



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
March 29, 2023*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

"If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." – James 2:15-17

I don't know what to say anymore. Today is the 88th day of the year and, so far, in 2023, we have experienced 127 mass shootings in the United States. It seems that the violence may never end. I am so tired of seeing the endless, senseless, and needless loss of life. I know that I am not alone in those feelings because many of you have contacted me over the last two days and have expressed the same sentiment. People are tired. People are confused. People are upset.

Despite those emotions, we do not know what to say. We add our prayers to the countless people who are praying for those families who have experienced devastating loss, for those first responders who have offered protection and love while experiencing things that we can only imagine, for those students and teachers and families in Nashville and throughout our nation who feel even less safe today than they did yesterday, and for the administrators and leaders who must, again, figure out how to address the safety of our children.

We must continue our prayers for all of those affected, but we must also put feet to our prayers. We must follow the leading of the Holy Spirit that will produce actions that will promote change and growth in our communities so that we might avoid the helplessness and pain that we feel far too often when we hear the tragic news of the day.



Next week, April 3-7, you are invited to join us at 12:00pm each day for a 30-minute worship service that will be led by different ministers from our community. A sack lunch will be available each day.

Additionally, we will have a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00pm on April 6th. During the service we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

We will also gather at 7:00pm on April 7th for our Good Friday Tenebrae Service. During the service will gradually lower the lights as we remember the sacrificial crucifixion of Christ.

We will come together at Saint Michael's Episcopal Church at 8pm on Saturday, April 8th, to celebrate in an Easter Vigil Service.


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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, April 2nd, will be Palm Sunday. The chancel color will be purple. The scripture for this week is Matthew 21:1-11. We hope that you will plan to join us at 8:45 or 11:00am as we worship God together and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

*The People of
Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
are invited to join Pastors Christian & Caleb,
in collaboration with Mother TJ Azar,
for
The Great Vigil of Easter,
a very special Easter Eve service
to be held Saturday, April 8, at 8 PM.
at
St. Michael's Episcopal Church
640 N. Washington Ave., Cookeville*



Men's Bible Study

The Tuesday Noon Men's Bible Study will not be meeting this next week, the 4th of April, but will resume on April 11th. Join us as Tim Fournet leads a discussion on the book of Ephesians.



We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8th, from 10am to 1pm. Children of all ages are invited to participate in our egg-hunting competition, which will begin at 10:15. Pre-school children and below will have a hunting location of their own; the large playground will serve as the main hunting location for older kids (K-5).

Following the hunt, children are invited to count their eggs for a chance to win a prize. Hard-boiled eggs will be available for dyeing in the Family Life Center pavilion with lunch to follow at 11:30am. If you would like to bring a covered dish or dessert, or if you can help pack eggs with candy, please contact Caleb at caleb@cookevillecpchurch.org or call the church office.



Family Game Night

TONIGHT is the final night of Connection for the semester. We will have dinner at 5:15 followed by a time of games, fun and fellowship for the whole family at 6. We hope all of you will join us for a variety of special activities, including games and karaoke. We had a game night last fall and it was a big hit with children, youth and adults alike. We look forward to seeing you this evening!

Easter Lilies

The church has 25 Easter Lilies available to the congregation for purchase in memory or honor of loved ones. Please note that this year, our Easter Lilies will be 6-inch in size. The 8-inch size is no longer available. The cost of each Lily will be \$12.00. Order forms are available on the table in the narthex. Please make your check payable to FCPC, fold it into the order form and place it in the offering plate. Note "Easter Lily" in the memo line. You may also place your order by calling the church office. Lilies are available on a first-come first-served basis. Orders may be placed through this next Monday, April 3rd. Lilies may be taken home after the I am service on Easter Sunday.



Priority House, one of our mission outreach programs, is in need of twin size sheets and blankets. There will be a collection bin located beside the pastors' offices if you are able to provide new or gently-used sheets and blankets during the remainder of this month and the month of April. For the men who are living at Priority House these two simple items are the start of a new life.

