FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, MADISONVILLE, TN

April2019

THE FLAME





The REASON for the SEASON of LENT

The British writer J.R.R. Tolkien, the author of the <u>Lord of</u> <u>the Rings</u> trilogy, once wrote: "Sheep get to be like their Shepherd, it is said, but slowly." The renewal of the inner person of each of us, becoming like Christ, is not accomplished in a day, but in a lifetime. We had a great weekend of "Prayer Renewal" to begin the season of Lent this year. But there is more for us in Lent.

The apostle Paul said that the goal of the Christian life is: *"That Christ might dwell in your hearts through faith."* (Ephesians 3:17) But he also indicated that it is not a quick, or easy, or painless process: *"My dear children.*...."

(Galatians 4:19) If you are not sure what Paul meant, just ask any woman who has been through childbirth if it was quick or easy or painless!

St. Augustine (AD. 354-430) observed that this process is like healing from a near-fatal wound. "It's one thing," he said, "to remove a spear, but quite another to heal the wound by long and careful treatment." This healing occurs *gradually* as our old ways of thinking and living are changed, and we become more like our Savior as we are renewed day by day.

This renewal does not happen by self-effort alone, but by faith. It involves reading God's Word, meditating on it, and spending time in prayer each day. It requires obedience to God's direction and leading, through the teaching of Jesus, and the through the "nudges" of God's Holy Spirit in our hearts and minds. It also requires us to worship and praise God together with other believers, and to read and study God's Word together with other believers. Also, we need to fix our minds on the character of Christ and ask God to make us like Him.

If we keep this up faithfully, day after day, for month after month, after a few years, we can look back and begin to see the changes in our lives and relationships with others. We cannot get discouraged when situations overwhelm us, or when we fall back into some old, bad habit— just ask God's forgiveness, and go on! God will not give up on us— don't give up on Him! The apostle also said: "(I am) confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6)

God's work in us will continue in this Season of Lent, with our Lenten Lunch at Madisonville Presbyterian Church at Noon on Wednesday, April 3rd, and then the last Lunch for Lent on Wednesday, April 10th, at Buckner Memorial United Methodist Church, hosted by the people of Buckner and Vonore United Methodist Churches. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, on April 14th. That afternoon, the Olive Tree Messianic Fellowship will hold a Passover

("Reason" continued on Page 5)

OUR WORSHIP TIMES:

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

Pastor Rev. Keith Knight Keith_Knight1985@aol.com

Administrative Assistant Reba Hall adminassist@ firstumcmadisonville.org

<u>Music/Program Director</u> Sue Hamilton sue@ firstumcmadisonville.org

> <u>Pianist</u> Beverly Taylor

Organist Mary Alice Huff

Youth Leaders Jerry & Vanessa Barr vbreummer@gmail.com

> Nursery Attendants Haley Harrell Roger McNeece

> Custodians James & Kim Cox



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THE FLAME

<u>Sue's News</u>

Where did the Advent and Christmas seasons go? We are well into Lent and before we know it, it will be Easter Sunday! April will be packed full of special services and events. Let me give you a little more detail on some of the things that will be coming up.

SEDER MEAL ON SUNDAY APRIL 14 at 4

PM Robert Richie and others from Olive Tree Messianic Fellowship will serve a Seder meal and have a service in our fellowship hall. Everyone in the community is invited to attend. You will have an opportunity to taste some of the food served in a Bible time Seder meal and get a better understanding of what went on during this time in history.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE on the 18TH AT 6:45 This service will take place in our sanctuary and be led by Pastor Keith.

WAY OF THE CROSS WALK THROUGH DOWNTOWN MADISONVILLE BEGIN-NING AT NOON on the 19th IN FRONT OF OUR CHURCH We will walk through downtown Madisonville and end up at Madisonville Presbyterian Church. We will take turns carrying the cross and read scripture and hear the story about what happened on Good Friday. THIS IS A COMMUNITY EVENT.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT AT HOUSTON PARK AT 11 AM on the 20th

We will again sponsor this event and invite community children to take part. Our United Methodist Men will provide hot dogs for everyone. The Easter Story will be told. Our youth will stuff and hide the eggs. We will have the egg hunt. We need lots of plastic eggs and candy for the eggs. We will put a tote in the gathering area and you can start bringing these items now. Thanks in advance! **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE in the COL-UMBARIUM AREA at 6:45 AM** Pastor Keith will lead this service.

CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC and GAME DAY AT HOUSTON PARK on the 28th We have the pavilion reserved from 2-7 PM. We plan to have a covered dish supper at 5 PM and play games before and after the picnic. We will let you know soon what time the games begin! This event is being sponsored by the Young Adult/Midlife Ministry team led by Karen Rapking. We will have more specifics soon.

Sue

Senior Event



Join us at Sol Azteca

Mexican Grill, 4263 Hwy 411, Madisonville, on Monday, April 22nd, at 11:30 AM for lunch. You will have a good meal and good fellowship.

Sue Hamilton & Jan Johnson Co-Chairpersons of the Senior Ministry Team



Our thanks go out to:

- Bob Marshall and Mike Tallent for all the work they do around our church building. This past month among other things they cleaned light fixtures, repaired toilets and hauled trash off.
- All those who worked so hard to make our Prayer Renewal Weekend, "Lord, Teach Us To Pray, such a success.

United Methodist Women

Who: Everyone!

What: Annual UMW Women Of Responsibility, Leadership and Dedication Scholarship fundraiser luncheon



When: Sunday, April 7th after worship

Where: First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Please join us after worship on Sunday, April 7 in the Fellowship Hall for our annual **W.O.R.L.D.** Scholarship fundraiser! This year the UMW will be hosting a SALAD BAR EXTRAVAGANZA– all the toppings you could ever imagine, along with lots of different sandwich selections, desserts aplenty, and beverages. Your donations will be gratefully accepted to give a helping hand to a special young lady (or 2) graduating from Sequoyah High School this spring.



The response to the toilet paper challenge for march was great. A large supply was delivered to Transformation Haven Ministries. Thank you for your generosity.

Change For Children

Don't forget to take a canister home with you and save your change and bring it back on Sunday, June 2nd. Laurie McNeece, our church's delegate to Annual Conference, will be taking this offering with her when she goes to Annual Conference.



Help for UMCOR

Request for help from Holston Conference Disaster Response Ministries:



"We are answering the call from UMCOR and working with Sager Brown Depot to deliver directly from one of our storage locations 500 cleaning buckets to the collection point for the flood survivors in Beaver, West Virginia.

We need to replace our supply with at least 500 new buckets. We are asking you to begin the process of making new cleaning buckets according to the UMCOR directions describing the size of the buckets and the contents. We can use more Health Kits as well.

Thank you for your support,

Holston Conference Disaster Response Ministries"

There are instruction sheets in the office and on the table in the gathering area. Or, you can go to the UMCOR website for instructions:

Buckets: https://www.umcor.org/umcor/relief-supplies/relief-supply-kits/cleaning

Health Kits: https://www.umcor.org/umcor/relief-supplies/relief-supply-kits/hygiene

Monetary donations are always accepted. We can put together a team to purchase and assemble the buckets or health kits.



Thanks to the Passion Sisters for the cute quilts you made for us and to everyone who tied a knot and said a prayer for us.

Raelynn and Bryden and the Rapking Family



Church Security

THE FLAME

In compliance with the Safe Sanctuaries policy of the United Methodist Church, and to provide a safe and secure environment in which to worship, leadership at First UMC Madisonville regularly reviews the security policies and practices of the Church. In so doing, we have worked closely with the local law enforcement agencies to assess our physical facilities and enhance our use policies.

We recognize that some measures already instituted appear to be at odds with the Church's overall mission to be a welcoming congregation. First UMC Madisonville has been and will continue to be community minded, allowing outside groups to use our facilities for meetings and gatherings, and will welcome all persons who wish to worship God. However we also recognize our responsibility to provide a safe place for our Church members, employees and guests.

On the recommendation of Church security consultants and local law enforcement, we have put in place several security measures. The most noticeable of these has been our policy of locking entrance doors to the Church while services are underway, allowing entrance only in the front of the church, where a member is posted.

