



CONGREGATIONAL
PRAYER CONCERNS

The Asante family	Ann Kellman
Janey Bassett	Gary Kellman
Tia Bassett	Kirk Kellman
Juanita Bilyeu	Mary Byrd King
Nathaniel Bone	Dave Lee
Robert Buck	Fred Lee
Savannah Lynn Caylor	Mike Lee
Peggy Cho	Annette Lynch
Barry Clouse	Brian Maffett
Scott Crouch	Sylvia McCann
Faye Curry	Paul McLendon
Michael Curry	Linda McConnell
Mary Mac Darnell	Harper Mynatt
Ferdinand DiFurio	Larry Norton
Nadia DiFurio	Rob Poteet
Delaney Duncan	Mary Jo Rogers
Hazel Dyer	Roxanne Self
Brian Lee Foster	Hazel Smith
Elaine Funk	Sarah Stockton
Mary Garrison	Bobbie Story
Nate Griffis	Tommie Thackston
Hunter Harris	Jessie Watts
Joe Hix	Pam White
Bob Jones	Harriett Wright

Sympathy and Prayer

Sympathy to Lynne Maddux and family in the death of her mother, Nancy McLemore.

Sunday Services

Worship Service:
8:30, 10:55, and 11:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:55 a.m. Service Broadcast on
WATX-AM 1600

Nursery Available

Sunday Worship and Sunday
School: 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Children ages birth to 4 years

Phone: 931-526-2177
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Email: office@cookevillefumc.org
www.cookevillefumc.org

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Lately, I have been thinking about what it means to be the “ancient-future” church. I first heard the term ancient-future from a former professor, Dr. Robert Webber at Northern Seminary in Chicago. In a series of books around the turn of the millennium, Dr. Webber pointed to the church’s challenge of adaptation to new realities in our time. He points out the necessity of *drawing wisdom from the past and translating these insights into the present and future life of the church, its faith, worship, ministry and spirituality.* (Webber, *The Divine Embrace: Recovering the Passionate Spiritual Life*, p. 7). The balance of “ancient” and “future” allows us to take our best thoughts and practices from over two thousand years of Christianity and apply them to our time in innovative and life-giving ways.

Over the past few weeks, my thoughts have returned to Dr. Webber’s ancient-future framework. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to socially distance for safety. We are now making plans to return to in-person worship June 21, but with necessary restrictions to keep our gathering congregation as safe as possible. We will offer multiple in-person service times while also providing our ongoing digital streaming service. So our life right now is a hybrid experience. It lends itself to an ancient-future approach. (Everything is fluid; stay tuned).

In preparing for the return of in-person worship and in the midst of our conversations now about trying to plan for this fall, I find myself thinking of *essentials*. What is the essential core of worship? What is the essential core content we should be sharing as a Christian community—united in Christ, yet scattered by the pandemic? What adaptations are necessary for our shared life ... as we continue to grow and serve as Christian disciples? These are questions that require an ancient-future response.

One ancient-future principal will have to guide us moving forward: *gathering in small groups*. The strength of the early church was a network of house churches. A new approach to Christian community as a network of small groups is our future! We are being challenged to build a network of small groups that can meet in a variety of ways. This summer, that will be our focus. By fall, it may be that groups beyond worship are limited to 10-12 persons. So, we need an ancient-future way of facilitating those groups, with both in-person and online ways of gathering and sharing essential content. By August, we hope to offer a wide range of resources to help nurture and sustain Christian community in many forms, using both small in-person gatherings and on-line gatherings with resources for a hybrid, ancient-future approach to being and doing church.

While the ongoing reality of the pandemic will be with us for some time, the challenges are also opportunities. Our opportunity now is to find new, innovative ways of being the church in an ancient-future way. Pray for our congregation as we develop the strategy to move forward and be stronger than ever ... connected in new networks of small groups.

~ Kevin

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Total Online Worship Views: 317

Sunday, May 31, 2020

Total Online Worship Views: 248

BY OUR GIFTS

Actual Receipts for Two Weeks \$28,156.42

Actual Expenses for Two Weeks \$35,453.30

Online Giving

During this time of social distancing, we have several ways for you to continue supporting the ongoing ministries and operating expenses of your church.

- Mail your check to 165 E Broad St. Cookeville, TN 38501
- Automatic draft on the 5th and/or 20th each month.
- Online giving by credit card
- Online giving through recurring donations

Please call LuAnn in the church office at 526-2177 if you would like to setup automatic draft or have any questions about other options. Online giving is available through our website at www.cookevillefumc.org/giving. Thanks for your continued support during these different times!

