We will be with Binfield, Carpenters, Fairview, Friendsville, Green Meadow, Immanuel, St Marks (Blount), Sycamore Tree, Union Grove (Blount) and Williamson Chapel.

**Rada Cutlery:** The UMW will keep a supply of paring knives, tomato knives, vegetable peelers, knife sharpeners, etc., for sale. We also have the catalog from which you may order other items and gift sets. For more information contact Dora Hooks, 982-4592.

Middlesettlements United Methodist Church  
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**Return Address requested**



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*Staff*

*Melinda Andes, Organist*

*Robby Clemens, Pianist*

*Kate Keylon, Children's Ministry Coordinator*

*Rev. Magan Stubblefield, Pastor*

*Joyce Overton, Secretary*

*Rev. Jason Roe, Youth Ministry Coordinator*

*David Wells, Worship Ministry Coordinator*



**Shoebox Ministry** We are excited to again this year be involved in the Shoebox ministry. This ministry has been serving children in need for many years. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way. This is an awesome way to share God's love with children. Boxes are due November 8. If you have questions you can visit the website at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org). If you are excited about the shoe box ministry but you don't like to shop, please feel free to donate \$25 (by Oct. 31) to the evangelism team. We have a few people that have volunteered to shop for these boxes. This ministry is such a blessing! Just drop your check or cash in the offering plate, with shoe box in the memo.

While it is always a great thing to be able to give and provide a shoebox, it is important to be mindful of what is included in your gift. They do NOT accept everything, and it is really important that we don't waste others time by having to throw boxes out because they get ruined.

*What to Put in Operation Christmas Child Shoebox and what NOT to:*

**Most recommended items to pack in your Operation Christmas Child shoebox:**

- School supplies – chalkboards with chalk, pencils, scissors
- Toys – soccer ball with pump, dolls
- Make-your-own crafts – add your personal touch
- Non-liquid hygiene items – bar soap, toothbrush
- Clothing accessories – tops, shoes, socks, hair bows, gloves, scarves
- plastic cup and spoon
- bar of soap that floats (please put in plastic bag Note: Ivory floats)
- A personal note from your family – if you include your name and address it's possible that the child could write you back!
- Fishing Hooks – Fishing kits *that will hold a 30-pound fish, several different sized fishhooks. A large pack can be shared in a couple of boxes. A sinker so the light line will actually sink below the surface where fish swim, and a bobber/ marker. Walmart clearance sells these so that for about under a dollar fifty I can include a fishing kit in the 10-14-year-old boxes.*
- A Small Sewing Kit – This can actually become an income for a family
- Playing Cards or other small brain games
- Girls: hair bows, Bracelets, Barrettes, etc

**Items that should not be included in your shoebox:**

Used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures, no food, Liquids or lotions – these can spill and get all over the other items, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snowglobes or glass containers and aerosol cans