



# The Voice on the Village Green



Nashville United Methodist Church  
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MAY 2022

*How shall we live  
as disciples of  
Jesus Christ?*

- *Love God*
- *Love Others*
- *Pass It On*

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## Our “Back Porch”

Phase Two of NUMC’s Pray’n’Play Park is under roof! Concrete will be poured soon and the finishing work will begin. This outdoor shelter will complete the church’s “Back Porch” – a place for community outreach and to gather for fellowship and ministry.

As one congregant commented: “Our visitors are out the front door and our neighbors are at our back door. Both are important.” This new Pray’n’Play Park will be a place to hold community events, welcome youth, watch our children on the playground and simply to be together for conversation, laughter, food and encouragement – all important elements of spiritual formation and disciple-making.

Many thanks to Gary Manning who is serving as the General Contractor for the build and to Georgia Harris, chair of the Trustees, who has consulted, watched over and taken pictures of the project!

***Love God, Love Others,  
Pass It On!***

**April Birthdays**

05/04	Sally Greeno Meghan Haines
05/05	Jim Goodman
05/07	Brianna Simmonds
05/08	Silas Mincey-Chaplin
05/09	Mike Goering Amber Phelps
05/11	Donna Marks
05/13	Kelsey Hoefling June Logan
05/15	Jay Hancock John Oliver Linda Todd
05/16	Rich Greeno
05/18	Deborah Beckinger
05/24	Parker Scott
05/26	Bill Pruitt
05/31	Dennis Smith

**April Anniversaries**

05/14	Megan & James Catron Anne & Steve Miller
05/20	Connie & Dennis Rhodes
05/28	Jenise & Brent Bohbrink

**Sunday Flowers**

For anyone interested in arranging flowers for a Sunday service, we encourage you to do so! Whether in honor of someone's memory or simply to the Glory of God, you can contact a local florist or bring them from your garden! Just be sure to choose a date and add the appropriate information to the Flower Chart across from the church office.

**Online Giving**

Go to [www.nashvilleumc.com](http://www.nashvilleumc.com) and click the online giving button  
OR Text the amount of your contribution to  
844-582-0720  
It's quick and easy!



A cleaner  
environment.  
A stronger  
workforce.

**Recycling Sunday**

May 1st is Recycling Sunday! A truck will be at the back of the church from 9:30 to 10:30, taking any electronics with a power cord to Recycle Force. \$25 fee for TVs/monitors.



**A Little Ditty from the Library**

There are two books I'd like to recommend. The first is "Sabbatical Journey" by Henri J. M. Nouwen. Author of over 40 books, he was considered one of the greatest spiritual writers of our times. A teacher at University of Notre Dame, Harvard and Yale, he shared the last ten years of his life with the mentally disabled, as pastor of the l'Arche Daybreak community in Toronto, Canada. His personal diary is all about friendship and renewal of his faith through prayer.

The other book is "Quiet Strength: a memoir" by Tony Dungy. A testament to his faith, his life and spiritual purpose. The lives he touched and the legacy he left surpassed his role as one of the greatest football coaches in Indiana!

Diana Wright





## Sunday mornings before worship: You're invited!

Would you like to connect with others before worship on Sundays? Wondering how to do that? Each month we'll feature one group and give you the schedule and contact info for others. This month our featured group is:

**The Basement Bunch** – On April 24 this group began a study of the Book of Romans written by Max Lucado. It's a week-to-week study so you don't have to be at the first session to learn from it!

The Basement Bunch is a long-standing group that met for years in the – you guessed it – the basement! They met in the basement which was more like a cellar before the new church was built in 2001. During the pandemic the group fell in love with outdoor meetings so they continue to meet Sundays in the Village Green Gazebo (next to Brozzinni's) at 9:15 a.m. Most bring their own lawn chairs but there are also picnic table benches available! If you have questions, email David Shaffer at [dshaffer1024@yahoo.com](mailto:dshaffer1024@yahoo.com). All are welcome!

Other groups:

- **Green Room.** Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Email Bill or Linda Todd at [ljtodd@gmail.com](mailto:ljtodd@gmail.com). In person or by Zoom.
- **Upper Room Class.** Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Email Bruce Marks at [bmarks9708@aol.com](mailto:bmarks9708@aol.com).
- **Just want to get coffee and chat?** Email Jack Wescott at [jwescott@bsu.edu](mailto:jwescott@bsu.edu).
- **Children's Church.** During worship at 10:30. Sunday School at 9:30. Email Amanda Middleton at [yellow-brkr217@yahoo.com](mailto:yellow-brkr217@yahoo.com)
- **Sweeter than Honey Class.** Sundays at 9:15 a.m. Email Michael Cartwright at [mcartwright@uindy.edu](mailto:mcartwright@uindy.edu).



## Settling In

Learn about what's involved in helping Afghan families resettle. The United Methodist Women will be hosting Vicki Moseley to share her and her family's experiences with welcoming and helping several Afghan families resettle in Cincinnati, OH. Vicki will share their Spirit-led story. She will also share thoughts about specific cultural and social matters that one may find helpful in working alongside an Afghan family. There will be an opportunity for questions.

