

# The Monthly Message

IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY  
IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY  
IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY

Incorrectly attributed to John Wesley, the above saying still merits appreciation in my opinion. It speaks to the reality that not everything is equally important. Of course, the conflict comes because we often do not agree on what constitutes the “essentials.” We are human and rarely is there unanimity on most topics. I can almost guarantee you “water is wet” would have some dissenters. So often we focus on what we think is essential that we forget the third admonition: “In all things, charity.”

By now most of you have heard some of the decisions made by the 2020/2024 General Conference. The one that has drawn the most coverage is we removed “the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching” from our Book of Discipline. The result of that is we also removed our bans on same-sex weddings and gay clergy. Obviously, not everyone agrees with these changes. My desire at Bartlett UMC is to be a pastor for all, regardless of your opinion on these issues.

For me these ultimately are “non-essentials.” By this I mean it is not essential to our ministry that we host same-sex weddings or be open to a gay pastor. In fact, I believe such actions would be detrimental to the ministry of Bartlett United Methodist Church given my reading of the congregation as a whole. I also believe following such a course would hinder our ability to be the strongest “mission station for Jesus” ten years from now.

The Trustees of Bartlett UMC recommended that our Facilities Usage Policy be amended to include the following. “Same-sex weddings shall not be held on the campus of Bartlett UMC.” The Staff-Parish Relations Committee recommended that Bartlett UMC is not open to receiving a gay pastor. Both of these recommendations will be sent to the Church Council for approval.

I realize within our congregation we are not of one opinion on the decisions made by General Conference. Some are happy for family members who feel less ostracized by the UMC. Others are dismayed by what they see as a clear departure from the traditional interpretation of Scripture. The Trustees and SPRC made their recommendations based on what they believe is best for Bartlett UMC. They were not made with malice, but out of genuine concern for how we can best be the Church in our community.

(continued on page 2)



The mission of Bartlett United Methodist Church is to know Christ and to make Christ known to all people, through worship, education, and service in our community and throughout the world.

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## Our Gifts

### Operating Budget

Weekly need: \$27,076

April 21-\$53,694

April 30-~~\$18,085~~

May 5-~~\$18,570~~

May 12-~~\$12,847~~

### Building Fund

Weekly Need: \$5,623

April 21-\$6,967

April 30-~~\$4,049~~

May 5-\$5,815

May 12-~~\$3,975~~

## MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

**Saturday, June 8 at 8:00am  
in Fellowship Hall**

All men are invited to the Men's Prayer Group for a light breakfast, fellowship, and a speaker. Breakfast is \$5 and first timers eat for free! Call the church office at 386-4563 to reserve your spot. Call David Dunn at 212-4649 for more information.

Allow me to close with an actual quote by John Wesley. "Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may." (John Wesley, Sermon XXXIX, Catholic Spirit)

May we love alike and be of one heart in spite of our difference. And may that one heart be one of love and grace "for now we see through a mirror, dimly." (1 Corinthians 13:12a)

Peace,  
*Dean*

## BUMC IT Corner

What is MFA?

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) is a feature that is utilized with online accounts or applications to verify a user to an account. Chrome, Outlook, Microsoft Edge, Windows applications, and Apple all use this tool. Users can use apps, texts, an automated phone call, or email to use a randomized number or token to accomplish MFA. Most users will be aware of this in the workplace but I highly recommend all users to utilize this tool for anything that is used online with an account. Security is not a problem until you have a problem.

*Caleb Wise*  
BUMC IT Admin

## Facility Update ([Eddie Lindsey/elindsey@bartlettumc.org](mailto:elindsey@bartlettumc.org))

With summer upon us I'm looking for some help with pressure washing around the church. Need to be 16 years old or older, if interested contact me here at the church 901-386-4563.

We have been in the Sanctuary building going on 22 years and the age is causing the equipment to wear out. We are in the process of replacing one of the compressors in the chiller that cools the Sanctuary. So far this year we have replaced 5 air conditioner units. In the 23 years I have been working at BUMC, I have replaced 34 AC units. The average life span of these AC units is 16 years, so I have tried to replace 5 of the oldest ones every year but that changes when one goes out unexpectedly. We still have some units that are using R-22 refrigerant which is phased out and expensive. Maybe I'll make it another 23 years.

