



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY

- 17 Elvis—Young At Heart
SM Speaker's Forum
- 25 Red Cross Blood Drive
Youth—Dollywood Trip
- 29 Youth Choir Tour

Pray, Play, and Popsicles



Every other Sunday this Summer, FUMC KIDS Sunday School classes will walk to Dogwood Park for a devotional, time to play, and popsicles! Dates: June 10, 24 and July 8, 22. We will meet in the Sunday School wing at 9:40 a.m. and return by 10:45 a.m.

FROM OUR PASTOR

As most of you know, our denomination (along with most others) is conflicted over the issue of human sexuality. A group called “The Way Forward” has been working on a solution. This group recently presented its recommendations to the Council of Bishops. Last week the Bishops made their recommendation to General Conference (the official decision making body of the UMC), who will meet in a special called meeting next February to make a final decision about this issue.

The Bishops (per the recommendation of “The Way Forward” task force) are laying out three options for the UMC. They include (1) the “Traditionalist” plan, (2) the “One Church” plan, and (3) the “Three Conferences” plan.

The “Traditionalist” plan would keep our current policy on homosexuality (welcome gay people but do not ordain or marry them) and enforce the policy. The “One Church” plan would allow for contextualization. For example, in this plan, Annual Conferences would decide whether or not to ordain gay people, and local churches would decide whether or not to marry gay couples. The “Three Conferences” plan would divide the UMC into three conferences: progressive, traditional, and somewhere in-between. Conferences would choose which one to affiliate with.

While support exists for all three plans among the Council of Bishops, the majority recommends the “One Church” plan, which allows for contextualization as noted above. If all of this sounds complicated, it is! There is no simple solution for this divisive challenge.

However, at this point, we do not know what General Conference will decide next February. They may adopt one of these three plans, or something completely different. So for now, we need to pray for this process, wait for the final decision next February, and move on from there. The media, including social media, will be all abuzz about this in the months ahead. My advice is to ignore the hype and prayerfully await the decision.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

It was good to receive the following seventeen new members. They include our confirmation class (both a sixth grade class and a youth class): Wilson Auberson, Adeleine Moore, Tommy Perhay, Daniel Reagan, Tony Ret, Bowen Rinehart, Alexis Surlles, Julian Surlles, Drew Sweeney, Eli Tucker, MacKenzie Vinson, and Justus Woodiel. We also received Jeremy, Lindsay and Grant Vinson, and Charles and Karen Macke. Welcome to our church family.

~ Dr. Martin Thielen

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

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 513

Sunday, May 6, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 433

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$25,843.75

Building fund receipts \$1,910.00

Sunday, May 6, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$28,808.01

Building fund receipts \$390.00

Thank You From the Family of Susan Pangle

From Susan Pangle's niece, Katie Mork: On behalf of Susan Pangle and her family, thank you to everyone who shared their wonderful stories of Susan with us. She had a full life with many wonderful friends; we will miss her bright warm spirit. Thank you, also, for sharing your resources with the organizations she supported.

Elevator Update

Due to a change in state codes, the elevator in the Christian Life Center will be out of service until all upgrades are made. Thank you for your patience.

Red Cross Blood Drive



Be a Hero! Come to the American Red Cross Blood Drive,

Friday, May 25 in Jeff Wall Hall from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Schedule your appointment at www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code FUMCCookeville19. Plan to donate and save a life!



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

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.

Table with 3 columns of names: Marvin Barker, Dan Hearn, Evangeline O'Kain, Vivian Barnes, Joe Hix, Winnie Peterson, Craig Benich, Mary Ann Huffines, Margaret Phipps, Sue Box, Bishop Holliman, Glenn Ramsey, Robert Buck, Alma Jean Johnson, Mary Jo Rogers, Randy Cavanaugh, Jan Jordan, John Schaefer, Anna Cunningham, Mary Byrd King, William Stribling, Ed Edenfield, Jeannine Lynn, Joan Tansil, Brian Foster, Karen Macke, Gene Evelyn Warren, Mary Garrison, Brian Maffett, Julia Woodford, Nate Griffis, Pat Maxwell, Hazel Wyatt

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 or call the church office at 526-2177.