The program will be on May 5, beginning at 9:30 am in the sanctuary at Nashville United Methodist Church. All are welcome!

(Masks and social distancing are strongly encouraged.)

## Community Day of Prayer

**Thursday, May 5  
12 noon  
Brown County Courthouse  
Square**

Join Pastors, Community Leaders and  
special guest Senator Eric Koch  
To pray for the community, school and  
governmental leaders

## CLERGY RENEWAL GRANT CONTINUES TO ENRICH OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Although some of the timeline got shifted because of the pandemic, we are still able to complete the elements of the Clergy Renewal Grant provided to NUMC thanks to the Lilly Endowment. This grant included funds for Pastor Mary's sabbatical as well as providing an interim pastor and renewal opportunities for worship. Two upcoming events are funded by and grow out of the goals and purpose of the grant.

### VISION WORKSHOP PLANNED FOR APRIL 29-30

We know the mission of the church: *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

We know this congregation's mission statement: *Love God, Love Others, Pass It On. This brief easily remembered summary of our purpose really describes what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.*

What are the values which guide us in carrying out our purpose? What are the goals which arise out of our mission and values? What will NUMC's ministry look like in two years? In five years?

These questions will be addressed by the Vision Retreat led by David Hayes on April 29-30. We will have the opportunity to hear and affirm the mission and vision as we move into the future together!



### TAMMERA LANE HEADS TO WORSHIP DESIGN STUDIO RETREAT

Our Director of Music, Tammerra Lane, will head to a Lake Tahoe Retreat Center for a long-awaited worship and music retreat called Elevation 2022 led by Worship Design Studio.

Tammerra offered the following comment about the upcoming retreat: *The Elevation retreat is designed to explore our identity as worship leaders, stimulate meaningful creativity, becoming more comfortable integrating various media arts for worship, give us thoughts on creative shaping of spiritual rituals such as communion, funerals, weddings, and other rites of passage. It will provide new thoughts, ideas and experiences of being a worship leader, within my own abilities and identity.*

Your prayers for Tammerra are requested that this be a wonderful time of renewal, rest and encouragement. She will be away two Sundays: May 8 and 15. Thank you to our Bell Choir Director Andrew Eden for providing music leadership in her absence.



## Love God, Love Others....Pass It On

### Here are a few ways to serve and grow in faith!

- **Provide Cereal for Salvation Army Food Pantry.** 10 boxes a week through June.
- **Join Communications Team.** Create inviting ways to communicate the ministry that happens at NUMC. Photos, banners, social media, and more!
- **Mother's Cupboard Serving Team** for the 4th Saturday of each month is looking for new members. Email Joan Goodman at [jgoodman19380@aol.com](mailto:jgoodman19380@aol.com).
- **Office Volunteers** — Each Tuesday, 9am-noon — volunteers staff the church office. Email Josh for the Signup Link at [Joshua.lane@nashvilleumc.com](mailto:Joshua.lane@nashvilleumc.com)
- **Shepherding the Youth** — NUMY has grown to more than 25 youth; get to know some amazing young people and give David assistance, too. Email David Phelps at [davey411@gmail.com](mailto:davey411@gmail.com). (A simple Volunteer Background Check is required by our Safe Sanctuary Policy.)
- **Greeters/Ushers on Sunday mornings.** Contact Deb Beckinger at [debeckinger@gmail.com](mailto:debeckinger@gmail.com) or Susan Barnes at [sgbarnes62@gmail.com](mailto:sgbarnes62@gmail.com)
- **New Member Shepherds** — It takes awhile for new members to feel at home. Spend time with a new member — share a meal, answer questions, introduce them around, make sure they know about that pole hazard behind the building! To sign up as a Shepherd, Deb Beckinger at [debeckinger@gmail.com](mailto:debeckinger@gmail.com) or Susan Barnes at [sgbarnes62@gmail.com](mailto:sgbarnes62@gmail.com)



## NURTURE/MEMBER CARE COMMITTEE ROLLS OUT NEW HOSPITALITY PLAN FOR CELEBRATION GATHERINGS

Sunday Fellowship time is a key opportunity for nurturing our life together. We gather for worship, we welcome visitors and newcomers and we offer encouragement and blessing to one another. All of that happens every Sunday morning.



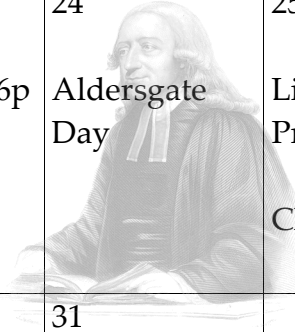

What part does food/refreshments play in fellowship time? Well, of course, food is fun and enjoyable and food helps to create a time for celebration. Here's the plan for incorporating refreshments into fellowship time for Celebration Gatherings through the year.

