



CFCPC

Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
May 20, 2020*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

The last few months have been a difficult time for many. We know that feelings regarding the Coronavirus and the reactions to it vary from one person to the next. As we reopen the church, we ask that all people consider Coronavirus a threat, simply because we want even the most concerned to feel as comfortable as possible while they are here for worship.

As we make plans to open the church on May 31st, we will do so with a “phased” approach. Initially, we will simply be offering worship. We will resume having services at 8:45am and 11:00am. Sunday School, Bible Studies, choirs, youth group, and other activities will be added back in phases. Our 8:45am service will be streamed to Facebook.

Please understand that your staff and session are working hard to make sure that everyone feels safe and comfortable during worship. As we have seen throughout the last few months, plans and instructions seem to be very fluid. Therefore, our plans will be fluid and we will make adjustments as necessary. If you have suggestions, please feel free to share them with Christian, Caleb, or any member of the church session.

1. We strongly encourage those who are members of vulnerable populations (everyone 65 years and older, people with disabilities, people with serious respiratory or cardiovascular conditions, and people who are immunocompromised) to continue to make use of online worship.
2. We encourage you to wear masks (we will have masks available for anyone who does not have their own).
3. Every other row in the church will be marked off to allow for social distancing. We ask that you try to sit at least 6 feet away from other families in the church.
4. We are discouraging handshakes, hugs, fist bumps, and other greetings that require contact.
5. The only entry doors that will be opened are the two in the front of the church and the door behind the amen corner. At each door you will find a table with an offering plate, a trash can, and hand sanitizer. The restrooms in the office hallway and the outside of the chapel will be open. We ask that you refrain from using other parts of the building. This will make cleaning between services much easier.
6. Hymns WILL be sung. Please do not feel this obligates you to sing.
7. Hymnals and pew Bibles will be removed from the sanctuary temporarily.
8. On communion Sundays, we will offer prepackaged communion elements as you enter. You are also welcomed to bring elements from home if that makes you feel more comfortable.
9. Children’s worship bags will not be available. We invite you to allow your children to bring any toys or activities that would engage your children without being a distraction to those around you.
10. High contact surfaces will be cleaned between services.

CHURCH OPENING, cont’d on next page...



CHURCH OPENING, cont'd

- 11. We strongly encourage you to not congregate in the narthex before or after service. As you enter, please find a seat and remain in that area as much as possible. Following the service please make your way to the exit.
- 12. Rehearsals and Sunday morning activities of the choir will be temporarily suspended.
- 13. Nursery services will be temporarily suspended.
- 14. If you are ill or feel you may have a fever, we strongly encourage you to take advantage of our online worship service.
- 15. If the number of people attending a service is greater than the social distancing seating capacity of the sanctuary, overflow seating will be available in the church fellowship hall.

Church Activities Canceled
We want to advise you that the Church Session has made the decision to cancel all church activities through May 30st. The church building is closed to the public.

We offer our thanks to Sandra Robbins, Jim Gray, Christy Huddleston, Caleb Norris and Carroll Gotcher for their continued help with our online worship experience. Their assistance and willingness to help however possible makes the worship experience much easier for the pastor.



Worship Information

Sunday, May 24th, will be Ascension of Our Lord Sunday. The chancel color is white. Our scripture for the sermon on Sunday is Acts 1:1-11. Please plan to join us on Facebook Live as we worship God.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT as of May 17, 2020

Commitments - \$6,075.00 Undesignated - \$1,210.00 Other - \$4,000.00
 Assistance donations were \$1,200, \$500.00 goes toward Wednesday evening dinner, \$300.00 was given for the Music Ministry and \$2,000 was received for the College Ministry.
 Total Deposit - \$12,285.00

Nursery Attendant Needed

Once we are able to meet in the church building again, we will be in need of an attendant for our nursery. This is a paid position. If you are interested, or you know of someone who would be interested in this position, please share that information with Steve Boots or Christian.

Community Opportunities

UC Habitat for Humanity is in need of volunteers in their ReStore. The ReStore is 75% volunteer run, and we use volunteers Tuesdays-Saturdays. The volunteers help us sort donations, clean items to be sold, and many other things. We could also use weekday volunteers in our construction department. Contact Tisha @ 931-528-1711 ext. 2 or Tisha@uchabitat.org for more info.



Drive-by Wedding Shower

Summer Stroud and John Hitchcock

Monday, June 8th 5:00-6:30pm

Outside of Family Life Center



You are invited to celebrate Summer & John's upcoming wedding. Stop by to wish them well and pick up a sweet treat. If you would like to get them a gift, they are registered at Borden's, Target and Crate and Barrel.

