

Nolensville First United Methodist Church



mission

Welcome home!



spirit



faith



family



community

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January 2012

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

A little boy was saying his prayers at his grandmother's house where he and his family were visiting at Christmas. He started loudly his prayers, "God, please send me a Nintendo...and a new bike!"

His older brother asked him why he was shouting, "God isn't deaf."

"No, but Grandma is!" his little brother answered.

I write this on the Wednesday before Christmas. For too many, Christmas will be over when they receive and read this. It irks me that people are so quick to move on from Christmas. I hear the almost-blasphemous statement, "I'll be glad when it's all over." And I hear it far too often. I know what they mean. December is a hurried and harried time of parties, frantic shopping, frayed tempers, and too much food. In different churches, I have had people complain about "still singing Christmas carols" in January. I try and point out that Christmas Day is just the beginning of Christmas. We have let shopping and stores determine the dates when we can celebrate, and then it is time to move on.

May I remind us that the twelve days of Christmas continue through January 5. Why can we not still celebrate?

Maybe we need to heed the lessons of the children:

A priest, Msgr. Arthur Tonne, tells of going to the church for a quiet visit to the crib, only to find that the Baby Jesus was missing. He alerted the nuns and they began looking everywhere. They went in all directions, but could not find the Babe.

Finally, one of the searchers spied a 4-year-old pulling a brand new red wagon. In it was the Baby Jesus. He explained, "I promised Jesus if I got a wagon for Christmas, I would give Him the first ride."

As we proceed through the next few weeks, let us reflect on what God has done and, is doing, through Jesus Christ. And, may we remember the lesson from the little boy and his wagon: Take Jesus with you...and make Him first.

Merry Christmas from Jim and Linda, and may we wish you:

- ✘ At least one Silent Night in which you let God speak to you of His love;
- ✘ An experience of Joy to the World. Allow the enormity of what God has done overwhelm you with JOY;
- ✘ And, we pray for a Song in the Air: that the real message of Christmas would be the song that lingers in the air and in our hearts.

May 2012 begin, and end, with the peace of Jesus Christ.

Standing in grace,

Growing in His love,

Pastor Jim



Building Christ's family to love God and to serve others.

MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

So that, we serve others.

HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY JANUARY 15

Human Relations Day is one of the six church-wide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. The Human Relations Day offering strengthens outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth.



Human Relations Day occurs during Epiphany, the season of manifesting God's light to the world. The day encourages better human relations by affirming the dignity, self-determination and interdependence of individuals and communities.

This day of social action and raising awareness aims to heal social ills at the national level. Three initiatives benefit from the offering: Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services (UMVS), and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

United Methodists celebrate Human Relations Day on the Sunday preceding the birthday observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. The juxtaposition of these two very special days is not a coincidence. The United Methodist Book of Discipline describes the purpose of Human Relations Day as a call to "the Church to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with each other."

Through the Community Developers program, United Methodist churches assist ministries in racial-ethnic United Methodist congregations and communities throughout the United States. Local congregations initiate the work of a community developer, create effective responses to specific community needs, create a network of community developers that assist each other, and provide training and resources for them. These congregations make systemic changes that allow them to provide services in their communities, ranging from such topics as education, substance abuse, employment training, affordable housing, at-risk youth programs, HIV/AIDS testing and counseling, and much more.

Through United Methodist Voluntary Services, the General Board of Global Ministries seeks to support grass-roots organizations that work through youth and young adult volunteers to challenge oppression and injustice and to improve the lives and fulfill the potential of those whom Jesus called the "least of these."



*Free at last. Free at last.
Thank God Almighty,
we are free at last!*
Martin Luther King Jr.
August 28, 1963

ROOM IN THE INN

We need groups to host this incredibly important ministry!

Did you know that NFUMC never cancelled a Room at the Inn last year, due to inclement weather? Thank you to our wonderful and generous volunteers!

For information on how you can volunteer or contribute to this wonderful ministry, contact Michele Overton at 426-3600, or www.nolensvilleumc.org/roomintheinn



Let us come before Him with thanksgiving...

