

Signal Points

A Publication of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church • FEBRUARY 2019



7TH ANNUAL OLD TOWN THROWDOWN

MARCH 2 • 4 PM

THE WAREHOUSE (YOUTH WING)

The Old Town Throwdown is our annual Men's Ministry Ping Pong Tournament. Men (ages 22+) won't want to miss this opportunity for some fun competition and great food. Registration is limited to the first 64 players, so sign up today. If you don't want to play, we still welcome you to join us for dinner, fellowship, and maybe some heckling!

Registration and warm ups: 4 PM

Dinner and Tournaments: 5 PM

Cost of Dinner: \$10

SIGN UP: Christie at cgilliam@signalpres.org or 886.2190.



FEBRUARY 22-24 : SMTWO.ORG/FISH-2019

FINANCES & ATTENDANCE

	2018	2017
Annual Budget	\$3,338,700	\$3,270,300
Revenue YTD	\$3,311,622	\$3,387,560
Expenses YTD	\$3,275,553	\$3,231,934
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$36,068	\$155,626
Average December Attendance	734	683
Christmas Eve Attendance	1387	1188

SESSION UPDATE

The elders met on January 20th for our first meeting of 2019. This meeting is traditionally a joint meeting between deacons and elders, giving us a good chance to pray together and hear from one another on key issues. After that time of prayer, singing, 2018 financial review and other joint business, the elders and deacons split up into separate meetings. The elders spent the bulk of their meeting brainstorming various big questions that we think need to be answered by committees in 2019 on the way to making our practices align more closely with our enduring values (biblical authority, sacrificial love, transformational discipleship, generational investment and missional living). At the forefront of this discussion is a renewed strategy of how the elders can best ensure that every member of Signal Pres is under regular, intentional shepherding care. In February, the pastors will present to the elders a plan for this that takes lessons learned from neighborhood groups and prior attempts at elder shepherding, plus those taken from other congregations who are doing shepherding well. The Session will then spend some time hashing out, amending, or refining this plan on the way to rolling it out to you, the congregation.

We also committed to a plan to ensure that we, the elders, pray by name for every member of Signal Pres during our meetings over the course of 2019. We will do this alphabetically, so over the course of the year look for a letter from us before one of our meetings in which we invite you to share with us how we can best be praying for you.

The elders also met on January 12-13 for the latest of our Renew retreats. Kevin Ford led us through some helpful conversations about the changing landscape of the culture and world around us. Currently we are compiling a summary of the most important cultural changes in our context that Signal Pres must recognize and meet in the season ahead. At our next retreat in February, we will start to talk about what we think God is calling us to do to meet those changes.



ELDER SPOTLIGHT // JULIE FOREMAN

Julie lives in Lookout Mountain, Georgia, where her husband, Cliff, teaches at Covenant College. They have three sons: Cliff, who is married to Annie; John, who is married to Lydia; and Matt. They also have six grandsons with whom Julie loves to spend time. Julie enjoys being involved in Women of the Word and Women's Circles at Signal Pres. She also likes traveling, knitting, and making quilts.

BIRTH

Park Vesta Kuhnert

A son born to Tom & Caroline Kuhnert
December 20 • Chattanooga

Charlotte Lana Coker

A daughter born to John & Megan
Coker • January 10 • Chattanooga

Thomas Philip Lehman

A son born to Philip & Emily Lehman
January 14 • Chattanooga

MEMORIALS

Katie Ray Gallaher

Mother of Rick (Mitzi) Gallaher
December 1, 2018
Duck Hill, MS

Sharon McCullough Tucker

Church member 1968-2019
January 2, 2019 • Signal Mountain

Dean Ault

Church member 1968-2019
January 15, 2019 • Rockwood, TN

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Bobby Cobb

Mrs. Virginia Downer

William Freels

Mrs. Carolyn Ballard

Mrs. Deanne Mott

David McKenzie

Mrs. Carolyn Ballard

Margaret Spittler

Mrs. Carolyn Ballard

Sharon Tucker

Mrs. Priscilla Caine

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Francescon, Sr.

