

A Bright Beginning for a New Year

As the calendar turns to 2025, I find myself filled with optimism and anticipation for the year ahead. The turning of a new year always brings with it the hope of fresh opportunities, the chance to renew commitments, and the excitement of new adventures—both personal and communal. At Community Church at Tellico Village, we have so much to look forward to as we step into this new season together.

We kick off the new year with an exciting new sermon series for Epiphany - Light for the Journey: Following the God Who Calls, beginning on Sunday, January 5 and continuing through March 2. This series will guide us as we reflect on the ways God's light shines into our lives illuminating our paths and calling us to follow. The journey of Epiphany is one of discovery and transformation, and I invite you to be part of this meaningful exploration. Together, we'll uncover the ways God's light reveals new truths, brings clarity in times of uncertainty, and inspires us to live out our faith in profound ways.

As we reflect on God's light in worship, we'll also have the opportunity to dive deeper into the teachings of Jesus through our new Sunday School series, "Short Stories by Jesus." Meeting each Sunday at 9am in Room 1C, this 9-week study of the parables of Jesus will challenge and inspire us. These timeless stories, deceptively simple on the surface, contain layers of wisdom about God's kingdom, human nature, and the call to live in faith.

Whether you've studied the parables before or are encountering them for the first time, this class offers something for everyone. Each week, we'll dig into a different parable, explore its cultural context, and discuss how its truths speak to our lives today. I encourage you to come, ready to listen and learn as we engage in thoughtful conversations and discover practical applications for the present. I can't think of a better way to start the year than by immersing ourselves in the teachings of Christ together.

As we embark on these exciting journeys of faith, I am reminded of the importance of community. It is here, in the fellowship of believers, that we find encouragement, inspiration, and the support we need to grow. The light we discover in worship and study becomes even brighter when shared with one another. So, as we enter this new year, I encourage you to lean into the gift of community. Bring a friend to Sunday worship. Invite a neighbor to the Sunday School series. Together, let's make 2025 a year of light, connection, and transformation.

There's so much to be hopeful for as we begin this new year together. Let us step forward with faith, knowing that the God who calls us is also the God who walks beside us. Here's to a bright beginning for 2025, filled with growth, learning, and the abundant light of Christ.

With joy and anticipation,

Pastor Steve

2025

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Welcome Our New Members

Dick and Carol Davis come from the Presbyterian tradition. They live in Chota Hills after having moved from the Sacramento Area. Carol was in Teaching and Administration and served as an elected public official while Dick was a firefighter. Carol spends her time as a social event coordinator and doing local volunteer work, and Dick enjoys fly-fishing.



Bob and Maryann Jankowsky moved to the Kahite neighborhood from
Cincinnati. They both are from Catholic and Full Gospel churches. Maryann worked at
Proctor and Gamble doing research and enjoys cooking. Bob was a Merchant Marine and
worked as an Engineer and loves woodworking and singing. They both enjoy traveling,
boating, and reading.

Jackie Johnsen, born and raised in Northern California, now lives in the Mialaquo neighborhood. She has two loving daughters, including church member Karen Baber. She has a Methodist background and spent time working with the Salvation Army, with the arts, and as a litigation legal secretary. She enjoys traveling, snorkeling, line dancing, and painting.

Mike and Sandra Hall are from Columbus, Ohio and live in the Kahite neighborhood. Both come from a Catholic background and enjoy golfing. Sandra spent time mothering, teaching, and working as a travel agent. Now, she is a watercolor painter and gardener. Mike was a pilot. In retirement, he enjoys woodworking and reading.



Brian and Linda Mulliner are members of the choir and live in the Kahite neighborhood. They moved from Northern California and come from the Assemblies of God tradition. Linda's background is in Educational Administration and Church Leadership, while Brian's career was in Corporate Leadership Training and Development. They enjoy the outdoors and spending time with their Bernadoodle, Charlie!

Susan Santillo lived in Connecticut most of her life before moving here to Tellico Village. She grew up in the Presbyterian tradition. Her hobbies include painting, hiking and riding motorcycles.



