

December Dates to Know

December 3—Church Conference @ 3:30

This year's charge conference will be convened as a church conference, meaning that all professing members will be voting members. During this church conference we will worship, celebrate ministries that we have, take care of a small amount of annual business, and we will talk about future plans for the church.

December 17—Christmas Cantata @ 11:00

The Spring City Methodist Church Chancel Choir will present their Christmas Cantata— **The Glory of Christmas: Celebrating Christ's Birth** during the 11:00 Service on December 17.

December 24—Candlelight Service @ 5:00

Please join us for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and bring a friend!

December First Sunday—

First Dollar

First Sunday-First Dollar collections from December will be going to purchasing Christmas gifts for the **Morgan-Scott ministry**.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORTS

| | Contemporary Worship | Sunday School | Heritage Worship | Heritage Livestream |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 10/8 | 20 | 35 | 71 | 39 |
| 10/15 | 31 | 43 | 69 | 38 |
| 10/22 | 26 | 43 | 67 | 25 |
| 10/29 | 31 | 28 | 61 | 22 |
| 11/5 | 24 | 43 | 72 | 52 |
| 11/12 | 18 | 40 | 75 | 24 |
| 11/19 | 26 | 38 | 68 | 22 |

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

| | General Budget | FFF | PDO | Other | Total |
|--------------|----------------|--------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 10/8 | 5,192.00 | 0.00 | 2,750.00 | 1,332.40 | 9,274.40 |
| 10/15 | 7,147.00 | 30.00 | 0.00 | 180.00 | 7,357.00 |
| 10/22 | 3,767.83 | 155.00 | 620.00 | 2,675.00 | 7,217.83 |
| 10/29 | 5,302.70 | 0.00 | 110.00 | 200.00 | 5,612.70 |
| 11/5 | 10,859.00 | 100.00 | 1,546.40 | 1,044.94 | 13,550.34 |
| 11/12 | 5,442.25 | 155.00 | 1,500.00 | 770.00 | 7,867.25 |
| 11/19 | 2,210.83 | 0.00 | 720.00 | 641.00 | 3,571.83 |

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Daryl Watson | Nancy Gilliam | Manuel Christi |
| Peg Caudill | Naomi Hinely | Sandy Morgan |
| Donna Barber | T.C. Cash | Liz Stair |
| Bob Burkhardt | Sandra Bartizal | |
| Bob Distad | Shari Norris | |

June & Karen Tallent Spring City Care & Rehab #307
Kathleen Reece Spring City Care & Rehab, #306
Imogene Robbins Golden Years, 301 Keith Dr., Spring City

Mark Cumnock

Mary Brockett

(Carolyn Reid)

Marsha Bacon

(Connie Roberts)

Paul Bartley

(Connie Roberts)

Cara Reed

(Lesia Garrison)

Brian Carson

(Janet Lord)

Camden Joseph Lefrois

(Richard DeCroce)

Keven Faro

(Richard DeCroce)

Craig Stevens

(Richard DeCroce)

Angelo & Karen DiCataldo

(Richard DeCroce)

Bobbie Dunn

(Naomi Hinely)

Pauline Brown

(Connie Roberts)

Daniel Allred

(Connie Roberts)

David Hardy

(Joe Lisa)

Marie Haynes

(Joe Lisa)

Jan Baker Pitts

(Peggy Bowman)

Missy Dowker Green

(Peggy Bowman)

Carla Bean

(Connie Roberts)

The Family of Ken Hasting

(SCM Member)

The Family of Terry McBrayer

(SCM Member)

MidSouth Conference
Bishop Scott Jones

Happy Birthday!

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Judith Barger | 11 Sharon Dines | 22 Ashley Grant |
| 1 Vahn Kaye | 12 Sam Hanson | 28 Knox Garrison |
| 2 Cynthia Snyder | 13 Bobbie Grant | 29 Cherie Henderson |
| 3 Autumn Neal | 14 Atlanta Ervin | 29 Penny Rice |
| 4 Karen Tallent | 19 Franny Folds | 30 Chris Dodson |
| 6 Aaron Heimel | 19 Caren Ruffner | 30 Harriet Southers |
| 6 Walter Hooper | 19 Sophie Grant | |
| 9 Lori Dautrich | 20 Anna Messimer | |
| 10 David Beckler | 21 Andrea Cash | |
| 10 Chris Hastings | 21 Dakota Price | |



Faithful Workers

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 12/3 | 12/10 | 12/17 | 12/24 | 12/31 |
| <u>Acolyte</u> Sophie Grant | <u>Acolyte</u> Olivia Garrison | <u>Acolyte</u> Sophie Grant | <u>Acolyte</u> Olivia Garrison | <u>Acolyte</u> Ashley Grant |
| <u>Ushers</u> Group 3 | <u>Ushers</u> Group 4 | <u>Ushers</u> Group 1 | <u>Ushers</u> Group 2 | <u>Ushers</u> Group 3 |
| <u>Altar Guild</u> Ann Hasting | <u>Altar Guild</u> Ann Hasting | <u>Altar Guild</u> Ann Hasting | <u>Altar Guild</u> Ann Hasting | <u>Altar Guild</u> Ann Hasting |

Happy Anniversary!

