



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

*Wednesday,
December 30, 2020*



2020 is finally coming to an end. Tomorrow night people will gather and they will celebrate the end of this long year and the arrival of a new beginning. We will celebrate the arrival of a new hope. This is the same ritual that we do every year. I do not believe that any of us are naïve enough to believe that replacing a calendar will eliminate our problems. I do not believe that any of us truly feel that the arrival of 2021 will actually eliminate the problems that we face collectively or individually.

That being said, 2021 can be a year full of new opportunity. It can be an opportunity to receive and offer the healing that we all need. This moment can be used to remind us that throughout the pain and despair that faces us, we have been given the gift of God's love and God presence in our lives. If we allow this moment to remind us that no matter what comes our way, God is in control of this year and every year, then we can refocus on what is important in life. I pray that in the new year, each of you would find the peace and hope of the God who loves you immensely.

Blessings, Christian

Commitment Cards

If you have not yet submitted your pledge for year 2021, please take a moment to complete a Commitment Card and place it in Sunday's offering, drop it by the office or mail it to the church address. A copy of the 2021 Budget is on the narthex table if you would like to see how the church disburses its funds. Please call Sandra in the office if you would like a copy of the budget.



The **2021 Flower Calendar** signup sheet is now posted in the narthex. Please place your name next to the date(s) for which you are interested in donating flowers. You may also call in your request for placing flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday. The cost for flowers is \$50.00. Sally Beyer will call you for a dedication the week the flowers are ordered.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, December 27, 2020

Commitments - \$5,675.00 Undesignated - \$582.00 Other - \$50.00

Sunday's offering included \$50.00 for flowers.

The Christmas Eve offering totaled \$795.00 and memorial contributions were \$150.00.

Total Deposit - \$7,012.00

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org



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 Bill Byers for his work with the camera system.

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!



Worship Information

Sunday, January 3rd, will be the 2nd Sunday of Christmas and the celebration of Epiphany. The chancel color is white. Our text for the sermon will be Matthew 2:1-12. Please plan to join us in the sanctuary, online at 10:00am or in the Family Life Center pavilion at 11:00am as we worship God.

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.



Camera Persons Needed

The church needs another person or two to learn to run our new camera system for the 10am 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.



The Twisted Stitchers' goal is to have a couple of finished and tagged **PRAYER SHAWLS** on the desk in the Session Room at all times. Please support 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.





Our sympathy is expressed to Betty Case on the death of her husband, Matt. Matt passed away on Christmas Day in Cookeville. Please remember Betty and her family in your prayers.

Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God in memory of Bob Fowler, Lloyd Thurman and Doug Thomas by Ron and Tina Thurman.



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



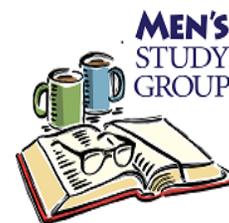
Remember Your Offerings

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)

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 24th. 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 . . .

The family of Matt Case
The family of Polly DePriest
The family of Mike Hawkins
The family of Carolyn Zolg
The family of Arnold Rice
The family of Noah Myers
Rico Schwartz (17-yr old hit by drunk driver)
Memory Turner (Rico's mother)
Rev. Blake Stephens
Jimmy Stringer (heart issues)
Bobby Wallace (Evon Maggart's brother-in-law)
Ethel James
Kathy Hilton
Lynn Dunham
Ginny Liebsch
Devonia McGee
Kathy Shanks
Julie Stepp's mother
Leighann Morgan and family
Wanda McCaskey
Ella Haynes
Pat Brumfield
Don Dyer
Euna Hancock Brown
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
Lynn Twitty (cancer)
Evelyn Hyder (cancer)
Becky Knight (cancer)
Jeremy Germinis (cancer)
Max Atnip (cancer)
Mel Brown (cancer)
Steven Middleton (cancer)
Charlene Huddleston (Cedar Hills)
Carol Burgess (Heritage Pointe)
Lynn Dunham, (Signature Healthcare)
Dave & Jackie Van der Cook (Morningside)
Unnamed prayer requests
Those in the military and their families

