

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

Newsletter Of Chapel Hill UMC December 2017



POINSETTIAS ORDERS DUE DECEMBER 3RD

Poinsettias may be ordered for placement on the altar for the Advent Season in memory or in honor of loved ones. The cost will be \$10.00. Please make checks payable to Chapel Hill (memo Poinsettia). Orders need to be turned into the church office no later than December 3rd. Poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service. Order forms will be available in the Sunday bulletins and in the narthex.

ANGEL TREE

Thank you to everyone who choose an angel tag from the Angel Tree! Fifty Angel tags were dispersed! When purchasing for your chosen child, please keep the following in mind:

- ✝ The concept is for church members to take the name of a child from the tree and get the gifts suggested for that child.
- ✝ We ask that you use the information on the angel tag as a guide for your shopping, however you are not obligated to purchase any specific item from that list.
- ✝ It is recommended that you purchase 3-4 items per child with some assortment of toys and clothing, making up that number.
- ✝ **Gifts need to be returned to the church by Sunday, December 3rd.** All you have to do is buy the gifts. The Salvation Army will pick them up, wrap them and present them to the children.
- ✝ We are doing this instead of the shoebox ministry so we may take care of the children in our own community that are in need.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol Odom at 270-869-4468.

"PARENT'S NIGHT OUT" IS BACK! DECEMBER 8TH

It's that time of year! Please take the time to sign your child up for PNO on December 8th, 2017 from 6-9p.m. The earlier you sign them up, the better we can get our head count and get better prepared. Preregistration can be completed at the Children's Check-in Station and Online forms for registration are also available on our Facebook pages!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

**Choir Christmas Special at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
and Praise Band Christmas Concert at 6:30 p.m.**

Come and enjoy the sounds of the holiday season December 10th. The Adult Choir will be performing at the 9:30 and 11:00 service. Later in the evening at 6:30 p.m. our very own Praise band will be holding a Christmas concert.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 5:00 P.M.

Dress rehearsal for the musical will be held December 16th at 9:30 with lunch to follow at 11:30 for the performers. The musical will be December 17th at 5:00 p.m.



A NOTE FROM PASTOR MIKE

“CHRISTMAS LIGHTS”

I'm sure that if I were to thumb through last year's electric bills, I would discover that December was our most expensive month. And it's not because of the cold. There are colder months than December, and we have a gas furnace. If December uses a lot of electricity at our house, it's because of all the lights that we put up. We have lights on our trees and on our front porch and in our yard. We even have lights on our roof. I have a hunch that most of our electric bills will go up this December. Christmas is the most well-lit holiday on our calendar. But we want to make sure to watch for one light in particular. It's the light of a star that always points us back to Jesus.

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright,
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.
(William Cullen Bryant)

“...after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.’”

(Matthew 2:1-2)



NOTE FROM PASTOR AMY

Chapel Hill,

I have loved Christmastime ever since I was a child. Some of my earliest memories are of spending wonderful hours with my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins as we ate and opened gifts together on Christmas Eve. Then we would pile into the car to go to church for their Christmas Eve service. Each year was a new year filled with wonder, even as I left my childhood behind. Over the years, I have been blessed to spend part of Christmas with my husband's family and learn new traditions that are so important to them. And this year is a special year because Ellie has joined the family and will be having her very first Christmas, starting a journey that has opened the future up to so many different possibilities.

But even the happiest times can have a touch of sadness. We have lost several people who used to sit around our table at Christmas. Their empty chairs starkly contrast the happiness of the season. I know that they have joined their heavenly Father, feasting at His great table. But it doesn't help the ache in my heart.

It is a true joy to wait for the birth of our Savior and for him to come again. There is such hope there to look to a little baby. But with the joys of birth comes the reminder of what is to come. Eventually, our Jesus, who came to this earth as a small baby, loved greatly by His earthly parents and heavenly Father, died a lonely death on the cross for those He came to save. Christmas is a joyous time because we know it begins the greatest of all stories. But like all stories, there is a touch of sadness and a touch of grief. My prayers are with you all, in your joys and sadness.

