

SENIOR PASTOR WRITES...

AN INCARNATION STORY

The gospel writer put it this way:

*The Word became flesh and blood,
and moved into the neighborhood.
We saw the glory with our own eyes,
the one-of-a-kind glory,
like Father, like Son,
Generous inside and out,
true from start to finish.* John 1:14 The Message

John was trying to describe the incarnation of Christ. How does God identify with mortal beings? By becoming one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. The Protestant Reformer, Martin Luther, put it this way as he contemplated the doctrine of the Incarnation; "The mystery of the humanity of Christ, that he sunk himself into our flesh is beyond all human understanding." So how do we grasp this concept?

In 1873 a Belgian Catholic priest named Joseph Damien de Veuster was sent to minister to lepers on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai. When he arrived he immediately began to meet each of the lepers in the colony in hopes of building a friendship and a ministry. It seemed that wherever he turned, people shunned him. He felt that every door to his ministry was closed. So he poured his life into his work, building a chapel and beginning new worship services with all of the lepers. This priest poured his heart out for the ministry among the people who had the disease of leprosy. No one responded to his ministry. He was a failure and believed that everything he did was useless, so after twelve long years of rejection Father Damien decided to leave.

He made his way to the docks to board a ship that would take him back home to Belgium. As he stood on the dock waiting for that boat, he nervously wrung his hands in defeat. He recounted again how he failed to reach even the lepers. It was then he looked down at his hands and noticed some mysterious white spots and felt some numbness. Immediately he knew what was happening to his body. He had contracted leprosy. Now he was a leper.

At that moment he knew what he had to do. He returned to the leper colony to again do ministry. The word spread quickly about his disease through the colony. Within a matter of hours everyone knew. Hundreds of lepers gathered outside his hut. They understood his pain, fear, and uncertainty about the future. But the biggest surprise came the following Sunday when Father Damien arrived at the chapel to conduct the morning service. He found hundreds of worshippers were already there. By the time the service began there was standing room only. The place packed to overflowing. The rest is history. Father Damien had a ministry that became enormously successful. If you travel to Hawaii, someone will probably mention his works, because of his simple concept of working with human beings. Now he was one of them. He could understand their pain and empathize with them. Now there was an identity. There was no question any longer about whether he really cared.

This is the essence of why Jesus Christ came among us. The word that describes it is "Incarnation"- the time when God became a human being, just like all of us.

Have a Blessed and Joyous Christmas Season!

Bill

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTORS...

In February 2019, lay and clergy delegates from our global church will gather in St. Louis, Missouri for a called special session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and explore options to strengthen the unity of the church.

As United Methodists, our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Regardless of the decisions made at the General Conference level regarding these issues, we at Southern Hills will continue to fulfill that mission. Our central focus is now, and will remain, building true reflections of God's amazing love by helping people to connect, grow, and serve, all centered around worship.

Detailed information regarding the called special session of General Conference may be found at:
www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session

Southern Hills' leadership will continue to keep you updated and informed.

REV. JOAN WOODEN ~ DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP



A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

Our annual church-wide Music Ministries Concert and Worship experience will be held on **Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30 p.m.** in our newly renovated 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 well as a brass quartet made up of some very gifted music majors from the University of Kentucky.

James Humlong will accompany all of our choirs, and there will be plenty of opportunities to sing Christmas carols. In addition, some heartfelt reflections, written by members of our congregation, will be shared. Please make plans to attend this beautiful Southern Hills Christmas tradition.

COMBINED CONCERT WITH BROADWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

On Sunday, **December 16th**, our Chancel Choir will combine with the Broadway Baptist Church Choir and "Cantabile" (a select community choral ensemble), to present a joint Christmas Concert. The concert will be held at Broadway Baptist (2500 Harrodsburg Road) at 6:00 p.m. Please make plans to attend.

SING FOR YOUR SUPPER!

