



COOKEVILLE FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Are you new here? Do you have a prayer concern or idea to share? Do you want to be on our email list for the newsletter? Just scan the code below!



From Your Minister

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." – Ephesians 2:10

One of the greatest joys of last week was seeing the excitement of our children as they left Vacation Bible Experience. Some who had spent very little time in church before could not wait to teach their parents the theme song, complete with the motions. Others were already asking for permission to come back next year. We even received notes from parents expressing their gratitude for the love that had been shown to their children.

None of that happened by accident. It happened because people gave of themselves. Some members of our church gave their time, their energy, and their talents so that others could experience the love of Christ. That is what the church looks like when it is at its best. As a Christian community, every one of us has something to offer. Not everyone teaches. Not everyone sings. Not everyone works with children. But every member of the body of Christ has been gifted by God to serve in some way. When each of us uses those gifts, lives are changed.

Over the past several months, I have often used the phrase, "We believe. Therefore, we act." Those are more than words. They are a reminder that what we believe should shape how we live. We believe the gospel changes lives. We believe every person matters to God. We believe the church is called to love, serve, and welcome others. Therefore, we act.

Vacation Bible Experience may be over, but the work of the church continues. There are children to teach, families to welcome, neighbors to serve, and a community that needs to know the love of Jesus Christ. My prayer is that we will not see this past week as the finish line but as a reminder of what God can do when His people faithfully serve together.

Let's continue believing. And because we believe, let's continue to act.

Coming Up This Week

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, July 26, is the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, and the chancel color will be green. We continue our summer sermon series, "Practicing Faith: Habits that Shape the Christian Life." Our Senior Minister, Rev. Christian Smith, will preach from Philippians 4:4–9 in a sermon titled "Practicing Peace." We will also continue our Children's Time series exploring the elements of worship and helping us understand why we do what we do when we gather as God's people.

We invite you to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. If you are unable to attend in person, the 8:45 a.m. service will be streamed live on our church's YouTube channel. All are welcome as we continue discovering how the habits of faith shape our lives and learn how Christ's peace can guard our hearts and minds in every season of life.



Coffee and Conversation

Coffee and Conversation concludes next Wednesday, July 29, at 9:30 a.m. as we wrap up our Hard Questions of Faith series with our final study, "What Happens After Death?"

Questions about death and eternal life have shaped the hearts of believers for generations. What does Scripture say happens when we die? What is the Christian hope of resurrection? How can we face death—not with fear, but with confidence in God's promises? Together, we'll explore the hope that is at the heart of the Christian faith.

Our study will include John 14:1–6, 1 Corinthians 15:35–58, 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18, and Revelation 21:1–7. We hope you'll join us as we conclude this series by reflecting on the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ.



**MEN'S
BIBLE STUDY**

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

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.



COFFEE

WITH THE PASTOR

SEPTEMBER 2027

HOLY LAND TRIP

INFORMATION MEETING

THIS SUNDAY, JULY 26 • 6:00 P.M.

Holy Land Informational Meeting

In September 2027, members of our church will join First United Methodist Church for a tour of the Holy Land. If you have ever dreamed of visiting many of the places where Jesus lived and ministered, we invite you to learn more about this exciting opportunity. An informational meeting will be held at our church on July 26 at 6:00 p.m., when the tour coordinators will share details about the trip and answer any questions you may have. You can also learn more by visiting the following link:

<https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl27091527p59093>

Weekly Mahjong Game

All Mahjong players are invited to open play on Mondays from 3-5.

Please see Elizabeth Fournet or Angie Knight to sign up.



Our Twisted Stitchers 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.



Other Opportunities



J.O.Y.CLUB

JOY Club Trip – Thursday, July 30

Our JOY Club will be taking a fun day trip on Thursday, July 30, to the famous Loveless Cafe and McKay's Used Books in Nashville. We'll leave the church at 10:00 a.m. and return by approximately 3:30 p.m.

