



**Cooper Memorial United
Methodist Church**
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Louisville KY 40229
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The Bible is to us
what the star was to
the wise men; but if
we spend all our time
in gazing upon it,
observing its
motions, and
admiring its
splendor, without
being led to Christ by
it, the use of it will
be lost on us.

-Thomas Adams

Visit Cooper Memorial on the web at <http://www.cooperchurch.com>



November/December Calendar Inside!!!
January/ February Calendar & Newsletter Submission
Deadline is December 15th.
502-969-4310
stoneblue@aol.com

Cooper Memorial: Offering Hope and Love through Jesus

Sunday Morning Classes 9:30
Paid Nursery staff: birth - age 3
Preschool: Ages 4 to 6 - Ashley Mills, teacher
Elementary grades 1 to 3 -Amy Lee, teacher
Elementary grades 4 to 5- Renee Hudgell, teachers
Mid-high grades 6-8- Robbie Hudgell, teacher
Serendipity Class (Teens to early 20's)-Barb Hudgell, teacher
Life Builders- Rick Smith, leader
Friendship Class- Glinnie Moss, leader
Journey Class- SanDee Crabtree & Charlene Smith, leaders
Christian Service Class- Nina Adams, leader

Cooper Memorial UMC Connections

November and December 2010

Volume 4, Issue 29

Meet the Church...

I was asked to share some of my "life story" for the Cooper Newsletter. "How I seem to bounce back and keep on going," she said, "always with a smile on my face". Well, at that moment, tears welled up in my eyes. That happens if my soul or spirit are touched. After my husband Ralph's sickness and death, my heart has grown even more tender and compassionate towards others that are going through suffering or grief or whatever. Back in the year 1976, before my high school sweetheart and then husband died of a brain tumor when I was only 42, I received a touch from God, due to the prayers of my sister and my daughter after the surgery. It was like someone handing me a hope-life-preserver. Later when I went to the chapel, a scripture verse on a sign there became embedded in my psyche. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (Psalms 30:5) Of course, I interpreted that to mean that he would be healed. I went to a prayer group at St. Paul's Catholic church on Dixie Hwy and a nurse, who had been healed of a dread disease, was teaching on receiving the fullness of Holy Spirit. I was so timid then that I could not ask for prayer for my husband Charlie. So I asked the deacon's wife who had invited me there, to make the request. The nurse, Ann Gunther, is still my good friend today. She did pray for him and that group became my support group for the next 18 months. There were all denominations and they were singing and praising the Lord with joy. So after Ann prayed for Charlie, she prayed for me to receive all God had for me and then to give me a bonus of joy! That carried me through Charlie's 18 months before his death; and that joy has remained inside me ever since. Of course, that JOY OF THE LORD, is the same thing that carried me through Ralph's death in June 2009, and through the heart issues that I have had that made me require a pacemaker. The best part of that Joy is that it can be shared with others. Recently, my neighbor Rose, had a brain-bleed while we were at lunch on Oct 2. I called EMS and followed the ambulance to the hospital. Another neighbor and good friend met me at the ER as well as Rose's son and grandson. Days later in ICU at Norton's where Rose was taken for surgery, I was telling Rose good-bye and praying for her when I looked up and saw the whole family standing around the bed and my heart was like Rose's heart towards them. I told them how much faith their grandmother had in Jesus and in His Holy Spirit and Father-God; and that they needed to have that too, like her. It is much needed for living and is the reason I had been able to go through the deaths of parents and husbands, that belief in eternal life through Jesus and His Holy Spirit. I cried as did everyone in the room including a friend who was outside the door praying for me! Now that whole family loves me like family. There, that is more JOY of our Lord! The next week, I was invited to a lunch and tea at church near here, where there was a dynamic speaker. She was from Catholic Charities. She spoke and showed a video about human trafficking. It was very moving and tragic to see the lives affected. We all felt almost hopeless as it seemed there was no solution to the problem. But suddenly, a strong sense rose up in me that I was to lead the whole group in prayer and to pray for the speaker who gets discouraged working with the young people whose lives have been ruined. We joined hands and I prayed with the Holy Spirit praying through methat God was greater than any problem and that He has ways even when there seems to be no way to save His children. Then, in tears our big Amen! And joy and hope follow.



Nina Adams

Maybe, another reason I smile is because my dad was nicknamed "Smiley" so perhaps I have inherited it from him. He and my mother were faith believing people who were hopeful and optimistic. I have had so many joys and blessings in my life that outnumber the sufferings. Among them are my three adult children, Chuck, Donna and Marianna, who married fine spouses and gave me five grandchildren that give me more joy. This church family here at Cooper has given me joy. I love the whole Body of Christ ever occasion that I am with them. That has included being with many different denominations over the years as I have served as president of a local neighborhood Lighthouse of Aglow International. It is a organization founded in the eighties with 8 women around a kitchen table and now is functioning as God's tool in 138 or more countries around the world. That gives me more reason to have joy and to smile because I have received encouragement from them many times over the years. Aglow's name is taken from the scripture in Romans 12:11 "to be 'fervent' (another meaning of aglow) and burning with the Spirit. To finish up on my reasons for being joyful, living here at the Wesley Manor Village Patio Homes among Christians is like already receiving some of heaven's goods. Peace, security and listening to many other faith stories of many older than I is a real encouragement. Just like teaching the Seniors class now at Cooper. They argued over who was the oldest! So you see, getting older is not awful, we still have a lot of fun and Joy in our Lord!

PS. In your Bible concordance, look up how many scriptures there are for joy and to rejoice always. The Word of God is another big JOY for me! It tells us that God rejoices over us with LOVE.