

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

#### From Your Minister - Christian Smith

I have been bothered by it for a while now. I have been upset about the fact that the doors of the church have been closed. As much as I love and appreciate them, I have been upset about the fact that I only have the same 3 faces in worship every week. I have been bothered, but today it is hitting me hard. I miss our community Holy Week services. I am going to miss watching our kids run excitedly after Easter Eggs. I am going to miss getting to "photo bomb" your family pictures in the prayer garden. I am going to miss getting to sit down with you at breakfast. I am going to miss getting to see everyone's smiles as they come in dressed in their Easter finest. It has hit me hard today. However, I have peace. I have peace because I know that while I will miss all of those things, I will not have to miss Easter. I will not have to miss the opportunity to celebrate a risen Savior. I will not have to miss the opportunity to praise the Messiah who gives me hope for tomorrow and for today. In fact, I have hope that, while I will miss some aspects of Easter, the celebration of Easter has the chance to be larger and reach more of the world than ever before. Easter is going to be different. Yet, the hope of the resurrection lives on and that gives us reason to celebrate in the face of anything that comes our way.

## **Church Activities Canceled**

We want to advise you that the Church Session has made the decision to cancel all church activities through April 25<sup>th</sup>. The church building is closed to the public.

### **GIVING**

It is our hope that, during this world health crisis, Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church can continue to be the church and offer hope, assistance, and love to our community. However, in order to do that, we need your help. In order to continue with Tuesday Assistance, pay bills and our staff, we need you to prayerfully consider your ability to continue your regular giving. We know that it is a scary time for a lot of people. If you are able, please consider helping us to help some of the others that are being hurt during this time.

- 1. mailing an offering to the church at 565 E. 10th St., Cookeville, TN 38501
- 2. give using a debit card through the church website. http://www.cookevillecpchurch.org/give/
- 3. instruct your financial institution to make a contribution from your account (each institution may have different rules/instructions for how to do this)

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church 565 E. 10th Street - Cookeville, TN 38501

931-526-6585 www.cookevillecpchurch.org Fage 2Mid-Week Manna

We offer our thanks to Sandra Robbins, Jim Gray, and Carroll Gotcher for their continued help with our online worship experience. Their assistance and willingness to help however possible makes this new worship experience much easier for the pastor.



In Our Church

### **Worship Information**

Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, will be Easter Sunday. The chancel color is white. Our scripture for the sermon on Sunday is John 20:1-18. Please plan to join us on Facebook or Zoom as we worship God and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT** as of April 5, 2020

Commitments - \$15,645.00 Undesignated - \$2,746.00 Other - \$680.00 There was \$600.00 in donations for Tornado Disaster Relief and \$80.00 from Weight Watchers.

Total Deposit of \$19,071.00

### **Mission Efforts Ongoing**

The missions that make up a part of the church are very important to the community at large. For the mission efforts listed below, we ask that you hold on to items you have collected until the church is able to open again. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

# Love-Joy Circle Activities

We are inviting the congregation to assist us in our ministries by saving 'Education Box Tops' and aluminum can pop tops. We are collecting children's tennis shoes size 10 kids to size 4 girls/boys (new or slightly used) for Park View School. As we share hope with those with cancer, we are collecting scarves for Hope Scarves, a non-profit organization, that recycles used scarves for cancer patients. Hold on to your saved items and contributions until we are once again in church. Containers have been placed in the Fellowship Hall for all collections.

### **CHURCH MISSION NEWS**

WE HAVE A NEED FOR QUARTERS for use in making laundry packs to provide those in need with detergent and quarters to do a load of laundry at a laundromat. We have made and distributed about 200 of these in the last year.



**LOCAL MISSIONS** 

Our church is a collection point for the **Jammin' at HIPPIE JACK'S** program. Hippie Jack's delivers food to the poorest regions of the Upper Cumberland. Donations will be accepted from the community Tuesday through Friday of each week at the church. Let your friends and co-workers know.

Twisted Stitcher's goal is to have a couple of finished and tagged **PRAYER SHAWLS** on the desk in the Session Room at all times. Please help our ministry by getting them to anyone who could benefit from prayers and the love of Christ. Please indicate on the list who the blanket went to and help us cover everyone. Thank you.



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### **Nursery Attendant Needed**

Once we are able to meet in the church building again, we will be in need of an attendant for our nursery. This is a paid position. If you are interested, or you know of someone who would be interested in this position, please share that information with Steve Boots or Christian.

### **Community Opportunities**

**UC Habitat for Humanity** is in need of volunteers in their ReStore. The ReStore is 75% volunteer run, and we use volunteers Tuesdays-Saturdays. The volunteers help us sort donations, clean items



to be sold, and many other things. We could also use weekday volunteers in our construction department. Contact Tisha @ 931-528-1711 ext. 2 or <u>Tisha@uchabitat.org</u> for more info.

# Prayer Requests . . .

The family of Chuck Galemore The family of Anne McDonald

Martha Clift

Euna Hancock Brown (Sarah Joyce's sister)

Janice Cox (surgery)
Dorothy Nichols (NHC)

Ruth Ann Henry (broken knee cap) Ramona Tilghman (Life Care in Sparta)

Wanda McCaskey (St. Thomas Sparta - no visitors)

Ruth Sapp Tim Fournet

Frank Howard (Frankie Dickerson's father)

**Dave James** 

Junior Dickerson's sister, Fay Jerry Hill (assisted living)

Kathy Shanks Devonia McGee

Bob Hill Jim Lansford Wilma Diemer

Pat Brumfield (eyesight failing)

Rita Pickard (Bethesda)

Levi Rector Robert Buck

Johnny Dunn (COPD)

Walter Plyter (Assisted Living)

Cindy Furcean Clay Vanhooser

Nancy Biss (Tracy Sparks' mom - breast cancer)

Niki Work (cancer) Becky Knight (cancer)

Cindy Bilbrey (Jerry Samon's sister - cancer)

Jeremy Germinis (cancer)

Nancy Dixon (pancreatic cancer) Melissa Daniel Crannigan (cancer)

Max Atnip (cancer)
Mel Brown (cancer)
Steven Middleton (cancer)

Anne McDonald, Charlene Huddleston (Cedar Hills) Lynn Dunham, Dave & Jackie Van der Cook (Morningside)

Rita Pickard (Bethesda)
Unnamed prayer requests

Those in the military and their families