Have a Great Day,  
*Eddie Lindsey*

## Youth Ministry (Lynn Thompson/lthompson@bartlettumc.org)

Can you believe it? Summer is here! It is always that time where we think everything is going to be at a lazy day pace...going to have so much free time and we can just relax a bit. Hmm...not sure if you experience summer that way but i do know that sometimes it is just a dream. But is it really? I think that we have become so used to being busy that we tend to always be looking for the next thing...completely forgetting to be in the present of where we are at. And we can be present doing busy things - like work or practices...it really is up to you and me to make it happen. The easiest way for us to get overwhelmed is when we try to hoard all the responsibilities even when it is not ours to carry. There is a favorite author of mine, Bob Goff, and he decided that every Thursday he was going to give something up! Yep! whether it was something scheduled or simply an action or reaction that did not keep him present in the day - that did not keep him being in God's presence....then he would give it up. Pretty bold- but if you think about it - pretty doable if you are wanting to start everyday by first knowing whose you are and wanting to further God's kingdom. So today unburden yourself of those extra loads. If it's beyond your control - give it up and let God comfort you and give you rest! Yep!

- so not only on a Thursday could we give something up - but everyday! We could give up impatience, quick judgement, not picking sides, being too serious, seeking approval, wanting to do things myself, thinking we are always right. I know I have a lot of things I could not get distracted from and maybe you do too. WOW! wouldn't it be an AMAZING day if we could just break free of all of that! Maybe today we can shed some of the things we hold on tight to so we can breathe - yes really BREATHE BIG in God's goodness in and for us! How about simply finding and showing simple acts of love to those you meet - no agenda- just love...and find joy in that! Simply decide to do something for someone else or just remind yourself to smile and say something kind to someone you meet along your day. We all can do better! I know I can! I think we all need to stop and "play in the kingdom"! What I mean is that -we keep ourselves so wound tight - maybe we should let go and be who we were meant to be - a child of an amazing grace-filled God wanting others to know His love, grace and mercy that only comes from Him and just share that- no strings attached!!!! Once we do that -everything else will seem to reveal that there is more out there than getting the job done, always being right and staying busy in this world! So let's play together in the kingdom - I'm IN! Come and join me letting God use us to do great things for HIS glory!

I hope you have a fun playful day for the Kingdom!

In Christ,

*Lynn Thompson*

YOUR LOVING  
GOD HAS GOT  
IT HANDLED,  
SO YOU CAN  
LET GO NOW.



**Bring your friends!**

**Wet n Word**

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm  
beginning June 12

2016 Abbey Ln.

So much fun with our Joyful  
Noise youth at Coffeehouse!





Tuesday, June 4 the BUMC Fun Club will head to Jackson, TN to tour the Casey Jones Railroad Museum and Home for \$10 per person. Next, we'll enjoy lunch at the Ole Country Store buffet for \$15.99 per person with live music. Also, there is a small cafe onsite with plate lunches. The bus fee is \$10 per person and you must make reservations before June 4.

On June 18, the Fun Club welcomes beekeeper, David Cook, as our speaker. An optional lunch is available for \$10 per person. The menu includes pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, baked beans and dessert. You must make reservations for the meeting and lunch no later than June 13. To make reservations call Charlotte White at 381-4954 or 568-3002.

## Music Ministry (Donia Rachelle Wade/[dwade@bartlettumc.org](mailto:dwade@bartlettumc.org) Karen Strawhecker/[karens@bartlettumc.org](mailto:karens@bartlettumc.org))

Thank you so much for a wonderful Hymn Sing send-off! I always appreciate you showing up to support our children in the music department, it is a beautiful thing!

Once again, we are excited to tell you that all of our incredible children's choir leaders are returning next year to teach our children about music and worship! Please thank Donia Wade, Wanda Cheatham, Jennifer Proseus, Laura Engbretson, Rebecca Jacobs, Janet Wiens, and Rachel Hasty when you see them. This is a huge commitment and we are looking forward to another exciting year! The children learn so much more than just a song to sing. They learn dedication, commitment, working together in a group, caring for one another in a community, Bible truths set to music, worship liturgy, and the list goes on. Plan now to bring your children to music on Wednesday evenings in the fall! Music is a great way to serve the Lord whether you are a child, youth, or adult!

At some point in time this summer, we will plan for handbells to play in worship. If you are interested in participating, please let Karen or Donia know to put you on the contact list. Since our summers have become so busy, the piece will be easy, requiring only one or two rehearsals.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Music Camp - Memphis Music Scenes

**When:** July 15-19 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m

**Where:** Music Suite

This year for music camp we will explore different places around Memphis! The highlights include: Hearing and seeing the Idlewild Presbyterian Carillon, touring Sun Studios, and touring the Orpheum! During this time the children will also learn some music and will give a short concert on that Friday at 1:00 p.m. Please send a sack lunch with the children Monday through Thursday. Snacks will be provided throughout the week and pizza will be provided on that Friday.

Thanks again for a memorable year in the music department of BUMC! I hope you consider joining us next year for a choir or bell ensemble! If you're looking for a shorter time commitment, join our rehearsals beginning in October for the Christmas cantata!

