



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May

- 12 Mother's Day
- 15 Law Enforcement Luncheon
- 16 Young at Heart Luncheon
- 19 Directory Update
- 22 Travel Buddies

FUMC Directory Update

It's time to update the Church Directory! Photos will be taken on Sundays, May 12 and 19 during the Sunday School hour in room B120 of the Freeman Building. No appointment is necessary. Be a part of our family album. It won't be the same without you!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, May 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Jeff Wall Hall. Be a hero! Donate blood! Go online to www.cookevillefumc.org, click on the front page slide and enter code FUMCCookeville19.

Sunday Services

Worship Service:
8:30, 10:55, and 11:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:55 a.m. Service Broadcast on
WATX-AM 1600

Nursery Available

Sunday Worship and Sunday
School: 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Children ages birth to 4 years

Phone: 931-526-2177
Fax: 931-372-9905
Email: office@cookevillefumc.org
www.cookevillefumc.org

GETTING THE PEOPLE PART RIGHT

About twenty-five years ago, I began to talk to my clergy friends about what I saw as an impending “institutional meltdown” in the United Methodist Church. So many red flags were flying, even back then, that our shared life as a “connectional” denomination was not sustainable. Bishop Richard Wilke, of Arkansas, wrote an excellent book at that time with the title from a hymn we sing every year at Annual Conference: *And Are We Yet Alive?* In terms of our current institutional order, we have actually lasted much longer than I expected without a meltdown, however, we are now at that point. The United Methodist Church, like several other denominations before us, and many if not all to follow us, is in a time of fundamental change—in regard to church law and institutional order. The “connection” is severely strained. A re-ordering of Methodism now seems inevitable.

At the end of April, our denominational Judicial Council, much like our U.S. Supreme Court, ruled on legislation passed at the special session of General Conference. In their review, they allowed several pieces of church law that strengthened prohibitions against homosexuality to be included in our United Methodist Book of Discipline. The ruling has triggered a wide range of reactions and responses across the church. As I preached about this past Sunday, we are struggling with competing and conflicting worldviews that shape our life together as a denomination. A tension between differing interpretations of the authority of scripture and Christ's mandate for inclusive love is now no longer a creative tension, but alienating tension. Like the nuclear reactor meltdown at Chernobyl many years ago, no one knows exactly how far the fallout will reach and what adverse effects will emerge for years to come. We simply have to see what unfolds over the next couple of years, monitor, and make adjustments.

Through the ages, the church has morphed many times institutionally. In a book written several years ago titled *The Astonished Heart: Reclaiming the Good News from the Lost-and-Found of Church History*, Robert Farrar Capon writes: “. . .if the church of the future has to be an institution at all, it must be one that is concerned with what God is concerned about—namely, persons.” Capon captures my thoughts exactly for the institutional predicament we find ourselves in as Cookeville First United Methodist Church, in the current chaos of the United Methodist Church institutional meltdown. We are who we are, as a church dedicated to embodying the grace of God in our community. We will continue to be a grace-shaped community of faith as we move into the future. That means focusing on sharing the gospel of grace with people—in as many ways as possible. The institutional “wine skin” may change, but we will continue to be a Christ-centered, grace-shaped, loving and serving congregation. As I used to tell the preachers of my district, “If you get the people part right, the rest will fall into place.”

~ Kevin

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Total Worship Attendance: 614

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Total Worship Attendance: 395

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Budget fund receipts \$19,415.16

Building fund receipts \$275.00

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Budget fund receipts \$26,578.00

Building fund receipts \$375.00

Backsliders Speakers

May 12 Justin Looper

May 19 Larry Self

May 26 Ted Kocher

Law Enforcement Luncheon

On Wednesday, May 15, 11 a.m. in the CLC, we will honor our local law enforcement through our annual luncheon. If your Sunday School class would like to make a donation of food or money, please contact Janet Green, Judy Layne, or Betty Dodson. We are looking forward to honoring these men and women who serve our community so selflessly.

