



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

*Wednesday,
December 28, 2022*

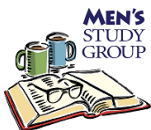
***And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.- John 1:14***

In the church, Christmas begins the moment that we begin our Christmas Eve service. That service, which is special to so many, takes weeks to prepare, but it is over in just 75 minutes. This year we got to have worship on Christmas morning. The staff spent weeks thinking about the service that was over in just an hour. Many of us spent weeks and months buying and wrapping presents. If your house was anything like mine, after all of that preparation, all of the presents were opened in just a matter of moments.

We spend so much time in Advent. We spend so much time in preparation for Christmas. Then when the big day finally arrives, it seems to pass so quickly. We spend weeks, and in some cases months, building up to a celebration that seems to end too rapidly. As we go back to work, back to school, and back to normal, it is easy to put Christmas behind us. So, I am thankful for the church that reminds us that Christmas is not a day. It is a season.

As a church we celebrate Christmas for 12 days. Seeing Christmas in this way seeks to remind us that Christ did not come to change the world for moments or hours or even a day. Christ was born at Christmas to change the world forever. While our "Christmas events" may be wrapping up, the light of the world has been revealed. The Word has become flesh and lives among us. Christmas has arrived and the world can never be the same again. Yes, the decorations will come down and our activities will return to normal, but thanks to Christmas, the world can never be the same again.

We will be worshipping on Sunday morning, **January 1st**, with one service at 10am. Sunday School classes will be meeting at 9am. We will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion during that service. We hope that you will be here to join us as we begin 2023 in worship together.



Men's Bible Study

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

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Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, January 1st, will be the Second Sunday of Christmas. The chancel color will be white. We hope that you will plan to join us at 10am as we worship God on this first day of the new year and partake in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



Studies Resume

On Tuesday, January 17th we will be resuming our Coffee and Conversation Bible Study Series. These studies take place on Facebook at 8:30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you cannot join us live, you are welcome to watch them any time. For our new study, Christian will be leading us through the book of Acts.

The 2023 Flower Calendar signup sheet is now posted in the narthex. Please place your name next to the date(s) for which you are interested. You may also call in your request for placing flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday. The cost for placing flowers is \$50.00. Sally Beyer will call you for a dedication the week for which the flowers are ordered.

Mission Trip Fundraiser

On March 11-17, members of our church will be taking a mission trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Missions Ministry Team has initiated a 1-100 fundraiser to help finance that trip. We will have gift boxes in the narthex with the numbers 1 through 100 on a box. We are encouraging people to take a box (or 2) with a number and donate that amount to the mission trip. You may place that amount in the offering or bring them to the church office. Please be sure to note on any checks that the money should be used for the mission trip.



Wednesday Connection Resumes

We will be resuming our Wednesday Night Connection activities on January 18th. Dinner will be available from 5:15-6:00pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend, but we do ask that you make a reservation. Our menu will be available soon. At 6:00pm we will have activities for our children and youth. Our "Twisted Stitches" knitting and crochet group will also meet at that time. At 6:15pm our adults will meet for Bible study.



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/CookevilleCPCChurch>



STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, December 25, 2022

Commitments - \$1,150.00 Undesignated - \$4,473.00 Other - \$5,933.00

This week's offering includes \$50.00 for altar flowers and a \$3,425.00 reimbursement from the CPWM for new chairs for the Fellowship Hall. \$2,458.00 was received for the Christmas Eve offering.

Total Deposit - \$11,556.00

Flowers

The flowers for this past Sunday, December 25th, were placed to the glory of God and in celebration of Ron Thurman's birthday by Tina Thurman.

Prayer Requests

Individuals: Sherrie Smith (surgery - CRMC); Zach & Jenny Fowler (surgery); Larry Taylor (Tracy Sparks' brother-in-law - open heart surgery); Rhonda Barlow (surgery); Denise Joyce (surgery); Madie King (knee surgery); Evelyn Hyder (home); Wanda McCaskey (home); Dan Hilton (home); Pete & Regina Weber (Regina at home); 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).

