

## This week at Belmont UMC

SUNDAY, APRIL 23  
11:30 a.m. Multicultural Fellowship, Parker Hall  
11:45 a.m. Music Banquet, Community Center  
5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth, Community Center

MONDAY, APRIL 24  
10:00 a.m. UMW Executive Committee, 124  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee, 202  
6:30 p.m. UMW Abigail Circle, Iris Room

TUESDAY, APRIL 25  
6:00 p.m. Discipleship Team, 201

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26  
11:30 a.m. Belmont/Edgehill Partnership, 124  
3:30 p.m. Crafts with the Homeplace ladies, 204  
5:15 p.m. Midweek at Belmont meal, Community Center  
5:30 p.m. Trust Fund Board, 201  
6:00 p.m. *Reading Scripture: Attending to God's Word*, 124  
6:00 p.m. Custodian appreciation, Community Center  
6:00 p.m. Yoga, Parker Hall  
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary choir, choir room

THURSDAY, APRIL 27  
8:00 a.m. Women's Centering Prayer Group, 124  
6:30 p.m. Belmont ESL Writers Showcase, CC

SUNDAY, APRIL 30  
11:30 a.m. *Welcome to Belmont*, Iris Room  
11:30 a.m. Children's Ministry Team, 124  
5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth, Community Center



**Programs for April 26:** Custodian appreciation, in the Community Center, *Reading Scripture: Attending to God's Word* in room 124. **Menu:** *Adults and youth:* Fried chicken, southern style green beans, mashed potatoes, yeast rolls, and dessert. Vegetarian option: Quinoa and barley stuffed bell peppers. *Children:* Chicken tenders with french fries.

## 2017 Belmont ESL Writer's Showcase

*Continued from page 1*  
Nashville community at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center as we encourage, recognize, and celebrate Nashville's multicultural population. Light refreshments will be served.

## Joys and Concerns

*Continued from page 1*

### Memorials

MIKE STUBBS

#### Donors:

Martha & Tillman Harris  
Beverly Mintmire & Hatton Hardison  
Tina & Coyle Hazelwood  
Peg Morris  
Lucille Nabors  
Marie Nowell  
Aileen Rogers  
Patricia Stubbs  
Betty Jane & Larry Taylor  
Mila & Bill Truan  
Judy & Lou Ullrich  
Barbara & David Venrick  
Lynda & John Wagster  
Bill Weeks  
Lynda & Alan White

ANN RICE

#### Donor:

JoAnn Matthai

MARTHA WISE

#### Donor:

Sue Smith

LOREN ANDREWS

VONNIE LUTON

(Diane Blum's mother)

#### Donors:

Tina & Coyle Hazelwood

BOB SMOOT

(Sally Wright's brother)

#### Donors:

Linda Henson & Richard Fulk  
Marie Nowell  
Nancy & Elmer Young  
Graham Inquirers Class

BOB TAYLOR

#### Donors:

Ann & Doug Snelson  
Ullrich family

Belmont  
United Methodist Church

News

April 23, 2017



*We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We commit to Jesus' example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.*

## Joys and Concerns

### Memorials

JIM BARRICK

#### Donors:

Kathy Spann Anderson  
Jeffrey Fisher  
Linda Henson & Richard Fulk  
Mary Ruth & Myron Mains  
Lucille Nabors  
Sally Spann  
Judy Stubbs  
Betty Jane & Larry Taylor  
George D. Thomas, Jr. family  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Trella  
Barbara & David Venrick  
Joyce & Don Wolfe  
Anna Circle  
Goodlettsville H. S. Alumni Assoc.  
Howard Class  
Jessie Rustin Class  
TMPartners  
TN Credit Union

MIKE STUBBS

#### Donors:

Ben Adams  
Jane Alexander  
Debra Allen  
Olivia & Warren Clark  
Karen Curry  
Linda Henson & Richard Fulk

*Continued on page 4*

## Letter from new senior pastor, Paul Purdue

Finding ourselves in Nashville, Connie and I walked around Belmont's campus. We paused to read the welcoming banner: "Belmont United Methodist Church is a community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor. This is what we at Belmont UMC believe Christian discipleship is, what we are to be, and what Jesus meant when he sent his followers to "make disciples." We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We commit to Jesus' example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ."

Reading "Love in the Vil-



*Paul, Connie, Lewis, and Caleb Purdue*

lage" for the first time, Connie smiled and said, "We believe that!" Belmont's mission statement beautifully incarnates Jesus' teaching "that all the law and prophets hang on" loving God and neighbor. (Matthew 22:40) We look forward to serving together.

*Continued on page 3*

## Appreciation for our custodians



*Pictured from left to right: Wayne Beard, Redd Gilliam, Lennie Minter, and James Jimmerson.*

On Wednesday, April 26, join us in the Community Center for an evening of gratitude and thanksgiving for our dedicated custodial staff. After our Midweek dinner, we will hear from Belmonters who have stories to share about how Lennie, Wayne, Redd, and James have gone above and beyond to support the ministries of Belmont UMC. Make plans to join this celebration and if you would like to share a story during the evening, please contact Jefferson Furtado ([jefferson@belmontumc.org](mailto:jefferson@belmontumc.org)).

