Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

"But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." – James 1:22

As hard as it is to believe, school in Putnam County is about to resume. My house felt a lot different this morning. Jodi returned to work today, and Maggie had her Freshman Orientation just last night. A new school year means that our children are about to return to the classroom, and they are about to have the opportunity to learn and to grow as students and as people.

We know that if our children walked into class next week and believed that they had all of the knowledge they needed, then their growth would be significantly hindered. If students spent their time arguing with their classmates and refusing to listen to the understanding of others, there would be little learning that takes place. In order for our students to gain the knowledge that they need, they have to walk into their classrooms with a desire to learn and an open mind that realizes they do not know all there is to know.

As Christians, we are disciples of Christ. A disciple is a follower and a student of a leader. No matter how long we have been in the church, we are still followers. No matter how long we have been Christians, we are still students. No matter how many times we have read the Bible, there is still so much to learn. As disciples, we ought to have a desire for more knowledge and as much understanding of God as we can possibly obtain. This cannot be done unless we are willing to admit that we do not know it all and we do not have a monopoly on understanding.

Yet, that knowledge does little good if we do not make use of it. The education that children receives in school helps them to make a difference in the world through their careers and their service to others. As disciples, we cannot just receive education. We must use that Biblical and religious education to make a difference in the world, not just for us, but for all of God's creation.



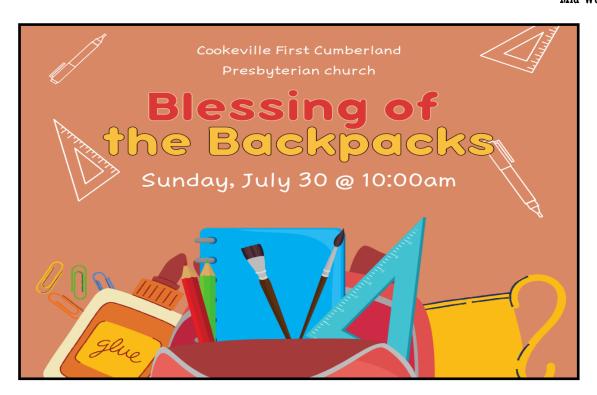
We will be having just one service on **THIS Sunday**, **July 30**th. Sunday School will start at 9am with worship following at 10. This is a wonderful opportunity for the congregations from our 8:45 and 11:00 services to meet and fellowship together. We will recess to the Fellowship Hall to share a meal immediately after the worship service. The church will be providing meat, bread and drinks; we ask that you provide sides and

desserts. We look forward to worshiping and fellowshipping together as a church family on that day!

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On July 30th, we invite our school students, teachers, administrators, and staff to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or laptop bags to church for our annual "Blessing of the Backpacks." As they return to the classroom for another school year, we want to surround them with our prayers for a safe and productive year.

The First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

SANCTUARY CHOIR

is seeking new members and welcomes **YOU**!

Prior musical training, while helpful, is not required to be a member of the Choir.

Join us THIS SUNDAY at 5:30pm in the Choir Loft.

Contact Sandra Robbins with interest/questions! 931-526-6585 or 931-284-6934

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, July 30th will be the 9th Sunday after Pentecost. The chancel color will be green. Our Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Charles McCaskey will be preaching the sermon. We hope that you will plan to join us at 10:00am when we will worship God together as the family of God.

Wednesday Connection Resumes

We are excited to announce that our fall semester of Wednesday Connection will be resuming on August 9th. As always, we will begin our evenings with a meal. We would love for you and your family to join us for this fellowship opportunity. Meals cost \$6.00/person and no one household is expected to pay more than \$20.00. You may make a reservation meals on a weekly basis or make a standing reservation by contacting the church office.



At 6:00pm, our youth and children will meet downstairs for Bible Study and recreation. Our Twisted Stitchers Group meets in the Session Room to crochet and knit together as they work on projects for various service organizations in the community.

At 6:15pm, our adults meet in the Upper Commons for Bible Study. This semester, Christian will be leading the group in a study about the history and meaning of the Apostles' Creed. The group will also look at some other creeds the Church has used throughout its history.



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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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, July 23, 2023

Undesignated - \$1,969.00 Commitments - \$3,585.00 Other - \$1,526.50 This week's offering includes \$700.00 for assistance, \$150.00 in birthday donations, and \$200.00 for Recovery Kitchen. Total Deposit - \$7,080.50

Men's Bible Study



The Tuesday Noon Men's Bible Study has resumed and we invite all the men in the church to attend the study with us each week in the Session Room of the church. Feel free to bring along your lunch. Tim Fournet is leading a discussion of Max Lucado's book on James.



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Dear Church Family,

I give thanks to God for a blessed 90 years of life; and give glory to God for all the generous donations to our church in honor of my 90th birthday. Thanks to all who made a contribution, sent a card or attended the party. I am asking the Session to use the money for a needed project for our church.

Gratefully, Sarah Joyce



Our next series of Bible Studies will begin on August Ist. Please make plans to join us as Rev. Caleb Norris leads us through a study of some of the Minor Prophets.





School is almost back and that means Pool Party Friday, July 28!

The Fournets have graciously invited our youth and children, so come one, come all!

We will take the church bus leaving at 12:15 and returning by 3:15.

Individuals: Dick & Pat Brumfield; Lorene Holland (Willene Gentry's sister - Blue Roof); Len & Julie Edelstein (multiple health issues - friends of Brenda Johnson); Jason Palmer (Belinda Wynne's nephew - heart attack); Ramona Tilghman (hospice); Wesley Sanders - Kiana Gentry's brother-in-law - car accident); Ella Haynes (Bailey Manor); Jeff Comer (brain tumor); Georgia Hensley (Bethesda); Amelia Kate Moore (premature daughter of Liz & Ryan

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Moore); Rand & Allison McDonald; James Lacy (Signature Healthcare); Reagan Bacgi (tumor); Jim Baggett (surgery); Cody Liddle (boating accident); Sherrie Smith; Don Holloway; Cindy Furcean.

<u>Cancer Treatment</u>: Kim Daniels; Ginger Tevault (Julie Stepp's mother - chemo); Susie Hyder (Evelyn's daughter - breast cancer; brain tumor surgery); Steven Middleton; Kendall Fogleman (3-yrold with leukemia - Christy Huddleston's great-niece).

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