



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 24 FUMC Kids Easter Egg Hunt
- 25 Palm Sunday
- 29 Maundy Thursday
- 30 Good Friday

### WNL DINNER MENUS

**March 7:** Chicken and rice casserole, salad, steamed broccoli, Mountain Dew cake

**March 14:** Spring Break—No WNL Meal or classes

**March 21:** Chicken salad, salad, fruit bowl, brownies

Reservations must be made no later than noon on the Monday prior to the dinner. To make reservations, call the church office at 526-2177, email us at [office@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:office@cookevillefumc.org), or sign-up online at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org).

## 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](mailto:office@cookevillefumc.org)  
[www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org)

## FROM OUR PASTOR

I've been thinking about Billy Graham since his death last week. Like all humans, Graham was imperfect, but all in all, he was a positive influence for faith in America and beyond. His message was full of love, hope and unity. He brought together Catholics, mainline Christians and evangelicals. He reached out to Democrats and Republicans. His crusades were racially integrated. He presented Christianity in a positive light for millions of people. Graham was often listed as one of the top ten most admired men in America. People often referred to Billy Graham as "America's Pastor."

Sadly, many religious leaders since Graham's heyday have presented Christianity in a very different light. Instead of proclaiming love and hope, they spread a message of anger and fear. Instead of unifying people, they divide them. Many are hyper partisan. They often foster hatred towards gays and Muslims.

As you look out at the religious landscape in America, you can see both life-affirming faith (love, hope, unity, grace, tolerance), and life-diminishing faith (anger, negativity, division, fear, judgment). Sadly, over the past few decades, life-diminishing faith has become the predominant face of Christianity in America. It's no coincidence that in response, huge numbers of people, especially young adults, have left faith and church in droves. People look at life-diminishing faith and say, "If this is Christianity, I want no part of it."

One of my core goals in life is to try and live out life-affirming faith. And one of my core goals for FUMC is that we serve as an example of a life-affirming community of faith. People need to know there is an alternative to angry, fearful, divisive and judgmental faith. They need to see individuals and churches grounded in Jesus' kind of faith—including love, grace, kindness, compassion, tolerance, and hope. I believe God calls us, both as individuals and as a congregation, to do our best to offer that kind of faith to our community.

~ Martin

## LETTER FROM OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTEDENT

Please convey to the good people of Cookeville FUMC my deepest thanks and appreciation for hosting the Bishop's meeting on Monday, February 12. I cannot thank enough all the volunteers who helped register attendants, who guided persons throughout the building and greeted all who entered with such grace. I know that extra effort was extended to gather tables, and we needed every single one! You and your congregation truly reflected extravagant hospitality that day—from the beautiful decorations to the grace that was extended from the first through final guest of the evening. Thank you for helping our entire district shine that day.

All my thanks,

Donna A. Parramore

District Superintendent of the Caney Fork River District

## BY OUR PRESENCE

*Sunday, February 18, 2018*

Total Worship Attendance: 464

*Sunday, February 25, 2018*

Total Worship Attendance: 485

## BY OUR GIFTS

*Sunday, February 18, 2018*

Budget fund receipts \$22,727.75

Building fund receipts \$4,415.00

*Sunday, February 25, 2018*

Budget fund receipts \$21,237.85

Building fund receipts \$1,440.00

## *March Backsliders Speakers*

4 Robert Jager

11 Patsy Yates

18 Heidi Lee

25 John Lee

## *The Food Pantry*

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

- Bath soap, baby food
- Grocery bags that are clean and flattened.

## *Centennial Birthday*

**Virginia Gibson** 100-year birthday celebration: The family of Virginia Gibson invites you to join them for a birthday celebration on Saturday, March 3, from noon – 3 p.m. in Jeff Wall Hall. No gifts, but hugs are welcome!

## *Angels Attic Update*

Our next distribution is Tuesday, March 6. If you have any of the items below we would appreciate receiving them.

- Towels
- Sheets – any size
- Men's Levis

Your continued generosity is what makes this wonderful ministry so successful. Thank you very much. If you have any questions about Angel's Attic, please contact Gaynell Sachse or Tamika Parker at 526-2177.

