



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

27-29 SYNERGY

29 Pumpkin Caroling

31 Boo Bash

WNL DINNER MENU

November 1: Salad, cheesy chicken spaghetti, lima beans, butterscotch delight

November 8: Salad, baked ham, macaroni and cheese, black eyed peas, cherry cobbler

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

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

FROM OUR PASTOR

Pastors and laypeople across the country are all grappling with the question, “What is the future of the church in America?” Clearly, change is in the air. Every denomination in the country is now in decline. The number of people who are unaffiliated with a church is dramatically increasing, especially among young adults. More and more people of all ages are dissatisfied with status quo church life. Large numbers of people identify themselves as “spiritual but not religious.” The fastest growing religious group in America is now the religiously unaffiliated. There is no longer any doubt that the old institutional way of doing church in America, which worked so well for so long, is not working anymore. Although efforts are being made to recalibrate the old ways, they are unlikely to turn things around.

That does not mean I'm worried about the Church. I'm not. Jesus said the gates of hell will not prevail against God's Church. For example, although the church is in decline in the United States, it's exploding in other parts of the world. And even in America, people will always want and need Christian community and worship and a place to serve God and others. However, in the years ahead, the American church, if it wants to be vital and relevant, will have to reinvent itself, as the Church has done throughout the world over the centuries. Although the changes will make many of us uncomfortable, they also bring the possibility of adding new life and passion to Christ's church.

I don't have a crystal ball about the future of the American church. But significant changes are already in motion. In her fascinating book, “Christianity After Religion,” Diana Butler Bass lists numerous trends on the horizon. For example, Bass believes that American churches will become:

- Less institutional and more organic.
- Less focused on programs and more focused on spiritual practices.
- Less inward focused and more outward focused.
- Less bureaucratic and more locally nimble.
- Less clergy dominated and more lay led.
- Less exclusive and more inclusive.
- Less concerned with buildings and more concerned about advancing the kingdom of God.
- Less concerned about doctrinal details and more concerned about experiencing God and serving others.
- Less concerned about church membership and more concerned about building authentic Christian community.

Another way to put it is that the Church of the future will be less of a religious institution and more of a spiritual movement. If Diana Butler Bass is correct, the future of the American church will be closer to the spirit of Jesus and the early church than we are now, which will be good news indeed. But the changes won't come easily or quickly, and many churches will resist them. But like it or not, the American church is changing along with our country. It will be interesting to see what God does with us in the decades to come!

Finally, it was good to receive Jim and Judy Duncan and Kelly and Suzie Perdue as new members. Welcome to our church family.

~ Martin

BY OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Total Worship Attendance: 437

Sunday, October 22, 2017

Total Worship Attendance: 481

BY OUR GIFTS

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Budget fund receipts \$36,629.16

Building fund receipts \$1,185.00

Sunday, October 22, 2017

Budget fund receipts \$22,134.50

Building fund receipts \$710.00

UPCOMING BACKSLIDERS SPEAKERS

We have an exceptional group of upcoming speakers for the Backsliders Class. Many speakers hold significant positions in our community, but more importantly, all love the Lord and will share a personal testimonial of God's love in their work and lives. Not only will there be spiritual food served by our speakers, but also coffee and delicious goodies from Ken Reinard and others.

October

29 Addison Shock, Wesley Foundation Director

November

- 5 Howie Acuff
12 Dr. Martin Thielen
19 Rev. Rob Wheeler
26 Adam Daniels, Youth Director

CALLING ALL GHOULS, GOBLINS, PRINCESSES AND PIRATES!

Come to Boo Bash on Halloween night! Check out our spooked-out rides, candy, and games on October 31 at 6 p.m. in the parking garage!



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.

- Joe Albrecht, Betty Sue Allen, Peggy Barbour, Marvin Barker, Vivian Barnes, Martha Sue Bonner, Lida Canella, Michael Carver, Kayla Colson, Ed Edenfield, Dave Evans, Pat Evans, Brian Foster, Virginia Gibson, Nate Griffis, Dan Hearn, Faith Holdredge, Mary Ann Huffines, Virginia Hunter, Tina Johns, Alma Jean Johnson, Jan Jordan, Ann Karch, Mary Byrd King, Levena Kline, Jeannine Lynn, Brian Maffett, Pat Maxwell, Evangeline O'Kain, Laura Packard, Susan Pangle, Winnie Peterson, Margaret Phipps, Joan Tansil, Gene Evelyn Warren, Hazel Wyatt

Sympathy and Prayer

Larry Griffis on the death of his mother, Harriett Griffis, who died October 22 at 102 years old.

SAY HELLO TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!



Jim and Judy Duncan



Kelly and Suzie Perdue

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- The pantry is gearing up for the holidays and we need you. On November 3 at 9:45 a.m. in the Wesley Chapel parking lot. We will be receiving our monthly Second Harvest truck delivery. This order is going to be larger due to the holidays and we could use your help. Join us as we serve those in our community and become part of God Grace Food Pantry. Contact Tamika Parker in the church office for more information.
The Senior Adult Ministry is seeking a volunteer or volunteers to coordinate senior adult trips with Travel Buddies. This active and fun group travels to area points of interest monthly in our church vans. If you have an interest in enjoying the company of others and a desire for low-key adventure and excitement, plus the ability to organize interesting trips, then we need you. Contact Jim Rose, 931-526-1976 for more information.