With Blessings,

Pastor Amy Call



SPECIAL EVENTS TEAM

The Christmas Season reminds us of the tremendous Gift that God gave us. After all the Christmas rush is over, the end of the year is a time for reflection and a time for us to consider what we can do or give for the new year. Please consider giving some of your time and expertise to our Special Events Team.

Our Special Events Team oversees planning, advertising, paying for, and getting volunteers for four events through the year. Those events are Easter at the Fine Arts Center, Evening of Celebration, Trunk or Treat, and we are adding the Back to School Block Party. These events are geared not only toward our congregation, but reaching out into our community.

Pastor Mike has challenged us to set goals for our Special Events and then measure whether we reached our goals. Pastor Mike explained that we can set the goal of each event reaching a certain number of people in the community who are not members of Chapel Hill. I thought that would be terribly hard to measure, especially events like our Easter service, or the families we touched with our Trunk or Treat.

Once we thought about it though, we certainly know that we touched more than 80 children by filling their backpacks with back to school supplies and we had more than 150 people enjoy supper at our Back to School Block Party. We had more than 600 children and parents come through the church during Trunk or Treat. 92 of those individuals had specific prayer requests to put on the prayer wall, some asking what prayer was. We absolutely touched those hearts.

We need people to help us with the events as well as reporting about lives that are touched. We also need suggestions about how to measure our impact for specific events. I know there is certainly someone in our congregation that likes numbers and would be a great fit for this specific job. If you have a suggestion, or would like to volunteer to help us with this new venture, please let Marie Rutledge or Myrle Partridge know.

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year from the
Special Events Team!



FINANCE TEAM BY STEVE HOSKINS

Christmas! To quote Andy Williams; "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" (If this newsletter had speakers, I'd sing it for you.) And for many, it is just that; the most wonderful time of the year.

Think of the small children, anxiously awaiting the arrival of Santa. Or those scattered families who can only seem to gather during this holiday season. Even the merchants whose success or failure might truly be decided during this season of gift giving. And then there are those of us who think it is the most wonderful time of the year because this is the time of year when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the perfecter of our faith and the only provider of our salvation. That makes Him the greatest gift of all; God's gift to mankind.

Christmas-time, celebration of the birth of our savior! The largest birthday party of the year-every year! So, let me ask, "what are you giving Jesus for His birthday this year?"

Hopefully you have already given your life to Him and asked Him to be the Lord of your life. If not, then now is the time to do that and receive the gift of eternal life. Until we receive that gift, ALL other gifts are worthless and until we truly sacrifice and pray and do our best to teach others of Jesus and salvation, then ALL other gifts are meaningless.

To celebrate the birth of our savior, what can we do this year to let others know of his boundless love and sacrifice so that anyone and everyone can have eternal life? We can all be challenged to do whatever we can to help make this "the most wonderful time of the year", not only for our immediate family but for all of mankind.

God bless us, everyone!

GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR

DONATED TO THE BUILDING FUND

IN MEMORY OF WD OWENS

JIM AND CONNIE O'LEARY
DANNY AND JULIE KINDER
AUBREY AND MARTHA GIBSON
LANOVA COOK
BARBARA MORGAN
KENNY AND TRESIA CRITSER
BONNIE TRAVIS
PAT AND NANCY EDWARDS
MARTHA SHAFFER
DR. THOMAS AND JO LOGAN
MARY BETH BUCKMAN
ALLEN AND STACEY SINGER

BETTY WOOLSEY
CHARLES AND PEGGY KUDER
JOSEPH AND LANA HAGAN
JO MEEKS
RALPH AND FAYE BRIDGES
LELIA SWEENEY
HENRY AND JOYCE NEUKAM
CPA GROUP
GEORGIA ANN GLASSCO
MILDRED UTLEY
ALICE EBLIN

IN MEMORY OF STEVE BENNETT

TOM AND JANICE PERRY
ALLEN AND STACEY SINGER
JAN BRATCHER

IN MEMORY OF SEAN POWELL

JAN BRATCHER

THE GIFT OF CHIMES

IN MEMORY OF RYAN OWENS

RANDY AND MARLA OWENS

IN HONOR OF LANOVA COOK

KOINONIA SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



Thank you!

