

# THE FLAME



**OUR WORSHIP TIMES:**

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

## THE MASTER’S LESSON ON PRAYER



The newspaper headlines were captivating — “KILLER: ‘GOD TOLD ME TO HAVE FUN’.” The article explained the headline, telling readers that convicted killer Michael Dale St. Clair told an Oklahoma reporter that God always rode along with him, and that God told him to have all the fun he could.

Is this possible? Could God have guided this convicted killer to escape from prison in Oklahoma, and go on a crime spree? The answer, without question, is NO!! The God of the Bible, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, would NEVER lead a convicted killer to escape from prison, and commit more crimes. Perhaps *some* ‘god’ had spoken to him — the god of evil, the Devil, or the ‘god’ of his selfish, destructive ego. Perhaps this was the same ‘god’ that Dylann Roof was listening to when he shot and killed nine people at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, a few years ago.

In these days of a Coronavirus pandemic, with many businesses closed or doing reduced work, many people out of work, and our attempts to reduce passage of this insidious virus have turned out to be insufficient, we get increasingly frustrated with circumstances, and wonder what can help us in this time of uncertainty and struggles.

Jesus set the Example for us — in difficult times, and in easy times — PRAY!! He has taught us that we can speak to God, and that God can speak to us, but honestly, without a lot of nonsense. Jesus taught us a Formula for prayer — all of our prayers, in what we call “the Lord’s Prayer.” Jesus taught us several major things about prayer:

FIRST — That God comes first in our prayers — (Matthew 6:9-10.) Look at what Jesus tells us to call the one, true God — Jesus said that our God is like a Father! He is our Heavenly Father!!

Jesus also taught us to pray for God's Kingdom — We are to pray that God’s rule over earth and over every heart and mind will come soon!

Then, Jesus taught us to pray for God’s will — Pray that God will perform His will — that His goals and desires will come true in our lives. There is also the implication that we will trust and obey God’s will for our lives.

Jesus also taught us to pray for our basic needs — food (bread), and undoubtedly all of our other basic needs (clothing, shelter, work), for ourselves and our loved ones and friends. We can note that Jesus encouraged us to pray for our NEEDS, not our WANTS.

The last, but not least, of our prayer concerns, according to Jesus’ teaching, is to ask God to forgive us of our sins, and to forgive others of their sins against us. Jesus explained that, if we are not willing to forgive others for their wrongs and sins against us, how can we expect God to forgive us of

*(Pastor, Continued on page 2)*

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**Rev. Keith Knight**  
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**Reba Hall**  
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Pianist  
**Beverly Taylor**

Organist  
**Mary Alice Huff**

Youth Leaders  
**Jerry & Vanessa Barr**  
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Nursery Attendants  
**Haley Allen**  
**Roger McNeece**

Custodians  
**James & Kim Cox**



**Inside This Issue:**

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A different August!!

It is August and what a different August it is! Usually we are making plans to gear up our IGNITE program for the fall. Usually our youth are coming back from vacations, the mission trip and finishing up summer jobs. Usually I would have chosen a Christmas cantata by this time and the choir would have practiced a song or two from it. As we all know, these are not usual times, but we as a church continue to move forward in all the ways that we can.

I know that we all want things to get back to normal. We want to be back in worship together as a church family. We want to get together on Wednesday night and have choir practice. We want to visit with each other and go out to eat together. We want our kids and teachers to go back to school and to not have to worry about getting sick. We want everyone to be safe. We pray for that day!

Right now we are still on hold about opening up for worship services. Our virus numbers in Monroe County and the area are going up—very quickly! Monroe County had 75 new cases for the week ending July 26. I emailed those of you with emails a copy of THE CALL dated July 18. In it was an article about reopenings. With the increase in cases of Covid 19, UM churches that had reopened in counties that have had increasing numbers of cases have had to close again. Our District Superintendents have been charged with the task of monitoring the numbers in all their counties and closing churches in a county if the numbers go over a certain point. They have been given a specific monitoring tool. Churches in McMinn, Bradley and Rhea County that were open were closed again, and Monroe County churches that were open were closed again this past week. Sweetwater UMC was scheduled for in house worship

We Are the Church!

on July 26<sup>th</sup> but was given the word not to open. Everything has been decided and done in order to protect people.

Right now we will continue to have online services on Sunday morning. We will submit a reopening plan to our District Superintendent that will be for when we think we can safely reopen. The plan must be approved by our D. S. Rev. Hugh Kilgore.

Please continue to support our church in any way that you can. Pray for our church. Call members or send cards just to let them know they are being thought of. Pray for our teachers and students as they return to school. Remember that THE CHURCH IS NOT THE BUILDING. THE CHURCH IS THE PEOPLE.

Hoping to see all of you soon.

Sue



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*(Pastor, Continued from page 1)*

the far greater wrongs and sins we have committed against God? By contrast, if we forgive others for their sins against us, we have demonstrated to God that we understand how hard it is to forgive someone who cannot or will not repay us for the injury done to us, but that we nevertheless will forgive them. That shows God that we realize that it has cost God far more than we will ever know, for God to forgive us of our sins and wrongdoings.

