

THE FLAME



OUR WORSHIP TIMES:

- Sunday School 10 AM
- Worship 11 AM
- Youth Fellowship and Ignite—Wednesdays at 6 PM

Pastor's Minutes . .



WEEDS IN THE GARDEN OF LIFE

Pulling weeds in my lawn is one of my most “un-favorite” activities! Yet, as the summer seems determined to hang on, and we seem headed for a very late autumn, working on the yard is becoming a reality. I looked in the yard of the parsonage recently, and saw a two tall shafts of green, and thought, “Those don’t fit with the bushes nearby. I think they are weeds!!” I recently read an insight into dealing with weeds. It said that when the ground is hard and dry, weeds are very resistant to being pulled up. But when a soaking, fresh rain softens the soil, they yield quite readily. Also, the younger weeds seem easier to remove than the older weeds, which seem tough and stubborn.

Bad habits are like that. The longer they remain, the harder it is to get rid of them. If we uproot them while they are “young” and have not taken deep root in our personality and attitudes, they can be removed much easier.

The apostle Paul encouraged us to find renewing strength in God’s

grace and presence – *“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - His good, pleasing, and perfect will.” (Romans 12:2; NIV)* The truth of God’s Word can soften the soil of a hard heart; if we “soak” our hearts and minds in the fresh nourishment of God’s Word, the bad habits will be weakened and will resist far less from uprooting. And when we realize that Jesus came to set us free from sin (John 8:34-36), we will see the need to fight firmly and daily against those bad habits - those sinful habits - taking root in our lives.

We cannot kill bad habits with just a passive faith. Faith that conquers must be an active, determined trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, applying the truths of God’s Words in us. “Pulling weeds” can sometimes be a painful process that does not always see instant success. But as we apply God’s Word in our life, as we read and pray, and pray for others and ask them to pray for us, we can see those bad habits reduced and “pulled out” more and more.

See you at “God’s gardening place” this Sunday.

Keith G Knight

- Pastor
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- Pianist
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- Nursery Attendants
Haley Harrell
Roger McNece
- Custodians
James & Kim Cox



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Look what's happening at FUMC!

Can you believe that it is October 2017? I say this every month. It seems like 2017 has flown by. We as a church have accomplished so much this year, but there is still so much to do. October will be another very busy month.

October will be a month where we reach out into the community. If all goes as planned, our Pumpkin Patch delivery will be on Saturday October 14th at 11 AM. There is much more information about Pumpkin Patch on page 4 of the newsletter.

Our fall Wednesday night activities for children (Ignite) and youth (United Methodist Youth Fellowship) are in full swing now. We are having good attendance and the kids are learning a lot and having a ball. We have great volunteers who are doing the lessons and music with the children and youth and other volunteers who are preparing food and serving meals on Wednesday nights. If you want to spend an exciting evening at First UMC, show up at 6 PM and stay for a couple hours!

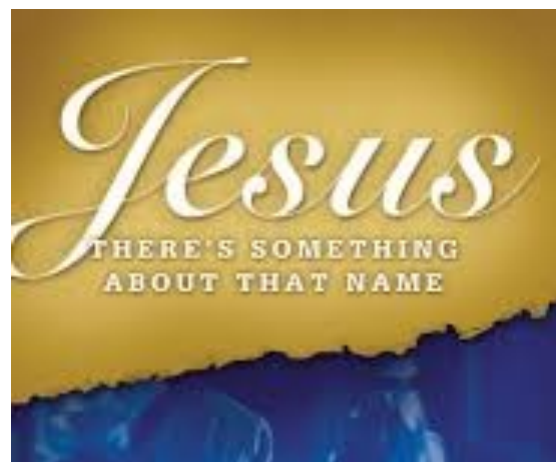
The new adult Sunday School class is doing great. We really appreciate Art Fowler for putting together and leading this class. There is lots of interaction in the class. It meets in the community room downstairs on Sundays at 10 AM. See Art for more information.

We are beginning to put together activities and services for Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. We are going to be very busy over the next 3 months. Get ready to be involved!

Sue

Calling All Singers!!

Do you like to sing? Would you like to be a part of a faithful and energetic church group? We would love for you to be a part of the chancel choir and now is the perfect time to join us. We have begun preparation for our Christmas cantata *JESUS There's Just Something about That Name*. This cantata is very special to us because it was the cantata we were preparing to present on December 16, 2007. Early on Monday morning December 10, 2007 all of our plans changed when our sanctuary was destroyed by the devastating fire. One of the first people I saw when I reached our church was Linda Trout, the choir director at Madisonville Presbyterian Church. She immediately told me that they were going to replace our cantata books! We continued to practice the cantata wherever we could, and we presented it in late January 2008 at Buckner UMC. Our plan this year is to present this very special cantata on Sunday morning December 10 at our morning worship service and to do a special presentation at 3 PM for the community and all of those who have supported us over the last 10 years since the fire. We would love for you to sing with us. The choir practices on Wednesday nights at 7PM.