Thank you to both the Hilltoppers and the Nellie Group for donating \$380 of their combined "kitty" fund to the Chapel Hill Church's funds to provide assistance to needy individuals.





Prayer Requests for November

Taft Adams
Donna Alexander
Nancy Allen
Erica Baas
Sue Baker
Francisco Barela and Family
Pat Barnes
John Beasley
Family of Steve Bennett
Berg Family
Dena Billings
Garland Bingemer
Tony Brown
Mike Byant
Mary Beth Buckman
Rhonda Busby and Family
Terry Carter
Tim Chandley Family
Rick Clark
Gary and Kathy Cole
Family of Beverly Coons
Tootie Cravens
Rob Crowe
Jenny Darnell
Bobby Dean
John Denham
Bill Denton
Emma Dodson
John Doty
Tanner Duncan
Megan Dunn
Brandi Edwards
Will Esche
Family of Gerald Farris
Pat Howard Farris
Wanda Folsom
Fox Family
Candy Georgean
Martha Gibson
Mike Ginnett

Jennifer Goodwin
Shirley Hadley
Ralph Hagar
Glen Hallum
Larry Harwood
Brittany Hayes
Patricia Henshaw
Robert Heppler
Holly and Olivia
Rudy Howard
Joe Hudson
Jeremy Hunt
Amy Jarboe
Johnny
Lee Johnson
Lovell Jones
Karen Kemp
Kay Kennedy
Julie Kinder
Charlie King
Tracy Lauderdale
Warren and Imogene Lewis
James Littrell
Morris Littrell
Gabriel Majors
Jese Martinez
Wanda Masters
Iona McCormick
Andy McGill
Katherine McKee
Velda Minton
Music Ministry/Technology
Team
Ralph Mitchell
Mother of Kenny Noblett
Greg Nixon
Carol Oakley
Bill O'Leary
Family of WD Owens
Tom and Janice Perry



Greg Pritchett
Greg Ray
Randy Raulerson
Brian Reitz
Amanda Richmond
Ryan Rutledge
Safe Travels for the Holiday
Season
Joey Scott
Nancy Quirey Shelton
Family of Bill Shields
John Snider
Bob Stone
O.B. Stone
Jack Sturks
Josh and Mary Tharp
Chuck Tidd
Dolores Todd Family
Robin Trimble and Family
Jenny Utley
Family of Russel Vandiver
Jan Vibbert
Sue Walker
Jason Wallace
Jimmy Wallace
George Warren
Bill Webb
Matt Whaling and Family
Maddox Whittler
John Whitfield
Christopher Williams
Cindy Williams
Family of Katie Williams
Jacie Williamson
Allan Wilson
Nancy Wilson
Jason Wyatt
Victims of the Texas Shooting
Jeff Zigarra

Prioritize Your Family Time This Christmas by Nick Blevins

I love Christmas.

I love the amazing story of Jesus' birth and all the hope, joy and promise that is found in it. I love the atmosphere at church as we celebrate each week leading up to Christmas. I love the movies, the family gatherings, the food (*especially the cookies*), the decorations, the presents (*mine in particular*), and I love many of the traditions we take part in each year.

However, I don't love *everything*.

You may have noticed I left out Christmas music. I like Christmas music, but I don't love it. I'm certainly not the person playing it before Thanksgiving. I actually don't love shopping and I definitely don't love the extra traffic. I don't like mint-chocolate anything or Christmas-blend coffee. Of all things I don't love, though, the thing I probably like the least is *the crazy*.

The Christmas Crazy

Christmas has a way of making life crazy. The parties, the shopping, the schedules, the travel, the events, the gift-wrapping, the deadlines or the sugared-up -preschooler who needs to take it down a few notches. (*I may be writing this from home while watching our son.*) I'm sure you feel it as well, and maybe I'm biased, but I think it's amplified for church leaders.

