



CFCPC

# Mid-Week Manna

*A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church*

*Wednesday,  
May 6, 2020*

## From Your Minister - Christian Smith

I don't know about you, but I am getting really tired of the term "social distancing." I know that remaining separate from each other is necessary right now. I know that remaining at least six feet apart is being done for the safety of my family and yours. I know that it is the right thing to do, but I miss people. Social distancing really feels more like isolation.

As much as I may have taken it for granted in the past, I miss shaking hands. I miss fist bumps. I miss hugs. I miss human contact. There are times when six feet feels like a mile. When people are in need of prayer, I love the peace that it seems to bring when people take my hand. When someone is hurting, I love to see the burdens come off of them for just a moment as I put my arms around them. When I meet a new person, it feels strange to not be able to offer them a handshake of peace and trust.

When "social distancing" becomes a thing of the past, I will never take those small gestures for granted again. Whether someone is offering me their hand for strength or I am doing so for another, I never want to forget how fragile that moment is and how easily it could be taken away. During this time of isolation, I miss you all. I miss people. I miss companionship with my fellow human beings. I will never take it for granted again. What is it that you miss? What is it that you may have taken for granted? What is it that you will never see the same way again?

## Church Activities Canceled

**We want to advise you that the Church Session has made the decision to cancel all church activities through May 16<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. mail 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](http://www.cookevillecpchurch.org)

We offer our thanks to Sandra Robbins, Jim Gray, Christy Huddleston, Caleb Norris 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.



### Worship Information

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, will be the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The chancel color is white. Our scripture for the sermon on Sunday is John 14:1-14. Please plan to join us on Facebook Live as we worship God.

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT as of May 3, 2020

Commitments - \$7,290.00    Undesignated - \$422.00    Other - \$650.00  
There was \$150.00 in assistance donations and \$500.00 for tornado relief.  
Total Deposit - \$8,362.00

### 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. Hippiie 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.



## A Note of Thanks

Dear Church Family,

There are no words to express our gratitude for all this church has meant to us over this yucky time. You have donated money, loaned a car, cleaned a fridge, cleaned my things at Habitat and even washed my jackets. Some offered us a place to stay, furniture, dishes, food, a vacuum cleaner, and so many other things. And just not time and stuff. You have prayed for us and we are slowly recovering. Thank you all. We love you.

Tom & Kay Lane



### **Needed: Utensils for Winona Meals Program**

We are in need of utensil packets for the Winona Motel Meal Program. Please collect these and leave us a message at the church (526-6585) when you have some to donate and we'll arrange a time for you to drop them off or to pick them up from you.

### **Elastic Needed for Masks**

We have several people in our congregation working on masks to share with different places, including church members and visitors once we are able to open the church again. As you can imagine, supplies are limited right now. If you happen to have any 1/4" or 1/8" elastic with which you are willing to part, please let Christian know. We have individuals who would like to put it to use.

### **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**

#### **Putnam County Volunteer Organization Re-opening**

The Putnam County Volunteer Organization is re-opening on Tuesday, April 14, at 8am. The address is 155 Fairground St., Cookeville.

There are many ways you can help: Donating heavy equipment for you (or them) to use, renting equipment at Sunbelt for them, making phone calls, data entry, organizing inside office, food drop off at fairground headquarters (lunch items, desserts, coffee products, drinks/ice - they have plenty of water) picking up already filled trash bags in the field & bringing them to fairgrounds, delivering "goodie bags" etc. Please contact them at 931-529-1100 if interested in helping.



**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 [Tisha@uchabitat.org](mailto:Tisha@uchabitat.org) for more info.

### It's Graduation Time!

In the face of a changing society, we have to wonder what graduation will look like this year. One thing is sure - we most definitely want to recognize the Class of 2020. If you or someone you know in the church is graduating this Spring, we want to know! Please email or call Christian or Caleb with names, schools, degrees, etc. This includes college graduates! We look forward to hearing from you and celebrating this milestone in your life.



### Food to the Rescue Preparing and Packing Days



**Mon. May 18 and Tues. May 19**  
Central City Church (Cookeville Mall)  
Enter on the back side of the mall facing I-40

**Mon. 5/18 10:00-12:00**  
Volunteers needed to unpack food, and prepare boxes to fill on 5/19. There will be stations set up with groups of 10 or less.

**Tues. 5/19 9:30-1:30**  
Volunteers needed to pack food boxes. This is what we've done in the past. Groups of 10 will be working to fill boxes during the following time slots. 9:30-11:00, 11-12:30, 12:30-1:30. Volunteers can work any or all of the time slots depending on the number of volunteers we have.

Text or Email Tracy Sparks to sign up. We have to keep the groups at 10 or less. Only ages 16 and up will be allowed to help this time. Bring your own gloves and mask.

**Tracy's contact information:**  
(931)261-1029  
sparkst@pcsstn.com

Drivers are also needed! For more information, go to.....  
<http://ow.ly/65Rs50zuDgw>



# Prayer Requests . . .

Bob Ross (seizures)  
 Pat Brumfield (broken leg - home)  
 Don Dyer (home)  
 Brenda Robbins (broken hip - home)  
 Martha Clift (surgery)  
 Euna Hancock Brown (Sarah Joyce's sister)  
 Janice Cox (surgery)  
 Dorothy Nichols (home)  
 Ruth Ann Henry (broken knee cap)  
 Ramona Tilghman (home)  
 Wanda McCaskey (home)  
 Ruth Sapp  
 Tim Fournet  
 Frank Howard (Frankie Dickerson's father)  
 Dave James  
 Junior Dickerson's sister, Fay  
 Kathy Shanks  
 Devonia McGee  
 Bob Hill  
 Jim Lansford  
 Wilma Diemer  
 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)  
 Jerry Hill (assisted living in Cleveland, TN)  
 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

