

# Signal Points

A Publication of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church • MAY 2018



## IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR VBS!

JUNE 18–21 • 8:45 AM–12:00 PM  
FOR RISING 1ST-6TH GRADERS

The Bible is filled with examples of God's people shouting and cheering in response to his mighty acts of power. Victory invites children to do the same by remembering who God is, what he has done, and what he promises to do! This is one of our largest outreach events of the year, and we expect to have a full house! Please consider inviting your friends and neighbors for this fun-filled, gospel-centered week.

If you or your student(s) (rising 7th grade through rising freshman in college) are interested in volunteering, please contact Courtney at [carmstrong@signalpres.org](mailto:carmstrong@signalpres.org). Volunteers are still needed for Crafts, Missions, Photography, Team Captains, and Floaters.

QUESTIONS? Contact Berna at [bslabber@signalpres.org](mailto:bslabber@signalpres.org) or 886.2190.



RENEW

putting vision into practice

## SURVEY OPEN

The Transforming Church Insight [TCI] is a tool our church is using to gather input from members and attendees on a variety of topics including: Communications, Outreach, Member Satisfaction, Financial Matters, and others. Please take time before May 7 to complete the survey online at [signalpres.org/renew-survey](http://signalpres.org/renew-survey), or call Christie (886.2190) to schedule a time to take the survey at the church. *Must be 16+ years old.*

## PRAY FOR RENEW

MAY 16 & 30 • 5:30–6:15 PM  
MARR CHAPEL

Join in corporate prayer for God to be at work in and through Signal Pres in this season of discernment and beyond. A pastor will begin the time with a few minutes of teaching on the whys and hows of corporate, Kingdom-centered prayer and then we'll pray together for God's will to be done "on earth as it is in heaven."

## DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

A big thanks to all who were with us for the Renew kickoff, and to those of you who have let your voice be heard through the congregational survey or by signing up for a focus group, taking place later this month. It has been really fun to hear so many of you tell me that you have done one or both of those things. And if you haven't, it's not too late! Some focus groups still have spots open, and the survey is open until May 7th (visit [signalpres.org/renew](http://signalpres.org/renew) to take the survey). Please, let your voice be heard!

Even as you participate in Renew in these ways, the church staff is participating in ways of our own. The 18 members of the program staff have all taken the StrengthsFinder assessment in recent days (I've heard a lot of, "what are your top 5?" being asked around the halls this week). Based on those results, our coaches from TAG will meet with the staff for 2 days just before the focus groups to help us see how God has assembled us as a team and to think about how we might better function as a team with a common goal towards a common vision.

*What's next?* After the focus groups meet, the elders will take their turn in engaging with this Renew process (the elders have taken the survey, but will not be a part of focus groups—those are designed to be times when we can hear more from you!). In June, the results of the congregational survey and community assessment will be delivered to us and the Session will start 3 months of studying, praying, discussing, and discerning what it all means going forward.

Some of you have asked me a great question since the Renew kickoff. "Kevin (Ford, our lead coach in this process) talked about finding a true north for our church. Don't we already know that—isn't it proclaiming Christ?" The answer, of course, is yes. We are grateful that God reveals the true north of the Church so plainly that we don't need help figuring it out. We are called to carry out the Great Commission as laid out at the end of Matthew by Jesus himself. That mission is not changing... it is not up for discussion... no matter what any survey says!

But what is also true is that the way that each local expression the church lives out that commission differs based on matters of context, history, giftedness, etc.... When Kevin, and the Session, talk in this process about true north, we are talking about figuring out that essence of who God has made Signal Pres to be that then spills over into how we put into practice our vision for ministry. It's not discerning a new version of us that we *want* to be, but discerning who God has wired this congregation to be in this season.

As always, please know that the pastors and elders are open to answering any questions you might have about this process. We are looking forward to enjoying the fruits of this process with you!