A recent incident however, has revealed a gap in our security during times other than when we are holding services. In this incident swift action, taken by a group using our facility and by law enforcement, led to the arrest of a wanted felon and may have prevented a much worse problem.

Many of our members have, and rightly should have, keys to the Church, and frequently un-

lock doors in order to conduct business, do work around the Church, or allow others to come and go. This practice however, leaves the Church open to virtually anyone, whether their intentions are good or bad.

Given this, we are asking all members
and groups who enter the Church to assist
us by re-locking door behind them. If
unlocked to allow access to groups, a
"gate keeper" should be posted to admit group
members and guests, and once all have ar rived, the doors should be locked to prevent
unwanted access.

We are currently working with locksmiths to repair all locks and hopefully further enhance the security of our various entrances to the property. We are also working with local law enforcement to formulate plans and set up training for various contingencies which could occur. When training has been arranged, we will notify our members.

While First UMC Madisonville has always been and will continue to be a warm and welcoming Church and place of sanctuary to our members and to all persons in our community who wish to worship with us, it is important that we recognize the existence of evil in the world and take all needed measures to plan for any contingency in order to protect our members and guests.

To this end, we request your cooperation in this endeavor.

Alan Johnson, Board of Trustees, Chairperson FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MADISONVILLE

Memorials and Honorariums

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For the month of **March** (thru the 24th) donations were made to:

The Building Fund in memory of: Joe Penland by: Scott & Veronica Venable Susan & Stephen White Linda Giles Mary Giles Ritchie Bob & Margaret Marshall Art & Penelope Fowler Friends of Archives and Historical Society Steve & Kathleen Cornett Doug & Shelia Overly Ray & Dora Nelson Lucille & Wayne Peery Bruce & Judy Christopher Kevin & Lauryi Knowles Gloria Witt Phillip & Kim Schweizer Lawrence & Jennie Whitehead Floyd Reedy Jessie Gibson by: Gary & Linda Lord Gloria Witt Betty Balsinger by: Gloria Witt Lee Johnson by: Gloria Witt Ruby Layman by: Gloria Witt The General Fund in memory of: Joe Penland by: Barbara Penland Barbara Pennington Betty Balsinger by: Mary Giles Ritchie Ruby Layman by: Mary Giles Ritchie Ralph DePew by:

Peter & Jill Alliman

The Choir Fund in memory of: Joe Penland by:

Scott & Veronica Venable Susan & Stephen White Mary Alice Huff Ben & Wanda Barger Mary Giles Ritchie Linda Giles Doug & Shelia Overly Pat Atchley Mary Bryan Fortin and Margaret and Felix Bryan

The Lee Johnson Flag Pole Fund by:

Mary Giles Ritchie Bill Howe Barbara Pennington Roy & Margie Garren Sandra Jo Houser

"Reason" continued from Page 1)

Seder meal (a Last Supper meal) in our Fellowship Hall, at 4:00 p.m. Everyone in our congregation and in our community is invited and encouraged to come and take part. We will have our traditional Last Supper Communion worship on Thursday evening, April 18th, at 6:45 PM.

On Good Friday, April 19th, we will remember the Last Words of Jesus, as we retrace His steps through the Holy City, as if downtown Madisonville was 1st century Jerusalem.

And no one will want to miss the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20th, at 11:00 a.m., at Houston Park.

Easter Sunrise will be celebrated outside, in front of the Columbarium, beginning at 6:45 a.m. Our Easter Sunday worship service will begin at 11:00 AM, as we consider "*Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead?*"

Come and join us each Sunday of Lent until we all praise our risen Lord and Savior on Easter morning, "... *until Christ is formed in you*...

Keith G. Knight

News You Can Use

Prayer Ministry Team

The Lord, Teach Us To Pray weekend was a huge success because of YOU. I want to thank the Prayer Ministry Team for their interest and

initiative over a four month preparation period. You responded to God's call.

Our gratitude to the host families, to the children and youth leaders and all who donated food, money, and their unselfish time and energy. The cooperation from everyone was great.



The date of the next meeting will be announced later.

Blessings, Barbara Pennington, Chairperson

<u>United Meth-</u> odist Men



The United Methodist Men will meet on

Sunday, April 14th, 8:30 AM at Donna's Café. They will be discussing details of the lunch for the Easter Egg Hunt. All men of the church are invited to attend. If you have any questions, please call Ray Nelson at 923-660-1061.

