

# Signal Points

A Publication of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church • MAY 2019



## IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR VBS!

JUNE 10-13 • 8:45 AM-12 PM  
FOR RISING 1ST-6TH GRADERS

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

For more information, to volunteer to help with VBS, or if you have any questions, contact Hannah at 886.2190 or [hsims@signalpres.org](mailto:hsims@signalpres.org)

REGISTER TODAY! Visit [signalpres.org/vbs-2019](http://signalpres.org/vbs-2019).

## CHATTANOOGA AREA LEADERSHIP PRAYER BREAKFAST

MAY 7 • 6:45-8:30 AM

CHATTANOOGA  
CONVENTION CENTER,  
EXHIBIT HALL A & B

\$20/PERSON • \$160/TABLE

SPEAKER: SHERMAN SMITH

The purpose of the Chattanooga Area Leadership Prayer Breakfast is to encourage morality and ethics in the lives of all people in positions of leadership in business, government, and other professions. Come join other brothers and sisters from Chattanooga for a time of fellowship and to lift up our city in prayer.

Free Parking is available at Finley Stadium lots, with free shuttle bus service from Finley to Chattanooga Convention Center every five minutes beginning at 6:15 AM.

**FOR INFO:** Contact Carol at Wingfield Scale at 698.0100 or [cbrown@wingfieldscale.com](mailto:cbrown@wingfieldscale.com)

**FOR TICKETS:** Buy online at [chattanoogaaprayerbkfast.com](http://chattanoogaaprayerbkfast.com)

## FINANCES & ATTENDANCE

	2019	2018
Annual Budget	\$3,227,000	\$3,338,700
Revenue YTD	\$736,846	\$756,729
Expenses YTD	\$949,581	\$815,387
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	(\$212,735)*	(\$58,658)
Av. March Attendance	729	758

*\*The shortfall seen above reflects several significant, and in some cases unexpected, building maintenance expenses. We are grateful for the wisdom of past leadership in building up a maintenance reserve fund, even as we are grateful to you, the congregation, for your generosity as we meet these needs while maintaining ministry.*

## SESSION UPDATE

The April Session meeting started out with a dinner during which elders met with the students finishing the Disciple class. Elders had a chance to get to know these students and their families, to hear their faith stories, and to learn about the work they had been doing in the class for the last 3 months. Special thanks to elders Andy Tucker and Glenn Baird who have faithfully led this class!

The largest discussion item this month involved next steps in the implementation of the strategic focus that has come out of our Renew process: **To be one church of many deeply connected communities that offer hope and healing to Signal Mountain and Chattanooga.** To that end, the elders approved moving forward with the formation of approximately 4 missional community pilot groups that we will aim to launch in the Fall of 2019. The vision for these groups is that they will live together for a year according to an intentional rhythm of up (relationship with God), in (relationship with each other), and out (relationship with the community outside of the church). Like traditional small groups, these communities will incorporate spiritual growth and relational connection for their members. But unlike traditional small groups, these communities will incorporate a third and equal goal of mission. Each community will adopt a particular mission that fits with its make-up. For example, one potential community we have discussed would be made up of families with students at SMMHS. This community would study, pray, and worship together (up), encourage and care for each other (in), and commit to serving students, families, and teachers at the school (out).

Our next steps towards launching these pilot groups is identifying elders who are willing to take on leadership, and the communities that they might lead. If reading of this type of community excites you, I (Scott) would love to hear from you! If reading of this type of community raises more questions than answers, please know that we have questions too, and the goal of pilot groups is to test the concept and to answer those questions with a small group of people! You can participate by praying for the elders and individuals who will be a part of these communities.

One other noteworthy item that came out of our meeting was to approve a modified summer Sunday morning schedule. From June 2 to August 4 the second service will begin at 10:00 AM. The first service will remain at 8:10 AM. Our hope is that this schedule will better accommodate summer schedules for some without dramatically throwing off anyone. A community hour will take place between the two services, the goal of which is to offer all of us a relaxed space to connect with the church family in ways not always possible in our normal rhythm. There will be no Sunday School for any age during this time.

## BIRTH

**John Tilman Wheeler**

A son born to Crosby & Jeannie Wheeler • March 28 • Chattanooga  
Celebrating in our congregation are grandparents Trey & Michelle Wheeler, and great-grandparents Tim & Gail Wheeler.