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

*To request prayer or to add someone to the prayer list, contact the church office or use the prayer cards in the pews. Names will remain on the list for two weeks, unless otherwise specified.*

Marvin Barker	Dan Hearn	Evangeline O'Kain
Vivian Barnes	Mary Ann Huffines	Susan Pangle
Jo Britnell	Virginia Hunter	Winnie Peterson
Carolyn Campbell	Tina Johns	Margaret Phipps
Randy Cavanaugh	Alma Jean Johnson	Glenn Ramsey
Anna Cunningham	Jan Jordan	Mary Jo Rogers
Faye Curry	Anna Karch	William Strivling
Ed Edenfield	Mary Byrd King	Joan Tansil
Brian Foster	Jeannine Lynn	Gene Evelyn Warren
Mary Garrison	Karen Macke	Julia Woodford
Virginia Gibson	Brian Maffett	Hazel Wyatt
Nate Griffis	Pat Maxwell	

## PRAYER TEAM INVITES YOU TO PRAYER

Knowing someone is praying for us can have powerful consequences for our lives. In most cases, congregational prayer requests are announced during Sunday morning services and published in the bulletin, but sometimes we receive requests for individuals who prefer to keep their requests private, yet they still desire prayer. These individuals and their prayer requests are maintained on a separate prayer list that is not published. Each week a group of dedicated friends offers prayer for those on both the published and the unpublished prayer lists.

If you know of someone who would like to receive prayer, whether it's someone from this congregation, or a family member, friend, or neighbor, let us know and we will include them in our prayers.

The Prayer Team meets on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in Jenkins Chapel, and we welcome you to join us. For more information or to have your name or someone else's added to the Prayer Team list, contact Noel Poston, [noel@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:noel@cookevillefumc.org) or call the church office at 526-2177.

## LENTEN SEASON SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FUMC Kids Easter Egg Hunt** March 24, 10 a.m. - noon, Dogwood Park  
We hope you will invite your friends to come together and enjoy this time in our community!

**Palm Sunday** Sunday services, March 25 in the sanctuary  
On this holy day we commemorate Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

**Maundy Thursday** March 29, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary  
On Maundy Thursday (also called Holy Thursday), we commemorate the Last Supper.

**Good Friday** March 30, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary  
We come together on this day to remember the suffering of Christ on the cross.

**Easter Services** Sunday, April 1

- ☞ 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Wesley Chapel
- ☞ 8:30 a.m. Service in the sanctuary
- ☞ 9:45 a.m. Sunday school classes
- ☞ 10:55 a.m. Service in the sanctuary



For updated information, please visit us online at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org) or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

## WHEN LIFE HAPPENS

What is Stephen Ministry? It is Christ caring for people through people.

When life happens a Stephen Minister can be there to give you support through the difficult times. Stephen Ministers go through several weeks of intense training, learning skills that help them to walk alongside people going through life changing moments. Stephen Ministers are not there to solve problems or counsel, but we are there to listen, and listen, and listen some more to offer support to anyone in need.

It is said that Stephen Ministers are *the after people*:

After the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you...

After the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life...

After the phone call you hoped you'd never get...

After the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."

After the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."

After the last child honks the horn, waves and drives away—and the house seems suddenly empty...

After the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible...

After you find a pink slip with your final paycheck...

After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are *the after people*. They are ready to stand alongside you and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed.

If you want to know more about having a Stephen Minister or if you want to become a Stephen Minister, let a pastor know, or contact Noel Poston in the church office at 526-2177.

## NOTES OF GRATITUDE

### **With love from Jenny Cannella Partin and family**

I want to thank everyone at FUMC who prayed for my mother and our family, not just upon her death, but for the many, many months that she was on the prayer list. We appreciate so much all of the thoughts, prayers, and cards. A special thank you to the ladies of the Esther Circle who prepared a meal for our large family to allow the nine siblings to have some time together. Your kindness and Christian fellowship have been heartwarming and comforting for us during this difficult time.

### **Thank you from Joan Tansil**

Joan, Parrish and Tice want to thank everyone for the cards, notes, visits and calls over the past weeks and months. Joan enjoys hearing from you, especially treasuring the cards and notes that remind them of everyone here at FUMC.

## CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

### **Sunday, March 4**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Classrooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class for Teens — B214
- Youth Praise Band — Choir Room
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class — B214
- Disciple I Fast Track — B213
- Emily Mason Teaches You to Think* — B210
- The Grand Sweep — B206
- UMYF — Youth Room

### **Monday, March 5**

- 7:00 a.m. Monday Morning Men's Study — B213
- 10:00 a.m. Angels Attic Workday — Wesley Chapel
- Dorcas Circle — Parlor
- Esther Circle Day — B210
- Mary Martha Circle — B213
- 3:30 p.m. Chair Yoga — Gym
- 5:30 p.m. GriefShare — B206
- Trustees — B213
- 6:30 p.m. Esther Circle — B214

### **Tuesday, March 6**

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 10:00 a.m. Anna Rebecca Circle — Parlor
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B214
- Rescue Mission Cooking — Jeff Wall Hall Kitchen
- 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Annual Celebration — Jeff Wall Hall

### **Wednesday, March 7**

- 6:00 a.m. Men's Group — C112
- 9:00 a.m. Hope Academy
- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Putnam County YMCA
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- Angel's Attic Workday — Wesley Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Mining Your Memories — B213
- 3:30 p.m. Knitting — B206
- 4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer — B214
- Choir Club
- 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Life Dinner — Christian Life Center
- 5:30 p.m. Choir Tour Drama — Choir Room
- 6:00 p.m. An Immersion Into Psalms — B213
- Invitation to the New Testament — B214
- JAM (Jesus and Me) — Gym
- Our Wesleyan Heritage — B210
- Wesley Class Meeting — B206
- Women's Bible Study — Christian Life Center 401
- Youth Choir
- 7:00 p.m. 7 - 8 Special for Youth — Youth Room
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir — Music

### **Thursday, March 8**

- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 10:00 a.m. Stephen Ministry Training — B206
- 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
- 6:30 p.m. Gospel Ensemble

### **Friday, March 9**

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

# Easter Hydrangeas



**Help us decorate the church Easter Sunday by ordering Hydrangeas to enhance the lilies on the altar!**

Order forms are available in the church office, the Narthex, or online at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org)

Cost is \$16, due Monday, March 26

# First United

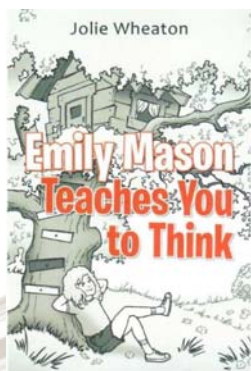
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*Open hearts. Open minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church.*

## EMILY MASON, GIRLS NIGHT OUT



Join us for a special night out for girls 2nd-5th grade with local author Jolie Wheaton! Sunday, March 4 from 5-7 p.m. in the Freeman Building. Dinner will be served! For more information, contact Beth Wheeler at [children@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:children@cookevillefumc.org)

## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Please join in  
**Ecumenical Holy Week Services**

First Presbyterian Church  
20 N. Dixie Ave.  
Cookeville, TN

Monday - Friday, March 26-30  
12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch served: 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.  
\$5 at the door

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

**Communion Set-Up:** We have a need for someone to prepare communion for the morning worship services on the third Sunday of each month. Please contact Kathy Evans, [music@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:music@cookevillefumc.org).

The plans for **Youth Choir Tour** are coming together and the group will leave on May 29 for Washington, DC. Many of you have asked how you can help support these students. If you would like to sponsor a student, the cost is \$385. The cost to sponsor a chaperone is \$150. If you would simply like to make a donation in any amount, please note on the check that your gift is for Youth Choir Tour. For further information please contact Kathy Evans or LuAnn Throgmorton at 526-2177 in the church office.

## CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF DENIAL

**Monday, March 12, 11 a.m.—noon in Jenkins Chapel**

All women of the church are invited to attend this event to learn the about the United Methodist Women's commitment to leadership development and the potential of women and girls leadership in church and society.

## YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

**Thursday, March 15 at 11 a.m. in Jeff Wall Hall**

"Our Family Heritage", presented by Faye Curry. What do you know about your family? What is there for you to learn? Hear Faye Curry's story of discovering her heritage and how-to's, hints and suggestions to grow in your own knowledge of your ancestry. Cost: \$5. Make your reservations by Tuesday, March 13 online at [www.cookevillefumc.org/upcoming\\_events](http://www.cookevillefumc.org/upcoming_events), or call the church office at 526-2177.