



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January

- 7 Trustees Meeting
- 13 Youth Parent Meeting
- 15 Widowed Person Ministry
- 16 Wednesday Night Life Starts

Backsliders Speakers

- 6 Jan Fritz
- 13 Steve Frye
- 20 Bob Bell
- 27 The Glorylanders

American Red Cross — Volunteer Coordinator

FUMC and The Red Cross are looking for a volunteer to help coordinate blood drives here on campus. If you are interested, we'd love to hear from you. No medical background needed; just organizational skills and a heart for service. For more information, contact Patricia in the church office.

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

INTRODUCING OUR INTERIM SENIOR OUR PASTOR



Even though one of my friends told me that I had "flunked retirement," I am so delighted to be coming to First UMC as your interim pastor during January and February. The time will be brief, but I anticipate it being a rich time as we do ministry together in this wonderful place. I have been so impressed during my visits there with your welcoming spirit and your commitment to service in your community. You have an amazing, gifted staff and wonderful lay leadership.

Who am I? I grew up in the Holston Conference in a parsonage family. I have had a life-long love for the church and was ordained in 1977. My husband, Barry, is from Pennington Gap, Virginia. We both served churches in our home conference, but moved to the Nashville area in 1981 when Barry went on staff at Vanderbilt Medical Center as a chaplain (where he stayed for 32 years). In that time period we raised our children and I worked as a chaplain at the VA in Nashville, was an Associate at Donelson Heights, Lead Pastor at College Grove, Epworth, Madison Street and then served as the District Superintendent of the Murfreesboro District. I served one year at Christ UMC in Franklin when I decided to retire. And now...I get to come to Cookeville!

Any time there is a transition, especially an unexpected transition, there is sadness at the loss of a pastor and anxiety about "what next," but I can assure you that the Bishop and cabinet have worked hard to identify a wonderful appointment for you, an assignment that will begin in March. In the meantime, there is work to be done for the Kingdom!

In this season of Christmastide, may we each remember the wonderful gift we have received in Christ Jesus, and renew in our hearts a commitment to love and serve God and neighbor.

In Christ's Love,

LeNoir Culbertson

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 388

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 310

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$36,239.75

Building fund receipts \$20,625.00

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$43,491.07

Building fund receipts \$2,990.00

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If there is inclement weather, the church office will make a determination whether activities will be cancelled for weather related purposes. If an activity is cancelled, an announcement will be posted on the homepage of the church web-site by noon and the activity leader will be informed. Participants should contact their leader or the church office with any questions. When activities are cancelled, the facility will not be open nor will anyone be available to open or close the facility.

The Food Pantry will follow the Putnam County School District. If schools are closed for weather conditions on a Tuesday in which the Food Pantry is normally scheduled for distribution, the Food Pantry will be closed. This is for the safety of both our patrons and volunteers.

Save the Date!

Women's Retreat, March 8 – 10, at Beersheba Springs Assembly. More details to follow soon!

Call for Retired Toys

Looking for a new home for those infant - 4-year-old toys? The nursery and Pre-K Sunday School classes are looking to adopt toys that have been outgrown. You may email or call Mrs. Shannon Bee Auberson at children@cookevillefumc.org for more details.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Marvin Barker	Elaine Funk	Pat Maxwell
Vivian Barnes	Mary Garrison	Brittany McCloud
Janey Bassett	Nate Griffis	Winnie Peterson
Craig Benich	Alda Harris	Margaret Phipps
James Buck	Joe Hix	Mary Jo Rogers
Robert Buck	Alma Jean Johnson	Sarah Stockton
Randy Cavanaugh	Bob and Laura Lee	Keith Walker
Savannah Lynn Caylor	Jones	Katie Ward
Peggy Cho	Jan Jordan	Jessie Watts
Anna Cunningham	Ann Kellman	Ron Winningham
Delaney Duncan	Nancy Kellman	
Kurt Eisen	Mary Byrd King	
Brian Lee Foster	Karen Macke	

Missionaries

Eric and Liz Soard

FUMC KIDS - WNL MOVIE NIGHTS



Join us on Wednesday Nights for Children's Movie Night!

Where: The landing of the Christian Life Center in the Sunday School Classroom wing.

When? 5:30-6:00 p.m.

What's playing?

January 16 — The Little Prince (PG)

January 23 — An American Tail (G)

January 30 — Balto (G)

CLUB 456 CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Club 456 had a wonderful time caroling in the community this year. The children sang so beautifully and with such spirit that the neighbors of our hosts stepped out to enjoy the wonders of caroling. *Joy to the World* and *The First Noel* were among the favorites sung. The children took each host a bag of Christmas

cookies they had decorated during Kid Mission Day, as well as Christmas cards reminding each of them that they are loved and missed at First United Methodist Church. We hope to visit even more members next year.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER: A PRIMER FOR YOUR JOURNEY

Wednesdays, begins January 16, 6-7 p.m.

Contemplative prayer is the opening of mind and heart, emphasizing prayer as a personal relationship with God, a way for coming into God's presence through stillness and listening. Learning to become aware of God in our daily lives, through our relationships with others, the work we do, through scripture, and in the world that surrounds us takes intention and practice but it is not difficult.

Participants learn the importance of listening to and being still in the presence of God. This class is for beginners who want to learn more about the prayer of silence, solitude, stillness, simplicity and service.

Each week we will explore the foundations of prayer practices such as centering prayer, Christian meditation, lectio divina and more. The hour includes a brief video or audio presentation, group discussion, and up to 20 minutes of silent prayer. Participants will be encouraged to develop a daily contemplative prayer practice. Reading is optional but helpful.

