

10219 Taylorsville Road
Louisville, KY 40299

Jefferson⁺town *United Methodist Church*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

***Making Disciples of Jesus Christ, by: Transforming lives one at a time;
Transforming our community; transforming the world.***

Through: **Inviting** people into the church; **Relating** them to the Christian Faith and Fellowship; Helping them **Grow** as they understand their gifts and how best to serve; and then **Go** into the world to multiply the process.

January 2014

Church Phone: (502) 267-1437

Church Fax: (502) 267-1439

Church Email:

churchoffice@jtownumc.org

Church Website: jtownumc.org

Prayer Chain-(502) 245-2203

Parsonage-(502) 653-7418

Child Development Center-

(502) 261-2867

Office Hours-Mon.-Fri., 8am-2pm

Sunday Worship-8:30am & 10:50am

Sunday School (for all ages)-9:30am

From the Pastor's desk:

Jesus announced the mission and vision of the church at the end of his earthly ministry. Weeks after his resurrection and appearance to hundreds, he instructed the disciples to meet him in Galilee.

Matthew 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, 19 baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

With that as our charge, we adopted our current mission statement: *We are intentionally making Disciples of Jesus Christ by transforming one person at a time, transforming the community, transforming the world.*

In other words, we are to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus.

Where do we begin? Let's revisit the first chapter of John.

At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he was on his way to Galilee. He met a young man named Phillip and said, "Follow me. Join me in what I'm doing." Phillip had heard enough and seen enough to know that Jesus was the real deal—"God in human form." He said, "Yes, but can I invite a friend?" He ran and invited Nathanael. A thinker. A skeptic. Not someone who was easy to convince.

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.

If I can just get you there . . . If I can just get you in the presence of Jesus of Nazareth. . . And so it should be with J-town church. We are the body of Christ. Come and see, experience, listen. Be changed.

We are on a mission to create "Come-and-see" environments. In order to do that I need your help.

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit to come and be a part of everything we do.
2. Invite someone to church weekly.
3. Intentionally grow in your relationship with God and one another by becoming part of a small group or inviting your friends and families to be a part.
4. Commit to serve through the ministry of the church: Kids Café, After school tutoring, Open Door Ministry at Fourth Avenue UMC, the District Habitat House or be trained to be a small group leader.

We are creating environments that captures the attention and imaginations of children, students, and adults.

We are creating environments that would connect people with one another and connect people with their heavenly Father.

Success for us is when:

- Somebody who feels disconnected from God gets involved here and finds his or her connection with God and other Christians.
- Teenagers want to participate.
- Children wake their parents on Sunday morning because they don't want to miss worship.
- Adults feel the freedom to invite friends.
- Every time someone is baptized, we celebrate a changed life.

You are part of transforming people's lives, transforming the community and transforming the world. I love the Church and I know you do, too.

*Your Pastor,
Steven*

Ministry Team Meetings

- **Worship**-Tues., Jan. 7th, 6:30 pm
- **Day Care Board**-Mon., Jan. 13th, 6:30 pm
- **Trustees**-Tues., Jan. 14th, 6:30 pm
- **Staff Parish**-Tues., Jan. 14th, 6:30 pm
- **Finance**- Tues., Jan. 21st, 6:30 pm

All meetings are held at the church. Members of these Ministry Teams are urged to attend.

Bridge Club-Friday Jan. 3rd & 17th, 7pm (Gathering Area).

Roadrunners January Outing

Friday Jan. 10th-Leave church at 11 am for lunch, followed by a trip to the Home Improvement Expo at the Kentucky International Convention Center. Your cost: \$5 for lunch. **Reservations need to be made no later than January 6.** Call the church office (267-1437) to make your reservation. Join us! Everyone is invited.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, Jan. 11th, 8am. All men welcome-no cost. Rev. George Quisenberry will give the devotion. Menu: eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, hash browns, juice & coffee.

Book Club

Tuesday, Jan. 14th, 7:00 pm, in the church library. Book: "The Hand I Fan With" by Tina McElroy Ansa (copies are in the church office). Everyone welcome!

Al-Anon and Alateen Meetings

Every Monday night here at J-town UMC: Al-Anon Newcomer's Meeting-7:15-7:45 pm (Fellowship Classroom next to CAYA Classroom); **Regular Al-Anon Meeting-8-9 pm** (Fellowship Hall, lower level); **Alateen Meeting 8-9** (Conference Room off Fellowship Hall, lower level). For more information, please call or email the church office.

