

The Flame

OUR WORSHIP TIMES:

- **Worship** 10:30 AM In-Person and On-Line at 1umcm.com
- **Youth Fellowship** Wednesdays at 6 PM

From the Pastor's desk . . .

August is upon us, and I must admit that I am excited about it. Personally, I am excited because we have celebrated several milestones in our family over the course of the last several weeks. Our oldest daughter Sydney has stepped into the new world of being a full-fledged kindergarten and will be a 5 year old this month. Molly seems to be thinking about starting to crawl and will be eating some new foods in the next several weeks. I celebrated my 36th year around the sun, and Julie and I had our 10-year anniversary. The months of July/August have naturally become a festive and celebratory time for our family, and a season of milestones.



I know that many of us “celebrate” during this time of year because August marks the beginning of something new. Educators, students, and parents often use August to mark a rite of passage to the next school grade, or the next group of students. Some of us may even recognize that August kicks off the downhill slide to the festive season of fall.

As I talk with members of our church community about this month, one phrase keeps coming up to describe it: *“Is it August already?? Oh, this month is going to be busy!”*

Just as August often provides milestones to recognize, it also inevitably provides the opportunity to fully get back in the swing of things after summer. This means fulfilling responsibilities for loved ones and friends, like doctors’ visits, attending games, running errands, and getting folks to and from school, or practices. No matter your age, August promises to have a more complex schedule with more responsibility. It is a **fun** but equally **busy** time.

This month I am rereading a book called A Simple Path by Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Many of you know that Mother Teresa was a Catholic Nun who founded the Missionaries of Charity to serve the poorest of the poor in India. The book explores the philosophy of her faith life, and the direction of her work on earth. Her simple path is composed of six essential steps: silence, prayer, faith, love, service, and peace. The book says, “Familiarity with one (step) will naturally lead on to another. If one surrenders to the nature of the process, life will inevitably run more smoothly, more joyfully, and more peacefully.”

- Pastor**
Rev. Chris Black
 cblack@firstumcmadisonville.org
- Office & Technology Coordinator
Richard Beaubien
 rbeaubien@firstumcmadisonville.org
- Director of Congregational Care & Choir Ministries
Sue Hamilton
 sue@firstumcmadisonville.org
- 1st Steps Coordinator
Erin Roberts
 eroberts@firstumcmadisonville.org
- Pianist
Bev Taylor
- Organist
Mary Alice Huff
- Youth Leaders
Jerry & Vanessa Barr
 vbriummer@gmail.com
- Custodians
James & Kim Cox

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The Simple Path:

The fruit of silence is

Prayer.

The fruit of prayer is

Faith.

The fruit of faith is

Love.

The fruit of love is

Service.

The fruit of service is

Peace.

As we move into August with all its natural complexities, I want to invite you to give yourself the gift of striving to walk down Mother Teresa's simple path. I hope that you will find ways to cultivate this during our worship each Sunday, in your own devotional practice, and even as you interact with others in the community. In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus calls his disciples to be "the salt of the earth," and to be "the light of the world." This means that we are to strive to flavor the world uniquely for him, and that we are to be a beacon of God's hope and love in all that we do.

Striving to make Mother Teresa's simple path a part of who you are could be a way for you to be the salt and light that Jesus was talking about. I hope you will join me this month in striving after this.

Lots of hope!
Chris

Sue's News - August 2022

Tell me it's not true! It can't be August and time to start back to school and a more organized life for many of you! But it is true! By the time you read this newsletter, it will be the first week of August 2022! Where has the summer gone?

We have stayed busy at First UMC Madisonville this late spring and summer. We have had exciting worship services every Sunday morning. During the month of May we "went to the movies" every Sunday morning. Those

sermons were spiritual and fun. Our coffee bar themes were so imaginative! Thanks to all who provided them for us. We celebrated the graduation of eight young people who were members of our church or attended our church. We had an exciting Fiesta Fun-raiser with the proceeds going to our new Isaiah 117 House. In June our youth participated in a one week mission trip in Kentucky (the first mission trip since 2019). Pastor Chris began his first trip ever to the Holy Land in June and finished the trip the first week of July. We are all learning more about the Holy Land through him.

Also in June our United Methodist Women provided a wonderful salad bar meal for the congregation with the proceeds going to their college scholarship fund. In July we had an exciting Bible School week as we partnered with the folks from Madisonville Presbyterian Church. The mission project for Bible School was to bring food and hygiene items for our blessing box and books for an outside library that the Presbyterian Church is preparing. The mission project was a big success. Everyone had a great time at Bible School!

