



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
March 26, 2025*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.” – Psalm 23:1-3

Last week, I had the opportunity to attend the “Six Days ‘til Sunday Preaching Conference.” It was a great time that was filled with worship, learning, and reconnecting with my friends and colleagues in ministry. I try to take advantage of the opportunities that I have for growth. No matter how long we have been on the journey of faith, there is always something new to discover. We ought to seek opportunities to grow in our understanding of who we are, who God is, and who we can be through God.

When I make those trips, I am always excited to travel and to learn. However, it does not take long for me to start feeling the pull of home. This year, that conference took place during spring break, and I longed to spend that time with my family. This tension between my need for growth and my need for family is one we all experience. We all try to find a balance between work and rest or between calling and commitment. The season of Lent is a time to seek personal growth, but it is also an invitation to seek renewal as we listen for where God is calling us to go next. Sometimes, God is calling us to something new. At other times, God is calling us back to the people and places that ground us.

As we continue our journey through Lent, I hope that we will all seek to be attentive to what we need in this season. Is God calling you to step forward in faith, to learn, and to grow? Or is God inviting you to pause, to rest, and to be renewed? Whatever the answer may be, know that God is leading you and seeking to restore your soul.

5th Sunday Worship & Lunch



Sunday, March 30th, is a fifth Sunday and we will come together to worship as one congregation. Sunday School will start at 9:00am with worship following at 10:00. We will fellowship together with a potluck lunch after the worship service. The church will provide meat, bread and tea, and you are asked to bring a side and/or dessert. Come be with us as we worship and fellowship together!

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpcchurch.org



Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, March 30th, will be the 4th Sunday of Lent. The chancel color will be purple. Our Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Charles McCaskey, will deliver the sermon using Luke 15:11-32 as the scripture. The sermon's title is "Christian Attitudes." Everyone is invited to join us in the sanctuary at 10:00am as we worship God. If you are unable to join us in person, the 8:45am service will be streamed via our YouTube channel.



CPWM Spring Yard Sale Is Here!!!



The time for the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry YARD SALE has arrived! The Yard Sale is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 5th, at 7am in the Family Life Center (FLC). We will begin collecting items beginning this coming Sunday through Friday. You may take your donations to the FLC anytime this week, beginning on Sunday. Please make sure all items are clean and in good repair. Note that we will not be accepting car seats or electronics.

We need workers Monday through Thursday from 8am-7pm, Friday from 8am-3pm and Saturday from 6am to the end of the sale. If you like to donate food items for meals for workers throughout the week, please bring them by the FLC during work hours.

Call or see Peggy Rittenberry (931-265-1623) or Belinda Wynne (931-979-7816) with any questions regarding the Sale.

Discover Your Next Steps

Join us for a 7-week sermon series that will lead us through Lent and Easter Sunday as we work together to discover our next steps in our service to God's Kingdom.

Beginning Sunday, March 2

Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
565 E. 10th St. Cookeville, TN 38501
www.cookevillecpchurch.org



Lenten Prayer Time



This Lenten season, we are offering you the chance to add some dedicated prayer time to your schedule. During Lent, (March 9 - April 13) we will be opening the church chapel on Sunday evenings from 4-5pm to offer you a time and a place away from the distractions of the outside world so that you can speak to God and, more importantly, listen for God's instruction and love for you. If you do not know what to pray for, we will have some suggestions available for you.

Holy Week Activities

We are soon approaching Holy Week and all the activities that go with it. Please be aware that the following services and activities will be taking place during Holy Week:



Sunday, April 13

Monday-Friday, April 14-18

Thursday, April 17

Friday, April 18

Saturday, April 19

Sunday, April 20

Palm Sunday Worship (8:45 & 11am)

Midday Holy Week Services (12pm)

Maundy Thursday Service (7pm)

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (7pm)

Easter Egg Hunt (10:30am)

Easter Sunday Worship (8:45 & 11am)

All services/activities will take place at FCPC.

Wednesday Connection

Our Wednesday Connection program continues! As always, we begin with dinner at 5:15p.m. Dinner is free for everyone, and our Fellowship and Outreach Ministry Team does a great job of providing us with a wonderful meal. To ensure we have plenty of food, we do ask that you make either a one-time or standing reservation by contacting the church office. On the menu for this evening is Lasagna, salad, carrots, bread and dessert.

At 6:00pm, our youth group, children's group and our Twisted Stitchers crafting group meet. At 6:15pm, our adult class meets in the Upper Commons. This evening, Christian is teaching a class about the parable "The Pharisee and the Tax Collector." We look forward to having you join us. See you soon!



