

Signal Points

A Publication of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church • NOVEMBER 2018



Christmas Fest

COME BEHOLD *the*
WONDROUS MYSTERY

Signal Pres Sanctuary
December 9, 2018
at 6:30 PM

*Presented by the Sanctuary Choir,
Westminster Singers, Youth Choir,
and Orchestra.*

CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 24
5:00 PM
THE SANCTUARY

Make plans to join us for this treasured tradition, as our children lead us in celebrating the birth of King Jesus! Invite your friends, neighbors, and family to come along!



DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

Through the RENEW process, the Session has heard loudly and clearly the desire for a greater sense of transparency in regards to the business of the church, including finances, attendance, and the business of the Session. That's why we are introducing this new section of Signal Points aimed at keeping you informed of all that is happening on the Session level.

FINANCES & ATTENDANCE

	2018	2017
Annual Budget	\$3,338,700	\$3,270,300
Revenue YTD	\$2,268,337	\$2,451,925
Expenses YTD	\$2,390,196	\$2,392,443
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	(\$121,859)	(\$135,878)
Average September Attendance	601	674

SESSION UPDATE

The Session held its monthly meeting on October 14th. After reading Psalm 103 and singing *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*, our primary discussion centered around "session commitments" that we are developing together. These commitments address how we function together as elders both in and out of meetings. By prioritizing things such as relationships, honesty, respect, accountability, and unity amidst diversity, we hope that these commitments will be part of what the Lord uses to shape the Session into the type of community that we want all of Signal Pres to become!

In terms of business, we approved a speaker for the High School retreat and special financial support for ministry partners including our own Michael Gregory, now planting a church in Los Angeles. We also approved plans for the upcoming stewardship season and an additional Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7:30 PM. Our hope is that this service will enable members and visitors who can not easily be out until midnight to attend a "traditional" Christmas Eve service. The 5:00 PM children's service and the 11:00 PM candlelight service will be unchanged.

If you want to pray *for* the elders, please pray that in the way that we love, serve, and share our lives together we would be becoming the kind of honest, humble, sacrificial, and grace-fueled community that we are praying our church-at-large will be becoming. Pray for the elders' wisdom as they seek to shepherd a large and diverse congregation.

If you want to pray *with* the elders, pray that the presence of different generations in our church would be the impetus for us all to learn to practice biblical unity grounded in Christ, and a gospel witness to our fragmented world. Pray for mutual forbearance, humility, and openness as we come to the November 11 RENEW update and the remaining months of the process.

ELDER SPOTLIGHT // TOMMY HAYSLETT

Tommy and his wife, Amanda, have been members of Signal Pres since the early 2000's. They have three children: Elizabeth (12th grade), Nelson (10th grade), and Rebecca (8th grade). Tommy is an attorney at Miller Martin, and enjoys outdoor activities in his free time. As a family, the Haysletts have enjoyed being involved in NightOWLS, a ministry to families with exceptional needs.



WEDDINGS

Mr. & Mrs. Waters Faulkner
nee Sarah-Price Wright
October 6, 2018 • First United
Methodist Church • Tuscaloosa, AL

Mr. & Mrs. David Robert Schwab
nee Sharon Marie Dunn
October 7, 2018 • Signal Pres
*Margaret Ferguson presided at the
wedding service.*

Mr. & Mrs. John Chandler Evans
nee Kalen Foster
October 27, 2018 • Evin's Mill,
Smithville, TN • *Andy Cornett presided
at the wedding service.*

BIRTH

Sophia Evelyn Miller
A daughter born to Jonathan &
Marinna Hall Miller • September 24,
2018 • Chattanooga • Celebrating
in our congregation is great-grand-
mother Nancy Davis.

Louisa Lynn Wilson
A daughter born to Josh and
Rachel Wilson • October 18, 2018
Chattanooga • Celebrating grandpar-
ents in our congregation are John
and Karen Wilson.

William Speer Ivey
A son born to Pud & Hutton Baird Ivey
October 22, 2018 • Jacksonville, FL
Celebrating grandparents in our con-
gregation are Glenn & Mary Lauren Baird
and great-grandmother Lois Baird.

