

September 7, 2018

Today, after services in Nashville, join us for a taste of Italy with our Italian themed potluck. Please plan to bring some of your favorite Italian dishes such as spaghetti, lasagna, breads and salads. Got a favorite Italian dessert? Bring it! If not, no worries, just bring any dessert you would like. Sweet and Unsweetened Teas are requested. Water and Lemonade will be provided.

After dinner, please plan to stay and help us usher in the Fall Holy Day season with an evening of praising God with a "joyful noise" with our sing-a-long night! We will be singing to a mix of Hymns, favorite choir and special music pieces. Some of the choir songs picked were offered at other Feast sites over the last couple of years. If they are new to you, don't worry, the lyrics will be posted so you can sing a long if you would like.

There will be no Sabbath Bible study in Nashville this week, in Murfreesboro next week, or a Proverbs 31 Women's Study this month because of the Holy Days.

Reminder: Services for the Feast of Trumpets, September 10, will be combined for Nashville and Murfreesboro at The Fellowship United Methodist Church, 2511 New Salem Hwy, Murfreesboro, TN 37128. Services will be at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. There are no facilities to have a potluck meal, but there will be tables set up where people can bring their lunch and eat in the meeting room. Services in Jackson will be at 10:30 am.

For those from the Nashville area attending the Feast of Trumpets in Murfreesboro take Interstate 24 into Murfreesboro and take Exit 80 for west Route 99/New Salem Rd. Fellowship United Methodist Church is 6.6 miles west of Route 24.

Services the Day of Atonement will be at our regular halls. Times: Jackson 10:30 am; Murfreesboro 10:30 am and 2:00 pm in Brentwood.

Because so many people will be on their way to the Feast of Tabernacles on the Sabbath of September 22 we will not be having regular Sabbath services in Brentwood, Murfreesboro or Jackson. We will have services in all three places on the Sabbath after the Feast on October 6.

Keep Ray Breedlove in your prayers as he faces the diagnoses of colon cancer.

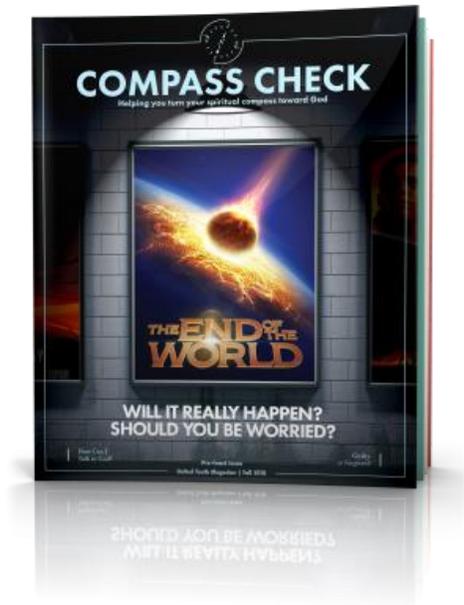
## Sabbath Services before the Feast - September 22

This year, the weekly Sabbath falls the day before the Feast begins. Many members and ministers will have already left for the Feast of Tabernacles before the weekly Sabbath. As a result, many congregations are canceling services before the Feast on September 22nd.

We have provided a map that indicates which congregations have confirmed that they will hold services that day (indicated by a solid green star) and those who have indicated that services will be cancelled (indicated by an outline red star). We hope this map will help you to make your travel plans to this year's Feast. Most congregations holding services will be meeting at their regular times, but it is best to contact the pastor as early as possible to make sure.

Feel free to print the map to leave on your information table or bulletin board at services. The PDF map can be found here: [https://www.ucg.org/system/storage/serve/1043701/united-church-of-god\\_sabbath-service-locations-september-22-2018.pdf](https://www.ucg.org/system/storage/serve/1043701/united-church-of-god_sabbath-service-locations-september-22-2018.pdf)

## **Compass Check--Fall Issue Now Available**



The staff of *Compass Check* magazine is pleased to announce that the pre-Feast fall issue of *Compass Check* is now available online at: [ucg.org/members/compass-check](http://ucg.org/members/compass-check). Teens (ages 12-18) living in the U.S. will be receiving their issue in the mail shortly. -- Steve Nutzman, editor

## **Winter Family Weekend 2018**

This year, Winter Family Weekend will again be held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio, (just north of Cincinnati) starting on Friday, December 21, with sports running through Tuesday, December 25. The hotel is ready to make reservations, so members who are certain they will attend can reserve rooms at Great Wolf Lodge using the code "1812UCGW" to access our block of rooms. Please only reserve a room if you are certain you will attend, because the block usually fills up and if you reserve a room but then later cancel it, the room will be lost from our reservation block. Based on years of previous trends, the block does not include as many rooms for Friday, December 21, as for other nights, but we are endeavoring to learn if more rooms can be added for that night.

We have not negotiated group rates at other nearby hotels because members have been able to find economical rates on their own. A Comfort Inn and Suites is located about a third of a mile from the Great Wolf Lodge and other hotels are within a few minutes' drive. All of these offer significantly lower room rates--but without the benefit of an indoor waterpark.