Memorials and Honorariums

An anonymous donation was made to the **Building Fund** in honor of **Joe Penland**.

A donation was made to the **Building Fund** in memory of **Robert Riddle** by:

Alfred &Carolynn Greenwood
Blair & Linda Clements

A donation was made to the **General Fund** in honor of **Bruce & Judy Christopher** by Don & Nancy Vick.

5th Sunday Worship

Join with other churches of our community on Sunday, October 29th, for fellowship and worship. There will be a covered dish dinner at 5:45 PM with worship to follow at 7 PM.

Everyone is invited to attend. The offering will go toward the support of The Good Shepherd Center.

Thanks

Ted and I extend our thanks to all who have kept us in their prayers, called, sent cards, brought us food, run errands, and in any other way have lifted us up during the last two months.

I also want to thank Sue for taking on my responsibilities (as well as keeping up her own) and all who have come by the office to offer help to Sue during my absence.

Thank you 

Your support has been a blessing!

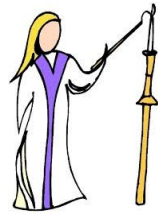
Reba Hall

Temporary Office Hours

The temporary office hours will be from 8 AM to Noon. If you need something at other times, please call the office (423-442-2471) to see if someone is there to assist you.

Acolyte Training

There will be Acolyte Training in the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 1st at 10 AM. If you are currently serving as an Acolyte you are asked to come to this training session to help those who are receiving training for the first time.



Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry Team met on October 14 with six members and Pastor Keith present. Prayer concerns were discussed and the focus was on how to stay in contact with members and how to address their needs.

Final plans were made for the Advent Devotional Booklet.

If you are submitting an article remember the deadline is OCTOBER10. Please email to Joe Penland at

jmpen160@bellsouth.net

Thanks to all who have agreed to participate.

Blessings,

Barbara Pennington



Sermons and Scriptures for October 2017

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Oct 1 | “Method to our Madness!”
Acts 18:1 4-11 |
| Oct 8 | “Power Encounter!”
Acts 19:1-7 |
| Oct 15 | “Preaching Christ Can Cause Riots”
Acts 19:23-29 |
| Oct 22 | “Not Just Goodbye, But Farewell”
Acts 20:24-32, 35 |
| Oct 29 | “Tell Me the Story . . .”
Acts 22:1-16 |

It's that time of year again. IT'S PUMPKIN PATCH TIME IN MADISONVILLE TENNESSEE! Here is a brief overview of the how the Pumpkin Patch works. On Saturday October 14th (at 11 AM we hope) a big tractor trailer truck will pull into our upper parking lot with lots of pumpkins which have been grown out west in New Mexico by Pumpkins USA. We will unload these pumpkins—tiny ones to huge ones—and put them on pallets in our playground area. It takes a lot of people to unload the truck. We have to have people up in the truck unloading pumpkins and people on the ground putting the pumpkins on the pallets which we store from year to year in the Taylor's barn. We are getting one fourth of a trailer load of bulk pumpkins again this year. From unload until the end of October we will SELL pumpkins with the proceeds going to church outreach projects. We pay nothing up front. We get a percentage of the profits. We are responsible for manning the patch 8 hours a day except on Sundays. Pumpkins USA sets the prices for us. One of the main reasons we do the Patch is to provide a field trip for the students at Madisonville Primary School and the Monroe County Head Start classes. We already have days set up for over 500 Madisonville Primary School children from the Primary School to visit us. We also usually have about 60-70 HeadStart children who visit.

These numbers do not count the parents, siblings and teachers who accompany them. We read them a story, provide a craft and a snack **(WE NEED SANDWICH TYPE COOKIES--NO PEANUT BUTTER)** and help them shop in the Pumpkin Patch. It is a big deal for the kids and for the community. For some of these kids this may be the only time they visit a church. Some of the kids think of us as their church! What an honor!

We need volunteers. We need readers, crafters (the craft is very

easy), patch workers, guides and other volunteers on the school days (Primary School days are scheduled for October 23, 24, 30 and 31). If you will read or help with the craft please let Carolynn Greenwood know. On the other days we need volunteers to sit at the table and oversee the Patch, answer questions, take money and tell people about our church. Over the course of the season which ends October 31 we will have hundreds of visitors in the Pumpkin Patch. What a time to do outreach!