Attendance and Offering Report

Date	Attendance 8:30 am	Attendance Sunday Sch.	Attendance 10:50 am	General Offering	Deficit
12/1	21	37	101	\$6,884.29	\$115.71
12/8	16	22	51	\$4,579.00	\$2,420.21
12/15	21	41	98	\$8,011.26	-0-
12/22	22	28	92	\$11,517.00	-0-
12/29	25	31	81	\$4,671.00	\$2,329.00

*Needed Each Week for Budget=\$7,000.00

Christian Love and Sympathy to . . .

. . . Barbara (and Jim) Johnson in the recent death of Barbara's sister.
. . . family and friends of Garnetta "Boots" Snyder, who died December 26th.

Hugging is Healthy

Hugging helps the body's immunity system; makes you healthier; cures depression; reduces stress; induces sleep. It's invigorating; has no unpleasant side effects, and is nothing less than a miracle drug.

Hugging is all natural; organic; naturally sweet; has no pesticides, preservatives, artificial ingredients & is 100% wholesome.

Hugging is practically perfect: no batteries to wear out, no periodic checkups; low energy consumption; high yield energy; inflation proof; non-fattening; no monthly payments; no insurance requirements; theft-proof; non-taxable; non-polluting; and of course it is fully refundable. --*Author Unknown*

Worship and Music Ministry

The Christmas musical on Dec 15, "What Sweeter Music – A Festival of Carols" was a blessing, according to all who attended. We had an inspired evening of instrumental and choral music, narrations and delicious refreshments following. **THANKS** to all the choir members and other participants including the children and youth who portrayed the manger scene!

Did you miss it? We missed you! While I was excited to see everyone in attendance, I am amazed at how many JTown members missed it! Remember: these are the kinds of events that make it easy to "walk across the room" and simply invite someone to visit. If each of us invited and brought one person with us, the sanctuary would be FULL!

Isn't worship a blessing! The new projectors and screens have been a huge improvement and we continue to tweak our use of the software and many new options available to us. I had one interesting comment the other day:

"Could I '**warn**' the congregation when a song is going to be different from what is expected?" (paraphrasing here!) And the answer is YES! So here is my warning:

COME TO WORSHIP AND EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED AT JTOWN!

There you have it! Our goal is to help lead worship in new and fresh ways, so that we may all experience and see God in new and fresh ways, and live our Christian walk in new and fresh ways. **How exciting!** And if you miss worship one Sunday, you'll know you have missed something *unexpected!* --Blessings! *Michael*

Thank You

Thanks so much for your prayers, cards, calls, visits and food during Jim's surgery and recuperation, and for all the expressions of sympathy following the death of Barbara's sister. We appreciate and love our church "family." –*Jim & Barbara Johnson*

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated pajamas for Portland (we ended up with 21 pair for the children at the Portland Promise Center), and everyone who donated gifts for our 25 Angel Tree kids.

Thanks to everyone for the Christmas Tree, Carol singing, cards, calls, visits, etc. after my surgery & while I've been in rehab. I hope to be home, and back at church soon. I'm doing well, and feeling good.

–*Inez Howard*

On behalf of all the children we serve, thank you for your generous support of Dare to Care Food Bank. We received your gift of \$7,500 for our Backpack Buddy program at Tully Elementary. Your support ensures that students at risk of hunger have access to nutritious food on weekends, when free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches are not available. We are so grateful for your generosity. –*Brian Riendeau, Exec. Dir.*

Thank you for your gifts, totaling \$816, for the June and September 5th Sunday offerings to the KY UM Homes for Children & Youth. Together, and through God's grace, we can offer children and families hope for a better future. –*Rev. Randy Coy, President/Sr. Pastor*

Thanks from the entire church staff—not for just the remembrances at Christmas, but for all the ways each and every one of you shower us with blessings the entire year. Thanks for your prayers, compliments (and constructive criticism), gifts, and the many ways you help us by volunteering in the various opportunities to be in ministry through JUMC, transforming lives, one at a time, in our community & in our world!

–*Steven, Bill, Debora, Michael, Teresa & John*

Thank you for the cards and prayers & other ways you've let me know you are thinking of me. I was not able to send cards this year because of my health. I hope to be back home soon. I love and miss you all.

–*Lois Nantz*

Because of your generosity and commitment in 2013, the Portland Promise Center served over 500 children and families in the Portland Community through daily and monthly programs and activities. Thanks you for your continued support!

–*Carol Baron, Executive Director*



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Ahhhh.... January! This month, above all, has so many possibilities for us to grow and march toward who we want to become. Setting goals for the year, leaving behind worries, habits and hang-ups in the last year is exciting. New calendars, planners and organizing our lives seem so appropriate and achievable. My prayer for you is that all your dreams may come true this year and that your priorities may be on God's time line.

