



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### November

- 23 Surviving the Holidays
- 27 Campus closes at noon
- 28 Campus closed  
Thanksgiving Luncheon
- 29 Campus closed

### December

- 2 UMW Christmas Program
- 4 Children's Musical
- 6 Poinsettia order deadline

### Thanksgiving Luncheon

Our church-wide Thanksgiving luncheon will take place Thursday, November 28 in the Christian Life Center. We will meet at 11 a.m. and lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. The church will provide the turkey, dressing, and drinks. Bring a friend—and a side-dish or dessert to share! If you are interested in attending or volunteering, please contact Tamika Parker at [tamika@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:tamika@cookevillefumc.org), or call 526-2177.

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

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## FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Hard to believe, but the Holidays are upon us. Thanksgiving and Christmas are such wonderful times of the year. Gatherings abound. I look forward to all our church family gatherings as celebrations unfold.

In the midst of all the “busy-ness” of Christmas, and the business of Christmas, we offer worship and study times that help us truly keep the “Christ” in Christmas. Our Advent study material this year is titled *Almost Christmas*. It uses a Wesleyan theme from our Methodist heritage as its metaphor for seeking depth of meaning and experience at Christmas. John Wesley taught and preached about the difference between the “almost” and the “altogether” Christian. He sought to close the gap between what authentic Christianity offers and how we often fall short of our spiritual potential and calling as Christian disciples.

Over the four weeks of the Advent season, as a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas, the themes we will cover include peace, hope, joy, and love. We all have longings for genuine experiences of these gifts from God in a deeper fulfilling way. I hope you will consider being part of the study during the Sunday School hour each week from December 1-22. I will be offering a study on Monday mornings at 11 a.m. for those who are available during the weekday. My hope is that these studies will prove to be a way our church can enhance your experience of the “Christ” of Christmas.

~ *Kevin*

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Your generosity allows us to engage in significant ministry here, so we deeply appreciate your faithfulness. Receiving pledges from members and friends for the upcoming year is crucial for our ministry planning. So far we have received 186 pledges totaling \$1,148,608. If you have not yet turned in your pledge, please consider placing it in the offering plate over the next couple of weeks (extra pledge cards are in the pew racks). You can also mail your pledge to the church office, or email or call it in to LuAnn at [luann@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:luann@cookevillefumc.org) or 526-2177.

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, November 10, 2019

Total Worship Attendance: 469

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Total Worship Attendance: 397

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, November 10, 2019

Budget fund receipts \$51,884.50

Building fund receipts \$25.00

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Budget fund receipts \$27,682.25

Building fund receipts \$150.00

WNL Dinners

Join us for dinner on December 4, prior to the Children’s Christmas Musical. Reservations must be made no later than noon on the Monday prior to the dinner.

November 27: Thanksgiving Eve—No WNL meal

December 4: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green peas, salad, rolls, banana pudding

Next Backslider Speaker

24th Adam Daniels

Helping Community Programs

This year we will share the holiday spirit with two different community programs: NHC’s Santa to a Senior program and Genesis House. We have twelve Santa to a Senior ornaments and ten Angel ornaments from Genesis House. Come by the church office to choose your ornament and/or Angel. Purchase and return gifts to the church office with your ornament or Angel attached, and label all gifts with the appropriate organization and individual identifier. Santa to a Senior gifts must be returned by December 1; Genesis House gifts must be returned by December 11.



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

UPCOMING ADVENT EVENTS

United Methodist Women Christmas Program

Monday, December 2, 10:55 a.m., Jeff Wall Hall

United Methodist Women will celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season with their annual pot-luck luncheon and Christmas activities.

Advent Preparation Day

Tuesday, December 3, 10 a.m., Choir Room

Join in preparing the greenery bundles for the Hanging of the Greens.