This year's Sing for Your Supper, our annual church-wide Christmas caroling event, will be held on Wednesday, December 19th. This event, where we focus on caroling to our shut-ins, will begin at 5:00 p.m. All participants are invited to meet in Herren Hall to divide into small caroling groups and receive specific locations/instructions. After caroling, we will meet back at the church for soup, sandwiches, and fellowship at 6:30 p.m. If you love to share the joy of Christmas, please join us! "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" - from *Elf*

CHRISTMAS EVE AT SOUTHERN HILLS

Please join us for our annual Christmas Eve candlelight worship services.
Worship experiences will include:



5:30 p.m. — Intergenerational Worship — a child-friendly service with a very special message for all children.

7:00 p.m. — Traditional worship with Holy Communion. (Children are, of course, welcome at all of our services at Southern Hills).



(Rev. Joan Wooden, continued...)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS WORK ON SPRING MUSICAL

Beginning in January, our Children's Choir (grades 1-5) will start working on our annual Spring Musical, which will be presented in early May. If you have a child, grandchild, or even neighborhood friend who would like to participate, please have them attend our first rehearsal of 2019, which will be held on January 6th. That afternoon at 5:00 p.m., we will meet in the choir room for an Epiphany party combined with a "musical unveiling" party!

MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS WEEK AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

Plans are being made to organize a group of adults and youth 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 23-28 of 2019**. Please contact Joan Wooden (jwooden@southernhillsumc.org) if you are interested in attending.



ALL CHURCH PRAYER GATHERING

Join us at The Source for an informal time that will include scripture, learning about prayer, Holy Communion, and praying together for our church community. This is a great opportunity for both our traditional and contemporary congregations to gather together. The Gathering will take place on Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

ROADRUNNERS

Come and join the Roadrunners for their bi-weekly lunch fellowship! This is a great opportunity to share a meal and conversation. **Please note there has been a change for December 13! Please note we will be going to Outback Steakhouse instead of Sedona Taphouse.**

December 13 — Outback Steakhouse

December 27 — No Lunch (Merry Christmas!)



The **UMW Leadership Team** will not meet in December. The next meeting will be January 3, 2019 at 1:30 pm in the Reception Room.

The **NEW LIFE CIRCLE** will not hold a regular meeting in December but will join all United Methodist Women at the Christmas Potluck in Herren Hall on December 5. Barbie Lally will collect gift cards for the Methodist Home for those who wish to participate. Looking ahead, our next regular meeting will be held at The Source on Thursday, January 3, at 5:30 with dinner to follow at Brooklyn Pizza. Stay tuned for further details.

The **FAITH SUSANNAH WESLEY CIRCLE** will meet on Wednesday, December 12, at 10:30am at the home of Natalie Wilson. We will have our Christmas potluck luncheon. We will also find out who our secret prayer partner was for this year. The Faith Susannah Wesley Circle will also meet on Wednesday, January 9, at 9:30am in the Reception Room at the church.

The **SARAH BAGBY CIRCLE** will meet December 12 at noon in the Fireside room. Bring a finger food to share or just come! In lieu of gifts, we will collect a love offering for a charity. Our program of Pledge for Missions will follow. Please join us for Christian fellowship and worship! Our January meeting will be January 9th in the Fireside Room at noon. We hope to see you!

The **PAT HERREN CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 10:00 AM at The Source. Rev. Ruhl will talk to us about the work being accomplished at this location. After the presentation, Lois Dixon will brief us on the "Time Capsule Memory Project," which will begin at our January meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room. After Lois's talk we will go next door to the Gift Box for our Christmas luncheon. Hope to see you there!

The **MEADE SHOTWELL CIRCLE** will meet Monday, February 4th, at 7:00 in the Reception Room at church. We will complete our Pledge Cards and have a blast with our annual White Elephant Sale! That is plenty of time to find lots of goodies to put in your gift bag, and let the bidding begin!

SUNDAY MORNING

Dec 2, 2018	SHUMC: Intergen Worship The Source: Practicing to Lead Worship
December 9, 2018	Advent 1 & 2
December 16, 2018	Advent 3
December 23, 2018	SHUMC: Intergen Worship The Source: Advent 4
December 30, 2018	SHUMC: Intergen Worship Movie Day

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Kids and Families on a Mission will not meet in the month of December! I encourage you to join the church at the Gattitown fundraiser on Dec. 5th; Festival of Christmas on Dec. 12; and Sing for Your Supper on Dec. 19th!

