

The Pathfinder

Jonesborough United Methodist Church
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Meet Our Staff

Meet Dr. Sharon Nelson Rush, our Director of Music

A farm girl at heart, Sharon began her piano study with Marie Wolfe, the organist /pianist for JUMC for many years. As a child, Sharon participated in piano recitals and other functions held at JUMC. Her piano studies continued with Cherry Smith and Dr. Donald Conflenti and her choral/vocal training with Juanita Ruetz, Betty Fleming and Dr. Tom Jenrette.



Sharon attended ETSU and earned a B.S.M.E., MAT, and Ed. D. In addition, Sharon has taught at Cates' Music Center, Doak Elementary, King College Music Center, ETSU music events, served as pianist at various churches and was invited to serve at this church by Rev. Maurice Lay, Sam Ware and Patty Ivens. In her spare time she has performed with the East Tennessee Regional Symphony, provided music for ETSU functions, performs at Biltmore Estate, and coordinates the JAMA Christmas Music Celebration.

Sharon is an inspiration to all of us, young and old alike. Praise God for sharing her devotion and talents with us.

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Anyone who serves Me must follow My path; anyone who serves Me will want to be where I am, and he will be honored by the father.

John 12:26 THE VOICE

SAVE THE DATE

Jan 16 Wednesday
Night Light begins

Jan 20 Church Council

Jan 25-27 Resurrection

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Sympathy extended to Jonathon and Lauren Miller on the death of Jonathon's mother, Jeanette Miller. Jeanette was the aunt of Laura Johnson and Julia Hasten.

Sympathy extended to the family of Al Maiden, especially his daughter Belinda McCoy and granddaughters Laura Johnson and Julia Hasten.

"Joelle" Josephine Eleanor Hee-Jin Sheffey was born November 10, 2018. She was 21" long and 7 lbs. 11oz. She is the daughter of James and Kim Sheffey and baby sister to Henry. We welcome Joelle to our church family.



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

Barnard Davis (US Army) - Susan Miller's nephew

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)

Greg Bull (US Marines) - Don & Barbara Bull's grandson

Jake DeMatteo (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)

Jon Cochran (U.S. Ranger) - Billy & Gail Lewis' cousin

Adam Daffron (US Marines) - Wiley & Gail Daffron's nephew

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



LOOKING AHEAD

Feb 10 "Love Fest" - Valentine's Day version of Appalachian Christmas



The CYB group will be gathering at the Barrel House Restaurant on Main Street for lunch at noon on January 10. Come join us for good food, laughter and fellowship!

Sisters of Faith

The Sisters of Faith would like to invite all women, all ages to our monthly meeting. We are a group of mission-minded women working to make a better life in our community. We hold monthly meetings on the second Thursday every month in a member's home. All we ask is you RSVP to let us know you will be there so there will be enough food. You do NOT bring anything but yourself. We have food, fellowship and devotions. January meeting will be held in Pam Ward's home. Please RSVP.

Pam Ward
1549 Boones Creek Road
Jonesborough, TN 37659
423-948-0905
Pamela.Davis.Ward@gmail.com

Thank you -

Pastor Karen, Joe, JJ and Makayla would like to say *thank you* to everyone who came out to enjoy the Christmas Open House at the parsonage on December 8, and also to all the wonderful people who cooked and shared food for the Open House. It was a wonderful day!

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

As of January, 2019

Lisa Betz
Eloise Billions
Mildred Cooper
Jeanne Cope
Janey Diehl
Shirley Hambrick
Joan Henley

Betty Moore
Gerry Speirs
Erma Toth
Helen Marie Ward
Joan Webb
Gary & Lois Woods

MEET OUR STAFF, *continued from page 1*

Meet John Durham, our Organist

John Durham began playing a chord organ at age five and started piano lessons by age eight. Studying with Lou Egger and Dr. George Kehler, he graduated ETSU with a BS in Elementary Education and then went on to receive an MA from Tusculum College in Greeneville, TN.

John has served as pianist/organist for several local churches and provided music for over one hundred weddings. John has taught 30 years in the Washington County School System and currently teaches K-4 music at Jonesborough Elementary School. He has also provided private piano lessons for over 20 years. Other interests include cooking (especially desserts), fine dining, travel, snow skiing, cleaning and interior design.



Meet Doug Bennett, our Pianist

Doug Bennett began his piano interest at the age of 13. He took piano lessons for a year (at a cost of one dollar a lesson) from the organist at a local Baptist church in Erwin. During this year, he participated in one piano recital. At the age of 16, Doug became the pianist for Central Baptist in Erwin. His family moved from Erwin to Jonesborough soon after that, at which time he assisted the pianist at First Baptist in Jonesborough and later moved to the pianist position. In years following this, he served as pianist for Jonesborough Presbyterian, Jackson Park Brethern, McCarty Methodist, two Baptist churches in Johnson City and now is the staff pianist at Jonesborough United Methodist.



In his early thirties, Doug studied classical piano for a year under Donald Conflenti at ETSU. Doug has performed solo piano for the Belk store in Bristol during the Christmas season, for the Bristol and Johnson City Country Clubs and the Martha Washington Inn. Doug enjoys playing for weddings, accompanying soloists and other instrumentalists in addition to serving as pianist and chancel choir accompanist at JUMC. A favorite activity of his is orchestrating original arrangements of hymns and secular music using his synthesizer workstation. He also enjoys biking, hiking and a quiet dinner out with his wife, Donna.

