

# The Street Scene

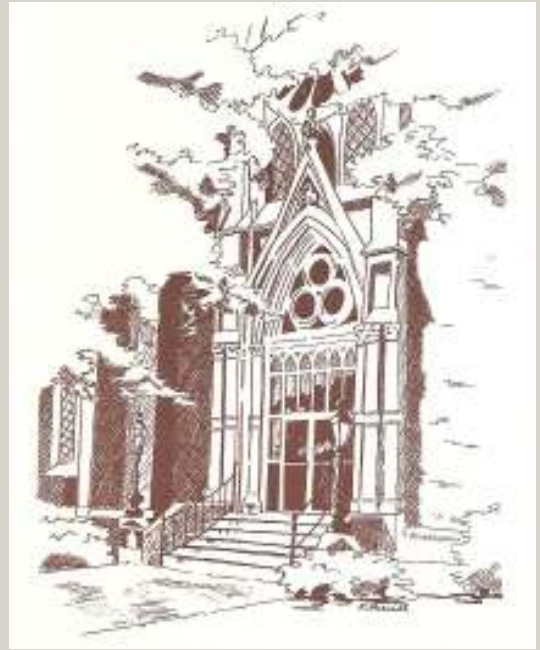
A Publication of

Madison Street

United Methodist Church

319 Madison Street ~ Clarksville, Tennessee 37040  
(931) 647-0221 ~ www.madisonstreetumc.org

January 29, 2012



## Cliff Notes

What Do You Want to Be?



*Rev. Cliff C. Wright, Jr.*

I was a junior in high school over in Union City when Mr. Miller, my English teacher, asked our class, "What do you want to be?" I remember it as if it were yesterday. When it came time for me to answer I said, "I want to be a success."

I have come to realize over the years that success is really not the point of life after all. Even though many of us have a desire to be recognized, to be somebody, to feel important, to feel that somehow we are indeed a success in life, there really is something else much more important for us to be than simply a success. I believe Jesus tried to help people realize this great truth many years ago. I also believe perhaps that is the reason Jesus said God's response to the man who had such a successful year that he decided to tear down all of his old barns and build larger ones in order to hold the year's goods, was to call him a fool. I don't believe that Jesus is saying that simply being successful is somehow wrong, nor do I believe that he's saying that we should not strive to be successful in what we do. I do believe, however, that what he is saying is that if being a success is our ultimate goal in life, then we will always be left unfulfilled, and the reason for that is because being a success is not really the ultimate purpose for our life.

The Apostle Paul said that God has created each one of us with a purpose in mind, and that the purpose for our life is unity with God and each other. As Jesus said, we are to love God and love each other. This is the purpose of life. It all has to do with our relationship with God and with our relationships with each other.

Another way to say all of this is that we were all put here in this world by God to make a difference in our relationship with each other, not necessarily to make it to the top.

In Christ,

Cliff C. Wright, Jr.