We will see you again on January 9th!

ADVENT RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

You are encouraged to pick up an Advent Calendar and a Car Chat Tag to engage your family in Discipleship throughout the season! These will be available at both campuses! See Mrs. Kristina or Mrs. Shawne to pick them up!

There will also be an Advent workbook and Chrismon coloring pages available during worship.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

Check out Big Questions About Christmas — Jelly Telly Devotionals.

Learn all about the history and meaning of our favorite Christmas traditions and how they all point to the *real* reason for the season: JESUS! Follow along for 5 minutes a day to celebrate Christmas in a whole new way. Your family will love the fun videos, discussion questions, and prayer prompts for each episode.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

SHUMC is ready for our 19th year of collecting new books for children up to 12 years of age! Over 44,000 books have been distributed to children in need; some of whom have never had the opportunity to own a brand new book of their own. This year, the collection will run from Nov. 1st-Dec. 31st. Please remember to pick up a new book while you are out shopping this year or make a donation made payable to Books for Children. You can also drop off books at Joseph-Beth. If you have questions, please contact Karen Sandberg — 224-8772.

ROOM^{IN} **THE INN**

This December Southern Hills will begin its 15th season of actively participating in Lexington's "Room in the Inn" program, providing much-needed services for homeless men during the cold winter months December-March.

Each Saturday December 2018-March 2019, SHUMC will transport, and host up to 12 guests overnight, filling them with Christian fellowship, a tasty supper, Sunday breakfast, sack lunches, as well as a safe and warm place to sleep for the night.

Our RITI committee will be so grateful to have your help this upcoming season. You may call RITI coordinators Bev Jaquith (27601358) or Janie Bowne (223-5522) to schedule dates and times. If you are interested in helping on the last Saturday of the month, these dates will be handled by The Source. Please contact Doug Donaldson (489-7324) to sign up for these dates.

We look forward to seeing you in our Activities Building this upcoming winter on one or more cold Saturday nights!

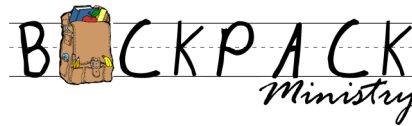
Dear SHUMC family,

Since August we have received many cards and notes from many of you to let us know that we were in your thoughts and prayers as I recover from my strokes. This has been a wonderful gift to our family during the past few months. The support and kindness have been very uplifting. Because so many of you have cared for us and because we have been under stress, we know we will fail to respond to each of you individually, so we hope you will accept this heartfelt thank you to the community, which you have represented so well.

Several of you stopped by to visit or sent cards to us while we were at UK Chandler and Cardinal Hill during those long days. It was truly a support to our entire family both near to and far from us. We have been thrilled to return to our church home on recent Sundays. The encouragement and strength we have received has been an additional blessing to us. Thank you all for these gifts also.

Your thoughtfulness and assistance give us much to be thankful for in this season of Thanksgiving. We pray your lives will be blessed as you have been a blessing to us.

Melinda Edgerton & Family



Dear Southern Hills family,

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, Dec. 2nd, and Sunday, Dec. 9th. If you are not in attendance either of those days, 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.

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), **SPAGHETTIOS** (2 15-oz cans), **MARUCHAN INSTANT LUNCH** (ramen noodles—2 2.25-oz containers), **SALTINE CRACKERS** (16 oz), and a bag of **CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE CANDY** of your choice. This should run about \$12-\$15. Please feel free to add a card or letter.

Bags should be returned to church on **Sunday, Dec. 16th**. ****LEAVE THEM BEHIND YOUR CAR**** and we will drive around and get them. **If it is raining, please bring them to the Sanctuary entrance.**

If you will not be at church on Sunday, Dec. 16th, you may drop your bag at the Welcome Center at church from Dec. 9th through Dec. 15th.

Thank you for supporting this ministry!

