

Sevierville First  
United Methodist Church  
214 Cedar Street  
Sevierville, TN 37862

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Sevierville, TN  
37862  
Permit No. 58



# THE MESSENGER

December 2017 SEVIERVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mailed: December 1, 2017

## Advent And Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 3 6:00 Elijah Banquet

Sunday, December 10 6:00 Children's Christmas Musical- "Christmas Around the World"

Sunday, December 17 6:00 Christmas Cantata- "A Celebration of Carols"

Sunday, December 24 5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Services-  
Traditional 5:00 and Contemporary 5:00

### Wednesday Alive Menu for December

12/06 - **Adult Meal** - Cranberry chicken, rice, carrots, rolls & dessert.

**Kids Meal** - Corn dogs, tater tots, rolls & dessert.

Dinner served from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.  
No charge, but love offering gratefully accepted.  
Come and join us - everyone is welcome!

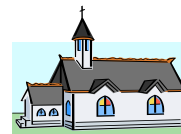
### Holston United Methodist Home for Children DECEMBER 31 IS FIFTH SUNDAY!

The churches in the Holston Annual Conference have, for many years, supported the ministry of Holston United Methodist home for children by receiving a special Fifth Sunday Offering. This provides a sure way to share in the responsibilities of providing care and compassion to children who look to the church at a time of crisis.

Your generous gift on December 31 will make a difference.

Church Phone Number: (865) 453-5754

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



### CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor: Rev. Jeff Lambert**  
pastor@1stmethodist.com (423) 653-7982

**Director of Evangelism and Congregational Care: David Zavona**  
care@1stmethodist.com

**Director of Music/Organist: Amanda Barton**  
music@1stmethodist.com

**Crossroads Worship Leader: Ashley Reddick**  
worship@1methodist.com

**Pianist/Hymn Leader: Mandy Rogers**  
songleader@1stmethodist.com

**Director of Children's Ministries: Glenda Snider**  
children@1stmethodist.com

**Youth Director: Robert Wear**  
youth@1stmethodist.com

**Administrative Assistant: Rhonda Stearley**  
info@1stmethodist.com

**Building and Grounds: Steven Ryan**

**Housekeeping: Mary Patterson**

### THANK YOU!



We want to thank everyone who gave so generously to our Appalachian Relief Toy Drive.

Because of your response, which far exceeded our expectations, the children of *Scott County* will have a very Merry Christmas.

Thank you and God bless,  
*Steven Ryan and Mary Patterson*

### THANK YOU.....

to everyone who brought turkeys, desserts or contributed their time to the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

We had approximately 146 guests who gave us great reviews.

Benny Davis your brownies were outstanding!!!

*Pat McCumber & Rickie Carver*



**Christmas Community Dinner**  
**Thursday, December 21 at 5:00**



Would you like to help us save printing and mailing costs and start receiving The Messenger via e-mail? Please contact Rhonda Stearley at info@1stmethodist.com to be added to our list!

214 Cedar Street, Sevierville, TN 37862  
Phone: 865-453-5754 www.1stmethodist.com

 **Sevierville First**  
United Methodist Church

**OUR STEWARDSHIP THROUGH GIVING**

**BUDGET 2017:** \$ 722,130.00

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance January 1, 2017 | 44,352.27         |
| Received 2017           | 641,030.07        |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>685,382.34</b> |
| Expenses 2017           | 633,206.19        |
| Balance                 | 52,176.15         |
| <b>BUILDING DEBT</b>    | <b>287,573.27</b> |
| Balance Jan. 1, 2017:   | 23,966.88         |
| Received 2017           | 77,373.96         |
| Total Building Fund     | 101,340.84        |
| Expenses                | <u>82,181.60</u>  |
| Balance                 | 19,159.24         |

**I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service and my witness.**

**Online Banking** If you are interested in online banking please stop by the church office and pick up a form. If you have any questions please contact Rhonda at the church office 453-5754.

**Online Giving** Giving made easy with Pay Pal. All donations go to Sevierville First United Methodist Church.

**MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS:**

**November 5-26, 2017**

Given to the Building Fund in Memory of **Dr. Lee Roy Dyer**  
By Al and Cheri Schmutzer

Given to the Building Fund in Memory of **Imogene Ford**  
**Jerry Latham**

**Sam, Hazel, Johnnie Mae and Maxine Latham**  
By Aliene Kerr

Given to Building Fund in Honor of **Jim and Vivian Miner**  
By James Runyan

Given to the Budget in Memory of **John Ottolini**  
By Bob and Paige McCluree

Given to the Budget in Memory of Dr. Lee Roy Dyer  
By Mike and Mary Lee

Given to the Holston United Methodist Home for Children  
in Memory of **Adrienne Owen**  
By Melinda Baumunk

