

# NORRIS RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP

AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

NORRIS, TENNESSEE



**APRIL 19, 2026**

**DR. BILL IRELAND**

*IN THINGS AGREED UPON UNITY,*

*IN OTHER THINGS LIBERTY,*

*IN ALL THINGS THE WILL TO BE ONE.*

Emmaus is “the place we go in order to escape—a bar, a movie, where it is we throw up our hands and say, ‘Let the whole ... thing go hang. It makes no difference anyway.’”

--Frederick Buechner, *The Magnificent Defeat*

## *We Gather for Worship*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

**Prayers** For wellness in our community. For Louna and family, Col. H.E Wolfe, Len Helton, Kristina (Yvonne’s daughter), Mary Shelton, Harriet Hensley, Carolyn Stribling, Howard Helton, and Lois Wolfe. For those recovering from natural disasters, Ukraine, Gaza, all refugees, all elected officials, peacekeepers, change agents, the ICC, and our fellowship community.

**Prayer Table & Offering:** Our Prayer Table gives us the opportunity to sign a notecard for someone who is in special need of prayer. We also place our offering plate on the Prayer Table because all of our gifts to God are prayerful offerings. We understand spirits nudge can come when we least expect it. To make giving simple and safe, you will find the QR code on the prayer table is an easy link to paypal account, NorrisRF.

**Bible Study** Bible Study will meet via zoom on Wednesday, April 22nd at 7pm. Zoom info will be posted in the weekly newsletter and sent out via email the day of Bible Study.

**Theology on Tap** Theology on Tap will meet on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at the Clinch River Brewery. All are invited to join.

**Study Group** Study Group will meet on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Game Night** Community Game Night will be Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Invite your friends and bring your favorite games to play. We will have some games available. Beverages will be provided. Bring a snack if you'd like.

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Call to Worship:

One: Even if we feel abandoned and alone,

**Many: Christ meets us here.**

One: Even when we become lost and disoriented,

**Many: Christ rescues us in our need.**

One: Even when our hearts are touched by the frost,

**Many: Christ warms our spirits.**

One: Even when all light has faded to black,

**Many: Christ illumines our Way.**

**All: Amen!**

**\*Hymn: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" (Red Hymnal, p. 310)**

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King:  
your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,  
and triumph evermore.

Refrain:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Jesus the Savior reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above. [Refrain]

3 His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus giv'n. [Refrain]

4 He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet. [Refrain]

5 Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home. [Refrain]

*We Offer Our Praise and Prayer*

Morning Psalm: 34:1-10

**Hymn: “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” (Red Hymnal, p. 481)**

1 O soul, are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There’s light for a look at the Savior,  
and life more abundant and free!

Refrain:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
look full in his wonderful face,  
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
in the light of his glory and grace.

2 Through death into life everlasting  
he passed, and we follow him there;  
over us sin no more hath dominion-  
for more than conqu'rors we are! [Refrain]

3 His Word shall not fail you– he promised;  
believe him, and all will be well:  
then go to a world that is dying,  
his perfect salvation to tell! [Refrain]

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*We Attend to the Word*

Sermon: “Getting Off the Road to Nowhere” Dr. Bill Ireland

Luke 24:13-35

**\*Hymn: “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”**

(Red Hymnal, p. 616)

1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

\*Benediction

\*The Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind blow at your back.

May the sun shine warmly on your face,

May the rain fall softly on your field.

And until we meet again,

Til' we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Postlude