



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
November 15, 2023*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

It is hard to believe how rapidly the end of the year is approaching. With the arrival of Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas, the church calendar fills up rapidly with worship services, parties, and service opportunities. There is one other event that, though it does not get the publicity that it should, is vital to the future of our congregation.

As the end of the year approaches, it is our responsibility to elect five elders who will help to lead the church for the next three years. On December 10th, during both services, we will have a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing our next class of elders. The church session has met to act as a nominating committee. They will place into nomination the following individuals: Kathie Chapman, Tim Fournet, Carroll Gotcher, Jeff Peek, and Tina Thurman. These names are nominated to make sure that we have five individuals who are willing to serve. As always, it is the congregation’s privilege to nominate any other member of the church who states they are willing to serve, if elected.

I am thankful for all of those who are willing to serve as leaders in the church. It is a job that is not always easy, but our elders do an excellent job of serving First Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Kingdom of God. As we elect a new class of elders, it means that we have others rotating off the active session. We owe a great amount of gratitude to Stacey Byers, Mike Davidson, Elizabeth Fournet, Cindy Putz, and Ron Thurman for their faithful service during their 3-year term on the session. When you have the opportunity, please offer them your thanks for their service to God’s church.



On Sunday, November 19th, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, we will provide the opportunity for you and your family to make your financial pledge to the church for 2024. You should have or will soon receive a letter, a copy of the church budget and a pledge card. If you wish to have the church keep a record of your giving for tax purposes, you will need to return a commitment card or give through our church website. As always, if you have questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
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Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, November 12th, will be the 25th Sunday after Pentecost. The chancel color will be green. The scripture for the sermon will be Luke 17:11-19. We hope that you will plan to join us at 8:45 or 11:00am as we worship God together. During the service, we will be celebrating our “Feast of Ingathering” and offering the chance for you to bring your pledges forward during the worship service. The 8:45am service will be streamed live via our YouTube channel.

Turkey Box Project

The youth of the church continue collecting items for the annual Turkey Box Project. The goal is to provide Thanksgiving meals for some of the less fortunate families in our community. The youth will continue gathering items for their project through Sunday, November 19th. **This Sunday, we are collection green beans and corn.**

Please bring your food donations to the Fellowship Hall; there is a collection tote set up just inside the doors. We will be purchasing a turkey breast for each box and you are invited to sponsor one or more boxes at \$10.00 each.

If you would like to bring in items we have been collecting over the past couple of weeks, you may include **mashed potatoes, turkey gravy, macaroni & cheese, dressing, cranberries and pie filling.** Please have all food in the Fellowship Hall by **THIS** Sunday, November 19th. Thank you for helping us make a difference for local families during the Thanksgiving season!

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Men's Bible Study

The Tuesday Noon 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 1 & 2 Peter.



OCC SHOEBOX PROJECT



We still need sponsors for ready-made shoeboxes. **The cost is \$25.00** for a box which is filled with a WOW item (soccer ball, a pump/needles, baby doll, Barbie doll or stuffed animal), school supplies (coloring book, scribble pads, coloring pencils or crayons, pencils, notebooks, scissors, erasers, pencil cases and sharpeners, book bags), personal items (soap, washcloth, toothbrush/cover, bandana, comb, brush, spoon and cup). Our boxes are filled with more than \$25.00 worth of items. **There is no additional cost to you for shipping.**

With your help, we would love to pack 300 boxes again in 2024. Envelopes for donations will be available during the next month on the table in the narthex. We will accept cash or checks (**make checks payable to CPWM**). You can drop envelopes in the offering plate. We are happy to give you a donation slip for your gift of shoeboxes or cash. Thank you for your donations and the boxes you have made!

Young Adult Sunday School Class

The church now has a Sunday School class offering for young adults. This group is designed 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 various fellowship activities.



Corby King is the teacher/facilitator for the group and welcomes 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 is interested in this opportunity, please let Corby 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.



Avery Trace Middle School Christmas Store



As in years past, many ATMS students will have the opportunity to shop at a school Christmas Store. This will allow them to surprise a parent, sibling, grandparent, or loved one with a gift at no cost to them. Clean out your closets/cabinets/drawers and gather gently used items that could be given as a gift. This might include:

candles

lotions

small toys

gift bags

body wash

perfume

silly/comfy socks

jewelry

coffee mugs

Bring your donations by the church office Monday through Thursday from 8-4, Friday from 8-2 or on Sundays.

We are coming upon one of the busiest times of the church year and we want to keep you informed on upcoming events. Please see the following schedule and contact Christian, Caleb or Sandra with any questions.

- November 19 Feast of Ingathering
Turkey Box Project Deadline
- November 20 Turkey Boxes Delivered
- November 23 Thanksgiving Day
- November 26 Christ the King Sunday
- November 29 Hanging of the Greens
- December 3 First Sunday in Advent



STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, November 12, 2023

Commitments - \$5,425.00 Undesignated - \$5,999.00 Other - \$2,265.00

This week's offering includes a \$100.00 donation for Recovery Kitchen, \$810.00 for the Turkey Box Project, \$60.00 from Weight Watchers, \$120.00 for Operation Christmas Child and \$250.00 for Tuesday Assistance.

Total Deposit - \$13,789.00



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>



OCC Christmas Child 2024

Please donate to the CPWM OCC Shoebox project for 2024!

The CPWM invites you to help prepare for OCC 2024 over the next few weeks. Consider donating items as you clean out your child’s toy box to make room for this next year’s toys. We would love to have items that your child has outgrown (soccer balls, small baby dolls, Barbie dolls, rubber balls, stuffed animals, etc.) These items would need to fit in a shoebox. A box will be soon be available for your donations. Call Belinda at 931-979-7816 if you need help transporting items.

Individuals: Charles Johnston; the family of Robin Hughes (Charles McCaskey’s sister); Ed Smith (Bob Myracle’s son-in-law - hospital in Baltimore); Jimmy Stringer; Annette Coorts Flanders (home); Amy Gentry (broken hip); 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); Georgia Hensley (home); Amelia Kate Moore (premature daughter of Liz & Ryan Moore); Rand & Allison McDonald; Reagan Bacgi (tumor); Jim Baggett; Cody Liddle; Sherrie Smith; Cindy Furcean.



Cancer Treatment: 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).

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

