



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
June 18, 2025*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves." – Philippians 2:3

This week, our denomination gathered in Knoxville, Tennessee for the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. This annual meeting is a time of prayer, worship, discernment, and decision-making for our denomination. At the opening business session on Monday morning, one of the most significant acts that takes place each year is the election of our new moderator. As the highest elected role in our denomination, it is a great honor to be elected.

Among this year's nominees was Rev. Jhony Montaña from Colombia, South America. As we celebrate 100 years of mission and ministry in Colombia, his nomination is a powerful testament to the global service, partnership, and growth of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination.

But what happened next showed the example of true faith. Another nominee, Rev. Daniel Barkley, stood to make his nomination speech and, moved by love, humility, and a desire to seek unity in the church, he chose to withdraw his name from consideration. He urged the body to support Rev. Montaña and, in his actions, he offered not just words, but a witness to the grace that should define the Church at its best.

Rev. Barkley's decision to give up the spotlight was not just a kind gesture. It was a powerful example of who Christ calls us to be and what Christ calls us to do. Rev. Barkley could have sought recognition, but he chose to lift up someone else. We do not see that kind of humility and grace every day, even in the church. But it is exactly who we are called to be, and it is a powerful example of who the church and the world need us to be.

Not Meeting this Week:

Summer Bible Study (resumes next Wednesday, June 25th, at 6pm)

Coffee With the Pastor (resumes Thursday, June 26th, at 7:30am)

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

931-526-6585
www.cookevillecpchurch.org



Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, June 22nd, will be the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost. The chancel color will be green. Our pastor, Rev. Christian Smith, will deliver the sermon using Acts 13:1-3 as the scripture. The sermon's title is "The Spirit Still Sends." Everyone is invited to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45 and 11:00am as we worship God. If you are unable to join us in person, the 8:45am service will be streamed via our YouTube channel.



*V*acation *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 could still use more helping hands in several key areas to make this ministry a success.

Want to help out in some way? Scan the QR code above or click the link to the right 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!



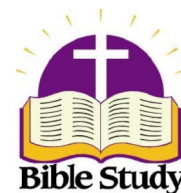
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guest
speaker

On June 29th, we will have a special guest preacher joining us from Colombia, South America. The Rev. Jhony Montaña serves as the senior pastor of the "Jesucristo es la Solución" Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Popayán, Cauca, Colombia. Rev. Montaña is also the elected Moderator of the Cumberland Presbyterian General Assembly. Let's come together to worship, to listen, to learn, and to celebrate what God has done, and is still doing, through the work of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Colombia and around the world.

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.



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.

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!

No Coffee with the Pastor this Week



Due to conflicts with his schedule, Christian is not available for coffee tomorrow. He looks forward to seeing you at the Exceptional Bean on June 26th.

Altar Flowers

Sunday's altar flowers were placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jessica Rector Clark's birthday. With love, Mom



Summer Bible Study Opportunity



On Wednesday, June 25th, Christian will continue a discussion on the history and beliefs of our local church and the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. You are invited to bring your dinner, if you wish, and join in this discussion. **Note that the class will not meet this evening as Christian is attending General Assembly.**

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.

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/CpXSyeIwwCizY7cA>

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!

Our Scouts had a great time at Boxwell Scout Reservation last week!

They took part in an incredible variety of activities, including archery, shotgun shooting, welding, woodworking, snorkeling, fishing, swimming, robotics, kayaking, astronomy, first aid, animation, painting, geocaching, and plumbing. It was a week full of learning, adventure, and fun!





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.



Opportunities to Serve in Your Church

There are a number of ways in which you can become involved in serving your church. You can always contact our pastor, Christian, or any elder of the church regarding how you might become a participant in the church. Below are just a couple of ways that offer you opportunities to become involved in church life. Please feel free to call the church office at any time for more information.

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



5th Sunday Worship & Lunch

Sunday, June 29th, 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!

CPNS YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

**JUNE 21ST
9AM-12PM**

Come sell your stuff and support our school! Spots are \$20/piece and you can purchase as many as you need to fit your stuff! You earn the money off selling your unwanted items and the money for your spot(s) goes towards CPNS! If you would like to donate your stuff for the school to sell, that is appreciated as well. Please see Madison or Ashlyn to pay for your spot or for more information.

Money for spots is due by June 16th and if you would like to donate items for the daycare to sell, please bring those in no later than June 18th.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT for Sunday, June 15, 2025

Commitments - \$3,675.00 Undesignated - \$1,219.00 Other - \$175.00
Included in this week's offering was \$50.00 for altar flowers and
\$125.00 in camp fee reimbursements.
Total Deposit - \$5,069.00

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: the family of Georgia Hensley; Kaye Powell; Regina Weber (Lifecare in Sparta); Bill Byers; Mike Sheets; Bob Myracle; Kathy Hilton; Geraldine Smith; James Maggart; Dan Hilton (home); Kaye O'Brien; 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: Allen Kolath; Niki Work; Heidi Blessing; 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).