There will be signup charts in the gathering area so you can let us know when you can volunteer. Check your schedule and see when you can volunteer to help.



Second Mile Giving . is an opportunity to help over and above your regular tithes and offerings to the church.

Good Shepherd Center

The **third** Sunday of each month is the **Good Shepherd Food Sunday**.
Pantry needs at this time are:

- pasta—any kind
- cereal—cold or hot



They really need volunteers. If you will help call 423-420-8888 for more information.

Spending Your Spare Time

Don't forget these **mission opportunities** that will only take a few minutes of your time:



- Box Tops for Education
- used candles and yarn leftovers for Camp Wesley Woods
- empty prescription bottles for the animal shelter
- bring empty ink cartridges to the church for recycling and reward \$\$.
- clean or new backpacks for the schools
- used or new jigsaw puzzles for the nursing home
- used eye glasses for a Holston Conference mission trip
- aluminum can tabs for the Shriner's Hospitals for Children

Will You Serve?

- Ushers
Barbara Pennington at 423-442-2933
- Greeters and Coffee Bar
sign up at the Coffee Bar counter
- Nursery volunteers
Sue Hamilton at 423-337-1830
- Host Monthly Wednesday Night Supper
Sue Hamilton at 423-337-1830



Happy Birthday

- 4 Carolyn Hunt
Lawrence Johnson
Aaron Tallent
- 8 Gabi Tallent
- 9 Joyce Hamilton
Carol McKenzie
- 10 Taylor Hammitt
- 11 Sharon Benton
- 12 Brendan Severance
- 16 Bill Huddleston
- 17 Marilyn DePew
- 19 Harold Hunt
- 21 Mathew Vinyard
- 23 Barrett Scott Cybula
- 24 Steve Tweed
Kim Townson
- 25 Alfred Greenwood
- 26 Freida Naylor
Walter Liszeski
- 28 Christine Giles
Dora Nelson
- 30 Amy Paul

Happy Anniversary

- 1 Richard & Joyce Turner
- 10 Mike & Beth Pence
- 22 Bill & Joan Meeker
- 26 Charles & Phyllis Harrell
- 27 Jerry & Vanessa Barr

Our Gifts**For September****General Operating Fund:** \$ 12,887.40**Designated:** \$ 2,785.56**Building Fund:** \$ 3,280.00**Memorial Fund:** \$.00

(Includes Memorial Garden and Bricks)

Our Presence**Average for September**

Sunday School— 47

Worship— 95

Our Commitments**For October****Ushers:** Jerry & Vanessa Barr, Larry Davis**Greeter:****Lay Reader:****Flowers**

- Oct 1 Communion
- Oct 8 Clifford Lynch in memory of
Martha Johnson
- Oct 15 Pat Rapping
- Oct 22 Betty Hicks
- Oct 29 Lawrence Johnson in memory of
Martha Johnson

Acolytes

- Oct 1 Quinn Strickland
Evan Kile
- Oct 8 Lily Maiuri
Catherine Barger
- Oct 15 Britney Williford
Mathew Vinyard
- Oct 22 Tate Sherrer
Jillian Pence
- Oct 29 Quinn Strickland
Justin Deaton

Coffee Bar**Wednesday Night Supper**

Oct 11, 6 PM Hosted by:
We need hosts!!! Please call Sue.

UMYF/Ignite (Pre-Youth) Supper Hosts

- Oct 4 Fowler Team
- Oct 11 Church Family Supper
- Oct 18 United Methodist Men
- Oct 25 Youth only (they will provide)

Our Prayers**On-going Prayer Concerns:**

Prayer requests will be listed in the bulletins for four weeks. Ongoing prayer requests will be listed in the newsletter. If there is someone on this list who no longer needs to be there, please let the office know and we will take them off. If we have taken someone off that you would like back on, or we need to add someone, please let us know that also.



- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Todd Strickland | Catherine Reed |
| Maria Rosian | Betty Hicks |
| Rich & Robert Edwards | Mary Margaret and
Dickie Mason |
| Pete & Kathy Hambaugh | Jan & Alan Johnson |
| Joyce Hamilton & family | Lynn Knight (Keith
Knight's sister) |
| Dick & Joyce Turner | Wanda Wikle (Nancy
Knight's mom) |
| Joe & Barbara Penland | Doug Lottes |
| Penelope Fowler | Kevin Kile & family |
| Kristin Pennington | Billy Williford & family |
| Jimmy Leamon and
family | Pat & Howard Harvey |
| Teresa Layman | Charles Baker |
| Paul Robbins | Donna Roberson |
| Nancy Byrum | Barbara Roberson |
| Joyce McWilliams | |
| Bill & Jo West | |
| Sharon Amundson | |

