



December 2021

Pathways

A monthly newsletter of Nashville UMC & Pastor Ken Smailes

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13



MERRY Christmas



Ken's Korner

Pastor Ken

During this special season, may the people you love surround you and be close to your heart. May your home and heart be filled with the living hope, transcendent peace, abundant joy, and enduring love that only comes from God in Jesus. And, may the New Year be full of worship, love, and good things from above as we grow in faith and discipleship together.

I am reminded of Psalm 106:1 -- "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Thanks to all of you for your encouragement, hospitality, generosity, (and patience) throughout this exciting past year as our ministry expands.

Wishing a very Merry Christmas to you and your family!



Worship: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

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302 W. Millersburg St., P.O. Box 399, Nashville OH 44661



Follow us on the web: www.nashville-umc.org
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WINTER BREAK PARTY!

**Thursday
December 30th
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**GAMES
FOOD
FUN**

Karaoke

... at the Nashville United Methodist Church, 302 W. Millersburg St., Nashville

Hey Kids,
Celebrate Christmas
break at Nashville UMC.
Thursday Dec., 30th
from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Enjoy the end of the year
with your friends as Pastor Ken
hosts a party in the fellowship hall.

We'll have something for
everyone from elementary to high
school.

**IT'S GONNA BE
A BLAST!**

Paying it forward

■ The Nashville & Killbuck United Methodist Churches were among churches in Holmes County who donated items to Share-A-Christmas. 400 collected cans of soup were delivered on Nov. 28 to be put with other donations for holiday gift boxes for families in need.

■ Several members from the churches also rang the

bells at Rodhe's for the Salvation Army Christmas kettle campaign. Nashville's shift generated almost \$250!

■ A big THANK YOU to all who supported Operation Christmas Child. 47 boxes were collected and sent in November. Janice Tope generously donated canned beets to raise money for shipping, and Granny's County Kitchen raised another \$400+ dollars, with several vendors setting up in the fellowship hall and cookies and chocolate goodies made by members sold.



Share-A-Christmas



Join us for a:

Christmas Eve
service & candlelighting

Friday, Dec. 24

2 service options

5:30 p.m. at Nashville UMC

7:30 p.m. at Killbuck UMC



Love INC, ministerial group explore transportation gap

Pastor Ken is working with the Holmes County Ministerial



Association and Love INC of Greater Holmes County to identify possible solutions to transportation barriers in Holmes County.

A survey this fall corroborated discussion from a past community forum attended by nearly 50 community leaders and pastors. Lack of transportation limits access to services such as food pantries, grocery stores, support groups, Job and Family Services, medical appointments, employment, and getting home from the hospital. Nearly 16% said participating in church was an issue because of lack of transportation.

Several options are being explored through Love INC:

1) expanding a demand-response service similar to scheduling a taxi; 2) creating a fixed-route to specific destinations from pickup/drop-off points similar to a bus or shuttle service; 3) a hybrid approach using best practices from both; 4) expanding ministries that promote an individual's vehicle reliability and/or assist with maintenance and repairs.

If the Holy Spirit is stirring an interest in you to be a part of a solution, contact Love INC at 330-473-6017. A Transportation Development Team is being formed, and prayers for this initiative are appreciated.

Here are other upcoming opportunities through Love INC:



Fresh Start

A Love INC Transformational Ministry

A place to belong and grow deeper into who we are created to be!

Upcoming Classes – January - March, 2022

Classes are held Monday evenings @ 7-8pm; Hosted @ Martins Creek; 6111 CR 203, Millersburg
Call Love INC @ 330.473.6017 to register or online: <https://www.loveincoghc.org/fresh-start.html>

Child Care is Provided for all classes!

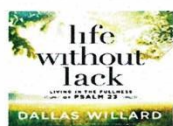


**Spanish
to
English**

"Learning English" – 6-7pm
"Learning Spanish" – 7-8pm
12 week class: Jan 17-April 4

Facilitated by Michael & Zelma Rodriguez

Join one of these classes to become more fluent in another language! During these classes, we learn how to communicate in Spanish – or English! You will learn key words and phrases and be given a chance to practice what you learn with the facilitators and others in the class!



"Life Without Lack: Living in the Fullness of Psalm 23" by Dallas Willard
9 week class: Jan 17 – March 14
Facilitated by Janet Boyd

Pause for a moment and ask yourself what your life would be like if it were completely without fear? If you did not fear death. If you did not fear life and what it might bring. If you did not fear any man, or woman, or any living creature. Would you live differently? This study reveals the secret to enjoying God's presence and experiencing peace and freedom from worry that is promised in Psalm 23.



"You'll Get Through This" by Max Lucado
6 week class: Jan 17 – Feb 21
Facilitated by Linda Kate

You'll get through this. It won't be painless. It won't be quick. But God will use this mess for good. Don't be foolish or naïve. But don't despair either. With God's help, you'll get through this. We fear that the depression will never lift, the yelling will never stop, the pain will never leave. In the pits, surrounded by steep walls and aching reminders, we wonder: Will this gray sky ever brighten? This load ever lighten? Find sweet assurance in hope as you take this class!



