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January 2023

Looking Back – Looking Ahead

The beginning of a New Year is a time to celebrate the blessings of the past and look to the opportunities that lie before us. So, as we begin this new adventure called 2023, I thought we'd take a few minutes to look back at some of the highlights of the past 12 months and look ahead at what might await us in the coming year.

One of the words that I think best describes 2022 at Nelson Memorial UMC is steady. In the wake of a few up and down years with some members leaving in 2019, the global chaos of 2020, and the resulting uncertainty in 2021, having a relatively steady 2022 was a welcome relief. But that steadiness did not mean a lack of accomplishments. In 2022, we saw our worship attendance grow, received new members, baptized new believers, confirmed 9 youth in the faith, presented 3 Bibles to third graders, had a very successful Vacation Bible School, continued relationships with 15 students through Kids Hope, and participated in several ministry outreaches to our community.

Our building had its share of ups and downs--including installing a new sign on the east side of our building (taking advantage of our new visibility to Main Street), a broken pipe and resulting flood, the refurbishing of the bathroom on the main floor of the education building, new flooring in 4 rooms, new monitors in our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, and replacing a water heater in the kitchen. Financially, through your generosity, we weathered hikes in utility bills, fulfilled our apportionment commitment, and fully funded all our ministries. Additionally, we helped meet many needs in our community through our partnerships with the Boonslick Ministerial Alliance and the Cooper County Salvation Army.

In worship we introduced a faith development pathway to help us grow in our discipleship, explored how to develop our prayer lives, discussed the role and importance of grieving and how to do so in healthy ways, and remembered our United Methodist heritage, beliefs, and practices. Additionally, we were blessed by the many talented musicians who participate in our choir and praise band. All of this (and so much more) was possible through the fantastic leadership of our Administrative Board, our wonderful and faithful staff, and our many devoted members.

Looking ahead to 2023 – we have some exciting opportunities and a couple of challenges ahead of us in the coming months. In December, many of you helped in an effort to reach out to our neighbors through writing invitations to our Christmas Eve services. Several families responded to those invitations, and I look forward to seeing how those relationships will build in the coming year. I am excited about the new leadership development focus our Nominations Committee is going to begin in 2023, and I look forward to building on the good work of our Administrative Board in the New Year. One of the challenges on the horizon for us is the continued maintenance and care of our beautiful building and grounds. We know our HVAC systems are aging and the time is coming (quickly) for them to be replaced. This will require a major financial commitment and investment, as we seek to continue to use all that we have to minister to our community.

God has used Nelson Memorial in mighty ways these past 12 months, and I am excited to see how we will be used in the coming year. Thank you all for your faithfulness to our mission, vision and the work God has given us all. It is indeed a pleasure and honor to be your pastor and to partner with you in all that God brings our way.

Blessings, Chris

May you each have the gift of faith, the blessings of hope, and the peace of his love in 2023 and always!

Entering the Church Triumphant



Mary Margaret Browning, entered the Church Triumphant on Saturday, December 3rd. Visitation was held on Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 10:00 - 11:00 at William Wood Funeral Home followed by a graveside service at Sulphur Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

Juanita Scott Memorial Scholarship



It's time to be thinking about scholarships. The intent of this scholarship is to provide one \$500.00 scholarship per year for a high school senior, with preference being given for Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church members and/or those who are actively involved with the church. Boonville High School seniors will be provided an application as part of their Guidance Office "Local Scholarship Information". For other than Boonville High School students, high school seniors may contact our church office at 882-6223 to request an application. Per scholarship policy "All scholarship applications with accompanying transcripts shall be received by the committee by April 2nd, during office hours.

Charles Whitten Memorial Scholarship

The intent of this scholarship is to provide one \$500.00 scholarship per year for 3rd and 4th year college applicants, with preference given to Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church members and/or those who are actively involved in the church where they attend a university or college. The scholarship may be used for tuition, books, lab fees, or living expenses, as needed to help the scholarship winner continue their studies. To request an application please contact the church office at 882-6223. All scholarship applications must be received by our committee by April 2nd, during office hours.

Education Committee

The Education Committee will meet on Monday, January 9th at 5:00 pm.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing



We would like to thank our church family who donated time on Saturday, December 10th and 17th to bell ring for the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army Board would especially like to recognize the United Methodist Men who organized distribution of the buckets and took care of the kettle and money collected.