For churches, Christmas should be a busier time of year. I am of the opinion that people who do not attend church are most open to attending around Christmas and we should prepare for them. I also believe there are some great opportunities to help families celebrate together. However, in all of that, it's easy to be so busy with everything else that we actually neglect our own family. In that way, Christmas would not bring joy, but instead stress, frustration, and regret.

Prioritize Your Family Time.

There will always be too many

things for us to accomplish around the Christmas season. For that reason, it's important for us to prioritize our family time and make the most of it. Here are 4 ways we can do it this year.

Schedule Family Time.

I don't know about you, but I live off of my calendar. Calendars, to be exact. If I don't have something on the calendar I'll never remember it. In addition, if I don't have something on the calendar then something else will surely take up that space. One thing we can do is take some time right away to schedule family time the rest of this month.

It's okay that much of our time right around Christmas will be dedicated to church. That's part of what we signed up for. But, take the opportunity now to schedule some specific time for your family from now through the end of the year. Get as specific as you want. Schedule time to watch movies together. Schedule time to read, time to go see lights, time to have a special meal or time to just be free.

What can you schedule this month for your family?

Procrastinate or Say "No."

Procrastination. It's not usually something that's recommended, but I'm recommending it here. In church world it's easy to allow many things to get on our to-do list that feel critical, but really aren't. Even if they are critical, they may not be urgent. Throughout this month, as anything new comes up, be sure to evaluate if it's something you should say "no" to or push off until the new year. If we want to maximize our family time this Christmas, we probably have to make some difficult choices to put things off or not do them at all.

What can you wait on or say "no" to?

Take Time Off.

It might not make sense

considering how busy you usually are with work leading up to Christmas, but a great way to prioritize your family is to take some time off in the next few weeks. It can force you to be away from work and you can plan in advance to use that time with your family. *Where can you take a personal day and really be off?*

Start Some Traditions.

Speaking of traditions, now might be the time to start some. I don't believe you should start traditions just for the sake of tradition, but traditions have a way of holding us accountable to something. They raise the importance of us taking time to do something meaningful together. Maybe you have some traditions, or maybe it's time to start some. A quick Google search will probably give you more ideas than you'll ever need.

I know a family that uses a live Christmas tree every year and after Christmas they cut off a thin slice of the trunk and write down the memories from that year on each side. The good memories on one side, the painful ones on the other. They hang them all up every Christmas and add a new one each year.

What traditions can help your family spend time together?

I love Christmas and I love it even more when I think about the memories I have with our family that we made together during the Christmas seasons. There were years when I didn't guard my schedule during this time and without even knowing it, my family were the ones who were left out when it was all said and done. None of us want that, and we have to be intentional to avoid it.

Let's decide, right now, that we're going to take the steps necessary to prioritize our family.

It's not too late!

TO REMIND THE WORLD OF THE LOVE JESUS GAVE

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house,
not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. And on goes
the story about Christmas Eve and the jolly old man in who
we believe.

Have you ever wondered how Santa came to be?
So important to Christmas and to you and to me?

Well it all began a long time ago, the night before Christ to
earth was to go.

All prepared to make Christ's birth well announced, with
angels and music and anthems pronounced. But alas, all had
forgotten in the final rush how to make Christ's birthday
remembered to us.

The kingdom was searched for the most excellent plan that
would help us remember God's gift to man. A saintly old
fellow so jolly and gay came up with the best plan that was
offered that day.

He said, send a fellow each year at this time who would help
people be happy and comfort their minds; he could help
man remember that God loves us so, by bringing presents to
both friend and foe.

"He would show by example that true love and joy come
only when shared with each girl and each boy." Heaven
decided that Santa's plan would be just right. Santa was
asked to play the part that very first night.

So from the first Christmas right down to today, when one
heard the bells jingling and saw the big sleigh, they knew it
was Santa making his way
to remind the world of the
love Jesus gave.

So, this night before
Christmas when you hear
Santa come, remember he's
doing it for the love of
God's son.

Remember that he teaches
as Christ did of old, that to
give of one's self is more
precious than gold.



