

Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
February 7, 2024*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence.” – 1 Peter 3:15-16

This Sunday is a big day. As we gather for worship on Sunday morning, we will have the opportunity to celebrate the charter agreement between Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Troop 20 of the Boy Scouts of America. As a part of this service, we will remember that the motto for the Boy Scouts is “Be prepared.”

Throughout scripture, the people of God are called to be prepared. We are to be prepared for the return of Christ. We are to be prepared to tell people about what we believe and why we believe it. We are to be prepared to make a difference in the lives of others. We are called to “be prepared” to be God’s people whenever and however we can be.

Following the morning service, many of us will then go home and prepare for a party or a family gathering that evening. During the football game, we will be busy eating chicken wings, hamburgers, and chips with dip. Meanwhile, there are people around the globe and in our own community who will go to bed hungry. There are churches who will celebrate “Souper Bowl” Sunday this week in an effort to collect funds for those in need. While we don’t participate in this ministry, our church does serve other groups in our community who are seeking food. While we are gathering to eat this Sunday, I hope that we will also be thinking about how we can “be prepared” to assist with those ministries or any other efforts that might help others avoid hunger.

Scout Sunday



Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church has recently entered into a charter agreement with Boy Scouts of America Troop 20. The troop meets at our church each week and we have entered into an agreement to assist one another. This Sunday, the troop will be present for Scout Sunday. During the service we will have a Charter Presentation Ceremony. We hope that you will be here to celebrate this partnership and to worship God. All scouts are invited and encouraged to wear their uniforms to the service.

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org



Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, February 11th, we will be Scout Sunday. The chancel color will be green. The text that will be used for the sermon is Matthew 25:1-13. 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.

Circles to Meet



The Love-Joy Circle will meet Monday, February 12th, at 10am in the Session room. All members are asked to bring two storybooks (Easter gifts) for the nursery. Claude Ann Burton will have our "Women of the Bible" program and all ladies of the Church are invited to attend.

The Sonshine Circle will meet Tuesday, February 13th, at 10am in the Family Life Center. The group will be continuing their study of "Women of the Bible" and all ladies in the church are invited to attend.

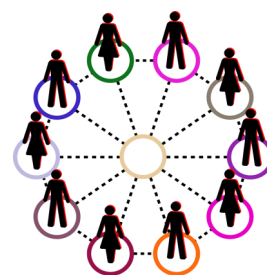
Communion Preparation Signup

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

Our Wednesday Connection program continues. The program offers members and guests the opportunity to fellowship and learn together. At 5:15, we enjoy a meal together. 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.* On the menu for this evening is meat lasagna. **The Worship and Music ministry is in charge of setting up, serving and cleaning up.**



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 Stitches group will be resuming their activities next Wednesday evening as well. Any level of experience is welcome. We will be working to make blankets for children in emergency situations. If you are interested, please text Liz at 931-260-8494.

We encourage you to consider being a part of our Wednesday evening Connection program!





MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

6 PM

STAY AND WATCH WITH YOUR KIDDOS OR DROP
THEM OFF AND HAVE A DATE NIGHT!

"BIG GAME" PARTY

SUNDAY, FEB 11

5:30 PM

DINNER PROVIDED
JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH



No Connection Meal NEXT Week

Because of our Ash Wednesday service scheduled for **NEXT** Wednesday evening, our regular Connection activities will not be taking place. There will be no meal. We encourage you to join us for the service at 6:00pm.

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, February 9th, at noon.

90 slices American cheese
90 bottles of water
45 individual bags of chips
45 individual bags of chips
45 oranges
45 oranges

45 hamburger buns
45 hamburger buns
45 soft granola bars
45 soft granola bars
45 bananas
45 bananas

45 individually wrapped desserts
45 individually wrapped desserts
45 p/b crackers
45 p/b crackers
2 46-oz jars of hamburger dill
slices

Thank you for your giving hearts and generous donations.



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 4, 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

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



Ash Wednesday Service

Next Wednesday, 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.

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.



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.

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>



Statements of Giving



Remember

To Submit

Your Pledge

Statements of Giving are now available on the narthex table. Please take a moment to pick yours up. 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, food, prayers, visits, calls and cards throughout Don's health journey. You were always there for us no matter what.

God has blessed me in so many ways and continues to do so but the best was when he blessed me with Don, his children, grand-children and our church family and friends. Christian, thank you for Don's wonderful service and Sandra, thank you for the beautiful music. You and Rick Jones just nailed it. What a tribute to Don. In Christian Love, Jan

Individuals: 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.

Cancer Treatment: 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).



REQUESTS
— FOR —
PRAYER

