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November 27, 2024

Church Family,

Nancie Hesson lived 85 full years. She was raised to know and follow Jesus. She could not remember a time when she did not know and follow Jesus. She exuded joy. She served faithfully. She loved deep and wide. Nancie died on Thursday, November 21st. She and Alton were married for 64 years. Continue to pray for Alton and the family. The service for Nancie will be Saturday, December 14th at 11am at WCN's campus. Visitation from 9 to 11am. Then a meal afterward. Bring food. May Nancie rest in peace and rise with Christ!

Caroline Rivers Young was dedicated to the Lord on Sunday. She is the first child for Ryan and Madison Young. Caroline was surrounded by her loving, supportive family. The family made promises. The church made promises. We all have work to do. The stakes are too high to not take it seriously. Caroline needs to know and follow Jesus. With the Lord's help and our commitment, I believe she will.

Timmy and Mason Remagen were with us for a brief few months. They stole our hearts. They boys were foster-children in the care of Greg and Jill Field. Some of you remember what the boys were like when they came and how different they were when they left. Both boys accepted Christ and were baptized. Both of them matured in multiple ways. They moved to Memphis to live with a family that has become their adoptive family. Congratulations to Timmy and Mason on their adoption! Many thanks to Greg and Jill for this vital ministry. The call to foster care is spreading. Another WCN couple is in the process to provide foster care. Thanks be to God.

For years, WCN's staff provided a training session for ministers in training on the way to ordination. Last year we opened the session up to students on our mission zone, and this year the district sent word to ministers in training across the MidSouth. Rodney Lee provided his amazing barbecue. Julie Einerson and Delilah King organized the meal. Students as far as Saipan were connected to us! This is a good example of a local church's ministry expanding far and wide.

Many thanks to our fall term of *Immerse Group* Leaders: Delilah King, Betty Hamm, Katie Brown, Pastor Mary Forester, Trent Riley, Pastor Janice Rudolph, Rachel Bibby, Jane Langston, Eugene Woodside,

Pastor Kelsey Elliott, Lora Moore, Charles Davidson, Rachel Reynen, and Amy Crum. After Thanksgiving break, we have special activities for all ages for three Wednesday nights in a row. In 2025, *New Year's Family Communion* will be January 1st from 2-7pm. Then the new *Immerse Group* term begins January 8th. Group options will be announced soon.

This Saturday is our annual *Hanging of the Greens* service at 5pm. We will decorate our new space for the season. Afterward, we will decorate our *Jars of Joy* to take home for our Advent practice. If the Christian calendar is new or unfamiliar to you, we invite you to join us on the adventure!

Next Wednesday, December 4th, is *WCN: The Quiz Show, Episode 2!* Last year was so much fun! Expect more of the same. All ages. 6:30pm. Expect to laugh and learn and connect.

No More Tears will have a Spaghetti lunch on Saturday, December 7th. 11am-1:30pm. \$10/plate. At WCN's campus. There will be a silent auction and a program. Come and invite others to support our friends in recovery.

December 8th is the date for our 35th annual *Group Home Christmas Party*. This is a Christmas event for our adult friends with disabilities. Many of them live in Group Homes. This is their Christmas and it is our privilege to celebrate with them. It will be wild and silly and fun and good. If I could show someone one single event that expresses WCN's heart, this would be it.

December 11th. *The Christmas Workshop*. All ages. Pastor Kelsey will lead us to make ornaments. We will make cards and decorate cookies to be delivered to shut-ins. Join us at 6:30 for the special gathering.

A couple of weeks ago, I went to Florida to speak to pastors and spouses at a retreat where my brother is District Superintendent. I think it was good for them. I know it was good for me. I am reminded, once again, that when we step out to serve others, we get filled.

I am thankful for the constant WCN baby boom. I am thankful for crisp weather and the first sip of coffee every morning. I am thankful when girls grow up hearing ladies' voices from the pulpit. I am thankful for good nights of sleep. I am thankful for people who do not wait to be asked to serve. I am thankful for goodness that runs deep in Kendall, Parker, and Macy. Credit mom and Jesus. I am thankful that I get a front row seat to changing lives. I am thankful for books that change my mind and warm my heart. I am thankful for a church board who leads with love. I am thankful for a church staff who is invested in our spiritual growth. I am thankful for the kind of people who show up on a Sunday afternoon to make our building ready for company. I am thankful for my new friends with *No More Tears*. I am thankful for the sacred privilege of walking alongside people in life, then standing to speak about their lives when they are gone. I am thankful for my own siblings, Ryan and Laura, who mean more to me as we get older. I am thankful for the prayers of the saints. I am thankful for a church that strikes a good balance between honoring the past and moving forward in mission. I am thankful for every way Katie makes me a better human being. I am thankful that Jesus loves me. Even me.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving. This Sunday begins Advent. A new year. I'm preaching about joy. I will look for you.

-Pastor Daron

Upcoming...

- Nov 30: *Hanging of the Greens*, 5pm
- Dec 1: Mission: Spain meeting, 4:30pm
- Dec 4: *WCN: The Quiz Show, Episode 2*, 6:30
- Dec 6: SAGE Christmas Party, 12-2 in Center
- Dec 7: *No More Tears* Spaghetti Lunch fundraiser and silent auction, 11am
- Dec 8: *Group Home Christmas Party*, 2pm
- Dec 11: Christmas Workshop (cookies, cards, ornaments), all ages, 6:30
- Dec 14: Memorial svc for Nancie Hesson, 11am (9-11 visitation), meal to follow

*If you have
a prayer need
please email
prayer@wcntn.com*

Worship:
8:30 & 11am
Engage Groups:
10am
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