

GREATER BARBOURSVILLE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The next meeting of the GBCO will be Monday, January 11, 7 p.m.

REFIT AEROBICS CLASS: There will be no classes December 21 – January 1. Classes will begin again on January 4, 2016.

<u>Prayer Concerns</u>		
Sandy Boggess	Danny Childers	Dr. Tim Damron
Julia Dickens	Lori Godfrey	Clay Johnson
Shawn Kelley	Peggy Morrison	Janice Young
<u>Friends and Relatives</u>		
Brother of Jan Foss		
Ethan (Grandson of Peggy Hicks)		
Pollyanne (Sister of Rev. Sager)		
Dan Bell (Son-in-law of Dick & Lou Jimison)		
John Day (Friend of Bill Dutton)		
Alma Fain (Aunt of Bill Dutton)		
Mary Holley (Mother of Sue Ann Carroll)		
Sandra Jaynes (Niece of Pat Gwinn)		
Cindy Keefer (Daughter of Whit & Virginia Keefer)		
Jimmy Lewis (Friend of Karen Canfield)		
Allen Meeks		
Bryce Newman (Great Grandson of Eddie & Vicki Smith)		
Tom Newman (Bryce Newman's Grandfather)		
Henry Noris (Friend of Karen Canfield)		
Wilma O'Dell (Sister of Brenda Chapman & Jerry Johnson)		
Mary Ramey (1 st cousin of Lou Jimison)		
Anna Ratcliff (Mother of Bob Ratcliff)		
Ilene Rose (Friend of Cindy Ballengee)		
Wade Seagraves (Cousin of Crystal Merritt)		
Diana Vincent (Friend of Cindy Ballengee)		

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

<p><u>Sunday, December 27</u> 9:00 Early Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School for all ages 11:00 Morning Worship No Evening Worship Service No Youth</p> <p><u>Monday, December 28</u> 6:30 Sea Scouts/Cub Scouts 7:30 Boy Scouts</p> <p><u>Wednesday, December 30</u> No Evening Services</p>	<p><u>Friday, January 1</u> Office is Closed</p> <p><u>Saturday, January 2</u> 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p><u>Sunday, January 3</u> Epiphany Sunday 9:00 Early Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School for all ages 11:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth 6:30 Evening Worship Service</p>
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<p>Pastor: Rev. Kevin Lantz kiplantz@yahoo.com Pastor's Home: 304-736-6474 Pastor's Cell: 304-638-4840 Music Minister: Johnna Adkins</p>	<p>Associate Pastor: Rev. Ralph Sager Youth Minister: Bobby Bannister Pianist: Lynette Call Organist: Becky Chenoweth Lay Leader: John Call</p>
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The purpose of Steele Memorial United Methodist Church is to enable people to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; to nurture them in their journey of faith; to offer opportunities to express their relationship with the living God through love, example, and service.

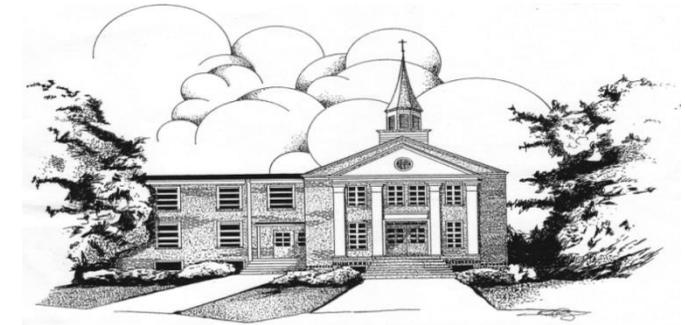
GENERAL FUND STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER

Monthly Need: \$39,595.00 Amount Received: \$42,748.97
Amount Spent: \$32,178.07 Mortgage: \$272,230.73

LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Early Worship Service: 32 Sunday school: 128

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STEELE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 20, 2015

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is a time to share the work of the church and recognize the community of believers as we prepare our hearts and minds to worship the Lord.

CHILDREN'S STORY

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We've come to that time in the service when we collect the financial offerings and tithes. Your financial commitment sustains our many vital ministries. May God bless you, the giver, and your gift in the up-building of God's kingdom.

***DOXOLOGY** No. 94
"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***CALL TO WORSHIP** [in unison]
In Christ – we are changed
in our thinking
in our feeling
in our giving
And in our loving.
Joy to the world! The Lord is Come!

