Idlewild Presbyterian Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

June 1 – August 31, 2014

Classes and programs for all ages! Visitors always welcome.

ADULT SUMMER SERIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS, 9:40–10:40 IN THE T.K. YOUNG ROOM
Each week features a different, fascinating topic with speakers from throughout the community.

Contact: Gayle Walker, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 46 or gwalker@idlewildchurch.org.

It’s All About Listening
SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Elaine Blanchard is a storyteller, writer and actor. She teaches storytelling at Memphis Theological Seminary, Memphis College of Art, and Snowden Middle School. In 2010 she began a storytelling and performance program with women in the Shelby County jail.

“…the women in the Prison Stories Project are using writing, theatre and storytelling to move confidently into the future. Their stories are unique and valuable, dignified by the circle of trust they create for each other.” — Elaine Blanchard

Elaine will talk about storytelling, tell a story, show “Inside Story,” a 30-minute documentary about her work in the Shelby County jail, then engage the group in conversation. (More information at www.elaineblanchard.com and www.wkno.org/tvshows/inside_story.html.)

Against the Grain: Hard-Won Lessons
SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Bill Courtney turned a group of unfocused, at-risk teen at Manassas High School into a highly motivated football team – a feat that became the subject of the 2012 Academy Award-winning film “Undefeated.” He also converted an abandoned piece of property in North Memphis into a $45 million lumber company with 120 employees.

“I’m going to bare my soul in describing the challenges, demons, and scars in my own life that I’ve had to conquer, get past, and forgive. You can’t be a successful leader or mentor until you have served; you can’t serve until you have stepped out of your comfort zone. And you can’t step out of your comfort zone with any success unless you have character and keep your word. These principles may be seen as old-fashioned, and perhaps they are, but they apply more than ever to the challenges we face today.” — Bill Courtney, Against the Grain

Memphis Hospitality HUB: Empowering Homeless to Put Their Lives Back Together
SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Beatrice Kimmmons, Executive Director of the Memphis Hospitality HUB, and Kelcey Johnson, its Associate Director, lead a vital hospitality, counseling and resource center for homeless persons and those imminently homeless in downtown Memphis. Its mission is to connect individuals with the resources they need to begin their journey out of homelessness. Someone there said, “We’ve seen Executive Director Beatrice Kimmmons get birth certificates from as far away as Iraq and Germany.” Their commitment is to work with those individuals who are ready to make changes in their lives. The HUB receives an Idlewild Community Support grant.

Music as a Healer
SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Thomas Hobson is a board certified music therapist who has worked at LeBonheur Children’s Hospital for the past 12 years. He currently serves as the director of Child Life Services. Thomas serves on our diaconate.

And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him. — I Samuel 16:23

Music is a universal experience that has the power to greatly impact us. Just as David played his lyre to help Saul, music can serve a healing force for all of us. This presentation will look at the research and practice of music therapist, and how precisely music impacts us.
The Church’s Rich Heritage of Singing Psalms

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Barry Oliver is completing his seventh month as our Director of Music.

To say or sing the psalms aloud within a community is to recover religion as an oral tradition, restoring to our mouths words that have been snatched from our tongues and relegated to the page, words that have been privatized and effectively silenced. —Kathleen Norris

This session will include a historic review of the practice of Psalm-singing in Christian worship, from the early centuries of the Church through the Reformation and extending to the present day. In addition to a lecture, recordings will be played, choir members will sing, and all present will be invited to join in the singing the church’s rich Psalm book.

Walking Architectural & Symbolism Tour

SUNDAY, JULY 6

Adrienne Davis serves as a member of the Worship and Music Committee and A Covenant Conversation class.

What does Idlewild Church have in common with the Great Wall of China or the famous Passion Play of Oberammergau, Germany? What are all those stone images at the top of our sanctuary columns? Where is the only gold cross in the sanctuary? Throughout the tour, the wonders of George Awsumb’s gothic architectural genius are explained. (A DVD entitled Architectural Tour and Guide to Symbols of Idlewild is available ($15) in the office.)

Psalms for the Psummer Sermon Series: Psalm 1

SUNDAY, JULY 13

Pastor Steve Montgomery

The Psalms disorient us precisely so that we can be given a new and previously unimagined orientation. As we begin our “Psalms for the Psummer” series, Steve will present an overview of the Psalms based on Walter Brueggemann’s work on Psalms of orientation, disorientation, and re-orientation, as well as take a look at the first Psalm. What does happiness really look like?

This psalm will be the sermon text for the day’s 8:30 and 11:00 worship services.

Nicaragua: Youth Mission Trip

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Frank Kelly serves as our Director for Youth Ministry.

Twenty-six youth and eight adults are traveling to Nicaragua June 15–23 for a mission trip with Seeds of Learning. The organization works with North Americans and Central Americans to build and equip schools in Nicaragua and El Salvador, educate children and adults, and promote cross-cultural understanding. During the trip, our youth are partnering with communities, forming relationships, building bridges, and exploring cultures—all while building a school building!