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

CARING CORNER

PRAYER TEAM

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

~ Ephesians 6:18

Intercessory prayer is a form of prayer that opens the doors of our hearts so that God can listen to our concerns for others. It's an honor and a privilege to carry one another to God in prayer. Many verses of scripture lead us to praying for one another and even for ourselves. You may have the gifts that draw you toward praying for others.

A prayer team is in the process of forming at FUMC. Each week we will pray for one another with a special emphasis on those who are on the weekly prayer list published in the Sunday bulletin. While this list is always changing, there are those who choose for any number of reasons not to have their names published on this prayer list.

The prayer team will meet weekly to pray for our church, the prayer list, and for those who request prayer through Sunday school or the church staff. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Noel Poston, 526-2177.

STEPHEN MINISTRY HOSTS SPEAKER

The Stephen Ministry will host guest speaker Dr. Sam Barnes on the topic of opioid addiction on Thursday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m., in Jeff Wall Hall. Everyone is invited to attend this timely discussion. Refreshments will be served.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

For many, the holidays are a time of great anticipation and excitement. Some who are facing the holidays without their loved one may also experience feelings of anxiety and dread.

Our GriefShare ministry invites you to a time of support, encouragement, and advice on "surviving the holidays". You are not alone. Join us Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m.—noon in Jeff Wall Hall for GriefShare's "Surviving the Holidays". Refreshments will be served.

BOO BASH

Boo Bash is in desperate need of candy - a lot of candy! Thanks to our generous volunteers, we currently have enough cars for this event, but still need 200 more pounds of candy. This is a very important event for our community, and our congregation has always been so faithful and generous in making this event possible. Thank you! As you are shopping would you please consider buying candy for Boo Bash? If you're running short on time, the church office is accepting cash donations to purchase candy. Please have candy donations to the church by October 27 so we can be sure to have enough for Boo Bash.

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, October 29

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Classrooms
- 10:55 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Pumpkin Caroling
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class — B214
- Disciple I Fast Track — B213
- The Grand Sweep — B206
- Women's Sunday Evening Bible Study — B210

Monday, October 30

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study — B213
- 3:30 p.m. Chair Yoga — Gym
- 5:30 p.m. GriefShare — B206

Tuesday, October 31

Garage Closed — Boo Bash set-up

- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class—C206B
- 9:30 a.m. GriefShare — Dyer Funeral Home
- 10:00 a.m. Jacob's Ladder Trunk-or-Treat — Christian Life Center
- 2:00 p.m. Cookeville Dulcimer Society — B210
- 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Boo Bash — Garage

Wednesday, November 1

- 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 — YMCA
- 10:00 a.m. Playtime for Preschoolers — Gym
- 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
- 6:00 p.m. A Hopeful Earth — B213
- JAM (Jesus and Me) — Gym
- Methodists and Controversy — B210
- Wesley Class Meeting — B214
- Women's Bible Study — Christian Life Center 401
- Youth Choir — Choir Room
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir — Choir Room

Thursday, November 2

- 9:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music Class — C206B
- 10:00 a.m. Stephen Ministry Training — B206
- 1:45 p.m. Jubilee Ringers — Sanctuary
- 3:30 p.m. Chair Yoga — Gym
- 4:45 p.m. Sanctuary Handbells — Sanctuary
- 5:45 p.m. Evening Ensemble — Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. Gospel Ensemble — Choir Room

Friday, November 3

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

Saturday, November 4

- 9:00 a.m. Surviving the Holidays — Jeff Wall Hall

Soup's On!



First United

Methodist Church of Cookeville

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Cookeville, TN 38501

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At the United Methodist Women's Annual Harvest of Blessings

Friday, November 10, from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.
in the Christian Life Center
Dine in or take-out \$7

Stay for the best bake sale ever—and quilted items!

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

FUMC KIDS SCHEDULE

October

29 Pumpkin Caroling, 2- 4 p.m.

December

- 3 Hanging of the Greens
- 6 Choir Club Musical
- 9 Breakfast with Santa, 8 - 10 p.m.
- 13 Kids Mission Day, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
- 17 FUMC Kids Christmas Caroling, grades 3-6

END-OF-YEAR TRAVEL BUDDIES TRIP

December 7 and 8 overnight trip for Christmas at the Biltmore and the Folk Art Center, Asheville, NC., including tour of the manor, conservatory and grounds. Cost: double occupancy \$160; single occupancy \$220; four Dutch treat meals. Registration deadline: Thursday, November 16.

YOUTH NEWS—UPCOMING EVENTS

SYNERGY (October 27 - 29) — SYNERGY is our annual fall retreat, a weekend of outdoor adventure, worship, fun with friends, spiritual growth, and so much more. The word “synergy” describes the idea that when we work together combining positive attitudes, more can be accomplished than by working alone. We’ll grow with each other and with God.

Lock-In (November 10 - 11) — Join us for an all night extravaganza! We’ll meet at the church at 9 p.m. and then head to the town for some activities! We will end up back at the church for fun and games in the gym, a movie in the youth room, snacks, and more, followed by breakfast in the morning. The event will end at 8 a.m. It’s guaranteed to be awesome! Cost is \$20. For more information on these or other Youth events, contact Adam Daniels in the church office (526-2177) for more details.

Breakfast With Santa (December 9) — Save the date!

Youth Christmas Party (December 10) — Save the date!

HYMN FESTIVAL

November 11 in the Sanctuary—join in with the choir! Rehearse from 9:30 a.m.—noon, then perform from noon—1 p.m. Or come and simply enjoy the program! Presented by Brian Hehn, Director of The Center for Congregational Song, and Adam Perez, Minister of Music of All Saints’ United Methodist Church in Morrisville, NC.