WINONA MEAL

Our next Winona meal is next Tuesday, the 26th. If you would like to help with food for the meal, we need:

(4) Stouffer's Lasagna - still frozen (12 servings each)

Rolls (40)

Bananas (40)

Apples or oranges (40)

(2) Individually wrapped desserts (20 each)

Contact Alice at 239-5513 to let her know you can help and what items you will be providing. **We need all items by noon on Tuesday.**



It's Graduation Time!

In the face of a changing society, we have to wonder what graduation will look like this year. One thing is sure - we most definitely want to recognize the Class of 2020. If you or someone you know in the church is graduating this Spring, we want to know! Please email or call Christian or Caleb with names, schools, degrees, etc. This includes college graduates! We look forward to hearing from you and celebrating this milestone in your life.

If anyone wants to be acolyte when we start back to church, contact Jane Anne Gotcher at 260-9372. There will be some changes in the way things are done - no robes, acolytes will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer after lighting and extinguishing the candles and they will be sitting with their families, not up front. Thanks!



GIVING

It is our hope that, during this world health crisis, Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church can continue to be the church and offer hope, assistance, and love to our community. However, in order to do that, we need your help. In order to continue with Tuesday Assistance, pay bills and our staff, we need you to prayerfully consider your ability to continue your regular giving. We know that it is a scary time for a lot of people. If you are able, please consider helping us to help some of the others that are being hurt during this time.

1. mail an offering to the church at 565 E. 10th St., Cookeville, TN 38501
2. give using a debit card through the church website. <http://www.cookevillecpchurch.org/give/>
3. instruct your financial institution to make a contribution from your account (each institution may have different rules/instructions for how to do this)

Mission Efforts Ongoing

The missions that make up a part of the church are very important to the community at large. For the mission efforts listed below, we ask that you hold on to items you have collected until the church is able to open again. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Love-Joy Circle Activities

We are inviting the congregation to assist us in our ministries by saving 'Education Box Tops' and aluminum can pop tops. We are collecting children's tennis shoes size 10 kids to size 4 girls/boys (new or slightly used) for Park View School. As we share hope with those with cancer, we are collecting scarves for Hope Scarves, a non-profit organization, that recycles used scarves for cancer patients. Hold on to your saved items and contributions until we are once again in church. Containers have been placed in the Fellowship Hall for all collections.

CHURCH MISSION NEWS

WE HAVE A NEED FOR QUARTERS for use in making laundry packs to provide those in need with detergent and quarters to do a load of laundry at a laundromat. We have made and distributed about 200 of these in the last year.



LOCAL MISSIONS

Our church is a collection point for the **Jammin' at HIPPIE JACK'S** program. Hippiie Jack's delivers food to the poorest regions of the Upper Cumberland. Donations will be accepted from the community Tuesday through Friday of each week at the church. Let your friends and co-workers know.

Twisted Stitcher's goal is to have a couple of finished and tagged **PRAYER SHAWLS** on the desk in the Session Room at all times. Please help our ministry by getting them to anyone who could benefit from prayers and the love of Christ. Please indicate on the list who the blanket went to and help us cover everyone. Thank you.



Prayer Requests . . .

Ella Haynes
 Jean Webb (hip replacement)
 Bob Ross (seizures)
 Pat Brumfield (broken leg - home)
 Don Dyer (home)
 Brenda Robbins (broken hip - home)
 Martha Clift (surgery)
 Euna Hancock Brown (Sarah Joyce's sister)
 Janice Cox (surgery)
 Dorothy Nichols (home)
 Ruth Ann Henry (broken knee cap)
 Ramona Tilghman (home)
 Wanda McCaskey (home)
 Ruth Sapp
 Tim Fournet
 Frank Howard (Frankie Dickerson's father)
 Dave James
 Junior Dickerson's sister, Fay
 Kathy Shanks
 Devonia McGee
 Bob Hill
 Wilma Diemer

Jim Lansford
 Levi Rector
 Robert Buck
 Johnny Dunn (COPD)
 Walter Plyter (Assisted Living)
 Cindy Furcean
 Clay Vanhooser
 Nancy Biss (Tracy Sparks' mom - breast cancer)
 Niki Work (cancer)
 Becky Knight (cancer)
 Cindy Bilbrey (Jerry Samon's sister - cancer)
 Jeremy Germinis (cancer)
 Nancy Dixon (pancreatic cancer)
 Melissa Daniel Crannigan (cancer)
 Max Atnip (cancer)
 Mel Brown (cancer)
 Steven Middleton (cancer)
 Jerry Hill (assisted living in Cleveland, TN)
 Charlene Huddleston (Cedar Hills)
 Lynn Dunham, Dave & Jackie Van der Cook (Morningside)
 Rita Pickard (Bethesda)

