



*“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”—Hebrews 10:25*

Happy November Middlesettlemments! This fall we continue with our **10:30am Sunday Drive-In Worship Service at the Field of Dreams** – and we look to continue this throughout the winter. Making long-range plans has been a little silly in 2020, so all that is to follow could change – after all, we’ve never done continuous outdoor services before :)

- **Why Drive-In instead of in the Sanctuary?**

We’re able to worship in the sanctuary, but all the reasons why we initially decided (back in June) on a drive-in service are still in place. The guidelines for safe, in-building worship are difficult for a church as full, musical, and inter-generational as ours (but we thank the Lord we are a full, musical, and inter-generational church!!). Keeping all households at least 6 feet apart in every direction would still mean multiple services, with deep cleaning in between, and we would have to turn people away if we met safe capacity. Congregational singing has been linked to outbreaks, so our Bishop has asked us to refrain, and masks would need to be worn by everyone (even children) the entire time to protect our most vulnerable. Even still, some of our most at-risk folk might not feel safe transitioning into the building, which would unintentionally exclude them from in-person worship. Our current drive-in service allows for flexible crowd size, music, and *\*everyone\** to participate safely. Thanks be to God!!

- **How long will we be at the Field of Dreams?**

Our current plans are to continue with our Drive-In Service indefinitely. We especially want to keep it outdoors through December (for the Christmas music!). After that, it will be...an outdoors worship experiment? We’ve never done continuous outdoor winter services before! For now, plan on the drive-in service as our first and best choice.

- **What & when could change?**

Outdoors is...outdoors, so weather is a consideration. Our set-up crew and musicians are exceptional *and* exceptionally faithful. Since the congregation can stay toasty in their cars, how long we continue outdoors will be contingent on how cold it is for our crew/musicians after outdoor heaters have been placed. It could be that cold, beautiful mornings at the Field of Dreams are the best! It could also be that it’s so cold we need to have 1-2 Sundays online (like our regular year’s Snow Day Sunday) or that we move indoors for a month or two.

Of course, 2020 has taught us that other things might happen – COVID #s could increase, or a working vaccine might be developed and spread. Our Church Council will meet in January to discuss plans for worship in 2021.

- **How will we know?**

We will be blasting service information from every outlet we have. Newsletter/mail, text, email, Facebook, even phone calls if you let us know nothing else will get to you. We will need you to read what we send and sign up for any notifications you’d like that you’re not currently receiving (as in, contact the church office to be added to a text group, weekly church email, or if you need a walk-through on how to join the church Facebook group).

If you haven’t joined us for the drive-in service yet, come! There’s a lot to be excited about when it comes to drive-in church: good music, smiling faces (& honking horns!), and you can bring your pets/coffee/snacks/PJs! Most of all, God is being worshiped and glorified as we gather together in worship. Things are different, but God is still faithful and wonderful. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,  
Pastor Magan

**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>Sept.</b>	S.S.	10:30 a.m.	
<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
<b>October</b>	<b>S.S.</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Offering</b>
<b>4</b>	Drive-in-Worship-71		\$7,155
<b>11</b>	Drive-in worship-77		\$4,908
<b>18</b>	Drive-in Worship-78		\$1,404
<b>25</b>	Drive-in Worship-82		\$2,775
Budget amount needed 2020: \$189,243		Budget amount received 2020: \$194,500.	
Louisville Christian Assistance Center: \$235 Evangelism/Shoebox Ministry: \$25 Memorials: \$700 Subscription to Upper Room - 53.90 Youth: \$200			
<b>"Remember the Church in your will"</b>			



**Advent Devotional Booklets**

**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!

**Evangelism Team**

I am gathering names of shoppers for our Christmas project of buying gifts for the same children we provided back to school backpacks for late July. Pray about how you can be involved in this ministry! I need lots of shoppers! Shoppers will receive your shopping list before Thanksgiving so that you can take advantage of Black Friday deals! Please let me know if you can shop for a child or 2! Please text me if you are able to help. 865.705.5775

Thank you, Karen [Evangelism Team chair]



*(If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please call Joyce at 865.705.6990 or e-mail her at [umc.middlesettlemnts@gmail.com](mailto:umc.middlesettlemnts@gmail.com))*

**November Birthdays**

- November 1—Hudson Classon, Allyson Simpson
- November 4—Sam Rule
- November 7—Luther Goodson, Bryson Sisk
- November 11—Beth Dirmeyer, Emily Esquivel
- November 12—Robby Clemens
- November 13—Steve Carpenter
- November 14—Jake Turnmire
- November 15—Grayson Roe
- November 16—Diane Kuhlman
- November 17—Kathryn Charbonneau,  
—Katie Dirmeyer
- November 18—Owen Story
- November 20—Holly Roe
- November 21—Randy Bolton
- November 22—Curtis Moore
- November 24—Robby Clemens IV
- November 26—Abby Caldwell
- November 27—Irene Tomlinson
- November 30—Wanda Stephens
- December 1—Harold Brown
- December 2—Joel Puckett
- December 4—Melinda Andes, Jeff Ward

**November Anniversaries**

- November 5—June & Mark Shaw
- November 9—Curtis & Carolyn Moore
- November 24—Randy & Judy Bolton  
—Bobby & Cindy Alloway
- November 27— Frank & Jane Story

**Adult Ministries** November & December 2020 events have been cancelled because of COVID.

# Thank You

Church Family,  
Thank you for the Christian love you have demonstrated throughout Nancy's illness and passing. We are sincerely grateful. Thank so much and to God be the glory.