Mrs. Joyce Hill



SAVE the DATE

**SERVE
SATURDAY**

March 30

HIGHLANDER LUNCH BUNCH

MARCH 15 · 10:45 AM
THE TEA COTTAGE · \$15

We will depart from the Youth parking lot at 10:45 AM. \$15 per person includes lunch, tea, and dessert.

TO RSVP: Contact Christie at 886.2190 or cgilliam@signalpres.org.

LIVING WATER HIGHLANDER BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

FEBRUARY 26 · 11 AM
WOODWARD HALL

Purity. That's a word we don't hear much outside Christian circles. However, Paul speaks boldly about it as he declares its importance in our lives—even as we advance in age. What does purity mean, exactly—and how does it lead to fruitfulness in our lives? Come find out and enjoy fellowship and food together! Bible Study begins at 11 AM in Woodward Hall, followed by lunch at noon (cost: \$5)

TO RSVP: Contact Christie at 886.2190 or cgilliam@signalpres.org.

EMBRACE

MINISTRIES FOR FAMILIES WITH EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS

WHAT IS EMBRACE?

Embrace (formerly known as CARE) is a ministry that seeks to provide support, community, respite, and education for families who may have exceptional needs or circumstances. Our hope is that as a church we would follow Jesus' calling in welcoming all individuals, regardless of need, and *Embrace* them into the body of Christ.

WHAT SUPPORT DOES EMBRACE OFFER FAMILIES?

Embrace offers support for preschoolers, children, youth, and adults within the context of any church programming that is offered (Sunday School, church services, Wednesday night, or special events). This support may be a 1:1 friend, use of a sensory room, or the creation of an individualized support plan that allows a family or individual to participate successfully in the life of the church.

WHAT IS AN EXCEPTIONAL NEED THAT COULD REQUIRE SUPPORT?

Embrace seeks to offer support to families who have a variety of needs, whether it is a defined special need or a need that arises due to a special circumstance, such as foster or adoption care.

WHAT PROGRAMS ARE INCLUDED UNDER EMBRACE?

The Adoption/ Foster Care Ministry offers community through a monthly mom's group, a foster/ adoption closet for families, and educational opportunities for families.

NightOWLS meets twice a month to provide respite for families that have children (ages 6 months-13 years) with special needs. Volunteers serve as 1:1 friends during a fun-filled evening of activities!

YoungLife CAPERNAUM Club meets twice a month for youth (ages 13-22) with special needs. They come together with peers of their age to have fellowship, bible study, and fun!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Betsy (bwilburn@signalpres.org) or Celestial (celestialallen@gmail.com).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: BIRTHDAY MINISTRY CALLERS

If you enjoy wishing your church family Happy Birthday the Birthday Ministry needs you! Each member of the group is assigned one day of the week to call those who have a birthday that day to wish them Happy Birthday.

If you are interested, please contact Betsy Fronk at 304-0799 or betsy.fronk@gmail.com; or Christie Gilliam at 886.2190 or cgilliam@signalpres.org.



THE REPRESENTATION PROJECT

An invitation to the viewing & discussion of two documentaries.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 · 6 PM

YOUTH WAREHOUSE

The Mask You Live In
Images of Masculinity

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 · 6 PM

YOUTH WAREHOUSE

Miss Representation
Images of Femininity



KENYA MISSION TRIP

AUGUST 2019

If you would like more details or are interested in joining this trip please contact Christie at 886-2190 or cgilliam@signalpres.org to get your name on the list for our upcoming informational meeting.

MEN'S GATHERING

FEBRUARY 24 · 6-8:30 PM · WAREHOUSE

Stay tuned for announcements about our speaker and topic for our time together. To sign up, contact Christie: cgilliam@signalpres.org or 886.2190.

