



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 27 Youth Parents' Breakfast
- 31 Boo Bash

NOVEMBER

- 4 All Saints Day Service
End of Daylight Savings Time
- 12 Veterans Day
- 22 Thanksgiving Community Meal
- 22-23 Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

Next Backsliders Speaker

October 28 Ted Kocher

WNL DINNER MENUS

There will be no WNL Dinner or classes on October 31 due to Boo Bash.

November 7: Baked ziti, salad, green beans, yellow cake with chocolate frosting

November 14: Chicken and rice casserole, salad, steamed broccoli, Mountain Dew cake

Sunday Services

Worship Service:

8:30, 10:55

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:55 a.m. Service Broadcast on News Talk FM 94.1/AM 1600

Nursery Available

Sunday Worship and Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Children ages birth to 3 years

Phone: 931-526-2177

Fax: 931-372-9905

Email: office@cookevillefumc.org

www.cookevillefumc.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

I recently informed our Bishop, District Superintendent, and Staff Parish Relations Committee that I intend to retire at the end of this calendar year. My last Sunday will be December 16th. Mid-year appointment changes are not unusual in our system. They occur every year, and our Bishop and Cabinet will make a mid-year appointment to fill the vacancy.

I'm grateful for the privilege of serving at FUMC for over five years. I'm especially thankful for the faithfulness and generosity of the congregation. I also appreciate your kindness to me and my family during my tenure here.

As with any major decision, numerous factors impacted this one. For one thing, I've been engaged in church work for forty years. That's a long time! So, I'm ready to do some other things beyond church employment. Most important, I want to spend more time with family and friends. Also high on my list are numerous writing projects, both fiction and non-fiction. I have a long list of other non-work activities I want to pursue while my overall health is still good. And I may serve a part-time or interim pastorate.

I'm also weary of struggling with a three decade long vocal disorder. I live in chronic vocal pain and fatigue, constantly aggravated by the heavy vocal use that is demanded in a large, fulltime pastorate. That reality played a significant role in this decision.

Also, I think it's time for FUMC to have new senior pastor leadership. Since my arrival over five years ago, I've attempted to implement three major strategies for revitalization at FUMC. They included (1) high energy, celebrative blended worship, including a mix of traditional and contemporary music, along with projection capacity for visual impact in a highly visual world, (2) creating a culture of invitation, where people boldly and regularly invite folks to FUMC, and (3) claiming a niche as a progressive church of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" in a community of mostly religious-right churches. However, FUMC has not embraced these strategies. It's certainly the right of First Church to decline these particular initiatives. However, avoiding change and maintaining the current status quo will lead to serious decline in the years ahead. Therefore, it's time for a new pastor to bring fresh eyes and attempt new strategies. My hope and prayer is that a new leader will help mobilize fresh directions, leading to new vitality. I care deeply about FUMC and want only good things for your future.

There's plenty of work to do before my departure. So, I won't say much more about this until we get closer to December 16th. But, given my notice to the Bishop, DS and our SPRC, I felt I should share this information with the congregation. Our Staff Parish Committee will consult with the DS about this upcoming transition in the near future, and will share their perspective about FUMC's future senior pastor needs.

~ Martin

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 367

Sunday, October 21, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 414

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$23,730.44

Building fund receipts \$390.00

Sunday, October 21, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$17,088.00

Building fund receipts \$690.00

Club 456— Bowling World

Club 456 will take an outing to Bowling World on Friday, November 2. Meet in the Freeman Building lobby at 3:30 p.m. and we will return to the same place by 5:30 p.m. Bring your friends and let's have some fun! The cost is \$8. For more information, contact Shannon Auberson in the church office at 526-2177 or sign-up online at www.cookevillefumc.org

Discovery Weekend Planning

FUMC Youth will have a Discovery Planning meeting November 6 (Election Day) at the church from 10 a.m.—3 p.m. in the Youth Room. If you are interested in helping plan Discovery Weekend this year, contact Adam Daniels at addaniels7@gmail.com.