Recovery Kitchen

Recovery Kitchen is a program that provides hot meals for the homeless in our community. We ask that members of the church assist us in preparing a meal by donating the following items. There is a signup sheet in the narthex or you can contact Alice at 239-5513 if you are able to give to the project. Please have items to the church by Friday, April 7, at NOON.

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| (72) Slices cheese | (3) heads lettuce / (7) tomatoes | (72) soft granola bars |
| (72) Buns | (2) cases water | (72) individually wrapped desserts |
| (72) Individual bags of chips | (36) bananas | (72) peanut butter crackers |
| (3 cans) Baked beans (117 oz) | (36) oranges | |

Thank you in advance for your loyal and continued support for this important service to our homeless community.

Those folks signed up to go on the **JOY Club** field trip to Cumberland County Playhouse will meet at the church at 12:30pm on Sunday. We look forward to a time of fun and fellowship as we come together to take in **Things My Mother Taught Me!**



Call for Handbell Ringers

Our new Handbell Program Music Director, Lynn England, is in the process of collecting information on who might like to participate in a handbell ensemble. A music background is helpful but certainly not required; beginners as well as seasoned musicians are invited to try us out. If this is something you are interested in pursuing, contact Lynn at 931-743-2245 or lynnwengland@yahoo.com. You may also contact Sandra Robbins for more information.



Many, many thanks to my loving church family for the cards, calls, meals, flowers and prayers during the last few weeks. I guess the Good Lord isn't ready for me yet because I am feeling much better and stronger each day. I love y'all. *Ginny Liebsch*



A Celebration for the life of Barbara "Lynn" Twitty will be held on Saturday, April 1st, at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Cookeville, TN. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:00 a.m. with a Celebration of Life following at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cumberland Presbyterian Nursery School.

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for 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 this study, Christian is leading us through the book of Acts.



Love Joy Circle Collects "Hope Scarves"

The mission of **Hope Scarves** is to share scarves, stories & hope with women facing cancer. In order to meet the increasing interest in Hope Scarves we need to collect many scarves and stories to fulfill the requests. Ideally each scarf comes with a story from someone who has faced cancer. However, we have many stories donated that do not have scarves so we pair a donated community scarf with that story to begin its journey as a Hope Scarf. Scarf & Story drives are an important part of our ability to fulfill our mission. Please bring your unused scarves by the church office or see Nancy Miller with your donations.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, March 26, 2023

Commitments - \$6,430.00 Undesignated - \$1,177.00 Other - \$915.00

This week's offering includes a \$75.00 donation to the Music program, \$236.00 in Connection meal revenue, a \$460.00 Mission Trip donation and \$144.00 for Easter Lilies.

Total Deposit - \$8,522.00



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>



This Week In the Church

Wednesday	10:00am CPNS Devotional	Sunday	5:30pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
	5:15pm Connection Dinner		6:30pm Youth activities
	6:00pm Family Game Night	Monday	12:00pm Holy Week Service/Lunch
Thursday	8:30am Coffee & Conversation (online)	Tuesday	8:30am Coffee & Conversation (online)
Sunday	8:45am Palm Sunday Worship		12:00pm Holy Week Service/Lunch
	9:50am Sunday School		1:00pm Community Assistance
	11:00am Palm Sunday Worship	Wednesday	12:00pm Holy Week Service/Lunch

Individuals: Reagan Bacgi (tumor); Ramona Tilghman (broken hip); Kathy Hilton (broken ankle); Jim Gray, Sr.; Kim Daniels (cancer); Jewel Cannon; Freeman Smith; Cody Liddle (boating accident); Amy Baggett; Jim Baggett; Georgia Hensley; Ginny Liebsch; Ginger Tevault (chemo); Sherrie Smith; Wanda McCaskey; Pete & Regina Weber; Don Holloway; Cindy Furcean.

Cancer Treatment: Susie Hyder (Evelyn’s daughter - breast cancer); Steven Middleton; Kendall Fogleman (3-yr-old with leukemia - Christy Huddleston’s great-niece).

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).

