



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
April 10, 2024*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

***“Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.”
– 2 Corinthians 4:6***

On Monday, several people in our community went outside and watched a near-total solar eclipse. I have seen pictures from many within our church as they donned their special glasses and stared at the sky to enjoy God’s light show. While several of us enjoy the beauty of this event, others believe that this event, which happens every 1 to 3 years somewhere around the globe, is a sign of the end of the world or a sign of God’s judgment on America.

I have noticed that when people see signs that they believe point to God’s judgment, that judgment is always directed at someone else. Whenever people feel as if God’s judgment is warranted, rarely is that judgment directed to themselves. Instead, often, we seem to believe that the people who will be judged are those who are different from us or those whose ideas or ideals are different from ours.

We are all being called to repentance. We are being called to change and to draw ourselves closer to God. Instead of waiting for God to punish our neighbors, we ought to be more focused on how we can bring more honor to the Kingdom of God. Perhaps we ought to stop looking to the sky and waiting for God to punish those in front of us, and instead, look to the people in front of us and help point them to a loving God.

New Smartphone App

For our smartphone users, we have developed a church app for First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. While we are still learning to use all of its features, I hope you will consider downloading it and using the tools you will find there. It can be downloaded at the following link. (<https://tithely.app/link/cookeville-cpchurch>). If you need help, please feel free to see one of the ministers of the church.

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, April 14th, will be the Third Sunday of Easter. The chancel color will be white. The text that will be used for the sermon is Luke 24:36-48. 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.

New Baby!

Luke and Shelby Dunham welcomed Henry Bennett into the world on Sunday, April 7, at 10:04am. He weighed in at 5 lbs and 1 oz and was 18" long. The family is grateful and excited for a birth with no complications. Congratulations to Steve and Angie Dunham, proud grandparents to Henry!



Wednesday Connection



Wednesday Connection is an important ministry in our church. While we provide the opportunity to study and to grow in our understanding of scripture and our understanding of our faith, one of the most important things that we do on Wednesday is take the opportunity to fellowship around the dinner table.

Please note that Wednesday evening meals are now **FREE** to the congregation and guests. You will have the opportunity to make a donation if you wish, but it is simply an option.

That being said, **YOUR RESERVATIONS ARE STILL NEEDED**. We do need an accurate headcount so that we are good stewards of our resources. We always seek to make enough food for everyone, without having a large amount of leftovers. You may make a reservation by calling the office or by sending Christian an email (christian@cookevillecpchurch.org) or a text message (931-265-8896).

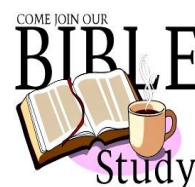
At 6:00pm, we offer lessons and fun for both our children and youth. At 6:15pm, our adults will gather in the Upper Commons for Bible Study. This semester, Christian is leading a study on "The Lord's Prayer."

The Twisted Stitchers group meets on Wednesdays at 6pm and everyone is welcome. We are working on blankets for children in emergency situations. You may text Liz at 931-260-8494 for more information.

After tonight's activities, we will have just one more Wednesday Connection for this semester. We encourage you to consider joining us!

Men's Bible Study

The Tuesday Noon Men's Bible Study has resumed. Tim Fournet is leading a discussion on Warren Wiersbe's book on Proverbs. Bring your lunch if you would like, and join us in the Session Room of the church!!! All men in the church are invited to attend.



Wanted: Pictures



We would love to have you snap pictures of various groups and special events - just candid shots of church events for use in the Mid-Week Manna, website and Facebook page. These pics don't have to be professional grade - just snap them with your phone and send them to Christian or Caleb. We would love to have all of you participate in this activity and look forward to receiving your photos!

For Our Visitors and Members

We are excited to have the opportunity to worship with you on Sundays. If you are visiting with us or are currently attending our church, please take a moment to scan the QR code to the right and help us to get to know you and how we can better serve you. You may also use this form to share prayer concerns, praise reports, or other requests with your pastors.



MASTER SINGERS CONCERT



Mastersingers Incorporated will present a concert on April 28th at 3:00pm in the Wattenbarger Auditorium of the Bryan Fine Arts Building on the TTU campus. This concert will feature Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Ann Clark and Brenda Johnson will be performing with the group and Josh Davis will serve as an accompanist for the program. To purchase tickets, you may see Brenda Johnson or visit the Mastersingers website at <https://mastersingersinc.com>.

Recovery Kitchen

Recovery Kitchen is a program that helps provide hot meals for the homeless in our community. We are in need of the following items for this week's meal. Contact Tracy at 261-1029 if you are able to give to the project. Please have items to the church by Friday, April 12th, at noon.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 45 sub rolls | 45 oranges |
| 45 slices Swiss cheese | 45 bananas |
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STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, April 7, 2024

Commitments - \$15,500.00 Undesignated - \$3,006.00 Other - \$648.00

This week's offering includes a \$250.00 donation for the Tuesday Assistance Program, \$195.00 reimbursement from CPNS and \$203.00 in donations for the Wednesday Connection meal.

Total Deposit - \$19,204.00





Love-Joy Circle Awards

The Love-Joy Women’s Circle presented Membership Endowment awards at their April meeting. We are celebrating 100 years of recognizing CPWM members and continuing the legacy of our mission work. Receiving awards were: Perpetual - Peggy Rittenberry; Diamond (10 years) - Lois Squires and Ethel James; and Silver Patron (25 years) – Ginny Liebsch.

A promotional poster for a Family Movie Night. The background is red. At the top left, it says "COOKEVILLE CP CHURCH" in white. Below that, "FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT" is written in large, bold, white letters. To the right, there is a graphic of a black remote control and a pile of popcorn. The central image is a movie poster for "KUNG FU PANDA 4" by DreamWorks, featuring the panda Po in a dynamic pose with other characters. Below the movie poster, the date and time "26 APR 6:30 PM" are displayed in white. At the bottom, a white box contains the text "RSVP AT 931-526-6585".

Special Invitation

We invite you to join us as Anabel Rosario Fermin shares her story of faith and trust in God through tragedy and loss. She received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox when young and learned that God is always there, taking care of those He loves.

Anabel will be speaking on Friday, April 26th, at 8:30am in the Family Life Center of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We hope you will come celebrate her faith in God as she shares her story.

Individuals: Margaret Merrill (Evelyn Hyder’s Sister – pancreatic cancer); Shelby Dunham (new baby); Steve Varney (Lori’s brother - thoracic surgery); Ginny Liebsch; Carrie Brown (broken leg); Greg Hensley (Georgia’s son); Leona Bryant (Steve’s mother); James Smith and family (Freeman’s brother); Christopher Tollett (colon cancer); Georgia Hensley; Jimmy Stringer; Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta); Dick & Pat Brumfield; Sherrie Smith; Cindy Furcean.



Cancer Treatment: Wayne Shanks; Niki Work; Heidi Blessing; Kim Daniels; Ginger Tevault (Julie Stepp’s mother - chemo); Susie Hyder (Evelyn’s daughter - breast cancer).

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