Youth Lock-In

Join us an all night extravaganza November 9 - 10! We'll meet at the church at 9 p.m. and then head to the town for some activities. We will end up back at the church for fun and games in the gym, a movie in the Youth room, snacks, and more. We'll have breakfast in the morning. The event will end at 8 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Marvin Barker
Vivian Barnes
Janey Bassett
Craig Benich
Robert Buck
Randy Cavanaugh
Peggy Cho
Anna Cunningham
Kurt Eisen
Dave and Pat Evans

Brian Lee Foster
Elaine Funk
Mary Garrison
Nate Griffis
Joe Hix
Alma Jean Johnson
Jan Jordan
Mary Byrd King
Levena Kline
Karen Macke

Brian Maffett
Pat Maxwell
Brittany McCloud
Wayne Nichols
Winnie Peterson
Margaret Phipps
Mary Jo Rogers
David Sachse
Sarah Stockton
Gene Evelyn Warren
Hazel Wyatt

Sympathy and Prayer

Betty Scruggs and family on the death of her father, Charles Caplenor.

James Green, Mark Green, Kelly Hodge, and their families on the death of their father John Green.

Missionaries

Eric and Liz Soard

COME TO THE TABLE



FIND YOUR PLACE HERE.

What is "The Table"? Cookeville FUMC is excited to invite you to The Table - our new worship service. Our next service will be Sunday, October 28 at 6 p.m. in Wesley Chapel. Our Youth Praise Band will be joining us to lead a powerful worship service. The Table is a place that's fresh and familiar, thoughtful and dynamic, hopeful and full of grace. Come join us and find your place here.

YOUTH SCHEDULE—FALL MAIN EVENTS

October 27 Parent's Prayer Breakfast at Adam and Jessie's

October 31 Boo Bash

November 6 Discovery Planning Day

November 9 - 10 Youth Lock-In

November 11 "A Little Off Broad Street"

December 8 Breakfast with Santa

December 16 Christmas Party

PUMPKIN CAROLING

Sunday, October 28, 2 - 4 p.m. FUMC Kids are invited to an afternoon of Pumpkin Caroling at local retirement and assisted living centers. Let's share our Halloween spirit and brighten someone's day with a song. Wear your Halloween costumes!

Club 456 students may ride the church buses. Drop-off for Club 456 at 1:45 p.m. and pick up at 4 p.m. in the Freeman Building Lobby. Families with younger children are welcome to caravan behind the bus!



For updated information, please visit us online at www.cookevillefumc.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

GRIEF SHARE PRESENTATION

The GriefShare ministry will present a new video, *Loss of a Spouse*, on Sunday, October 28, from 2-4 p.m. in Jeff Wall Hall. We will have a brief discussion period after the video. There is no charge, but reservations are appreciated so we can anticipate the number of persons who will participate. To make reservations, contact Robert Jager at 644-2435, or the church office at 526-2177.

BOO BASH!

It's the final week to donate candy or treats for Boo Bash! This Halloween, help us treat the best dressed ghosts and goblins in Putnam County. We gave away almost 1,000 pounds of candy last year, and we are grateful for your generosity! As you are shopping, please consider buying candy for Boo Bash, or if you prefer, the church office is accepting cash donations to purchase candy. Help us make this year's Boo Bash bigger and better than ever before!



UMW's HARVEST OF BLESSINGS



Please join us for United Methodist Women's annual Harvest of Blessings on Friday, November 9, from 10 a.m.—1 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.

This is our only fundraiser, and the monies raised go toward local missions. Last year, over \$2,000 were donated back to the community. Some of the venues that benefited were FUMC's own Disaster Relief Team, Emergency Fund, and God's Grace Food Pantry. We also contributed to Putnam County's Rescue Mission, Teens Need Training program, and Cookeville Regional Medical Center Foundation.

