



# *Mid-Week Manna*

*A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church*

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**From Your Minister - Christian Smith**

*Wednesday,  
December 9, 2020*

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We are almost halfway through the season of Advent. We are drawing closer every moment to the celebration of Christmas. As we get closer to Christmas and as the COVID numbers rise in our community yet again, we are reminded that yet another holiday is on the way that will not look like normal. As a church, we have not been able to have our normal class parties. We are not able to go caroling. We have not been able to see normal. I know that will extend to many of your homes as well. That makes this Sunday and the celebration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent even more meaningful. This week we will light the candle of joy. We will remember that no matter what comes our way, we have relationship with a God who cares for us. No matter what happens, we have the promise of God's eternal care and compassion. No matter what goes on around us, we have so many reasons to be full of joy. COVID can change a lot of things. It cannot change the joy that we are given in our relationship with the God who created us and sent us the Savior we celebrate at Christmas. Blessings, Christian

## **Sunday School for Children and Youth!**

This past Sunday, we began having Sunday school classes for all of our school-aged children and youth. Classes begin at 9:00am. As we strive to make sure that your children and family stay safe, we will be using outdoor spaces when the weather permits and will maintain our distance from one another. When we must be inside the building, masks will be required. We look forward to seeing your children and youth on Sunday mornings!



As with so many other things in 2020, our Christmas Eve services will be conducted differently this year. We will be having two services in our sanctuary, one at 6pm and one at 8pm. Our 6pm service will be broadcast live on Facebook and YouTube. Church members are requested to attend the 8pm service if possible. Many in the community will attend at 6:00pm as that is when it has been held in the past.

This year we will not be able to go Christmas caroling as we have in the past, but we don't want to forget those who are unable to attend church with us. We would ask that you set aside some Christmas cards this year for those folks. Call Sandra or Christian in the church office (526-6585) to get a roster of names and addresses. We will be happy to email you a document with that information.



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

931-526-6585  
[www.cookevillecpchurch.org](http://www.cookevillecpchurch.org)

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We thank Jim Gray, Sandra Robbins and Judy Sullivan for their leadership in our music. We also want to thank Jodi Smith for helping with the PowerPoint and Steve Boots/Bill Byers for their work with the camera system.

## Worship Information

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, will be the Third Sunday of Advent. The chancel color is purple. Our text for the sermon will be I Thessalonians 5:16-24. Please plan to join us in the sanctuary or online at 10:00am or in the Family Life Center pavilion at 11:00am as we worship God.

### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, December 6, 2020**

Commitments - \$9,310.00 Undesignated - \$1,246.00 Other - \$350.80

Sunday's offering included \$110.00 for flowers, \$200.00 for assistance and \$40.80 for Presbytery expense.

Total Deposit - \$10,906.80



*There will be an outdoor Wedding Shower for Caleb Norris and Sophie Lively on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2pm till 3:30pm, by the fireplace in the CFPC Pavilion. They are registered on the website:*

[www.zola.com/wedding/sophieandcaleb2021](http://www.zola.com/wedding/sophieandcaleb2021)

*The happy couple will be making their home in Cookeville.*

## Food to the Rescue Packing Day

\*\*\*Wed. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30pm\*\*\*

Central City Church (Cookeville Mall)

Enter on the back side of the mall facing I-40

We need at least 25 volunteers to help pack food. The packing area is large, so we will be able to spread out. All ages are allowed to help and there will be a variety of jobs available for all ages and physical ability. Masks will be worn. Dress in cool clothing as the building is warm!!

Text or Email Tracy Sparks to sign up - (931)261-1029 [sparkst@pcsstn.com](mailto:sparkst@pcsstn.com)

Drivers are also needed! For more information, go to

<http://ow.ly/65Rs50zuDgw>

## Food to the Rescue Deliveries

Food is needed now more than ever! We ask for your help getting food boxes to children's homes for Christmas Break. We will deliver the boxes on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1:00pm. We will continue to send out food boxes until they are gone. We hope to be done around 3:30. We are doing it earlier so you won't be out delivering in the dark. **IF** you cannot deliver at this time, but **CAN** deliver later (in the dark), please sign up and mention it in the note section. We still may need you! Sign up on the following website: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094eadae28aafa7-christmas2>

## Poinsettias



The church has several red Poinsettias available to church members at a cost of \$15.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing one or more, please call Sandra in the church office (526-6585) to make your reservation. **The deadline for reserving your Poinsettias is TODAY at noon.** The flowers will be placed on the altar on December 13<sup>th</sup> and may be picked up after the 8pm Christmas Eve service.