Altar Flowers

Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God and in honor of our 25th Wedding Anniversary. Allen and Kim Wright

Opportunities to Serve in Your Church

Maundy Thursday Communion Preparation

We are looking for a family or individual to assist us in the preparation of communion elements for Maundy Thursday, April 17th. If you are not familiar with the process of preparing communion, directions will be made available to you prior to the preparation process. If this is something you are interested in doing, you can 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.



www.docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13Mimf7y4LfkeXrrS0PcnhrsrLt4xRAjZTYf3mt4GK60/edit#gid=0

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>

Our Church Ministries

Below, you will find a list of the ministries to which our church elders have been assigned. We invite and encourage you to contact these representatives with any ideas or questions you might have regarding the church. While our church elders are continuing to reach out to find people to serve with them, please do not wait for a call. Feel free to contact them and let them know that you would be excited to serve.

Building and Grounds

Chris Langford
Shane Welch

Christian Education

Carroll Gotcher
Jodi Smith

Fellowship and Outreach

Nathan Fletcher
Kathie Chapman

Missions

Al Middleton
Tina Thurman

Stewardship and Finance

Tim Fournet
Jim Greeson

Worship and Music

Angie Knight
Dan Elbert

Cumberland Presbyterian Nursery School

Jeff Peek

Presbyterian Student Association/

UKirk - Gary Alspaugh

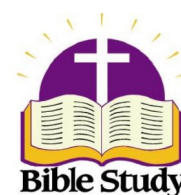




**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED
WITH OUR CLEANUP DAY**

Men's Bible Study

The **Tuesday Noon** Men's Bible Study continues with a study on the book of Galatians. We are using Max Lucado's ***Life Lessons from Galatians*** as our text. All men in the church congregation are encouraged/invited to attend.



CPNS Spring Prom!

The Cumberland Presbyterian Nursery School would like to invite you to our Spring Prom! It will be held in the Fellowship Hall on April 26th from 4:30pm to 8pm. This event is one of the ways CPNS fundraises to purchase needed items for our center.

The attire will be dressy casual and we will have music, food and door prizes! We will also have corsages/boutonnieres for purchase for the littles as well as a designated photographer to snap a photo for you to purchase.

Tickets will be \$25 for one adult and one child, and \$10 for each additional child. Tickets for church families will be available to purchase from Ms. Sandra's office or the nursery school from Madison or Ashlyn. Tickets go on sale April 1st!

We would ask anyone who is able and would like to, to donate items to help put this event/fundraiser together! Items that would be appreciated include: Baked Goods Fruit Trays Veggie Trays

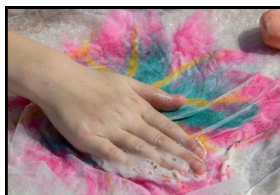
If you would like to donate financially to sponsor ticket costs for families who may be unable to afford them or for the cost of decorations, that would also be greatly appreciated!

We look forward to having church families join us at this event as well as families from the center! Please join us!





Wet Felting Class



You are invited to join us for a Wet Felting Class on Friday, April 18th, from 8am to noon. Following the class (at noon), will be a Friday Holy Week service.

The cost for instructions and class materials will be \$35.00. Payment will be due at the time of the class. There are openings for just two more participants. If you would like to attend, please contact Angie Knight ASAP.

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.



Flower Challenge

The Pathfinders Sunday School Class challenges other adult Sunday School Classes and other church groups to recognize a mission, cause, group, or event by providing flowers in the church sanctuary from time to time. There are several open slots for reserving flowers. For details, please contact Barbara Greeson at 931-260-3069.

Welcome Spring!





Many thanks to my church family for the cards, meal, flowers, phone calls and prayers for my recovery and stays in the hospital. I know God was with me every step of the way and your concern was surely appreciated. Love all of you.

Ginny Liebsch



A Celebration of Life for Richard (Dick) and Pat Brumfield will be held Monday, March 31st, at 2:00pm at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Visitation will take place from 1pm to time of service.

Prayer Requests

Individuals: Kaye O'Brien (tests); the family of Pat Brumfield; Ginny Liebsch; Randal Risher (medical emergency); Aaron Rutledge (nodular melanoma); Georgia Hensley (CRMC); Ken Soleck (Wendy Dewberry's father); Jackson Wigtil (juvenile diabetes); Carlene Byrne; Bobby Wallace (Evon Maggart's brother-in-law); Eddie Smith (Christian's father); Allison McDonald; Doris Baggett (Signature Healthcare); Linda Stringer (Evon Maggart's sister); Evelyn (Bonnie) Hyder; Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta); Sherrie Smith; Cindy Furcean.

Cancer Treatment: Patty Shoulders (Janna Greer's daughter); Caleb Reese; Allen Kolath; Niki Work; Heidi Blessing; Kim Daniels; Margaret Merrill (Evelyn Hyder's sister - pancreatic cancer).

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