## SCOTT

**WANT TO STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE RENEW PROCESS?**  
Follow along with the RENEW process at [signalpres.org/renew](http://signalpres.org/renew).

## WEDDING

Mr. & Mrs. Fletcher Sims (nee Hannah Ambrose)  
Saturday, April 21, 2018 • Howe Farms  
Georgetown, TN • *The Reverend Andy Cornett  
presided at the wedding service*

## BIRTH

Merritt Jacob Geismar  
A son born to Jeff & Mallory Geismar  
March 7, 2018 • Chattanooga, TN

Henry Warren Florez  
A son born to Al & Beth Miller Florez  
April 4, 2018 • Boulder, CO • *Celebrating  
grandmother is Trudy Miller*

Louisa Ruth Porta  
A daughter born to Tom & Ally Baxter Porta  
April 15, 2018 • Chattanooga, TN • *Celebrating  
grandparents are Blaise & Leslie Baxter*

## BAPTISM

Anna Carin Mladenoff  
Daughter of Carlos & Kathy Mladenoff  
April 8, 2018 • *The Reverend Scott Bowen  
celebrated the Sacrament assisted by  
The Reverend Andy Cornett and  
Elder Jeff Hollingsworth*

## MEMORIALS

Mark Andrew Levy  
Son of Lee Levy, Brother of Lisa (Joe)  
Romanchik & Sarah (Tim) Maloney  
March 27, 2018 • Knoxville, TN

Scottie Meadows  
Sister-in-law of Phil (Patti) Meadows  
April 17, 2018 • Morgantown, WV

## GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Mike Bishop  
*Mrs. Priscilla Caine*

Jean Buckshorn  
*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coolidge*

Martha Freels  
*Mr. and Mrs. Hayne Hamilton  
Ms. Deanne Mott and Dan*

Mark Andrew Levy  
*Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Francescon, Sr.*

Warren Miller  
*Mrs. Priscilla Caine  
Mrs. Frances Dickerson  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Francescon, Sr.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Steven Frost  
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Smith  
Mrs. Lucia Whitfield*

Ann Morris  
*Mrs. Lewis P. Thatcher, Jr.*

Joe Petree  
*Ms. Carol Wetzel*

Sally Searcy  
*Mrs. Priscilla Caine*

Carl Waldron  
*Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Harris*

## GIFTS IN HONOR OF

Caroline Novkov and John Bryant  
*Mr. and Mrs. Scott Fugate*

# LAST LIVING WATER HIGHLANDER BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON OF THE SEASON!

TUESDAY, MAY 29 · 11 AM  
WOODWARD HALL

Living Water is a Bible study and fellowship opportunity for our Highlanders (those over 65 years of age). On the last Tuesday of every month, we study Scripture that reminds us of God's plans for us, even and especially in our later years. Come and be encouraged with us!

Join us this month as we discover the benefits of being able to "set things in order" as we look ahead. One of the privileges of aging is discovering the wisdom of letting go of incidents and people who have harmed us, asking forgiveness of those we have harmed, and learning what reconciliation truly means. Our study begins at 11 AM; lunch (and fabulous fellowship) begin at noon.

*Please RSVP to Christie at [cgilliam@signalpres.org](mailto:cgilliam@signalpres.org) or 886-2190.*

# HIGHLANDERS JUNE LUNCH BUNCH

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

**WHERE:** Cumberland County Playhouse

**WHY:** The final season of *Smoke on the Mountain*

**COST:** \$25 for the play and you pay for your lunch

**DEPARTURE:** 9:00 AM Signal Pres youth parking lot

**LUNCH:** We will eat at 11:00 AM at the Cracker Barrel in Crossville, as the play runs through lunch time

**PLAY:** 12:00 PM (play runs for 2 hrs 10 min)

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT:** Contact Christie Gilliam at 886-2190 or [cgilliam@signalpres.org](mailto:cgilliam@signalpres.org)