IMAGE IDEAS

BEAUTY · ORDER · MYSTERY

MARCH 8 & 9
SIGNAL PRES

UNDERSTANDING MALE &
FEMALE IN GOD'S IMAGE

612 JAMES BLVD // SIGNALPRES.ORG/IMAGE

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

We can't think of a better time to teach preschoolers about how much Jesus loves them than in February—the month of love! Jesus loves you, me, and preschoolers—A LOT! In fact, there is nothing wider or longer or higher or deeper than the love Jesus has for us. This month, our goal is for preschoolers to know Jesus loves them and that nothing will ever change that. We've planned some awesome hands-on-activities and are ready to tell amazing Bible stories that will teach them just that!

Mark February 15 and April 5, 9:30-10:15 AM, on your calendar for our preschool music mornings in Dudley Hall. These Fridays are a super-fun, interactive way to learn biblical songs and scripture alongside your child. Plan to stay after for indoor play and mom-time, 10:15-11:00 AM.

This is open to anyone with young children, so bring a friend! Follow us on Instagram @smppreschool for more info.



VBS 2019

JUNE 10-13 • 9 AM-12 PM

We will PRAISE God for his Greatness, Authority, Power, and Love at VBS this summer! If your child is a rising 1st-rising 6th grader, we want them here!

For more information, to volunteer to help with VBS, or if you have any questions, contact Hannah at hsims@signalpres.org or register at signalpres.org/vbs-2019/.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAYS • 9:30–10:25 AM

BIBLE IN MY HEART

Jesus answered, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

— JOHN 14:6

GOD'S BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why did Jesus tell parables?

Jesus told parables to teach people about God and his Kingdom.

LESSONS

1. Parable of a Sower
2. Unmerciful Servant
3. Good Samaritan

.....

EQUIP • AGAPE CLUB • 5TH

WEDNESDAYS • 6:15–7:30 PM

Agape Club Lessons are on The Fruit of the Spirit: (Goodness, Faithfulness, and Gentleness).

Sunday, February 3, the 5th graders will lead the ALEXIAN WORSHIP SERVICE!

5TH lessons are from the Grapple Curriculum:

1. What if someone hates me?
2. What if I mess up?
3. What if I'm the only one saying no?
4. Where did God come from?

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

AS OF JANUARY 2018



Bill & Ayana Winchester,
Hannah & Maddie

505.9340 • 876 River Gorge Drive,
Chattanooga, 37419

By transfer of membership from
Ridgedale Baptist Church

Bill works in wealth management and Ayana is a CASA with the county juvenile court system. Hannah (8th) and Madeleine (6th) attend Baylor School. They are excited to join the Signal Pres family in working for the Kingdom!

INTRO TO SIGNAL PRES CLASS: March 31, April 7, April 14

QUESTIONS? Contact Scott at sbowen@signalpres.org.



WESTMINSTER SINGERS PARTICIPATE in FESTIVAL

The Westminster Singers of Signal Pres will travel to Marietta, Georgia on Saturday, February 9 to participate in *Chorister's Guild's Children's Choir Festival*. The festival, led by clinician Martha Shaw, is for singers in grades 3-6. Our Westminster Singers will join singers of their age from around the Southeast to rehearse anthems such as: *O Sing a Song Unto the Lord* (Walker), *The Lord Never Closes His Eyes* (Angerman), and *Give Praise to God* (Shaw). The day of learning, rehearsals, and fellowship will culminate in a concert at 4:30 PM at Marietta First United Methodist Church, 56 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta, GA.

NEW CITY CATECHISM for ALL FAMILIES

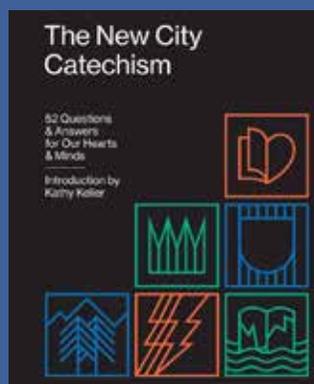
Check the box for any you have done ...

- found yourself singing song lyrics from long ago
- remembered chants or cheers from playgrounds or games
- can finish the sentence: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union..."

