



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

When we turn from the final page of the Old Testament to the opening words of Matthew, it can feel like we have just moved from one chapter to the next. In reality, several centuries have passed. During that time, empires rose and fell. Jewish communities had faced fierce persecution, rebellion, and enormous cultural change. New religious and political movements had developed. By the time Jesus was born, the world looked very different from the world we read about at the end of the Old Testament.

Learning what happened during those centuries can help us better understand the world in which Jesus lived. It can help us understand the presence of the Roman Empire, the various expectations surrounding the Messiah, the importance of the Temple, and the different religious groups we see in the Gospels. The centuries between the Testaments were not an empty gap. They were an important part of the story.

Although they are not part of our biblical canon, there is a great deal we can learn from the ancient writings we call the Apocrypha. These writings include history, wisdom, prayers, and stories about courageous women, political revolutionaries, persecuted families, angels, dragons, and even an important fish. They also show us faithful people trying to trust God during uncertain and rapidly changing times. Although their world was very different from ours, their questions about faithfulness, suffering, courage, and hope still feel very familiar. These writings help us understand the development of important theological ideas and the hopes and struggles of God's people during the years leading to the New Testament.

A week from today, we will begin exploring these books during our Wednesday Connection Bible study. No previous knowledge of these writings is necessary, and the readings will be provided. I hope you will make plans to join us at 6:15 p.m. as we begin *Between the Testaments: Discovering the Apocrypha and the World That Shaped the New Testament*.

Coming Up This Week

Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, August 9, is the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, and the chancel color will be green. Throughout the summer, we have explored some of the practices that help shape us into faithful followers of Jesus Christ. This week we conclude our summer sermon series, "Practicing Faith: Habits that Shape the Christian Life."

Our Senior Minister, Rev. Christian Smith, will preach from James 1:22–27 in a sermon titled "Practicing Everyday Faithfulness." 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 reflect on how the practices we have explored can become more than things we do. They should become a way of life. We can't wait to see you on Sunday!



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.



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.

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.

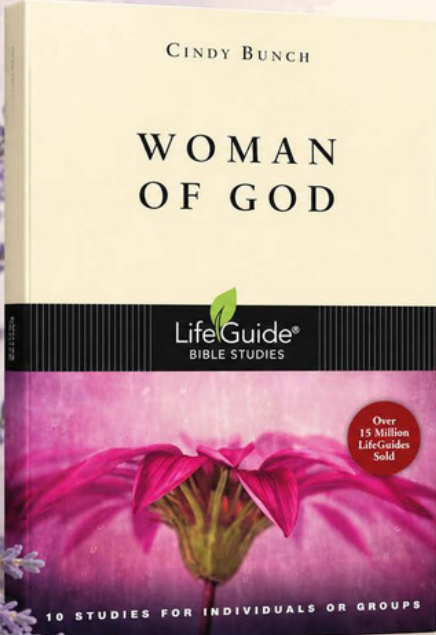


Sanctuary CHOIR

We are so excited to have added four new voices to our Sanctuary Choir this past Sunday evening! If you have considered joining a vocal ensemble and feel that now is the time, come be a part of our group on Sundays at 5:30pm in the choir loft. We have begun work on our anthem for the 16th of this month and would love to have you sing with us!



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.



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WOMEN'S *Bible Study*

Join us at noon on Tuesdays
in the Foundations classroom.



2026

CPWM *Get Together*

FAITH | ♥ | FELLOWSHIP | ♥ | FOOD

AUGUST
10

DATE

5:00
PM

TIME

PLEASE BRING A
COVERED DISH
to share!

TO SHARE

Other Opportunities

Holy Land 2027 Trip

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. You can also learn more by speaking with Christian and/or visiting the following link: <https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl27091527p59093>

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 Note of Thanks

I want to thank my church family for the love and support given to me and my family during my sickness. The many phone calls, text messages, beautiful flowers and meal provided to my family were deeply appreciated. Thank you to Christian for the visits and the many prayers for my healing. I am improving daily. It was good to be in church on Sunday and to see everyone. Love to you all. Willene Gentry and family

Wednesday Connection

RESUMES AUGUST 12



FREE DINNER
5:15 PM



CHILDREN & YOUTH CLASSES
6:00 PM



TWISTED STITCHERS CRAFTING GROUP
6:00 PM



ADULT BIBLE STUDY
6:15 PM

VBX+

Help Shape the Future

OF VACATION BIBLE EXPERIENCE

**WE'RE
EXPANDING**

In 2027, **VBX+** will include **CHILDREN** AND **ADULTS**, creating an intergenerational experience for our church and community!



**SUNDAY,
AUGUST 16**



4:30 PM

Join us as we dream, plan, and build something **incredible** for 2027!

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!





Steve and Connie Boots have invited the JOY Club to their home on the Caney Fork River on Thursday, August 20. We will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. and travel together to their home, where we will enjoy a pontoon boat ride. Afterward, we will have boxed lunches and cake as we celebrate our church's birthday before returning to the church. We hope you will join us for this fun day together!



CHURCH LOCK-IN

FOR ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

GAMES • FOOD • WORSHIP • MOVIE

FRIDAY NIGHT INTO SATURDAY MORNING

FIRST CP CHURCH • 565 E. 10TH STREET, COOKEVILLE

See Caleb for details and permission forms.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21



FREE EVENT

DROP-OFF

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

PICKUP

8:00 AM

SATURDAY

Stewardship Report

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Commitments - \$8,180.00 Undesignated - \$3,314.00 Other - \$996.07

This week's offering included \$181.00 for facility use, \$50.00 for t-shirts and a \$765.07 refund for account overpayment from Hometown IGA.

Total contributions - \$12,490.07



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:

- Abby Putz - knee surgery
- Peggy Rittenberry - surgery
- Lois Squires - Blue Roof
- Mike Clift - back surgery
- 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