***SONGS OF PRAISE**
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 224
"The First Noel" No. 245 (vs. 1-2, 4)

MORNING PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

SERMON "Compelled to Search" Pastor Kevin Lantz
Matthew 2:1-12

***INVITATION HYMN** "We Three Kings"
No. 254 (vs. 1-2, 4-5)

***BENEDICTION** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" No. 251 (vs. 1)

*POSTLUDE

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in appreciation to the Worship Committee for their help in decorating the church for the Christmas Season by Jim and Sandy Boggess.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: Come see the Christmas House with 23 Christmas trees at the home of Vicki and Eddie Smith at 8 Pembroke Lane between 6 and 9 PM on December 29.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: The Children's Choir will share their Christmas Program on Sunday morning, January 10, in place of the 11:00 a.m. worship.

JANUARY SERMON CALENDAR: Next week, Pastor Kevin begins a new series trying to answer the question for believers, "I don't understand the Bible. What does the Bible mean?"

1. The first installment addresses the idea that Jesus and God are One and the same. This sheds light on the depth and quality of love between the Trinity Family – so that we embrace this love into our own relationships!

2. The second message discusses whether the Bible contradicts itself or whether it is the inspired Word of God! Then we affirm four things about the bible: 1. It is God's Revelation; 2. It is Inspired by God; 3. It is Truth; and 4. It is Relevant!

3. The third sermon explains that "the fear of God" is more than awe or respect. Those who met God in the Bible were terrified. So this helps explain or understand why we are called to "fear" God – and to hear God from out of that posture of fear, who says to those He meets, "Fear not!"

4. The fourth message affirms that the only way to understand the Bible is to believe that the Bible is God's Word, a tool He uses to teach us, counsel, and instruct us. God uses the Bible to relate to us! If we have faith in the Bible as God's word we will conform our lives with expectancy and anticipation!

5. The final sermon answers the faith paradox, "The first will be last and the last will be first," as we examine what it means to serve and sacrifice our will in order to want the will of Christ! We naturally lean toward serving our own ego needs, but Christ is turning us to serve His kingdom and His love, as we think of others!

OFFERING ENVELOPES: The 2016 offering envelopes are located in the hallway near the elevator. They are arranged in alphabetical order. Please take time to pick up your boxed set of envelopes. If you do not already use offering envelopes but would like them, please let the church office know by calling 304-736-4583. Also, if you do not wish to use offering envelopes, let the church office know.

HELP NEEDED: The 1st-2nd grade Sunday school class needs a teacher for the months of January and February. This is a small class. If interested please call the church office at 304-736-4583 or Lorri Turman at 304-544-4285.

WORSHIP CDs: We are having better success recording our 11:00 a.m. worship service. Those who might want a recording on CD can contact Jonnie at the Church office, 304 736-4583, or by email at steelememorialumc@frontier.com

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Men of the Church are invited to join together on Saturday mornings, 8 – 9 AM downstairs in the old fellowship hall for a study and discussion group using a simple daily devotion, *Men of Integrity*.

2015 CONTRIBUTIONS: All contributions for 2015 tax purposes must be received by December 31, 2015 to count toward 2015 taxes. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2016 will not qualify

for a charitable contribution deduction in 2015, even if the check is predated to 2015 or was actually written in 2015. However checks that are written, mailed and postmarked in 2015, but not received until 2016 will still count toward the 2015 taxes.

FINANCIAL PEACE Have you struggled with debt? Are you finding it hard to stretch your finances to cover all the expenses and emergencies that arise? Are you unable to agree with your spouse when it comes to spending, saving, and investments?

There never seems to be enough! And if there is, we may not always be happy with the way our partner handles money! "Financial Peace University" is a nine-week course offered by your Church to help you with budgeting, managing debt, preparing for those unexpected emergencies, and knowing the sound investments any family should consider as they plan for the future. The course does not try to sell participants any investments or insurance, but helps you make your way through any confusion that can be created by your circumstances. **Financial Peace** is a DVD-driven course with an entertaining format by Dave Ramsey, popular speaker and teacher, helping participants understand how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!

This month we are taking a survey to measure the interest from our congregation and community. If you would be interested in attending the orientation to hear more about the 9-week study, please fill out the program insert and place it into the offering plate today!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY One of the roles for the Church is in the after-care for those who have suffered from substance abuse or been through treatment and are getting their lives restarted in a new direction. Too often, those who return from treatment fall back into the old patterns, not because they wanted to – but because they didn't find the support they needed to succeed. Celebrate Recovery allows the Church to become the "third place" in the lives of others, the place where everyone knows your name, that cares about you and loves you!

It is only in Jesus Christ that any of us find the power to make positive changes – and Jesus becomes the "Greater Power" in the 12-Step program with Celebrate Recovery!

There are some of you that God wants to use in this outreach ministry! Maybe it's because you've had a terrible experience with addiction or because a family member or friend was lost to substance abuse, and you're now ready to be used by God to reach out to others. You are invited to attend the team meeting on Thursday, January 7, for dinner at 6:30 p.m., or 7:00 p.m. for the lesson. Ed Peckham or Pastor Kevin can answer further questions that you may have.