

SENIOR PASTOR WRITES...

BORN ANEW TO A LIVING HOPE

“BAH, HUMBUG!” said a sour-faced Scrooge about Christmas in Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* and thereupon took his place among the great heavies of English Literature.

What a picture Charles Dickens gives us of the man: “Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone. Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching old sinner... He carried his own low temperature always about with him; he iced his office in the dog days; and didn’t thaw it one degree at Christmas.”

The story is a good one---the crotchety, embittered old man visited by spirits who came to prick his memory and conscience, to try and turn him back to the real joy and meaning of Christmas before it is too late. It could have been the stuff of dire tragedy, but Scrooge realizes the error of his miserly ways and his life is nothing less than transformed, as he becomes a happy, useful, giving person.

Ghosts in chains, shrouded shades, and whirlwind trips in a time warp don’t happen in the world we live in---but transformation of a life can. The Spirit of Christ is no less spectacular when a person turns from a life of separation, to one of fellowship with the Savior. “Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation: the old has passed away, behold the new has come.” (II Cor. 5:17) Freed of the bitter disappointments, guilt, and burdens of a past life, we can walk out into freedom and newness of life, trusting Christ for his leadership and friendship.

Perhaps we can relate to the way the New Scrooge felt: “I don’t know what to do! I’m as light as a feather, I’m as happy as an Angel; I’m as merry as a schoolboy...” Everyone has different emotions and experiences, but Christmas is a season which touches people deeply. For those who come in contact with the Baby of Bethlehem, the meaning of human existence finds new hope.

A legend tells that when Jesus was born the sun danced in the sky, the aged trees straightened themselves and put on leaves and sent forth fragrance of blossoms. These are the symbols of what takes place in our hearts when the Christ child is born anew each year. Blessed by the Christmas sunshine, our natures, perhaps long leafless, bring forth new love, new kindness, new mercy, and new compassion.

Still in One Peace,

Bill

DECEMBER AND JANUARY SERMONS IN TRADITIONAL

Sermon Series: "The Gospel According to Dickens: Lessons from *A Christmas Carol*"

December 3: "Great Expectations," Luke 1:67-80

December 10: "Joyful Anticipation," Matthew 1:18-25

December 17: "Making Room in Our Hearts," Luke 2:1-7

December 24: "Born Anew to a Living Hope," Luke 2:8-20

December 31: "Calling All Disciples," John 1 - Eric Hughes, preaching

Sermon Series: "The Gospel According to John"

January 7- "The Best is Yet to Come," John 2:1-11

January 14- "Temple Tantrum," John 2:13-25

January 21- "Night Vision," John 3:1-21

January 28- "Living Water," John 4:1-26

ROOM^{IN} THE INN

Room in the Inn is always in need of volunteers! There are openings in several areas such as set up, providing dinner, packing lunches, providing breakfast, and clean up. If you would like to volunteer for this tremendous ministry, please contact either Bev Jaquith (276-1358) or Doug Donaldson (489-7324). This ministry runs from December 2, 2017—March 31, 2018. The men are picked up downtown and brought to the Southern Hills facility where they have the opportunity to shower, have meals together, sleep in the warmth of church, and are provided a lunch when they leave.

The Source has volunteered to provide individuals to help with this ministry the last Saturday of each month. If you are a part of a small group and would like your group to host a Saturday evening, please let us know. Every volunteer is greatly appreciated!



Fall has proven to be a busy time at The Source! We kicked off October by hosting our Resident Bishop, Leonard Fairley, in worship. We also sponsored Southern Hills' annual Blessing of the Animals in Shillito Park, and connected with over 250 people on Halloween through "Light The Night" as we set up hospitality stations serving water, hot cocoa, and hotdogs in two different neighborhoods. On October 29th, the youth from *The United Methodist Home for Children and Youth* began worshipping with us every Sunday, and on November 19, Rev. Ruhl baptized four of them in The Source's new immersion baptismal (a shiny, new 6 foot horse trough). More baptisms are scheduled!

In November we partnered with Clays Mill Elementary to bless a family that had been displaced from Texas to Lexington by Hurricane Harvey. The family, with three children (and one on the way!) had been sleeping on the floor, and also needed clothing. We raised money to purchase four mattress sets, and many Source attendees bought clothing and bedding items for the family.

