

The Link: Connected in Christ

January 2023



Our Mission:
“Bring People
to Christ”

Church Service Times

Sunday Sanctuary
Worship 9:30 AM,
in-person worship.

Sunday Children's
Church 10 AM

Live Worship
Streamed Online
Sunday 9:30 AM
Facebook, YouTube,
and KNIA

Radio Worship
Worship with us via
the radio at 1320 AM,
95.3 FM or 94.3 FM at
9:30 AM. on Sundays.

Holy Donut Hole Sundays!

Did you know that beginning January 1, 2023, our Narthex fellowship time is changing?

That's right**Fellowship is changing from after service, to 30 minutes before service!**

Also, we will have lots of donut holes to enjoy!

Not done with your coffee when service starts?

No problem because we will have lids for the drinks, so take it into the Sanctuary and enjoy it as we get started celebrating our Lord and Savior!!

Join us for Holy Donut Hole Sundays, 9 am every Sunday. Can't wait to see you there!

Financial Peace University



Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will once again be offered as a ministry to our congregation and to the Knoxville Community.

Begins Sunday January 15, 2023 and ends on Sunday March 12, 2023. Nine weekly lessons.

Participants will need the original version course materials, which they can purchase for \$40

(originally \$90) from the church by contacting FPU Coordinator Deb Greiner in the church office, OR they are welcome to find their own on-line.

Participants will be able to choose between two class formats: 1) In person, gathering in the West Fellowship Hall of the church on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. or

2) On-line, where weekly lessons can be watched at convenience, and small-group discussion questions with other group members taking place through Facebook Groups.

Sign up in narthex or by contacting Deb Greiner (dgreiner@kfumc.com or 641-842-3712).

Peace!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Happenings



As we welcome in the new year, we are getting excited about our events planned for 2023. A new CYF brochure for spring 2023 is available. You can pick them up in the narthex or contact me and I can send you one. We are also undergoing some branding updates. Read our new names below along with highlights on our upcoming events. It is not too late to start coming to any of our programs. We always welcome new faces! If you have any questions, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.



Branding Updates:

East Fellowship Hall is now called **Kids Kingdom**. It is designed as our main meeting space for activities and events for kids ages 3 through 5th grade. This is still a multipurpose space and can be reserved for other groups or activities. Our newly remodeled space is bright and welcoming.

West Fellowship Hall is now simply called **Fellowship Hall**.

The Choir Room will now be referred to as the **Music Room** as it is home to all of our music ministries including Chancel choir and bell choir when in session.

The room at the back of the hallway on the East side of the basement is the **Education Center** and is a great meeting place for a group of 12 people or less.

The Recreation room is the **Youth Room** and is home to our Living Way Youth Group. This room is reserved for church use only.

Kids Quest is our new ministry name that will cover all events and activities for kids ages 3 through 5th grade. This includes activities such as Children's Church, Day Camps, and more. These activities will still keep their names, but will fall under the Kids Quest umbrella.

Pathfinders is the name for our 3rd-5th grade group which meets twice a year for 6-7 weeks each session.

Living Way Youth is the name for our Youth Group encompassing 6th – 12th graders. The youth selected this name out of many for its meaning as they work to be example of living a Christian life.

Living Way Youth Meetings

Children's church will begin meet weekly (with the below exceptions) through February. In February we will assess if we should continue weekly meetings or go back to bi-weekly meetings beginning in March.

Mark your calendars for February 10th for the Winter Jam concert at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines!

Exceptions (no Youth Group): January 22nd and February 12th

Children's Church

Reminder – No Children's Church on January 1st, we will begin again on January 8th, 2023 Children's Church is from 10-10:30 on Sundays during service. Our curriculum is designed for kids ages 2 – 2nd grade, but we welcome older elementary kids and even youth. Our youth are invited to come and help the adults in leading Children's Church.

Pathfinders

Our 3rd-5th graders will begin meeting again on February 1st. They will meet on Wednesdays from 3:45-5 pm with transportation available from Northstar Elementary. They will meet February 1st through March 8th. Katie and I look forward to seeing these kids again!



Mark Your Calendars

Family Easter Experience – **March 22nd, 2023 from 5-7pm.**

Experience the Easter Story in a whole new way through games, crafts, and more. This event is fun for the whole family!

Good Friday Day Camp – **April 7th, 2023 from 9am-12pm**

Kids ages 4 through 5th grade will enjoy a fun filled morning learning about the Easter Story.

Mother Child Tea Party – **May 6th, 2023 from 11:30am-1pm**

Come enjoy a fun tea party where the kids will serve moms in honor of Mother's Day. This will be a fun event for Moms and kids of any age!

Blessings,
Lauren

Strength for the Day



Happy New Year! As we say goodbye to 2022 and step into 2023, let's remember with joy that our God said "Behold, I am making all things new!" The God of love has come in the Christ child to make all things new --- years, lives, relationships, careers, outlooks, habits, ministries, even whole congregations!