## MEMORIALS

**John Aaron Lopez**

Son of Polly Lopez  
March 19, 2019 • Ooltewah, TN

**William R. "Randy" Zimmerman, Jr.**

Brother of Arden (Mark) Oglesby  
April 4, 2019 • Cleveland, TN

**Velvin Robert Herndon, Jr.**

Father of Shan (Phil) Megison  
April 5, 2019 • Shreveport, LA

**Martha Hicks**

Sister of Jean Petree  
April 8, 2019 • Signal Mountain

**Conrad Lee Ingram, Sr.**

Father of Steven (Kathy) Ingram  
April 12, 2019 • Lake Polkton, NC

**George Kimball "Kim" Thompson**

Husband of Sheila Albritton  
April 19, 2019 • Chattanooga

## GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

**John A. Lopez**

*Mrs. Nancy Davis*

## GIFTS IN HONOR OF

**Chuck Zeiser**

*Mrs. Joyce Hill*

## SIGNAL STORIES & COMMUNITY TIME

Join us this summer for a time of connection and hearing stories of God's goodness and faithfulness in our church. Between the two services of our summer worship schedule we'll gather (9:20-9:50 AM) for a relaxed time of fellowship. Just after 9:30 AM we'll pause for a few minutes to hear a story of what God has been up to among us.

Stick around after the 8:10 AM service or come early before the 10 AM service (moved from 10:45 for summer) for some coffee and something to nibble on!

## HIGHLANDER LUNCH BUNCH

MAY 16 · 9:00 AM

MISS MARY BOBO'S & JACK DANIEL DISTILLERY

LYNCHBURG, TN - Come hungry because we will start out around Miss Mary's dining room table where we will enjoy a variety of all-you-can-eat southern dishes. After lunch we will drive down the road to the Jack Daniel Distillery where we will take the hour long "dry tour" filled with stories and the behind-the-scenes process.

**TO RSVP:** Contact Christie at 886.2190 or [cgilliam@signalpres.org](mailto:cgilliam@signalpres.org). Don't delay this trip always fills up! Deadline to sign up is May 9  
Departure: Youth Parking Lot 9:00 AM (Make plans for a full day's trip)  
Cost: \$45 (includes meal and tour)

## NIGHTOWLS YEAR IN REVIEW

### A FEW STATS FROM THIS YEAR

Families served .....	24
Children served .....	48
Movies watched .....	14
Volunteers .....	116
Delicious Meals Provided .....	14
Bible Stories told .....	14
Tubs of Playdough .....	42
Hugs .....	Countless
Laughs .....	Infinite

NightOWLS Volunteers,

Thank you for another wonderful year filled with numerous laughs, hard work, and thousands of steps! It has been a blessing to serve with you. We are so grateful to you for sharing the love of Christ to our families through your commitment to NightOWLS. May God richly bless you!

We love because he first loved us. —1 John 4:19

Blessings,  
NightOWLS Staff

## LIVING WATER HIGHLANDER BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, MAY 28 · 11 AM  
WOODWARD HALL

It's been said that Christians have the wind of the world, the flesh, and the devil against them. To finish well, as Paul is exhorting Timothy to do, we need to be caught up in God's grace, focus on key spiritual areas, and keep our eyes on the prize. Join us for the FINAL Living Water Bible Study (before summer break, that is!) discussing faithful living in the winter of life. Study at 11 AM, lunch at noon (cost: \$5).

**TO RSVP:** Contact Christie at 886.2190 or [cgilliam@signalpres.org](mailto:cgilliam@signalpres.org).

## ELDER SPOTLIGHT

MARC FUNK



I was raised in a Christian home and while God pursued me since birth, I finally accepted his calling at the age of 14. My wife, Jennifer, and I just celebrated 25 years of marriage and have been members at Signal Pres for around 17 years. We have two great kids, Elizabeth (16) and Liam (13)—both are students at SMMHS. I have

served as a Deacon in years past and am serving currently in my first term as an Elder. I have also been very blessed to participate with the Music Ministry. On the professional side, I work for Cigna HealthSpring as a Senior Operations Manager. My hobbies include playing bluegrass with my brothers in *Hand Picked* and staying active.