Our partnership with Clays Mill will continue as we begin planning together a series of parenting workshops which The Source will host beginning in the spring. As our Lead Team has investigated needs in the community, we have discovered a desperate need exists to help parents prepare their pre-schoolers for the rigorous standards that now exist for new kindergarteners. School leadership has expressed their excitement at the opportunity to team up with The Source/Southern Hills to help meet this need as we offer a series of workshops, covering a variety of topics, aimed at assisting parents to prepare their children.

The Kentucky Annual Conference is very pleased with the work Southern Hills has done to successfully launch The Source, and recently published an article about our second campus project on the Conference website and in *NetConnect*, the Conference's digital newsletter. The article was then picked up and published by the United Methodist News Service (the UM Church's international communication). The Source/Southern Hills has gone global! Great work, Southern Hills!! You can read the article at:
www.umc.org/news-and-media/daily-digest-november-16-2017



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

UMW CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday, December 6th
6:00 p.m.

UMM CHRISTMAS DINNER AND PROGRAM

Monday, December 12th
6:00 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 13th
6:30 p.m.

SING FOR YOUR SUPPER

Sunday, December 17th
3:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24th
Traditional Worship
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
5:30 p.m.—Family Friendly
7:00 p.m.—Communion Served





Winter break is almost here for the schools. To help ensure our children at Arlington will have food to eat during vacation, we are asking the congregation to fill grocery bags of selected items that will be sent home with the children on the last day of school before break.

The Backpack team will provide bags for you to shop. They will be available at church on Sunday, December 4th. If you are not in attendance that day, or if we run out, you can use a brown paper bag. Below is all the information you need to know. Any extra bags collected will be used for children at Mary Todd Elementary.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING BAGS

We have found it best to keep all the bags as similar as possible, therefore we have included a suggested list to help in your shopping. Sizes have been limited in order to keep bags from being too heavy for the children to carry home.

Feel free to get any brand, but do your best to get the stated size, and please, no glass.

- PEANUT BUTTER (no larger than 18 oz.)
- JELLY—(squeeze bottle is best, no larger than 20.5 oz.)
- SPAGHETTIOS (2—15 oz. cans)
- MARUCHAN INSTANT LUNCH CUPS (ramen noodles
- 2—2.5 oz. containers)
- SALTINE CRACKERS (16 oz.)
- CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE CANDY of your choice

This should run about \$12-\$15. Please feel free to add a card or letter.

Bags will be handed out December 3rd and December 10th to be returned on December 17th.

If you would like to be on any of the e-mail lists for volunteering, please e-mail Lyn Bracken at 2brackens@gmail.com or call 859-223-9830



WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL AND ACTIVITIES

Our Wednesday night fellowship dinners are served from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in Herren hall. The menu is posted weekly in the bulletin and we ask that you please make a reservation so we can plan for the right amount of food each week. Donations are suggested to help cover the meal cost.

MENUS FOR DECEMBER

December 6

No Dinner

December 13

Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Carrots, Rolls

January 3

Pasta Bar

January 10

Taco Bar

January 17

Pizza and Salad

January 24

Fried Chicken, Potatoes, Corn

January 31

Breakfast



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS "CHRISTMAS PIPES" RECITAL DECEMBER 10, 2017

The Lexington Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be hosting their 3rd Annual "Christmas Pipes" Recital at Southern Hills in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. Come hear some of Lexington's finest organists, including our own James Humlong, play their favorite Christmas pieces. The event is free, but donations will be accepted and go towards expenses for the Chapter's 2018 January Jubilee Workshop.

REV. JOAN WOODEN ~ DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP



A Festival of Christmas

Our annual Church-wide Music Ministries Concert and Worship service will be held on **Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m.** in our beautiful sanctuary. The concert will feature most of our vocal choirs, including our Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Ladies Only Vocal Ensemble, Men Only Vocal Ensemble, and our Chancel Choir.

Our adult handbell choir, Carillon Choir, under the direction of Bonnie Lynch, will also perform, as will our amazing organist, James Humlong, and a string quartet made up of members of the Lexington Philharmonic. This year's concert will be based on Hal Hopson's *A Festival of Lessons and Carols*, with readings offered by our own local celebrity, Marvin Bartlett, and plenty of congregational singing. Please make plans to attend this beautiful Southern Hills Christmas Tradition.