Spring 2022 Faith & Finances"
12 week class: Feb 7 – April 25, 2022
Meal – 5:30-6:00pm; Class – 6:00-8:00pm

Join our Faith & Finances Community. We'll eat, laugh and struggle together as we learn to overcome obstacles, set financial goals, make spending plans, manage debt and loans and more. It is a curriculum that encourages us to consider God's plans for our money & resources.



"Spring, 2022 Affirming Potential"
12 week class: Feb 7 – April 25, 2022
Facilitated by Debbi Miller

This class evaluates the physical, emotional, relational and spiritual areas of a person's life. It builds on the foundation that God has created us with essential worth and unique potential with a purpose in mind. Participants will learn to dream for the future, set goals and create steps to achieve those goals. Let us help you face and accept your past, to better understand the present as you embrace your future.



"Boundaries"
9 Week Class; Feb 28-April 25
Facilitator: TBA

Do you have trouble saying no? Can you set limits and still be a loving person? Are you in control of your life? What are legitimate boundaries? Do people take advantage of you? Healthy relationships and sound living depend on maintaining effective personal boundaries. But many people don't know where to start. As a participant, you'll learn how to live your life more fully and display truth and love more freely. This study can improve the quality of your relationships in every sphere of life – marriage, family, friendships, church and the workplace.



"Get Out of Your Head"
6 Week class: March 21-April 25

Discover how to submit our minds to Christ because how we think shapes how we live. Learn practical tools to surrender toxic thoughts to Jesus!

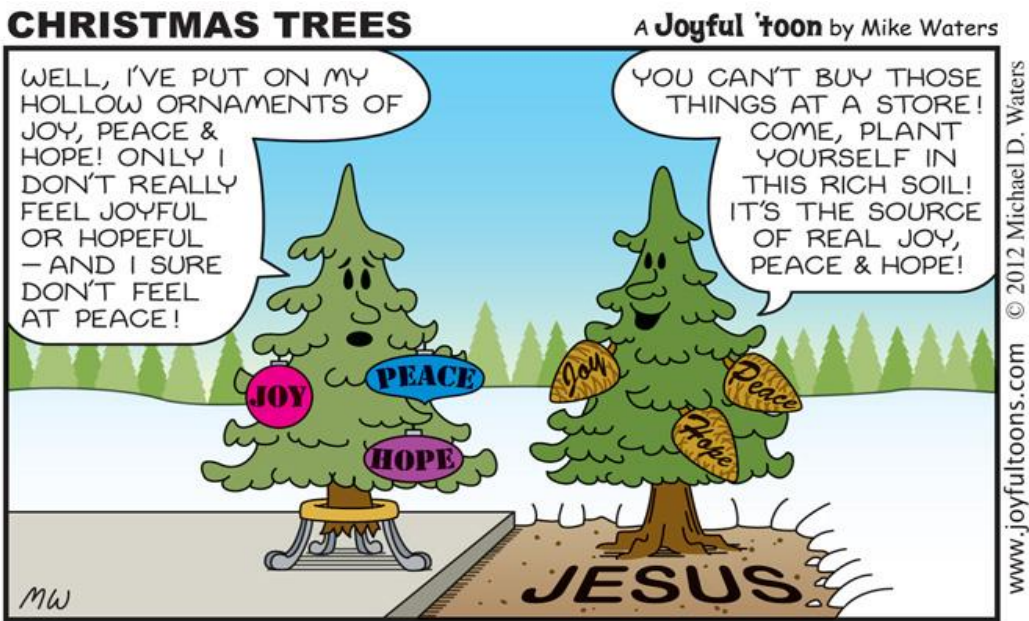


"Faith & Fitness"
Dates & Facilitator TBA Soon!
Contact us to learn more!

Come and meet with others to see how faith & fitness intertwine. The class will include prayer, scripture, teaching and encouragement on the important topic of healthy living!

All Are Welcome to the Celebration & Testimony Night
May 2, 2022; 7-8pm

CHRISTMAS TREES



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.


– ROMANS 15:13 NIV

DID YOU KNOW? – In 1605, when Christmas trees were first becoming popular in Germany, baby Jesus topped the tree that was decorated with gingerbread and gold-covered apples, according to WhyChristmas.com.

Eventually people switched to putting an angel on top of the evergreen as a reminder of both the angel Gabriel and the angels that served as a celestial birth announcement. The person making the angel Christmas tree toppers popular is the same woman we have to thank for popularizing Christmas trees in general—Queen Victoria. In 1848, when an engraving of Queen Victoria, her husband Prince Albert, and their children decorating a tree with lights at Windsor made the rounds, everyone wanted a Christmas tree with an angel on top.

Updates In Brief

- Congratulations to Garret Houin for achieving black belt status; Laura and Anna Irwin for receiving their American degrees, the highest degree given by the FFA; and Wesley Zuercher on his work to achieve Eagle Scout within the Boy Scouts of America.
- The United Methodist Church has been responding to the deadly tornadoes in Kentucky and other states. If you would like to assist survivors by donating toward the United Methodist Committee on Relief, you can simply make a donation through the Killbuck, Blissfield or Nashville churches.
- Love INC has afternoon and evening volunteer orientations planned monthly in 2022, so it's easy to become part of this ministry. Call 330-473-6017.
- Pastor Ken will be adjusting his open office hours in January. In addition to availability by appointment, he'll be at Killbuck on Tuesdays and Nashville on Thursdays from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.



Nashville United Methodist Church

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