Soup and Sandwich Luncheon



The Community Outreach Committee will be hosting a soup and sandwich luncheon on January 15th, following the second church service. There will be a free-will offering at the luncheon, with proceeds being used to support future community outreach projects. A variety of soup, sandwiches, desserts, and drinks will be offered, and of course, good Christian fellowship! Please plan to attend!

Annual Church Charge Conference

Our annual Church Charge Conference will be convened by our District Superintendent on Sunday, January 15 at 2:30 pm via Zoom. If you would like to participate in this year's meeting, please let Pastor Chris know and he will share the Zoom information with you.

January 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	3 7:00 pm Congregational Care Group Meeting, Lounge	4 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Fellowship Hall	5	6 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	7
8	9 9:15 am TOPS 5:00 pm - Education Meeting 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, FH	10 6:00 pm - PEO Fellowship Hall	11 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Fellowship Hall	12 2:00 pm - Baby Grace Size and Sort 6:00 pm - Praise Band Rehearsal	13 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	14 8:30 UM Men
15 Outreach Soup & Sandwich Luncheon, FH 2:30 pm - Church Charge Conference, Zoom	16 ML King Jr. Day Office Closed 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	17 6:00 pm - Administrative Board Meeting 7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal	18 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	19 5:00 Baby Grace Distribution	20 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	21 3:30 pm - Kids Hope Skating Event
22	23 9:15 am TOPS 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, FH 2:00 - 6:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive, FH	24	25 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	26 6:00 pm - Praise Band Rehearsal	27 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting Fellowship Hall	28
29	30 9:15 am TOPS 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Fellowship Hall	31				



January Birthdays



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| <p>1 Sarah Marriott</p> <p>3 Marnie Rogers</p> <p>4 Marcy Caldwell</p> <p>5 Earl Mangels</p> <p>7 Christina Koch</p> <p>9 Cooper McGruder, Xander McGruder</p> <p>10 Harrison Thomas</p> <p>11 Gabrielle Schler, Jordan Schler, Phillis Otis</p> <p>12 Race Leonard</p> <p>13 Sandy Rohrbough</p> | <p>15 Mike Maxwell ☺</p> <p>17 Rob Gordon, Kayla Schmidt</p> <p>20 Jack Bell, Addyson Reardon</p> <p>22 Cash Leonard</p> <p>23 Noah Rogers, Larry Schler, Gina Silvey</p> <p>24 Cory Schmidt</p> <p>25 Avery Reardon</p> <p>26 Heather Beach, Steve Litwiller</p> <p>30 Beth Giroux, Tonya Schnell, Elizabeth Vanderhoof</p> |
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Red Cross Blood Drive



With flu season beginning and blood and platelet donations continue to be essential to hospital patients. Donors are needed to come together to help others in this time of need. We will be hosting another blood drive the afternoon/evening of Monday, January 23rd in our Fellowship Hall. To schedule a time for donating blood go to: redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive. Thank you!

Thank You for your Generosity

This week, in partnership with the Boonville Community in Schools (CIS) staff, we were able to deliver approximately 30 gifts and help provide meals for 20 families in the Boonville community thanks to your generosity. Your generosity is how we are making a difference in the Boonville community and throughout the world.



Thank you so much for all that you have done this year to support Community in Schools (CIS) and our students! We are so grateful for you all. We hope you had a Merry Christmas. Taylor Kluck and Shanna Cramer.

Coats for Kids

Thank you everyone who gave so generously of their time and money to Coats for Kids. Blessings, Heather Beach.

Christmas Cards for NMUMC Elders & Friends



Our church friends were so pleased with your cards and stockings of remembrance during this holiday season. Thank you so much for participating in this special endeavor. "Dear Friends, thank you so much for all the gifts that were in the stocking you sent me. I have been enjoying each and every one. Love, Carol Schenck." We received several thank you notes like these.



Children's Christmas Program

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Children's Christmas Program! It was a wonderful witness and reminder of the purpose and meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Eve Offering

For our Christmas Eve Offering we raised \$917.25 for the Boonslick Ministerial Alliance Emergency Assistance fund. The money raised will help with electric bills and rental assistance. Thank you.

Thank You for Your Generous Donations

Due to the faithful and generous giving of our members, we were able to pay our district and conference apportionments for 2022. These are the funds which enable our ministry within the MidState District, our connected ministries throughout Missouri, and our missionaries and ministries around the world!