

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

The Asante family Janey Bassett Tia Bassett Juanita Bilyeu Nathaniel Bone Robert Buck Keith Cavanary Savannah Lynn Caylor Claire McMillan Peggy Cho Scott Crouch Mary Mac Darnell Ferdinand DiFurio Nadia DiFurio Delaney Duncan Hazel Dyer Brian Lee Foster Elaine Funk Mary Garrison Nate Griffis Hunter Harris Bob Jones Ann Kellman Gary Kellman Kirk Kellman

Mary Byrd King Mike Lee Annette Lynch Brian Maffett Sylvia McCann Linda McConnell Paul McLendon Tim Mengler Harper Mynatt Larry Norton Sue Pope Rob Poteet Mary Jo Rogers Roxanne Self Hazel Smith Sarah Stockton Bobbie Story Tommie Thackston Jessie Watts Pam White Harriett Wright

Sympathy and Prayer

Sympathy to Keith Cavanary and family in the death of his nephew, Trent Johnson of Michigan.

Sympathy to Kent Fletcher, family & friends in the death of his wife, Barbara Fletcher.

Sunday Services

Wotship 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

Volume 65, Issue 15 • July 16, 2020 A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

We are halfway through 2020! It has been such a strange year with the continuing health crisis COVID-19 has presented for all of us. We certainly hated to discontinue in-person worship (again!), but the circumstances require that we all maintain the upmost vigilance. We take your safety very seriously.

I want to thank all of our staff, especially those connected with worship, sound, and the posting of our online worship services and communications! Kathy Evans, our sound crew, Rob, and all our music ministry participants (especially scholarship students and singers in all age groups) continue to make our online worship very meaningful.

In regard to stewardship, financially, your faithfulness has been extraordinary. Our strength allows us to maintain our full staff in their adaptive roles. Each staff person is working hard to serve our congregation and our broader mission in the community and beyond. Your continued level of very strong giving, combined with reduced expenses, helps keep our church budget balanced in a very challenging time.

No one knows what the next six months will bring. We all need to pray for our country and our church as we struggle through a truly historic time. Pray for strength and perseverance as our church continues to navigate our way forward.

Just as a historical reference, I have discovered that a majority of my ancestors fled from Europe and arrived in North America in the midst of plagues or widespread outbreaks of disease. As early as the 1650s, in Nova Scotia, and the 1700s in Philadelphia, Virginia, and Massachusetts, my ancestors encountered sickness and death-both aboard ship and on the frontier. One ancestor left Rotterdam, Germany as one of 350 passengers aboard ship. When the ship arrived in Philadelphia in 1748 with less than 250 survivors, local officials held them aboard ship and then quarantined them in a camp in "Germantown." They went on to Lancaster, Pennsylvania as devout Lutherans, and were part of planting Lutheran churches in Western North Carolina. My point is, historic struggle and even a pandemic can inspire deeper faith, devotion, and perseverance. I continue to pray that over the next six months our story will be the same, as we continue to share "the story of grace in the heart of town."

~ Kevin

BY OUR PRESENCE	
Sunday, July 5, 2020	
Total Online Worship Views:	238
Sunday, July 12, 2020	
Total Online Worship Views:	244
BY OUR GIFTS	
Actual Receipts for Two Weeks	\$64,875.94
Actual Expenses for Two Weeks	\$50,437.44

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!

Sing-A-Long on YouTube

Reminder: The May Madness Hymn Sing is still available on the Youtube Channel! Enjoy a sing-a-long time with some of your favorite hymns!

Madcap Mask Competition

We all need to Mask Up, but that doesn't mean we can't have a little fun. So, we are making lemonade out of lemons and announcing the first (and hopefully the last) FUMC Madcap Mask Competition. Send in a photo of your most creative, zany, fabulous mask. The contest is available to all ages. Families or groups of friends may submit an entry together. Please email a photo of your mask to

Connecting@cookevillefumc.org before August 9, 2020. The winner of the Madcap Mask Match will have their photo featured in the next FUMC Newsletter. May the best mask win!



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

WHO WE ARE AS UNITED METHODISTS



The people of The United Methodist Church are a worldwide connection of more than 12 million members in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States. The United Methodist Church was formed when the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged in 1968. But we trace our heritage back to the movement begun in 1729 in England by John and Charles Wesley. Below, you will find a brief list of some of the distinctive characteristics of our denomination. The United Methodist Church is:

