#### Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

#### From Your Minister - Christian Smith

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it, for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers."— Psalm 24:1

Forgiveness. It is a wonderful promise. It is a wonderful comfort. It is a wonderful gift. I know that I am far from the person that God needs me to be. Yet, despite my limitations, God says that I can be a part of the Kingdom of God. I have flaws and faults, yet God says that I can still be of service to Him. God sees my lack of perfection but does not decide that I have no value. Instead, God says that I am still valued and loved. That is forgiveness.

I mess up every day. I disappoint people every day. I hurt people, family and friends. Yet, despite their frustrations with me, they continue to find value in our relationships. They continue to welcome me as a part of their life. When I come to them with contrition and effort to change, relationship is restored. That is forgiveness.

We have received forgiveness from God. We have received forgiveness from family. We have received forgiveness from strangers. We know the comfort that comes from restored relationship. Yet, for some reason, it can be difficult for us to offer that same forgiveness to others. We find it easy to hold grudges and destroy the relationships that God has given us. Instead, Jesus tells us that when we are wronged by others, we need to offer them the same forgiveness and restored relationship that others have so freely given to us. That is stewardship.

#### **Youth Sunday**

Our church youth will be leading us in worship during both services this Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Their theme for the service is "Seize the Day." The message will be given by Elisabeth Hudson and Caden Langford. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to be here to support our young people.



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

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#### **Sunday Worship Information**

Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, will be Youth Sunday. The chancel color will be green. The scripture for the sermon will be James 4:13-15. Caden Langford and Elisabeth Hudson will be preaching. We hope that you will plan to join us at 8:45 or 11:00am as we worship God.

#### **Outdoor Worship Service**

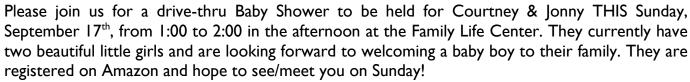
Back by popular demand. On September 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be worshipping outdoors. We invite you to dress comfortably, bring your lawn chair and worship outside in God's creation.





### Baby Shower for Courtney & Jonny Dowd





#### **Wednesday Connection**

Wednesday Connection has resumed! As usual, we begin our evening with a meal. We would love to have you and your family join us for this fellowship opportunity. Meals cost \$6.00/person and no one household is expected to pay more than \$20.00. You do need to make a reservation on a weekly basis or make a standing reservation by completing a reservation card (located on the narthex table), registering online or by contacting the church office. The meal



for tonight is chicken and rice and the Missions Ministry is in charge of preparing, serving and cleaning up after the meal. Next Wednesday's meal will be ham and mac & cheese; the Building & **Grounds Ministry** will be in charge of preparation, serving and cleanup.

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. We encourage you to come and be a part of our Wednesday Connection program!

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invite you to share in the joy and celebration of their marriage

on Saturday September 16, 2023 at 1:00

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



Reception immediately following. Your presence is our present.





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

#### Men's Bible Study

The <u>Tuesday Noon</u> Men's Bible Study continues 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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# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Everyone is invited to bring your leashed or crated pets to this special service of blessing for all of God's creatures.



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

Sponsored by Saint Michael's Episcopal Church and Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church



#### **New Sunday School Class**



This Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, we are planning to begin a new Sunday School class for our young adults. This new group is being formed to allow those who are in their early 20's to mid 30's to have a place to study the scriptures together as they reflect on the issues they are facing in this chapter of life. We plan to provide opportunities for those within this group to further develop new relationships through dinners and fellowship activities.

Corby King has graciously volunteered to be the teacher/facilitator for the group. We are looking for a core group that would like to participate in the formation of this new young adult group. We would welcome those who are currently attending our church, former members of our church, or new members to be a part of this new group. If you or someone you know would be interested in this opportunity, please let Corby King or Christian Smith know so that we can provide more details.



#### **Online Bible Study**

Join Caleb live in a study presentation on Minor Prophets in the Bible. The study is streamed live on Facebook on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30am. Make a cup of coffee and join Caleb for Coffee and Conversation! All studies are recorded on our Facebook page and can be viewed at any time.

#### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT** for Sunday, September 10, 2023

Commitments - \$4,475.00 Undesignated - \$3,852.00 Other - \$180.00 This week's offering includes \$180.00 for Connection meals.

Total Deposit - \$8,507.00

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## Join Resche as we



#### THIS SEPTEMBER:

by collecting 16 oz\* jars of
Peanut Butter
for the current school year
food distributions.

We appreciate your help!



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Individuals: the family of Lynn Dunham (Steve's mother); the family of Les Bennett (Angie Dunham's uncle); Frankie Dickerson (Bethesda); Martha Clift (broken shoulder); Dick & Pat Brumfield; Lorene Holland (Willene Gentry's sister - NHC); Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta); Don Holloway (NHC); Wesley Sanders - Kiana Gentry's brother-in-law in car accident); Georgia Hensley (home); Amelia Kate Moore (premature daughter of Liz & Ryan



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

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

<u>Assisted Living</u>: 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).