*Space is limited to the first 25 registrants.*

# STEPHEN MINISTRY



## WHAT IS A STEPHEN MINISTER?

- A child of God who walks beside a hurting person
- A caring Christian friend who really listens
- A lay person who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care

## WHO IS HELPED BY STEPHEN MINISTRY?

- Those who need someone to talk to
- Someone who is struggling in his/her faith in God
- Those who are discouraged, anxious, lonely
- Someone who is coping with divorce
- Those who grieve the loss of a loved one
- Someone experiencing the loss of a job or having financial difficulties
- Those who need confidential, caring, burden-sharers

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Stephen Leaders Petie Corell, Mary Wray, or Leah Conner, or Margaret Ferguson in the church office (886-2190).

# OPEN INVITATION TO ALL WOMEN TO JOIN CIRCLES

Women's Circles are small groups of women who meet once a month in homes for Bible Study, fellowship, and prayer support. Three times during the year we gather together at church for a Bible lesson followed by a delicious lunch.

To learn more, please call Debbie Rucci at 886-6705 or Linda Davenport at 886-7173.

## STAFF PICKS

### WHAT WE'RE READING AND LISTENING TO

Last month we introduced a new "Staff Picks" column, which we'll continue monthly in Signal Points and online at [signalpres.org/staff-picks](http://signalpres.org/staff-picks), where you can also get reviews of our picks. This is a place for all the folks you know and love at Signal Pres to let you know what's been on their desks and nightstands, and what they've listened to lately. These things have shaped how we think about the Christian life, faithfulness to Jesus in the world, and resources that are simply so good that we had to share. We'll have book copies for sale in Woodward Hall on Sunday morning (cash or check).

#### THE BARK OF THE BOG OWL *(Book 1 of the Wilderking Trilogy)*

by Jonathan Rogers - \$12



Catherine Payne's Pick

#### DIVIDED BY FAITH: EVANGELICAL RELIGION AND THE PROBLEM OF RACE IN AMERICA

by Michael Emerson &  
Christian Smith - \$16



Joey Sherrard's Pick

#### SEX EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES WITH PARENT CONVERSATION GUIDE

by Rooted Ministry - FREE  
[bit.ly/rootedSexEd](http://bit.ly/rootedSexEd)



Camille Ward's Pick

READ REVIEWS AT [SIGNALPRES.ORG](http://SIGNALPRES.ORG)

## PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER!

AS OF APRIL 2018



Sherry Fanous

Adam & Nadine Shanda

423-322-6702 • 11 Grayswood Hill Rd, 37377

By Reaffirmation of Faith

*Sherry and her children moved to Signal Mountain from Cairo, Egypt six years ago. She was raised in the Coptic*

*Church which is the church for Orthodox Christians from Egypt. Twins Adam & Nadine are in third grade at Thrasher Elementary School. After visiting Signal Pres for over a year now, they feel like it's the perfect fit for their family. They are most appreciative of the way they have been welcomed and feel at home!*

## NEXT INTRO TO SIGNAL PRES CLASS

APRIL 29–MAY 20

Designed as the "front door" to the life of the church, this class is for anyone who wants to get to know more about Signal Pres. It is about what we believe, why we do what we do, how to get involved, and what membership is all about—all while introducing you to other people new to the church, the pastors, elders, and other church members.

QUESTIONS? Contact Scott at [sbowen@signalpres.org](mailto:sbowen@signalpres.org) or 886.2190.

## MAY I SING IN THE CHOIR?

Yes! You MAY sing in the choir! Joining the choir family requires no audition, and you're sure to get a good seat every Sunday as we lead worship with a variety of anthems, hymns, and worship songs. In fact, summer is a great time to get your feet wet, as choir does not rehearse on Wednesday evenings during the summer! Beginning Sunday, May 27, just come to the Music Suite for a brief rehearsal each Sunday at 10 AM and sing with us in Worship! We would love to have you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Trish • [tross@signalpres.org](mailto:tross@signalpres.org).