Our Active Military Personnel

David Hargett—US Army
Tyler Kadau—US Marines
Wesley Taylor—US Army
Adam Thornton—US Coast Guard
Zach Johnston—US Army

Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

Edna Bonifacius—Asbury Place, Maryville
Allene Scott—Wellington Place, Athens
Gerri Benton—Wood Village Assisted Living,
Sweetwater
Marie Tweed—The Lantern at Morning Pointe,
Lenoir City
Judy Lee—Morning Point, Athens
Melba Knight—Concordia, Maryville
Ted Hall—Life Care Center, Athens
Brownie Johnson—Life Care Center, Athens
(Sherrie McConkey's mom)
Wanda Wikle—Brookdale Senior Living—
Maryville (Nancy Knight's mom)
(Addresses available from the office)

October 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Acolyte Training 10 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Gibson/Layman Birthday Reception 2-4 PM C&Y 6 PM	2 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	3 Passion Sisters 9:30 AM Communications 6 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM Casa Monroe—9:30 to Noon Library Cub Scouts 6 PM FH	4 UMYF/IGNITE 6 PM Choir 7 PM	5 TOPS 4 PM	6 AA CR	7 Hiwassee College 4-8 PM FH
8 UMM 8:30AM SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Youth Progressive Dinner 4:30 PM	9 Trustees 6:30 PM (at the parsonage) Fall Break starts Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	10 Passion Sisters 9:30 AM Casa Monroe—9:30 to Noon Library Cub Scouts 6 PM FH	11 Church Family Supper 6 PM Hosts: UMYF 6 PM Choir 7 PM	12 TOPS 4 PM Community Rm AAMC 6 PM FH	13 AA CR	14 Pumpkins Arrive! 11 AM
15 UMW 9:30 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM	16 Madisonville Ministers Assoc. 6:30 Here Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	17 Passion Sisters 9:30 AM Casa Monroe—9:30 to Noon Library Cub Scouts 6 PM FH	18 UMYF/IGNITE 6 PM Choir 7 PM Homeless Mgmt Group Noon Comm Room	19 TOPS 4 PM Community Rm	20 AA CR	21 Eagle Scout Ceremony for Kaleb Lopez—5 PM
22 SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Council on Ministries After worship	23 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	24 Passion Sisters 9:30 AM Casa Monroe—9:30 to Noon Library	25 UMYF 6 PM Choir 7 PM	26 Retired Teachers Noon FH TOPS 4 PM Community Rm	27 Deadline for Newsletter Information Noon AA CR	28
29 SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Admin Board After Worship 5th Sunday Supper and Service Madisonville Presbyterian 5:45 PM Supper 7 PM Worship	30 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	31 Passion Sisters 9:30 AM Casa Monroe—9:30 to Noon Library Cub Scouts 6 PM FH	Pumpkin Patch Open October 16-31 (except Sundays)		Please check with the office to see that the space you would like to use for your Team meetings or other event is available before you schedule your next meeting. If your group will be meeting on a regular schedule (every month, every other month) please let the office know.	



First United Methodist Church
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Phone: 423-442-2471
Fax: 423-224-2434
Office Hours: 8 AM to 1 PM
Monday thru Friday

We're on the Web!

www.firstumcmadisonville.org

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCMadisonville>

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for these fall and winter upcoming events. Plan now to join with others in your church family for worship, fun, and fellowship.

- ◆ Sunday, October 1, 2-4 PM—Birthday Celebration for Ruby Layman and Jessie Gibson. No gifts please, but cards appreciated.
- ◆ Sunday, October 8, 4:30 PM—Youth progressive dinner
- ◆ Saturday, October 14, 11 AM—The pumpkins will arrive for our Pumpkin Patch. We need lots of help!
- ◆ Saturday, October 21, 5 PM—Eagle Scout Ceremony for Kaleb Lopez. All are invited to attend!
- ◆ Sunday, October 29, 5:45 PM—5th Sunday Supper and Worship at Madisonville Presbyterian Church
- ◆ Sunday, November 5, 11 AM—All Saints Day. Join us in Worship as we remember those saints who have gone before us.
- ◆ Sunday, November 5, after worship—Children's carnival and chili cookoff
- ◆ Sunday, November 12, 11 AM—UMW Sunday. Our United Methodist Women will be in charge of the service.
- ◆ Thursday, November 16, 7 PM—Community Thanksgiving Service
- ◆ Sunday, December 3, 6 PM—Hanging of the Greens Service
- ◆ Saturday, December 9, 9:30—11 AM—Breakfast with Santa