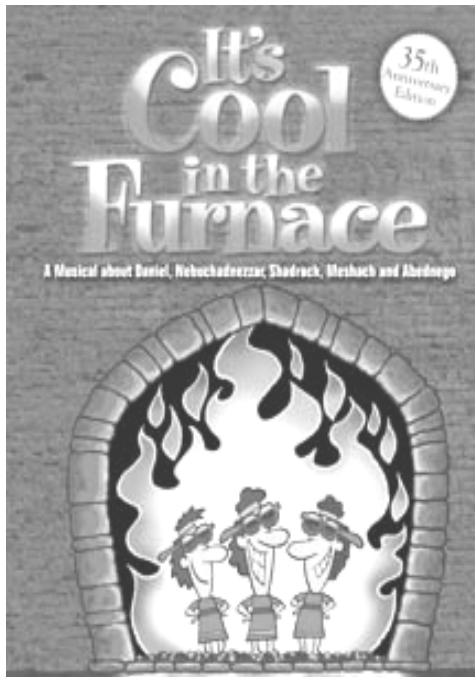


## Children's Musical



**Sunday, April 26**  
**6:00 p.m.**

in the Sanctuary, Downtown  
Reception immediately following  
in Fellowship Hall

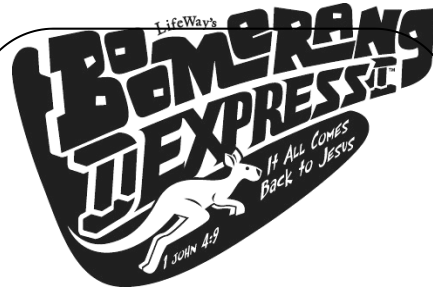
(The final children's choir rehearsals  
downtown for the spring are  
on Wednesday, April 22).

## First Footsteps Luncheon



**The Newborn Ministry** is sponsoring the Second Annual First Footsteps Luncheon. All families with babies born between April 2008 and April 2009 are invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 a.m. services downtown on Sunday, April 26.

Please join us for food, fun and fellowship with other newborn families, the Newborn Ministry Team, Ministry Staff, and Nursery Staff. R.S.V.P. to Cathy Saunooke at 806-8703 or [crank@hotmail.com](mailto:crank@hotmail.com).



## Vacation Bible School

*It all comes back to Jesus!*  
(Downtown and Andover)

Sunday through Thursday  
**6:00—8:30 p.m.**  
(dinner 5—5:45 p.m.)  
June 7—11  
Downtown Campus

Contact **Leslie Weston**,  
252-945-1222, [leslie@1stumc.org](mailto:leslie@1stumc.org)  
or **Lisa Michelle Wilson**,  
859-797-2651, [lisa@1stumc.org](mailto:lisa@1stumc.org)

Now enlisting teachers, leaders  
and teams such as prayer, promotion,  
snacks, technology, security, fellow-  
ship, and more!

Volunteer and Learner registra-  
tion is now **ONLINE** at  
[www.1stumc.org](http://www.1stumc.org). Click on:  
"Click here to register for VBS."

**Attention**  
**All**  
**Current**

**4th and 5th Graders!**  
(Downtown and Andover)

If you like to sing and dance and  
you like VBS, then you might be  
ready to join Kelly in the "land down  
under" for Vacation Bible School this  
year. If you are interested in helping  
her lead the music for VBS, please  
contact:

**Kelly Svec** at 859-277-6437,  
[kabone30@yahoo.com](mailto:kabone30@yahoo.com).



**Sunday, April 19**  
11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Sermon Series: A Better Way: Living a Biblical Lifestyle  
I. Living in a Pressure Cooker World, Matthew 6:19-34  
**Sunday, April 26**  
11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Sermon Series: A Better Way: Living a Biblical Lifestyle  
II. Accountability



**Sunday, April 19**  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Sermon Series: A Better Way: Living a Biblical Lifestyle  
I. Living in a Pressure Cooker World, Matthew 6:19-34  
11:00 a.m., Offerings Worship Service  
**Sunday, April 26**  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Sermon Series: A Better Way: Living a Biblical Lifestyle  
II. Accountability  
11:00 a.m., Offerings Worship Service

**Two Locations. One Firm Foundation.**

**First United Methodist Church**  
**200 West High Street**  
**Lexington, KY 40507**

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**Volume 39**      **Number 77**      **April 17, 2009**

(April 19—May 24)

## Sunday Sermon Series A BETTER WAY:

### *Living a Biblical Lifestyle*

*Psalm 1:1-3 "Oh the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither and they prosper in all they do."*

For the next six-weeks, we will journey together to see what Scripture says about ordering our lives. We will explore some foundational principles that help make up the Christian life. Principles that, if applied, will draw us closer to being the people God has called us to be and as a result give us a rock-solid foundation to handle whatever life may be throwing at us now or in the future.