As we look at our families and our church families we may have some work to do, but it is a blessing that we can work together, and side by side, accomplish these dreams and visions. In children's ministry we often dream big for what we would like to do with the crowd of children we pray into our midst... but in reality, if we touch one child (big or little) while doing God's work, we have been faithful and it is important in the kingdom. One child (or person), may be the one for whom we are sent to serve. Never become discouraged when we do not have large numbers of children... Jesus was only one, and the disciples only twelve. God can turn any situation into a blessing for us and for the world. Jesus told us that if we are faithful in small things, we will be trusted with more. The only lesson is that we cannot give up... we must stay faithful.

This year we want to position ourselves to be looking for those in our church and those in our community to come together and bless one another. Jesus came to show us how to connect with God the Father, and we are to show that legacy by connecting with the world and showing them the way to connect with God. It is not scary, hard or impossible. We are just to be ourselves, living as Jesus taught us, and sharing ourselves with the light of God in our heart. As a Christian it should be like breathing... something so grounded in us, that we do not have to think about it, just love, and seek God. It is our calling to trust in the Father, follow the way of Jesus, and put feet and hands to the task we are led to do. May God richly bless you and keep you in the New Year. I look forward to serving and seeking with you all. --*Debora*

An Invitation From Bill Bowling

Within the local community, it is likely that 50 percent of the people are not active in a church family. Often they consider themselves "spiritual but not religious." These are our children & grandchildren, nieces & nephews. How does God look at these non-religious people? What does God expect churches to do in order to reach them?

Jesus saw himself as a man fishing for people. His fishing was "catch and release." Imagine Jesus catching fish from a small pond filled with scum, silt & algae and then releasing them into the deep, fresh waters of the Kingdom of God. Jesus' call to his first disciples (and still to us today) is, "Come, follow me...and I will send you out to fish for people" (Mark 1:16-18).

The mission of the church is to continue the mission of Jesus. We are meant to continue the search for lost sheep. We are meant to continue to fish for people. And there is incredible joy in finding lost sheep & fishing for people.

This Sunday evening my Group will begin a new study. It is a guide to fishing for people. But finding strays & fishing for people is not merely about technique--it is about cultivating a love for lost sheep and discovering the joy of fishing for people. After an hour of fishing, Drake and his grandpa are heading home. They caught twelve fish altogether. Their hands were a bit smelly; their bodies were a bit sweaty (this happens when you're fishing); but as the boy walked to the car, he turned to his grandpa and said, "That was AWESOME!"

As we rediscover the joy of fishing and see lives changed through the ministry of the church, I suspect you will hear them saying, "That was AWESOME!"

My group meets Sunday evenings at 6 pm. As we begin this new 4 week study and if you are interested please feel free to join us. - *Bill*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

(Anniversaries are marked with an asterisk)

1/4-Jeremy Nutt
1/4-*Ron & Marynan Mudd
1/5-Doug Brown
1/6-Norma Littlefield, Rhett Westfall
1/7-David O'Brien, Caroline Westfall
1/9-Brian Bennett, Vi Huckleberry
1/11-Toby Chieffi, Bill Schmitt
1/16-Amy Bickett, Gigi Nutt
1/18-James Brown, Amy Graybeal, Sarah Fulner
1/21-Bob McDonald, Marynan Mudd
1/22-Jennifer Henry
1/25-Sarah Speer
1/26-Betty Black, Mary Lou Falvey, Marilyn Lamb
1/27-Jordan Mudd
1/28-William O'Neal, Jessica Zeckner
1/29-Helen Akridge, Bob Breeden
1/31-Thomas Heath Jr., Morrison Thacker, Jeanette Westerfield

If we failed to list your birthday or anniversary this month, please call the church office so we can correct our records.

From our T.O.P.S. Group

A Christmas card was received from all the members of our T.O.P.S. group (Take Off Pounds Sensibly). It read: "O Come, let us adore Him—May He bless you and keep you at Christmas and always." It was signed by: Irene, Brenda, Ginny, Sandy, Carolyn, Ruth, Louise, Mildred, Doris, Janice, Martha, Mary Lou, Connie, Marilyn & Katherine.

Friends Invite Friends to Church

Here are some possibilities:

- Neighbors
- Acquaintances
- Newcomers to the Community
- Relatives
- Health Club Friends
- Associates at Work
- Close Personal Friends
- Contacts in Organizations, Clubs

Church Staff

Senior Pastor-Rev. Steven Neel-Cell #270-604-5098

Program Dir.-Rev. Bill Bowling-Cell #502-931-7297

Children's Program Dir.-Rev. Debora Kelly Cell #502-974-6843

Music Ministries Dir.-Michael Bleau-Cell #502-758-6430

Nursery Attendant-Sarah Fulner*

Office Administrator-Teresa Allen *

Custodian-John Flora*

*Please call the church office (502-267-1437) to reach these staff members.