<u>Church Family</u> <u>Covered Dish</u> <u>Supper</u>



Our monthly covered dish supper will be on Wednesday, the 10th, at 6 PM. We

still need hosts for this evening. It can be 2 or 3 people or a small group, i.e.: UMW, UMM, SS Class or other group. You will need to be here early to set things up, provide drinks and bread, and then clean up after we are through. If you have any questions or are willing to help, please call Dora Nelson at 928-660-1009.

Everyone is invited to come and join the fellowship. <u>Please</u> bring a dish or two of food to share.

Dear Friends, we have a praise to share with our friends at Madisonville UMC. Bill returned home last Wednesday and we are trying to get our new routine in place. He is trying to get his strength back to take care of himself better. Our thanks for all the prayers and cards and love shown to us from so many that still are keeping in touch. We love and miss everyone, God bless to all. Love Jo and Bill West

(former members of our church)



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

Good Shepherd Center

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

- soup and canned fruit
- personal care items
- \Rightarrow deodorant
- \Rightarrow shampoo
- \Rightarrow dish soap
- \Rightarrow laundry soap powder

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 \$s.
- used or new jigsaw puzzles for the nursing home
- used eye glasses—we will see that they get to a group who could use them
- aluminum can tabs for the Shriners Hospitals for Children

Will You Serve?

- Ushers Lois Green at 423-884-6401
- Greeters and Coffee Bar sign up at the Coffee Bar counter
- Nursery volunteers—contact Mary Kefauver at 423-519-5158 or Dora Nelson at 928-660-1009
- Host Monthly Wednesday Night Supper Dora Nelson at 928-660-1009



Happy Birthday

- 5 Quinn Strickland
- 6 Cory Johnston
- Dwaine Peters Joanne McBee
- 7 Sam Grubb Zachary Johnston Ross Burrus
- 12 Mia Sage Lowry Beason Rachel Cornett Fields Brilev Williford
- 13 Grant Hamilton Howard Harvey
- 16 Gloria Witt Kyleigh Curtis
- 17 Clifford Lynch
- 19 Cindy Hammitt Amanda Bowers
- 24 Evan Kile
- 27 Phyllis Harrell
- 29 Tyler Hammitt Richard Turner
- 30 Sarah Alliman Chermley

Happy Anniversary

- 3 Rick & Cathy Saunders
- 4 Richard & Mary Margaret Mason
- 13 Samantha & Tyler Kadau
- 23 Steve & Kathleen Cornett Bill & Jo West

Are we missing your name?



We would like to hear from you if we are. Please call the office (423-442-2471) or e-mail

adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org to let us know when your birthday or anniversary is.

There are Member/Attendee Profile sheets on the table in the gathering area and in the attendance notebooks. Please take time to fill one out for your family if you have not already done so or if there are changes.



The Flame

<u>Our Gifts</u>

For March (thru the 24th) General Operating Fund: \$ 15,808.65 Designated: \$ 1,472.00 Building Fund: \$ 5,595.00 Memorial Fund: \$ 2,015.00

Our Presence

Average for March (thru the 24th) Sunday School— 32 Worship— 97

Our Commitments

For April

Ushers

Clifford Lynch and Ray & Dora Nelson

Greeter

Lay Reader John Byrum

Flowers for April 7, 14, & 21 will be Lent and Easter decorations. Apr 28 Pat Rapking

Acolytes

Apr 7 Emily Deaton & Catherine BargerApr 14 Leilah Pyros & Justin DeatonApr 21 Storm Millsaps & Kyleigh CurtisApr 28 Evan Kile & Alexis Jones

Coffee Bar

April If you would like to host the coffee bar, for a month or a day, please sign up at the coffee bar.

Wednesday Night Church Family Supper

Apr 10, 6 PM

Hosted by: - Will you host this month?

If you would like to help host our suppers on the 2nd Wednesday of each month please contact Dora Nelson at 928-660-1009

Bring a dish or two of food to share and enjoy the fellowship with our church family.

