



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
February 14, 2024*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” – Acts 2:21

For most in our country, today is Valentine’s Day. In the church, today is Ash Wednesday. While many in the world are looking to find the right words and the appropriate gifts to express their feelings for someone, we will gather in the sanctuary to receive the Imposition of Ashes. While many around the world will be talking about love, we will be reminded of our mortality.

Being reminded that we will die is not the most exciting message to proclaim or to hear on this uplifting day of love. When we gather tonight to confess our sins, have will have ashes placed on our foreheads, and hear the words, “from ashes you came and to ashes you will return.” Yet, in doing so, we will be experiencing love that is greater than this world could ever offer.

We are sinful people who fail to live up to God’s expectations or hopes for us. We are reminded throughout scripture that, due to our sins, we deserve death. Yet, following our confession tonight, we will be reminded, as we are each Sunday morning, that when we confess, we are assured of God’s pardon. That is the love of our God. While it may be inconvenient for some that Ash Wednesday and Valentine’s Day are happening on the same day, I would contend that it is highly appropriate.



Ash Wednesday Service

This evening, February 14th, at 6:00pm, we will have our annual Ash Wednesday Service. The service will include the Imposition of Ashes. We hope that you will make plans to attend and worship together as we begin the season of Lent.

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, February 18th, will be the 1st Sunday in Lent. The chancel color will be purple. The text that will be used for the sermon is Genesis 9:8-17. We hope that you will plan to join us at 8:45am or 11:00am as we worship God. The 8:45am service will be streamed via our YouTube channel.

Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who provided food, donations and prayers for Recovery Kitchen last week. We helped feed 90 unsheltered friends. We appreciate the congregation's continued support for this mission.
The Missions Ministry

Communion Preparation Signup

We are seeking individuals/families to volunteer for the preparation of communion elements for the first Sunday of each month and for special services throughout the year. Directions for the preparing of communion will be made available to you the week prior to the preparation process. If this is something you are interested in and able to do, there is a signup sheet on the narthex table or you may call Sandra in the church office. Please let us know if you have questions.



Wednesday Connection Change

Our regular Wednesday Connection program for this evening is replaced with our annual Ash Wednesday service. The service will take place at 6:00pm and we hope you will join us in the Imposition of Ashes, marking the beginning of the season of Lent.

Ministries in the Church

Please remember that you are invited to take part in one of our ministry teams at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Committees have been formed and below is a list of elders that have been chosen to work with members of the ministry teams. Please take into consideration which team you would be most interested in. You do not have to be a member of the church to take part on a team. Please see Christian or any team member about your interest in joining a ministry team.

Building and Grounds

Chris Langford
Jeff Peek
Shane Welch

Christian Education

Lanny Knight
Carroll Gotcher

Fellowship and Outreach

Nathan Fletcher
Kathie Chapman

Missions

Kim Wright
Al Middleton

Stewardship and Finance

Steve Boots
Tim Fournet

Worship and Music

Corby King
Jim Gray

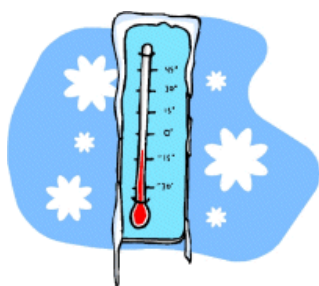


Seeking Greeters

The church is looking for individuals to serve as greeters between the 8:45 and 11:00am worship services. This opportunity would entail being available in the narthex to greet any visitors that might enter our church. You may be asked to direct them to a Sunday School class or simply get them seated for the 11:00 worship service. We most certainly want to make them feel welcome to worship with us. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, contact Sandra Robbins in the church office (931-526-6585) or by email (sandra@cookevillecpchurch.org). We look forward to hearing from you!



Inclement Weather Policy



It has long been the policy of the church that if the Putnam County School System cancels classes for the day, any activities scheduled by the church for that day are canceled as well. On Sundays, we will always make every effort to have at least one worship service. However, if conditions become especially dangerous and we must close the church, we will offer an online worship option. In all cases our priority is your safety, and we ask that you make the best decisions for the safety of you and your family.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, February 11, 2024

Commitments - \$12,815.00 Undesignated - \$4,698.00 Other - \$660.00

This week's offering includes \$310.00 revenue for the 01/31 Connection meal, \$100.00 for the Recovery Kitchen program and \$250.00 to the Tuesday Assistance program.

Total Deposit - \$18,173.00

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.



MASTER SINGERS CONCERT



Mastersingers, Incorporated will present their **8th Unity in the Community** concert on March 3rd at 3:00pm in the Wattenbarger Auditorium of the Bryan Fine Arts Building on the TTU campus. This concert seeks to celebrating the **Heritage of Gospel Music**. To purchase tickets, you may visit the Mastersingers website at <https://mastersingersinc.com>. Please bring a non-perishable food pantry item to benefit the FUMC Food Pantry.



LENTEN

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION SERIES

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30am throughout the season of Lent.

Beginning February 15, you are invited to join us on Facebook as Rev. Christian Smith and Rev. Caleb Norris lead us in a time of devotion and prayer. If you cannot join us live, devotions will remain available throughout the season.

<https://www.facebook.com/CookevilleCPC>



Statements of Giving



Remember

To Submit

Your Pledge

Remaining Statements of Giving have been mailed to recipients. If you did not turn in a commitment card for 2023 and wish to receive a 2023 Statement of Giving, please contact Liz immediately at lizsheets@charter.net.

Note that if you would like Liz, our depositing treasurer, to keep track of your giving in 2024, you are asked to turn in a Commitment Card at your earliest convenience. Stewardship letters and the church budget are available on the narthex table. Your commitment to giving to the church is an important part of our budgeting process and we appreciate your support.



To My Church Family...

Thank you so much for all the love, support, prayers, visits, calls and cards throughout Dad's journey. Christian, thank you for such a personal, sweet service in memory of Dad. The Charles Johnston family.

Individuals: Christopher Tollett (colon cancer); the family of Charles Johnston; Ethel James (home); Georgia Hensley (home); Frankie Dickerson (hospice); Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta); Janet Fowler (surgery); Jimmy Stringer; Sherrie Smith; Cindy Furcean.



REQUESTS
— FOR —
PRAYER

Cancer Treatment: Wayne Shanks (no visitors); Niki Work; Heidi Blessing; Kim Daniels; Ginger Tevault (Julie Stepp's mother - chemo); Susie Hyder (Evelyn's daughter - breast cancer; brain tumor).

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

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>



2024 Flower Calendar



If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for 2024, the signup sheet is now posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The cost for a flower arrangement is \$50.00 and you may submit payment the week that the flowers are ordered. Sally Beyer will contact you for a dedication (for the bulletin) and for a description of the type of arrangement you would like. Call Sandra in the church office for more information.

