

STATE STREET *Happenings* United Methodist Church

Your Weekly News & Updates

TP Day Brings Joy All Around



18 volunteers from Bristol TN/VA United Methodist Churches hand-delivered rolls of toilet paper to residents of Rice Terrace on Mary Street. There were many “glory sightings” as we worked together to “Love Like Jesus.” One resident burst into tears as she was down to her last roll of toilet paper and wasn’t sure how she would get more. Another said he hadn’t been to church since his grandmother died and now wanted to get back connected. Volunteers made new friends and shared how blessed they felt in being able to give. Stay tuned for plans for the next Bristol TN/VA UM’s Serve Day.



Family Bingo Night a Big Success!

Our Family Bingo Night was a wonderful success! Over 40 people of all ages came out for an evening filled with laughter, friendly competition, and plenty of prizes. The fellowship hall was buzzing with excitement as everyone enjoyed snacks, fun, and community together. Thank you to everyone who helped organize, donate prizes, and participate—your energy made the night unforgettable! We can’t wait to do it again soon!



Special Thank You

My family and I would like to thank all those who have lifted prayers on our behalf in the recent loss of my sister, Patricia Davis. She was a new member of this wonderful and caring church and felt so welcome by so many of you! We appreciate the many cards we have received, the caring comments, and the presence of many of you on Saturday. We appreciate the ladies who presented our family and friends with refreshments during the service and were instrumental in making everyone comfortable. Our family thanks Pastors Laura and Steve for their spiritual support throughout this entire difficult time. And further, the prayers which have been lifted for John during this time of his health uncertainties were so comforting to all of us. We love our church family. Many thanks, Jeannene Thompson

Mid-week Prayer Gathering Wednesdays at 12 noon

Mid-Week Prayer Gathering meets every Wednesday at noon for a time of centering ourselves on God and sharing congregational prayers and concerns, reflective moments, and singing. Thirty minutes with a Zoom option available (contact the Office at 276-669-2101 for Zoom info).



Sunday, October 19, 2025
19th Sunday After Pentecost

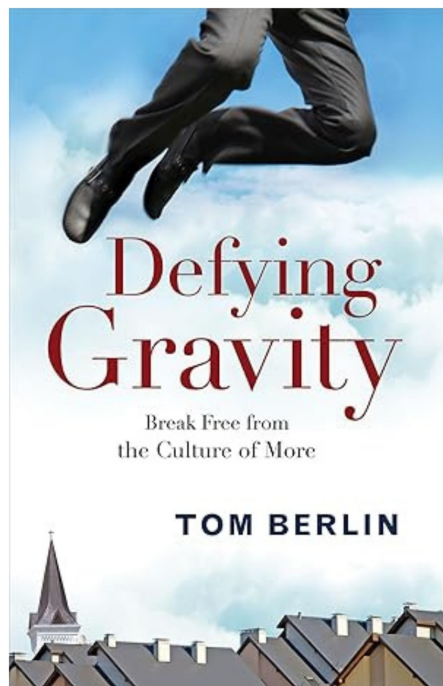
Scripture: Matthew 19:16-22

"If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

- Matthew 19:21

Sermon: "Two Kingdoms: Self and God"

Theme: In the kingdom of self, people often end up wounded; but Jesus taught and demonstrated that



when people are present in the kingdom of God, they are healed. In the kingdom of self, grudges prevail; but in the kingdom of God, people are forgiven of sins. In the kingdom of self, envy, strife, contempt, and bitterness abide, but in the kingdom of God, kindness, compassion, love and justice reign."

-Rev. Tom Berlin

Gravitational Witness

Each Sunday as part of this sermon series, we will hear testimonies and stories from folks in the church and their reflections on the "pull" of God on their lives. This past Sunday our speaker was Cheri Patterson. Click the button below to watch the video.

[View Video Here](#)

Bristol Together in Worship

Bristol faith communities are gathering to worship together. The first gathering is scheduled for **Sunday, October 19 at 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Florida Avenue, Bristol, TN.** Featured preacher is Reverend Dwayne Mabry from Lee Street Baptist Church in Bristol, VA. A free-will offering will be taken to support Family Promise, Bristol. Light refreshments will follow. The quarterly worship will rotate among participating faith communities and preaching leadership will also be shared among participating pastors. Music is provided by the host congregation. Each worship will also feature a different local ministry that serves those in need. Current participating congregations include Central Presbyterian, Emmanuel Episcopal, First Baptist, First Presbyterian, Hood Memorial AME Zion, Lee Street Baptist, Redeemer Lutheran, and State Street United Methodist. All are welcome!



Movin' & Groovin' Classes Are Taking a Break!

Move 'n' Groove classes are taking a 2-weeks break! The next session will resume on **Thursday, October 30** and run through December 11. (Note: The class will NOT meet on Thanksgiving morning.) If you have any questions, contact Beverly Wiginton (Beverlycwiginton@gmail.com) or Heidi Quick (Heidikquick@gmail.com). Join us and have a great time!



October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

October is set aside for Pastor Appreciation Month. This serves as a reminder that pastors are more than spiritual leaders; they are pillars of strength, wisdom, and compassion within their communities, deserving of heartfelt gratitude and recognition for their selfless service. Pastor Laura and Pastor Steve are amongst the unsung heroes of State Street and continue to give invaluable contributions to the congregation and community that extends beyond the pulpit. And Pastor Ray shares his energy and heart in many ways, even in retirement. Please take a moment this month and show your appreciation to our wonderful pastors while also praying for their continued faithful service to State Street and their ministry as a whole.