## WORKING AT THE CAR WASH

### SURVEY PARTICIPATION INCENTIVE

Yes, you heard it right—your Signal Pres pastors are not above bribery. They have pledged to host a car wash for all RENEW survey participants if we reach 650 surveys submitted by the deadline of May 7. We're currently at 277, so tell your friends to hop to it by going to [signalpres.org/renew-survey](http://signalpres.org/renew-survey) today!

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAYS • 9:30–10:25 AM

## BIBLE IN MY HEART

*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.*

—HEBREWS 1:1-2

## GOD'S BIG PICTURE QUESTION

*How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.*

## LESSONS

1. Elijah Confronted Evil Ahab
2. Elijah Ran From Jezebel
3. Elisha and Naaman

## AGAPE CLUB

The 3rd - 5th grade children in Agape Club were given the first 75 Catechism Questions and Answers on a binder ring. This would be a great family daily devotional to work on together over the summer!

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

DISCIPLE SUNDAY • Sunday, May 6 at 10:45 AM

SUMMER SUNDAYS • Parents, please sign up to teach one Summer Sunday on the Children's Floor! Choose between the 4s/5s/Rising Kindergarten Group or the Rising 1st/2nd/3rd Grade Group. Visit [signalpres.org/ministries/children](http://signalpres.org/ministries/children) to sign up.

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."*

—PROVERBS 22:6

Dare 2B Gr8 BIBLE CAMP • For Rising 4th–Rising 6th graders will take place June 25–28 and /or July 23–26. For more info, contact Berna at [bslabber@signalpres.org](mailto:bslabber@signalpres.org) or 886.2190.



SEPT. 7-9

ALPINE CAMP  
IN MENTONE,  
ALABAMA

*All ages are  
welcome!*

REGISTRATION & MORE INFO COMING IN MAY

## NURSERY MINISTRY

### I AM FOUR YEARS OLD, WHEN DO I MOVE UP?

There are a lot of new things to do at Signal Pres when you are four-years-old. You move up to the Children's-End, you can go to Agape Club & Joy Choir on Wednesday nights, and you can go to Kingdom Kids during Worship.

So when does this happen? Not on your 4th birthday but in August. The whole floor promotes when the pre-schools and schools promote. This keeps us with our friends at church and at school.

So stay with us in the threes, just a little bit longer, and then we will celebrate this milestone of moving up on August 5th at our Back to School Bash and on August 12th with our Promotion Sunday. More to come on these events!

### MAY SCRIPTURE

*The plans of the Lord stand firm forever.*

—PSALM 33:11

### MAY BOTTOM LINE:

*God has a plan for me.*

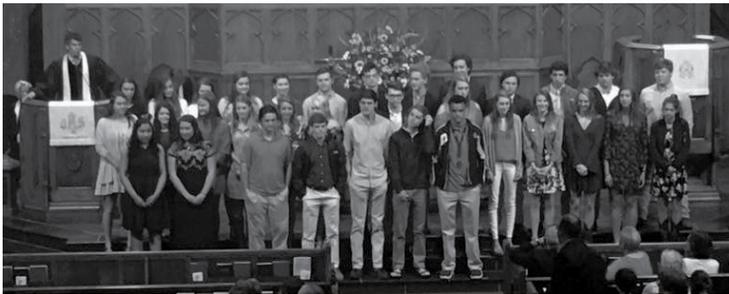
The HOME is the biggest spiritual influence in your child's life, but we are here to support you, partner with you and be a large part of your child's spiritual journey. And we know that the Lord has amazing plans for each of these precious ones!

# JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE WITH CHURCH OF THE FIRST BORN

SUNDAY, MAY 20 AT 6 PM  
3418 ST ELMO AVENUE

Join us as we worship again with our friends at Church of the First Born, and stick around afterwards as we continue to grow these new friendships!

