# Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,* January 8, 2025

#### From Your Minister - Christian Smith

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."— Isaiah 43:5-7



Most of the time, I use this space in the Manna to offer a brief Bible Study or devotional. On occasion, I use this space to remind you about what is happening in the life of the church. Having experienced ice and snow a few days ago and with the prospect of another winter storm this coming weekend, I want to remind you about the church's weather policies.

It is the policy of Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church to cancel all church events on any day that Putnam County Schools choose to close due to inclement weather. If we

face inclement weather during the weekend or school break and need to make changes to our schedule, then we will communicate through our email list and our church app notifications. While it is always our desire to offer in-person services on Sunday morning, there may be times when it is best for the safety of the congregation and the community to offer an online service only. Regardless of the session's decision about services, please know that you are encouraged to make the best choice for you and your family. If you do not feel safe coming to church, I assure you that the church session and staff understand. And I believe that God does as well.

After all, and here is your Bible study for the day, while God encourages us to gather in worship regularly, we are assured that wherever we are, God is with us.

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## Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, will be Baptism of our Lord Sunday. The chancel color will be white. Our pastor, Christian Smith, will deliver the sermon using Luke 3:15-22 as the scripture. You will also be given the opportunity to "Remember Your Baptism." Everyone is invited to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45am or 11:00am as we worship God together. If you are unable to join us in person, the 8:45am service will be streamed via our YouTube channel.

## Opportunities to Serve in Your Church

## Seeking Liturgists for Sunday Services

We would love to include your voice in worship. People of all ages are invited to help lead us in worship as our liturgist. Christian will provide you with instructions, liturgy, and, if you wish, the opening prayer early in the week. Please take a moment and sign up at this link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA5AA28A4FDC25-50583122-liturgist

### **Communion Preparation Signup**

We are seeking families to sign up for the preparation of communion elements for the first Sunday of the month and special services. 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, you may call Sandra in the church office or click on the following link to add your name to the list. Let us know if you have questions.



## 2025 Flower Calendar



If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for 2025, 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.

#### For Our Visitors AND Members

We are always excited to have the opportunity to worship with you on Sundays. Whether 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.



## Men's Bible Study

The <u>Tuesday Noon</u> Men's Bible Study will resume a study on the book of Galatians on **January 14**<sup>th</sup>. We are using Max Lucado's <u>Life Lessons from Galatians</u> as our text. All men in the church congregation are encouraged/invited to attend.



## **Download the FCPC Smartphone App**

For our smartphone users, there is a new church app available to you. 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 using the QR code at the left. If you need help, please feel free to see Christian for assistance.



#### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT** for Sunday, January 5, 2024

Commitments - \$15,405.00 Undesignated - \$1,361.00 Other - \$250.00 This week's offerings includes \$250.00 for the Tuesday Assistance program.

Total Deposit - \$17,016.00

## **Wednesday Connection Resumes**

We will resume our Wednesday Connection activities on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Connection begins with dinner at 5:15p.m. Dinner is free for everyone, and our Fellowship and Outreach Ministry Team does a great job providing us with a wonderful meal. To ensure we have plenty of food, we ask that you make either a one-time or a standing reservation by contacting the church office.

At 6:00pm, our youth group, children's group and our Twisted Stitchers crafting group meet. At 6:15pm, our adult meets in the Upper Commons. This semester, Christian will be teaching a class about the parables of Jesus.



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## Prayer Requests



Individuals: Carlene Byrne; Georgia Hensley (CRMC); Bobby Wallace (Evon Maggart's brother-in-law); Claude Ann Burton (surgery); Jere Gentry (heart bypass surgery); the family of Jane Roberts (Mike Roberts' mother); the family of Greg Hensley (Georgia's son); Eddie Smith (Christian's father); Allison

McDonald (surgery); Wanda McCaskey; Doris Baggett (Signature Healthcare); Mary Broussard (friend of Tim & Liz Fournet): Linda Stringer (Evon Maggart's sister); Evelyn (Bonnie) Hyder; Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta); Sherrie Smith; Cindy Furcean.

<u>Cancer Treatment</u>: Allen Kolath; Niki Work; Heidi Blessing; Kim Daniels; Margaret Merrill (Evelyn Hyder's sister - pancreatic cancer).

**Assisted Living**: Jo Gentry (Heritage Pointe); Ruth Sapp (Heritage Pointe).