MEMORIAL

Margaret Blanchard Spittler
Church Member 1961-2018
October 3, 2018 • Signal Mountain

David L. McKenzie
Church Member 1966-2018
October 18, 2018 • Signal Mountain

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Taylor Caldwell
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Francescon, Sr.

John Feller
Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Hamby

Gene Peele
Mrs. Lucia Whitfield

Lindsey Silver
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harris
Mrs. Patsy Hazlewood

Margaret Spittler
Mrs. Joyce Hill

GIFT IN HONOR OF

Jennifer Agan
Ms. Sylvia Hutsell

MEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

6:30-8 PM

WESTMINSTER ALCOVE

Come out and join us for our next Men's Ministry event. There is tasty food, great fellowship with fellow Christian brothers, and powerful teaching by a new guest speaker each month.

It doesn't matter if this is your first time or you are a regular—any age and any stage of life is welcome.

QUESTIONS? Contact Joey at jsherrard@signalpres.org or 886.2190.

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Save the Date:

MEN'S RETREAT

Jan. 25-26 at Signal Pres

QUESTIONS: Contact Joey at jsherrard@signalpres.org.

*Looking for
Something NEW?*

4-WEEK ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS COMING

DECEMBER 2-23

9:30-10:25 AM

Stay tuned for more details to come!

QUESTIONS? Email Joey at jsherrard@signalpres.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CHURCH BUS DRIVERS

Do you have a CDL or are you interested in driving the church bus? We're looking for volunteers to drive the bus on outings and mission trips, and to provide transportation for Alexian members.

INTERESTED? Contact Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org or 886.2190 to learn how to obtain a CDL or to begin volunteering if you have a CDL.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY LIAISONS

Community Ministry Liaisons play an important roll in connecting the people of Signal Pres with the community ministries we support. This volunteer opportunity is flexible and does not require much time. Our community ministry partners needing liaisons include:

A Better Tomorrow
Choices Pregnancy Resource Center
Every Man a Warrior
Hope for the Inner City
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
LifeSpring Community Health
Prison and Prevention Ministries
Richmont Graduate University

INTERESTED? Contact Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org or 886.2190 to learn more or to sign up as a liaison.

IN HIS SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

This group of women faithfully serve the church and our community in very important, and often behind-the-scenes ways. All are welcome to serve—either on occasion or each and every month. The next meeting will be Monday, November 19 at 10 AM in Becking Room. Lunch is available for \$4.

INTERESTED? Contact Barbara at bhailey@signalpres.org.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 1-3, 2019 at *The Cove* · Asheville, NC

SPEAKER: SUSAN LARAMORE

Cost is \$250 (\$50 due at registration). Register today at signalpres.org/womens-retreat!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES AVAILABLE OCT 22-NOV 16

How does packing a shoebox spread the gospel?

Alex and his parents regularly attended meetings of a local cult in their remote village of the Philippines. Toti Ramos, the pastor of church from a nearby town, brought Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts to the village. He invited Alex and the other children to participate in *The Greatest Journey*, a 12-lesson discipleship program. In the shoebox Alex received there was bible he could read, because surprisingly out of millions of shoeboxes, this bible was in the Tagalog language which is the national language of the Philippines. Alex did attend the discipleship program and prayed to receive Jesus along with many children in the village. Pastor Ramos has also started a bible study for the interested parents in the village.

So....

Pick up your pre-designed shoe box from the church, fill the box with age-appropriate items for either a boy or girl, place the boy or girl label on your box, include \$9 cash or check made out to Samaritan's Purse for shipping, and drop your box at the designated areas around Signal Pres.

For more information contact: Lynda Levan 314-1645 or Jacque Lyons 987-9577.

**We are excited to have Lynda leading alongside Jacque. Jacque organizes the shoebox packing at Scenic City Women's Network, and Lynda has traveled with her previous church to serve in one of eight of the processing centers in the U.S.*



FALL SERVE SATURDAY RECAP

On Saturday, October 20 even through the rain we were able to serve two of our local partners, Hope for the Inner City and our Signal Pres Foster Closet, while partnering with UTC's The House students and staff. Thank you to everyone who served with patience and flexibility.

