

JANUARY 2022 | ISSUE 1



# ENGAGE

Go beyond to lead people of a hurting world into new life through Jesus Christ.

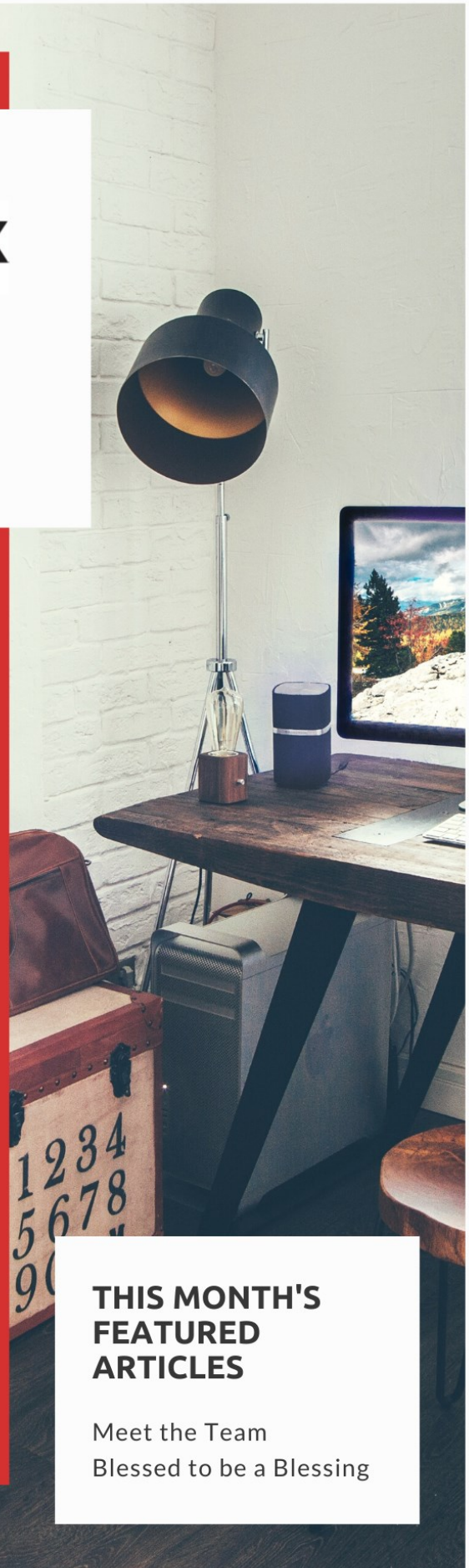
## From the Pastor's Desk

As we begin a new calendar year of mission and ministry together, this season of new beginnings seems to always bring to mind the words of the Lord delivered by the prophet Isaiah: See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland (Is. 43:19).

The new year always brings with it a sense of hope about the future. The past year was a somewhat challenging year for each of us in some form or another. But with a new year, there are new possibilities for what could be! We are gearing up for not only another year of ministry and mission but a way forward in this interesting season that we find ourselves in. I believe that the words delivered by the prophet Isaiah are needed words for us in this season. God is making a way for us in this wilderness season, the question that remains is whether we are able to perceive it. This is where it is vital for each of us to remain plugged in for the spiritual journey of being the child of God we were created to be and the disciple of Jesus we are called to be.

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED ARTICLES

Meet the Team  
Blessed to be a Blessing



## Blessed to be a Blessing

Meet Stephanie and her 3-year old daughter Briella. After being evicted from their home of three years due to the pandemic, they are now guests at Room in the Inn.

Stephanie and Briella leave RITI every morning at 4:30 am so that Briella can keep making friends at daycare while Stephanie goes to work for FedEx. They are beyond grateful for the blessing of food and shelter that RITI has provided.



But Stephanie and Briella aren't the only ones needing someone to walk along side them. There are many others and RITI needs your help. Each Monday we serve, requires more than a dozen people to make this beautiful "machine" run. We need all kinds of skills that your loving heart can provide.

After arrival, our guests eat dinner, which is provided by members of Colonial Park UMC; then they spend the night in the (brand new!) facilities at Christ the King Lutheran Church and wake to breakfast, provided by members of Colonial Park too.

This requires quite a few hands, as you can imagine. But it doesn't stop there. Bedsheets will be washed the following morning. But the brand-new facility at Christ the King has washers & dryers ON SITE! Not like before where the laundry had to be taken off site to launder. How easy.

Along with these traditional serving stations, we also need people to be hosts/hostesses to greet and visit with the guests. Welcome them, talk with them and show them around. Get to know them. Show them the hospitality that you would if you had a guest in your own home. Hospitality that Jesus would show. The love Jesus would give.

We ask that you consider getting involved in this ministry opportunity. Serve like Jesus would. Let Jesus work through you and behold the blessings.

Be on the lookout for the Sign-Up Genius link in the weekly electronic newsletter. For more information about Room in the Inn, Memphis visit <https://ritimemphis.org/>.

**FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN  
DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED  
BUT TO SERVE.**



## U-Can Ministry



We have phone calls nearly daily, asking for help with food. We currently have 12 families that we provide supplemental food for. Your food & monetary donations provide this to them. These shelves have food, because of you. It may seem like plenty, but this ministry is growing rapidly. We provided food to a single mother, who has recently left an abusive relationship. She is doing the best she is able but just needs some help to make sure her 1 year old daughter has food. Isn't it a blessing to be able to help her feed her daughter? This is a family that we will continue to serve as long as necessary. Please continue to be generous so that we can continue to bless those in need.

For the month of February, we are asking for donations of rice, canned carrots, diced tomatoes and oatmeal.



# MEET TOMMYE

In January, we welcomed Tommye Windsor-Cummings as our new Director of Family Discipleship Ministries. We know you will find time to get to know Tommye in your own ways, but thought we'd give you a head start!

Are you an early bird or a night owl? Early Bird

Who has influenced you most when it comes to how you approach your ministry? Two of my former Youth Ministers, Paul Dubose and Nathan Wheeler

What's one of your favorite memories from the past year? Christmas Day 2021. My son is old enough now to really understand what is going on, and it was wonderful to see the pure joy on his and my daughter's faces.

What's one thing most people don't know about you? My maiden name is Byrd. Windsor-Cummings is my husband's last name.

What three words would your friends use to describe you? Organized, Bubbly, A People Person

What's one hobby you'd love to get into? Crocheting, writing music

If you could choose a superpower, what would it be? Being in multiple places at once

If you could only eat one item for every meal for the rest of your life, what would it be? Cheese Dip!!!!



For the month of February, every 10 Facebook check-ins and reviews at CPUMC provides a brick to build a school for children in need. We've partnered with Causely and buildOn to make it possible! So don't forget to check in on Facebook each time you visit us. For more information about this month's cause, check out [www.buildon.org](http://www.buildon.org). #buildingschools

## Mark Your Calendars!

2/3: Mobile Food Pantry Distribution  
2/6 @10:00 am: Christ Community Creation  
2/7: Room in the Inn  
2/10 @12:00 pm: JOY Luncheon in Fellowship Hall  
2/12 @8:30 am: Men's Breakfast  
2/17: Mobile Food Pantry Distribution  
2/21: Room in the Inn  
3/2: Ash Wednesday  
3/6: Lent Begins

# Meet the Team

As with any season in the life of a congregation, change is inevitable. For many, this past year has been chocked full of change. In our life as a congregation, our leadership continues to discern and guide us in the necessary changes that guide our life and ministry to the world.

One of the primary places that we have seen that is through our church staff team. Our church staff plays a vital role in serving our congregation. Our Church Board charts the course and sets the direction of the church. The Pastor is charged with leading the church in that direction. The Staff is charged with equipping the congregation for the work of ministry. And the Congregation's role is to do the ministry of the local church.

In order to better equip our congregation for the work of ministry, over the last year we have seen some staff changes with the season, which created opportunities for us to reimagine how we might fulfill the staffing needs for this season of life and ministry. So, I wanted to take this space to share with you our current staff team and their areas of responsibility. These descriptions are not complete, but it is my hope that this provides you with a brief summary of our staffing roles and how our staff aligned for the work of equipping our congregation for ministry and mission as we go beyond to lead people of a hurting world into new life through Jesus Christ.

Charlotte Martin, Office Manager. Charlotte will continue to serve the church by guiding the administration of church membership, financials, and conference/district reporting.

Megan Warren, Director of Discipling Ministries. Megan will work to engage all of Colonial Park to participate in Christ Centered Community through classes, groups, and missional communities and equip disciple leaders to guide them. Megan will also work on connecting new people into the life of the church.

Gary Vaughn, Director of Outreach Ministries. Gary will work to engage all of Colonial Park in ministries of service to our community and beyond. He will work with ministry leaders to support and equip them in this work.

Tommye Windsor-Cummings, Director of Family Discipleship Ministries. Tommye will guide our discipleship ministries for children, youth, and their parents. This covers children from birth through high school.

Staci Hissong, Executive Assistant to the Pastor. Staci will serve by assisting the pastor with worship logistics, church communication, building management, and general ministry support duties.

Kendrick Little, Director of Music. Kendrick provides leadership for the choir and music for our traditional worship service.

Dr. Leo Davis, Accompanist. Dr. Davis serves as the organ and piano accompanist for the tradition worship service, as well as funerals and weddings as available.

Tonya Tatum, Housekeeping. Tonya serves as the general cleaner to keep Colonial Park facilities ready to receive guests and members.

Lee Gilliland, Director of Modern Worship. Lee serves in a volunteer staff capacity as the leader and director for the Gathering music and worship technology.