When the New Year came to the congregation of Israel, it was marked with festive celebration. On New Year's Day, the first rays of the sun, rising over the Mount of Olives, shone in a straight line through the outer eastern gate of the Temple, then on across the Temple Court and over the great altar inside, between the two pillars on either side and on down the long corridor into the Holy of Holies, the sacred recess at the western end. These first rays of New Year's Day were called the "radiance of God" and symbolized God's entrance into the sanctuary, renewing God's covenant with the people. Just at this moment, the shofar or ram's horn would be sounded, and the procession would begin, saying for the people that God would continue to be their God, and that they were still God's people.

The crops may have failed this year, enemies may have threatened or attacked, but it is still God who led the people out of Egypt, God who still sits upon the holy throne reigning over the nations, God who shall be exalted forever and ever. And on this day we see it, because now the light is just right and the past, the present and the future, at least for today, are all ordered in a perfect line.

The Biblical faith suggests that God is the God of the past, the present, and most especially, the future. Time and again in scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, we are reminded that God is continually doing new things. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth", and later, "Behold, I make all things new."

We should not be surprised to see that the God of creation and re-creation will be at work in 2023, at the individual level of our own life, and at the congregational level of our church's life.

The Choir will teach us the joy of the psalms which proclaim "sing a new song to the Lord!" The Finance team will offer us a wonderful way to grow stronger in our marriages as well as our stewardship of the resources God has entrusted to us. New small group Bibles studies will be sharing the good news of God's great love for us and teaching us new ways that we can be better disciples of Jesus Christ. Our

pastoral team will be bringing a new way for adults in our congregation to go on a year-long faith journey with a Confirmation student. And our church staff and leadership teams will be discussing new ways that we can best leverage our resources to minister to the most people in Knoxville and beyond, helping them to become disciples of Christ.

May God bless you as together we enter this New Year. Remember, we serve a mighty God. A God who has created us and called us into a loving and trusting relationship with himself. A God who encourages us, saying “For surely I know the plans I have for you... plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Friends, this is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice, and be glad in it!”

Happy New Year! Pastor Jamie Cutler

People Like You and Me



As Jesus was going down a road, he saw Matthew sitting at his tax collection booth. “Come, by my disciple,” Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. That night Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to be his supper guests, along with his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners. The Pharisees were indignant, and said to his disciples “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

When Jesus heard this, Jesus replied, “Those who are well have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do. Go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want to be merciful; I don’t want your sacrifices.’ ‘For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough.’ --Matthew 9:9-13

If Jesus were to walk around Marion County, with whom do think he would have coffee or a soda, or supper? Would Jesus hang around the Courthouse or other Knoxville sites? Perhaps. Jesus might spend time with anyone passing by, but it shouldn’t surprise us if he found people that are most generally ignored. That’s how it worked in Jesus’ time. Jesus shared meals and his time with tax collectors and other outcasts. God loves each of us, and no matter our walk of life, Jesus came to be with people like us. See you Sunday! Pastor Brent Hanna

January 2023

January 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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February 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 1, 23 11:00am - From Dec 22, 23 Communion/Sunday Food New Year's Day 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum	2 Church Office Closed for the Holiday 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 6:00pm Girl Scouts (Kids Kingdom)	3 MSPS Christmas Break 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	4 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 5:30pm Gospel Goulash Practice (Sanctuary)	5 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) (Knoxville Memorial Hall) 7:30pm NA Meeting (Activity Center)	6 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Activity)	7 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center)
8 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am Children's Church 10:30am Faith Forum 4:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 5:00pm Living Way Youth	9 7:30am Monday Morning Panthers (Fellowship) 11:45am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:00pm Girl Scouts (Kids Kingdom)	10 KFLC Meals on Wheels (Pick up at Senior Center) 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	11 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 7:00pm P 4630 UMW Meeting (Kids Kingdom)	12 9:00am Rachel Circle Meeting (Kids Kingdom) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	13 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Activity)	14 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center)
15 Financial Peace University Living Generously (5 week) 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am Children's Church 10:30am Faith Forum	16 11:45am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:00pm Girl Scouts (Kids Kingdom) 6:30pm SPRC (Library)	17 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center)	18 Church Group Traveling to Washington Iowa to see 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 7:00pm Chancel Choir	19 11:00am Homebuilders Lunch Meeting 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	20 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Activity)	21 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center)
22 Financial Peace University Living Generously (5 week) 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am Children's Church 10:30am Faith Forum	23 7:30am Monday Morning Panthers (Fellowship) 11:45am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:00pm Finance Committee 6:00pm Girl Scouts (Kids Kingdom) 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	24 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center)	25 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)	26 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 1:30pm Sarah Circle Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	27 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 4:00pm Pathfinders (3rd thru 5th Grade) Kickoff 6:00pm Narcotics	28 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center)
29 Financial Peace University Living Generously (5 week) 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am Children's Church 10:30am Faith Forum	30 7:30am Monday Morning Panthers (Fellowship) 11:45am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:00pm Girl Scouts (Kids Kingdom)	31 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center)	Feb 1	2	3	4