Food Pantry Wish List

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

- Tomato sauce, bath soap, Kroger Dry Milk (box with 10 one-quart pouches)
- Grocery bags that are clean and flattened.



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

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Vivian Barnes
 Janey Bassett
 Craig Benich
 James Buck
 Robert Buck
 Savannah Lynn Caylor
 Delaney Duncan
 Hazel Dyer
 Kurt Eisen
 Brian Lee Foster
 Elaine Funk

Mary Garrison
 Nate Griffis
 Joe Hix
 Alma Jean Johnson
 Bob Jones
 Ann Kellman
 Linda Kellman
 Nancy Kellman
 Mary Byrd King
 Mike Lee
 Karen Macke

Pat Maxwell
 Brittany McCloud
 Winnie Peterson
 Margaret Phipps
 Mary Jo Rogers
 Sarah Stockton
 Keith Walker

Missionaries

Eric and Liz Soard

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING

Saturday, June 8, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Murfreesboro First UMC

We are actively recruiting new members for our Disaster Response Team and hope you will consider becoming part of this important ministry. Early Response Teams (ERTs) provide immediate assistance in the aftermath of a disaster. If you can cook, use a chainsaw, provide support and encouragement for survivors, tarp roofs, assemble flood buckets, drive a vehicle, drag limbs, clean out flooded houses, maintain equipment, or provide logistical support, then we need you! Our primary mission is to support disaster operations in the Tennessee Conference. When possible, we also deploy to major disasters across the southeastern United States. Travel is not required. Team members choose how, when, and where they can serve. Our next ERT Basic Course will be offered at Murfreesboro First UMC, Saturday, June 8, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There is no charge; transportation and lunch are provided. For more information, contact Ken Hunter, 931-783-0065, khunter.disaster@gmail.com. To register, go to <http://www.cookevillemc.org> and click on the front page slide.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On April 28, FUMC welcomed 14 new members. Fourteen students were confirmed, and Eli Moore was baptized during the first Sunday service. Bonza Auberson and MJ Perhay were baptized at the Wesley Chapel following the service. Family and friends of the confirmands were treated to a brunch hosted by classmates and parents of the Club 456 Sunday School class.



Confirmands, from left to right:

Estella Sergio, Bonza Auberson, Sarah Coonce, William Sawyer, Abby Murdock, Matthew Faulhaber, MJ Perhay, Peyton Murdock, Lucas Hardin, Millie Callahan, Eli Moore, Camryn Murdock, Molly Reid, and Issac Wheeler

YOUNG AT HEART

A record number attended April's Young At Heart luncheon as our new Senior Pastor, Kevin Conrad, and his gifted wife, Kathy, shared their personal journeys. All attending were blessed with the encouraging stories mixed with scripture and life-transforming remarks. Their sense of humor, life experiences, and commitment to God shown through their personal comments. Kevin and Kathy each bring gifts that will help us come together and grow as people of faith. Thank you, Kevin and Kathy!

YOUTH CHOIR TOUR

Forty-eight Youth Choir members, leaders, and chaperones depart early Tuesday, May 28, for the 2019 Youth Choir Tour. This year's tour takes the group to several historical points of the Civil Rights era, including: The Lorraine Motel in Memphis, the Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham, and the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Selma. The group will also walk the historic bridge in Selma.

The group will perform *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber. They will visit The Village Retirement Center in Germantown, Tennessee; Traceway Manor in Tupelo, Mississippi; Wesley Woods in Atlanta, Georgia; and sing for the Haywood United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Other service projects include assisting at Tracewood Manor and working with Disaster Relief in Opelika, Alabama. Saturday will be a fun day in Atlanta with World of Coke, the College Football Hall of Fame, and a Braves game.

The group returns to Cookeville on Sunday, June 2 with a performance at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A church wide covered dish dinner will follow at 6 p.m. in the CLC. Donations toward the cost of the trip can be made to LuAnn Throgmorton in the church office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM MARTHA SUE BONNER

Thank you so much for the wonderful celebration last Saturday night. I was overwhelmed with the love shown me. The cards, gifts, food, speakers, and decorations were all appreciated. Kathy and the Music Department, with the help of the Staff Parish Committee, really know how to give a party! Sunday morning was also incredible. Bob Luna's comments, Charlie Decker's original fanfare, the anthem incorporating every musical group, and the postlude tribute were amazing. What a send-off!