## 2017 Belmont ESL Writer's Showcase

*by Mary Kaye Jordan*

Each week over 100 students from all over the world come to learn English at Belmont UMC. They come from many different countries and cultures and speak many different languages, but all have a story to tell.

Can you imagine moving to another country and dealing with a new culture and language? Now imagine trying to write a story in that new language. For the past three months, Belmont's ESL students have been doing just that.

On Thursday, April 27, you are invited to come and listen as some of these wonderful stories are read by Belmonters and our students are recognized for their efforts. Make plans to join Belmont's ESL students, their families, and members of the

*Continued on page 4*

## Upcoming Worship Services

### Third Sunday of Easter April 30, 2017

Ken Edwards preaching 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services.  
Nick Sakarapanee preaching 10:30 a.m. worship in the Community Center.

8:15 a.m. - Communion in the chapel  
9:15 a.m. - Sunday school  
10:30 a.m. - Worship in the sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. - Worship in the Community Center (in Karen, English, and Thai)

*Scripture lessons:* Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Sunday school classes collecting the offering for April: Friendship, Journey, Young Adult

## CROP Hunger Walk is next Sunday

This year's one-mile (or five-kilometer) walk will take place at Fannie Mae Dees Park in Hillsboro Village on Sunday, April 30, with registration beginning at 1:30pm. If you are interested in being a walker or fund-raiser, contact Richard Hooper (615-828-2222). This year's walk is sponsored by Church World Service.

## GTF volunteers needed

The Golden Triangle Fellowship (GTF) 7th-12th grade Sunday school class needs volunteers and new ideas. Currently, they read scripture for discussion, do art activities for worship (as seen on the administrative hall), and act out Bible stories.

Dennis Reid, Beverly Lovell, and Myi Say, are leaders. If you can help, either by volunteering or offering class ideas, contact Beverly Lovell (615 834-7058 or [bill.lovell@tnumc.com](mailto:bill.lovell@tnumc.com)).

## Michael Williams to lead All-Church Retreat



*Rev. Michael Williams*

All-Church Retreat coordinators John and Anne Trudel are happy to announce that Michael E. Williams, senior pastor at West End UMC, will be this year's retreat leader. Michael will speak on storytelling as spiritual exploration, and will help us learn to tell our own stories.

This year, Belmont UMC is implementing a new fee structure that will allow children and youth to attend for free, saving families considerable money. The cost per adult has increased by only \$30.

Plan to join us in Beersheba Springs, September 22-24, and bring your friends!

**Find more news, photos, and announcements on our social media pages**



## Letter from new senior pastor, Paul Purdue

*Continued from page 1*

As a dyslexic child, struggling to read well into middle school, church was a refuge. I am sure the grown-ups disagreed about church business and theology, but I knew nothing but Christ's love. Anchoring my in Jesus' love and animated dinner debates, Mom and Dad provided the spiritual space for me to leave my childhood literalistic theological tradition. Twenty-seven years ago, our journey led us to the Methodist Church where we fell in love with our UMC understanding of God's love, every-day grace, social holiness, and a reasoned faith. Even today, my spiritual journey continues unfolding, hopefully inching me closer to Christ's love. As your new pastor, I hope that Jesus' word, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35), will be our reality.

I married Connie Jo Starnes some 29 years ago. Connie works as a physical therapist, teaches children's Sunday school, sings in the choir, loves our boys, holds a deep faith, and makes me a better person. Lewis is a freshman at University of Alabama at Huntsville studying Mechanical Engineering, visiting churches, and will work at Miller Family Farms this summer. Caleb will be a senior at Tullahoma High School in the fall. Connie and Caleb will reside in Tullahoma for his senior year. Caleb currently is High Brass Officer, All-State Band, Math Team, Trumpet Ensemble, Jazz Band, Swim Team, Youth Group, TFUMC Ensemble.... In June, we will hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, camping there and completing a family odyssey of visiting all 48 lower states!

Having finally learned to read I graduated from the University of Kentucky and then Asbury Theological Seminary! I have served in the Methodist Church for 25 years: Children and Youth Director at Epworth UMC (Lexington, KY), Associate Winchester FUMC, Pastor New Chapel (Springfield), Hillcrest (Nashville) and now Tullahoma FUMC. In Springfield, in a 175 year old rural congregation, we began ESL, reaching out to a growing Latino population. We relished the diversity of pastoring Hillcrest's 14 nations and welcomed the Golden Triangle Fellowship on Sunday evenings. Tullahoma runs a large biweekly food bank, operates a ministry center adjoining our town's Housing Authority, and leads our town in many other ways.

We are very excited to come and serve with a people committed to Jesus' inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality for all people. May God grow our love for God, each other, and all our neighbors!

Grace, peace and love, Paul