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

One of the questions I get asked fairly often is, "What should I call you?" Some people call me preacher, while others call me pastor. Some use the word minister, which is actually my official title. I answer to all three, and I really don't have a preference.

But there are differences between those words. "Preacher" makes me think about standing in the pulpit and proclaiming God's Word. "Pastor" reminds me of caring for people through the joys and difficulties of life. And "minister" speaks to all aspects of my calling to serve God and others.

Of course, all three are part of the same calling. No one title is better or more appropriate than another. But sometimes the words we use to describe someone can help us think more deeply about who they are and what they mean to us.

We use a lot of titles when we talk about Jesus, too. We call him Savior, Lord, Messiah, and King. All of them are correct titles. But I wonder how often we stop to think about what we're really saying when we use them.

When we call Jesus our Savior, we're acknowledging the forgiveness and new life we have received through him. When we call him Lord, we're committing ourselves to following his teachings and example. These words aren't just different ways of referring to Jesus. Each title reminds us of something important about who he is, what God has done through him, and what it means for us to follow him.

This Sunday is Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of the Christian year. It's a day when we celebrate the reign of Jesus Christ. But what does it really mean to call Jesus our King? Is it simply another title we use when we worship, or does it say something about our relationship with him and the way we should live?

As we approach Christ the King Sunday, I hope you'll spend some time thinking about what it really means to call Jesus our King. I look forward to exploring that question with you during worship on Sunday.

Coming Up This Week

Wednesday, November 18 - Final Connection for the Semester
5:15pm - Connection meal - free for everyone
6:00pm - Children and Youth activities; Twisted Stitchers
6:15pm - Adult Study on The Apocrypha - 2 Maccabees

Thursday, November 19
7:30am - Coffee with the Pastor - The Exceptional Bean
4:00pm - God's 4H-ers: His & Hers Healthy Workouts to Hymns

Sunday, November 22
8:45am - Sunday Worship
10:00am - Sunday Morning Small Groups
11:00am - Sunday Worship
5:00pm - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm - Assemble Turkey Project Bags

Monday, November 23
2:00pm - Mahjong - Family Life Center
4:00pm - God's 4H-ers: His & Hers Healthy Workouts to Hymns

Tuesday, November 24
12:00pm - Women's Bible Study
12:00pm - Men's Bible Study
1:00pm - Community Assistance

Congregational Meeting to Elect Elders

A congregational meeting will be held during both worship services on Sunday, November 22, for the purpose of electing elders. The Session, acting as the nominating committee, will nominate the following people:

Dana Davidson
Chris Langford
Rachel Moses
Tim Noonkester
Ron Thurman

All members are invited to vote. Members may also nominate additional candidates during the meeting, if they wish. Before making a nomination, please confirm that the person is an active member of the church and has agreed to serve if elected.

Please keep these nominees and our congregation in your prayers as we choose those who will serve in leadership.



Sunday Worship Information

Sunday, November 22, is Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of the Christian liturgical year, and the chancel color will be white.

We conclude our sermon series, “Stories We Thought We Knew,” as our Senior Minister, Rev. Christian Smith, will preach from John 18:33–38 in a sermon titled “The King We Thought We Knew.” Together, we will revisit Jesus' conversation with Pontius Pilate and consider how the kind of king Jesus came to be challenges our expectations of power, authority, and what it means to belong to his kingdom.

During both services, we will also hold a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing elders to serve on our church's Session.

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.

Everyone is welcome as we gather to worship Christ our King and discover how the kingdom he came to establish calls us to live differently in the world today.

We still need your help providing Thanksgiving meals for 105 families.

Thank you to everyone who has given to our annual Turkey Box Project. We have all the mac and cheese and stuffing we need, but there's still time to donate food or volunteer.

Here's what we still need:
- 60 cans of corn
- 55 cans of green beans
- 74 small packages or 37 family-size packages of potatoes
- 29 packages of gravy
- 53 cans of cranberry sauce
- 53 cans of pie filling



We also welcome you to help us pack bags on Sunday, November 22, at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to help.

We also need help delivering bags on Monday, November 23, at 8:00 a.m. We especially need volunteers with trucks. If you can deliver, please let Christian or Caleb know.
Thanks again for all you have done and continue to do in order to serve our community.

Other Opportunities





Operation Christmas Child®

Samaritan's Purse®

Sponsor a Shoebox – Share the Joy!

Help bring hope and joy to a child through Operation Christmas Child!

- **Sponsorship envelopes** are available in various locations throughout the church.
- Simply place your monetary contribution inside the envelope and complete the information about the child recipient on the outside.
- You may also call the church office to sponsor a shoebox.



Questions?
Contact Belinda Wynne at
931-979-7816

One shoebox can make a difference in a child's life!

JOY Club
Christmas Outing

Wednesday, December 3

Chestnut Oaks
Farm Store and Restaurant

Leave the church at 11:00 a.m.
and travel on the church bus.

Sign up in the church narthex.



THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thanksgiving Day • November 26

12:00 PM

Cookeville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Turkey & ham provided by the church

RSVP & SIGN UP TO BRING FOOD

Tell us how many people are coming. Also, please sign up to bring food, even if you can't join us.