The 221th PC (USA) General Assembly: Abounding in Hope

SUNDAY, JULY 27

The Reverend Bo Scarborough is Interim Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of the Mid-South. Ms. Linda Scholl is Clerk of Session at First Presbyterian Church.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. —Romans 15:13

Important church business is accomplished at the General Assembly, but the context for this work is worship, celebration, remembrance, and hope for the future. Hear a first-hand report from Commissioners Bo Scarborough and Linda Scholl, representing the Presbytery of the Mid-South, on the spirit and actions of this year’s Assembly, held June 14–21 in Detroit. (Follow the General Assembly at www.pcusa/ga221.)

Trauma and Compassion

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

McKenna Lewellen is an alumna of Rhodes College, where she graduated with a degree in religious studies. She is living and teaching in Memphis until this fall, when she will begin earning a master’s of divinity degree at Boston University School of Theology.

Whether in our own bodies or in those close to us, trauma is a part of all of our lives. Yet its complexity and accompanying shame cause us to shrink away from responding well. In exploring the intersection between trauma and theology, we can imagine how, as people of faith, we might create sanctuaries for healing after tragedy.

Mid-Town Memphis: The Presence of Hattiloo Theatre

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Ekundayo Bandele is Executive/Artistic Director of Hattiloo Theatre.

The beauty and magnificence of Memphis is its soul, culture and local color... and that’s why it is my Hattiloo! —Rabbi Micah Greenstein, Temple Israel

At Hattiloo we believe that understanding and valuing cultural diversity are the keys to countering racism. All individuals must feel free to explore the uniqueness of their culture and identity while developing understandings of the cultural diversity that exists in the world around them. Denying cultural expression means limiting the expression of unique perspectives on life and the transmission of knowledge from generation to generation.

In the last eight years, Hattiloo Theatre’s Ekundayo Bandele has built a major civic institution from the ground up. Hattiloo Theatre is one of few free-standing, independent Black theatres in America. Director Bandele writes, “Hattiloo takes pride in adding texture, depth, and diversity to the historically rich artistic fabric of our city.”
Psalms for the Psummer Sermon Series: Psalm 34

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

Pastor Steve Montgomery leads the series conclusion.

The practice of praying all the Psalms regularly promises no instant gratification. But it can change our lives—deeply and forever.

Here, we take a look at Psalm 34. What does it mean to “bless the Lord... at all times?” Tradition has said this was written by David as he feigned madness before Abimelech, sending him away. (This psalm will be the sermon text for the day’s 8:30 and 11:00 worship services.)

The Impact of Amendment One on Women and Families

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Ashley Coffield is President and CEO of Planned Parenthood Greater Memphis Region. John Jones is an attorney and Chair of Planned Parenthood Greater Memphis Region’s Board of Directors.

In November, voters in Tennessee will be deciding whether or not to amend the State constitution to add the following language: “Nothing in this constitution protects a woman’s right to an abortion...” We will discuss the history of the amendment, the impact it will have on public policies in Tennessee, and the anticipated effects it will have on women and families in Memphis and the Mid-South.

Memphis Gangs: Prevention, Intervention and Suppression

AUGUST 31

Ray Lapone currently serves as chief prosecutor of the Shelby County District Attorney’s Multi-Agency Gang Unit Prosecution Team. He has served in the Domestic Violence Prosecution Unit, Criminal Court, and the Gang and Narcotics Prosecution Unit.

Ray Lapone will present information about local gangs from the perspective of law enforcement and the Shelby County District Attorney’s office. We will look at the explosion of gang crime in Memphis and how gangs are structured throughout the Mid-South. Discussion will also include how gang violence is being combated through the development of the multi-agency gang unit working within the community, as well as school intervention programs.

LeMaster Class

The LeMaster Class meets Sunday mornings at its regular time and location (9:40–10:40 in the Conference Room, Sanctuary Bldg.) The summer study is Second Isaiah 40–66, led by Dr. Lewis Donelson.

OTHER ADULT GROUPS

Inquirers Class

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3–AUGUST 31 (Room 306 W, Jones Bldg.)

The New Member Welcoming Committee offers this class for prospective members, as well as members who have not had the opportunity to attend. The series begins August 3 at 9:40 a.m. It includes clergy presentations on what it means to be a Presbyterian, and specifically the Idlewild mission; a presentation on the history of the church by local historian Perre Magness; and a tour of the sanctuary, narthex and garth by Jim Elkner. There will also be presentations on the organizational structure of the church and opportunities to serve the church and the community. For more information please contact Richard Baer, 274-7466, or Associate Pastor Anne H.K. Apple, 726-4681 or anne@idlewildchurch.org.