A sign-up sheet is available on the narthex credenza. If you have questions or would like more information, please see Kathie Chapman or Christian.

Wanda McCaskey continues to recuperate from a broken ankle. We would love to see members of the church continue to provide some meals. If you are interested in preparing a meal for the family, contact Charles at 931-260-9488. Thanks to all those who have already prepared meals for Charles, Wanda and Callie.

A colorful graphic for 'Blessing of the Backpacks'. It features a blue and yellow backpack on the left with a yellow pocket containing three crayons. The text 'BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS' is in large, bold, multi-colored letters. Below it, 'AUGUST 2' is in white on a blue brushstroke background, and '8:45 & 11:00 A.M.' is in black on a yellow brushstroke background. The background is decorated with stars, pencils, and a ruler.

**BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS**

AUGUST 2

8:45 & 11:00 A.M.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

UNDERSTANDING THE JOURNEY OF WORSHIP



A 9-WEEK CHILDREN'S TIME SERIES

Each week we'll learn about one part of worship and why it matters in our walk with God!



PERFECT FOR KIDS. MEANINGFUL FOR ALL.



SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Practicing Faith

HABITS
THAT SHAPE
THE CHRISTIAN
LIFE

FAITH IS NOT JUST WHAT WE BELIEVE.
IT'S WHAT WE **PRACTICE**—TOGETHER.

JOIN US THIS SUMMER!