## *This Week at Madison Street*

### **Sunday, January 29**

9:00am—Sunday School, *Various Rooms*

10:15am—Worship, *Sanctuary*

10:30am—Sunday Dinner, *Fellowship Hall*

4:00pm—Disciple II — *Rm. 120*

### **Monday, January 30**

6:00pm—Disciple I — *Rm. 118*

### **Tuesday, January 31**

5:30pm—Finance Committee Meeting, *Rm. 120*

6:00pm—Laudate Ringers Handbell Choir, *Rm. 215*

### **Wednesday, February 1**

9:30am—Women of Banquet Bible Study, *Rm. 108*

5:00pm—THRIVE! Dinner, *Fellowship Hall*

6:00pm—THRIVE! Bible Study, Children's Choirs

7:00pm—Chancel Choir, *Choir Suite*

### **Thursday, February 2-Saturday, February 4**

No church activities scheduled

## *Madison Street Announcements*

- **WELCOME** new members! As our church family is growing, please take a moment to extend your personal greeting to our newest member:  
Christina Stalnaker
- If your life were a story...what story would your life tell? Would it be the kind of story that makes a difference? Rev. Wright's new sermon series, "Living a Better Story," continues this Sunday. Donald Miller's book, *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*, is available for purchase for \$12 in the Narthex following the service.
- Our THRIVE! Supper and Bible Study continues this Wednesday. Please note on the attendance pad if you are attending the meal. Rev. Wright will continue his study in the book of Matthew for the adults, and we have expanded our children's program to include children's choirs. The Children's Choir Program will consist of *The Joyful Noise Choir (ages 3 & 4)*, *The Joyful Echo Choir (grades K-1)*, and *The Joyful Sound Choir (grades 2-5)*. To register your child, access the VOICE for LIFE registration forms at our website ([www.madisonstreetumc.org](http://www.madisonstreetumc.org)). Copies are also available at the Commerce Street and Narthex Entrances. Completed forms should be returned to the church office.
- You may notice that there are a few regular attenders missing this Sunday. Maggie Brewer and many of the MSUMC Youth left on Friday to attend Warmth in Winter in Murfreesboro, TN. Warmth in Winter is a spiritual retreat for young people put on by the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church. Please keep the youth group and their chaperones in your prayers as they travel back to Clarksville on Sunday afternoon. Special thanks to those members who contributed to the Project Transformation Tennessee. Your donations were delivered this weekend and will be put to use this summer!

- Transportation to and from Sunday worship and Wednesday evening Bible Study is available for those who are not able to drive. For more information about this ministry, please call Phil Whittinghill at 647-0221.
- STRIVE! for godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness! Youth grades 6-12, join us for Bible study, games, and fellowship on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:00 in the youth lounge, immediately following dinner and THRIVE! worship.
- We have a fabulous nursery with a new pager system! It is located on the second floor just outside the sanctuary through the doors to the left of the chancel. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please let Sherry Maynard know. You can call 931-647-0221 or email [sherry@madisonstreetumc.com](mailto:sherry@madisonstreetumc.com).
- We have now extended our nursery to age 3. The three year olds can be in worship with their parents until after the Children's Moment, when they will leave the sanctuary and Sherry will drop them off in room 209 for their own children's church activities with the 2 year olds. Parents will pick up their 2 and 3 year olds from room 209 which is right next to the infant nursery.
- Join the Women of Banquet Bible study this semester as we strengthen our prayer lives through Stormie Omartian's study *The Power of a Praying Woman* (see following page). This 10-lesson study is intended to do more than just increase your knowledge of God's Word; it holds the potential of transforming your understanding of who God is and how time spent with Him in prayer can release His awesome power in your life. The study will begin on Wednesday, January 25 and will meet each Wednesday from 9:30 - 11:30am. Cost of the study is \$20 and child-care is provided. For more information or to sign up, contact Regina Clift at [rpclift@gmail.com](mailto:rpclift@gmail.com) or Kristina Copeland at [kha9229@yahoo.com](mailto:kha9229@yahoo.com).
- Let's Go Bowling! Youth grades 6-12, join us on Saturday, February 4, 5:30-8:00 for bowling at the Pinnacle. Sign up with Maggie by February 1!
- Parents' Night Out—Let us spend time with your kids while you spend time with your Val-

entine! Friday, February 10, 5:00-9:00 PM at MSUMC. Sponsored by the MSUMC Youth group. Please find the registration forms in the Narthex and at the Commerce Street Entrance or see Maggie Brewer, Director of Youth and Leisure Ministries. Sign up by Sunday, February 5!

- Madison Street Volunteers in Mission—Of the six UMVIM teams going to Guatemala this year, Team 2 will leave on February 4, 2012 and return on February 18, 2012. Madison Street members who are a part of Team 2 are Donnie and Cynthia Mitchell and Phil Whittinghill. The remainder of the team of 17 is made up from members of United Methodist Churches in Nashville, Columbia, Shelbyville and Tullahoma. This year our team will be participating in the construction of three additional classrooms at the LaToma school in Nuahualate, San Antonio, in a remote area about an hour east of Mazatenango. Each team has been charged with raising approximately \$6,000 for building materials. Team 2 has received, so far, \$3,650 from members of and the UM Men's Group of First United Methodist Church of Tullahoma, a private company, one of the team members, and the pastor of two of the team members. If anyone from Madison Street would like to make a contribution to this mission effort, Team 2 would be most grateful. Checks should be made out to Madison Street UMC with the notation "VIM 2012 Building Materials" and placed in the collection plate or given directly to Phil Whittinghill in the church business office no later than Sunday, January 29, 2012. Thank you for your continued support.
- Rev. Cliff would like to send a birthday card to everyone who attends our church. If you are new, please email [susie@madisonstreetumc.com](mailto:susie@madisonstreetumc.com) to help us get your family's birthdays on file.