UMYF/IGNITE Supper Hosts

- Apr 3 United Methodist Men
- Apr 10 Church Family Supper
- Apr 17 Dora Nelson Team
- Apr 24 Grubb/Strickland Team

Our Prayers

On-going Prayer Concerns:

Todd Strickland Maria Rosian Pete & Kathy Hambaugh Barbara Penland Art & Penelope Fowler Kristin Pennington Jimmy Leamon and family Paul Robbins Nancy Byrum Bill & Jo West Sharon Amundson Catherine Reed Betty Hicks Mary Margaret and Dickie Mason Lynn Knight (Keith Knight's sister) Doug Lottes Charles Baker Donna Roberson

Barbara Roberson Janet Bales Curwood Witt & family Barbara Baiz Marilvn DePew Bill Huddleston John Summitt & Joan Holland John Stratton Mrs Henry Mary Nelson Susan Miley John McMillan Logan Hunt Sandy & Mike O'Neill Selena Wiggs Marjorie Fezlar Joyce Turner Kevin Taylor and family Howard & Pat Harvey

Please let us know if anyone needs to be taken off this list or if anyone needs to be added.

Our Active Military Personnel

Adrienne Greenwood—US Army Nathan Greenwood—US Navy Reserves David Hargett—US Army Zach Johnston—US Army Tyler Kadau—US Marines Wesley Taylor—US Army Adam Thornton—US Coast Guard Reserves

Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

Edna Bonifacius—Asbury Place, Maryville Gerri Benton—Wood Village Assisted Living, Sweetwater Judy Lee—Athens Place, Athens

(Addresses available from the office)

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April 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	1 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm Cub Scouts 6:30PM FH	2 Girl Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	3 Lenten Lunch noon at Madisonville Presby- terian Church IGNITE/UMYF 6 PM Supper Host: UMM Choir 7 PM <i>Headstart CR 1 PM</i>	4 <i>TOPS 4 PM</i>	5 AA CR	6	
7 SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM UMW Salad Bar Lunch After Worship	8 Trustees 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm Cub Scouts 6:30PM FH	9 Finance 6 PM Girl Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	10 Lenten Lunch noon at Buckner Memo- rial UMC Church Family Supper 6 PM Host: IGNITE/UMYF 6 PM Choir 7 PM	11 TOPS 4 PM Com- munity Rm AAMC 6:30 PM FHall	12 AA CR	13 Homeless Mgmt Pancake Break- fast FH 5 AM to noon	
14 UMM 8:30 AM at Donna's Cafe SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Seder Meal 4 PM by Olive Tree Messianic Fellow- ship	15 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm Cub Scouts 6:30PM FH	16 Girl Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	17 IGNITE/UMYF 6 PM Supper Host: Nelson Team Choir 7 PM Homeless Mgmt Group Noon FH	18 Maundy Thurs- day Svc 6:45 PM TOPS 4 PM Community Rm	19 Way of the Cross Walk noon AA CR	20 Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 AM at Houston Park	
21 Easter Sunrise Svc 6:45 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM	22 Senior Event Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm Cub Scouts 6:30PM FH	23 Girl Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	24 IGNITE/UMYF 6 PM Supper Host: Grubb/Strickland Team Choir 7 PM	25 TOPS 4 PM Community Rm	26 AA CR	27	
28 SS 10 AM Worship 11 AM Church Picnic See more info on the back page	29 Boy Scouts 6 PM Community Rm Cub Scouts 6:30PM FH	30 Girl Scouts 6 PM Community Rm	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 so it can be included in the calendar.				
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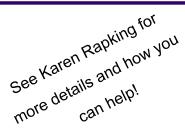
First United Methodist Church 143 College Street Mailing Address: P O Box 157 Madisonville, TN 37354 Phone: 423-442-2471 Fax: 423-442-2434 Office Hours: 8 AM to 1 PM Monday thru Friday

Our website: www.firstumc madisonville.org

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> Twitter https://twitter.com/ FUMCMadville



Sunday, April 28

Church-wide Covered Dish Picnic 5:00 PM

There is more info on Page 2—Sue's news. Sponsored by the Young/Mid-Life Adult Team



Houston Park Pavilion There will be games before and after we eat!