IN HONOR OF BISHOP LEONARD AND DAWN FAIRLEY

Thank you to all who donated in honor of Bishop Leonard and Dawn (Sparks) Fairley's wedding. The following gifts were given as a result of your generosity:

To the University of Louisville James Graham Brown Cancer Center, in memory of David W. Sparks: \$775.00

To The Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research, in memory of Priscilla Fairley: \$387.50

To the Pulmonary Diseases and Critical Care Medicine Excellence Fund at the Medical Foundation of North Carolina, in memory of Priscilla Fairley: \$387.50

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE - RICK ARNOLD

Financial Condition

We are rapidly approaching the end of the year. As of November 20, 2018, we continue to be financially sound; however, our expenses are currently running \$68,000 more than our donations. Donations have increased and I still expect to break even by year-end.

Commitment Cards

Commitment Sunday was wonderful; we have so much to be thankful for with all the blessings bestowed upon us. Thus far I have received approximately 200 cards, and if you have not turned in your card, it's not too late. The information I receive is the foundation for the 2019 church budget, so please fill one out and send it to me. If you need a card, I have plenty; just stop by or call me in the business office.

Sanctuary Renovation - Update

We currently have raised \$61,207.00 of the estimated \$160,000, leaving a balance in excess of \$100,000. The final payment on the sanctuary will soon be due and payable. We will continue to raise funds to reimburse the building fund throughout the rest of this year and well into 2019. The new sanctuary is beautiful, and your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please mark your donations with "sanctuary" or "renovation" in the memo line.

Income	Current Income / Expense November 20, 2018 (in thousands)	% Budgeted
SHECP	1,366	95.3
Contributions	1,020	81.0
The Source	106	105.9
Other Income	40	88.7
Total Income	2,532	89.2
Expenses		
SHECP	1,368	91.8
Capital	116	91.7
Property	164	89.9
Personnel	673	85.6
Administrative	130	69.2
Education & Worship	55	78.7
The Source	84	96.4
Leisure & Outreach	11	33.4
Total Expenses	2,600	87.8
Balance	(68)	

WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP MEALS



Meals are served from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in Herren Hall. PLEASE make your reservation for these meals no later than Mondays at 12:00 noon. You can either mark the pew pad that you will be attending, or call the church office to let them know. We are excited to enjoy this fellowship time together and hope that you will join us and take the opportunity to get to know each other around the tables. The menu is posted weekly in the bulletin. Donations are suggested to help cover the meal cost. If you are able to help out on a Wednesday night, please let Brian Cathey know. We would love for groups to volunteer to help with food prep or cleanup. We also welcome suggestions for menu or themes for our Wednesday night meal. Please contact Brian at rbcathey@southernhillsumc.org or call the church at (859) 277-6176.

MENUS FOR DECEMBER

December 5th—NO MEAL (UMW Christmas Dinner and FUNdraiser Night at Gattitown)
 December 12th—Festival of Christmas concert: pot roast, mashed potatoes, veggies, rolls

The Kentucky United Methodist Children's Homes is seeking a passionate, mission-driven, creative individual to develop, coordinate, and execute or strategic marketing and communications efforts. To apply, send a cover letter with salary requirements, resume, and portfolio to commcoord@kyumh.org or KY United Methodist Children's Homes, Communications Coordinator Position, 1115 Ashgrove Rd, Nicholasville, KY 40356.



I AM 3RD BASKETBALL

Southern Hills is partnering with Centenary UMC to host part of their I AM 3RD basketball league this winter. Their program has grown bigger than their facility, so they will be practicing here 2-3 days per week, with games on Saturdays, December 1st, through mid February. SHUMC's mission teams will be selling concessions on Saturday game days to raise funds for mission trips. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Brian Cathey (rbcathey@southernhillsumc.org).

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 (practice being in His Presence), 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... The coming of the Christ child into the world 2,000+ years ago was such a monumental event in history that time itself was delineated by it. This Advent Season, as we celebrate His birth, let us also anticipate His Second Coming, for therein lies the culmination of God's Promises of our Eternal Hope, Life, and Peace. "He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon.' Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20) Are you living for the world that is coming or for the world that is passing away?