Yours in prayer and song,

Donia Rachelle Wade

901-713-9778

## Within Our Church Family

Sympathy is expressed to Karen McWilliams upon the death of her husband and our church member, Phillip McWilliams; to the family of our church member, Rosa Lee Jordan, upon her death; to the family of our church member, Mary Holt, upon her death.

## Children's Ministry (Cindy Lamb/clamb@bartlettumc.org)

Things you might not know about BUMC Children's Department (but will be thrilled to find out!)

1. Our Children's Department has a new name! We have decided to be called "Kids on a Mission." We want everyone to know that we are on a mission for Jesus!
2. Kids on a Mission have collected over \$900 for "The Heifer Project." Heifer International is an organization "on a mission" to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way. They support and invest in local farmers and their communities all over the world. When you see our children putting money in the silver bucket, that is where the money goes. This past Sunday, we ordered the following...

- 2 pigs
- 4 honeybees
- 1 Hope Basket
- 2 goats
- 4 flocks of ducks
- 5 flocks of chicks



3. This summer, (at VBS and during Summer Sunday School) our children will be learning about and donating to UMCOR. UMCOR is The United Methodist Committee on Relief. Through UMCOR, work is done with vulnerable communities to strengthen self-sufficiency and encourage partnerships; respond to U.S. and international disasters; address diseases of poverty; minister to refugees and immigrants; provide clean water and actively work to reduce hunger.
4. Kids on a Mission are always looking for more adults to learn from. If you are interested in joining in the fun, please contact Cindy Lamb at 615-713-7025. Make that YOUR mission!

## Outreach (Perry Martini/pmartini@bartlettumc.org)

### **Round Rock UMC**

From June 2 through June 8, Round Rock UMC will be staying in the LEC. They are here on a mission trip and will be working on a local home and the Ozanam Center on Monroe Avenue that houses Room in the Inn. There will be 30-35 guests hanging out.

### **Frisco UMC**

On May 31 and June 7, Frisco UMC will be stopping in for overnight stays. Frisco UMC was part of the 2023 Appa group with Plano UMC that stayed the week last year.

### **UT Summer Reading Program**

We welcome the UT Summer Reading Program back for the first time since the Covid. Classes will be held on Sundays and Mondays from 8am until 4:30pm. You will see families and individuals coming and going throughout service times on Sundays. They will meet in Room 208L each day.

### Recreation

(Perry Martini/  
pmartini@bartlettumc.org)

Join us each week in the LEC Gym for fun and recreation! **Some activities may relocate or cancel in June! See the dates listed below. Contact Perry if you need clarification.**

**Advanced Pickleball**—  
June 18 & 25 at 7:00pm  
(*follow Pickleball-BUMC on Facebook*)

**Beginner Pickleball**—  
June 19 & 26 at 7:00pm

**Zumba**—June 6 at  
5:30pm in Fellowship  
Hall; June 20 & 27 @  
5:30pm in the LEC Gym  
(\$3 per class)

**Volleyball**— June 20 &  
27 at 6:30pm

**Stretch Class**—  
Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday at 9:00am

**Walking Group**—  
Monday & Tuesday at  
4:45pm

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

**Pantry**—Last Thursday  
of each month 9:30am  
Shelby Street

**LUCES**—June 14 at  
6:00pm in the LEC

Bartlett United Methodist Church

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BARTLETT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

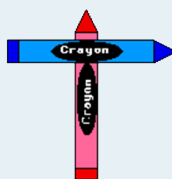
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Bartlett United Methodist Pre-School is accepting applications for a lead teacher in our 3-year-old program. A Bachelor's Degree or higher in Early Childhood Education or Elementary Education as well as experience with young children are required. Some experience teaching at the preschool level is preferred. Please submit resumes to Jennifer Steadman at [preschool@bartlettumc.org](mailto:preschool@bartlettumc.org) by June 12.



PRE-SCHOOL

Bartlett United Methodist Pre-School is also accepting applications for an assistant teacher in our 3-year-old program. An Associate's Degree or higher in Early Childhood Education is preferred but not required. Some experience in education at the pre-school level is required. Please submit resumes to Jennifer Steadman at [preschool@bartlettumc.org](mailto:preschool@bartlettumc.org) by June 12.

We are so proud of our SENIORS! We had a wonderful celebration for three amazing BUMC youth! They have grown up together since they were itty bitty and now are all grown up ready to take on the next chapter of their journey!

Congratulations Evan Engbretson, Megan Freeman, and Henry Frye!



On May 19th we celebrated Confirmation and the commitment of a group of young people to Christ through our church! We welcome in to membership Sam Bennett, Elliot Engbretson, Cooper Hamilton, Alaina Harber, Reese Hargrove, Lauren Horton, Roger Kreis, and Cooper Tate.