QUESTIONS? Joey at [jsherrard@signalpres.org](mailto:jsherrard@signalpres.org)



## CELEBRATE OUR SENIORS

What a joy it was to celebrate so many seniors in Worship on Sunday April 15! We shared the names of about 60 members and regular attenders and three dozen were with us that morning to be loved, honored, and sent out as the faithful presence of Jesus' love in the places he is calling them. Special thanks to Rebecca Bursch, Melissa Stanley, Camille Ward, Jim Wakim, Jeff Claxton, David Wilson, Fletcher Sims, and Jimmy Latham for their wise leadership in these students' lives.

As one parent reflected, "This is a great tradition that serves as a milestone and a way to ease parents into the next phase of our relationship with our children. So much can be learned from other parents and from seeing some of the rough beginnings come full circle when placed inside a community of caring believers working as one." What a privilege to do life with these families!

Want to pray for our graduating students during their transition? Grab a list of names from the office!

*If this tugs at your heart and you want to explore being a D-Group Leader on Wednesday nights (the front-line team who loves and leads students), call Jimmy or Camille (886.2190) to learn more about serving the next generation of God's people in this very meaningful way.*

## SM2 IMPORTANT DATES

AUGUST 12: SM2 Ministry Welcome, 9:30–10:30 AM

AUGUST 12: 6th Grade Ice Cream Social, 2:30–4 PM

AUGUST 15: Wednesday Night Kick-Off, 5:30–7:30 PM

AUGUST 19: Rush & Relax mile-marker event for rising 6th & 9th Graders & their parents, 5–6:15 PM

SEPTEMBER 21–23: Trek (Middle School) Retreat at Camp Highland in Ellijay, GA. Registration opens Aug 1.

## 2018 DISCIPLE CLASS

Join us in worship on May 6 as we welcome these students into membership in the body of Christ on their profession of faith! We'll celebrate communion and baptism together as well. Over the past three months, they have completed eight weeks of teaching and study to prepare them to make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and practice that faith in the life of Signal Pres as members of our church. We are deeply grateful for both their families' partnership in teaching and training these students, and for the work of their Disciple teachers: Glenn Baird, Amy Haddock, Linay Rogers, and Andy Tucker.

George Foster Armstrong IV  
Emelyn Regina Behar  
\*Bo James Cooper  
Leah Elizabeth Davis  
Benjamin Dotson  
Douglas Bradford Hake  
Hudson William Hazlewood  
\*Caroline King  
Jackson Lee Lockery  
Riley Elizabeth Mauldin  
Jackson Debruhl Patrick  
Willingham Larson Ratterman  
Joseph Holmes Sherrard VII  
Avery Reese Watson  
\*Emily Anne Welch  
Virginia McKinley Whitney

William Davenport Barker  
Hugh Pearce Brown II  
Jackson Lee Davis  
Robert Wesley Devine  
Samuel Robert Edmondson  
William Tatham Harrison  
\*KaraLin Hoover  
\*John King  
Pearson Holt Lusk  
\*John Owen Newman  
\*Juliana Day Paxson  
\*Aidan Matthew Rock  
Marjorie Grace Stark  
\*Archer Willerson Welch  
Jon Walker White  
\*Vance Christopher Wilburn

*\*Denotes student to be baptized*

## SM2 SUNDAY LUNCH

All students are invited to join staff and D-Group leaders for lunch each week at 12:30 PM.

JUNE 3: Puckett's

JUNE 10: Mellow Mushroom

JUNE 24: Taco Mamacita

JULY 8: Urban Stack

JULY 15: Edley's Bar-B-Que

JULY 22: Mojo Burrito



SM  
2

## SUMMER 2018 // HIGHLIGHTS

### SUMMER READING BIBLE CHALLENGE

Join us as we set out to read the Gospels in 90 days (May 7–August 7)! Each day you'll have a passage to read and have the opportunity to share thoughts, questions or highlights on a message board.