WHEN LIFE HAPPENS, CALL A STEPHEN MINISTER

- Loss of job
• Empty nest syndrome
• Illness
• Financial difficulties
• Mild depression
• Retirement adjustment
• A difficult child
• Divorce
• The death of a loved one



When life happens, where do I turn? When I can't talk to family (they may be part of the problem), and friends are tired of listening, when life happens, where should I go? Things are not severe enough for professional help, I just need to talk.

There is a group within your church who can help. We are not counselors, but listeners. A Stephen Minister is able to step in and be there when life happens. We listen; we support; we are there.

We do not judge or advise, we are just there to support, listen, pray, and walk along beside you. The Stephen Ministry has strict confidentiality guidelines, which are emphasized in our 50 hours of training as Christian caregivers.

When life happens there is no need to feel alone in your walk. For more information ask a pastor, a Stephen Minister, or contact Noel Poston at noel@cookevillefumc.org.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Twelve students were confirmed on April 26. Confirmation is a big step in the faith journey of these youth, during which they profess their faith in Christ openly, commit themselves to be responsible disciples, and are recognized as members of the church. The church makes a commitment to continue to walk beside these youth, nurturing and guiding them in their faith.

Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2018: Wilson Auberson, Adeleine Moore, Tommy Perhay, Daniel Reagan, Tony Ret, Bowen Rinehart, Alexis Surles, Julian Surles, Drew Sweeney, Eli Tucker, MacKenzie Vinson, Justus Woodiel. We are blessed and thankful for this wonderful group!

STEPHEN MINISTRY SPEAKER'S FORUM

On Thursday, May 17, the Stephen Ministry will present the third Speaker's Forum of the year with guest John Bell, Executive Director of the Cookeville Regional Charitable Foundation, as the guest speaker. Come and meet Mr. Bell and learn about the many opportunities available to the residents of the Upper Cumberland Area, such as the cancer, heart, diabetes and mental health funds, and the Compassionate Care and Caring Hands Patient Assistance programs. The Forum will take place in Jeff Wall Hall on Thursday, May 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a dessert/get-acquainted time, followed by Mr. Bell's presentation at 7 p.m. Everyone in the community is invited to attend. There is no charge.

YOUTH NEWS

Our church suspends Wednesday meals and evening classes for summer. Our last meeting was May 2. For your convenience, we are opening the Youth room and gym for homework and hanging out from 3—5 p.m. on May 9, 16, and 23. Most of our students attend choir practice from 5—7 p.m. those days.

Sunday Mornings: Middle School meets in the Youth room downstairs in the Freeman Building at 9:45 a.m. Adam is leading a discussion on the big themes of Scripture using "The Bible Project."

High School meets in the back room at Poet's at 9:45 a.m. Woody Welch is teaching on "Gospel Christianity."

Sunday Night: On Sunday nights, we share a meal together at 5 p.m., introduce the week's text, then break into small groups to chat about the teachings of Jesus.

High School Girls' Small Group: On Sunday Nights, our intern, Makayla Clark, is leading a small group for all girls interested in getting together to share their lives, stories, and love for God. This group meets at the same time as our Sunday UMYF. High School girls have the option to choose to join the girls only group or participate in the regular devotional time. For more information, talk to Makayla on Wednesdays or Sundays.

Stay up to date—download our App on iTunes or Google Play!