FLOWER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

We have an annual altar flower sponsorship available for June 28. Contact Patricia in the church office at 526-2177 if you are interested in either the annual sponsorship or would like to sponsor for this year only.

HIKER CHICKS



The first hiking event for this newly forming group will be held June 15 at 10 a.m. at Burgess Falls State Park. We will stay close to home so that each person can drive and we can practice social distancing.

Everyone is welcome. After hiking to the falls, we will enjoy some time visiting together and discuss future hike plans. Bring a sack lunch, drink and a lawn chair. If you have questions contact, Cindy Garrett, 261-4403.



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

YOUTH NEWS

Congratulations Class of 2020!!

Please join us in congratulation this year's graduating seniors:

John Clarke Bull	Eva Maffett	Julian Surles
Maggie Collins	Ethan Moore	Katie Ward
Evie Jo Dalton	Hunter Rinehart	Kelsey Warren
John Luke Green	Emma Sells	Karlin Watson
Fort Hunter	Alexis Surles	Davis Welch

What a strange time to graduate high school. This time is usually filled with parties and celebrations, not social distancing and masks. Know that we grieve with you over this. But we also celebrate. We celebrate the time you spent with us these few years. We celebrate your ministry among us through song, making pancakes at Breakfast for Santa, and all the countless way you gave of your of your time and energy to serve others, and the many, many laughs and smiles. Those are the things that last and cannot be touched or canceled by any pandemic. We are proud of you and are excited to see how you will continue to bring the kingdom of heaven to the places you go to from here!

Having said that, we still want to celebrate! On June 22, at 7:30 p.m., we are inviting all seniors and their families to the Sparta Drive-In for our annual Senior Send Off/Year End celebration. It'll be a little different than usual, but we've got some fun ideas up our sleeve that we think will make it a night to remember! Please RSVP by sending Adam an email at addaniels7@gmail.com with your name and the number of people in your party. We also want as many as possible Youth who are not seniors to be there, but our space is limited at the Drive-In, so please let Adam know if you plan to be there!

~ Adam Daniels

SUPPORT OUR DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

During all that has been going on in Cookeville the past couple of months the Disaster Response Team has been hard at work within our community and beyond. Our Disaster Response Team was on the ground the day after the tornado. We worked closely with teams from all over the United States.



The team cut trees, moved debris, tarped roofs, helped families search for personal items, moved furniture, hauled supplies and provided a caring Christian presence. Our team travels and serves all over the United States. Their work has touched so many individuals, families, and businesses, both directly and indirectly.

During this time, artist Ellie Batson had an idea for a fundraiser. Ellie designed a T-shirt that is now available for purchase of \$20. Please show your support for our Disaster Response Team and order today. First come, first served. Sizes available are S-2XL.

To place an order, email Tamika@cookevillefumc.org with name, number of shirts needed and size, then mail your check with "T-shirt" written on the memo line to the church office. We are asking that you order by Monday, June 15. Pick-up date will be Thursday, June 18 from 10 a.m. - noon in the drive-through of the Freeman Building. Thank you for your support, and please continue to pray for our Disaster Team. God uses us for His work today and always.

CONNECTION AND CARE

Early in the morning, when I wake up, there are moments when everything seems normal, but it does not take long to remember this is not the world I woke up to six months ago. Protecting our physical health, and the health of those we love, creates challenges. In addition to COVID-19, the typical concerns of life are still present, but our previous resources and support systems may no longer be available.

When facing uncertainty, it is normal to worry and feel afraid. With all these challenges, it is helpful to remember what remains constant. God's mercy and grace will meet us each morning. God's love and comfort are never careworn, and the Holy Spirit is with us always. These simple truths can be difficult to recall when we are hurting, worried, or isolated.

Pentecost is a reminder to celebrate that Christ did not leave us alone. I encourage you to meet with the Spirit of our living God. We also still have one another. Although we are not able to worship together, the ministers and church staff are available for you and want to engage with you. I encourage you to reach out to Kevin, Rob, or myself. We are here to listen and help. If you do not know who to talk to, please email me at connecting@cookevillefumc.org or call the church office at 931-526-2177 ext. 206. We will do our best to connect you with someone who can help.

Blessings,

Jess Welch

CELEBRATING PENTACOST

On May 31 we celebrated the birthday of the church! Children's Worship packets were delivered to their mailboxes with kits and instructions to make a Spirit Ring. The kids were invited to take pictures to be included in the video taping of last Sunday's worship. Pictured below are Lakyn and London Cumby and Brody Moore and Bristol Ramey holding their Spirit Rings projects in celebration of Pentecost.