Michael and Danielle Tate moved to the Toqua neighborhood from Buffalo,
New York. Danielle is a Mohawk Indian and comes from an Episcopalian background. She
spent 30 years as a NY state parole officer. Michael comes from Catholic and UCC churches and spent 37 years as a registered nurse. Danielle is a new pickleball enthusiast and
enjoys spending time working puzzles and doing activities related to her indigenous background. Michael is a Buffalo Bills fan and loves to golf and play softball.

Bill and Nancy Terrill both grew up in the Baptist church. They moved from Ohio to the Toqua neighborhood. Nancy was a realtor for 42 years, and Bill worked in Manufacturing and Industrial Packaging. In their spare time, Nancy enjoys playing cards while Bill enjoys golfing. Also, they both love to cook!

Jim and Karen Wright have been in the village for 18 years, living in the Tanasi neighborhood. Karen has an Episcopal background and considers West Pines, Missouri home. Jim is from a Methodist background and is from Colorado. Karen spent her career years in government and now enjoys playing cards, working puzzles, and cross-stitch. Jim retired from the Air Force and enjoys spending time hunting and fishing.



How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God's people to live together in harmony! Psalm 133:1

The Community Church at Tellico Village is guided by our purpose which is to "cultivate believers, disciples, and servants to transform our community and world for Christ." We know that this mission is best accomplished when we work together with other ministries and organizations. Each group brings its own gifts and talents and together we can have the most impact to continue to build God's Kingdom. The CCTV Mission Team has the task of selecting "mission partners." The criteria upon which we base our selection for both local and international mission partners includes:

Aligned with CCTV mission and purposes
Verified non-profit organizations
Evidence of sound fiscal status
Evidence of the organization's plans for sustainability
Transparency/accountability in all dealings – includes

Evidence of faith-based principles and values Serving a "need" in the community Evidence of appropriate planning

Transparency/accountability in all dealings – includes a means of reporting back to CCTV on the impact of our support and how all funds were used

Our 2025 CCTV Mission Partners include:

Beauty for Ashes Ministries Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Compassion Ministries Good Samaritan Center Good Shepherd Center Iva's Place (CAC) Kairos - Men (inside) Kairos - Women (inside) Lenoir City Family Resource Center Loudon County Habitat for Humanity Loudon County Family Resource Center Orange Feather Community School Smoky Mt. Service Dogs South Africa Ministry Network Straightway Ministry, Inc. Young Life - Loudon Young Life - East Hills (Monroe)

We are grateful for our church family's generous giving of resources and volunteer time that allows us to serve as the "hands and feet of Jesus Christ." Learn more about our 2025 Mission Partners by going to the Serve tab on the CCTV website (tellicochurch.com/missions).

Disaster Response

Over 50 volunteers came together to prepare 200 cleaning buckets for disaster response. This task was completed in record time - with all of us working together it only took 40 minutes! Our cleaning buckets were picked up by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and taken to their regional center in Knoxville for distribution as needed. Thanks to all who came to assist with this hands-on mission outreach project!

Recovery from Hurricane Helene's devastation will continue for a long time, and CCTV Mission Outreach plans to partner with Habitat for Humanity and Appalachia Service



Project to help with rebuilding projects beginning in March. More information will be announced as details of these projects are finalized. In the meantime, we ask that you pray for the individuals affected by this flooding disaster. Please join us in keeping all those affected by the floods in our prayers.

Monetary donations may also be given by check to CCTV with the designation of "Disaster Relief Fund" in the memo line or online by selecting "Disaster Relief Fund" in the drop-down menu.

Learn more online about CCTV's disaster response efforts at tellicochurch.com/relief.

What skills and abilities could you bring to CCTV Missions Outreach?

Let us know how YOU might like to serve by completing the online Mission Interest Form (tellicochurch.com/missions).



Mission Highlights

Caps & Mittens Collection

Thank you to all who donated to this cold weather gear collection. Because of your generosity, 538 items were collected and given to the Good Samaritan Center and the Good Shepherd Center for distribution to their clients.