Children's Handbell Choir – Celebration Ringers

Beginning in January, our Children's Handbell Choir, the Celebration Ringers, will accept new members. This choir is open to all interested 2nd thru 5th graders. It will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:15-7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Music and Worship Arts Week at Lake Junaluska

Plans are being made to organize a group of adults, youth AND children to attend this year's *Music and Worship Arts Week at Lake Junaluska*. If you are interested in worshipping through music and the arts, you won't want to miss this exciting event, presented by **The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts**, which is a national organization, based in Nashville, TN. The week will include powerful preaching and worship, as well as opportunities to participate in choral singing, dance, drama, and visual arts – all in a beautiful Smoky Mountain setting. The event will be held on **June 24-29 of 2018**. Please contact Joan Wooden (jwooden@southernhillsumc.org) if you are interested in attending.

ALL-CHURCH SCREENING OF "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

Friday, December 1, 6:30 pm @The Source

Before we dive into our sermon series based on Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," acquaint yourself with this Christmas classic! Come enjoy popcorn, Milk Duds, drinks, and the movie with your church family. We'll also simultaneously run a cartoon version for the kids. This is a great opportunity for both our traditional and contemporary congregations to gather together! The Source is located in the Keithshire Place Center at 3330 Partner Place. The entrance is next door to Brooklyn Pizza. Maps are available in the Welcome Center.



SING for YOUR SUPPER

Please join us for the 16th Annual Sing for Your Supper at Southern Hills! Sing for Your Supper is sponsored by the Interact Committee and will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2017

Meet in Herren Hall at 3:30 p.m.

Share carols with members of our Southern Hills community from 4-6 p.m.

Return to Herren Hall for supper around 6:00 p.m.

PLEASE BRING A CROCKPOT OF SOUP or a DESSERT to share!

You can **"Make A Difference for Christ"** by sharing God's love through singing Christmas carols to members of our Southern Hills UMC community! Everybody is invited to take part in the fun! Please join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and holiday cheer!

Merry Christmas!

- **Snapshot:** 5:30-7:30pm Sundays, Dec. 3 & 10 Kaitlin from Asbury will be leading on Dec. 3! You won't want to miss it!
- **Winter Blitz:** The annual gathering of Kentucky United Methodist youth in Louisville (in Broadbent Arena) will be Friday-Sunday, January 19-21. It's a great time of learning, worship & serving. We'll stay at the Hampton Inn on Phillips Lane. **Sign up** (on the youth room door) **by Dec. 4.** Cost is \$85 (scholarships are available, just talk to Brian or Samantha) & money is due January 14.
- **Embrace Meal:** On Monday, Dec. 18 we will go to Embrace church and help with their community meal. We'll help serve & clean up. We'll leave from Southern Hills at 5:15pm be back by 8:00pm. We'll need some extra help with this one because they will have more people for Christmas, so be sure to come if you can!
- **Middle School Small Group:** We'll meet in the Great Room from 6:30-7:30pm on Wednesday, Dec. 6 to hangout & grow in our relationship with God. We'll invite our 5th grade friends to join us for some Christmas fun!
- **High School Small Group:** Meet at Katy's House (text Katy or Brian for the address) from 6:30-7:30pm on Thursdays, Dec. 7 & 14 as we seek to build our faith & equip ourselves to be ambassadors for Jesus. We'll have some fun going over Christmas & doing a project together.
- **Youth Band:** Wednesday, Dec. 6 meet in the Great Room from 7:30-8:30pm to work on songs to lead worship at Snapshot.
- **Dreamers Sunday School:** A student led class for grades 6-12 that will happen Sundays, Dec. 3, 10 & 17 in the Great Room (youth room) from 10:30-11:00am. They will be studying "All I Want for Christmas" by James W. Moore.
- **Sing For Your Supper:** We'll be joining the congregation to go caroling to people in our church who need some encouragement on Sunday, Dec. 17. Meet in Herren Hall at 3:30pm. We'll go caroling, come back & eat with everyone & be done by about 7:00pm.
- **Snapshot Xmas Party:** On Sunday, Dec. 10 we'll have a Christmas party. Dress up as your favorite Christmas movie character or wear an amazing Christmas sweater. Bring a silly gift costing no more than \$5 for a gift exchange. Bring a friend & give them the scoop on what's happening!
- **Confirmation 2018:** If you are in grades 6-12 & have not been through confirmation before, join us for our first session on Sunday, January 7 from 12:30-2:00pm. We ask that you let Samantha or Brian know if you are going to attend. Parents come in for the first part of the meeting. More info will be coming in the mail & email!

Happy New Year!