The joy has been mine through the years to work with such talented musicians and excellent choir directors. My family commented on how loving the congregation is, and they are correct. FUMC is the best!

~ Martha Sue Bonner
Retired Organist/Handbell Director

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, May 12 — Mother's Day

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Directory Photos — B120
- Sunday School — Classrooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary

Monday, May 13

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study — B213
- 9:00 a.m. Senior Adult Fitness — Gym
- 3:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B214
- 6:00 p.m. United Methodist Men — Jeff Wall Hall

Tuesday, May 14

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 12:30 p.m. *New Beginnings* — B206
- 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, May 15

- 6:00 p.m. Men's Group — C112
- 9:00 a.m. Hope Academy
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- 11:00 a.m. Law Enforcement Appreciation Day — Christian Life Center
- 4:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B017
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir — Music Suite
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir — Music Suite

Thursday, May 16

- 9:30 a.m. Senior Adult Council Meeting — B213
- 11:00 a.m. Young At Heart — Jeff Wall Hall
- 3:00 p.m. Chair Yoga — Gym
- 5:45 p.m. Evening Ensemble — Music Suite

Friday, May 17

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

HOPE ACADEMY TALENT SHOW

The students worked very hard all year and were excited to perform for their friends and family. Thanks to all who were in attendance to support this wonderful ministry. Hope Academy is a ministry for students with developmental disabilities and it operates on the Putnam County School calendar. If you are interested in learning more about Hope Academy or would like to serve, please contact Tamika Parker of Teena King.





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



Youth Choir Tour Performance

Sunday, June 2

5 p.m. in the sanctuary

Join us following the show for a church-wide covered dish dinner at 6 p.m. in the CLC

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

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 16 at 11 a.m. in Jeff Wall Hall, *I'll Have it My Way*, by Hattie Bryant

Don't miss this educational, thought-provoking program. Professional speaker Hattie Bryant will share her journey with her father and what she learned from the experience. Learn how to better prepare for whatever is ahead in our own lives. Make reservations by Tuesday, May 14 by calling the church office, 526-2177.

BE A YOUTH CHOIR TOUR SPONSOR!

The Youth Choir will be leaving on Tuesday, May 28, for their annual Choir Tour. This year the group will be retracing some of the steps of the Civil Rights movement and will visit Memphis, Selma, Montgomery, Birmingham and Atlanta. The group will be performing *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and will have their homecoming concert on Sunday, June 2 at 5p.m. Your donations and support of the group are very much appreciated.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 16—19 from 5—7 :30 p.m. It's time to register for Vacation Bible School! We have classes for all ages! Go to www.cookevillefumc.org/upcoming-events to register online.

WAYNE EVANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the Wayne Evans Memorial Scholarship are now available on the church website www.cookevillefumc.org/ministries/music. The scholarship will be awarded to a member of the Cookeville First United Methodist Church who will attend Tennessee Technological University during the 2019 fall term. Completed application information is due June 15, 2019.

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: music@cookevillefumc.org or 931-526-2177, ext. 204.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES FACEBOOK PAGE

Need to know about Senior Adult Fitness? Travel Buddies? Chair Yoga? Young at Heart? Keep up with all the events and activities of FUMC's Senior Adults. Just search Facebook for our page entitled "Senior Adult Ministries of Cookeville FUMC" and follow us! We'll keep you up to date on all the action!

TRAVEL BUDDIES

Wednesday, May 22
Enjoy The Museum of Appalachia - a living history museum and pioneer mountain farm-village that lends voice to the people of Southern Appalachia through the artifacts and stories they left behind. Leave the church at 8:30 a.m., return 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$28; Dutch-treat lunch at the museum. Make reservation through the church office. Limited seating.