Iva's Place

The CCTV Women's Ministry and CCTV Mission Outreach partnered to assist with renovations at this local domestic abuse shelter. Women's Ministry participants designed the décor for two



bedrooms and one bathroom. This included purchasing all bedroom furnishings, linens, lamps, and other accessories. Bathroom towels and washcloths, storage baskets and additional fittings were purchased, as well. Volunteers from the Women's Ministry met and painted the rooms and hallways and worked to make every detail as homey and comfortable as possible to warm the hearts of those who find themselves there. Women's Ministry Leader Michele Tate



says, "Thanks to everyone who helped paint, purchase and install. We are planning continued support for Iva's Place this year by adding books to the library in January and showering with gifts in the spring."

Compassion Ministries, Inc.

CCTV volunteers assisted with food distribution to over 400 families in the December mobile food pantry at Tellico Plains High School. Serving at these mobile food pantries is a blessing to your heart and soul – come join us! Information on specific pantry dates will be in the CCTV Enews and announced in worship services. For more information or to volunteer, email mission@tellicochurch.org.





Mission Milestones

Milestones are defined as significant events or achievements that mark the start of a new chapter in life. CCTV mission outreach activities in 2024 contained multiple milestones that have laid the foundation for expanded outreach in 2025. Greater understanding of community needs has helped to generate more participation and interaction with our Mission Partners. Opportunities to engage in both local and world mission activities are available for those who feel the Holy Spirit's tug at their heart to serve. Through our work together, we have been able to help feed neighbors in need, support disaster relief efforts that seek to repair broken lives, and provide hope through faith in Jesus Christ in our community and around the world. We are thankful for your donations and volunteer hours that have helped CCTV to be the "hands and feet" of Jesus throughout our community.

Thank you for your contributions -- YOU have made a difference!

What skills and abilities could you bring to CCTV Missions Outreach?

Let us know how YOU might like to serve by completing the online Mission Interest Form (tellicochurch.com/missions).

Sunday School Resumes

SHORT STORIES BY JESUS

9:00AM + ROOM 1C Starting Sunday, January 5

Starting Sunday, January 5, join us for a 9-week Sunday School series on the parables of Jesus, meeting at 9am in Room 1C at CCTV.

In "Short Stories by Jesus," we'll explore how these simple yet profound stories reveal God's kingdom, challenge our assumptions, and invite us to live in deeper faith. Whether you're familiar with the parables or encountering them for the first time, this study offers fresh perspectives, engaging discussion, and practical applications for today's world. Come ready to listen, learn, and grow!

Crafters Corner

Here we are ready to begin another year of CCTV Crafters. Did you know? In 1988 a small group of ladies new to Tellico Village were missing their friends and looking for a new purpose. They borrowed \$500 from the church as seed money to purchase supplies. The ladies worked hard and the first sale was in November 1989 - it's unknown the exact amount of proceeds generated from that first sale, but it was enough to pay back the church loan, make a donation toward the purchase of either a piano or organ and still have funds remaining to buy supplies for the next year!

This January marks the beginning of the group's 37th year - that's pretty amazing! There are three events throughout the year - a Spring Craft & Bake Sale, a Fall Craft & Bake Sale and a Fall Garage & Boutique Sale. The garage sale is partnered with the Loudon County Habitat for Humanity and has become a special community event.

We are happy to report Crafters charitable giving history from 1998 to 2024 totals \$646,220. In 2024 our distribution amount totaled \$26,750 to the following organizations: Crafters scholarship, Child Advocacy Center, Monroe County Seniors & Friends, Friends of TV Library, Good Samaritan, TV Fire Department/First Responders, Good Shepherd (Monroe), Our Place, Iva's Place, House That Mercy Built and Hopewell Fire Department (Kahite).

Each and every one of you that support our events make all of this possible - thank you to all the "Donation Angels" that share craft items and supplies that are no longer needed. All are much appreciated and be assured that if the crafters are unable to use the items, they are donated to the Good Neighbors Shoppe.

