



## JANUARY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

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# The Pathfinder

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## Bless You!

“Bless you!” We offer that expression when someone sneezes or when someone leaves. It’s been used since ancient times as a benediction or a way of offering encouragement. But it’s not just a churchy phrase; we hear it in everyday life. Unfortunately, it’s even used as a euphemism: “Well, bless her heart, you know how she is...”

As we begin a new year, filled with uncertainty and hopes, we need a blessing. We need to acknowledge God “from whom all blessings flow.” And in the name of God, we need to bless one another.

But what does that mean? What does it mean to be blessed and how can we bless others? The word “bless” means to honor or praise; to bless another is to speak the truth about that person that God knows. And God sees and knows more about us than we know about ourselves.

We are blessed. Not because of who we are or what we own or where we live or the state of our health or finances. We are blessed because we are loved and claimed and called by God to be God’s children. It’s as simple as that.

My wife, Nancy, and I are blessed to be a part of Jonesborough United Methodist Church. We believe that God led us to be here. Those we’ve already met have blessed us with their welcoming, accepting, encouraging, supporting, loving ways.

Now we want to bless you, in the name of God. By listening to you, praying for you, loving you, caring for you, leading you, we want to be a blessing. Together, let’s bless others this year.

So, bless you! Happy New Year! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name! (Psalm 103:1)

*Pastor Michael Lester*

## SCRIPTURE VERSE

### John 11:25-26 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Condolences to the family of Elizabeth Smith, who passed away November 22, 2021.

Welcome to Dennis and Katy Rosolowski, who joined our church family November 14, 2021.

## MONTHLY MISSION Bethel Housing

**Bethel Housing** on Persimmon Ridge Road, a member of National Church Resources, is home to 52 residents. Some of them are low-income seniors and may be vulnerable.

Your monetary donations will help with much needed health, sanitary and cleaning items. These will be dispensed on a monthly basis, or as needed in crises. These supplies will help the residents stay healthy and live within their limited budgets. With your donations, the staff will be able to purchase items needed in large quantities to help with the cost.

Please make your checks to JUMC, and note "Bethel Housing" in the memo line. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Thanks to everyone  
who helped!



## Youth Update

After celebrating the birth of Christ and looking forward to the dawning of the new year, I cannot wait to see what God has instore for us. December was a super busy month, and January looks like it will be similar.

In 2022, we're looking forward to our annual Resurrection event in Gatlinburg, the weekend of January 21-23. We can use your prayers as we go and hear the word of God preached, listen to awesome praise and worship music, and enjoy the activities Gatlinburg has to offer. This will be a gathering of thousands of students from all over worshipping and learning together. It's an amazing experience. There is a flyer that has more information about the resurrection trip. If you have any questions or know someone who might benefit from this weekend of worship, please let us know.

### **Schedule:**

There will be no youth meeting on Sunday, January 2, due to the New Year holiday.

Wednesday night Bible study will begin again on January 5.

Sunday night youth will begin again on January 9.

We won't have our youth gathering on Sunday, January 23, because we will have just gotten back from Resurrection.

Looking ahead, we'll have a Super Bowl party on Sunday, February 13, at the Ward's house. Food, fun, and football!

### **Needs:**

We need volunteers to help with Sunday night dinners. This is a new year and we have lots of opportunities to serve.

We're also always looking for donations for the fridge fairy project (supplying the teachers and staff with snacks and drinks) at Jonesborough elementary school.

Thank you so much for all your love, support, and prayers for our youth. It is much needed and much appreciated.

*God bless,*

*Big Mike*

**Our thanks and prayers go out to all our military veterans and their families.  
Your service and sacrifice are greatly appreciated.**



**Caleb Wade** (US Army) - Rupe & Ella Billions' grandson

**Cody Hallberg** (US Air Force) - Lee & Nancy Hallberg's grandson

**Todd White** - (US Army) - Doug & Donna Barnes Bennett's son-in-law

**Mickey Teasner** (US Navy)

**Lauren Bennett** (US Army Reserve)

**Jake DeMatteo** (US Army)

**Steven David Hunt** (US Army Reserve)

**Brian Ehlschlager** (US Army)

**Shawn Allison** (US Marines)

**Eric Bull** (US Air Force Reserve) - Don & Barbara Bull's grandson

**Cheyenne Pandar** (US Marines)

**Johnathon Daffron** (US Marines)

**Jon Cochran** (US Ranger) - Billy & Gail Lewis' cousin

**Michael Fritz** (US Army) - Mary Ann Clark's son-in-law

**Connor Lancaster** (US Army) - grandson of Kenneth & Terry McMasters

**Matt Ingalls** (US Marines) grandson of Howard and Madelyn Rohrer





**JAMA Items for  
JANUARY**  
**Flour, Sugar & Cornmeal**



Please give generously  
to

Jonesborough Area  
Ministerial Association

Jonesborough United Methodist Church  
PO Box 115, Jonesborough, TN 37659