During July our folks provided 15 backpacks filled with a back to school outfit for The Good Shepherd's Christmas in July project. We will also soon have a presentation of scholarships by our United Methodist Men to our church member youth who graduated from high school in May and will be going to college this fall.

Sue's News Continued on Page 5

Who Are They???

This person was born and grew up in Newport, TN. This person and family moved to Madisonville in 1972 when the family purchased a farm. This person has 2 children and 3 grandchildren. This person loves to do crafts and is a great cook and is a published author. Who is this person?

We will continue to profile a family or person in our church each month. See if you can identify them from the info that we give you—the answer is on page 8

Coffee, Dessert, & Difficult Conversations:



What's going on with the UMC?

On Wednesday evening August 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall our church will hold a unique event called Coffee, Dessert, and Difficult Conversations.

This will be a time for us to gather together to eat something sweet, drink a hot beverage, and have a church wide conversation on some unique (or even divisive) topics. For our first time together The Rev. Chris Black will lead a discussion about the current state of our local church, the broader church, and answer questions you may have about the UMC in general. Our Lay Representative to the Annual Conference Marlee Tierce will also present to the group. This should be a very informative gathering, and a wonderful time of dialogue for our church community. We hope you will join us!

School Supplies Project

Beginning this Sunday (and for the next few weeks) we will have a table in the gathering area where we will gather school supplies for those who might need them. Our church kids can pick up things if they need them and we will also distribute the items to other children in Monroe County who might have a need.

This is always a fun project. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Tweed or Regina Warfel.

Inurnment Service for Freida Naylor

Family and friends will gather at our columbarium on Thursday August 4th at 10:00 AM for the inurnment service for Freida Naylor who passed away on May 1, 2022. Freida was a very active member of our church for many

years before moving to Indiana a few years ago to be close to relatives. After moving she continued to keep touch with us even though she could not be with physically. After the service we will have a brunch meal for family and friends in attendance. Everyone is invited to be a part of this service. You can view Freida's obituary at naylor.1umcm.com.

Holston Annual Conference - Pray Together

By: Marlee Tierce

I have an inch deep notebook of 250 pages, a worship book of 91 pages, nine pages of handwritten notes, and another nine pages of journal entries. I have a heart filled with emotions and a head filled with experiences and questions. What can I write to you that explains attending this conference?

First I'll tell you how much I appreciate the honor to represent you, my church, in this important work. I am humbled and was filled with excitement to attend. I studied and read and made lists. I attended church meetings and found out about finance committee, Staff parish relations committee, and listened to discussions. I volunteered to sing in the Annual Conference's Memorial Service Choir. And I prayed.

What an experience! Stuart Auditorium is large. The air conditioning was on the fritz those first couple of days and the fans blew with the windows open in that meeting next to the lake in the valley of the mountains.

The mornings began with Worship services and Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. The Teaching Moment each morning on prayer was led by Reverend Tom Albin. I hope to use some of his suggestions in a group study on prayer in the future.

Praise teams (bands and singers) from all around the conference kept us singing as we filled that valley with song. You have no idea what it is like to stand in the middle of 1200 people singing their hearts out with each other on familiar hymns and new songs. It was very

emotional and brought many of us to tears and cheers.

The meetings of worship, business meetings, sermons, praying, singing, debates, and praise went throughout the day into the evening hours. Beginning the day at 8:30 and I usually got back to the room exhausted yet refreshed after 9:30 p.m. each night.

We celebrated missions, we grieved for those who had passed, we celebrated retirees, we watched as people were ordained and commissioned to do the Lord's work and we worshiped and prayed. Oh, how we prayed! And sang! And listened as we tried to discern paths forward while voting on resolutions. I was brought to tears throughout the days as I felt the spirit of the people and the Lord in that gathering.

There were scheduled breaks where we would line up at the bathrooms beside the building. It was good to have those few minutes to chat, talk with Pastor Chris, Laurie, or Richard from our church amidst the throngs.

I ate at the hotel dining room since I purchased a meal ticket. The tables filled and everyone talked about issues as we dined together. I found out about people's churches, their lives, and their thinking at those meals. We met each other in bathroom lines that snaked around the outside of the building. Built 100 years ago, Stuart Auditorium holds up to 2,000 people in a theater style setting and the bathrooms were not in the plan.

The sermons were powerful. I was reminded of the old timey revivals I attended as a child and youth. People standing, hands raised, swaying as they felt the energy and emotion of time together and the messages powerfully heart-felt as they were presented.