- ✘ Olivia Massey being nominated to People to People Leadership Ambassador Program
- ✘ Our professing members who joined our family in 2012:

- Laura & Gregg Albus
- Abby Baker
- Josh Barboza
- Meredith & Andrew Church
- Kate Howard
- Keri Huber
- Jan & Jerry Jones
- Erin & Mike Leach
- Farron & Charles Light
- Michael McGarvey
- Ginger & Steve Milne
- Dawson Murphy
- Marilyn Panovec
- Erin & John Pryor
- Inger & John Sarappo
- Emma Sarappo
- Nancy & Jim Shade
- Kevin Shade



Be the hands of Christ! Volunteer!

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Williamson County Adult Education will begin teaching English Language/Civics class at the Nolensville First United Methodist Church on Thursday, January 19, from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. The class will be held weekly until May 3. The purpose of the class is to teach the English language and literacy with United States civics education to immigrants and other limited English proficient adults. Students must be 18 years of age and not enrolled in a public or private high school. Classes will be two hours in length, 6:30–8:30pm. Classes will follow the Williamson County Schools calendar, and will meet a total of 14 times.

If you or someone you know is interested, please come to the first meeting on January 19.

- Rhonda Booker Long
Supervisor, Williamson County Adult Education

LOVE PACKAGES

Please save your used Sunday School Literature, Bibles, and other Christian reading material for underdeveloped countries. We will collect them in a box under the mailboxes in the front hall, and send them out through Love Packages. For more information, visit www.lovepackages.org.

A testimony from India: "People from Burma came to us this week. They tell us of the effectiveness of the literature in their tribes, by the help of literatures many souls were saved and as a result of God's miracle healing through prayer of pastors and missionaries. Therefore people, even Animists, saying if God could healed people who are dying, maybe He is God indeed. He can touch us and give us new life...New Testaments are badly needed. Our churches were blessed by many new converts."



Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.
(Proverbs 16:3)

If I were to make only one New Year's resolution, it would be to commit everything I do to the Lord. I can only speak personally of what it is like to be the overseer of an awe filled responsibility. Whether it is being a parent, being on a leadership team, manning a work station, or facilitating a preschool, responsibility can be a burden or a blessing; it can build or break our spirit.

Our fast moving society encourages – no insists – that we plan for the future. And it is the right thing to do – to plan for growth, financial security, improving programming. But the focus of our planning must be Christ-centered and must begin with a daily commitment to the Lord. It must begin with an attitude of gratitude for where we are today, no matter where "where" is! I am frequently asked about expanding the preschool, and it would be very easy to get caught up in all that Jacob's Ladder "could be." But for today, for the beginning of the new year, we are grateful to God for all that the preschool is. Praise be to God! Please continue to thank God for Jacob's Ladder, its ministry to the community, and His faithful attention.

- Terri Anderson
Director of Jacob's Ladder
jacobsladder@nolensvilleumc.org



American Red Cross

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood."

**Red Cross
Blood Drive**

Nolensville Community Blood Drive
2:15pm - 7:15pm

**Thursday
January 12
2:15-7:15pm**

Schedule your appointment at www.redcrossblood.org
using the code Nolensville or call 519-8494.

SUNDAYS AT CHURCH

So that, we love God

All volunteer schedules (including updates!) are on the website under "Calendars."

Sunday Worship Times: 8:00am Contemporary Service; 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Traditional Service

EPIPHANY

We will begin the season of Epiphany on January 6. In Epiphany we get a clearer look at who Jesus is...

James M. Childs, Jr., shares in *The Season of Epiphany (New Proclamation Year B, 2002-2003)*:

"Vision, mission, and anticipation are three thematic words that summarize much of what we experience in the Epiphany season....a season of revelatory splendor..."

"This is a season of light, brightness, and transfigured glory. In Jesus we see...the light of God's gracious embrace of all peoples..."

Be aware and faithful in your prayerful reading of the assigned Scriptures for these blessed Sundays.



SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The **Emmaus Class** is responsible for set-up, drinks, and clean up on January 8, at 9:15am. Please remember that the class responsible for Second Sunday breakfast is also requested to provide cookies, donuts, or other snacks for all other Sundays of that month.

Please put ALL food away after fellowship on Sundays. We are called to be fishers of men, not mice and ants!



Sunday Children's Ministries

	Children's Message	Children's Church	Acolytes
January 1	8:00 Pastor Jim	NEED	
	10:30 Pastor Jim	NEED	NEED
January 8	8:00 NEED	NEED	
	10:30 Kim Jones	NEED	NEED
January 15	8:00 NEED	NEED	
	10:30 Emma Sarappo	NEED	NEED
January 22	8:00 NEED	NEED	
	10:30 Art Robins	NEED	NEED
January 29	8:00 NEED	NEED	
	10:30 Sandy Green	NEED	NEED

JANUARY SCRIPTURE

January 1 - Epiphany Sunday

Is 60:1-6 Ps 72: 1-7, 10-14
Eph 3:1-12 **Mt 2:1-12**

January 8 - First Sunday after the Epiphany; the Baptism of Our Lord

Gen 1:1-15 Ps 29
Acts 19:1-7 **Mk 1:4-11**

January 15 - Second Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Sam 3:1-20 Ps 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Cor 6:12-20 **Jn 1:43-51**

January 22 - Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Ps 62:5-12
1 Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20

January 29 - Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Deut 18:15-20 Ps 111
1 Cor 8:1-13 **Mk 1:2128**

Needed: a Sunday School Teacher for 5th and 6th grade, starting in March! Contact Theresa Pickett at jtpickett76@comcast.net

FAMILY & FELLOWSHIP

So that, we build Christ's family

CONFIRMATION

Attention parents of children in 6th grade or 12 years of age:

Confirmation classes will begin mid-January, will meet during Sunday School, and include two or three Saturday events. Confirmation prepares the students to make a decision in regards to joining the church and claim the vows made for them in infant baptism or, if not baptized, help decide if they choose to be baptized and join the church.

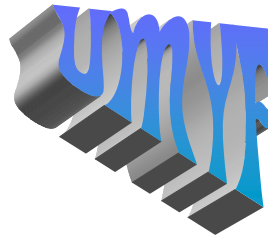
There will be a parent meeting on Sunday, January 8, during the Sunday School hour in the Sanctuary, with classes starting Sunday, January 22. If you have questions, please call Pastor Jim or Sylvia Bouvier.

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR NEEDED

Nolensville First UMC is looking for a part-time Children's Director with a Wesleyan background. With plans to grow, the position will begin at 10 hours per week. This person will direct all non-Sunday School programs and activities with children. For more information please contact Rev. Jim Norton at 776-2815 or pastorjim@nolensvilleumc.org. Application deadline: January 15, 2012.

Y O U T H J A N U A R Y E V E N T S

Sun	Jan 8	5pm	Youth Group (UMYF)
Wed	Jan 11	6:30pm	Bible Study
Sun	Jan 15	5pm	Youth Group (UMYF)
Wed	Jan 18	6:30pm	Bible Study
Sun	Jan 22	5pm	Youth Group (UMYF)
Wed	Jan 25	6:30pm	Bible Study
	Jan 27-29		Warmth in Winter



-Sam Tidball
Youth Director
youth@nolensvilleumc.org



U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T W O M E N

The UMW met December 14, at the home of Donna and David Burdge. Our meeting was opened with a prayer and reading, "The Purpose." Mary Martin's devotional was, "What Happened When Jesus Was Born?"

Due to this meeting being our Christmas party, we had a short business meeting. We decided to spend no more than \$10 on a gift. It was fun to see what all was exchanged, some useful, some interesting, and some pretty.

Patty Coleman, David Burdge's sister, was our guest speaker. She gave a talk on "God Is in Control," about a personal experience in her life where God was in control of her life-saving actions, one morning several years ago.

Donna served a delicious lunch. We enjoyed the lunch and visiting with each other. We welcome women to come and visit or join our UMW group. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, at 10:30am, at the church.

