



# *Mid-Week Manna*

*A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church*

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*Wednesday,  
November 9, 2022*

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## From Your Minister - Christian Smith

I hope that you took the opportunity to go out and vote yesterday. It is an honor and a privilege that we should never take for granted. Politics and the political system are an important part of who we are. While I will never tell you how or for whom you should vote, I will remind you that we are encouraged in scripture to be involved in the political process while allowing yourself to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

As political parties have become so much more divided, we have seen those political beliefs divide our families, our friendships, and our churches. While we are called to allow God to guide our political beliefs, at times, it seems we have allowed our politics to guide what we think should be preached and what we choose to hear in the church.

I must be careful when I am preaching to make sure that I do not cross the line from preaching scripture into talking about politics. However, we must also be careful that we do not cross the line and allow our politics to keep us from hearing the entirety of God's Word.

Tonight, in our Bible study, we will be discussing this subject and where the line between politics and religion is. We hope that you will be here as we discuss the relationship that these two important parts of our life can and should have.



## **Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoeboxes**

The deadline for returning Christmas shoeboxes is Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. See page 2 of the newsletter for more information on how you can contribute to this project.

The youth's annual **Turkey Project** is underway and, as always, we hope you will join us in helping to fill boxes. Last week we collected instant potatoes and dressing. **This Sunday we are collecting cranberry sauce and macaroni/cheese.** On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting green beans and corn. If you would prefer to donate money to the project, the cost of sponsoring a box is \$20.00 and you may sponsor as many as you would like. Donations in any amount are welcome; make checks payable to FCPC. The youth will be putting together 150 boxes this year for families in our schools and community. Please contact Caleb with any questions about the project.



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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## Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, will be Children’s Sunday. The chancel color will be green. Our scripture for the service will be Matthew 19:13-15. We hope that you will plan to join us at 8:45am or 11:00am as we worship God together and celebrate the children of our church.

### Circle to Meet

Members of the Love-Joy Circle will be meeting on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10am in the Session Room of the church. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Save the Date: Christmas Play

The children and youth of the church will be presenting a Christmas play on Sunday, December 11. We will be practicing during the Sunday School hour on Sundays through that time. We welcome children and youth of all ages to participate! If you have any questions please reach out to Mel Presley at 931-260-4200.



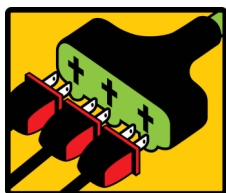
### Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Shoeboxes



Christmas shoeboxes are now available in the Fellowship Hall! You may take a shoebox to fill for a child (include \$10.00 shipping), or donate \$25.00 to the Love-Joy Circle to sponsor an already-filled shoebox. Our goal this year is to contribute 250 shoeboxes to the Samaritan’s Purse program. We encourage you to take one or more boxes for this year’s drive. The deadline for submitting/purchasing boxes is November 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Belinda Wynne at 931-979-7816 with any questions.



You may also use the QR code provided to purchase a shoebox. Using the camera on your phone, center on the code and tap the link provided. You may choose what you would like to put in your box at a cost of \$25.00. Contact Sandra in the church office with questions about the process.



CONNECTION

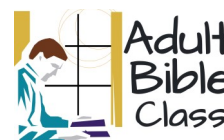
### Wednesday Night Connection

Our Connection continues this evening with dinner at 5:15. On the menu for next week, the 16<sup>th</sup> of November, is pot roast, potatoes and peas. You do need a reservation to eat so remember to make your weekly reservation by Tuesday at 10am. The cost for each meal is \$6.00 with a maximum per family of \$20.00. You may fill out a card (on the narthex table) or contact us in the church office.

Our evening activities will include classes for children/youth at 6, Twisted Stitchers at 6, and an adult class study with Christian at 6:15. Join us for any/all of our Wednesday night program; we would love to see you!

### Connection Adult Bible Study

For the next couple of weeks, our adult class will be discussing “The Controversial Issues Facing the Church Today.” We will attempt to hear all sides of the debates as we seek to understand scripture together. Tonight we will discuss politics from the pulpit and politics from the pew.



## Children's Sunday

Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, is Children's Sunday. During both services, we hope to honor and appreciate the amazing young people of our church family as they assist in the leadership of our worship. The kids have been hard at work practicing for their roles in collecting the offering, singing a special piece of music, and giving the children's sermon rather than receiving it! We hope you can be here to celebrate our children this Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Baby Girl Thurman



*It is time to welcome baby girl Thurman. The first grandchild of Ron and Tina Thurman - daughter of Blake and Alyssia - is due November 18<sup>th</sup>. They are registered at babylist.com. Also, the couple would be very happy to receive some size 2 or 3 diapers and, of course, wipes. There is a table in the Fellowship Hall for gifts for them .*

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, November 6, 2022

Commitments - \$14,190.00      Undesignated - \$3,780.20      Other - \$3,178.00

This past week, \$500.00 was given for Assistance, \$562.00 was collected for Connection meals, Samaritan's Purse received \$100.00, \$75.00 was given for facility use and \$135.00 was collected for t-shirts. In addition, \$1,170.00 was given for the Turkey Project, \$100.00 was given for the Recovery Kitchen program; there was a \$96.00 insurance reimbursement and \$500.00 was given for the Columbarium.