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 12/18 Nash & Constance Garrison | 12/22 Jerry & Shari Norris | 12/31 Tom & Mary Fricke |
| 12/22 Mike & Angela Jackson | 12/28 David & Carol Beckler | 12/31 Steve & Stacey Kaye |

December

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 First Dollar Sunday 8:45 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Heritage Service 3:30 Church Conference 5:00 Cantata Practice 6:00 SCM Youth 6:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA-FH | 4 10:00 TLC 7:00 Trustees Mtg. | 5 Morgan-Scott 8:30 PDO 11:00 Women's Service Club 5:30 Circle of Love | 6 11:30 Prayer Mtg. 3:00 Men's A.D. Group 5:00 SCM Kids 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Maddux A.D. Group | 7 8:30 PDO | 8 | 9 |
| 10 8:45 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Heritage Service 5:00 Cantata Practice 6:00 SCM Youth 6:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA-FH | 11 10:00 TLC | 12 8:30 PDO | 13 11:30 Prayer Mtg. 3:00 Men's A.D. Group 5:00 SCM Kids 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Maddux A.D. Group | 14 8:30 PDO | 15 JOY Trip FLC Reserved | 16 |
| 17 8:45 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Christmas Cantata 6:00 SCM Youth 6:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA-FH | 18 10:00 TLC FH Reserved Youth/RockHouse Christmas Party | 19 | 20 11:30 Prayer Mtg. 3:00 Men's A.D. Group 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Maddux A.D. Group | 21 6:00 Girl Scouts-FH | 22 | 23 FLC Reserved |
| 24 8:45 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Heritage Service 5:00 Christmas Eve Service 8:00 AA-FH | 25  | 26 | 27 11:30 Prayer Mtg. 3:00 Men's A.D. Group 6:00 Choir Practice 6:00 Maddux A.D. Grp. | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 8:45 Contemporary Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Heritage Service 6:00 SCM Youth 6:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA-FH | Office Closed—Merry Christmas! | | | | | |

Fall Festival Fun



RockHouse Dinner

The Circle of Love hosted a dinner for RockHouse last month. Everyone enjoyed the time of fellowship and enjoying a meal together. We are thankful for this wonderful community ministry!



Christmas Worship

Let us gather for worship on Christmas Eve Sunday morning will be the 4th Sunday of Advent when we will finish up our *Protagonist* series by looking at Isaiah 9:1-7. Then we will gather at 5:00 for Christmas Eve worship with the reading of the Christmas story from Luke, singing carols and a special surprise, celebrating holy Communion, and ending in candlelight.



We have been known in years past for our Christmas Eve Worship. Let us this year show Spring City how Global Methodists worship. We are called to be people who worship passionately, so let us do just that this Christmas and INVITE the community to join with us in passionate worship.

Dec. 31 we will continue the Christmas story and prepare for a new year with new opportunities and new possibilities as we recommit to being disciples who love extravagantly and witness boldly and who hold one another accountable to growing in the sanctifying grace of our Lord, Jesus.

Running the Race—December 2023

Rev. Dave Grant

Zephaniah 3:14-20

- ¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments
against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
- ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
"Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
- ¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
- ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the
festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
- ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
- ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes," says the LORD.

I have been called a scrooge at times, I suppose partly because I don't like putting up Christmas decorations by November 1. But really, nothing could be further from the truth, especially when it comes to music. In my younger days I was a Spinning® instructor at the local YMCA, and every December my classes would compete in what I called the "Kris Kringle Klassic," a pretend bicycle stage race as we worked out all month to upbeat Christmas music. I often have wondered why we have so much wonderful Christmas hymns and not nearly as many Easter hymns. Yet, I take joy in the Christmas hymns as much as possible.

The prophet Zephaniah tells us that God will announce that he is living among us as a mighty savior who delights over us with gladness. That is the announcement of Christmas. Along with this announcement of Immanuel—God with us—we are told that God will rejoice over us with joyful songs. When I think of God delighting over me to the point of singing joyful songs, it makes me feel special. Indeed, I am special and so are you. That is why God came and dwelt among us. And as God sings over us, I suppose that is why we sing back to God with the joy that God has given to us.

I hope during this season of preparation that we can all experience the joy God has over us that prompted the Bethlehem birth. I also hope that as we live in expectation of his return that we can live as people who have a joyful song in our hearts because He is still Immanuel—God with us—through His Holy Spirit.



Rev. Dave Grant
Pastor

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri.: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Heritage Worship

6:00 p.m. SCM Youth

Spring City Methodist Church

245 Church Street • P.O. Box 158
Spring City, TN, 37381
Phone: 423-365-6324 • FAX: 423-365-7118
Email: office@springcitymethodist.com
Website: www.springcitymethodist.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Meri Grant
930 Douglas St.
Apt. 332
Chattanooga, TN 37403

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Bulk Rate
Spring City, TN 37381
Permit #20