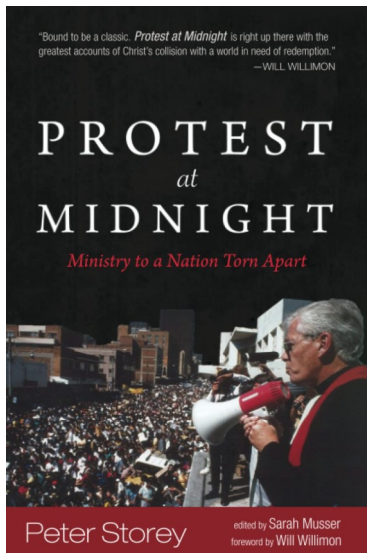
1. We'll have refreshments after worship on the last Sunday of each month called Celebration Gatherings
2. Celebration Gatherings can also be held on other occasions to recognize special events such as new members, anniversaries, graduations. If anyone wants to provide refreshments for a Celebration Gathering, call Deb Beckinger (812-720-0201) or Susan Barnes (317-459-6418). Water and coffee will be supplied; the refreshments and cleanup will be coordinated by the person sponsoring the Celebration Gathering. (There's always help available – just ask.) Options for refreshments include cookies, fruit, possibly a cake, etc.
3. The Nurture/Member Care team will recruit cookie-bakers for the monthly Celebration Gatherings. So be ready to say 'yes'!



STAR WARS  
MAY THE 4TH  
BE WITH YOU

# May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Boy Scouts 6p	3 National Garden Meditation Day 	4 Listening Prayer 10a  NUMY 6p Choir 6p	5 9:30 UMW (Vicki Mosley Guest Speaker)	6 May Friendship Day  A.A. 10a	7
8 Mother's Day  Festival of the Christian Home 	9 Boy Scouts 6p	10	11 Listening Prayer 10a  NUMY 6p Choir 6p	12 Staff-Parish 6:30p	13 A.A. 10a	14
15	16 Boy Scouts 6p	17 Compassionate Friends 6:30p	18 Listening Prayer 10a  NUMY 6p Choir 6p	19 Trustees 7p	20 A.A. 10a	21
22 Heritage Sunday – 11:30 UMC Discussion	23 Boy Scouts 6p	24 Aldersgate Day 	25 Listening Prayer 10a  Choir 6p	26 Ascension of the Lord  Church Council / Finance 7p	27 A.A. 10a	28
29 Ascension Sunday	30 Memorial Day	31				



## Back Porch Conversations Coming in June

We have a new back porch! Let's use it!

Pastor Mary will host Back Porch Conversations this summer on Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. Topics will vary but we'll begin by reading and discussing a wonderful book entitled *Protest at Midnight* by Peter Storey. Storey is a Methodist minister and leader who lived through apartheid in South Africa and helped to dismantle the cruel system of government. *Protest at Midnight* is his memoir. **So mark your calendars for summer Wednesdays!**

At a recent event that honored Storey's work, Pastor Mary purchased a copy of the book which Storey signed for the church with this inscription:

*To the Nashville United Methodist Church. Wishing you powerful witness for Jesus and his peace, love and justice, Peter Storey, 2022.*

**Juneteenth National Independence Day is June 19 with its observance as a federal holiday observed on Monday, June 20. Our Brown County Public Library will host an event with music and information about the history of the day on Monday, June 13. Watch for additional information.**

## What is Juneteenth?

On January 1st 1863, Abraham Lincoln declared the end of slavery with the Emancipation Proclamation. Two and half years later, and two months after the end of the Civil War, Union troops arrived in Galveston on June 19th 1865 to find that news of the proclamation had not yet reached Galveston and that people were still being held as slaves in Texas.

The leader of the Union Troops, General Gordon Granger then formally announced the emancipation from the balcony of the former Confederate Army headquarters.

The reason why the news about the emancipation took so long to reach Texas is subject to speculation. One theory is that the messenger who was originally sent with the news had been killed before he reached Texas. A more likely scenario is that the local slave owners simply held onto the information, ignoring the emancipation order.

Although the news of the emancipation reached towns at different times across the South, there was a collective decision to recognize 19th June as the date of the emancipation. The date of the proclamation itself (January 1st) wasn't considered as the people wanted to mark the date when the slave's lives were actually affected by the new freedom.

Celebrations have traditionally included parades, storytelling, barbecue and baseball. Strawberry soda pop is the drink of choice and the building from which General Granger read the Proclamation is now a historic landmark.

All states have recognized Juneteenth as a day of celebration and a number of states had already made the holiday a state observance when President Joe Biden signed it into law last summer.

—from [officeholidays.com](http://officeholidays.com)



## **QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT THE UMC WILL BE ADDRESSED IN CONGREGATIONAL EVENT ON MAY 22**

Several attended the District Listening sessions in April. These sessions addressed such questions as: *What is the Global Methodist Church? What does it mean that General Conference was postponed? Or was it canceled? How do the issues that are causing division in the UMC affect us? Will we have to vote? How does the lack of resolution about these issues impact the mission and ministry of our local congregation?*

If you are concerned about these questions, if you have other questions or if you would simply like to learn more, come to the UMC Discussion – May 22 immediately following the worship service, 11:30-12:45. Those who would like to do so will go out to lunch together at an area restaurant (details to be announced).

**Sunday, May 22  
11:30a—12:45 p  
Questions and Concerns and the United Methodist Church  
(and a little history thrown in!)**



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