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, May 13 — Mother's Day

- 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. The Grand Sweep — B206
UMYF — Youth Room

Monday, May 14

- 7:00 a.m. Monday Morning Men's Study — B213
- 10:00 a.m. UMW District Meeting — B213
- 5:30 p.m. GriefShare — B206
Trustees — B213
- 6:00 p.m. United Methodist Men — Jeff Wall Hall

Tuesday, May 15

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B214

Wednesday, May 16

- 6:00 a.m. Men's Group — C112
- 9:00 a.m. Hope Academy
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- 3:00 p.m. Knitting — B206
- 4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer — B214
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Joan Tansil's Wednesday Night Bible Class — CLC 401
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir — Music

Thursday, May 17

- 9:00 a.m. Senior Adult Council Meeting — B213
- 11:00 a.m. Young At Heart Luncheon — Christian Life Center
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Speaker's Forum — Jeff Wall Hall

Friday, May 18

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

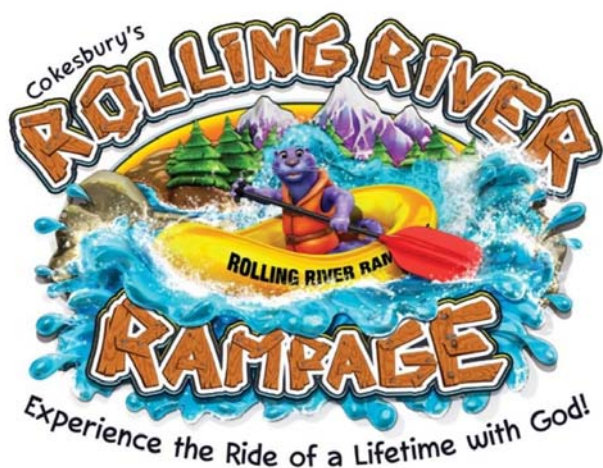
THE LEXIE FREEMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The goal of this scholarship is to provide support to anyone who wishes to pursue an academic degree at an accredited college, university, or seminary who is planning a career in a church-related field. Applications will be accepted until May 31. The scholarships will be awarded June 30. Scholarships are awarded based on both financial need and scholastic achievement. Applicants need an endorsement from a current or former minister of our congregation. Applications are available in the church office.

YOUTH TRIP TO DOLLYWOOD

Join us to celebrate the first day out of school as we go to Dollywood! We'll leave the church at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 25 and spend all day with Dolly! The cost is \$50 (scholarships available) and each student needs to bring extra money for lunch/dinner/snacks/souvenirs. We'll return to Cookeville late the evening of the 25th. Bring clothes to change into on the way home if you wish. For more information, contact Adam Daniels at 526-2177, ext. 208, or register at <https://goo.gl/iVFVTe>.

Register Now For VBS 2018



First United

Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street
Cookeville, TN 38501

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June 10 - June 14, 6-8 p.m.

Register online at www.cookevillefumc.org or email children@cookevillefumc.org for more info.

VBS for Pre-K through 5th grade will kick off with a family dinner in the CLC on June 10 at 5 p.m. Sign-in will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

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

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE

If you are a church member and need to reach a pastor after hours or on weekends for emergencies of death, imminent death or life-changing tragedies, call 372-8347. The call will be forwarded, so please be patient as it connects—you will hear a dial tone as the call is forwarded. You may be asked to leave a message, in which case your call will be returned as soon as possible. For all other pastoral care needs, your call will be returned on the next business day, or you may always call the church office during normal business hours, 526-2177.

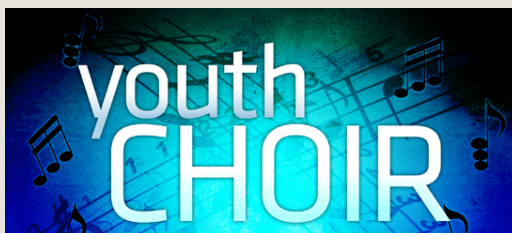
ELVIS!



You are invited to come hear Elvis, the King of Rock and Roll! Thursday, May 17 at 11 a.m. in the Christian Life Center. Join us as Elvis returns to the stage with his signature style and songs. Plus enjoy a Grade A meal! Cost: \$5. Make reservations by Tuesday, May 15

online, www.cookevillefumc.org/upcoming-events, or by calling the Church Office, 526-2177. Sponsored by Young at Heart.

YOUTH CHOIR TOUR SPONSORSHIPS



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 notate 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.

FUMC KIDS EVENTS—SAVE THE DATE!



July 15—Bring the family!



Children's Retreat
October 20-21