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The Pathfinder

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Family Promise 2017

Matthew 25:35 "I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was alone and away from home and you invited me into your house."

Being without a safe, warm place to sleep, eat and care for children; being without the security of familiar people and belongings — this is homelessness. The loss of a job, an increase in rent, illness, the absence of family support — any one of these can drive a family into homelessness.

Family Promise was created in response to the growing need to provide shelter, meals, transportation and comprehensive support to families without homes. There are many helping agencies in our community, but none is equipped to keep families together. Family Promise is able to achieve this only with the help of almost 50 area churches that work together to assist families transitioning from homelessness to independent living.

For three weeks this year, JUMC, along with our friends from the Presbyterian Church, will assist up to 15 adults and children. Our Sunday school classrooms become bedrooms, the fellowship hall becomes a dining area/play room, and the church bus provides transportation.

Our first rotation begins January 15, 2017. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex with many ways to serve. Questions or concerns about Family Promise can be directed to Kittie Stanley (794-7638) or Eddie Stanley (360-1763). We are so grateful to all who volunteer — without you, there would be no Family Promise. May God continue to bless our efforts as we open the doors of our church to the homeless in 2017.

Hebrews 13: 1-2, 16. The Message

Stay on good terms with each other, held together by bonds of love. Be ready with a meal or a bed when it's needed. Why, some have extended hospitality to angels without ever knowing it!

Make sure you don't take things for granted and go slack in working for the common good; share what you have with others. God takes particular pleasure in acts of worship — a different kind of "sacrifice" — that takes place in kitchens and workplaces and on the streets.

Save the Date

Jan 1 Wesley Covenant
Service one service at
10:45 am

Jan 14-15 RezKids
(children's event)

Jan 15-22 Family Prom-
ise

Jan 20-22 Resurrection
(youth event)

Jan 25 Wednesday
Night Light begins

Jan 29 Church Council
Meeting

Church Family News

Sympathy to John Dur-
ham and family on the
death of his mother

Welcome to Samantha
Ann Fritz, who was bap-
tized on Dec.18. She is
the daughter of Michael
and Elizabeth Fritz,
granddaughter of Mary
Ann Clark and great-
granddaughter of Helen
Conger.

Why Blue For Advent?

The cloths on the Communion table and pulpit are called paraments and are changed to mark seasons and special days during the Christian year. You may have noticed the blue paraments on the first Sunday of Advent.

The Christian year contains two cycles: the Christmas cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. After each cycle there is an ordinary time of growth symbolized by the color green.

While the traditional color for Advent is purple, there is a growing acceptance of the color blue as an alternative. Advent is a season of preparation that anticipates both Bethlehem and the consummation of history in the second coming of Jesus Christ. Since this anticipation is characterized by hope - in contrast to the repentance characteristic of Lent - the color for the season should not be purple, with its mood of solemnity and somberness, but blue with its hopefulness.

RezKidz 2017

The 2017 RezKidz program will take place January 14-15. It will be held at The Connection, 1246 Middle Creek Road, Sevierville, TN.

Reservations may be made on-line at: www.rezkidz.com. Registration is \$20 per person through January 12, 2017; ages 3 and under are free. Registration at the door is \$30 per person.

Resurrection 2017

The youth will be attending Resurrection this year January 20-22 at the LeConte Center in Pigeon Forge. Pray that God will renew each one of us with the music and speaker. It is a great way for us to start a new year!

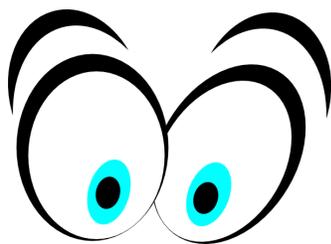
Notes of Thanks . . .

It's with much gratitude that Gracie and I would like to thank everyone for the phone calls, cards and food during my mother's passing. We will be forever grateful to each of you. Bill and Gracie Garland

Thank you for all the prayers, visits and beautiful cards during my recent visit to the hospital. Having a loving church family means so much, and you sure know how to show love! Thank you again., Joyce McAllister

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, food, visits and mostly the prayers during my recovery. I am glad to be back worshiping with you.. Love, Becky Campbell

Church family: I cannot thank you enough for all the cards, phone calls, visits and food sent from Christmas parties since I have been out with my broken leg. Your love, prayers and support mean so much. Love you all, Jane Turner.



Take a Look!

You are encouraged to take a look at our church website www.jnsbrumc.org on a regular basis. Why?? It has the current week's announcements, along with links to pictures from our recent activities, and so much more. We, as a communication team, want our website to be user friendly and easy to navigate. We want to make a great "first impression" for visitors who might be looking for a church home, but we also want the website to be used by our church members. Many thanks go to those who submit information, pictures, etc. to make this website successful.

