



## Your Weekly News & Updates

**January 11, 2026**  
Baptism of the Lord

**Scripture:** Matthew 3:13-17

*"Just as he came up from the water, suddenly  
the heavens were opened to him."  
- Matthew 3:16.*

**Sermon:** "The Opening of the Heavens"

### ***F.I.S.H. Club News and Opportunities***

F.I.S.H. (Faithful In Serving Him) Club meets on Tuesdays at 6-7pm, during the school year. It 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.

- January 27th - Regular Programming
- February 3rd - Regular Programming
- February 10th - Regular Programming
- February 17th - Volunteer Night
- February 24th - Regular Programming

### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

Start the new year by investing in the faith of our children! F.I.S.H. Club is looking for volunteers to help lead, assist, and love our kids. No experience required—just a willing heart. See the list below to see the opportunities available.

- Trivia/Bible Knowledge Game (2-3 volunteers) - engage children or youth through fun Bible trivia, games, and knowledge-based activities; help participants grow in their understanding of Scripture while encouraging teamwork, confidence, and friendly competition.
- Recreation/Movement/Dance (2-3 volunteers) - guide children or youth in physical activities, games, movement exercises, and dance; promote teamwork, coordination, and healthy activity while fostering fun and safe participation.
- Karaoke/Singing (2-3 volunteers) - lead children or youth in fun, interactive singing and karaoke activities; encourage participation, confidence, and joy while creating a positive, welcoming environment.
- Shepherds - build relationships with children/youth in your group by actively engaging and listening to them; sit with your group during dinner and create a positive group environment by assisting group leader in conversation; assist program leaders by helping children in your group participate appropriately in nightly lesson and corresponding activities; act as a model during lesson and group activities; no planning/teaching programming
  - 1st-3rd Grades (2-3 volunteers)
  - 4th & 5th Grades (2-3 volunteers)
  - Youth (2-3 volunteers)

### ***Women's Morning Circle News***

The Women's Morning Circle will meet on **Tuesday, January 13 beginning at 10:30am in the church parlor**. Lunch will be offered at a cost of \$5 and will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the meeting. Reservations for lunch should be made by either calling Juanita Cox (276-791-9014)

or emailing her ([Juanitacox26@gmail.com](mailto:Juanitacox26@gmail.com)) by Friday, January 9th. Our Bible Study Leader Sarah Smith (& Ray) will be on their mission trip to Guatemala, but Pastor Laura will substitute as we continue our Bible Study of "The Message of Jesus" by Adam Hamilton. Hope to see you there!

### **Beyond Worship - Sunday, January 11th at 4:00 pm**

Have you ever sat in a pew on Sunday or listened online and thought I really don't think what I heard is right? Or, maybe you heard something on Sunday morning and would like to know more. Would you like to talk with others in a safe space about unresolved, unanswered, or unasked faith questions? SSUMC has a small group that meets each Sunday at 4:00 p.m., in the parlor. The group has been away for the summer, but has resumed. If you are interested, drop in and explore.



### **Recovery at Bristol News**

Recovery at Bristol meets each week on Thursdays. Dinner at 6:15pm, worship at 7:00pm, small groups to follow. Transportation and child care provided by request. Contact Pastor Steve. Recovery offers an additional worship opportunity each week. Recovery at Bristol is a place you can come and help in many ways to show the love of God to people trying to change their lives. Come at 6:00pm. Have a meal. Look around. God may have something special in mind for you.

### **Open Door Class Christmas Party**

The Open Door Sunday School Class's holiday party will be held on Saturday, January 10th at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Youth Group Happenings**

- January 11th at 3:00 p.m. - Regular Programming
- January 19th at 3:00 p.m. - Resurrection Meeting
- January 23rd-25th – Resurrection: an awesome annual event of worship and spiritual growth for youth and youth mentors. It takes place each year in Pigeon Forge, TN. If you would like to sponsor a child, please give \$100 (if you are writing a check, please put "Resurrection" in the memo.)



### **Blood Pressure Screenings**

**Blood pressure screenings will be available** on Sunday, Jan. 11 at 9:30am and 12:00pm in the Parish Nurse Office (Rm 102).

### **January OAK (Older Adult Kouncil) Luncheon**

The OAK group will be having our monthly lunch at "Mas Tequila" Mexican Restaurant on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2026 at 11:30am. We will meet there for some very special authentic Mexican food. Please join us there across from the Bristol, VA Library. Bring family and/or friends to enjoy good food and conversation. Call Patty Kilbreath at: 423-646-5577 for further information.

### **United Methodist and Area Church News**

Go to [holston.org](http://holston.org) and view and/or subscribe to The Call for news from our area.

Go to [umnews.org](http://umnews.org) for news and information about United Methodists around the world.



### **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.***

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



State Street United Methodist Church | 650 Valley Drive | Bristol, VA 24201 US

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