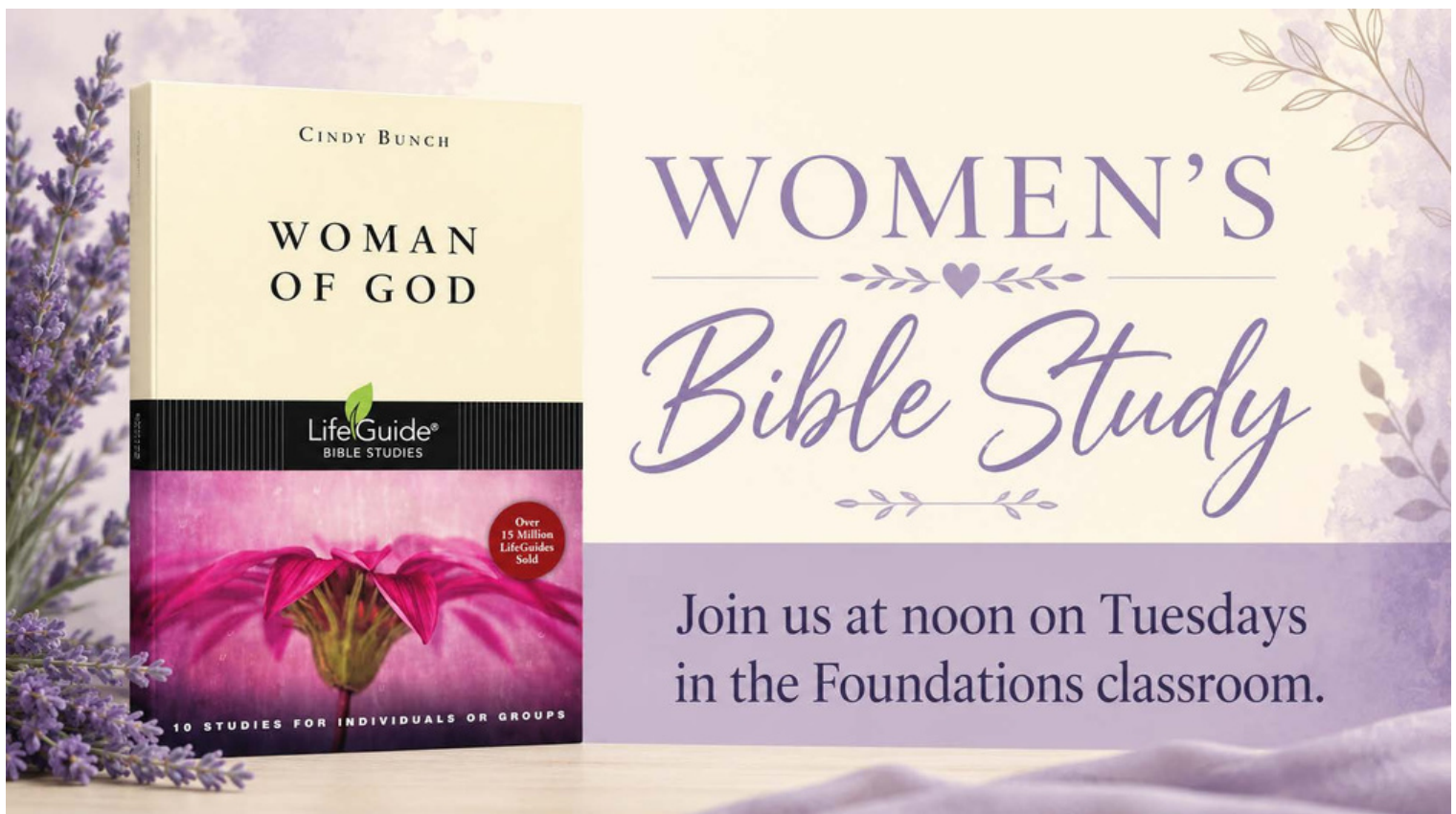



SANCTUARY
Choir
RESUMES REHEARSALS

 **SUNDAYS**
AT
5:30 PM
IN THE CHOIR LOFT

 Starting
AUGUST 2ND

EVERYONE
Welcome!



CINDY BUNCH
**WOMAN
OF GOD**

LifeGuide®
BIBLE STUDIES

Over
15 Million
LifeGuides
Sold

WOMEN'S
Bible Study

Join us at noon on Tuesdays
in the Foundations classroom.

10 STUDIES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Stewardship Report

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Commitments - \$4,350.00 Undesignated - \$1,175.00 Other - \$1,009.06

This week's offering included \$500.00 for VBX 2026, \$225.00 in t-shirt orders, \$50.00 for altar flowers, a \$12.06 reimbursement for Amazon order for accounting services and \$222.00 in coke machine proceeds.

Total contributions - \$6,534.06



Giving is one of the ways we respond to the grace we have received in Jesus Christ. Although we do not pass the offering plates during worship, the ministry of this church continues because of your faithful generosity. Offering boxes are available beside the narthex credenza and by the "Amen Corner." Plates are also available on the table at the front of the sanctuary. You may also give electronically by scanning the QR code shown here. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of this congregation as we seek to love God and love our neighbors.

Prayer Concerns

Prayer Concerns:

- Mike Clift - back surgery
- Bill Grogan - testing
- Janet LaPoint - Evelyn Plecan's cousin
- Nancy Bunnell - Evelyn Plecan's cousin
- Allen Mackrill - Lataine Perry's brother - stroke
- Jason Lingerfelt - bypass surgery
- Willene Gentry - home
- Lee Webb - Alzheimers
- Wanda McCaskey - broken ankle
- Willene James - Freeman Smith's sister
- Ray Smith - Freeman Smith's brother
- Unspoken Requests

Cancer Treatment:

- Bailee Brown - Caleb Cashion's sister
- Kristen Simon - Cindy Putz's niece
- Jim Dixon
- Robert Marbury - Jean Webb's brother
- Barbara Spurgeon - colon cancer
- Anne Taylor - Tracy Spark's sister
- Bill Snyder - Virginia Lovellette's brother
- Linda Stringer - Evon Maggart's sister
- Niki Work - Jodi Smith's cousin

Assisted Living:

- Doris Baggett - Signature Healthcare
- Roberta Ross - Standing Stone
- Ramona Tilghman - Life Care of Sparta
- Regina Weber - NHC