## WOMEN'S CIRCLES

The final combined gathering of the Women's Circles until September will be on June 3 in Westminster Alcove at 10 AM. Please join us for a study of Psalms led by Julie Forman. Lunch is \$5.00. All women are welcome to attend this special morning of fellowship and Bible study.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!



Bill & Nancy Underwood  
423.886.4476 3906 Ivory Ave  
37377

By transfer of Church membership from First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga.

*Bill is CFO for NABCO Electric. Nancy has retired from her Residential Design Business. The Underwoods have a son, David. He and his wife, Karen, live in Chattanooga. Bill & Nancy look forward to being involved at Signal Pres.*



## FAMILY MINISTRY LEADERSHIP PARTY

MAY 5 • 4-5:30 PM

DRENNAN'S BARN

1921 WALDEN FARMS ROAD

We'd like to take a moment to let our wonderful Family Ministry volunteers know how grateful we are for keeping us afloat this year! Preschool, Children's, Embrace, and SM2 Ministry volunteers and their families are invited to celebrate a wonderful year of ministry together! Please bring chairs or a blanket, and RSVP to Hannah ([hsims@signalpres.org](mailto:hsims@signalpres.org)) with the number of people from your family attending.

## 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 INFO: Call Stephen Leaders Petie Correll, Mary Wray, Leah Conner, Jarrell Reeves, or Margaret Ferguson in the church office (886.2190).

## IN HIS SERVICE LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR

MAY 20 • 10 AM

BECKING ROOM

This will be our last time to meet until September. This month we will be preparing for Vacation Bible school and we would love to have any ladies of the church to join us.

We are also knitting and crocheting prayer cloths for members in our church who could use them. If you have any worsted weight or sports weight acrylic yarn you would like to donate for this purpose, please bring it to the church office.

FOR INFO: Contact Lisa Frost at 886.4231 or [lisa.frost@epbf.com](mailto:lisa.frost@epbf.com).



## PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Our world is filled with things that are big and sometimes scary. When our preschoolers face these big things, we want them to know that God is bigger and will help them. This month we will learn about Solomon at the Temple, David's bravery against Goliath, Aaron helping Moses, and Joshua being a strong leader.

### KEY QUESTION

Who helps you do big things?

### BOTTOM LINE

God helps me do big things!

### MEMORY VERSE

*We have the Lord our God to help us.*

— 2 CORINTHIANS 32:8

## SUMMER FUN

We are planning some "Summer Fun" and you don't want to miss it! Look for dates, locations and information in our monthly newsletters along with Instagram posts.

### NOT GETTING OUR MONTHLY EMAIL?

Subscribe at [signalpres.org/email-updates](http://signalpres.org/email-updates).



Also, be sure to follow us on Instagram!  
[@smpcpreschool](https://www.instagram.com/smpcpreschool)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAYS · 9:30–10:25 AM

### BIBLE IN MY HEART

*Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits...who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.*

— PSALM 103: 2-3

### GOD'S BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What did Jesus heal people from?

*Jesus healed people from sickness, sin, and death*

### LESSONS

1. Four Friends Helped
2. Jesus has Power Over Evil
3. Jesus Healed a Woman and Raised a Girl

## SHOEBOXES NEEDED

We're collecting shoeboxes for our VBS Missions Project. Please place shoebox donations in the colorful tubs all around the church. Thank you!

## DARE2B GR8 BIBLE CAMP

JUNE 24-27 & JULY 22-25

10 AM-1PM

Rising 4th–rising 6th graders are warmly invited to this fun Bible camp event! We will play games, go on scavenger hunts, and explore what the Bible has to say about topics of the day. Invite a friend!

TO REGISTER: [signalpres.org/summer-camp](http://signalpres.org/summer-camp).

### NOT GETTING OUR EMAILS?

Subscribe at [signalpres.org/email-updates](http://signalpres.org/email-updates).



Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook!  
[@Signal Pres Children's Events](https://www.facebook.com/SignalPresChildrensEvents)

## AMAZED BY HIS MERCY, WE SING

Last Fall, the music and pastoral staff attended the SING conference in Nashville. During our time there, we had the privilege of worshipping together and singing songs from a wide variety of styles and decades, experiencing the power of songs—both old and new—to lift us into a posture of worshipping Christ. We brought home a few new songs that we have introduced to the congregation over the past few months, including a song by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa called “His Mercy Is More.”

