

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:15 A.M.
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
10:30

PASTOR ~ ANN COVER
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Monday-Thursday ~ 9am-2pm
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Music Leader ~ Rick Rains
Pianist ~ Jim Kirby
Administrative Assistant ~
Gerrie Grimsley

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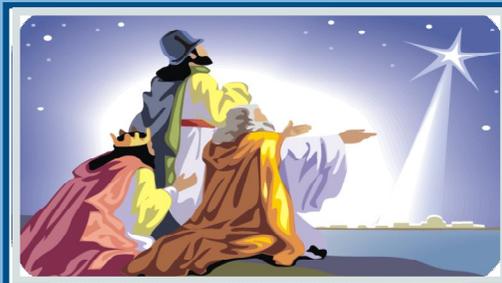
Photos

Chin Congregation

***South End Preschool Director
& Sunday School Nursery***

***Coordinator...
Robert Dodd***

***Assistant Director...
Sobiya Uddin***



**THE SOUTH END SOURCE
FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY**

"How Silently the Wondrous Gift is Given"

Perhaps one of my favorite verses of all of the carols is the third Verse of *O Little Town of Bethlehem*:

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given;
So God imports to human hearts the message of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls still receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

It causes me to remember the setting of Jesus' birth. In a town bustling with travelers and the empire's mandatory tax registration, Jesus was born in the silence of obscurity. Only God, Mary and Joseph knew of the event as it occurred. The herald of the angel chorus was a joyful response to this obscure event—directed to a few night-shift workers on a hillside outside of town. To everyone else in Bethlehem, it was just another night.

When the rushed preparations for our holiday celebrations are complete, the gathering of family and friends is over, the carols of Christmas Eve services are sung and the candles blown out, or when the memory of all these times from our younger years is brought to mind and remembered again — we are left with our own silence, our own uneventful moments.

In these quiet moments, let us remember that God's history changing gift of Jesus Christ occurred in such a silent, "uneventful" moment. In these quiet moments, let us ponder the enormity of the love that gave that gift to us and to all people. In these quiet moments, let us give thanks for the people who taught and shared with us this good news. In these quiet moments, let us consider how we may share this good news with others in the days and weeks ahead.

Yours in Christ,
Ann Cover

SEUMC Calendar Jan-Feb 2018

~ Meetings & Events ~

January 7, Sunday: Youth/Parent Meeting

January 14, Sunday: Reaffirmation of Baptism

February 4, Sunday: Young Children & Families
(Lunch and activities)

February 9, Sunday: Scout Sunday/Spaghetti Luncheon

February 9 –11 (Fri.–Sun): Youth Retreat
Warmth In Winter

February 18, Sunday: Administrative Council Meeting

Thank You SEUMC

As church staff, we want to thank each of you for your kindness and thoughtfulness throughout the year, and most recently in the generous Christmas gifts given to each of us.

Ann Cover, Rick Rains, Jim Kirby,
Rob Dodd, Gerrie Grimsley

It is a joy to be serving with you!

CHURCH UPDATES

ROOM IN THE INN – We have almost reached the half way mark of this winter ministry. Our guests have been incredibly appreciative of our hospitality, and of this nice warm place to stay.

Needs: Specific needs right now are underwear (XXL & XXXL), disposable razors and any travel size toiletries.

CHURCH BUS – We were awarded \$10,000 from the Golden Cross Foundation of TN Annual Conference for the purchase of a church bus. The check arrived just before Christmas. We now have \$25,000 with which to make that purchase. The bus committee (Joe Jackson, Jud Scott, Rick Rains) is working on finding us the appropriate bus that fits our budget and needs.

END OF THE YEAR FINANCES – We ended 2017 with all of our bills paid, payroll complete and 100% of our apportionment monies sent into the Conference Treasurer!

We have a chronic internal cash flow issue (the difference between the amount of money set aside over time that is designated for specific needs vs. the current cash in the checking account). As of the end of December 2017, this internal imbalance was approximately \$6,000.

The members of the Finance Committee, the Stewardship Committee and the Endowment Committee decided this past week to withdraw \$8,000 from one of our endowment funds (in the next week), so that we will be entering 2018 with a solid positive balance.

Good Neighbor Update

Total donations were \$1,110 in December. Distributions of \$1,307 (with a surplus from last month) were given to 12 families for assistance with gas, utilities & food.

Food & toiletries were given from the pantry as well as sweet potatoes from the garden

BIRTHDAYS

January

Liz Sanders	1/11
Jimmy Dunbar	1/12
Nicolae Donaldson	1/16
Gail Sanders	1/23
Bill Burnett	1/25
Kay Bixler	1/27
Marshall Riley	1/30

February

Jonathan Ferris	2/2
Jeffrey Lassiter	2/6
Linda Carter	2/8
Betty Southall	2/10
Lee Tomlin	2/13
Spencer Dodd	2/21
Sarah Miller	2/24
Polly Maxfield	2/27
Mack Lassiter	2/29

PHOTO GALLERY



**Adult Sunday School Class
Christmas Party
Saturday—Dec, 16, 2017**



**Cookie Baking Activities
on Wednesday—December 20, 2017**



**Making pancakes together
On a cold Wednesday night
January 3, 2018**



An Agreement between two congregations: South End UMC and Chin Bethel Christian Church

- 1) The Chin Bethel congregation may use both of our buildings on Sunday afternoons from 2:30 pm until 6:00 pm. That timing includes setting up and cleaning up.
- 2) Future use the sanctuary building on Saturday evenings from 7:00 – 10:00 pm will be discussed at a later time, when that may become a ministry need.
- 3) Chin Bethel will contribute financially to SEUMC on a weekly basis (\$50).
- 4) There will be a time period of 4-5 weeks when either congregation can state that this agreement is not working.
- 5) Chin Bethel and SEUMC understand the following:

We will share church keys after the period of getting used to one another (4-5 weeks).

Chin Bethel will not be able to use the kitchen stove or oven (which is the same goes for all outside groups that use the fellowship hall).

Chin Bethel will not have access to the preschool rooms.

There must be adequate adult supervision for their children (Sunday School time, during part of the adult worship time in the sanctuary: in fellowship hall and/ or in Wesley Classroom and on the playground).

Chin Bethel will not have use of the church office (computer, copier, filing space).

Chin Bethel may use the sanctuary sound system as agreed to by the SEUMC Trustees.

SEUMC is not able to provide Chin Bethel with any significant storage space except for small items (children's books/ craft supplies, etc) in the Wesley Classroom. Chin Bethel has their own musical instruments, which they will bring with them to worship.

We will continue to discuss plans to share special worship services (Christmas, etc) and special meals together!

To start December 3, 2017

ADDENDEM : All has worked out as above through December. Pastor Samuel was given a key to the church on 12/24/17