Total Deposit - \$21,148.20



On Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate Thanksgiving and the Reign of Christ, we will provide the opportunity for you and your family to make your financial pledge to the church for 2023. You should receive a letter and a copy of the church budget very soon. As always, if you have questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

## Volunteer Opportunities

We invite you to share your knowledge, talents, and time with the church. The following link leads to a survey that offers you the chance to share with us how you might like to serve and help us worship together. The link is (<https://forms.gle/ryVjDiGQLRLcGVXi9>). Take a moment to check it out.

Each week our services are broadcast online for those who are unable to join us in person. Our services are streamed live at 8:45am every Sunday. Those services remain online and can be watched at any time. There are two ways to view our service online:

- Facebook- <http://www.facebook.com/cookevillecpc/>
- YouTube- <https://www.youtube.com/c/CookevilleCPChurch>



## Meal Train



We continue a Meal Train for Charles & Wanda McCaskey. If you are willing to deliver a hot meal to them, go to the following link for details and to sign up for a day/time. They are much appreciative of your love and support.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/egeek1>

## Recovery Kitchen

We have received most of the items needed for this week's Recovery Kitchen. We are still in need of the following items for the meal. Contact Tracy at 261-1029 if you are able to give to the project. Please have items to the church by Friday, 11/11, at 12pm.

- 35 oranges      30 p/b & crackers
- 30 bananas     50 soft granola bars
- 35 bananas

We continue to collect gently used/new blankets, socks, winter coats and sweatshirts for this project.

## Help Needed for Connection Meal

We are in need of folks to help prepare, serve and clean up for next Wednesday evening's Connection meal. Following is a link to a site where you can sign up to lend a hand in these areas. Please consider giving a bit of your time.

### **November 9:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA5AA28A4FDC25-connection11>

There is also a signup sheet in the narthex if you would prefer to sign up that way.

## Men's Bible Study

The Tuesday Noon Men's Bible Study is now meeting with a study on the book of Revelation. Tim Fournet is leading the discussion and all men in the church are invited to attend.



	<b>November 13</b>	<b>Children's Sunday</b>
	<b>November 16</b>	<b>Last Connection for the semester</b>
	<b>November 20</b>	<b>Christ the King/Thanksgiving Sunday</b>
		<b>Samaritan's Purse Christmas</b>
		<b>Shoebox submission deadline</b>
		<b>Feast of Ingathering</b>
	<b>November 21</b>	<b>Distribution of Turkey Project boxes</b>
	<b>November 27</b>	<b>1st Sunday in Advent /</b>
		<b>Hanging of the Greens</b>
	<b>December 11</b>	<b>Children/Youth Christmas presentation</b>
	<b>December 18</b>	<b>Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata</b>
	<b>December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (6pm)</b>
<b>December 25</b>	<b>Sunday Worship (10am - no SS)</b>	





### Sympathy

The church expresses sympathy to the family of Richard Morgan, Heather's husband. Richard died unexpectedly this past Sunday. Services were planned for this afternoon at 1pm. Please keep Heather and the family in your prayers.

### Avery Trace Middle School Christmas Store

Once again, ATMS students will have the opportunity to shop at a school Christmas Store. This will allow them to surprise a parent, sibling, grandparent, or loved one with a gift at no cost to them. Clean out your closets/cabinets/drawers and gather gently used items that could be given as a gift. This might include:



- |           |                   |            |
|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| candles   | t-shirts          | gift bags  |
| body wash | sweatshirts       | perfume    |
| lotions   | coffee mugs       | small toys |
| jewelry   | silly/comfy socks |            |

Bring your donations by the church Monday-Thursday from 8-4, Friday from 8-2 or on Sundays. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Church Session Class of 2025 Elections

Prior to each of the morning worship services on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing five members to serve on the church session for the next three years. The current session, acting as a nominating committee, will place in nomination the following individuals: Gary Alspaugh. Nathan Fletcher, Chris Langford, Al Middleton, and Shane Welch. During the meeting, members of the church will have the opportunity to make any other nominations that they wish to make. The only thing that we ask is that you make sure those individuals are members of the church and make sure they are willing to serve, if elected.

### *Prayer Requests*

**Individuals:** the family of Richard Morgan (Heather's husband); Madie King (knee injury); Evelyn Hyder (broken hip); Wanda McCaskey (home); the family of Max Atnip; the family of Jack Johnson; Dan Hilton (Blue Roof); Shelby Bennett (Patti Atnip's granddaughter - ATV accident); the family of Gus House; Pete & Regina Weber (Regina at Life Care in Sparta); Ron Hensley; Kendall Fogleman (3-yr-old with leukemia - Christy Huddleston's family); Hayden Lytle (Evon Maggart's nephew); Don Holloway (home); Carol Burgess (NHC); Cindy Furcean.

**Cancer Treatment:** Lynn Twitty; Susie Hyder (Evelyn's daughter - breast cancer); Steven Middleton.

**Assisted Living:** Lynn Dunham (Signature Healthcare); Jo Gentry (Charter Senior Living); June Guzlas (Charter Senior Living); Ruth Sapp (Heritage Pointe); Dave & Jackie Van der Cook (Charter Senior Living).