In addition to the soup that is served and the baked goods that are sold, we will have areas specifically for plant sales and gently used cookbook sales. Mark your calendars for this eventful day!

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON



Thursday, November 15 at 11 a.m. in Jeff Wall Hall. *Why is God not mentioned in the U.S. Constitution?* with Dr. Calvin Dickinson. Join Young at Heart as Dr. Dickinson, a retired

TTU history professor, speaks on the U.S. Constitution. None of the six men who wrote it were Christians. What did they believe? Come learn more about this intriguing topic. Make reservations by November 13 through the Church Office, 526-2177. Cost: \$5 at the door.

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, October 28

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Classrooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study — B206
UMYF — Youth Room
- 6:00 p.m. The Table: a Worship Service — Wesley Chapel

Monday, October 29

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study — B213
- 9:00 a.m. Senior Adult Fitness — Gym
- 10:00 a.m. UMW District Meeting — B213
- 3:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B214
- 4:30 p.m. Finance Meeting — Conference Room

Tuesday, October 30

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music — C206B
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B214
- 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel

Wednesday, October 31

- 6:00 a.m. Men's Group — C112
- 9:00 a.m. Hope Academy
- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music — C206B
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — YMCA
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- 10:30 a.m. Mining Your Memories — B213
- 3:30 p.m. Knitting — B206
- 4:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B214
- 6:00 p.m. Boo Bash — Parking Garage

Thursday, November 1

- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 1:45 p.m. Jubilee Ringers — Sanctuary
- 3:30 p.m. Chair Yoga — Gym
- 4:45 p.m. Sanctuary Handbells — Sanctuary
- 5:45 p.m. Evening Ensemble — Music Suite
- 6:30 p.m. Gospel Ensemble — Music Suite

Friday, November 2

- 8:00 a.m. Dipsy Doodle Men's Breakfast — Dipsy Doodle Restaurant

WIDOWED PERSONS MINISTRY PLANNING SESSION

The first weeks, months, and even years after losing a spouse can be extremely difficult and challenging. A planning session for the Widowed Persons Ministry will take place on Tuesday, October 30 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. in B206. This meeting explores how we as a church family can best reach out to those who are learning to live through the grief and loss of losing their life partner.

You do not have to be a widow or widower to participate. We will discuss the critical needs of widows and widowers, what resources are most helpful, and how to create a ministry that is light on unnecessary meetings and formality and large on quality time spent in mentoring, fellowship, and mutual peer support. For more information, contact Noel Poston at noel@cookevillefumc.org or call the church office at 526-2177.



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It's that time of year again!

As you are shopping, please remember to purchase candy for our annual Trunk or Treat. Donations are welcome at the church office.

Interested in volunteering to decorate your car and pass out candy? Contact Tamika Parker at 526-2177 by October 26.

Open hearts. Open minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church.

FOOD PANTRY

Please consider adding these items to your grocery shopping list so we may help provide needed items to our friends and neighbors:

- Bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, cranberry sauce
- Grocery and newspaper bags that are clean and flattened

YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO KISSIMMEE

What an amazing time of service and fellowship!

We served food, carried trays, washed dishes, bused tables, refilled drinks, talked to families, ran attractions, cheered kids as they walked on the red carpet, did face painting, judged an "American Idol" type show, and walked in the hottest Christmas parade there ever was. We laughed, cried, danced A LOT, and had a great time!



DISASTER RELIEF TEAM TACKLES MICHAEL



Members from the Cookeville Disaster Relief Team deployed to Florida last week to help clear some of the debris from Hurricane Michael.

CONFIRMATION CLASS



A new year of Confirmation began last Sunday! Please pray for the incredible 6th graders at FUMC as they dive into their faith

and take this important step in their spiritual journey. For more information about 6th grade confirmation, contact Shannon Auberson at children@cookevillefumc.org.