



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

The Asante family	Annette Lynch
Janey Bassett	Brian Maffett
Tia Bassett	Amy Maberry
Juanita Bilyeu	Sylvia McCann
Nathaniel Bone	Linda McConnell
Robert Buck	Claire McMillan
Savannah Lynn Caylor	Tim Mengler
Peggy Cho	Harper Mynatt
JoAnne Cole	Larry Norton
Scott Crouch	Sue Pope
Mary Mac Darnell	Rob Poteet
Ferdinand DiFurio	Mary Jo Rogers
Nadia DiFurio	Elinor Ross
Delaney Duncan	John Schaefer
Hazel Dyer	Roxanne Self
Brian Lee Foster	Hazel Smith
Elaine Funk	Sarah Stockton
Mary Garrison	Bobbie Story
Nate Griffis	Tommie Thackston
Hunter Harris	Jan Thompson
Bob Jones	Tracy Thompson
Ann Kellman	Jessie Watts
Mary Byrd King	Pam White
Mike Lee	

Sympathy and Prayers

Sympathy and prayers to Charlovene Looper, friends, and family, on the death of Travis Anderson.

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

All of us have been anxious to resume in-person worship. As pastors and leaders, we feel the weight of balancing safety with our desire for worship together. All of us would prefer things just go back to “normal” but for now we are coping with a “new normal.” We look forward to our scheduled dates of Worship in the Park, which are September 20, October 4, and October 25. All park services are at 9 a.m. A great deal of planning, logistics and effort go into every worship experience. Weeks of preparation are required. In addition, each week we film segments of worship for YouTube streaming. It is our new normal for however long Covid-19 continues as a serious public health threat.

Spikes in cases and upward trends in cases are always a concern. Putnam County numbers in recent months are: *May 14 - 204 active cases; *July 18 - 331 active cases; *August 12 - 482 active cases; *August 26 - 562 active cases; *August 29 - 613 active cases; *September 4 - 597 active cases.

As you can see, the trend line is an increase of 200% in two and a half months. A number of our staff persons have been directly exposed to the virus. Over one dozen church members to date either have had or currently do have the virus. ALL of us know someone who has had the virus, currently has it, or is in quarantine. It is a difficult environment to navigate, with a wide range of views, opinions, and emotions all at once.

As your pastor, my primary concern has always been the wellbeing of the whole congregation, especially our most vulnerable members. We are one interconnected community of faith. A similar, weighty concern is that our church NOT become a “super-spreader” in our community by OUR transmission. These concerns have weighed heavily on me as a pastor. Now, six months into COVID-19, we are faced with balancing growing case numbers with the continuing need for our church to worship together. After a great deal of conversation, consideration, prayer, and discernment, we have arrived at a plan for worship that we hope will be manageable, safe, sustainable, and meaningful for those who wish to gather in-person. Our primary obstacle has been our worship space in the sanctuary. Earlier in the year, to accommodate approximately 100+ people safely at one time, we did two services in the same space with cleaning in between. Everything from entry/exit, to cleaning before and after, to airflow and ventilation has to be considered. With this in mind, we will now use two large meeting spaces.

As of November 1, we will offer two in-person worship options: 9 a.m. informal worship in the gym, and 10:55 a.m. traditional worship in the sanctuary. Using these two large spaces, at two different times, with two worship teams, we intend to be able to sustain in-person worship regardless of how events develop this fall and winter. Barring a state-wide shutdown of some sort due to the combination of COVID-19 and flu this winter, we will provide these in-person worship options on an ongoing basis. This is our best way forward.

As a congregation, I ask you to be considerate, prayerful, faithful, mature, loyal, and hopeful. We are all in this together. We share in responsibility for one another and our larger community. I hope you understand my desire to be as responsible as possible for YOUR well-being. As we gather for worship in the park and resume in-person worship November 1, please be responsible by wearing your mask as an act of love for others and if you feel any hint of fever or symptoms, avoid contact with others. With that in mind, we look forward to seeing you all as we worship together.

~ Kevin

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Total Online Worship Views: 337

Sunday, September 6, 2020

Total Online Worship Views: 180

BY OUR GIFTS

Actual Receipts for Two Weeks \$43,322.00

Actual Expenses for Two Weeks \$40,037.95

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!

New Member Welcome



Please send a warm welcome to new member Michael Decker. He was pictured last week with his wife Rebecca, but unfortunately, his name did not make the caption. We are glad you have chosen to be part of our congregation!



