



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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*Wednesday,
April 30, 2025*

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From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’” – Isaiah 30:21

During the season of Lent, we spent time listening for God’s call as we explored what it means to *Discover Our Next Steps*. Together, we were reminded that faith is a journey and that we are called to keep putting one foot in front of the other as we seek to serve God.

Now, as the semester winds down and summer draws near, many of us are beginning to think about rest, travel, and a change of pace. God built rest into creation, and we need to honor that plan. But summer isn’t only a time to step back. It can also be a time to step in and step up.

Around the church, there are beautiful opportunities to serve, grow, and connect in new ways. Maybe you're being called to help with Vacation Bible School or serve as a liturgist. Maybe you feel led to teach in our children’s Sunday School or get involved in mission work. There are so many next steps available, and each one offers a chance to bless others, deepen your faith, and help keep our community strong.

As you plan your next several months, I invite you to make a space for both rest and purpose. Ask God, “What’s my next step this summer?” It might be a mission opportunity, a commitment to spend time in intentional prayer for the ministries of the church, or simply a willingness to say “yes” to something unfamiliar.

Whatever yours looks like, I hope you know that the Spirit of the Living God goes with you, and we will be here cheering you on and walking beside you as we all continue to discover our next steps.

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, May 4th, will be the 3rd Sunday of Easter. The chancel color will be white. We will be continuing our sermon series, "Walking with the Spirit: A Pentecost Journey." Our pastor, Rev. Christian Smith, will deliver the sermon using Acts 1:6-11 as the scripture. The sermon's title is "Waiting on the Promise of the Spirit." Everyone is invited to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45 and 11:00am as we worship God and celebrate the Sacrament of Hol. If you are unable to join us in person, the 8:45am service will be streamed via our YouTube channel.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, April 27, 2025

Commitments - \$1,945.00

Undesignated - \$2,092.22

Other - None

Total Deposit - \$4,037.00

Church Directory Update

Our updated church directory is now available online and is accessible from your computer or through an app on your phone!

How to Access the Directory:

On your computer: visit <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/>

On your phone: download the *Instant Church Directory* app:

Apple devices, click here:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/instant-church-directory/id589542221?ls=1&mt=8>

Android devices, click here:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.instantchurchdirectory.members>

Logging In:

You'll be asked to enter your email address as it's listed in our church directory. If your email isn't listed yet, let Christian know, or fill out the information on this form:

<https://forms.gle/CpXSyeIwwvCizY7cA>

Once information is entered, you can follow the on-screen instructions to complete your login.

Update or Add Family Photos:

We will soon begin taking family photos at church for those who need them, but you are also welcome to upload your own! After logging in, you can update your family's info and add a photo. You may also text or email your photo to Christian, and he'll upload it for you.

If you need assistance at any point, Christian is happy to help. Just reach out!



Altar Flowers



Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God and in memory of Bob Myracle's father, J. A. Myracle, whose birthdate was April 29, 1909.

MASTERSINGERS CONCERT



Mastersingers Incorporated presents composer Elaine Hagenberg's **ILLUMINARE: A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS** THIS Sunday, May 4th, at 3pm in the Wattenbarger Auditorium of the Bryan Fine Arts Building on the TTU campus. Tickets are \$15.00 and may be acquired through their website: mastersingersinc.com. Ann Clark and Brenda Johnson from our congregation will be performing with the group and would love to have you attend.

Twisted Stitchers!



Connection has concluded for the semester but the Twisted Stitchers group WILL continue to meet through the summer. You are, of course, invited to attend any/all the meetings; we would love to have you join us. All levels of proficiency are invited! The stitchers meet on Wednesday evenings at 6pm in the Session Room of the church. Please join us!

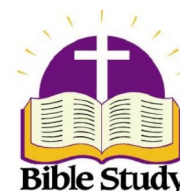
Flower Challenge

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.



Men's Bible Study

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



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Walking with the Spirit

A PENTECOST JOURNEY

Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Worship Times: 8:45am & 11:00am

Every Sunday through
June 8th, Pentecost Sunday.



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>

Join a Church Ministry Committee

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

Communion Preparation Volunteers Needed

Communion is served the first Sunday of each month. We are in need of volunteers to assist us in the preparation of elements on Saturday and Sunday. Families/ Individuals are encouraged and welcomed to serve the church in this way. Directions for preparing communion are made available to you the week prior to the preparation process. If this is something you are interested in and willing to do, you can call Sandra in the church office or click on the following link to add your name to the list. Please let us know if you have questions.

[www.docs.google.com/spreadsheets/
d/13Mimf7y4LfkeXrrS0PcnhrsrLt4xRAjZTYf3mt4GK60/edit#gid=0](https://www.docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13Mimf7y4LfkeXrrS0PcnhrsrLt4xRAjZTYf3mt4GK60/edit#gid=0)



Vacation Bible School



Preparations for this summer's Vacation Bible School are underway, and we're excited about what's ahead! Leadership roles have been filled, but we still need helping hands in several key areas to make this ministry a success.

We're also holding a VBS Planning Meeting on Wednesday, May 21 at 5:30 PM in the Family Life Center — and dinner will be provided! We'll talk about how VBS will be structured this year, what's new, and where we hope to take VBS in the future. Whether you're already involved or just curious, we'd love for you to join us.

Want to help? Scan the QR code to see areas of need and sign up where you feel led to serve.

Thank you for supporting this meaningful ministry to our children and families!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Every Thursday, from 7:00am-9:00am, Christian will be enjoying coffee at The Exceptional Bean (55 N Walnut Ave.).

You are invited and encouraged to join him for a cup of coffee and a chance to get to know each other better, share your thoughts and ideas for the church, or just enjoy a morning cup of coffee together.

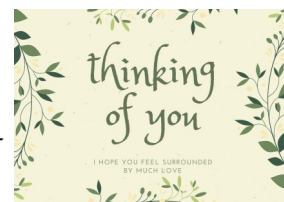




So many thanks for all the thoughts, prayers and cards before and after my recent surgery. We sure have a great church family and you are truly appreciated!

Jeff Peek

The church expresses sympathy to the family of Carlos West. Mr. West was brother to Peggy Rittenberry. He passed away in Sparta, TN yesterday, the 28th. There is no service planned at this time. Please remember Peggy and her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



Email and Texting Update

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://cookevillecpcchurch.flocknote.com>), or contact Christian with your phone number.

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.



Prayer Requests

Individuals: the family of Carlos West (Peggy Rittenberry's brother); Jeff Peek; Dan Hilton (Lifecare in Sparta); Kaye O'Brien; Randal Risher; Aaron Rutledge (nodular melanoma); Georgia Hensley; Ken Soleck (Wendy Dewberry's father); 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: Terry Frye; 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).





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, May 9th**.

- (96) hamburger buns
- (96) slices of cheese
- (12) tomatoes
- (4) 100 oz baked beans
- (4) heads lettuce

- (96) individual chips
- (96) bananas or oranges
- (96) p/b crackers
- (96) individual desserts



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.