- I. Living in a Pressure Cooker World
- II. Accountability
- III. Simplicity
- IV. Community (Mother's Day)
- V. Charity (Faith Promise Sunday)
- VI. Authenticity

## Evening with the Authors

Conversations with First Church  
Writers and Theologians

Wednesdays from 6—7 p.m.  
Through May 20  
In West Chapel

April 22:  
**DR. KENNETH KINGHORN** is an  
ordained elder in the United  
Methodist and is Professor of Church  
History at Asbury Theological Semi-  
nary. He is author of more than 20

books and 100 published essays and  
articles. His speaking and teaching as-  
signments have taken him around the  
world--England, Japan, Korea, Israel.

On Wednesday, Dr. Kinghorn will  
give background on the publication of  
the second edition of his Heritage of  
American Methodism book, talk about  
his works on spiritual gifts (specifically  
the Spanish translation), and give us an  
update on his current writing project,  
which is the history of Asbury Theologi-  
cal Seminary.

Dr. Kinghorn and his wife, Hilda, are  
active at First Church, downtown and  
Andover.

## PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE...

by Rev. J. Paul Brunstetter, Senior Pastor

As was announced Sunday, Todd and I have both been re-appointed to serve as pastors to First United Methodist Church. Todd has been great support to First Church's ministry, and is doing a wonderful job at Andover. Starting a new church is a risky and stressful venture that takes strong faith and courageous leadership, and we are fortunate to have the Nelson family here.

I, too, am grateful to be re-appointed. Let me first say I am deeply appreciative for the support I have been given by so many in our congregation, community, and United Methodist conference. Because of you, I have found my dependency upon Christ greater and my faith stronger than ever. Our Bishop and Cabinet were gracious to offer me alternative appointments as a choice; however, they were resolute that, if at all possible, I should remain to help the congregation work through (rather than avoid) some of the conflict. They ultimately left the decision up to me.

I say that only because I want you to know it is my choice as well to be here. I recognize for some my re-appointment will be received in a less than enthusiastic way. To be candid, yes, it hurts. But I also recognize the hurt so many in our congregation have experienced. Ultimately, this appointment (and even the conflict) is not about me – it's about the health of the church. Certainly time is needed for healing to take place – we miss some very good folks from our fellowship. Our budget and giving have been compromised. But I believe God

has given us a renewed sense of calling and exciting days ahead.

I want to covenant with you to pray for (and with) each other. I invite you to make an appointment or simply "pop in" if I am here and available to talk and pray. I sense a wonderful spirit in our congregation as of late – the challenges we have faced have helped many of us to recognize just how much this church and, even more importantly, the Kingdom means to all of us. And I do not believe God has brought us through all we have endured without having something greater in mind. In fact, I truly believe God, through the presence of His Holy Spirit among us, is up to something. And I am humbled and, indeed, privileged to be a part.

*I keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of His call. May He give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with him. This is all made possible because of the grace of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.*

2 Thessalonians 1: 11-12  
(The New Living Translation)



### First UMC Spring Apparel Program!

This Spring, the Invite Team is offering you the opportunity to purchase First Church logo apparel, featuring a variety of pullovers and hats. Please stop by the display in the Gathering Hall in the coming weeks to see the clothing options and to pick up ordering information.

Also, stay tuned for more information about a website that will feature the spring apparel clothing options and pricing information. If you have any questions about the spring apparel program, please contact Josh Fee at [joshfee@windstream.net](mailto:joshfee@windstream.net).

### What is Faith Promise?

*Faith Promise is an Adventure...  
An Adventure of Trust with God*

**Faith Promise** is an Offering collected over a year's time. It is separate from one's annual pledge. Unlike a binding pledge, it is a vow of faith between you and God.

You commit to giving the amount God lays on your heart and trust God for its provision. **In Faith Promise, we give out of our abundance so that others may receive what they need.**

We anticipate that through prayer, faith and trust, God will provide abundantly - sometimes He shows us ways to cut our own expenses, sometimes by simply recognizing how much we have already been abundantly blessed, and sometimes in unexpected and unanticipated ways.

*2 Corinthians 8:14-15 At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."*

**Faith Promise** gives expression to our desire to give meaningfully to the needs of others through our church, and to develop our "trust muscles" by seeing God provide abundantly. As a church following our desire to share the gospel of Christ with people in Lexington and around the world, we come together **Faith Promise Sunday, May 17**, and ask God what he will give through each of us to that end.