Rev. Laura Rasor
Lead Pastor



Rev. Steve Patterson
Associate Pastor



Rev. Ray Smith

Children, Youth & Family Ministries: Upcoming Events!

The Children, Youth, and Family Team has an exciting season ahead — and we can't wait to share it with you! Whether it's faith formation, fun outings, or family connection, there's something for everyone. · Trunk-or-Treat - **Tuesday, October 28th**

- Waffle Bar - **Sunday, November 9th at 10am**
- Movie Night/Tree Lighting - **Sunday, November 23rd at 4pm**
- Speedway in Lights - **Sunday, December 7th at 5:00pm**

We believe growing in faith is something we do *together*. These events are designed to nurture relationships, deepen discipleship, and create lasting memories.

Questions? Contact Josh Bass at: josh@state-street.org - we'd love to help you get plugged in.

OAK (Older Adult Kouncil) is on the road again!!

We will be Traveling to The Kitchen at Grace Meadow Farms in Jonesborough on October 23rd at 3:00pm. This is family-style eating at it's best. Please, sign up by noon on the 22nd on the welcome table on Sundays or the bulletin board outside the Parish Nurse office (Rm 102). Call Patty Kilbreath @ 423-646-5577 for further information.



Community Hymn Sing Festival ***Sunday, October 26th at 3pm***

Join a variety of Community choirs on **Sunday, October 26th, at 3:00 p.m.**, for an evening of joyful singing as we raise support for Isaiah 117 House, a ministry providing safe, loving care for children entering foster care. Come lift your voice, celebrate community, and give hope through song!

**Tuesday, October 28th
starting at 6:30pm**

Children, Youth, and Families are invited to our annual Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot! Come dressed up in your best Halloween costume and be ready to have lots of fun! There will be dinner served, along with lots of fun games to play!

Candy Donation: If you would like to donate candy to the Trunk-or-Treat, we will be accepting bags of pre-wrapped Halloween candy in the Narthex, starting **October 5th!**

Trunk Decorators: If you would like to decorate a trunk

and distribute candy, please let Josh know by **October 26th!** Volunteers are asked to have their car parked and ready

by 6:20pm, but can start decorating at 5:30pm! **For more information, please contact Josh Bass at: josh@state-street.org**



Click on the flyer to learn more!



Youth Group Happenings

- **Sunday, October 19:** No Programming
- **Sunday, October 26:** No Programming

Club 52

Club 52 is an opportunity to invest in the spiritual development of the Youth of State Street United Methodist Church!

The pledge is for only \$1 a week for the next year (that's a total commitment of \$52)! Please consider becoming a member of Club 52 and supporting the future of youth ministry. To make a pledge, you can give by check or online by indicating "Club 52" with your payment. For any other questions, please contact Josh Bass at: josh@state-street.org.



F.I.S.H. Club News

Do you have a heart for kids and youth? Have you felt called to serve in Children and Youth Ministry?

F.I.S.H. (Faithful In Serving Him) Club is an outreach ministry where we provide transportation to the church for children and youth in our area. Participants receive dinner and enjoy activities/discussions designed to explore God's love, Christian character, and promote fellowship.

F.I.S.H. Club meets on Tuesday evenings at 6pm.

This year, our focus is on Big Bad Bible Bullies with the theme verse being, "Love God! Love People!" from Matthew 22:37-39.

We are NEEDING volunteers who are willing to have fun and show God's love through actions and words. Click on the button below to see opportunities.

Volunteer Opportunities



October Blood Pressure Screenings

Blood pressure screenings will be available on Thursday, October 23rd at 6pm in the Parish Nurse Office (Rm102).



Recovery at Bristol Thursday at 6:15 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Recovery at Bristol is a place for fellowship, worship, and healing. It is a worship opportunity open to everyone. It is a place to gather and bask in the unconditional love of Christ. There is a meal provided, a praise service and short groups offered after the service. This is a place for anyone has been wounded by life to come and feel welcomed.

- Dinner at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall before worship.
- In-Person Worship at 7 p.m. or live on YouTube.
- Support groups meet following worship.
- Transportation to and from Recovery available. If you need a ride, contact the Church Office.
- Childcare provided (upon request).

If you have questions about Recovery, please call 276-669-2101 Ext.123 for Rev. Steve Patterson or Ext.125 for Josh Bass, Coordinator of Children, Youth & Family Ministries.

**Visit our YouTube
Channel**

Sunday Worship In-Person & Online

SSUMC offers opportunities for worship on Sunday mornings with three different spaces and flavors:

- + 8:45 a.m. in the Chapel – Informal worship with traditional hymns.
- + 9:01 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall – Modern worship with music led by the Praise Band.
- + 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary – Traditional worship with choir and traditional hymns.

Godly Play (a worship experience for ages 4 - 4th grade) is offered at the 9.01 a.m. service, with the exception of Communion Sundays.





To Make a Gift Online

This QR Code goes directly to the giving page on our website.



STATE STREET ONLINE



9:01 and 11:00 Services Livestreaming on State Street's YouTube Channel
- StateStreetUMC

**YouTube Channel -
StateStreetUMC**

Your respect and care for the health of one another is appreciated. ***Masks or no masks, all are welcome. No explanation or judgment necessary.***

+ + +

Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God. - John Wesley's Three Simple Rules

Church Office Hours

The Church office is open:

- Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Church Office email and phone are: churchoffice@state-street.org and 276-669-2101.



**State Street UMC seeks to be a place
where NO ONE is a STRANGER
and ALL are ACCEPTED.**

**We certainly are not perfect, but
have experienced STRENGTH
found in WALKING WITH GOD.**



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