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

MEMORIAL GARDEN AND COLUMBARIUM

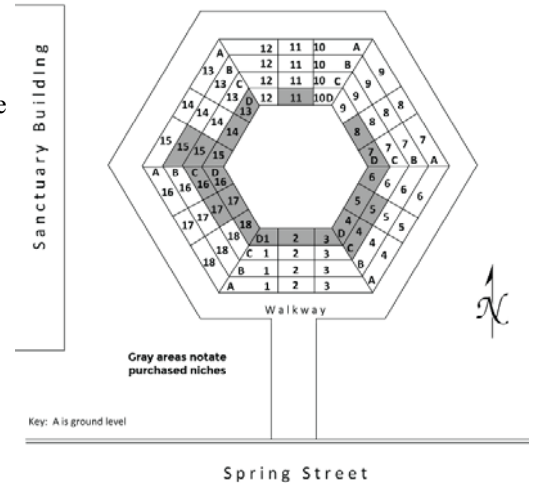


On September 11, 2016, nearly four years ago, the FUMC Memorial Garden was dedicated. The Memorial Garden is the location of the columbarium, a freestanding hexagonal shaped structure constructed of polished granite with a granite cross on the top. The columbarium features 72 niches, which can hold up to 144 urns. Currently there are 21 niches that have been purchased. The niche fronts are polished granite suitable for engraving. Purchase of a niche includes the urn(s), engraving and perpetual care in the Memorial Garden.

Church member David Vaughn, of Vaughn's Monument Works, has graciously donated the engraving for the niche fronts.

FUMC members or former members and their families are eligible to purchase a niche in the columbarium. The cost is \$4500 for two urns in the niche, \$2500 for a single urn.

If you are interested in obtaining information concerning the purchase of a niche or about the columbarium, contact either Patricia Chiroux at the church or Pat Jordan, 349-7483.



WORSHIP IN THE PARK



Join us for Worship in the Park on the following Sundays at Dogwood Park Amphitheatre at 9 a.m. Bring your camp chairs and masks, and remember to Social Distance! In case of rain, worship will be moved to 11 a.m.

September 20, October 4, and October 25

Children's Singing and Recording Schedule

- **Children's Choirs, Youth Choir, and Joyful Praise** sing at Dogwood Park at Sunday services on September 20 and October 25.
- **Children's Choirs and Instrumental Choirs** record:
 - Wednesday, September 23
 - Wednesday, November 11
 - Wednesday, December 2
 - Wednesday, December 9
- All Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Worship Services, in addition to the Hanging of the Greens, Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve Service will be recorded. All recording sessions will adhere to safe distancing. Children's groups will be recorded in smaller groups and edited for online services. Masks are required on FUMC grounds.

YOUTH NEWS

Hello everyone, my name is Clinton Wheeler and I am the new youth director here at Cookeville FUMC. My wife Amanda and I moved here from Hattiesburg, Mississippi and were married in June of this year. We are so excited to be here and we are already very thankful for all the love and kindness that has been shown to us. We look forward to meeting you all and being in community together.

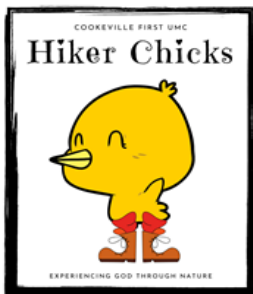
There are a few announcements I would like to share regarding youth group. First of all, we will be having a Youth Council meeting on September 8 in the gym at 5 p.m. Second, there will be a Youth Parent meeting on September 9 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the gym. Lastly, Wednesday Night Youth Activities will begin on September 16, and our big kickoff celebration will be on October 24.

Again, I am so excited to get youth activities started and I hope to see you all soon!

~ Clinton Wheeler

HIKER CHICKS

On September 21, we return to Burgess Falls. We will meet in the Burgess Falls parking lot at 10 a.m., hike to the falls, then gather for a time to socialize. Bring your own chair, a sack lunch and drink. Pat Jordan has shirts for those who ordered one. Feel free to invite a friend and pass this along to other church groups or circles!



Mark your calendars for October 21, when we will adventure a little further and visit Black Mountain in Crossville. This is a favorite spot, and the views should be gorgeous with the fall colors! We will follow the same routine: meet at 10 a.m., hike and eat.