Sign up at [smtwo.org/reading-challenge](http://smtwo.org/reading-challenge)

### SM2 TAILGATE // \$5 PER PERSON

Summer has arrived and we want to party! Join us **June 3, 4–6PM** at the SMMHS Soccer Fields for a tailgate. Games, food, hang time, music, friends & D-Group Leaders! We want you there!

### RHYTHMS OF GRACE

Join us in responding to Jesus in the invitation and challenge of the gospel as we teach and practice spiritual disciplines & habits together. Separate Middle & High School gatherings will be offered at two different times during the week for each group.

**Middle & High School // Sunday Mornings during SM2 Cafe · 9:30–10:30 AM**  
June 3, 10, 17, 24 & July 8, 15, 22, 29

**High School // Tuesday Mornings · 7 AM on the Brow**  
**Middle School // Tuesday Afternoons · 5:30–6:30 PM at Signal Pres**  
June 5, 12, 19, 26 & July 10, 17, 24

More info at [smtwo.org/rhythms-of-grace](http://smtwo.org/rhythms-of-grace)

### LOCAL SERVICE

Join us **July 9–13** as we partner with & serve alongside Church of the First Born's summer MVP children's program. This is an incredible opportunity to learn from & befriend men, women, & children who are quite literally our neighbors. **Registration & Training required.**

Sign up at [smtwo.org/service-church-of-first-born](http://smtwo.org/service-church-of-first-born)

### SUNDAY LUNCH

All students are invited to join staff & D-Group leaders around town for lunch after worship. We will meet at 12:30pm each week at the following restaurants.

JUNE 3:	Puckett's	JULY 8:	Urban Stack
JUNE 10:	Mellow Mushroom	JULY 15:	Edley's Bar-B-Que
JUNE 24:	Taco Mamacita	JULY 22:	Mojo Burrito

[SMTWO.ORG/SUMMER-2018](http://SMTWO.ORG/SUMMER-2018)

## A CULTURAL RENEWAL TEAM ON THE ARTS

Andy Cornett and Signal Pres are forming a "community on mission" for the purpose of doing creative work in our community for cultural renewal. This team will think carefully along the lines of God's story, dream of ways to bless our community, and step out in some action! To learn more, or if you'd be interested in a cultural renewal team for sports, contact Andy: [acornett@signalpres.org](mailto:acornett@signalpres.org).



## WOMEN'S 6-WEEK SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAYS, 7–8:30 PM • STARTING JUNE 14  
WOODWARD HALL • \$12 FEE

*I Am Loved: Walking in the Fullness of God's Love* by Wendy Blight shares the unique insights and wisdom of the last disciple to walk with Jesus through an in-depth study of 1 John. In this five-chapter Bible study, author and Proverbs 31 Ministries speaker Wendy Blight shows women how to walk confidently in God's unconditional, extravagant, lavish love—and live it out for all to see. All women are welcome. Bring a friend!

## LOVING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE

### SERVE SATURDAY RECAP

Almost 80 Signal Pres members of all ages, alongside students from The House college ministry, participated in Serve Saturday on April 28. We served alongside our community ministry partners Bethany Christian Services, Hope for the Inner City, House of Refuge, Project 52, Signal Mountain Social Services, and Widow's Harvest. Thanks to all who participated and led—look for more Serve Saturday dates to come!

### SIGNAL MOUNTAIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

612 James Boulevard  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

Office • 423.886.2190  
Prayer place • 423.886.2160  
Fax • 423.886.3977

[SIGNALPRES.ORG](http://SIGNALPRES.ORG)

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### SPECIAL SERVICE OF BAPTISM

Sunday, May 6 at 6:30 PM in The Warehouse

### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION & WELCOME OF DISCIPLE CLASS

Sunday, May 6 • Communion during 8:10 & 10:45 AM services  
Welcome of Disciple Class during 10:45 AM service

### ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ON MAY 27

There will be one worship service on May 27 at 10:00 AM  
Sunday School will not meet

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