



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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*Wednesday,
April 2, 2025*

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From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.” – Isaiah 43:2

Yesterday, I had the honor of preaching for the Celebration of Life for Dick and Pat Brumfield. Before that service, I gathered with the family at the graveside for their burial. It seems that whenever I stand in that sacred space, the weather is always cold, wet, or both. As I said to the family yesterday, I think that makes a great theological point.

As we walk through life, we face storms. Whether it is grief, struggle, uncertainty, fear, or any number of problems that come our way, some things simply make life seem dark and dreary. But the clouds do not last forever. The sun will rise again. But when we face those difficult moments, we may wonder, how do I keep going?

The good news is that we do not walk through those difficult moments alone. God does not wait for the skies to clear before walking with us. God meets us in the middle of the storm and gives us the confidence to say, “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

As we continue our Lenten journey and life’s journey of faith, let us remember that God is with us, guiding us, strengthening us, and carrying us forward. The storms may come, but they will not last forever. And so, when we wonder how to keep going, the answer is not in our strength, but in trusting the One who walks beside us, leading us forward step by step.

New Church Directory

We are now working on a new church directory. We are asking each household to provide their information through a simple online questionnaire available at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/53ZJKUrNsnEenHTd9>.

If you have a family picture that you would like to include, you can email or text that to Christian (christian@cookevillecpchurch.org / 931-265-8896). We will provide the opportunity for family pictures at a later date. Please let Christian know if you have questions or need help.

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org

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Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, April 6th, will be the 5th Sunday of Lent. The chancel color will be purple. We will be resuming our sermon series, "Discovering Our Next Steps." Our pastor, Rev. Christian Smith, will deliver the sermon using Galatians 6:7-10 as the scripture. The sermon's title is "How Do I Keep Going?" Everyone is invited to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45 and 11:00am as we worship God and celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. 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** is here! The Yard Sale will take place **THIS** Saturday, April 5th, at 7am in the Family Life Center (FLC). We are collecting items today through Friday. Please make sure all items are clean and in good repair. Note that we will not be accepting car seats or electronics. **WE ARE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF COAT HANGERS. PLEASE BRING THOSE BY AT ANY TIME.**

We need workers today and tomorrow 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 pizza, salad 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 memory of Dick and Pat Brumfield by their family.



Opportunities to Serve in Your Church

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

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 our next meal. Contact Alice at 239-5513 if you are able to give to the project. Please have items to the church by **NOON** on **Friday, April 11th**.

(96) individual chips
10 lbs shredded cheddar cheese
(4) large bags shredded lettuce
(96) soft flour tortillas
(3) 100 oz green peas

(96) individual desserts
(96) bananas/oranges
or fruit cups
(96) Nutrigrain bars



Please let Alice know if you would prefer to donate the funds for an item or items. She is happy to pick them up for you! You can get your money to Alice or Sandra in the church office. Thank you for your giving hearts and generous donations.

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!

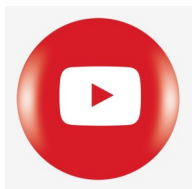
We would ask anyone who is able and would like to, to donate items to help put this event/fundraiser together! Items that would be appreciated include: Baked Goods Fruit Trays Veggie Trays

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!



YOUTUBE TROUBLES



We apologize for the fact that we were unable to stream our service this past Sunday. While our cameras work, there seems to be an issue getting the stream online. Unfortunately, the gentleman who installed all of our A/V equipment has retired. We are diligently searching for a new provider who can help us fix the problem so that we can resume our online worship services.

Sonshine Circle to Meet

Members of the Sonshine Circle are encouraged to attending a monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 8th, at 10am in the Family Life Center. Kathie Chapman will be discussing the topic, "History of Hymns." An invitation is extended to all ladies in the church family. See you there!



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 left 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.

Updating our Email and Texting

We have moved to a new email service which also allows us to send texts to you when necessary. If you are interested in receiving those texts (we promise not to spam your messages), we need you to fill out the form at this link (<https://cookevillecpchurch.flocknote.com>), or contact Christian with your phone number.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, March 23, 2025

Commitments - \$3,255.00 Undesignated - \$1,753.00 Other - \$770.00
Included in other giving is \$100.00 for Recovery Kitchen, \$50.00 for altar flowers and \$620.00 for the youth Dominican Republic Mission trip.
Total Deposit - \$5,778.00

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, March 30, 2025

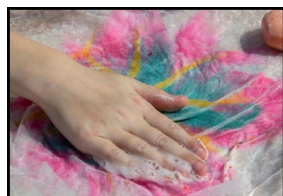
Commitments - \$3,095.00 Undesignated - \$2,575.05 Other - \$621.00
Included in other giving is \$100.00 for the Tuesday Assistance program, \$100.00 for altar flowers, \$100.00 for the Dominican Republic Mission trip, a \$195.00 CPNS reimbursement and \$126.00 in Connection meal donations.
Total Deposit - \$6,291.05



We will be having our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th, at 10:00am. We will hunt eggs, decorate eggs, and have lunch together. If you are willing to help by providing treats and/or stuffing easter eggs, they are available for pickup in the church office.



Wet Felting Class

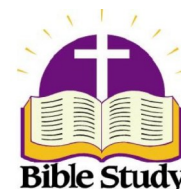


You are invited to join us for a Wet Felting Class on Friday, April 18th, from 8am to noon. Following the class (at noon), will be a Friday Holy Week service.

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 one more participant. If you would like to attend, please contact Angie Knight ASAP.

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 Psalms** as our text. All men in the church congregation are encouraged/invited to attend.



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.

Prayer Requests

Individuals: Jeff Peek (surgery); 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).