Christmas With the Children

Wednesday, December 4, 6 p.m., Sanctuary

The Choir Club children will present their Christmas musical featuring the choirs, instrument classes, and worship arts classes.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 7, 8—10 a.m., Jeff Wall Hall

We invite you and your family to spend the morning eating yummy pancakes and visiting with Santa! This event is free and the food is provided by the FUMC Youth Group. Special crafts and a Christmas movie will also be available for the children. We look forward to sharing some holiday fun with you!

The Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 8, 8:30 and 10:55 a.m. Worship Services

The 46th annual Hanging of the Greens, an Advent service of symbolism and music, will be held at both the 8:30 and 10:55 services. The 8:30 service will be led by the children, age 3 through grade 6, Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, Evening Ensemble, and Gospel Ensemble. The 10:55 service will be led by the 5th-6th grade choir, Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, Evening Ensemble, Gospel Ensemble, and Chancel Choir.

Children and Families Advent Festival

Sunday, December 8, 9:40 - 10:40 a.m., Christian Life Center

Join us for a light snack, a simple ornament and Advent wreath craft and enjoy a presentation of the Christmas story! Contact Shannon Auberson in the church office or children@cookevillefumc.org if you plan to attend.

Kids’ Mission Day

Wednesday, December 11, 4 - 6 p.m., Freeman Building

FUMC Kids (grades K-6) are invited to Kids Mission Day. Special projects will include newborn baby baskets for Cookeville Regional Medical Center, emergency food bag preparation for those in need, and the purchasing and wrapping of presents for children on the Rescue Mission Angel Tree.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 15, 8:30 and 10:55 a.m., Sanctuary

Join us for the traditional readings of the Advent season with musical offerings by the Handbell Choirs, Chancel Choir, Evening Ensemble, Gospel Ensemble, Youth Choir and Brass Ensemble.

For a list of all upcoming Advent activities, go to www.cookevillefumc.org and click on the Advent slide.

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS REHEARSAL SCHEDULE



Wednesday, December 4, Sanctuary

All children of the church are invited and encouraged to participate in the dedication portion of The Hanging of the Greens. This is a required rehearsal for participants. All rehearsals are held in the sanctuary.

Ages 3 through grade 6 December 4 4—4:30 p.m.
Youth (make-up date) November 24 9:30 a.m.

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

Vivian Barnes	Nancy Kellman
Janey Bassett	Mary Byrd King
Robert Buck	Mike Lee
Savannah Lynn Caylor	Karen Macke
Faye Curry	Pat Maxwell
Jackie Donaldson	Sylvia McCann
Delaney Duncan	Brittany McCloud
Hazel Dyer	Paul McLendon
Brian Lee Foster	Linda McConnell
Elaine Funk	Larry Norton
Mary Garrison	Winnie Peterson
Nate Griffis	Margaret Phipps
Joe Hix	Rob Poteet
Alma Jean Johnson	Pam Raines
Bob Jones	Mary Jo Rogers
Ann Kellman	Sarah Stockton
Gary Kellman	Tom Tatara
Kirk Kellman	Harriett Wright

### Missionaries

Eric and Liz Soard

## 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:

- Diapers, mixed vegetables, “real” juice boxes.
- Promotional calendars you receive in the mail.
- Grocery bags that are clean and flattened, and plastic newspaper sleeves.

## ADVENT STUDY

We invite your Sunday school class or small group to participate in the 4-week, church-wide Bible study *Almost Christmas*—a Wesleyan Advent Experience by Magrey deVega, April Casperson, Ingrid McIntyre, and Matt Rawle. The 4-week study will be offered during Sunday School starting December 1, and on Mondays at 11 a.m. in room B210 starting December 2. For more information go to [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org) and click on the front page Advent slide, or call the church office at 526-2177.

## SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, November 23 from 10 a.m.—noon. The GriefShare Ministry will host a presentation of the video *Surviving the Holidays* for folks who are struggling to get through this time of the year due to the loss of a loved one. The showing will take place at Magnolia House, which is located on the corner of Madison and Freeze streets. For more information contact Robert Jager at 644-2435.

## CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

### Sunday, November 24

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Class Rooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Praise Band — Wesley Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class — B214  
UMYF — Youth Room
- 6:00 p.m. Wesley Foundation Meal — Wesley Foundation, TTU

### Monday, November 25

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study — B213
- 3:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer — B214

### Tuesday, November 26

- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B214
- 6:00 p.m. Financial Peace — B206

### Wednesday, November 27— Offices Close at Noon

- 6:00 a.m. Men’s Group — C112
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym

### Thursday, November 28—Campus Closed

- 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Luncheon — Christian Life Center

### Friday, November 29 — Campus Closed

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

### Sunday, December 1

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Class Rooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. UMYF — Youth Room

## CONFIRMATION CORNER

Confirmation is an important marker along our spiritual journey. It is an opportunity to respond to the Grace of God available to us as acknowledged in baptism, and to promise to live as a person of faith. It is learning what it means and looks like to strive to live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. This year we will highlight that care and mentorship here in the Confirmation Corner. We have many mentors that have committed to providing their own stories of faith on this journey.



Kevin and Kathy Conrad led our opening lesson discussing why we have confirmation classes. Pat Jordan taught the confirmands how important prayer is even when we are in a hurry. Jim and Andrea Batson reminded us how important it is to make it a priority to stay connected to our holy friends and that we all have gifts to be shared within the community. Frances Crawford, Lavenia Kline, Michelle Gaw, and Susan Simpson shared their stories about growing up in the our FUMC community and to remember that this is their home church no matter where God may lead them in their future. Janet Green, Bob Bell, and Jennie Ivey reminded us of our local church history, and how each boy and girl can stay active and be part of the story of grace in the church at any age.

Please keep our confirmation students in your prayers as they discover their own path on this journey of faith.



# First United

Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501

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## Children's Musical Wednesday, December 4 Sanctuary, 6 p.m.

Join us as the Choir Club presents their Christmas Musical featuring the choirs, instrument classes, and worship classes.

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

### YOUTH EVENTS

December 7: Breakfast with Santa  
December 15: Youth Christmas Party

#### SAVE THE DATE:

January 31 - February 2: Warmth-in-Winter  
February 28 - March 1: Discovery Weekend  
March 15 - 20: Spring Break Mission Trip

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

UC Habitat for Humanity is in need of volunteers. The ReStore is our largest ongoing fundraiser for Habitat, and is 75% volunteer run! We need help with sorting donations, keeping items out and saleable, and helping customers. Construction volunteers with some weekday availability would be great, too. For more information, contact Tisha at 528-1711, ext. 2 or Tisha@uchabitat.org.

### UPDATE ON "THE TABLE"

We have decided to discontinue *The Table* worship service that was held Sunday evenings in Wesley Chapel. Many thanks to those of you who attended.

### PROMOTING LITERACY IN OUR COMMUNITY



Each year around this time, Jacob's Ladder Preschool holds their Scholastic Book Fair. The staff knows the importance of helping children develop a love for reading and books. Each year when the book fair closes, Jacob's Ladder donates the book profits from their fair to a program within the community.

This year, the WOW Bus was the recipient of over \$700 worth of free books. The WOW Bus is a mobile book bus that makes books accessible to children in Putnam County. It is a little bit different than a library, because the children get to keep the books.

### ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Poinsettia order forms are available in the narthex, in the church office, and online at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org). Red poinsettias are \$18 and wreaths are \$20. The poinsettias will decorate our sanctuary for Sunday, December 22 and our two Christmas Eve services on the 24th. They may be picked up after the 7 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. The deadline to submit orders is Friday, December 6, at noon.

### NOVEMBER SERMON SCHEDULE:

*LIVING THE STORY OF GRACE*, BY DR. KEVIN CONRAD

24th

Psalm 100 *Our Best and Holiest Word*