We separated into factions during voting and debating with emotions running high, and then would join back together standing to recite the Twenty Third Psalm or the Apostle's Creed or to sing stirring hymns like "It Is Well with My Soul," "For All the Saints," "Because He Lives," and "Soldiers of Christ, Arise." I did not witness any aggression or meanness. I did see lots of

Christians trying to wrestle with emotions in a meaningful way.

We voted by a count and recorded percentage on the issues. It was powerful when the majority stood together. But sometimes I stood as others around me sat, and I sat as others around me stood. I felt no animosity throughout the voting process. People around me were comfortable explaining their views and reasoning for their votes as they listened to my thinking. It helped to realize that we were all working toward the same goal. We were reminded of our focus of making disciples for Christ and loving one another no matter what or who.

Please feel free to call, question, discuss, plan a meeting time or email and let me share. Marlee Tierce, mtierce@aol.com, 423-884-2196.

Back-to-School Backpacks

Thank you to everyone who purchased a back to school outfit, shoes and backpack for 15 children through The Good Shepherd Center's Christmas in July outreach program. We want to give a special thanks to Joanne McBee who coordinated this effort for our church and to Regina Warfel who assisted the Good Shepherd Center by checking many many backpacks to make sure they had the correct items in them before distribution. Once again, a great big THANK YOU!

Community Vacation Bible School

Bible School week has now come and gone. It was a great week! Through puppet shows, videos and other means our kids learned the true meaning of receiving our daily bread from God. We had a good size youth group every night and several of our adults attended the adult study class. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who made the week such a success. It is always fun to do Bible School with our Presbyterian Church friends.

We had classes for adults. We had fantastic meals. We dodged quite a few evening

Continued next page



Blessing of the Backpacks

On July 31st, we blessed the backpacks as our kids head back to school for another year of growth and learning. Monroe County schools start back this Friday, August 5.



rain showers, and had beautiful weather for our pool party. We were able to get some of our decorating supplies (for free!) from Vonore Baptist Church and Tellico Plains Baptist Church who did the same Bible School earlier, and we were able to pass on lots of stuff to True Gospel Baptist Church in Sweetwater.

They are doing Bible School the first week of August. We collected lots of things for our blessing box. Bible School 2022 was definitely a success!



Sue's News, Continued

Now we look ahead to fall and even to winter activities at First UMC Madisonville.

Continue to read emails and other updates and reminders that will be sent from the church through social media. Join us on Sunday mornings for worship. If you are a youth or have a youth in your family of friends, encourage them to come to our United Methodist Youth Fellowship on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. If you like to sing, we would love for you to join us at choir practice on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM.

Our United Methodist Men's usual meeting time is the second Sunday of the month at 9 AM for a breakfast meeting. Our United Methodist Women's usual meeting time is the third Sunday of the month after morning worship for a lunch meeting. Small groups are so important in the life of the church! See you soon at First United Methodist Church Madisonville.

Sue



We Support our Church By:

Our Service

Trustee

The Trustee for the month of August is Kevin Taylor. If you have questions or concerns please contact him.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for the Altar sometime during this year, please contact Kim Townson at townsonkjwp@gmail.com or 423-836-5385. She has the schedule and will be happy to hear from you.

August 7 - Communion Sunday
 August 14 -Carolynn & Alfred Greenwood
 August 21 - Jan Johnson
 August 28 - **Open**

Our Gifts

For July, 2022

General Operating Fund:

Needed: \$ 21,920 **Rec'd:** \$33,691

Building Fund:

Needed: \$ 4,084 **Rec'd:** \$ 2,988

Memorial Fund: \$ 2,050

Designated: \$ 4,369

Our Presence

Worship Service

Average for **July, 2022**

In person - 79

Online - 10

Memorials & Honors

In the month of **July** donations were made to:

The **Building Fund** in memory of:

Joe Crabtree from:

Alfred & Carolynn Greenwood

The **Memorial Fund** in honor of:

Christine Suski

from Edmond & Janet Ruppel

Community Assistance Fund (CAF) Report

Since we restarted the Pastor's Community Assistance Fund before Easter this year, we have been very active. We have provided gift cards from businesses that do not sell alcohol or tobacco, and we otherwise make payments by credit card or check directly to landlords or service providers - not to the CAF clients themselves.