CHAPEL KIDS

Chapel Kids had a wonderful Thanksgiving meal and we would like to
wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



HELP NEEDED DECORATING CHAPEL HILL FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Worship Team will be meeting December 2nd at 8:00 a.m. to decorate the church for the Christmas Season. They are in need of heavy lifters to help move the tubs of decorations from the parsonage garage, trucks and/or vans, and help putting together four Christmas trees! Any help would be greatly appreciated!



ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The group's Christmas Party will be Thursday, December 7th at 2:00 pm in room 204. (PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE; 2:00 pm) We would like to invite some members of the church to attend to be Support Friends to the Caregivers. We need at least 4. When the party is over you will have one person's phone number and you can call them during the holiday season and other times. This is a group open to the community. Sandra Heppler 270/5775667



CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery Monday 5:00-7:00 pm (We will not meet December 25th. January 8th, is our first group of 2018. If school is out due to weather or holiday we will not meet Celebrate Recovery does meet in the summer months.

What is Celebrate Recovery about? The following is a condensed lesson we just experienced. I wanted to share it with you.

Faith and Hope: It's reassuring to know that we don't need a large amount of faith to begin the recovery process. We need only a small amount, as small as a mustard seed, to bring change and begin to move our mountains of hurts, hang-ups, and habits. They may be from grief, anger, loneliness and etc. We invite you to come meet with us to gain hope in the only Higher Power Jesus Christ.

Let's take a look at what the word Hope means. H stands for " Higher Power", O stands for " Open to Change", P stands for "Power to Change.", and E stands for " Expect to Change". We must not give up until we receive our miracle from God. Join us on Monday night to gain " Faith and Hope. Sandra Heppler 270/5775667

NOVEMBER DRIVING MINISTRY

Number of transports	14
Miles driven	352
Volunteer hours	30.5

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA PACK 280 NEWS:

Pack 280 is off and running! We would like to thank everyone that supported our annual popcorn sales. The Pack made \$1,967.26 which will go to support programs and awards for the boys. We recently completed Scouting for Food, and all food collected was donated to Harbor House. Watch for us in the Henderson Christmas Parade, as we present "Scout in a Box." We are always accepting new scouts, so if you know of anyone who might be interested in joining, please contact Cubmaster Adrian Roberts at 270-577-0320.

CHAPEL HILL BUDGET FOR NOVEMBER

Total November Budget Received	\$45,203.14
Total November Budget Needed	\$49,426.83
Debt on Children's Wing	\$667,277.72
Average Attendance for November	389

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Chapel Hill's policy regarding cancellations due to inclement weather:

- ✳ Sunday morning service will be called by Pastor Mike via One Call, Facebook, and Channel 14
- ✳ Youth and Children's programming will follow the school system. If school is cancelled, the programs are cancelled. The Chapel Hill Family Ministries Facebook page will be updated with the cancellation notices.
- ✳ Celebrate Recovery will also be cancelled if the schools are cancelled.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, December 1st

- 10:00am Sisters In Christ

Saturday, December 2nd

- 8:00 a.m. Decorating Chapel Hill for Christmas

Sunday, December 3rd

- **Poinsettia Orders and Angel Tree Gifts Due**
- 4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Musical Practice
- 4:00pm-6pm Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study (Closed Group) Will meet every Sunday for 26 weeks. Led by Amy Call.

Tuesday, December 5th

- 8:30 am Chapel Kids (Stephanie Powell and Denise Kirtley Directors) Chapel Kids is a parent's morning out program that meets Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week 8:30am—11:30 am.
- 6:30 p.m. Staff Parish Relations (Kevin Kennedy Chairman)

Wednesday, December 6th

- 10:00 a.m. Nellie Group—Meet at Eastgate Family Restaurant

Thursday, December 7th

- 2:00 p.m. Care Givers Group Christmas Party
- 6:30 p.m. BSA Parent meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Upper Room Remote Prayer

Friday, December 8th

- 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. PNO (Parent's Night Out)