Doug has a day job as process engineer at Nuclear Fuel Services in Erwin. His dad advised him to go into a science field rather than become a band director, which is where he was headed as a junior in high school. Doug followed his dad's advice, but never left his love for music and the piano.

Children's Christmas Program

After a week's delay because of snow, the Children's Christmas program was held during the second service on December 16. We had a Family Celebration of Worship that included songs from the cantata by the choir, followed by the children's program.

We had a real baby Jesus again this year, complete with a little donkey following Mary and Joseph to the manger! The kids were awesome in their narrations, songs and actions.

A big "Thank You" to the Sisters of Faith for providing the colorful green t-shirts complete with Christmas trees made by Starlene Casey. Thank you to everybody that helped – the program was fantastic!!



CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

January 6 - 5 – 6 pm Confirmation Class

January 13 - 5 – 6 pm Confirmation Class

January 20 - 5 – 6 pm Confirmation Class

January 27 – RESURRECTION WEEKEND! Leave Friday, January 25, to go to Pigeon Forge for an incredible weekend of worship, praise and fellowship together.

Evangelism at the Christmas Parade

The Town of Jonesborough had their annual Christmas Parade of Lights on Saturday evening, December 8. The streets were filled with people coming to enjoy the event.

Our church's Evangelism Committee, along with other volunteers, were there to hand out the 720 chocolate Santas that our church family donated for the event! The people of the community were excited about the special sweet treat.

God blessed our event from the beginning to the end! Thank you for your support and donations!



MEALS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The Upper Room Sunday School class has been donating a meal on the first Monday of each month to the Southern Appalachian Ronald McDonald House. This meal feeds the families that have a child in the JCMC for an extended period of time. This situation really can turn a family's world upside down, and a simple meal each day can be a great comfort during this difficult time. We are blessed to be able to help such an amazing organization.



There are many other ways to help support the RMH. If you or your Sunday School Class are also interested in helping the RMH, please contact David or Sarah Babb. They would be happy to help set you up with the Ronald McDonald House.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHT BEGINS JANUARY 16, 2019

Our **Wednesday Night Light Programs** will start back on January 16. The Adult Classes offered will be:

Option 1: Rev. Patrice Wells will continue the study of Adam Hamilton's book "Making Sense of the Bible."

Option 2: Pastor Karen will be teaching "Disciple Fast Track: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study." This spring we will be doing the New Testament. The class takes longer than an hour so this class will also **start at 6:00 pm**.

Option 3: Bobby and Libby Shipley will be offering the class "Financial Peace." Does your 2019 New Year's Resolution List once again include paying off your credit cards? If so, plan to join us in January for Financial Peace University (FPU), which is a nine-lesson, biblically based, video-driven small group money-management study taught by America's most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more. And now you can experience this life-changing class with other people in a local group at our church. Classes will begin on January 30 in the Good News Fellowship Hall. Coordinators will be Bobby and Libby Shipley. Cost for the materials is approximately \$130. FPU isn't just for JUMC members. Invite your friends, coworkers and family members; anyone who wants to be debt free!

We will have informational sessions to answer your questions at 6 pm on January 16 and 23 at JUMC. For more information call the church office at 423-753-3942, or contact Bobby Shipley@ 423-260-0699 or bshipley@att.net, or Libby Shipley at 865-414-0487 or libbyshipley@gmail.com .

YOUTH NEWS

The youth have been busy again. We shopped, wrapped, and delivered gifts for 10 angels! They are great shoppers. We also cooked and greeted our Family Promise sweet families. They were a blessing to us. There was some fun going on for our Sunday School Party. Food, gifts, games, and fun. What a great group of young people.

We will be going to Resurrection January 25 – 27. Please pray for hearts to be open. This is a great weekend.

May all have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Miss Mary Ann



SARAH MAYES CIRCLE

The Sarah Mayes Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 8, at 2 pm, in the Good News Fellowship Hall.

This will be a planning meeting to work on the 2019 schedule of programs. The meeting will be led by Charlene Cleveland, president. The hostesses will be Nurse Jane and Pastor Karen.

JANUARY MONTHLY MISSION

HAVEN OF MERCY

For over 30 years, the **Haven of Mercy** shelter has provided short term relief for the homeless and low income persons. Their doors are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, providing safe shelter, a hot shower, a clean place to sleep and hot meals. These folks sometimes find themselves going without food because they have to choose between paying for utilities, prescriptions or rent and have already exhausted every other means of survival.

**BECAUSE THE SHELTER DOES NOT RECEIVE ANY GOVERNMENT FUNDING,
THEY ARE ABLE TO OFFER
THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND HIS ABUNDANT GRACE.**

Since the majority of financial aid to run and maintain the Haven of Mercy comes from churches (25%), individuals (65%) and businesses (10%), we are asking for your support to help our community's homeless and low income population. If financial support isn't your thing, there is always a need for basics such as toiletries, laundry supplies, household cleaners, trash bags, paper towels, etc.

The Haven of Mercy is a healing ministry. "Through the Power of the Word," victory over addictions, failure, poverty and family estrangement can happen. They are located at:

Haven of Mercy Ministries
123 W. Millard St.
Johnson City, TN 37602

"With man this is impossible, but with God, ALL things are possible." Matthew 19:26.



**JAMA Item for
JANUARY**

**Flour, Sugar
& Cornmeal**



Please give generously
to
Jonesborough Area
Ministerial Association.

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