We hope to have you join us for an exciting Winter Family Weekend this year. -- Frank Dunkle, coordinator

## eNews from Ministerial and Member Services

Issue 341

September 6, 2018

### Personal From the President...

Dear fellow servants of God,

This past week has been dominated by the "Let This Mind Be In You" Leadership Workshop held August 31- September 3 at the home office. 36 people came from all over the United States, Canada and Sri Lanka for lectures and discussion. Our home office staff was thoroughly impressed by the spirit, dedication and commitment of these men and women--pillars who hold up and serve our congregations.



Darris McNeely discusses discipleship with the Leadership Workshop participants.

Over the past few years in our training of church leaders, we have focused on the meaning of *discipleship*. *Disciple* is mentioned 300 times in the Bible and identifies those who spend their lives apprenticed to Jesus Christ in a growing-learning relationship. It is the term most often used to describe those who follow Christ. A disciple is not only a learner in an academic setting of a schoolroom, but one who is at the work site of a craftsman, acquiring skills in faith. We are called upon to make disciples as part of our mission. But, in order to do that, we must first become disciples ourselves. Much of our workshop focused on this, as well as Philippians 2:5-7, which reads: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men."

I thank all those worked through this Labor Day with organization and presentations which featured Darris McNeely, Steve Myers, Chris Rowland, Peter Eddington, Greg Thomas and Victor Kubik. A session for women was brought by Kathe Myers, Debbie McNeely, Lisa Fenchel and Beverly Kubik.



Victor Kubik discusses Christ-like service with the Leadership Workshop participants.

Here are a few comments from the exit survey written by the participants:

- "Our minister, who we respected, asked us to attend and we thought 'Why not? We'll learn something.' So we arrived with moderate expectations. We very quickly realized we were in for an incredibly inspirational and

educational weekend. It honestly blew us away! We've accepted the challenge to go home and do good and serve effectively and figure out new ways to serve. I hope we can bring this energy home and ignite others as well. Thank you."

- "Very helpful presentations. Wish the workshop could go on for an entire week. Have learned many things that enable us to be better and more efficient servants when we get back to our local congregations. We are leaving here better equipped to help our spiritual family than we were when we arrived."
- "We are so thankful for this opportunity. Are very grateful for everything you have done. You have certainly made us feel very welcome. You have very much displayed a good example of humility."
- "I was humbled to be here among such a wonderful godly group. Thank you for taking the time to put on a well thought out workshop. We are grateful and pray that we can go out and put what we have learned and absorbed into our lives and our congregation. Thanks so much."
- "It has been an amazing opportunity to get to know others from various congregations all over. It is encouraging to see such humble people serving God's people all over."
- "We enjoyed all the presentations--they have given us a lot to apply in becoming better servants of God and His people."

### **Ambassador Bible College**

We really appreciate our ABC students with whom we mingle as much as we can. ABC is in its second week of classes and we've received good feedback about the content of the classes and overall spirit of the students.



Lisa Fenchel conducts a discussion about Career Education with the Ambassador Bible College students.

This week was highlighted by a Career Education module hosted by Andrew Lee, Lisa Fenchel, Michelle Hopkins, Nick Hollen and Troy Phelps.

### **Coworker and Donor Letter**

Keying off the start of the ABC academic year, I focused on studying and understanding the Bible in my letter to nearly 15,000 coworkers and donors this week. We're offering the booklet *How to Understand the Bible*.

### **Feast of Trumpets**

We wish you all a wonderful Feast of Trumpets that is suddenly here as the fall (autumn) Holy Days come earlier this year. Beverly and I will be driving to Windsor, Ontario, in Canada for the Feast of Trumpets. May we all rejoice and learn to fear our Eternal God always during this Festival season, starting with the Feast of Trumpets. I thank God for all the saints in the United Church of God and for what He is doing in their lives.

### **Media release outlines purpose of Feast**

To make available festival information to people who have little or no biblical background, the church prepares and

makes available a general media release. Pew Research and other research organizations have found that a large percentage of the American and global populations are not familiar with traditional biblical phrases that church members would be intimately familiar with. Accordingly, this release is written in such a fashion that the content can be easily understood by a wide spectrum of the public, including members of the media who may not have a background in religious topics.

The following press release about the upcoming Feast of Tabernacles will be posted online at UCG.org and distributed to public contacts through both a media distribution service and by surface mail. The URL address can be shared by members on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. It is intended to be informational, and the online posts through the distribution service are search engine optimized (SEO) through key words and links (like to the Beyond Today web page) so the press release is discoverable online. Typically, several media websites pick up the release and include it (or a link) in their online coverage, and we occasionally may see it in print (many festival sites no longer have local print media in their area). The headline also appears before the Feast on the Reuters screen with the Church's logo in New York City's Times Square.

In Christ's service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor Kubik". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Victor Kubik