In September 2021, we launched our new Discipleship Ministry Leadership Team (DMLT) – a team of faithful leaders called and dedicated to strategically and missionally shepherding people in their discipleship journey. The DMLT includes:

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Denise McCormick | Steve McIntyre |
| Joshua Peterson  | Walter Polk    |
| Susan Vaughn     | Megan Warren   |

The DMLT's primary role is to "focus on steering the direction of missional discipleship equipping opportunities that are in line with CPUMC strategic objectives". What does that mean? The answer is two-fold. First, the CPUMC board spent a considerable amount of 2021, discerning, discussing, and praying as they developed strategic goals for 2022 – 2027. These goals rest on a firm foundation of missional discipleship – growing to be the kind of person Jesus was and to do the kinds of things Jesus did to reconcile a sinful, broken world with God. (You might see how our vision statement aligns with our missional discipleship foundation – Vision: Go Beyond to Lead People of a Hurting World into New Life through Jesus Christ). Part of our role is to live into the strategic goals set before us by the board. Secondly, as you might be aware, there are a plethora of bible studies, books studies, ministry opportunities, equipping opportunities, etc. of which our church can explore. The DMLT is positioned to help CPUMC stay the course and select equipping opportunities that keep us in-line with our vision.

Team members have committed to serve for one year. It's not just a once-a-month commitment either. We know equipping others in their discipleship journey starts with our own discipleship journey. It's a whole mind, body, and soul commitment that requires preparation and reflection to fully equip us to do our work when we gather once a month. For example, each team member has personally covenanted with God through commitments such as prayer, dedicated time reading and reflecting on the Bible, sabbath time, and focus on physical and emotional health. Our team is intentional at nurturing relationships and discipling others. This may take many forms – relationship building, inviting others to lean into their passions and God-given gifts, or leading equipping opportunities themselves. We're also committed to responding to service opportunities that present themselves on campus and in our neighborhood.

DMLT is just one of several teams that are at Colonial Park. For example, there are Outreach, Children, Youth, Communication, and Worship teams either in motion or in their formational stages. I invite you to be in prayer as these teams form and meet. I also encourage you, challenge you even, to pray how God might want to use you on or in support of one of these teams. Please feel free to reach out to a team member or Megan Warren with any questions or to discuss opportunities further.

## SHARING



Hope



Joy



Peace



Love

You know, it's not hard to share with friends and family. I always know who to call with an extra ticket to a ball game or a concert. If I hear a new Jackson Browne song, I immediately pick up the phone and call one of my friends to share my joy.

I've been thinking lately about those gifts from God, particularly Peace, Joy, Love, and Hope. Who do I share those with? It's easy to share with my friends, but what about those I don't know. You know folks that don't look like me or come from the same walks of life as me. Now, that's a different story, isn't it?

Many of you may recall the story of Ananias. He was called to go to Saul and lay hands on him so Saul might regain his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. No big deal, right? Well Ananias had witnessed the brutal beatings that Saul and the Roman soldiers had put on his friends. Hmmm.... Talk about feeling uncomfortable!

How about Cornelius, a Roman centurion that Peter was called to witness to as well as his household. Even the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles.

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." I believe that pretty well covers who we share with don't you?

Have you noticed the more you share God's gifts the more abundant they return to you? I was watching a movie during Christmas time called The Bishop's Wife. The professor kept sharing his sherry wine that the Angel had given him, and the bottle kept refilling itself, it never ran out.

God's Plan for each of us is Perfect. It doesn't always make sense to us and most the time I only see what's directly in front of me but, that's the Plan. Die to have life.... Give away or share to receive.

Go Beyond to lead people of a Hurting World into New Life through Jesus Christ is what we are all about here at Colonial Park. "Just Do It" Share what has been gifted to you to the world!

Peace Be With You,  
Gary W Vaughn



5330 Park Avenue, Memphis, TN 38119

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Memphis, TN

Permit No. 671

Join us Sundays for In-Person Worship at 9:00 am for Traditional Worship, 10:00 am for Sunday School and 11:00 am for Casual Worship. Not ready to be in-person yet? Catch us on Facebook or YouTube at 11:00 am @Colonial Park UMC. Or you may call the worship service hotline at 901-329-6527 to listen from your phone.

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jathaniel Cavitt                       | jcavitt@colonialpark.org  |
| Dir. of Music: Kendrick Little                                 | klittle@colonialpark.org  |
| Dir. of Discipling Ministries: Megan Warren                    | mwarren@colonialpark.org  |
| Dir. of Family Discipleship Ministries: Tommye Wndsor-Cummings | twindsor@colonialpark.org |
| Dir. of Outreach: Gary Vaughn                                  | gwvaughn@colonialpark.org |
| Financial/Membership Staff: Charlotte Martin                   | cmartin@colonialpark.org  |
| Executive Assistant to the Pastor: Staci Hissong               | shissong@colonialpark.org |



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to Easy Tithe. This is an easy way to remain faithful to the ministries of Colonial Park.

This is a newsletter of Colonial Park United Methodist Church. The newsletter is published monthly & mailed third class, and e-mailed weekly except holidays.

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