- **Youth Band:** Wednesdays, Jan. 10, 17, 24 & 31 we'll meet in the Great Room from 7:30-8:30pm to work on songs to lead worship at Snapshot.
- **Parent Meeting:** Mark it on your calendars! January 7th we'll be having our Winter parent meeting in the Great Room at 7:00pm to talk about the upcoming year, big events, fill out any forms that need updated, sign up for meals & answer any questions you have. We should be done around 7:30pm.
- **Snapshot:** 5:30-7:30pm Sundays, Jan. 7, 14, & 28. We'll ask where do some of our assumptions come from about what life should look like & how does that line up with the Bible in a series called "The Script".
- **Middle School Small Group:** We'll meet in the Great Room from 6:30-7:30pm on Wednesdays, Jan. 10, 17, 24 & 31 to hangout & grow in our relationship with God.
- **Embrace Meal:** On Monday, Jan. 15 we will go to Embrace church and help with their community meal. They need help with cooking, serving, & cleaning up. We'll leave from Southern Hills at 5:15pm be back by 8:15pm.
- **High School Small Group:** Meet at Katy's House (text Katy or Brian for the address) from 6:30-7:30pm on Thursdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 as we seek to build our faith & equip ourselves to be ambassadors for Jesus.
- **Winter Blitz:** The annual gathering of Kentucky United Methodist youth in Louisville (in Broadbent Arena) will be Friday-Sunday, January 19-21. It's a great time of learning, worship & serving. We'll stay at the Hampton Inn on Phillips Lane. Cost is \$85 (scholarships are available, just talk to Brian or Samantha) & money is due January 14. On Friday the 19th we'll meet at Southern Hills at 6:00pm. Eat before you come. We'll be back by 3:00pm on Sunday, Jan. 21.
- **Community Meal at Embrace:** On Tuesday, Jan. 16 we will go to Embrace church and help with their community meal. They need help with cooking, serving, & cleaning up. We'll leave from Southern Hills at 5:15pm be back by 8:15pm.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE - RICK ARNOLD

Financial Condition

The end of the year at Southern Hills always illuminates our challenges to meet our financial obligations and expand the outreach of the church. In review of the November 17th financial statement, we have a snapshot of the churches finances taken the day after our payroll charges were incurred. Many inquiries continue to come in with people concerned about their pledges, plus the period between Thanksgiving and the end of the year has always been one of our best contribution periods of the year. So with approximately six weeks left, I still believe Southern Hills will meet our projected budget.

Kroger Community Rewards

One of the easiest ways to make donations to the church is through Kroger Community Rewards. We are currently using the proceeds to help pay for the new church van. if you wish to join this program, it's easy, go to www.Kroger.com Sign in, go to the Community Rewards section, click on the Apply, Edit or Re-enroll button, Select Southern Hills #11433, and then "SAVE" your selection. If you don't have a computer or internet connection, call Kroger at 1-800-KROGERS, Option #3, and they will help you.

Reuter Pipe Organ - Update

As of November 17, the total amount received is \$113,803.95 towards our goal of approximately \$140,000.00.

	Current Income / Expense November 17, 2017	
Income	(in thousands)	% Budgeted
SHECP	1,269	83.4
Contributions	999	83.2
The Source	171	
Other Income	48	91.3
	Total Income	2,488
		85.3
Expenses		
SHECP	1,307	91.7
Capital	1,116	86.8
Property	182	104.4
Personnel	668	86.7
Administrative	147	82.8
Education & Worship	44	68.6
The Source	162	
Leisure & Outreach	29	78.9
	Total Expenses	2,654
		90.7
	Balance	(167)

KRISTINA WHITE - CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



- **KIDS AND FAMILIES ON A MISSION:** For the month of December, we will only meet on December 6th! Since there is no meal that night at church, please eat dinner beforehand and then join us at the
Cut and Paste Studio, 220 Ruccio Way, Ste. 180, Lexington, KY 40503
(In the Meijer parking lot next to Brusters Ice Cream
We will resume regular Wednesday nights in January!
- **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AT SHUMC:**
 - Throughout December, we will be focusing on Advent!
 - We WILL have Children's Worship on Christmas Eve during the 9:30 service.
 - We will have INTERGEN Worship both December 3rd and December 31st!
- **SOURCE STUDIES FOR KIDS:**
 - Throughout December, we will be focusing on Advent during Source Studies!
- **PRAY FOR ME:**
 - Children and their Prayer Buddies are invited to a Pray for Me party on January 19th at 6:30 p.m. in Herren Hall! Join us for dinner and games and spend time with your Prayer Buddies.

Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/130571940381849>



The UMW Leadership Team will not meet in December. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 4, 2018 in the Reception Room.