Jefferson ~~town~~ United Methodist Church-January, 2014

All events/activities held at the church, unless otherwise noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Kroger Gift Cards - Use (and recharge) your Kroger card—you can use it for grocery, pharmacy and gasoline! If you don't have a Kroger Gift Card, they are available in the church office. They cost \$10, and are pre-loaded with \$10 on them.	Ink Jet & Toner Cartridges -Please bring us your empty toner & ink jet cartridges (place on the desk in the office). We receive \$2 credit for each one at Staples. This year we have saved over \$150 by recycling ink jet & toner cartridges, and through credit for purchases.		1- HAPPY NEW YEAR! Church Office Closed	2-9 am -Bulletin info deadline 6-7:30 pm-Girl Scouts 6:30 pm-Handbell Practice 7:00 pm-Pack 75 (Boy Scouts) 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3 7 pm-Bridge Club	4-Open Door at 4 th Avenue UMC 10 am-Basic Bible Skills Class
5 8:30 am Worship* 9:30 am Sunday School* 10:50 am Worship* 4:30 pm-Cool Kids & Youth Group <i>*followed by Coffee & Conv.</i>	6 6:30 pm-Girl Scouts 7-9 pm-Al-Anon & Alateen	7-7:30 am -Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 pm-Worship Team Mtg	8 4-6 pm-After School Tutoring 5:30-6:30 pm-Kid's and Family Café 6:30 pm-Home Group (CAYA)	9-9 am -Bulletin info deadline 6-7:30 pm-Girl Scouts 6:30 pm-Handbell Practice 7:00 pm-Pack 75 (Boy Scouts) 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 11am-Roadrunners Trip to Lunch & Home Improvement Expo	11 8 am-Men's Breakfast 10 am-Basic Bible Skills Class
12 8:30 am Worship* 9:30 am Sunday School* 10:50 am Worship* 4:30 pm-Cool Kids & Youth Group <i>*followed by Coffee & Conversation</i>	13 6:30 pm-Day Care Board Mtg 6:30 pm-Girl Scouts 7-9 pm-Al-Anon & Alateen	14 7:30 am-Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 pm-Trustee Meeting 6:30 pm-Staff Parish Relations Mtg	15 4-6 pm-After School Tutoring 5:30-6:30 pm-Kid's and Family Café 6:30 pm-Home Group (CAYA)	16-9 am -Bulletin info deadline 6-7:30 pm-Girl Scouts 6:30 pm-Handbell Practice 7:00 pm-Pack 75 (Boy Scouts) 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	17 7 pm-Bridge Club	18 10 am-Basic Bible Skills Class
19 8:30 am Worship* 9:30 am Sunday School* 10:50 am Worship* 4:30 pm-Cool Kids & Youth Group <i>*followed by Coffee & Conversation</i>	20-9 am -Newsletter info deadline 6:30 pm-Girl Scouts 7-9 pm-Al-Anon & Alateen	21 7:30 am-Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 pm-Finance Team Mtg	22 4-6 pm-After School Tutoring 5:30-6:30 pm-Kid's and Family Café 6:30 pm-Home Group (CAYA)	23-9 am -Bulletin info deadline 6-7:30 pm-Girl Scouts 6:30 pm-Handbell Practice 7:00 pm-Pack 75 (Boy Scouts) 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	24	25 10 am-Basic Bible Skills Class
26 8:30 am Worship* 9:30 am Sunday School* 10:50 am Worship* 4:30 pm-Cool Kids & Youth Group <i>*followed by Coffee & Conversation</i>	27 6:30 pm-Girl Scouts 7-9 pm-Al-Anon & Alateen	28-7:30 am -Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Praise Team Rehearsal	29 4-6 pm-After School Tutoring 5:30-6:30 pm-Kid's and Family Café 6:30 pm-Home Group (CAYA)	30-9 am -Bulletin info deadline 6-7:30 pm-Girl Scouts 6:30 pm-Handbell Practice 7:00 pm-Pack 75 (Boy Scouts) 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	31	Labels for Education - See the list of labels you can save for Red Bird Mission on the table between the restrooms in the Gathering Area. Place your labels in the large metal Campbell Soup tin on that table.
Ministry Team Meetings Tuesday, Jan. 7 th - <u>Worship</u> -6:30 pm; Monday, Jan. 13 th - <u>Day Care Board</u> -6:30 pm; Tuesday, Jan. 14 th -6:30 pm <u>Trustees & Staff Parish</u> ; Tuesday, Jan. 21 st - <u>Finance</u> -6:30 pm						