If you would like more information or to be added to the email list contact Cindy Garrett: cindybgarrett@gmail.com or 261-4403.

KROGER REWARDS CARD



Did you know 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**.

SERVANT MINISTRIES UPDATE

Even in our time apart, the mission and outreach ministries are continuing through our church. Things look a little different. Projects have been adapted. To help us better communicate with you, we have developed a calendar with a monthly focus. We hope this will bring greater attention to service opportunities in our church and community as well as bring greater awareness of the needs in our community and world. This is an evolving list. If your favorite ministry is not listed, please email any information we may need to Tamika at Tamika@cookevillefumc.org.

Monthly Emphasis

January	Homeless Ministries
February	Regional Missions: Disaster Relief, Redbird Build
March	Angel's Attic and Remote Area Medical Clinics
April	Wesley Foundation and Earth Day
May	Mental Health Crisis Awareness
June	Hands-On Cookeville
July	HOPE Academy and Wesley College Tanzania
August	Jere Whitson Elementary

September Senior Spotlight

October	Habitat for Humanity
November	God's Grace Food Pantry
December	Community Event

Opportunities for Service

Opportunities for service are grouped into four areas of emphasis. Contact Tamika in the church office at 526-2177 for more information.

Heart (relationships): Senior Adult Ministries Facebook Group

If you are a senior adult, the Senior Adult Council has a Facebook group offering community and fun. It's a safe place to gather for conversations online, where pictures, games, church news, and devotions are shared. If you would like to be part of this private group, please contact Harry T. Smith to be added to the email list.

Mind (learning): Adventures in Lifelong Learning

Adventures in Lifelong Learning – Class schedule to be announced SOON!

Soul (worship and prayer): Prayer

Prayer for Grandparents

Dear God, please bless our grandparents.

For the ways they helped us and made us strong, we give thanks.

For the ways they love us no matter what, we rejoice.

For the ways they have paved the road that leads us here, we are grateful. Amen.

- Adapted from Xavier.edu

Strength (service):

Donate to the Pantry

We are still collecting Boost, Ensure, and other nutrition drinks for our Seniors. The collection bin is outside the drive-thru at the Freeman Building.

Adopt a Senior Buddy

If you would like to support one of the seniors at Willow Heights, please call Tamika or Kathy Conrad at 526-2177 to get your buddy's wish list.



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

Worship in the Park

Come worship with us!
9 a.m. at the Dogwood Park
Amphitheatre

September 20,
October 4, and October 25

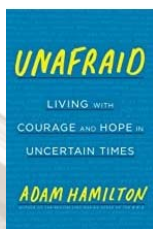
See our inside announcement
for further details.

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

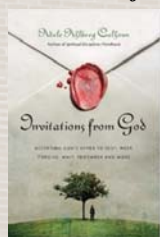
WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Join us Wednesday Nights for our online Fall Workshops via Zoom! Zoom links will be sent out by email every Wednesday morning and posted online at www.cookevillefumc.org/discipleship-university. No registration necessary!

- **Unafraid, by Adam Hamilton.** Wednesdays, 5 p.m., led by Rev. Rob Wheeler. “Do not be afraid” is a line we read throughout the scriptures repeatedly. How do we overcome our fears? Join us as we explore fear: what it is, its grip on our lives, and how we may be able to overcome it, especially in a time such as this.



- **Invitations from God, by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun.**



Wednesdays, 6 - 7 p.m., led by Dr. Kevin Conrad. Adele Calhoun, author of the popular *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*, offers a book about invitations like these—divine invitations we miss or ignore because we've said yes to going with the cultural flow. While these invitations

from God can sometimes be difficult to accept, they can heal and restore even as they shape where we go, what we do and who we become. What we say yes to, and what we say no to, forms the terrain of our future.

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.

ONLINE CHURCH NOTIFICATIONS

Are you on our email notifications list? We regularly send out notifications via group email for things like class and event announcements, weather delays, and deaths. If you aren't receiving these, and would like to be on our email notification list, send an email to Juliana@cookevillefumc.org with “Email Notification” in the subject line. Be sure to put your first and last name as well as your preferred email address in the body of the email. Some email apps hide the email address, so it's important to include it in the body of the email.

DIPSY DOODLE GANG IS BACK!

The Dipsy Doodle gang has resumed meeting at Dipsy Doodle Restaurant at 8 a.m. on Fridays. All men are welcome to join them in the newly updated restaurant at 2331 W. Broad Street.