- Carolyn Battle
Secretary



January 2012

B I R T H D A Y S

1/1 Jill Jeffries; 1/2 Aaron Parris, Zack Martin; 1/3 Jack Hallum, Ashton Reed; 1/4 Alyssa Larson; 1/5 Barrett Willis; 1/6 Monica Larson, Carrie Ozburn, Jason Barboza, Lisa Verrell; 1/7 Jordan Hayes; 1/9 Kirstin Hawk, Jim Warpinski; 1/10 Lisa Martin, Kaitlyn Norem, Allison McCutchen; 1/11 Joyce Patton, Matthew Ragan; 1/12 Drake Woodward; 1/13 Sandy Johnson, Ben Leonard; 1/14 Charlie Phillips; 1/15 Jo Anne King, Erin Leach; 1/17 Stan Brown, Mike Hagan; 1/18 Ben Carroll, Kenneth Moore, Mason Lipinski; 1/19 Sullivan Tuck; 1/20 Randy Matlock, Jared Cathey; 1/21 Don DeMumbrum; 1/22 Sylvia Wilkerson; 1/23 Sherry Paschall; 1/24 Cassie Gameson, Chris Campbell; 1/25 Alan Redman; 1/28 Casey Denton, Christian Poe; 1/29 Patsy Henry, Tom Crawford; 1/30 Sandy Green

A N N I V E R S A R I E S

1/1 Cindy & Roger Carroll; 1/10 Linda & Jim Norton (31); 1/11 Debbie & Scott Walter (15); 1/23 Dot & Ross Arnold (69), Barbara & Fred Jeffries (52); 1/26 Donna & David Burdge (55); 1/31 Peggy & Frank Wilson (59)
And a special congratulations to Lynette & Mark Jones on their 20th wedding anniversary on January 18!

Parents, A friendly reminder of our Safe Sanctuary policy: **ALL children from Nursery to 6th Grade must be dropped off and picked up by a parent.** Please do not send an older sibling to pickup a child from Sunday School.
Thanking you in advance for assisting in keeping Nolensville a "Safe Sanctuary" for our children!

Congratulations to Olivia Massey, 6th grader at Sunset Middle, who has been nominated to participate in the People to People Leadership Ambassador Program in Washington DC. Olivia is the daughter of Monica and George Massey

B E H I N D T H E S C E N E S

So that, we serve others.

**H I G H L I G H T S F R O M
N O V E M B E R F I N A N C I A L S**

General Operating Fund Balance at November 30, 2011	\$ 15,320.22
General Operating Fund Balance at October 31, 2011	<u>\$ 9,298.37</u>
Increase / (Decrease) in Fund Balance	\$ 6,021.85
 General Operating Fund Income	 \$ 29,203.07
General Operating Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 23,181.22</u>
Net Income / (Expenses)	\$ 6,021.85



**Next Finance Committee Meeting:
Monday, February 13, 7pm**

G O A L S O F N F U M C

<i>People and Ministry</i>	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015
Disciples worship - average worship attendance	200	186	168	212	225	240	265
Disciples make new disciples - number of people who joined by profession of faith	9	3	2	8	8	8	8
Disciples engage in growing their faith - number of small groups, Sunday School classes and Bible Studies		31	31	34	37	40	43
Disciples engage in mission - number of people from the congregation engaged in local, national, and international mission/outreach activities	5	21	35	212	225	240	265
Disciples give to mission - the total amount given by local church to other organizations for support of benevolent and charitable ministries	\$63,061	\$78,416	\$71,799	\$75,000	\$76,000	\$77,000	\$78,000

January 18-25: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Almighty God, through Jesus you say to us that whoever wishes to be first must become the least and the servant of all. We enter into Your presence, knowing that Your victory is won through the powerlessness of the cross. We come to pray that Your church may be one. Teach us to accept humbly that this unity is a gift of Your Spirit; through this gift, change and transform us and make us more like Your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Jim Norton	pastorjim@nolensvilleumc.org
Youth Director:	Samantha Tidball	youth@nolensvilleumc.org
Music Director:	Connie McCain	music@nolensvilleumc.org
Business/Finance Administrator:	Beth Lindsey	finance@nolensvilleumc.org
Administrative Assistant:	Chris Grosson	numc@nolensvilleumc.org
Jacob's Ladder Director:	Terri Anderson	jacobs ladder@nolensvilleumc.org

www.nolensvilleumc.org

2012 Schedules

We have been working on the 2012 calendar, and have determined the dates for the major meetings, taking into consideration Pastor's schedule and planning for things like Charge Conference. **All meetings will be at 7pm.**

