



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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*Wednesday,
May 28, 2025*

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From Your Minister - Christian Smith

***“But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.”
– James 1:22***

Over the past few months, through Lent and the season Easter, we have walked a path together seeking to discover where the Spirit is leading us next. We’ve talked often about walking with the Spirit and listening for God’s call. We have prayed, reflected, and asked what our next step might be.

The hard truth that we sometimes need to hear is that listening is not the same as moving. Faith is not only what we feel in our hearts or understand in our minds. It is what we live out with our hands and feet.

A week ago, we had an opportunity to live out that faith by packing food boxes for families in need through Food to the Rescue. As a church, we had a chance to serve our neighbors. Unfortunately, it was also one of our smallest turnouts we have had in all the years we have been doing this ministry. I know many are busy. I know life is full. But the needs in our community and our church haven’t grown smaller.

In our church, we need Sunday School teachers to shape young hearts. We need liturgists to lift up God’s Word in worship. We need volunteers to make VBS a place where children feel the love of Christ. We have existing service ministries and new ones that will begin soon. We need people. We need you to take the next step, not just in thought, but in action.

The Spirit is still leading. And while worship and prayer are vital, so is picking up a box of food, reading a story to a child, leading a prayer, or simply showing up to be the one who helps someone else take their next step.

Let’s not settle for being a church that only talks about service. Let’s be a church that shows up in service.

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

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Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, June 1st, will be Ascension of Our Lord Sunday. The chancel color will be white. We will be concluding our sermon series, "Walking with the Spirit: A Pentecost Journey." Our pastor, Rev. Christian Smith, will deliver the sermon using Luke 24:44-53 as the scripture. The sermon's title is "Witnesses of What Comes Next." 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.



Vacation **B**ible **S**chool

Vacation Bible School will take place July 14-17, and preparations are now underway. We are very 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 are holding a VBS Planning Meeting **THIS EVENING at 5:30 PM** in the Family Life Center — 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 above or click the link below to see areas of need and to sign up where you feel led to serve. Thank you for supporting this meaningful ministry to our children and families!



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1EiXC_9prfKWsxZkehiv18NQ7E0v6OHY2kj72KTrIYeo/edit

New Summer Bible Study Opportunity



On June 4th, at 6pm, Christian will begin a 4-week class that will discuss the history and beliefs of our local church and the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. Everyone is invited to bring their dinner, if they wish, and join in this discussion.

It does not matter if you are new to the church, have been here all your life, plan to join the church at the end of the study, or never plan to join the church; you are welcome to join us as we seek to learn more about who we are as a church.





COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Every Thursday, from 7:30am-9:30am, 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.



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.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, May 25, 2025

Commitments - \$3,760.00 Undesignated - \$1,780.00 Other - \$522.50

Included in this week's offering was \$50.00 for altar flowers, \$100.00 for Recovery Kitchen, \$150.00 for Food to the Rescue and \$222.50 reimbursement from CPNS,

Total Deposit - \$6,062.50



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!

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 sessions; 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!

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



Walking with the Spirit

A PENTECOST JOURNEY

Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

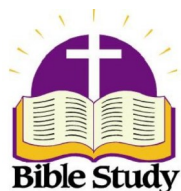
Worship Times: 8:45am & 11:00am

Every Sunday through
June 8th, Pentecost Sunday.



Altar Flowers

Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Mike Huddleston by Julia, Scott, Tyler and families.



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.

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

Missions

Al Middleton
Tina Thurman

Cumberland Presbyterian Nursery School

Jeff Peek

Christian Education

Carroll Gotcher
Jodi Smith

Stewardship and Finance

Tim Fournet
Jim Greeson

Fellowship and Outreach

Nathan Fletcher
Kathie Chapman

Worship and Music

Angie Knight
Dan Elbert

Presbyterian Student Association/

UKirk - Gary Alspaugh





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: Geraldine Smith (MRI); James Maggart; the family of Terry Frye; the family of Bobby Wallace (Evon Maggart’s brother-in-law); Dan Hilton (home); Kaye O’Brien; Georgia Hensley; Ken Soleck (Wendy Dewberry’s father); Carlene Byrne; 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 (Willow Spring at The Arbors in Spring Hill, TN); Ruth Sapp (Heritage Pointe).