The Community Assistance Fund has received \$3,045 in donations this year, and has to date made \$1,029 in disbursements to those in need. In addition, we have purchased \$500 in gift cards for food from Subway, McDonalds, Walgreen's and United Grocery Outlet (UGO) to have available in the office when people show up with immediate needs for food or other items. We have distributed so far \$215 directly to clients who come into the office in need.

Additionally, every week we get calls out of the blue from people with specific needs, and have been able to help them. We've helped (among others) a father who needed diapers for his daughter, stranded families - some with children - that needed transportation home, a mother with a special-needs son who needed some housing assistance, and a family needing their electricity turned back on. Your generosity made - and continues to make - it possible for us to be able to immediately say "yes" to people with very real needs, and to be Christ's hands and feet every day.

On-going Prayer Concerns:

Geneva Bivens
 April Stinnett
 Jennie Schutte
 Judy Robinson
 Pam (Janet Ruppel's friend)
 Stan & Kay Collett
 Sarah Lovingood
 Ronnie Gay
 Shelby Nelson
 Jeff Smith
 Karen Paxton
 Farmers
 Jim Bromwell
 Sharon Torbett Allmon
 Pat Rapping & Family
 Allen & Julia Reedy
 Dustin & Becky Seay
 Lee Anne Perry
 Sandra Coleman
 Joe Alan Johnson
 Joe Grubb
 Scott Turney
 Fred Schwartz
 Dr. Mike McCoy
 Brad Hughes

Lindsay Kefauver (David Kefauver's sister)
 Dean Johnson (Lawrence Johnson's brother)
 Sandy Hampton (Barbara Penland's friend)
 Jill Alliman's friend Kayla, and her newborn twins
 Chris Hull (friend of Ray & Dora Nelson)
 Lonnie Allmon (Karen Rapping's co-worker)
 Carl (Kathy Isbill's brother)
 Valerie Stratton (Dora Nelson's sister-in-law)
 Mable Graham
 Barbara Raper
 Kat Ahart
 Barbara Baiz
 Karen Balsinger
 Bob Carl
 Joseph Certo
 Roger Green
 Betty Hicks
 Brad Reedy
 Mari Rosian
 John Stratton
 Todd Strickland

Mike Summitt
 Dick Turner
 Jo West
 Pat & Gary Cloud
 The Kapileo family
 The Leamon family
 MaryAnne & Ken Nelson
 Sandy & Mike O'Neill
 Carol & Rick Rapping
 John Summitt & Joan Holland
 Wanda Williford

If you have placed a family member or a friend on our prayer list and they have reached a point where they can come off, please let Sue know.

In most instances, names will remain on the ongoing prayer list for two months.

Our Active Military Personnel:

Shawn Gregg—US Army
 Nathan Greenwood—US Navy
 David Hargett—US Army
 Robert Haller—US Marines
 Zach Johnston—US Army
 Adam Thornton—US Coast Guard Reserves

If you would like addresses for our church family members who are in the military, nursing homes, or assisted living, please call the office.

Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

Pat Harvey
 Mary Margaret Mason
 Wood Village Assisted Living
 Judy Lee
 The Nursing Center at Little Creek
 Sam Grubb
 Life Care Center of Athens
 Marilyn DePew
 Life Care Center of Blount County
 Nancy Byrum
 The Lodge at Wood Village

Meetings

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will meet on Sunday, August 14th at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited. Breakfast will be served.



Board of Trustees

The Trustees will meet on Monday, August 8th at 6 PM in the conference room.

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 9th at 6 PM in the fellowship hall.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will meet on Sunday, August 21st at 11:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided



Youth Fellowship

The United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM.

Choir Practice

The chancel choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM.

Cub Scouts Den 100, and Scouts BSA Troop 10

The **Cub Scouts** will start meeting again when school starts. For questions, please call Leona Layman at 423-462-4024. The **Scouts BSA** meet at 7 PM on Mondays in the Community Room.

Watch your e-mail and the bulletins for more info/reminders on these meetings. ANY CHANGES WILL BE REFLECTED LIVE ON THE CALENDAR AT 1umcm.com

August 2022

Happy Birthday!

- 4 Sydney Black
- 7 James Cox
Josh Watkins
- 9 Lily Maiuri
- 10 Mark Radosevich
- 12 Chad Chester
- 15 Reign Rivers
- 18 Larry Davis
- 19 Timothy Rapping
- 20 Myles & Tate Avett
- 24 Joan Holland
Sarah Kyle
- 25 Donna Wengert
- 28 Lois Green

- 1 Alfred &Carolynn
Greenwood
- 2 John & Heather Houvenagle
- 8 Bob & GG Marshall
- 10 Mark & Debbie Radosevich
- 14 Chad & Margaret Chester
- 19 Bruce & Judy Christopher
- 24 David & Mary Kefauver

Happy Anniversary

Are we missing your name?