For more information, contact Noel Poston in the church office.



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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE MEALS



Wednesday Night Life dinners will resume January 16. Make your standing reservations now by calling the

church office, or go online to www.cookevillefumc.org (click on the front page slide). Dinner is served from 5-6 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. Cost: \$5 per person; \$20 family maximum.

YOUNG AT HEART

Young at Heart invites you to join us on Thursday, January 17 at 11 a.m. in Jeff Wall Hall as Randy Porter, Putnam County Executive, speaks on "Putnam County Today: A Look at the Past, Present and Future". Get up-to-date with where we have been and how that shapes where we are going as a community. Learn what's ahead for Putnam County! Plus there will be fellowship and a delicious lunch! Make reservations by Tuesday, January 15 by calling the church office at 526-2177 or email patricia@cookevillefumc.org.

WIDOWED PERSON'S MINISTRY

For a few months now, a group of men and women who have lost their spouse either recently or in years past have been meeting to offer support and encouragement to one another and to others who have lost their life partner. God is guiding us as we go, learning what is helpful and which resources and ideas contribute to the "new normal" of being a widow or widower.

While this is not a grief support group, participants do find relevance and relief from being among others who can best understand and offer ideas for how to cope with such a loss.

We would love for you to join us. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 15, 2-3 p.m. in B206. For more information contact Noel Poston in the church office.

BARNABAS MINISTRY

For those who can no longer come to church, participating in communion is no longer an option—unless they have a Barnabas Minister. Once a month, Barnabas Ministers bring communion and visit with our church family members who are either unable to leave their home or are in a local care facility. We are always on the lookout for those who would like to become a Barnabas Minister, as well as those who would like to have a Barnabas Minister.

Barnabas Ministers will tell you how sharing communion with others blesses them every month, and those who receive communion and visits love seeing someone from their church family.

For more information about this caring ministry or other ways you can share your gifts of compassion with others, contact Noel Poston or Rev. Rob Wheeler in the church office.

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, January 6

- 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. Confirmation Class — B214

Monday, January 7

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study — B213
- 10:00 a.m. Esther Circle Day Meeting — B210
Mary Martha Circle — B213
- 5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting — B213
- 6:30 p.m. Esther Circle — B214

Tuesday, January 8

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 1:30 p.m. Quilting Ministry — Jeff Wall Hall
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society—B214
- 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel

Wednesday, January 9

- 6:00 p.m. Men's Group — C112
- 9:00 a.m. Hope Academy
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- 2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry General Meeting / Peer Support — B213
- 3:30 p.m. Knitting — B206
- 4:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B214

Thursday, January 10

- 1:45 p.m. Jubilee Ringers — Sanctuary
- 4:45 p.m. Sanctuary Handbells — Sanctuary

Friday, January 11

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

NEW GRIEFSHARE SESSIONS

Two new GriefShare sessions will begin in January; both will be held at Magnolia House on the corner of Madison and Freeze streets. The first group will begin on Wednesday, January 16, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The second group will begin on Saturday, January 19, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The 13 informative two-hour sessions include videos presented by people who have also lost loved ones, followed by a facilitated group discussion. Participants will receive a take home workbook for personal reflection between sessions. There is no fee, but we do ask for a \$20 donation to cover the workbook. For more information contact Robert Jager at 644-2435.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



American Red Cross

Be a Hero! Come to the American Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, February 1 in Jeff Wall Hall from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Go to the FUMC website to register. Plan to donate and save a life!

2019 STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS

Thanks to all of you who have already turned in your pledge cards for 2019. While we've had a good response, we hope to receive many more responses this week. If you have not yet made your pledge, please do so soon. Your annual pledge is a crucial part of our ministry planning, so we deeply appreciate your generous spirit. You can place your pledge card in the offering plate during a worship service (extra pledge cards can be found in the pew racks), mail it in, email luann@cookevillefumc.org or call LuAnn at 526-2177.



First United
Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street
Cookeville, TN 38501

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January Services

January 13—James 1:1–18

January 27—James 1:19–27

The Table is a place that's fresh and familiar,
thoughtful and dynamic, hopeful and full of grace.

Come join us and find your place here.

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

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JENKINS CHAPEL

While we know there are no magic answers for the problems and concerns we carry on our hearts and in our heads, talking with someone who cares and prays for and with you does make a difference. Stephen Ministers are trained to use their gifts and experience to listen and keep confidence, and to pray with you or for you, if you want them to.

Stop by inside Jenkins Chapel on Sunday mornings following either worship service and find relief for your soul. We are here for you.

For more information about Stephen Ministry, contact Noel Poston, noel@cookevillefumc.org, or call the church office at 526-2177.

FUMC KIDS EVENTS—SAVE THE DATE!

January 13 — 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

February 10 — Sunday School GLOW Sunday

March 5 — Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 6 — Ash Wednesday

April 14 — Palm Sunday

April 18 — Maundy Thursday

April 19 — Good Friday

April 20 — Easter Egg Hunt

April 21 — Easter Sunday

April 29 — Confirmation Sunday

AN INVITATION FROM OUR PRAYER TEAM

Knowing someone is praying for us can have a powerful effect in our lives. In most cases, congregational prayer requests are announced during Sunday morning services and published in the bulletin. Sometimes we receive requests for individuals who prefer to keep their situations private, yet 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 offer prayer for those on both the published and the unpublished prayer lists.

If you know someone who would like to receive prayer, whether it's someone from this congregation, 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. For more information, or to have your name or someone else's added to the Prayer Team list, contact Noel Poston, noel@cookevillefumc.org.

KROGER CARD—FOOD PANTRY BENEFITS

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!

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**.