The **Sarah Bagby Circle** will meet at noon on Wednesday, **December 13** in the Fireside Room. Please bring finger foods for a light Christmas luncheon. The program will follow at 12:30 p.m. Joyce Tiggelaar will present "Pledge to Mission Service 2018." Pledge cards will be distributed. On **January 10** at noon the Sarah Bagby Circle will meet in the Fireside Room. The program, which begins at 12:30 p.m. will be presented by Rob Perez, founder of DV8 restaurant which provides jobs for people in recovery. All are welcome to hear about this interesting program and join in fellowship.

The **Pat Herren Circle** will meet on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at THE SOURCE (3330 Partner Place, Suite 13) at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Jill Ruhl will take us on a tour of the facility. At 11:00 a.m. we will move next door to the GIFT BOX for our Christmas luncheon. When a member of our telephone committee calls to remind you of our upcoming meeting, please indicate if you are going to be able to attend as the Gift Box needs to know how many tables to set up for us. See you there.

The **Faith-Susannah Wesley Circle** will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Natalie Wilson. We will have our Christmas potluck luncheon. We will also discover who our Secret Prayer Partner has been for this year.

The **New Life Circle** will not have a regular meeting in December, but will gather with other United Methodist Women in Herren Hall on December 6 at 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Christmas Dinner. We'll resume our regular meetings starting January 4, 2018. Watch the Sunday church bulletin for details. For information, contact Teresa Eikenbary, 492-9198, or Carlene Hodges, 554-6800 for information. CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS FROM ALL OF US IN NEW LIFE CIRCLE!

The **Meade Shotwell Circle** does not meet separately in December, but participates in the UMW Dinner December 6th at 6:00 p.m. in Herren Hall. Our January meeting will be our White Elephant auction fundraiser, Monday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Reception Room at church. Check your closets for those wonderful surprises you want to bring for someone else to treasure!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED will meet Tuesday, January 9 in the Reception Room. Fellowship is from 9:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m. with the program and meeting to follow. The program will be "Human Relations Celebration" presented by Polly A. Ruddick, Director of Homelessness Prevention for Lexington-Fayette County. Please join us!

One to Grow On...The Grow Team seeks to encourage our community of believers to grow deeper in relationship with Christ. Our prayer is that you will be inspired to forge new spiritual disciplines: to be intentional to make time every day to get alone with God; to delve into His Word and allow it to penetrate your heart; and to develop new practices of daily prayer. To that end, here is
One to Grow On...As we anticipate Advent and the coming of a new year, that time of reflection and new resolve, consider the wisdom of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. He knew that a transformed life is not accidental. One does not drift into inward or outward holiness. God's grace requires a response, a deliberate choice and discipline in everyday living for God. Then the question at year's end won't be were you challenged BUT were you changed?

"Train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value; but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."
 1 Timothy 4:7-8

Women of Southern Hills Save the Date

Silver Bells



*'Twill soon be Christmas time in the City.
 Don your silver and perhaps a bell or two, and
 join the United Methodist Women
 in celebrating the season at a
 pot luck dinner December 6, 2017
 Herren Hall 6:00 pm.
 followed by
 a brief program
 and mini-concert by the
 Joyful Ringers, youth handbell choir.*

**SOUTHERN HILLS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

2356 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40503-1795

Sunday Morning
Worship Services
Traditional: 9:30 & 11:00
Contemporary: 9:22

Tel: 859-277-6176
Fax: 859-276-1137

E-mail:
Info@southernhillsumc.org

Web address:
www.southernhillsumc.org
www.shumy.org
www.facebook.com/
shumc.lexington

Senior Pastor

Dr. William Moore

Associate Pastor

Rev. Jill Ruhl

Assistant Minister

Eric Hughes

**Director of Music &
Worship**

Rev. Joan Wooden

Director of Youth

Brian Shumard

Director of Children

Kristina White

**Director of Recreation/
Fellowship**

Brian Cathey

DECEMBER/JANUARY
2017/2018

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Return Services Requested



MEMBER INFORMATION CARD

We are in the process of working on the new Guidebook Directory. In an effort to have correct information for all members, we would appreciate each family filling out the information on this "card" and returning it to the church office as soon as possible. You can either put it in the offering plate, or forward it to Dawn Sparks through the mail.

Name(s) in Household: Last _____
First _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____
(This should be the number you wish to have listed in the Directory)



Scan here with your
smartphone QR Code
Reader app to go to the
Southern Hills website.