

Remember in prayer ...

We experience unity in the Spirit as we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in this Presbytery and around the world as well as for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Workers in 63 countries. Today we lift up the **Parkway Garden United Presbyterian Church (Memphis, TN)**.

Those in Mission

- ◆ Robert Gamble and his missionary work with "This Child Here"
- ◆ The Plath Family and their missionary work in Rexburg, Idaho

Graduate & Undergraduate Students

Ava Jett	Alyssa McArthur
Griffin Jett	Kara Robinson
Allison Kerr	Ethan Williams
Madeline Lunsford	Ethan Wright

The Men and Women of Our Armed Forces

Will Locastro^{11/16} (One-year tour to Kosovo)
Michael Foster (Heather Foster's Brother-in-law)
Daniel Hewitt (Karen Wimpee's nephew)
Blake Merr (Billy & Lynn Staggs)
Jeff Cross and Family (Lynn Staggs)

Prayer Requests ...

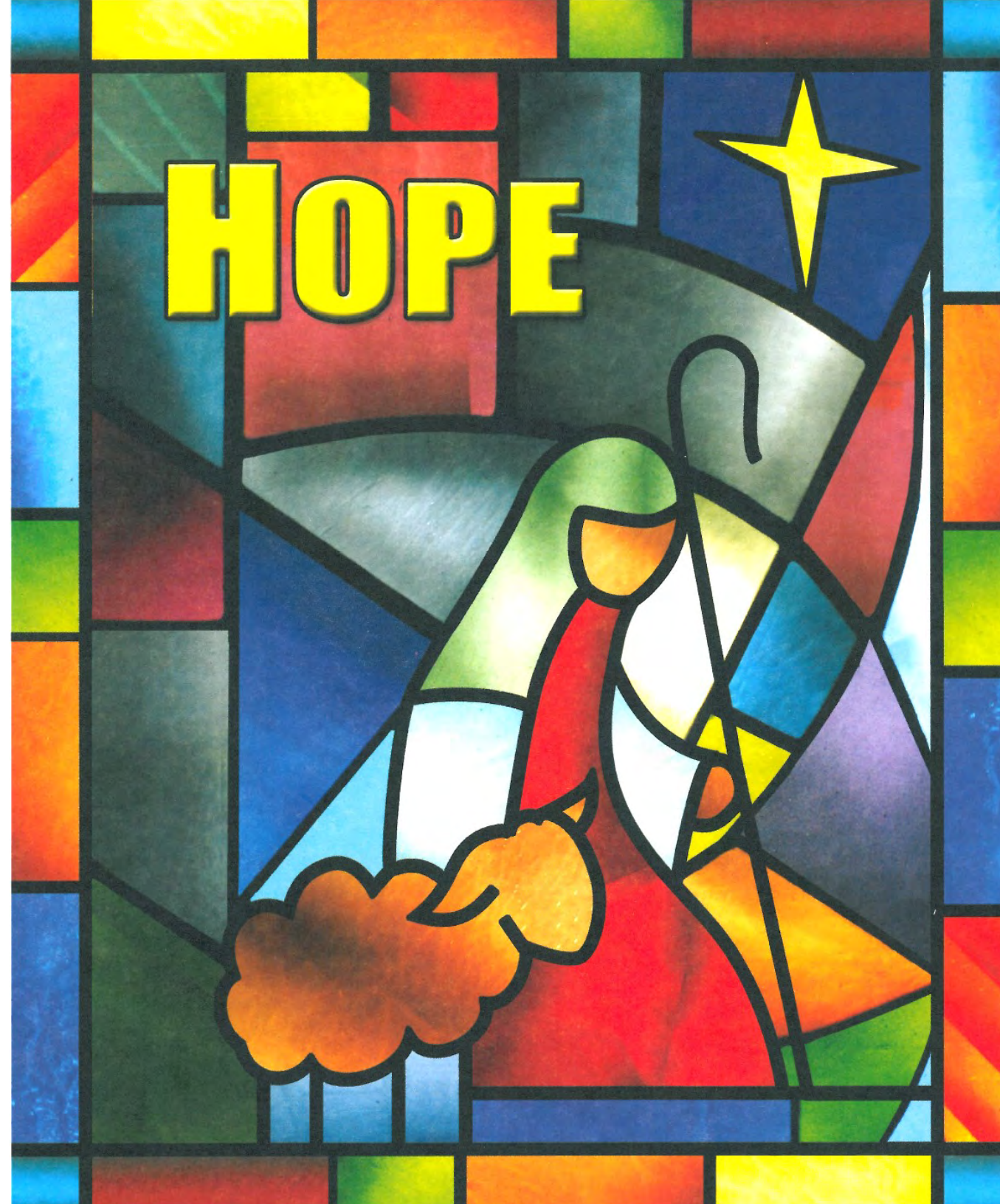
The Residents of Village of Pajjuiles
The Children & Youth of Our Church
Mary Ann Harris^(01/10)
Ben Brownlee^{2/13} (Friend of Jim Wilcox)
Trish Gurney^{1/12} (John Gurney's mother)
Tanika Obeysekere^{2/16} (Friend of Cari Barney)
Faye Ray^{6/16} (Melanye Lunsford's mother)
Billy Staggs
Dotty Coulson
Cathy Church
Jo Hall
Mary Ann Epperson
Ruby Mears

Lucy McDonald
Margaret Hewitt (Karen Wimpee's mother)
Ruth Lewis
⁴Sydney Bender (Suzanne Dunn's aunt)
⁴Ron Drewry
⁴Lewis Proctor (Friend of the Arant Family)
³Randy Harris and family in the loss of his mother
⁴The Steve Hunt Family with their son's surgery
(Randy Harris)
³Sherry Lynch in the loss of her mother
(Joy Sutherland)

Collierville Presbyterian Church • Presbyterian Church (USA)

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GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(As we prepare ourselves for worship, let us individually pray.)

God of the watching ones, the waiting ones, the slow and suffering ones, the angels in heaven, the child in the womb, give us your benediction, your good word for our souls, that we might rest and rise in the kindness of your company. Amen.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(*Please stand if able.) (Responsive)*

Leader: Come, people of faith, come in out of the cold. Come and share your hopes, your dreams.

People: **We're hoping that the promise is real; that the Messiah is on the way. We're dreaming of a world where peace and trust can triumph over war and greed.**

Leader: Come, let us wait together for the Promised One.

People: **Jesus is surely coming!**

All: **We should prepare ourselves; Emmanuel is surely coming!**

*OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Ann Cross and Suzanne Dunn

*HYMN 5

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Holy One, we who are inclined to walk by sight and not by faith confess that we have turned away from your light. We are people of little faith, depending on our own works and stumbling in the dark. We want confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. We need the faith to boldly ask Jesus for sight. We long to return to your light, but we lose faith every day. Forgive our unbelief, and let the fruits of your Spirit – faith, hope, and love – grow in us. *(In silence, offer your own personal confession.)*

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(Sung by all)* "Gloria Patria"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND GIFTS

*THE DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

"Old Hundredth"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

"Emmanuel"

Renée Kemper on guitar

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 24:36-44 *(NT p. 27-28)*

SERMON

"Who Knows?"

MEDITATIVE SILENCE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 9

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A TIME OF PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Located on inside, back cover of the hymnal. Alternate Text: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(In Unison)* **The Apostles' Creed**

(Located on inside, back cover of the hymnal. Alternate Text: Holy Spirit to be spoken where Holy Ghost would be spoken.)

GOING OUT IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 467 *(vs. 1, 2, 4)*

"How Great Thou Art"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"** *(Hymn 2, v1)*

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*