Although committees may add called meetings at any time, we are trying to keep the time spent in meetings down (and time spent in ministering up). Please encourage committee members to work outside the meetings, and stay in touch with each other **between** meetings. That way meetings are shorter, happier, and don't burn out Pastor Jim.

Meeting schedules are published on our website. Go to www.nolensvilleumc.org, and click on the "Calendars" icon.

Church Council of Stewards

Tues Jan 24
Tues Mar 27
Tues May 22
Tues Aug 28
Tues Sep 18
Tues Nov 27

Finance Committee

Mon Feb 13
Tues Apr 17
Tues Aug 7
Tues Sep 11
Tues Nov 6

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Thurs Jan 12
Tues Mar 13
Tues May 8
Tues Aug 14
Tues Nov 13

Nominations & Lay Leadership Committee

Tues Sep 4

Board of Trustees

Tues Jan 17
Tues Feb 21
Tues Mar 20
Tues Apr 17
Tues May 15
Tues Aug 21
Tues Sep 25
Tues Oct 16
Mon Nov 19
Tues Dec 18

Missions Team

Mon Jan 30
Mon Mar 19
Mon May 21
Mon Sep 24
Mon Nov 26

Stewardship Committee

Mon Feb 27
Mon Apr 30
Mon Aug 20
Mon Oct 22

Worship Team

Mon Feb 6
Mon Apr 16
Mon Aug 6
Mon Oct 8

Faith Development Team

Mon Jan 23
Mon Mar 12
Mon May 14
Mon Sept 17
Mon Nov 12

Evangelism & Congregational Care

Mon Jan 16
Mon Mar 5
Mon May 7
Mon Sep 10
Mon Nov 5

All meetings will be at 7pm.

All other Committees and Teams can set their own schedule according to their members, but please notify the front office and reserve a meeting room.



January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 3:00pm Disciple Class 4:00pm Yoga 	2 7:00pm Lion's Club 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den 6	3 	4 4:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	5 JL Starts 10:00am Friendly Neighbors 6:30pm Young Adults	6 7:00pm Dia de Reyes 	7
8 9:15am Second Sunday Breakfast 9:15am Confirmation Parent Meeting 3:00pm Disciple Class 4:00pm Yoga 5:00pm Youth Group	9 Room in the Inn 4:30pm Daisy Scout Troop 2362 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den 6	10 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 298	11 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	12 2:15pm Blood Drive 6:30pm Young Adults 7:00pm SPRC	13	14 
15 Human Relations Sunday 3:00pm Disciple Class 4:00pm Yoga 5:00pm Youth Group	16 6:30pm Cub Scouts Den 2 7:00pm Lion's Club 7:00pm Evang & Cong Care 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den 6 	17 Court of Honor 7:00pm Trustees	18 4:15am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30pm ESL Class 6:30pm Young Adults	20	
22 3:00pm Disciple Class 4:00pm Yoga 5:00pm Youth Group	23 Room in the Inn 4:30pm Daisy Scout Troop 2362 6:30pm Cub Scouts Den 2 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den 6 7:00pm Faith Develop	24 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 298 7:00pm Church Council of Stewards	25 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	26 6:30pm ESL Class 6:30pm Young Adults	27 Youth Warmth in Winter	28 Youth Warmth in Winter
29 Youth Warmth in Winter 3:00pm Disciple Class 4:00pm Yoga	30 7:00pm Missions Team 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den 6	31 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 298	Upcoming Events Feb 12 Scout Sunday Feb 17-19 Youth Ski Trip Feb 22 Ash Wednesday			