Wednesday Night Light – We will start back our Wednesday Night Light program on January 25. We will be offering a couple of different classes again, so please watch your bulletin for details and if you have any suggestions about classes to be taught or any desire to teach a class, please see Pastor Karen. Adventure Kids will also be starting up again and will need many volunteers and helping hands.

Snow Policy Reminder – Our Church Snow Policy is that if the Washington County Schools are closed the Church Office is closed, so please always call before venturing out in the weather. There are times we are in the office because the weather has cleared up but please don't count on that – call first! This policy will also apply to other scheduled activities, such as Wednesday Night Light.

Congrats to Addisyn Rowe!

Daughter of Leigh Ann and Darrin Rowe, Addisyn recently signed a national letter of intent to continue her volleyball and track career at Marshall University. Addisyn is a senior at David Crockett. We are very proud of you!

Yarn With A Purpose

Yarn with a Purpose had a very productive 2016, with wonderful support and new members!

We have expanded from yarn projects to include sewing items —specifically, helping Niswonger Children's hospital with child-themed pillowcases and IV pole covers (so they don't see what's in the bag). These items help their hospital stay be more friendly and less threatening. Sewing projects also included doll-size hospital gowns for their little dolls.



Yarn projects for Niswonger's included darling little purses, doll size blankets, regular size blankets and, of course, hats. We try to remember the older/teen patients, too. While Niswonger's was our biggest project this year, *Yarn with a Purpose* also supported the local Boys & Girls Club, the VA, Haven of Mercy, and Four Oaks Nursing Home with lapghans, scarves and hats.

All totaled ~~~ over 1,000 handmade items were donated in 2016!

Please consider joining our local mission in 2017. Some contributors work on projects at home and stop by from time to time. After a short break, we will start meeting again in February....always the first and third Tuesday of the month from 10 am-noon.

Appalachian Christmas Offering

Thanks to all for sharing your blessings with others at the Appalachian Christmas sing-along on Sunday evening. We raised over \$1,600 to help families to have a home of their own. The outpouring of love is the meaning of this special season. Christ Was Love! Thank you to The Jonesborough Novelty Band, the McChoir Sisters, our youth, and all those who made the evening possible.

*Warmly and with love,
Terry Counterline*

Appalachian Christmas



CHRISTMAS CANTATA





Children 's
Christmas
Program



Spotlight on Open Door Sunday School



The members of the Open Door Sunday School class are convinced that the saving grace and love of Christ are evidenced through sharing generously with those in need. For 20 years, the class has bought, prepared, and served meals to the homeless the first Wednesday of each month, sponsored by Good Samaritan Ministries at the Melting Pot at Munsey.

In addition to this pet mission, Good Sam, the class actively supports the JAMA Food Pantry monthly, the Jubilee Project, as well as all missions of the church! Although the class is a closely knit group, the door is always open for anyone searching for a Bible-centered Sunday School class.

UPDATE ON BAKER'S DOZEN

As I write this, we are just two days away from Christmas and I am pleased to say that your generosity has brought us so much closer to meeting our ministry spending for 2016. I don't have a final total yet, but I want to thank each and every one of you who went above and beyond this year with your extra tithe to help us meet our goal. We will share a final total with you soon.

As we think about 2017 and our ministry plans, I would ask each of us to consider making our tithe a Baker's Dozen in 2017 as well so that we can begin the year knowing that we will be able to do all that God is calling us to do. Again thank you for your generosity to God and to JUMC. I love each and everyone of you.

Pastor Karen

Operation Christmas Child

Members of the Upward Bound Sunday School class recently went to Boone, NC to volunteer at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center. Each shoebox is carefully inspected and made ready for overseas shipment. When each shipping container is filled with cartons of shoeboxes and is ready to leave the center, the entire group of volunteers would stop and have prayer over the boxes before they left. It was a wonderful experience to know that your hands were some of the last to touch the boxes before they touch the hearts and spread the "Good News, Great Joy" of Jesus!



JANUARY MISSION
After School Music Program for
Children in Poverty

We are currently working on partnering with Jonesborough Elementary School to bring 6 first graders to our church one afternoon a week. We'll provide snacks, a game or craft, a drum bucket class that will teach rhythm and music skills, to ring our colored bells and will end the afternoon by reading them stories.

We have received a grant from the Annual Conference for \$1,745, which is 2/3 of what we need to get this program off the ground. All gifts you give will go to benefit children right here in our community. It is a proven fact that music enhances a child's ability to learn. Your Mission Committee is excited about this new ministry and, along with your gifts, we ask you to prayerfully consider working with the children as well.

JAMA Item for
JANUARY
Flour, Sugar, Cornmeal



Please give generously
to
Jonesborough Area
Ministerial Association.

Jonesborough United Methodist Church
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