



Mid-Week Manna

A Weekly Newsletter from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday,
February 11, 2026*

From Your Minister - Christian Smith

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” — Colossians 3:16

Over the past several months, I have been prayerfully considering the shape and flow of our worship services. I am thankful for the many gifts that already bless our Sunday worship. At the same time, I continue to ask an important question: How can our worship invite every person present to participate more fully in offering praise to God?

With that hope in mind, you will notice a small but meaningful change in the coming weeks. One change is that we will no longer pass offering plates during the service. Opportunities to give financially will remain available in the sanctuary, throughout the building, and online. We will continue to sing the doxology and share an offertory prayer as we remember all of the ways we can respond to God’s grace. These moments will still remind us that offering is not only about finances, but about presenting our whole lives to God in worship.

I also want to share personally that this direction has grown out of much prayer, study, and reflection during the sabbatical you so generously granted me last year. During that time, I was blessed to experience worship in a variety of churches and traditions, which deepened my understanding of how congregations participate actively and meaningfully in worship. I am grateful that our Session has prayerfully supported exploring these insights as we seek what will most faithfully nurture the worship life of our congregation.

I recognize that any change in worship, especially one connected to long-held habits, can feel unfamiliar or even uncomfortable. Please know that this adjustment comes from a sincere desire to deepen the meaning of our shared worship and to encourage the active participation of the whole congregation throughout the service. Our prayer is that these changes will help us experience worship not as something we observe, but as something we offer together.

Thank you for your openness, your faithfulness, and your love for the worship life of our church. I pray that we will continue to move forward with a shared commitment to glorifying God in all that we do.

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

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www.cookevillecpchurch.org



Sunday Worship Information

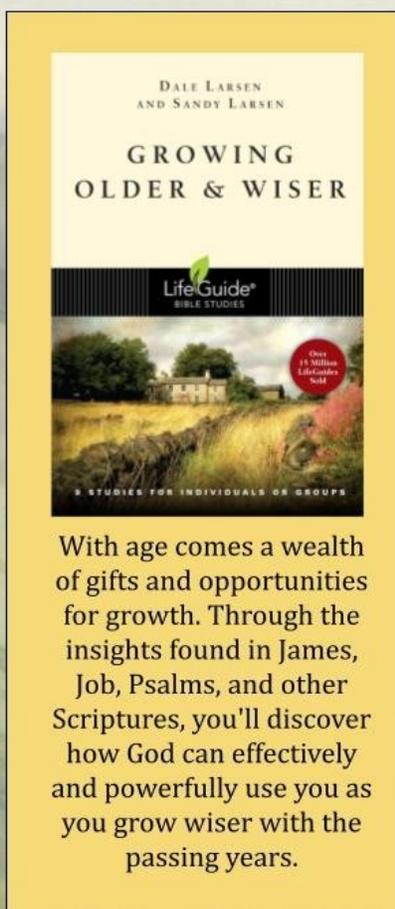


Sunday, February 15th, is Transfiguration Sunday, and the chancel color will be white.

Our Senior Minister, Rev. Christian Smith, will continue our series “Evangelism: What It is and What It Isn’t” by preaching from Luke 9:28-36 in a sermon titled “Listening to the Beloved.”

We invite you to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. If you cannot attend in person, the 8:45 a.m. service will be streamed live on our church’s YouTube channel.

All are welcome as we gather to worship God and listen for the voice of Christ who calls and guides us.



With age comes a wealth of gifts and opportunities for growth. Through the insights found in James, Job, Psalms, and other Scriptures, you'll discover how God can effectively and powerfully use you as you grow wiser with the passing years.

Walking in Wisdom *New Women's Bible Study*

Don't merely age—embrace wisdom! Lori Varney is launching a new daytime Bible study class, welcoming all women (and their friends) to join. Through the book *Growing Older & Wiser*, Lori will facilitate a discussion aimed at enriching your spiritual journey. You can obtain a copy of the book for the class directly from Lori. And it's at lunchtime, so feel free to bring a brown bag lunch.

Day & Time: Tuesdays @ Noon
First Meeting: February 24
Location: Foundations Sunday School Classroom

2025 year-end Statements of Giving are now available in the narthex. Please contact Liz Sheets, Depositing Treasurer, at lizsheets@charter.net if you have any questions, or if you are not sure if you completed a pledge card for 2025.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



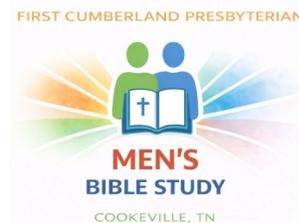
Ash Wednesday Service



You are invited to join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, February 18th, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This quiet and meaningful service will include scripture, prayer, reflection, and the imposition of ashes. Ash Wednesday invites us to return to God with honest hearts, receive God's mercy, and prepare to walk the Lenten journey toward the hope of Easter. All are welcome to come and worship as we begin the holy season of Lent together.

Men's Bible Study

The **Tuesday Noon** Men's Bible Study will be taking a break for the next several weeks while Tim is out of town. We will let you know when the study will resume.