If you are still interested in serving, we will be rescheduling work days with Signal Mountain Social Services, Widow's Harvest, and Project 52. You can contact Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org for more information.

We are grateful to share that we had 60+ individuals signed up for this Fall Serve Saturday. Make plans to take part in our Spring Serve Saturday by marking your calendar for Saturday, March 30.

UPDATED INFO NEEDED

Have you uploaded your picture to the Signal Pres Online Directory? Chances are you have a favorite individual or family photo right there on your phone. Take a moment and email it along with your name to Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org and she will upload it for you.

If you have not yet signed up for the online directory visit signalpres.org/connect for detailed instructions. Please feel free to call the church office at 886.2190 if you have any problems gaining access.

PARENTS // Please also update your emergency contact info for children ages birth through 12th grade at signalpres.org/parents.

SLUGS & BUGS

NURSERY MINISTRY

Sunday, November 11 kicks off our ticket sales for the *Slugs and Bugs Live!* concert that will take place here at Signal Pres on Friday, January 11 at 6 PM. This event is open to the community and appeals to preschool and elementary age children. Tickets are \$15/family and will be available on the children's floor that morning and at the RENEW Luncheon after worship that day. Tickets will also be available at Eventbrite.com and on signalpres.org. Plan to invite a family from your neighborhood, work, or school OR buy a ticket as a Christmas gift for your children or grandchildren!

In November, we're asking our preschoolers, "Who helps you and how can you show them you are thankful for them?" Simply put, we want our preschoolers to grow up with eyes that see the helpers around them and a heart that is thankful. No matter how grown up you are, you always have people helping you and a thank you goes a long way.

Bible Verse: "Always give thanks to God." Eph. 5:20

Key Question: *Who are you thankful for?*

Bottom Line: *I am thankful for people who help me.*

CHRISTMAS GREENING OF THE CHURCH

HONOR & MEMORIAL GIFTS

Donations can be placed in the offering plate or turned in at the church office by Sunday, December 16. Forms are available at resource tables. A donation of \$10.00 per gift is suggested. Make checks payable to SMPC with a notation for "Greening of the Church."

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAYS · 9:30–10:25 AM

BIBLE IN MY HEART

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

—1 TIMOTHY 1:15

GOD'S BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What makes Jesus different?

Jesus is fully God and fully man.

LESSONS

1. From Abraham to Jesus
2. Mary Praised God
3. Jesus was Born

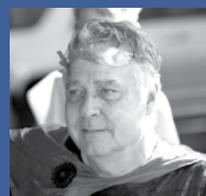
EQUIP · AGAPE CLUB · 5th

WEDNESDAYS · 6:15–7:30 PM

AGAPE CLUB // Bring a friend along with you as we learn The Fruit of the Spirit this year, and Catechism Questions 51-100. (Parent Check-In is at 6 PM)

Hey 5th! // Bring a friend and join us on Wednesday Nights from 6:15-7:30PM. (Parent check-in is at 6 PM). We will be working on our 5th Mission Project for our friends at Alexian Healthcare on November 7. On November 14, 5th will meet at Alexian Healthcare Entrance at 6:30 PM. We will visit our Signal Pres members 6:30-7:30 PM with our Shepherds and 5th Leaders! Pick-up at 7:30 PM.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Tom and Sybil Weldon have been so faithful on the Children's Floor. They taught 5th grade girls Sunday School and were 5th leaders on Wednesdays! Tom enjoyed serving in Vacation Bible School in the dramas, as well as escorting our friends from Widow's Harvest. Sybil got a great job and they are relocating. Blessings on your new journey, living the life in Florida!



YOUTH CHOIR & WESTMINSTER SINGERS EVENT

MACC CHRISTMAS
TREE LIGHTING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1
5:20 PM

This may be your first chance to get in the Christmas spirit! Come on out to the MACC and hear the Youth Choir and Westminster Singers sing for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

LIVING WATER HIGHLANDER BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 · 11 AM
WOODWARD HALL

How do a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer help us grasp how we should live the Christian life? Join us for LIVING WATER this month as we learn the answer from the Apostle Paul in his second letter to Timothy! You can be sure that God's grace plays the pivotal role, and we'll talk about how WE need to embrace his grace as we seek to fulfill our own missions. Bible study begins at 11 AM in Woodward Hall with lunch at 12 noon.

