

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Children are always welcome in worship and we embrace their presence, their joy and the fun things they often do & say as we worship. However, if your child is actively upset we would invite you to take them into the gathering area to be calmed down. You are also welcome to take advantage of our nursery which is down the hall for children 6 months-3 years old. All children who are ages 4-10 may participate in a children's church ministry called First Steps following the Children's Moment. They will enjoy a snack, an activity or craft, and a lesson based on the sermon text. Lastly, we have crayons and children's bulletins available in the gathering area for those who would like to be creative during worship.



First
United
Methodist
Church
Madisonville
Tennessee

143 College Street
Mail to: PO Box 157
Madisonville, TN 37354

Check us out at
www.1umcm.com



Firstumcmadisonvilletn



@firstumcmadisonville8579



Scan the QR code to give electronically

Attendance Last Sunday
In-Person: 100 On-line: 37

Stewardship Update for February 22, 2026

Giving Last week: \$4,690.19
Weekly Budget Need: \$5,723.00
Year-to-date giving: \$36,272.33
Year-to-date budget: \$45,784.00

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and faithfulness in supporting the ministry of our church.

Flowers: Open

Coffee Bar: Janet Tweed

2/25 Ignite & Youth Supper:
Dora Nelson, Vanessa Barr and
Janet Ruppel

Usher Team: Ray Nelson and Wes Hibbert

Production Team: Steve Tweed, Regina Warfel, Carter Kennedy and Briley Williford

Pianist: Bev Taylor

Organist: Mary Alice Huff

Youth Ministry Leaders:
Jerry and Vanessa Barr

Rev. Chris Black
Pastor

cblack@firstumcmadisonville.org

Sue Hamilton

Director of Congregational Care
& Choir Ministries
sue@firstumcmadisonville.org

Nikki Rutzen

Executive Assistant
nikki@firstumcmadisonville.org

Erin Strickland

First Steps Coordinator
eroberts@firstumcmadisonville.org

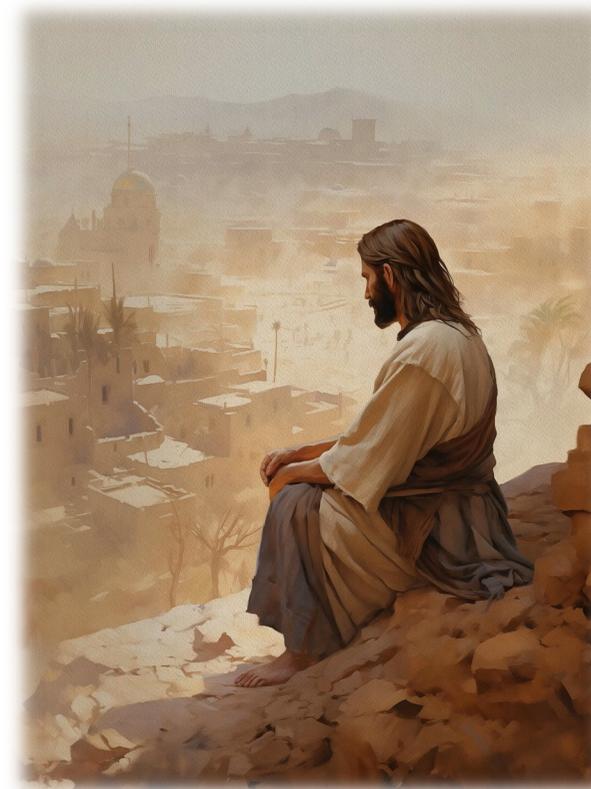
Mary Gahan

Nursery Coordinator
maryfgahan@gmail.com

First United Methodist Church

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent



“Stewardship By Our Prayers”

Colossians 1: 3-14

Welcome! We pray that worship here at First United Methodist Church is a blessing for you, as your presence blesses us. Our mission here at FUMC is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. If you would like to learn more about our church and its ministries you can find a copy of the church newsletter, welcoming brochures and devotionals in the gathering area. There are also refreshments available at our coffee bar. Please fill out the clipboard at the end of your row to register your attendance and tell us a little more about you.

“We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you...”

**Lent Begins this week...
but what is it really?**

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. (The Saturday before Easter Sunday.) Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word lencten, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending themselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection. (from UMC.org)

Lenten Bible Study

Hard to Dance with the Devil on Your Back by Ray Buckley

This study looks at the struggle in the lives of believers, while helping us to enter the continually crumbling world surrounding Jesus and the disciples in the days preceding Easter. The Bible Fellowship invites you to join their Lenten study beginning today Sunday, February 22nd after church. We share lunch. Please let Marlee Tierce know if you wish to join or need a book.

**A new Lenten Sermon Series:
"The Vows We Live By" begins today.**

Throughout Lent Pastor Chris will offer a sermon series which explores the idea of "stewardship" and its connection to our unique UMC membership vows. Whenever a person becomes a full member of our congregation they make a vow to faithfully participate by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness. Pastor Chris' series will explore how to balance all 5 parts of the vows in your own walk and how they can make you a more fruitful disciple of Christ. We hope you will join us for worship in both February and throughout March for this insightful series.



Have you missed Sue's weekly emails?

A few months ago we joined Constant Contact for our weekly mass emails and other church communications. This platform has been much easier to manage and use than our old one. We have been able to increase how often we send messages to the congregation and we are able to track engagement in a much easier way. In addition to our Monday/Thursday communications some folks have expressed that they miss the weekly Friday messages from our own Sue Hamilton. Sue has a wonderful way of making her messages uniquely personal, and detailed about the goings on at the church from week to week. If you would like to receive Sue's email correspondence once again then please reach out to the main office by email or phone and we will add you to her distribution list.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Rev. Chris Black

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Chris Black

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

✠ HYMN

"Freely, Freely"

#389/Screen

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Chris Black

INVITATION TO OFFERING

(During this time we worship by the giving of our gifts and offerings for the work of the church in ministry and mission.)

OFFERTORY

"Jesus Paid It All"

Chancel Choir

✠ DOXOLOGY

#94

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 1: 3-14

L: The Word of God, for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Stewardship By Our Prayers"

Rev. Chris Black

✠ CLOSING HYMN

"Take Time To Be Holy"

#395/Screen

✠ BENEDICTION

Rev. Chris Black

✠ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Give Thanks"

Screen

✠ TRINITY CHIMES

POSTLUDE

~Serve the Lord this week where you are able~