If you marked even one, then you know you learned by ritual and repetition.

Those aren't dirty words—they are how our hearts and minds get formed.

This is why we are introducing to you the *New City Catechism*. A "catechism" is a classic teaching tool for the church. It's a Q&A format of basic questions and answers that summarize—in memorable form—the truths of the gospel and Christian faith.



On January 27 we started giving one of these away to each family in our church. They are short, beautiful books and designed for use by any student or adult. Our hope is that you will take this amazing tool and use it in your personal or home life.

Starting on Monday, February 4, we'll share one question each week on social media and online at signalpres.org and give you tips for how to use it or talk about it.

Bonus #1 – Each question has a memory verse to go along with it.

Bonus #2 – There is an easier version of each answer (same words, just shorter—highlighted in pink) for the littlest ones to memorize.

Bonus #3 – Yes, there's an app for that—find the New City Catechism for free on any app store: it's marvelous and incredibly easy to use. Also online at newcitycatechism.com.

VOLUNTEER WITH SM2

We'd love to have you consider partnering with us as we seek to disciple middle & high school students in the way of Jesus. Some of our immediate opportunities include:

- FISH weekend (February 22-24)
- Summer Trips (1 week in the summer)
- D-Group Leadership

For more information on these & other opportunities to serve with us please visit smtwo.org/serve or contact Camille @ cward@signalpres.org.



SM2 2019 *summer trips*

Register for Middle & High School summer trips at smtwo.org/2019-summer-trips through March 1.

SM2'S SUMMER MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER!

You are invited to gather at one of 15 homes during the first 2 weeks of April to share a meal with a handful of church members plus students and leaders who will be attending our summer trips. This will be your chance to hear from our students and leaders about where we'll be serving and clear ways you can partner with us as we prepare to go out, serving and loving our neighbor in the name of Christ.

More details & sign ups coming in March! Want to host a meal? Email Camille: cward@signalpres.org.



ECUADOR RECAP

Over Christmas Break we had a group of high school students from SM2 and college students from The House travel to Ecuador to serve alongside one of our ministry partners, For His Children.

It was a marvelous week, from watching high school & college students unite together for a common purpose to the Tia's pouring themselves out on behalf of children (children the world often deems unimportant) giving them value, dignity, and the promise of a glorious hope for their future. It was truly a picture of God's will and kingdom coming here on earth as it is in heaven.

I, Camille, am deeply grateful for this ministry and the opportunity to have played a small role in the development & leadership of this trip! Thank you for praying for us!

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".

PRAYER UPDATE

Thank you to many who are praying for the new staff we are seeking! Please keep praying that the Lord would direct our steps and lead us to the right people. We have two search teams looking for a Co-Director for Student Ministry (guys' discipleship) and a Full-time Intern. Find the details at signalpres.org/jobs and spread the news to anyone you know!



Q3 EQUIP CLASS LINEUP

JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 20

THE GREAT INVITATION: Learning to Live a Life of Prayer
with Adam Whitscarver

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN: Thinking Faithfully About Medicine & Health
with Dr. Bill Davis

SPEAKING A MYSTERY: Male & Female in the Image of God
with Andy Cornett, Tommy Hayslett, Beth Rowlett and Joey Sherrard

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.

SIGNAL PRES GOES *to the* OSCARS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 • 5:30-7:30 PM • DUDLEY HALL

Each year the Academy Awards tell us a lot about the current state of our culture. Each film nominated for "Best Picture" tells a story that reflects the climate of the world around us: What does the world around us care about? What do our neighbors think "the good life" looks like? And where do we see people posing questions that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can answer? Join us February 27 to kick off the final quarter of 2018-2019 EQUIP with an event that will help us to understand the neighbors and world we're called to love. We'll take a look at the movies nominated for "Best Picture" this year, thinking both charitably and critically about the stories we see on the big screen and ask how we can think about them in light of the Big Story of the Bible. **TO RSVP //** signalpres.org/equip.

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

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SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

February 3 during both services (8:10 & 10:45 AM)