BRIAN SHUMARD ~ DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY



Snapshot: 5:30-7:30pm Sundays, Dec. 2, 9, and 16. We'll talk about how we view material things and the reason and timing of Jesus's incarnation. On the 16th, we'll have our Christmas Party. On that day, dress up as your favorite holiday character or wear an awesome sweater. Bring a silly, cheap (\$5 or under) gift for a gift exchange. In January we'll meet on Sundays the 6th, 13th, and 27th.

Middle School Small Group: Will not meet in December but will be back on Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, & 30 from 6:30-7:30pm in the youth room.

High School Small Group: Thursdays, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31 from 6:30-7:30pm. We'll meet at Katy's house (2153 Palomar Trace) to dig into what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing: We are going to help ring bells at the Walmart on Nicholasville Rd. on Saturday, Dec 8. There is a signup sheet on the youth room door for shifts.

Dreamers Sunday School: A student-led class for grades 6-12 that meets from 10:30-11am on Sundays at the Southern Hills campus. It focuses on studying the Bible & building up student leaders.

Sing For Your Supper: Meet at Southern Hills at 5:00pm on Wednesday, Dec. 19. We'll get in groups and go sing Christmas carols and pray with people in our congregation, then come back to have soup and hang out. We'll be done by 7:30pm.

Embrace Meal: On Monday, Dec. 17th, we'll go to Embrace UMC (1015 N Limestone) and help with their community meal. They need help serving and cleaning up. Meet at Southern Hills at 5:15, and we'll be back by 8:00pm.

Winter Blitz: The annual gathering of Kentucky United Methodist youth in Louisville (in Broadbent Arena) will be Friday-Sunday, January 18-20. It's a great time of learning, worship, and serving. We'll stay at the Hampton Inn on Phillips Lane. Sign up (on the youth room door) by Dec. 9. Cost is \$85 (scholarships are available; just talk to Brian or Samantha), and money is due January 13.

Confirmation: If you are in grades 6-12 and have not been through confirmation before, join us for our first session on Sunday, January 6, 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 so we can go over what confirmation looks like here at SHUMY!

Youth Band: Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30 in the youth room. We'll practice songs to lead worship at Snapshot. If you play an instrument or want to sing, feel free to join us, even if it just for a week!

Backpacks for Arlington: Tuesday, Jan. 15, we'll go down to Embrace UMC and pack weekend meals for students at Arlington Elementary. Meet at Southern Hills at 5:30. We'll be back at 7:00pm.

**SOUTHERN HILLS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

2356 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40503-1795

Sunday Morning
Worship Services
Traditional: 9:30 & 11:00
Contemporary: 10:30
The Source
3330 Partner Place
Suite 130

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

E-mail:
Info@southernhillsumc.org

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

Senior Pastor
Dr. William Moore
Associate Pastor
Rev. Jill Ruhl
Assistant Pastor
Rev. 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 2018
January 2019

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SERMONS IN TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Advent Series: Songs from the Hearts of Christmas

- December 2: "Great Expectations: *Come, thou Long Expected Jesus,*"
Isaiah 11:1-11, Bill Moore
December 9: "God Came Near: *I Wonder as I Wander,*" Galatians 4:4-7, Bill Moore
December 16: "Seizing the Moment: *O Little Town of Bethlehem,*" Luke 2:1-7, Bill Moore
December 23: "Finding Peace with God: *Silent Night,*" Luke 2:8-15, Bill Moore
December 24: Christmas Eve Services, "The Ultimate Gift," Philippians 2:1-11, Bill Moore
December 30: "The Song of Simeon," Luke 2:22-38, Bill Moore

January 2019:

- January 6: Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, "Closing the Gate," Matthew 2:1-12, Bill Moore
January 13: Baptism of the Lord Sunday, "A Voice in the Wilderness,"
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22, Bill Moore
January 20: Human Relations Day, Rev. Sunday Daleng
January 27: "Scandalous News", Luke 4:14-21, Bill Moore



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Southern Hills website.