



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH

- 29 Maundy Thursday
- 30 Good Friday

APRIL

- 2 Offices Closed
- 6-8 Discovery Weekend
- 11 ETSU Men's Choir
- 15 Music That Feeds Concert
- 29 Confirmation Sunday

WNL DINNER MENUS

April 4: Baked ham, salad, macaroni and cheese, black-eyed peas, peach cobbler

April 11: BBQ chicken, salad, hashbrown casserole, banana pudding

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, or sign-up online at www.cookevillefumc.org.

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

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Easter is here. Thanks be to God.

Since last year, we have been through so much. If we start from the outside in, we could name places on every continent where the situations are dire and things seem hopeless.

If we look closer to ourselves, in our country, we see communities ravaged by opioid addiction, terrible violence and lack of opportunity. We're angry and resentful for the state of things and we have become experts on arguing about who's to blame.

Our community sees folks struggling under the weight of poverty and life's difficulties. Take a visit to our Food Pantry on Tuesdays and you'll see that there are so many who are in need, not just of food, but of love and care.

And in our church, we've been through so much change and loss. We've seen beloved pastors leave, a shift in leadership, and changes in our worship opportunities. Throughout the year, we've said goodbye to so many we have loved and who have been such a dynamic part of the life of our church. It hasn't been easy.

We can write an article or a sermon every year, every week, that recounts all the negativity that goes on around us. We can always talk about tragedies and difficulties. Anytime we choose, we can pull a sad story out of a hat and talk about how we should react to it. But . . .

Easter is here. Thanks be to God.

Each Spring, the 40 days of Lent allow us to meditate on the state of our spiritual selves and to slow down and take a realistic look at the world around us. We might reflect on our imperfections and how much loss we've been through, the violence or neglect we've experienced.

To paraphrase the well-known pastor Tony Campolo, we've been living in Friday, but Sunday's comin'!

Let's remember the joy we've found this year. The good things. The marriages. The births. The retirements. The friendships and the laughter. The support from those around us. Wherever our joy is found, let's lean into it! When Sunday gets here, let's remember that no matter what we've been through, no matter what we face, there is no situation, no way of being, no present state that isn't covered by the empty tomb. He is risen! The resurrection of Christ means freedom and hope. It means love and grace big enough to cover what hurts us. It gives us strength – so much that we can share it with those who need it. What a wonderful reason to celebrate!

Easter is here. Thanks be to God.

See you Sunday,

~ Rev. Rob Wheeler

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 400

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Total Worship Attendance: 711

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$23,242.00

Building fund receipts \$865.00

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Budget fund receipts \$26,869.50

Building fund receipts \$1,540.00

March Backsliders Speakers

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.

Second Harvest Delivery Volunteers

The Food Pantry will receive a delivery on April 6 at 9:45 a.m. in the Wesley Chapel parking lot, and we are in need of some volunteers to help with unloading the truck. For more information, contact Suzie Perdue or Tamika in the church office at 526-2177.

"Ladies Night Out" - Bunco

Food Pantry Fundraiser

Join us Thursday, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. as we enjoy Bunco, food, and fellowship. Bunco is an easy, non-competitive social dice game. Bring a finger food and a donation for the food pantry. Donations are combinations of any of the following: bath soap, 13-gallon kitchen trash bags, and deodorant. For more information, email Beth Allison at allisonel351@gmail.com.

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	Mary Ann Huffines	Winnie Peterson
Vivian Barnes	Tina Johns	Margaret Phipps
Randy Cavanaugh	Alma Jean Johnson	Glenn Ramsey
Anna Cunningham	Jan Jordan	Mary Jo Rogers
Faye Curry	Mary Byrd King	John Schaefer
Ed Edenfield	Jeannine Lynn	William Stribling
Brian Foster	Karen Macke	Joan Tansil
Mary Garrison	Brian Maffett	Gene Evelyn Warren
Nate Griffis	Pat Maxwell	Julia Woodford
Dan Hearn	Evangeline O'Kain	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.

LENTEN SEASON SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Holy Thursday March 29, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary
On Holy Thursday (also called Maundy 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

"MUSIC THAT FEEDS" CONCERT

The Gospel Ensemble will present a concert of African-American spirituals on Sunday, April 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of the church. The concert will include "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord," "I've Been in the Storm," "Precious Lord," and more. All donations from the concert will be used to support God's Grace Food Pantry.



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

EASTER HUNT FUN

We lucked out on the weather this Saturday. The rain stayed away long enough for FUMC Kids to have a great time collecting hidden Easter eggs!



PALM SUNDAY DANCERS



Many thanks to our liturgical dancers for their participation in the Palm Sunday services!

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, April 1 — Easter Sunday

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class — B214
- Disciple I Fast Track — B213
- The Grand Sweep — B206

Monday, April 2

Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 3

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Team — Jenkins Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 10:00 a.m. Anna Rebecca Circle — Parlor
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B214
- 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel

Wednesday, April 4

- 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 — Conference Room
- 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, April 5

- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 1:45 p.m. Jubilee Ringers — Sanctuary
- 4:45 p.m. Sanctuary Handbells — Sanctuary
- 5:45 p.m. Evening Ensemble
- 6:30 p.m. Gospel Ensemble

Friday, April 6

- 8:00 a.m. Dipsy Doodle Men's Breakfast — Dipsy Doodle Restaurant
- 9:45 a.m. Second Harvest Delivery — Wesley Chapel Parking Lot

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.

Join Us

First United

Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street
Cookeville, TN 38501

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For an evening of music with the East Tennessee State University BucsWorth Men's Choir Concert

Wednesday, April 11

7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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

YOUNG AT HEART

Young at Heart invites you to "Things You Don't Know About Food for People and Pets". We all shop for food for ourselves and for the animals in our life. Are any dangerous? Come hear about ingredients and combinations from our own TTU Professor of Nutrition, Pat Bagley. Cost: \$5 per person. Call the Church Office, 526-2177 or go online, www.cookevillefumc.org/upcoming-events to make your reservations. Reservations deadline is Tuesday, April 17.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



Confirmation Sunday will be held April 29 at the early service. The 4th and 5th graders and their parents will host

a brunch in the Christian Life Center on that day during the Sunday School hour. Volunteer information for the brunch will be sent out soon. For more information, contact Beth Wheeler in the church office at 526-2177.

DISCOVERY WEEKEND



Discovery Weekend is almost here! April 6-8 our youth will take a journey to "Discover God's Love through the Church." During this weekend, which will be held here on FUMC's campus, our youth will play games, hear thought-provoking thoughts from fellow students, worship together, pray together, discuss together, have fun together, and lead worship Sunday morning for the church together. It's not too late to sign up! If you have a student who is in 6th grade up to

12th grade and are interested in signing up, send Adam Daniels an email at youth@cookevillefumc.org.

NEW GRIEFSHARE GROUP

A new GriefShare group will meet weekly beginning Tuesday, April 3, from 9:30 — 11:30 a.m. at Dyer Funeral Home, 798 S. Willow Avenue. Co-facilitators will be Ann and Bill Nothnagle, who have seven years as GriefShare Leaders. The current GriefShare group at the Putnam county YMCA will continue to meet on Wednesdays until April 18. If you are mourning the loss of a loved one, you may find comfort in one of these two groups. For further information, contact Rob Jager at 644-2435 or Marlene Bessette at 854-0806.