Young Adult Summer Cinema Program

SUMMER CINEMA DIVINA

Young adults are invited to join in this look at film through the lens of faith, paralleling the practice of lectio divina. In 1977 Matthias Neuman, OSB, wrote, “Beyond the written word, the giant visual image of the modern movie screen may provide the impetus for an authentic lectio.” The group will embrace the Orpheum’s summer movie series and select certain films to see. Head downtown for the viewing, then to a local restaurant afterward for fellowship and discussion. Stay tuned for what dates and films will be selected. For more information contact Brittany Barbee, bbarbee@idlewildchurch.org.

Young Professional Women’s Dinners

FIRST THURSDAYS — 6:30 P.M.

JUNE 5 — Side Street Café (Overton Square)
AUGUST 7 — Memphis Pizza Café (Overton Square)
SEPTEMBER 4 — Dinner-In Potluck

For more information, please contact Kristen Murphy, 816-896-5707, kristendmurphy@yahoo.com.

Young Professional Women’s Retreat

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19-21

The theme of the weekend is The Sound of Sheer Silence, on giving yourself permission to be still, let go of limitations, and embrace God’s divergent grace. This will be a time of rest, connection with others, reflection, and fun. The retreat will be held at Pickwick Lake at the home of Chic and Andi Hill. For more information or to be part of the planning, contact Brittany Barbee at bbarbee@idlewildchurch.org.

Men’s Breakfast

3RD WEDNESDAYS (JUNE 18, JULY 16 & AUGUST 20) — 6:30 A.M.
(T.K. Young Room)

Open to men of all ages and facilitated by church members, there are different discussion topics each month. Free continental breakfast at 6:30, program at 6:45, and a full buffet breakfast ($5) at 7:15. For info contact Ted Cashion, convenor, at 277-4124 or ted.cashion@mac.com.

Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors (OWLS)

For more information or to RSVP for OWLS outings, please contact Regina Benson at 458-2970.

JUNE 10: A Tour of the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Leave the Church at 10:15 a.m. Lunch at the Cupboard.
CHILDRN • YOUTH
MUSIC • RECREATION

Some youth and children’s Sunday school classes are combined during the summer. Please note that children remain in the same class until August 24. If you have questions, contact the church.

CHILDREN

Contact: Elizabeth Houston, Director of Children’s Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 33 or ehoustan@idlewildchurch.org.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

8:30 WORSHIP: Children through senior kindergarten age may go to the nursery. After the 8:30 service, parents need to escort pre-junior and senior kindergarteners to class in Room 203W.

11:00 WORSHIP: Babies, toddlers and two-year-olds may stay in the nursery. Pre-junior and senior kindergarteners go to worship service with their parents then, following Time with the Younger Church, may either go to Children’s Church Continued or stay in worship. Parents should escort children to Room 203W, and pick them up immediately following the service.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES: JUNE 1–AUGUST 24

BABIES, TODDLERS AND TWO YEAR OLDS: Childcare available in the nursery (Jones Bldg., 2nd Floor East)

The following classes are combined for the summer. Both groups will study the PC(USA) “We Believe series Awesome Adventures: Paul’s Amazing Quest.

PRE-SCHOOLERS, JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTENERS

Room 203W. Class is led by Catie Ward.

ELEMENTARY (1ST-6TH GRADERS)

Room 310E. Class is led by Elizabeth Houston.

SPECIAL DATES

August 17: Recreation Sunday in the gym for ages three through fifth grade. Teachers meet in Room 304W.

August 24: Regular church school classes begin for all ages. Children are promoted to their new grades.

YOUTH

Contacts: Frank Kelly, Director of Youth Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 14, fkelly@idlewildchurch.org; Dara Bigger, Assistant Director, 726-4681 ext. 37, dbigger@idlewildchurch.org.

Other than church school, youth do not meet regularly during the summer. Activities are announced via e-mail and bulletin notices.

QUEST (Questioning, Understanding, Exploring, Sharing Together) is for middle school youth.

BASIC (Brothers and Sisters in Christ) is for senior high students.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES (9:40–10:40)

MAY 25–AUGUST 10: Both groups (rising 8th graders through rising college freshmen) meet together in Room 105W Jones Bldg., for lessons and discussions.

AUGUST 17: Fall youth classes begin.

MUSIC

Contacts: Barry Oliver, Director of Music Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 12, boliver@idlewildchurch.org.

June 1–August 17: The Summer Choir meets each Sunday morning at 10:00 in the Choir Room to prepare for the 11:00 service. All interested singers are invited to contact Barry Oliver to join the choir during the summer.

Regular weekly choir rehearsals resume Thursday, August 21.

RECREATION

Contacts: Ashley Gordon, Director of Recreation Ministry, 725-4165, agordon@idlewildchurch.org; Anthony Albonetti, Assistant Director, 725-4165, anthony@idlewildchurch.org

JUNE 2–JULY 17: RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner-Cities) is 9:00 to noon Monday-Thursday for boys and girls ages 8–13. No fee, but registration is required. RBI is sponsored by the Redbirds.

Soccer signup begins in May. There are teams for boys and girls ages 4–18. Costs are $75 for youth, $45 for mini strikers (kindergarten). Games are September through October.