2026 Flower Calendar



If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for 2026, the signup sheet is now posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The cost for a flower arrangement is \$50.00 and you may submit payment the week that the flowers are ordered. Barbara Greeson will contact you for a dedication (for the bulletin) and for a description of the type of arrangement you would like. Call Sandra in the church office for more information.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Commitments - \$13,800.00 Undesignated - \$4,113.00 Other - \$1,347.00

This week's offering included \$1,157.00 for the Eagle Scout project, \$100.00 for altar flowers, \$60.00 for facility use and \$30.00 in 02/04 Connection meal donations.

Total Deposit - \$19,260.00





Coffee...

On Thursday mornings, from 7:30am to 9:30am, Christian enjoys coffee at The Exceptional Bean (55 N. Walnut Avenue.) 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.

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.



Thank You For Your Support!



Troop 20 would like to give a big thank you to the congregation for supporting Wyatt's Eagle Project and Scouting for Food! We collected 81 pounds of food to donate.



JOY Club Outing

A reminder that the JOY Club will join together for lunch at Nick's Restaurant at 12:30pm TOMORROW, the 12th. Lunch will be Dutch treat and following the meal, the group will have an organizational meeting to plan for future events. We look forward to seeing you there.



Receive Email and Text Alerts



If you are interested in receiving the Midweek Manna and/or occasional text messages from the church (we promise not to spam your messages), we need you to fill out the form at the link below, or contact Christian with your phone number and/or email address: <https://cookevillecpchurch.flocknote.com>

Church Directory "How-To"

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 are now 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!

Troop 20 Scouts Serve Our Church Campus

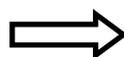
Last Saturday, our very own Wyatt Barnes led a great team of Scouts and parents in a full day of service for his Eagle Service Project: they removed the old swing set, picked up trash around the grounds, and refreshed the landscaping at the south entrance.

Doughnuts and pizza kept everyone going strong! We're excited to see the new plants grow and beautify our church home.

Thank you to all who supported this project with time, donations, and encouragement—and for chartering Troop 20. Your generosity helps our Scouting program so much!



FROM START TO FINISH



Congratulations!

We congratulate Carroll Gotcher on his appointment to the Rural Band Director Alliance as a regional board member and representative for Southern TN. From Carroll: "Rural band programs do extraordinary work every day—often with limited resources, small staffs, and big hearts. RBDA's commitment to advocacy, access, and excellence for rural students and directors speaks directly to the work I've dedicated my career to, and I'm thankful for the trust placed in me to represent the Southern region for the next three years." Our congratulations, Carroll, on this great honor and for your work with rural students every day!

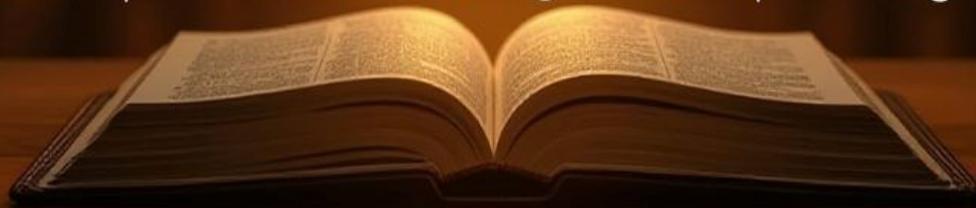


New Prayer Group Forming

We are beginning a new group at the church that will gather regularly for intentional prayer for the ministries, leaders, and future of our congregation, as well as ongoing personal prayer requests and pertinent community/worldly concerns. This group is open to anyone who feels called to support the life of the church.

Whether this has been a lifelong practice for you, something you are hoping to deepen, or something you'd like to begin, you are welcome.

If you are interested in being part of this new prayer ministry or would like more information, please contact: christian@cookevillecpchurch.org



FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN



TWISTED STITCHERS

COOKEVILLE, TN

Our Twisted Stitches group meets on Wednesday evenings at 6pm in the Session Room of the church. You are invited to attend any or all sessions; we would love to have you join us. All levels of proficiency are welcome to come! We are involved in projects that help different agencies in the community. We would love to have you join us!

THIS WEEK IN THE CHURCH

WED	5:15pm	Connection meal	Fellowship Hall
	6:00pm	Twisted Stitches	Session Room
	6:15pm	Children/Youth Adult Study	Lower/Upper Commons Upper Commons
THU	10:00am	Pastor's Roundtable	Session Room
	12:30pm	JOY Club Lunch/Meeting	Nick's Restaurant
SUN	8:45am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	9:50am	Sunday School	See Greeter in narthex
	11:00am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	5:30pm	Sanctuary Choir	Sanctuary
	6:30pm	Youth/Young Adults	Youth Room
TUE	1:00pm	Community Assistance	Church offices

Prayer Requests



Individuals: Annette Flanders; Mike Barlow (surgery); Kristen Simon (Cindy Putz's niece - surgery); Roberta Ross (Standing Stone); Regina Weber (NHC); unspoken requests.

Cancer Treatment: Jim Dixon (Sarah Joyce's son-in-law); Robert Marbury (Jean Webb's brother); Barbara Spurgeon (colon cancer); Anne Taylor (Tracy Sparks' sister); Janet Lapoint (Evelyn Plecan's cousin); Bill Snyder (Virginia Lovellette's brother); Linda Stringer (Evon Maggart's sister); Allen Kolath; Niki Work.

Assisted Living: Doris Baggett (Signature Healthcare); Ramona Tilghman (Lifecare in Sparta).

