

Storytellers from a variety of faiths will celebrate their varied traditions in story, song, and dance in "United We Stand," an interfaith storytelling concert to be held Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017. It will take place from 2-5 p.m. at the McKinney Center, 103 Franklin Ave., Jonesborough and is planned as a fundraiser to benefit the Kathleen M. Stern and Milagros M. Argueta Endowment for Storytelling at ETSU. This endowment will provide scholarships and an endowed chair in storytelling with a focus on therapeutic, homiletic and community-building story. Storytellers representing Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Native American faiths will participate in the program. Tickets are \$10 each, and seating is limited. To reserve tickets, contact the Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center at (423)753-1010.

Use this QR Code to access online giving.




Year-to-Date Operating Funds as of 11/30/16

Revenues	469,134
Operating Expenses	490,790
Surplus/(Deficit)	(21,656)

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SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS for TODAY:
USHERS: David Denny, Jim Heaton, Art Eckerson, Mitch Robinson, Steve Love
GREETERS: Jamee Roberts, Brian & Cathie Rosecrance, Bonnie Sampson, Joanne Peterson
PRAYER: Joann Boyd **CROSSBEARER:** Macy Shell
ACOLYTE: Hannah Haun **BEADLE:** Jalen Pack
AUDIOVISUAL: Karl Kapoor

WEEKLY CALENDAR
JANUARY 1-7, 2017
FUMC hosting Family Promise this week
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
 9:15 Sunday School
 9:45 coffee & fellowship— welcome center on gym balcony
 10:30 Worship Service
 4:30 youth activity
 5:30 children & youth snack supper
 6:15 The Branch
MONDAY, JANUARY 2
 Church office & ELC closed
 7:00 Boy Scouts
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3
 5:30 staff meeting
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
 7:30 Chancel Choir
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5
 10:00 Circle of Faith— conf. room
 6:30 Finance Committee— conf. room
 7:00 East TN Intl. Folk Dancers— gym
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
 6:30 Circle of Friends



First United Methodist Church
 900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604
 Worship Guide & Church Life Information Bulletin
 Welcome to 1st Church! We are glad you are here!
 Please sign the red registration pad at one end of each pew.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
January 1, 2017
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING
PRELUDE "O Jesulein Sus" Rebecca Groom Te Velde
CALL TO WORSHIP
 Leader: Christmas Day came and is now fading from our memory,
People: but the Baby born to be our Savior lives on.
 Leader: The gifts we gave and received are all opened and put away,
People: but our God, who came to love us, keeps on giving.
 Leader: The world's observance is over.
People: But we, the church, still celebrate.
 Leader: If we listen, we can still hear the angels' song.
People: We hear, we remember, and we lift our voices with theirs in singing praise to the newborn King.
INVOCATION
***HYMN OF PRAISE** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 224
***PSALTER READING** Psalm 148 No. 861
MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.
OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 63:7-9
***HYMN** "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" Supplement No. 3052
 Verses 1, 2, and 5

OFFERTORY "Das Alto Jahr Vergannen Ist" J.S. Bach
***DOXOLOGY** No. 94
GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:13-23
ANTHEM "Who Would Send a Baby"
*Who would send a baby to heal a world in pain? Who would send a baby, a tiny child?
 When the world is crying for the Promised One, Who would send His only Son?*

*Who would send a baby to light a world with love? Who would send a baby, a tiny child?
 When the world is hoping for the Promised One, Who would send His only Son?*

*Who would choose a manger to cradle a King? Who would send angels to sing?
 Who would hang a star in the sky above to shine on the gift of His infinite love?*

*Who would send a baby to bless the world with peace? Who would send a baby, a tiny child?
 When the world is yearning for the Promised One, who would send His only begotten Son?*
SERMON "Renewing the Covenant" Mr. Steve Reis
COVENANT PRAYER
 Leader: O Righteous God, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, see us as we fall down before You.
People: Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done Your will, for You have promised mercy to me if I turn to You with my whole heart.
 Leader: God requires that you put away all your idols.
People: From the bottom of my heart I renounce them all, covenanting with You that I will not willingly let sin into my life. Against Your will, I have turned my love to the world. In Your power, lead me away from temptation and into Your grace.
 Leader: Through Christ, God has offered to be Your God again, if you would let Him.
People: Before heaven and earth, I acknowledge You as my Lord and God. I take You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion. I give up myself to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.
 Leader: God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.
People: I accept Christ as the way, the truth, and the life, and join myself in covenant with Him. I come to You, Lord Jesus, as an unworthy servant. You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take Your will as my law.
 Leader: Christ has told you that you must suffer with Him.
People: I covenant with You, O Christ, to take my lot as it may fall. Through Your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from You.

Leader: God has given holy laws as the rule of Your life.

People: All Your laws are holy, just, and good. I take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions. I promise that I will strive to order my whole life according to Your direction to love You with my whole heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love my neighbor as myself.

Leader: The almighty God searches and knows Your heart.

People: O God, I make this covenant with You today without deception or reservation. If any falsehood is in it, guide me and help me make it right. Glory be to You, God the Father, whom from this day forward I will know as my God and Father. Glory be to You, God the Son, who have loved me and washed me of my sins with Your own blood. Glory be to You, God the Holy Spirit, who by Your power have turned my heart from sin to God. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You have become my covenant friend, and through Your infinite grace, I have become Your covenant friend. Amen.

***HYMN** "Take My Life, and Let It Be" No. 399

***BENEDICTION**

I am no longer my own, but Thine.
 Put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt.
 Put me in doing, put me in suffering.
 Let me be employed by Thee or laid aside for Thee,
 Exalted by Thee, or brought low by Thee.
 Let me be full, let me be empty.
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
 I freely and heartily yield all things to Thy pleasure and disposal.
 And now, O glorious and blessed God,
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 Thou art mine, and I am Thine. So be it.
 And the covenant which I have made on earth,
 Let it be ratified in heaven. AMEN

CHORAL RESPONSE

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
 Pure and holy, tried and true.
 With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.*

POSTLUDE "God Rest You Merry" Rebecca Groom Te Velde

GO IN PEACE, GREET ONE ANOTHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, AND TAKE THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH YOU THIS WEEK TO SHARE WITH ALL YOU MEET.

January 1, 2017 Prayer Requests

Publish in bulletin? Y ___ N ___

Requested by _____

Prayer list:

Betty & Aldon Speer	Harold Greene
Mary McClellan	Helen Holyfield
Kristy Hodge Pratt	Ralph & Joan Garland
Grier Washam	Nancy Jewell
Jean Thayer	Calvin Garland
Barbara Marrs	Bobbie Wells
Clay&BonnieMarrs	Bernice Stephens
Elizabeth Bailey	Trygve Thayer
Brian Milby	Jo Ann Rorrer
Kim Slade	Dottie Woodby
Anonymous	Linda Stanley
	Susan Fields

Coming on January 11, 2017: a Wednesday Night study of [The Parables of Jesus](#). This nine week study will be taught by various members and teachers from our congregation. Mark your calendars for this insightful look at these special verses of Scripture and please join us!

The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Jim and Pam Heaton.