We would like to hear from you if your name is left off of the birthday or anniversary lists. Please call or text the office at (423) 442-2471 or email rbeaubien@firstumcmadisonville.org.

Please leave a message if we are not there to let us know when your birthday or anniversary is.

August 2022

OFFICIAL Calendar with up-to-date Updates /Changes

@ 1umcm.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Scouts BSA 7 PM Comm. Rm	2	3 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	4 Freida Naylor Celebration of Life 10 AM—Columbarium	5 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	6 Private Event— 11 AM Fellowship Hall
7 In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM	8 Trustees 6 PM, Conference. Rm Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Community. Room	9 Lion's Club Eye Exams 8:30 AM—12 Noon Community Room Finance Committee 6 PM, Fellowship Hall	10 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	11	12 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	13 Madisonville High School Reunion Class of '62 12 Noon Fellowship Hall
14 UMM Breakfast 9 AM Fellowship hall In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM	15 Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Comm. Rm	16 Lion's Club Eye Exams 8:30 AM—12 Noon Community Room	17 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	18	19 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	20
21 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM - Sanctuary UMW 11:45 AM - Fellowship Hall	22 Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	23	24 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM Coffee, Dessert & Difficult Discussions 7 PM Fellowship Hall	25	26 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	27
28 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM - Sanctuary	29 Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	30	31 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM			



First
United
Methodist
Church
Madisonville
Tennessee

143 College Street
Mailing Address:
P O Box 157
Madisonville, TN 37354
Phone/Text: (423) 442-2471
1umcm.com



Firstumcmadisonville



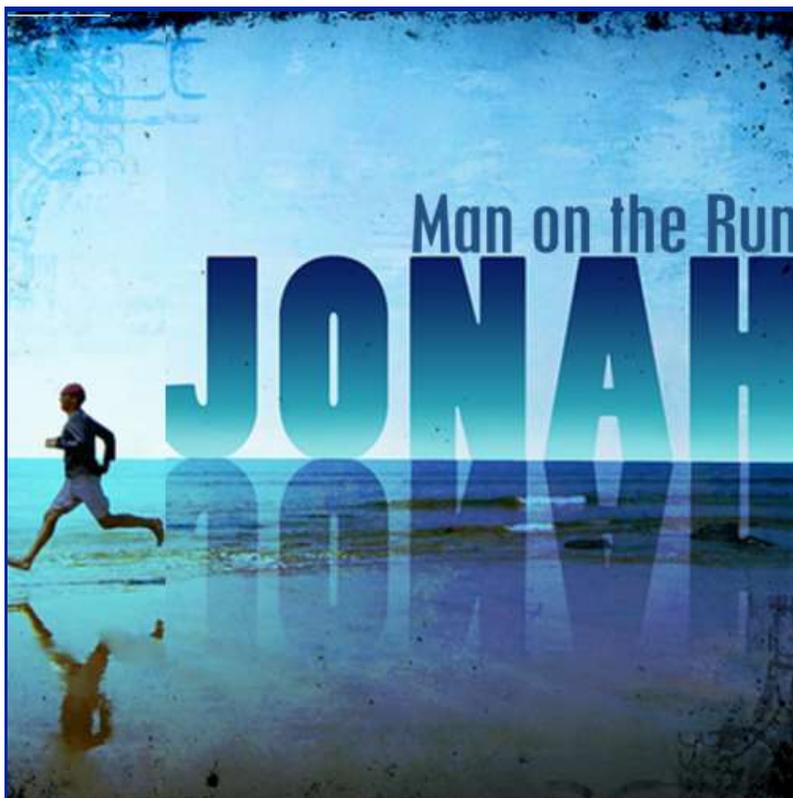
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August Sermon Series:

During the month of August Rev. Chris Black will offer a 4 week sermon series on the book of Jonah called Man on the Run: Jonah. We will take a deep dive into this classic Old Testament story that is so often used only for children's Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, or Children's Time lessons. Each Sunday we will be looking at some of the more mature themes and wisdom from this unique story, and consider how it can help deepen our relationship with God. We hope you will join us for in person worship or online. Here is the schedule of scripture readings that Chris will be preaching from this month.

August 7th: Jonah 1:1-10

August 14th: Jonah 1:11-2:10

August 21st: Jonah 3

August 28th: Jonah 4