## 11:00am Worship Service

We thank each of you who attend our outdoor worship service (Family Life Center). We will continue to offer this slightly abbreviated and less formal service each Sunday at 11:00am until we can all be in the building together again.

We ask that people not park in the spaces directly in front of the pavilion. We would like to leave those spaces available as a parking space for families who wish to worship from inside their vehicles.



The **Good News Sunday School** class is now meeting at 9:00am for Sunday School. This class will take place in the Upper Commons. The class will be studying the book of Revelation. Everyone is invited to come and take part in this study.

The **Pathfinders Sunday School** class is meeting at 8:45 on Sunday mornings in the outside area of the Pavilion. Please consider joining us.

## 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)

## Camera Persons Needed

The church needs one or more persons to learn to run our new camera system for the 8:45am service on Sundays. The new system supports many views of the church and works to highlight various viewpoints, including a wide view of the church, the pulpit, lectern and music instruments. The new system is not difficult, but will require some training and Steve Boots, who currently runs the system, would be available for that purpose. We would like to have at least a couple of people become proficient at running the system and would like to have you express your interest to Steve or Christian. We would love to begin training you immediately.



### WINONA MEAL

Christmas dinner for our Winona folks is scheduled for Tuesday evening, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>; the menu is ham/green beans. If anyone would like to help, call Alice Peek 239-5513. We need the following items by noon on that Tuesday:

- (4) 9x11 pans of mac n cheese      (45) rolls
- (3) 9x11 pans of sweet potatoes      (45) servings of dessert

Thank you for your generosity and willingness to help make these meals possible!



**Christmas Dinner**



*Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God in celebration of our 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary by Ed & Janet Fowler.*

*The large altar Poinsettia is given by the Phillips family in memory of Harvey, Mildred, James Harvey, & Mike Phillips.*

### 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 collecting them.

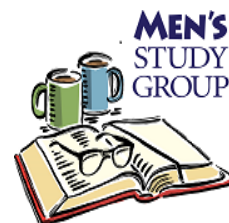


### CHURCH MISSION NEWS

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.

### Men's Bible Study

Tim Fournet is conducting a Men's Bible Study on Tuesdays at 12:00pm. The first study is "Ten Men of the Bible" by Max Lucado. This study guide is widely available on multiple sites. If you need help finding or purchasing this guide, please let Christian (931-265-8896) or Tim (931-239-9752) know. Each lesson is a 5-day guide and the study lasts for 10 weeks. We will discuss one lesson each week.



The first class was held yesterday and will continue on November 24<sup>th</sup>. We are meeting in the church pavilion and invite you to bring a lawn chair and your lunch. We provide a Zoom link to the study as well.

Everyone is welcome. We will be following Church Guidelines on Social Distancing. If you have any questions, please let Tim or me know.



# Prayer Requests . . .

Carolyn Zolg (Parkinson's/COVID)  
 Rico Schwartz (17-yr old hit by drunk driver)  
 Memory Turner (Rico's mom - a co-worker of  
 Rev. Blake Stephens Sarah Gray-Jordan)  
 The family of Jerry Hill  
 The family of David Byers (Bill's father)  
 Bobby Wallace (Evon Maggart's brother-in-law)  
 Ethel James  
 Kathy Hilton (surgery)  
 Evelyn Hyder (cancer)  
 Lynn Dunham (broken hip)  
 Ginny Liebsch  
 Devonia McGee  
 Kathy Shanks  
 Julie Stepp's mother  
 Margie Copeland (Freeman Smith's sister)  
 Don Anderson (serious auto accident)  
 Leighann Morgan and family  
 Lynn Twitty (cancer)  
 Wanda McCaskey  
 Ella Haynes  
 Pat Brumfield  
 Don Dyer  
 Euna Hancock Brown (Sarah Joyce's sister)  
 Dorothy Nichols

Ramona Tilghman  
 Ruth Sapp  
 Junior Dickerson's sister, Fay  
 Tim Fournet  
 Dave James  
 Wilma Diemer  
 Bob Hill  
 Jim Lansford  
 Levi Rector  
 Robert Buck  
 Johnny Dunn (COPD)  
 Cindy Furcean  
 Clay Vanhooser  
 Becky Knight (cancer)  
 Cindy Bilbrey (Jerry Samon's sister - cancer)  
 Jeremy Germinis (cancer)  
 Max Atnip (cancer)  
 Mel Brown (cancer)  
 Steven Middleton (cancer)  
 Charlene Huddleston (Cedar Hills)  
 Carol Burgess (Heritage Pointe)  
 Lynn Dunham, Dave & Jackie Van der Cook (Morningside)  
 Unnamed prayer requests  
 Those in the military and their families