Although Crafters is supported by the Community Church, anyone is welcome to join. Think about coming on Monday mornings at 9:30 in the Christian Life Center - you most likely will find an area to use your talents or possibly learn something new; but for sure, you'll find a room full of friends.

Happy New Year and above all...HAPPY CRAFTING!

Church Member Publishes

Church Member Publishes in The Upper Room



The Upper Room is a bimonthly daily devotional that our church subscribes to and is available to the congregation. The publication is a world-wide periodical that has daily devotionals submitted by Christians from around the globe.

Long-time church member, John Oud-

erkirk starts his morning reading his Bible, watching nature outside his window and reading from his copy of *The Upper Room*.

In February 2023, as the rains came down day after day, John wondered if the rains would ever stop. It prompted his thinking about what God provides us even when we don't think we need it. He went to his computer and wrote a devotional relating to his experience and submitted it to *The Upper Room*. He received a reply thanking him and telling him that they receive thousands of submissions each day and that the team of editors would review it without guaranteeing it would be published.

Months passed and John told his wife, Pat, that he probably wouldn't hear anymore from them. Then last spring John received a notice from *The Upper Room* telling him his devotional was selected for publication and would appear in the January/ February 2025 issue! You can read his devotional as it appears below.

SUSTAINING RAIN

SAT FEB 8

READ Deuteronomy 11:8-15

[The LORD] will provide rain for your land at the right time — early rain and late rain — so you can stock up your grain, wine, and oil.

- Deuteronomy 11:14 (CEB)

In Tennessee, it rains a lot in the early months of spring. In 2023, it was excessive! Every greeting seemed to include some comment about the rain.

As I sat one morning looking out the window at the rain falling on the massive oak, maple, and hickory trees behind our home, I intentionally switched my negative thoughts of "another rainy day" to thanking God for watering creation. I imagined that the rain was replenishing the great underground reservoir that would be available to sustain those massive trees in the dry months of summer, which would surely come.

When we're in the good times of our lives — when success, good health, many friends, and prosperity seem to be unending — we tend THOUGHT FOR THE DAY With God's help, I will store up my joys to draw upon in hard times.

to take them for granted. We feel entitled to them. But blessings are like the precious rain. We'd be wise to cherish those joys and successes as gifts from our heavenly Father, storing them up as a reservoir that we can draw upon when the disappointments and disasters of life strike. Then when we face turmoil, we can rejoice, knowing God's love for all creation will sustain us.

Prayer: Loving God, thank you for sending sunshine to brighten our days and rain to sustain all your beautiful creation. Amen.

John B. Ouderkirk (Tennessee, USA) — See p. 21.

December Pic Gallery

ADVENT DINNER









WOMEN'S MINISTRY - CHRISTMAS NATIVI-TEA









MOVING THE CHRISMON TREE











CHRISTMAS CONCERT









ADVENT PRAYER WALK

We hushed the rush around us and sat in candlelight pondering designated themes and the incarnate Christ-child.









New Year - Same Challenges

By Jeannine Wolf

Every year we end the old year and bring in the new year. We make resolutions, and some of the time it is the same ones that just did not stick, or we did not get done for one reason or another. Resolutions such as: exercise more, eat less, stop smoking, get more organized by cleaning out old papers and closets and reading the Bible daily are very typical. We have good intentions but may lack self-discipline...and life sometimes gets in our way. Starting the new year gives us a chance to start all over again - like a mulligan in golf.

There are times we just want the old year to end because it was just too difficult. Divorce, financial difficulties, death of a loved one, health diagnosis such as Alzheimer's or cancer are a few challenges that we just do not want to repeat. However, no matter when the new year begins - today or months from now - it will not matter. Those things will follow us into the new year. The death of the loved one will still be there as well as a health diagnosis or whatever problem you are facing.

What does the new year bring to those facing the same challenges from the previous year? What resolutions or assurances can we rely on? I suggest we look back to Advent season: hope, peace, joy and love.

Hope: With Jesus by our side, we will have strength to endure.

Peace: Peace will replace the emptiness, sadness, uncertainty and frustrations of our heart.