The Family  
Harold, Chase, Callie and Hayse

Thank you for all the cards, food, and most of all the prayers during my rehab. So glad to see all of you Sunday at drive in church. --Helen Lifford

## Thank You

Dear Middlesettlements Church,  
Thank you so much for your words and gifts of support, encouragement, and love this past month! I speak of your awesomeness so much that some of my fellow pastors have forbidden me to speak any more out of envy (lol!). You are an overwhelmingly wonderful church, and I am incredibly grateful to be with you.

With much love,  
Pastor Magan

# With Heartfelt Sympathy

Christian Sympathy is extended to Chris and Kim Caldwell on the death of Kim's grandmother.



## 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 Judy Cohan  
by Daniel & Renee Franklin  
by Mark and June (Love) Shaw  
by Chris & Pat Handley  
by Kenneth & Joyce O'Connor  
by Donna Hammontree  
by Norma Jean Lambert  
by Jim & Sally Stovall  
by Frank and Jane Story  
by Jim & Irene Tomlinson  
by Lois Malkemes

### Given in memory of **Frank Connatser**

by Lois Malkemes

## 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.

**Shoebbox Ministry** We are excited to again this year be involved in the Shoebbox 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).

Middlesettlements United Methodist Church  
2729 Middlesettlements Rd.  
Maryville, TN 37801  
**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*

Dear Joyce, Missions Leadership, MUMC, & faith family,

May your Thanksgiving be filled with bountiful blessings. Sending notes of gratitude this year is likely inadequate, to all my medical evangelism partners, and since y'all were some of my first way back in 2005, I consider you very special.

I miss sweet Mable Love-Brown whom the Lord used to connect us so long ago, as I know all of Maryville must. She was a delight and such an encourager. So, thank you for your vital intercessions and generous financial sacrifices. It is wonderful to have y'all on my "home-team."

I pray everyone is staying well in this strange, disconcerting year and growing in trust by grace.

May God bless you richly, with all that counts for eternity in return for blessing me & my assigned teams, our church – planters overseas and our patients for whom we're privileged to care for.

With love in Christ,  
Betsy and Ash Aeschliman

**We made it home.**

We are home. I have to keep saying it to myself because it's still so surreal. I think that all of us made it... if my headcount was right. We drove a 12-passenger van from Indiana to D.C. with no issues. Our flight to Turkey was about as pleasant as it could have been. We all had COVID tests done in Istanbul to fulfill Russia's requirements for entry. Turkish Airlines put us up in two hotel rooms for free since we had a 19-hour layover. No problems at the Russian border. We got all our luggage. Unfortunately, the airline lost our circadian rhythms during the trip (not sure whom to call about that). We are currently self-isolating for 2 weeks as required by law. That should allow us to normalize by the time day becomes night around here anyway.

We're grateful for good health, friends that worked hard to prepare our home for us, and a brand-new chapter in an old familiar place.

***Thank you for supporting Pioneer Bible Translators! --***  
*~Kevin, Emily*

Dear Middlesettlements UMC,

We want to send our deepest thanks to all of you for your amazing support of us and of the ministries here, and for these wonderful gifts through the Advance. You all have been such tremendous partners in making our work here possible. We are excited to be beginning our 4<sup>th</sup> year as pastors here in Alaska missionary conference. It is a beautiful time of year here in Willow. The leaves are so beautiful – so yellow against the deep blue skies.

The work of the food pantry continues to grow with so many families out of work. Last Wednesday we served 61 families and some months we have 200 families' total. We have also been enjoying packing weekend food bags for about ½ of the children in the local elementary school. Since the beginning of the pandemic we turned the food pantry into a drive through and that has worked well. Joe-d continues to work with fire recovery efforts north of us.

We continue to learn the fine art of zoom for Bible study and fellowship and how to put services on You Tube. We were thankful this summer to be able to do outdoor worship in the parking lot. It was pretty cold on Sunday, in the 30's but we still had close to 20 there.

Hoping you are all staying safe and well. And again, we send our heartfelt thanks to you all for enabling us to share the love of Jesus here in Alaska.

Blessings, Revs Joe-d and Christina DowlingSoka & Willow UMC