Here, the 18<sup>th</sup> Century intersects with the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as Matt Papa was inspired to write “His Mercy Is More” on a sermon by John Newton:

*Are not you amazed sometimes that you should have so much as a hope, that, poor and needy as you are, the Lord thinketh of you? But let not all you feel discourage you. For if our Physician is almighty, our disease cannot be desperate and if he casts none out that come to him, why should you fear? Our sins are many, but his mercies are more: our sins are great, but his righteousness is greater: we are weak, but he is power. Most of our complaints are owing to unbelief, and the remainder of a legal spirit. And these evils are not removed in a day.* — JOHN NEWTON

If the name John Newton sounds familiar, it is likely because he wrote what is perhaps what is one of the most well-known hymns of the faith, “Amazing Grace”. Even Papa’s lyrics are reminiscent of Newton’s expression of amazement that grace would “save a wretch like me” when he says “he welcomes the weakest, the vilest the poor.” And the idea “I once was lost, but now am found” is reflected in the wonder that “what patience would wait as we constantly roam, what Father so tender is calling us home,” causes us to “Praise the Lord, his mercy is more” in the same way that Newton reminds us that “’tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home,” where “we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise.”

As we sing these hymns of our faith together, knowing that one generation of song influences another, we most importantly stand amazed in the presence of Jesus whose mercies are “stronger than darkness, new every morn” and who offers us his “amazing grace.”

—Trish Ross, Assistant Director of Music



## SERVE SATURDAY SUCCESS

On Saturday, March 30 we joined together with our church family, Student Ministry, a local boy scout troop, and ladies from Adult/Teen Challenge to serve seven of our community ministry partners at nine locations.

The teams worked hard cooking, cleaning, painting, washing windows, cutting down and digging up trees, doing some basic yard clean up, sorting clothes, and loading a dumpster full of trash. It was great to see everyone come together to serve those in need while being the hands and feet of Jesus. We hope you will make plans to join us in the Fall for our next Serve Saturday!



## LAST SM2 WEDNESDAY NIGHT OF THE YEAR

MAY 1 · 5:30 PM

Join us for an end of the year celebration with a cook-out, program, and extended D-Group time!



### SM2'S SUMMER MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER!

Thanks to everyone who hosted or attended one of our 13 House Parties this year! We had a great time sharing a meal with you and appreciate your eagerness to hear from us and support us as we shared about where we're heading in mission this summer.



## SERVE SATURDAY RECAP

This crew of students & parents partnered with Project 52 to work in Mr. Harris' yard, filling a dumpster with close to three tons of debris. Living in Christ's love, serving in his name and being for our neighbor—it's what we practice, celebrate, and hope to always be!

## LAST FAMILY CAFE OF THE YEAR

MAY 19 · 9:30 AM

## SAVE THESE DATES

SM2 Wednesday Night Kick-Off ..... August 14  
TREK (MS) Retreat ..... September 20-22  
TRUE NORTH (HS) Retreat ..... November 15-17



## PRAY FOR SUMMER TRIPS

As SM2 Prepares to head out in mission this summer we'd love for you to be praying with us and for us.

We have prayer bookmarks in the Youth Wing you are welcome to pick up that have specific requests and ways you can be praying for our team!

## SENIOR SUNDAY RECAP

This past month we gathered on a Sunday evening to celebrate our graduating Seniors and their families. It is just awesome to watch people publicly bless students—celebrating what they have done, loving them where they are, and commissioning them forward! We love you, Class of 2019!

# SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 6-8

## ALPINE CAMP • MENTONE, AL



**Family fun! Waterfront!  
Outdoor games! Downtime!  
Heartfelt worship!**

*Spend an awesome weekend  
connecting with your church family.  
Serious Fun. (Seriously).*

**Registration opens June 1 at  
[signalpres.org/family-camp](http://signalpres.org/family-camp).**

### 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

### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

May 5 during both services (8:10 & 10:45 AM)

### MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 26

One Service at 10 AM // No Sunday School

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

May 27 in observation of Memorial Day

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