Joy: Joy will come slowly as we journey through our challenges giving us unexpected strength.

Love: Jesus's unconditional love for us as we face our problems no matter how we react and He accepts us as we are.

Stephen Ministers may be a little like the angel Gabriel was to Mary. Giving her hope, peace, joy and love as she received the news that she would be the mother of the Messiah. They can help you, too. Contact one of our leaders today.

Jan Elliott • Lori York • Jeannine Wolf



Items Accepted:

- Caps and Lids
- Cellphones
- Eyeglasses
- Ink Cartridges
- Postage Stamps (canceled; leave 1/4" edge)
- Pull Tabs
- Toiletry Items (new; any size)

Your help is appreciated in the following ways:

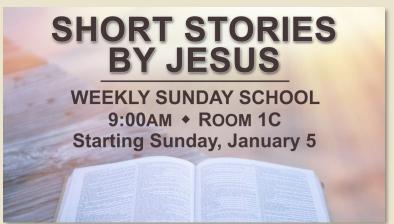
- Please put your items in the appropriately labeled baskets. There are two larger plastic bins for caps and lids.
- Please only donate the items that are requested.

 There are 3x5 cards in a stand on the top of the Wishing Well that list all of the collections on one side and the specifics for the cap and lid collection on the other side. Feel free to take one home with you as a reminder.
- If you bring your items to church in a bag, please sort the items and place them in the appropriate baskets.
- For those responsible for picking up the donated items for an agency, please clear out the basket(s) on a regular basis. If you are unable to do so, please ask someone to do it in your place.

The Wishing Well Care and Share collection area is located under the grand staircase.









WOMEN'S MINISTRY - BOOK DISCUSSION

No Cure for Being Human

By Kate Bowler

Wednesday, January 29
2:00pm | CCTV | Tellico Joe's
Bring an adult or kid's book
to donate to Iva's Place!



On January 29 at 2:00 in Tellico Joe, the Women's Ministry is hosting another book discussion on Kate Bowler's book *No Cure for Being Human*. In it, she addresses the challenges of living in the culture's "relentless positivity" that boasts of how we might work our way to a perfect life. But her terminal cancer diagnosis at the age of 35 gives her a different outlook on life—one that simply celebrates messy, beautiful lives of ordinariness.

The book can be purchased from most book sellers, such as Amazon, and is also available in e-book and audiobook formats.

All participants are invited to bring a new or gently used book to donate to Iva's Place (www.ivasplace.org).

We hope to see you there!

Seamlessly merging hits from Elvis and the Beatles to Bach and Beethoven, TAKE3 lives at the intersection where pop, rock and classical fusion collide.



This 11-member a cappella group from Central Florida was formed in the winter of 2015 by producer and arranger Jamey Ray. The voices that bring their artistic arrangements to life represent a wealth of diverse backgrounds and musical experiences with roots in musical theater, contemporary Christian music, barbershop, pop and choral music. Having performed with Grammy, Dove and American Music Award winners, members of Voctave have performed all over the world.

With multiple #1 songs and albums on iTunes, Amazon and Spotify, Voctave has also ranked in the Top 25 on Billboard Magazine's charts.







MON - THURS 9-4



AN OFFERING PLATE



GIVE ONLINE AT TELLICOCHURCH.COM/GIVE

Stewardship Campaign Update

As we come to a close of 2024 and the Stewardship Campaign of 2025, the Finance Team would like to give you an update on our progress and thank all of you who have generously pledged of your monetary treasures.

At this point we have received 95% of our budgeted pledge amount with an additional 2% of faithful pledgers that will be coming in by year end. If you have not made your pledge, please prayerfully consider your contribution to be part of the Community Church's commitment to "Cultivate believers, disciples, and servants to transform our community and world for Christ."