**Prayer Concerns**

|  |                 |                   |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| Martin McMahan   | Jenny Davenport | Ivan Reiff        |
| Bobby Huff   | Emma Atchley    | Megan Wood        |
| Debbie Unger   | Myra Barrett    | Dr. Suzanne South |
| Loris Ogle   | Joe Foisset     | Lisa Melton       |
| Barbara DiBenedetto  | Elsie Tarwater  | Doris Gainer      |
| Allen Wendt  | Tanner Cureton  | Yvonne Broyles    |
| Dixie Shults   | Bob Goldsmith   | Virginia Baxter   |
| Jedd Perl  | Daniel Patrick  | Monnie Carty      |
| Mary Shell   | James Magliato  | Rhonda Stearley   |
| Tatum Marshall   | Kathy Phillips  | Jim Miner         |
| Debbie Jenkins   | Larry Milligan  | Brynlee Roy       |
| Bob Winkler  | Ruby Zavona     | Kathy Wendt       |
| Jack Peak  | David Wright    |                   |
| All our Armed Forces Personnel<br>Police, Fire Fighters, Rescue Squad and Our Gatlinburg Friends |                 |                   |

**Sunday, December 24, 2017  
Is 4th Sunday School Missions**



On this Sunday the money that is given during the Sunday School hour is used for Mission

**Fellowship Schedule for:**

- Dec. 3** Mell Trotter/Covenant
- Dec. 10** Emmanuel/Pathfinders/Rooted
- Dec. 17** New Horizons
- Dec. 24** Truth Seekers/Lord's Lovely Ladies
- Dec. 31** Ned Williams



**CHURCH SECURITY**

We are a welcoming church and are working hard to keep getting better at making members and visitors welcome. We are also working hard at making sure our church is a safe place for persons of all ages. There recently have been some horrific incidents in churches in the US. The likelihood of a shooting or other incident happening in our church is extremely low, but as culture and society have changed we decided we want to be proactive in keeping our church a safe place and a place prepared for different types of emergencies or incidents. When the sanctuary and great hall are full of people on Sunday morning the goal is to keep any potential threats outside the building by controlling and monitoring access. For emergency purposes all church doors can be exited at any time even if they are locked to entry. Doors locked to entry are the exterior stairwell doors, the side door to the choir room, and the exterior door to the Wesleyan classroom. After the Sunday morning services are well started other doors will be closed to entry. During the services the double doors from the parking lot leading to the Crossroads service, the doors coming into the narthex of the sanctuary, and the double doors next to the parlor and restrooms will remain open. Several members with law enforcement training and background are monitoring the open doors and the church. They are trying to be discreet and very welcoming while staying alert. In mid-December we will have a Sevier County Sheriff's Deputy present on Sunday morning to provide security and safety. As we review and plan we will work to ensure all our programs and activities and events are safe and secure and welcoming. We will also evaluate emergency medical and all other areas involving safety, security, and emergencies and we will develop a plan that will help the church respond to an emergency. Each of us in the church is and will be a part of keeping our church safe and secure. One of the ways we can all help is to be sure if we unlock a door it is locked before we leave. We all need to remain aware and alert. If you see, hear, or know of anything that concerns you or have a question please let Pastor Jeff, Pastor David, Steven Ryan, Ronnie Shell, one of the LE (Law Enforcement) persons in the church, or one of our church leaders know. We want to be especially alert to the safety and security of our children. We appreciate our church and each of your help in making it a more welcoming and a safer place to worship and fellowship.

*Ronnie Shell*

*From The Pastor's Desk*

**Micah 5:2**

<sup>2</sup> *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.* NIV

The prophet Micah proclaimed the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Around 4 BC a young couple in awe of the Immaculate Conception and a visit from an angel made the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem Mary was ready to give birth. A frantic Joseph went from Inn to Inn and house to house trying to find a room for Mary. Finally an Inn Keeper offered them his barn. Joseph accepted. This is where the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords was born. Our Lord was born in a dirty, stinking, filthy barn. When I think about that it just does not seem fair. It does not seem right. Why was Jesus born in a barn? I suspect God had many reasons for this. For me the birth of Christ in the Bethlehem's barn gives me hope. It gives me hope because my heart and life resembles a filthy barn more than it does a luxurious palace. If Jesus could be born in an old filthy barn, he could be born in me through the Holy Spirit. When Jesus knocked on the barn door of my heart, I let him in. What about you? Will you let Jesus be born in your heart? What a great time it would be for all of us to open wide the barn door of our heart and let Jesus be born in us.

Merry Christmas

*Reverend Jeff Lambert*

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

We need Poinsettias to place in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Your poinsettia may be picked up on Sunday, December 24 after the 10:45 am service or after the Christmas Eve Service. The cost is \$11.00 and may be given in memory or honor of a loved one. All gifts will be listed in the bulletin.

**DEADLINE IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 12:00 NOON - PLEASE PRINT**

Given by \_\_\_\_\_.

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_.

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_.

Please indicate the number of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_. Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_. Payment is due with order.

**ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER**

|               |              |                    |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 5, 2017  | Worship: 320 | Sunday School: 129 |
| Nov. 12, 2017 | Worship: 264 | Sunday School: 117 |
| Nov. 19, 2017 | Worship: 303 | Sunday School: 129 |
| Nov. 26, 2017 | Worship: 266 | Sunday School: 115 |