### Share Your Story

**Faith Promise giving began at First Church in 1990 under the leadership of Dr. James Stratton. Over the last 18 years, have you experienced God through Faith Promise Giving?**

If so, you have been blessed and we would be blessed to hear your stories. If you are willing to share your story please contact Hope Harvener 278-6148 [hope-harvener@gmail.com](mailto:hope-harvener@gmail.com) or Peggy Ray, 608-4647, [skipeg9@aol.com](mailto:skipeg9@aol.com).

We would like to share as many stories as possible with our church family through Sunday morning witness or written bulletin inserts.

### Overseas Missions Opportunities

#### Upcoming mission trips

Within the next year, we will send small, short-term missions teams to be with several of our global missions partners. Each team will go to strengthen relationships with these partners and prepare the way for future teams to go and serve.

While each trip will look slightly different, the goal of all trips will be simply to build relationships and to bless and encourage those in ministry in these locations. Please pray about joining a team for one of these trips. More details are listed below, including estimated costs. We will have fundraising and scholarship plans, so please don't be deterred by cost.

**Estonia** – July 17 – 26. Voru UMC in Estonia has invited a team of 3-5 people to visit this summer. We have sent multiple teams to Estonia over the past 15 years and have an excellent relationship that we hope to continue. Dates are approximations and are somewhat flexible depending on the team's needs. Estimated cost per person: \$2,250.

**Israel** – October 16 – 25. A team of no more than 4 people will visit Nabil Samara's Olive Branch ministry in Nazareth, Israel. We have been fostering a relationship with Nabil for several years. Estimated cost per person: \$2,000.

**Brazil** – summer 2010. Mel and Fran Noah lead a seminary in Londrina, Brazil, and have been supported by First UMC for over two decades. We have not begun to set exact dates for this trip, but please consider it in your plans for next summer. Estimated cost: \$1,550.

**If you are interested or desire more information for any of these trips, please contact Teddy Ray at the church office, (859) 233-0545 or [teddy.ray@gmail.com](mailto:teddy.ray@gmail.com).**

### Ongoing Bible Study

#### Grand Sweep: From Genesis to Revelation in 365 Days

- Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Room 14, downtown, led by Rev. Todd Nelson
- Sundays at 5 p.m., Andover, led by Rev. Todd Nelson
- Sundays at 9:50 a.m., downtown, led by Richard Reams,



#### Weekday Bible Study Group

Tuesdays,  
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.,  
Room 111,  
led by  
Colleen Stratton

*A Love Worth Giving*  
by Max Lucado

Contact Colleen at 296-2761

### National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7  
7:00 p.m. at Trinity Hill UMC  
Tates Creek & Armstrong Mill Roads

Hosted by:  
Trinity Hill UMC  
Southern Hills UMC  
First UMC

Plus a Community  
Prayer Service  
Noon, downtown,  
Phoenix Park

PRAYER...  
AMERICA'S  
HOPE

### Genesis in a Nutshell

*Rays of Light Sunday School Class*  
May 3, 10, 17 & 24  
9:50 a.m.

In rooms 11&12

Led by Teddy Ray And Josh Fee

Join us for this fast-paced  
coverage of the beginning  
of the beginning.

**Bring your Bible!**

### Sympathy to...

Mike and Sheila Green and family on the death of her Aunt Eva Ward, on Friday, April 3, 2009.

Bob and Jackie Duncan and family on the death of his stepfather, Worthy John Warner from Georgetown, Kentucky, on Tuesday, April 14, 2009.

### In Memory of...

Marie Saltzer by the Dorothy Hays  
Sunday School Class

### Congratulations to...

Cliff & Amy Wargelin on their new daughter from China, 11-month old Sylvia Joy. Proud grandparents are Dennis & Joy Williamson.

### Make a donation to the Lexington Rescue Mission Thrift Store



The Lexington Rescue Mission, one of our mission partners, runs two thrift stores in Lexington to provide clothing, furniture, appliances, tools and housewares to people in need at affordable prices. Those who can't pay are given vouchers to shop for free. From Sunday, May 3, through Sunday, May 10, our church will be collecting donations to the thrift store. If you would like to make a donation, you can leave any of the above-listed items at the downtown campus, room 121 - the first room on the right in the old parsonage, just off the Gathering Hall. For larger donations, please call the Rescue Mission for a pick-up (254-1712). Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

### God's Table

A monthly dinner for the hungry and homeless (men, women and children) of Lexington. Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m. (We meet each third Tuesday of the month). Come to help, and bring a dish (or two!) to share! Contact Kelly Svec, 277-6437, [kabone30@yahoo.com](mailto:kabone30@yahoo.com)