Finance Facts

NOVEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE 2024

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	BUDGET
INCOME	\$1,951,149	\$1,915,756
EXPENSES (including mortgage principal)	\$1,791,617	\$1,867,965
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$159,532	47,791
Mortgage Principal Year-to-Date		\$220,341
Mortgage Interest Year-to-Date		\$53,510
Mortgage Balance		\$1,829,975
Endowment Fund		\$394,727

Memorial Gifts

Jim Barton

Carol & Jack Adams
Jeffrey Cox
Bill Patrick
Pamela Gibson
Barbara & Mark
Bingham
Patty Pridemore
Boyd & Kathy Blevins
Charlene Barton

Len Franklin *Elton & Mona Pierson*

George Walter

Mary Ann & Kermit
Blank
Bob & Sue
Brackenridge
Phyllis Thompson
Scott Pate
Patty Pridemore
Jim & Peggy Autry

Thank You

Dear Community Church Family,

On behalf of the entire church staff, thank you for your incredible generosity through the Christmas gifts we received in our December paychecks. Your kindness and thoughtfulness mean so much to us, and we are truly grateful to serve such a loving and generous congregation.

It is a privilege to walk alongside you in ministry, and your support encourages and blesses us more than words can express. Thank you for being a reflection of God's love through your generosity and care.

With heartfelt gratitude, The Staff of Community Church at Tellico Village

In December, the Church Council honored Bonnie Ingraham for her service as Council Chair as she passed the torch to Chuck Martin. We thank God for Bonnie sharing her leadership gifts with our church community.



Bonnie Ingraham with Pastor Steve Prevatte

130 Chota Center • Loudon, TN 37774 • 865.458.1516 • tellicochurch.com • mail@tellicochurch.org

GENERAL INFO

Worship Services		
Watch our livestream (YouTube) each Sunday at 10:30.		
Visit our website to watch Sunday's service live.		
Sunday School 9:00		
Find us on Facebook facebook.com/tellicochurch		
Church Calendar tellicochurch.com/events		
Want to explore church membership?		
Please call the church office for details if you are		
interested. You may inquire about membership		
and other spiritual matters.		
Pastoral Care		

Please contact the church office for your pastoral

STAFF

Senior Pastor	Dr. Stephen B. Prevatte
Pastor of Worship and Music	Rev. Dr. John Orr
Associate Pastor	. Rev. Dr. Katie Morgan-Harper
Pastoral Resident	Rev. Hannah Perry
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Martin C. Singley, III
Office Manager	Pat Ouderkirk
Director of AVL	Rex Prather
Director of Communications.	Gregg Randolph
Financial Assistant	Cathy Bradley
Receptionist/Secretary	Candy Smith
Facilities Manager	Jeff McDaniel
Kitchen Coordinator	Victoria McComb
Organist/Accompanist	Andrew Duncan

The church office is open Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm and Friday, 9am-noon.

2025 Council Voting Members









(L-R): Chuck Martin, Council Chair
Jim Sandridge, Council Vice-Chair, Chair of Personnel Team
Kaye Sandridge, Chair of Engagement Team
Peggy Welch, Chair of Finance Team









(L-R): Lynne MacConnell - Congregational Care Team Leader Leslie Shuman, Chair of Trustees Judy Heard, Chair of Worship & Music Team Nancy Gregg, Chair of Mission Team

Spiritual Support

Alcoholics Anonymous
Every Monday at 7pm
Women every Friday at 11:30am
Lower CLC

Al-Anon

United Methodist Church - Loudon Every Tuesday at 7pm

Caregiver's Support Group

(Includes Alzheimer's Support Group)
2nd & 4th Tuesday of month, 1pm
Lower CLC

Grief Support Group *Scott & Suzanne Duncan*

Guy to Guy Chuck Hitch

Hospitalization Support *Call the church office*

Parkinson's Support Group

1st Thursday of month, 1pm Lower CLC

Kathy Milam, Peggy Crowder

Pastoral Counseling

Rev. Dr. Stephen Prevatte

Prayer Chain

Jan Elliott

Prayer Shawls

Knitters & Crocheters

2nd Monday of month, 11am Conference Room

Jan Martin

Stephen Ministry
Jan Elliott, Jeannine Wolf,
Lori York

For more information please contact the church office (865-458-1516).