- → Global: Today we speak many languages and live in many countries with different cultures, ethnic traditions, national histories and understandings of Christian faith and practice.
- → Connectional: Every United Methodist congregation is interconnected throughout the denomination via a unique, interlocking chain of conferences. The United Methodist Church practices representative democracy in its governance. Conferences elect delegates who are authorized to act and vote.
- → Inclusive: All persons are welcome to attend our churches and receive Holy Communion, and are eligible to be baptized and become members.
- → Grounded in Scripture: United Methodists trust free inquiry in matters of Christian doctrine. Our faith is guided by Scripture, tradition, experience and reason. Of paramount importance, however, is Scripture as the witness of God's creating, redeeming and sustaining relationship with God's people.
- → Wesleyan: The United Methodist Church has a Wesleyan heritage, and as such, places an emphasis on mind and heart (knowledge and vital piety) and putting faith and love into practice.
- → Concerned about social justice: For more than 230 years, The United Methodist Church and its predecessor bodies have expressed concern for God's children everywhere — the poor, the orphaned, the aging, the sick, the oppressed and the imprisoned.
- → Mission-oriented: Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In uncomplicated terms, this means we strive to nurture followers of Christ who then reach out and teach others about the love of Jesus.
- → Ecumenical: United Methodists consider dialogue and missional cooperation between United Methodists and other Christians as a valid witness to the unity of the body of Christ.

Source: http://ee.umc.org/who-we-are

COMMUNION IN THE UMC

Holy Communion includes a profound act of remembrance that recalls the last supper Jesus had with his disciples. But it is more than just a ritual of remembering. It is primarily an act through which our connection with God, each other and our life of ministry in the world is nourished and strengthened.

This Holy Mystery describes what we believe and practice in the sacrament: "Holy Communion is remembrance, commemoration, and memorial, but this remembrance is much more than simply intellectual recalling. 'Do this in remembrance of me' (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25) is *anamnesis* (the biblical Greek word). This dynamic action becomes re-presentation of past gracious acts of God in the present, so powerfully as to make them truly present now. Christ is risen and is alive here and now, not just remembered for what was done in the past."

In the ritual, the prayer of Great Thanksgiving intentionally rehearses the entirety of God's saving acts in history from creation to God's covenant with Israel, through Jesus' life, death and resurrection. And in this prayer, we seek the pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon us and the gifts of bread and wine we bring.

When we receive the bread and wine so "we may be for the world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood," we are *remembering*. At the same time, we are also *re-membered*, put back together again. We pray that we may be "one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world." God's work of making us one and uniting us with Christ and with each other is the ordinary way by which God feeds us, sustains us and empowers us to live as Christians in the world.

In communion, we do remember the saving work God has already done in the world and is doing today. And we anticipate God's future for the world and all creation. We're partners with God in creating this future. We are strengthened and transformed by the presence of Christ in the bread and wine to respond to God's love by loving God and others.



Source: https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-iscommunion-simply-a-ritual-of-remembrance





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.

Our Pantry team discussed several options and decided on the appointment system. 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.

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.

MOBILE PANTRY

A mobile pantry is a one day distribution. It allows a pantry with limited space and limited refrigeration to serve more families in less time. We received 9,239 pounds of food from Second Harvest at 8 a.m. on Friday, June 28, and it was gone by 5 p.m. We unloaded the truck, boxed food, and began distribution by 9:30 a.m. With the help of many faithful and HOT volunteers, we served over 350 households. Each household received a large box of shelf stable items, a large bag/box of produce, a small watermelon, bakery items, and a gallon of milk. In addition to the food, we included a scripture card with a word of encouragement.

Thank you, everyone, for the great team work! We accomplished a major food distribution in the midst of a pandemic. Thanks to Harry Smith for bringing his Gator truck to transport packed boxes to the loading stations. Thank you to all of our volunteers for your commitment to serve our community. You were the hands and feet of Christ that day. You were selfless and caring. We are especially thankful for our youth choir. You worked and laughed and loved. It was a joy to work alongside you.

Thank you for supporting God's Grace Food Pantry. Please continue to pray for those we serve.





Have you been swiping your Kroger Card for the Food Pantry?

God's Grace Food Pantry can receive cash back from purchases using your Kroger Rewards Card.

Go to *www.krogercommunityrewards.com* to register your card. You will be asked for the NPO number for God's Grace Food Pantry which is *96948*.

Please register your card today! Thanks to all those who have already signed up for Kroger Community Rewards, the Food Pantry recently received \$603.43!



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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.

MASKS—WHY WEAR THEM?

Cloth face coverings are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This is called source control. This recommendation is based on what we know about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, paired with emerging evidence from clinical and laboratory studies that shows cloth face coverings reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth. COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet), so the use of cloth face coverings is particularly important in settings where people are close to each other or where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendar—August 2, 9 a.m. service in Dogwood Park!

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.

WAYNE EVANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the Wayne Evans Memorial Scholarship are now available on the church website www.cookevillefumc.org. The scholarship will be awarded to a member of the Cookeville First United Methodist Church who will attend Tennessee Technological University during the 2020 Fall term. Completed application information is due August 1, 2020.

Prior to his death in 2011, Wayne was an active member of Cookeville FUMC. The scholarship was established in his memory and is awarded annually to a deserving member of the church family. For additional information, contact Kathy Evans at music@cookevillefumc.org or 931-526-2177, ext. 204.