Scan or call the office to RSVP

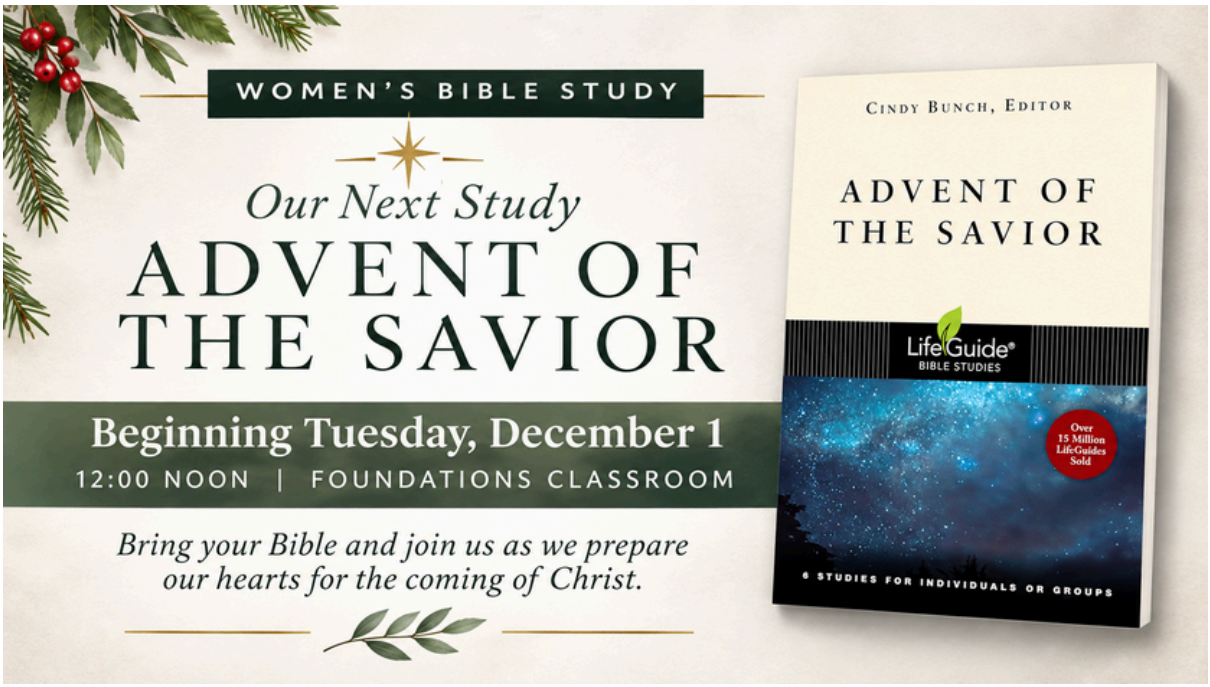
Restoring hope is a local ministry that provides food, clothing and household items to folks in need. They are located in the Baxter community and have been in existence for 15 years. Our church has supported them in various ways for the past several years and we would like to continue doing so.

Recently, they have been closed while renovating their buildings and look forward to re-opening in the next few weeks. They are in need of some specific items for use in the renovation process. If you would like to help support this ministry, the following are needed:

Roll-up garage door
Attic insulation (2 buildings)
10-15 gallons of paint
33- & 55-gallon trash bags

If you do not have any of these items and would like to make a monetary donation, please give those funds to Sandra Robbins or Alice Peek. Please feel free to contact Alice at 239-5513 with any questions. Thank you in advance for your support of the Restoring Hope ministry!





As Advent approaches, we are reminded that some of the greatest gifts we can share don't come wrapped in paper. One of the most meaningful gifts we can offer someone is an invitation to experience God's love and become part of a community of faith.
As we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ, think about someone you might invite to worship with you this season. Sometimes a simple invitation can be the beginning of a meaningful relationship with God and God's people.

Food to the Rescue

As we enter the Christmas season, we have a wonderful opportunity to put our faith into action and make a direct impact on families right here in our community. One of our church's most popular stewardship traditions is returning! **We are partnering with Food to the Rescue for their Christmas Break food boxing event on Wednesday, December 16, at 5:30pm.**

In Middle Tennessee, 1 in 5 children faces food insecurity. Food to the Rescue works to ensure that local children in Putnam, Overton, and Jackson counties do not go hungry while schools are closed for the holidays. The boxes we pack on December 16 will be delivered directly to local children so they have nourishing meals throughout Christmas Break.

Our church has committed to providing 40 volunteers for this event, and we need your hands and hearts to help us fulfill that promise! Because this is always one of our most enthusiastic and well-attended service projects, spots tend to fill up quickly. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex starting this Sunday! This is a fantastic hands-on way to serve alongside fellow members of our congregation and a great opportunity for families, small groups, and individuals of all ages to share God's love tangibly. As 1 John 3:18 reminds us, "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

Be sure to stop by the narthex this Sunday to claim your spot on the team. Thank you for your continued generosity and willingness to serve! Warmly, the Missions Committee

Stewardship Report

Sunday, November 15, 2026

Commitments - $3,835.00 Undesignated - $1,234.00 Other - $1,140.00

This week's offering includes $890.00 in Turkey Project donations, $75.00 for the OCC project, $100.00 miscellaneous giving, and $75.00 in Connection meal donations.

Total contributions - $6,209.00

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:

- Lois Squires - CRMC
- Nicholas Miller - Rachel Moses' cousin
- Michael Palmer - Belinda Wynne's nephew - heart surgery
- Adam Wright - Jan Holloway Wright's stepson - construction accident
- Janet LaPoint - Evelyn Plecan's cousin
- Nancy Bunnell - Evelyn Plecan's cousin
- Allen Mackrill - Lataine Perry's brother - stroke
- Lee Webb - Alzheimer's
- Unspoken Requests

Cancer Treatment:

- Nancy Rector - breast cancer
- Bailee Brown - Caleb Cashion's sister
- Kristen Simon - Cindy Putz's niece
- Jim Dixon
- Robert Marbury - Jean Webb's brother
- Barbara Spurgeon - colon cancer
- 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