COST: \$5 for lunch

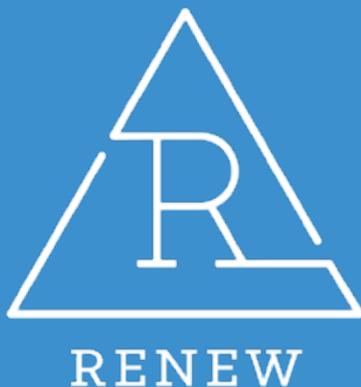
Please RSVP to Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org or 886-2190.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL!



You should have received a devotional book that the Session has prepared for us as we consider what God has to say about the heart of giving.

You are invited to follow along with this short guide, featuring scripture passages and reflections from 21 different elders.



RENEW CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER 11 · 12 PM · DUDLEY HALL

Please join us as we come together to hear about all that God has done during this process thus far, and to commit to what God has next for us in our life and mission as a church. We would love to see folks from every age and stage present—your voice matters! Childcare is provided up to age 5. RSVP at signalpres.org/renew.



CHRISTMAS IN THE WAREHOUSE IS BACK!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

5:30-7:30 PM

Join us as we close out a marvelous semester of Wednesday Nights with an awesome Christmas Celebration/Talent Show.

Interested in auditioning for Christmas in the Warehouse? Contact Sydney at 886.2190 or swojewoda@signalpres.org.

Reminder:

**NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT
NOVEMBER 21**

SM2 PARENTS

Want to stay in the loop about what we're teaching on Wednesday Nights? Check out smtwo.org/series where you can find an overview of what's being taught and practical ways to follow up with your student(s) through our "parent cue".



D-GROUP LEADER LOVE!

This month our SM2 D-Group leaders gathered to view the newly released movie *Eighth Grade*. It masterfully captures the emotional horror of being a Generation Z Middle Schooler yet tells a universally relatable coming of age story. In many respects it was sobering yet enlightening for each of us as we consider the dynamics & realities our students are facing and apply that toward the ways we engage with them during this phase.

We recommend it to any parent or adult who works with this age! And if you do watch it let us know. We'd love to sit down with you and have a conversation about it!

Stay Tuned

**SUMMER TRIPS 2019
INFO COMING SOON!**

Details about Middle and High School Summer Trips dates and locations will be available starting in December at smtwo.org.

QUESTIONS? Contact Sydney at 886.2190 or swojewoda@signalpres.org.

SECOND QUARTER EQUIP CLASS LINEUP

OCTOBER 24-NOVEMBER 14

STRONG WHERE WE'RE WEAK: Anxiety, Depression, & Our Kids

with Beth Capecchi, Bill McGee, & Liz Edrington

GOD & MONEY

with Tom Francescon & Banning Stack

GOD AMONG THE NATIONS: Gospel Ministry Around the World

with Maclellan Foundation Representatives: Matt Ashton, Lee Behar, Randy Kennedy, & Ehab Youssef

ORPHAN JUSTICE

with Amy Scott

Dinner at 5:30 in Dudley Hall features a choice of Blue-Plate, Soup & Salad, & Kids Meal. For menus and to RSVP visit signalpres.org/equip.

QUESTIONS? Contact Christie at 886.2190 or cgilliam@signalpres.org.



TRUE NORTH ADVANCE

NOV. 14-18 AT CAMP VESPER POINT

SM2's True North Advance weekend is fast approaching! We will be teaching & practicing what it means to be *for our neighbors*—to live in Christ's love & serve in his name. All high schoolers from our community are welcome, so be sure to invite your friends! For more details and to register, visit smtwo.org/2018-advance.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Sunday, November 4. Turn clocks back one hour before bedtime on Saturday, November 3.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, November 11, at 8:10 & 10:45 AM services

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, November 21, 22, & 23

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