Saturday, December 9th

- 9:00 a.m. Tone Your Temple
- 1:00 p.m. FH Reserved

Sunday, December 10th

- Adult Choir Christmas Special during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services
- 4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Musical Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Christmas Concert

Thursday, December 14th

- 6:30 p.m. Finance Team (Brian Poynter Chairman)

Friday, December 15th

- 1:00 p.m. —Sisters in Christ at LaNova Cook's Home

Saturday, December 16th

- 9:00 a.m. Tone Your Temple
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Morning Son Small Group Christmas Party

Sunday November 17th

- 4:00pm-6pm Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study (Closed Group) Will meet every Sunday for 26 weeks. Led by Amy Call.
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Musical Program

Tuesday, December 19th

- 6:30pm Administrative Council (Ed Shelton Chair.)

Wednesday, December 20th

- **Due to the Christmas and New Year's Holiday, the Children's Programming and Vocal Explosion will not be meeting**

Thursday, December 21st

- 5:30 p.m. New Genesis (109)
- 6:30 p.m. BSA Pack Meeting

Sunday, December 24th

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Monday, December 25th

Merry Christmas!

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26th

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27th

- **Due to the Christmas and New Year's Holiday the Children's Programming and Vocal Explosion will not be meeting**

Thursday, December 28th

- 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Team (Marie Rutledge and Angie Timmons Co-Chairs.)

Sunday, December 31st

New Year's Eve



CHAPEL HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A United Methodist Congregation
"Making Disciples for Jesus Christ"

2601 Highway 60 East
Henderson, KY 42420
Office: 270.826.3593
Fax: 270.826.1323
www.chchurch.org

E-mail Address: chchurch@chchurch.org
Senior Pastor Mike Snyder:
Associate Pastor: Amy Call

To receive the monthly newsletter or our One-Call,
e-mail the church office at chchurch@chchurch.org

"Making Disciples for Jesus Christ"

Celebrating Our 56th Year



SO MANY WAYS

TO CONNECT!

Check out Chapel Hill

Facebook Pages

and Groups today!

Lots of updates on all the activities going on at
the Chapel on the Hill

COME WORSHIP WITH US on Sunday

8:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)

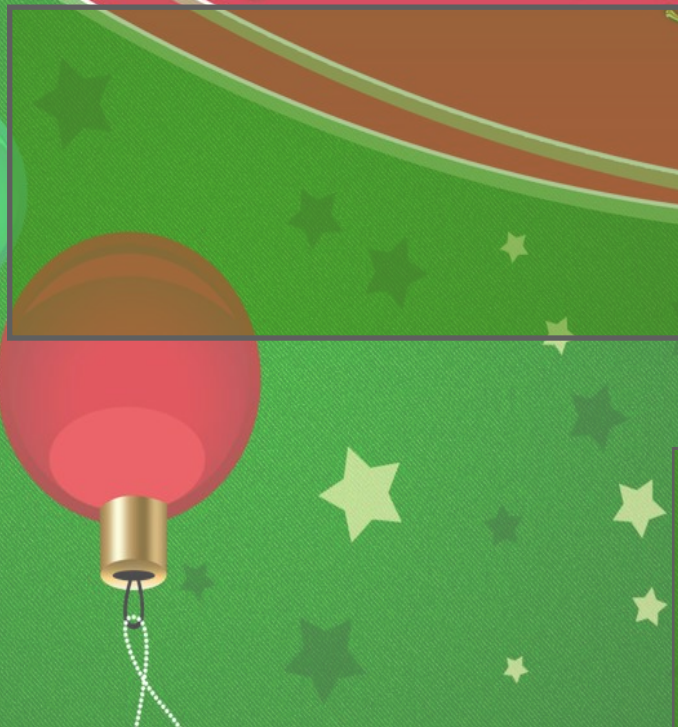
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service (Sanctuary)

11:00 a.m. Peter (trad'l) & Paul (contemporary) Worship Service (Sanctuary)

9:30 a.m. Children's Programs

Office Hours 8:30- a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Merry Christmas!



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Henderson, Kentucky

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United Methodist Church
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Henderson, KY 42420