FOOD PANTRY



God's Grace Food Pantry is still in operation. We are adhering to the safe practices of social distancing, which makes this ministry look extremely different. Our guests are important to us, and we miss seeing them on a weekly basis. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we value their safety and wellbeing and also long to help them meet their basic needs.

This is new territory for all of us. Our Pantry team discussed several options and decided on the appointment system. This is similar to a plan used in many pantries in our area and across the country. We speak with the guest by phone and discuss their needs, which allows us the opportunity to create a box specifically for their family. Just prior to their pickup appointment time, the box is set outside the door. While this may appear impersonal, Tamika is able to wave through the window and offer signs of peace and encouragement. We are also including a note with a scripture and devotion.

Meanwhile, it's time to make plans for the future. We anticipate a growing need for our pantry and want to be prepared. We are discussing ways we can help Second Harvest by packing emergency boxes for their warehouses and our pantry. As this COVID-19 emergency continues, we will explore other ideas and ways we can be most helpful to our community. Stay tuned for updates during these ever-changing times. We place our hope and faith in God, who sustains us as we continue to fulfill our calling to share the story of grace in the heart of town.

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

LIVE @ 5

Live @ 5 is meeting on Mondays throughout June. We will be focusing on VBS—Rocky Railway! We will meet June 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Contact Shannon Auberson at children@cookevillefumc.org for a link to the Zoom meeting.

SAVE THE DATES!

→ Summer J.A.M. Fest—Stories of strength through music, skits, science, and crafts! Starring the FUMC Garage Band, from a distance and tailgate style. June 23, 30 and July 7, 14, 21 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Details are still being finalized for these events—reservations for parking spots are limited!

→ VBS 2020 is Coming Around the Bend! VBS goes virtual and on the road. There will be two locations for our social distancing/tailgate style VBS Kick-off and closing sessions, with five virtual worship from home opportunities! Be on the lookout for the VBS Sign-up email! Contact Shannon Auberson at children@cookevillefumc.org with questions or to be added to the email list.



Hazel Dyer enjoying her Sunday School Worship at Home Packet items.

Senior Send-Off



First United
Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street
Cookeville, TN 38501

COOKEVILLE METHODIST
(USPS 563-600) Published biweekly,
except Christmas week at
First United Methodist Church
165 E. Broad Street
Cookeville, TN 38501
Periodicals Postage Paid at Cookeville, TN 38501
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Cookeville Methodist
165 E. Broad Street, Cookeville, TN 38501

Monday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.
at the Sparta Drive-In

Go to www.cookevillefumc.org to sign up, or for
more information contact Adam Daniels at
addaniels7@gmail.com

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

GET THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

Consider getting the Cookeville Methodist digitally! In addition to helping us save on postage and printing costs, you'll get the newsletter in full color before the printed copy has even been folded! Email office@cookevillefumc.org with "Newsletter" in the subject line with your first and last name. Every other Tuesday you'll receive an email with a link to the current newsletter. You can also find it (along with past editions) on our website at www.cookevillefumc.org/resources/fumc-newsletters.

DIPSY DOODLE GANG UPDATE

It has been too long since we have been able to meet as a group. I trust each of you has been in touch with three or four members of our group. Hopefully, we will be able to gather soon. In the meantime, do what you can, with what you have, wherever you are. Our support for the "Power of Nutrition" program with Alice Lloyd College has continued. Put aside some money to catch up when we meet again. In the spirit of Fran Fritz, the hat will be passed around! God bless all of you and stay safe—Ken Reinard

HOW TO ACCESS SUNDAY SERVICES

Visit www.cookevillefumc.org, and click the *Sunday's Service and Devotionals* slide. From there, you will be taken to a page that lists all the previously recorded sermons. Click on the date of the sermon title you want to watch, and you will be redirected to our YouTube page and the list of sermons. You can also live stream our service each Sunday on YouTube under CookevilleFUMC. There is a link to that page above the sermon titles on our web page.

Don't have Internet access? We also broadcast via radio at 11 a.m. on NewsTalk FM 94.1.

KROGER CARD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Did you know God's Grace Food Pantry can receive cash back from purchases using your Kroger Rewards Card? And you can still keep all your points and benefits! If you have not signed up your Kroger Plus Card, please do so today. Our food pantry receives a check from Kroger each quarter, and the best part is you still get to keep your gas points for your personal use!

You can register on line at www.krogercommunityrewards.com, or by phone at 1-800-465-7643. You will need the NPO number for God's Grace Food Pantry, which is 96948. Please register your card today! If you need assistance with this or have any questions, please contact Tamika Parker at 526-2177.