The Lord's Prayer teaches us to ask for God's Will to take place in our lives, and reminds us that God's Will for us is always that good, pleasing, and perfect Will of the One who created us, and loves us with a perfect, unconditional and immeasurable love. Let us daily pray to the Creator and Savior who will hear our prayers, will act on our prayers, and will spread His love through us, every day.

Let us join together in Spirit, this Sunday!

*Keith G. Knight*



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

The **Building Fund** in memory of:

**Jim Pennington** by:

Peter & Jill Alliman  
 John Summitt & Joan Holland  
 Miranda Johnson  
 Jeff & Beth Lewis  
 Mary Alice Huff  
 Blair & Linda Clements  
 Floyd Reedy  
 Allen & Karen Balsinger  
 Allan & Sharon Benton  
 Barbara Penland  
 Patsy Carson  
 Lois Green  
 Jeffrey & Stephanie Schmitter  
 Regina Warfel  
 Art & Penelope Fowler  
 Jerry & Tammy Hooper  
 Braxton & Lyndie Cotton  
 David & Mary Kefauver  
 Wayne & Lucille Peery  
 Blair & Linda Clements  
 Tom & Mary Hendershot  
 Jane Frerichs  
 Mary Giles Ritchie  
 Steve & Kathleen Cornett  
 Kevin & Bev Taylor

**Alan Johnson** by:

Peter & Jill Alliman  
 Carol Bourlard  
 Floyd Reedy  
 Mara Harvey  
 Miranda Johnson  
 Allan & Sharon Benton  
 Barbara Pennington  
 Sam & Kay Grubb  
 Steve & Kathleen Cornett  
 Kevin & Bev Taylor

**David Michael Beaubien** by:

Reba Hall  
 Kevin & Bev Taylor

**Joe Penland** by:

Carol Bourlard

**Ted Hall** by:

Carol Bourlard

The **General Fund** in memory of:

**Jim Pennington** by:

Jan Johnson

**David Michael Beaubien** by:

Marlee Tierce

The **Memorial Garden Fund** in memory of:

**Alan Johnson** by Pat Rapking

**Jim Pennington** by Pat Rapking

In the month of **June** a donation was made to the **Building Fund** in memory of **J. Alan Johnson** by Roger & Laurie McNeece and inadvertently left out of the July newsletter.



The **General Fund** in honor of **Richard Beaubien** by Bruce & Judy Christopher

The **Building Fund** in honor of **Sue Hamilton** by Mara Harvey



## Happy Birthday

- 5 Kevin Cornett  
Susan Miley
- 7 John Byrum  
Josh Watkins
- 10 Mark Radosevich
- 12 Keith Knight  
Chad Chester  
Mikayla Hamilton
- 14 Gene Carson
- 15 Rose Barker
- 18 Corey Taylor  
Larry Davis
- 19 Tim Rapking
- 20 Andrew Tallent
- 21 Robert Scott
- 24 Sarah Kile
- 25 Donna Wengert
- 27 Joan Holland
- 28 Lois Green

## Happy Anniversary

- 1 Alfred & Carolyn Greenwood
- 2 John & Heather Houvenagle
- 11 Howard & Pat Harvey
- 14 Margaret & Chad Chester
- 19 Bruce & Judy Christopher
- 22 Charlie & Charlotte Lee
- 24 David & Mary Kefauver

### **Are we missing your name?**

We would like to hear from you if we are.

Please email the office at [adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org](mailto:adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org) or call 423-442-2471.

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



## BIBLE SCHOOL 2020

Bible School 2020 was definitely different. This year there were no children dancing and singing in our sanctuary. There were no supper meals and snacks. There were no outside recreation games. BUT WE DID HAVE BIBLE SCHOOL and the theme was *Compassion Camp!* The format was different, but we had story time, crafts, songs, and a lesson that brought the activities of the evening together. We had prayer time and we had fun. We had Bible School for 5 Wednesday nights in July through Zoom. The children learned a lot about having compassion for family, friends and neighbors.



Zoom is something new to many of us. It has been used many, many times since March. It is a way of connecting on line with groups of people and doing meetings and activities. It was a great way for us to have Bible School this summer. We want to thank our friends at Madisonville Presbyterian Church for putting things together so our two groups of children could have Bible School. Before the first session we delivered or some parents picked up the material that the children would need to participate. Almost all of our children participated and had a great time. We did miss being together at church and having Bible School for children, youth and adults and for the community. We hope that by next year we will be able to have a more traditional Bible School, but Bible School 2020 was definitely a success!



Mia Barr preparing and displaying her yard sign, one of the VBS crafts.



**Wednesday Night  
Covered Dish Suppers**

Dear Church Family,



As I write this note, I am feeling the loss of the comfort that I receive from

our church family that is generated when we have met each month for our Wednesday night church covered dish suppers. There are times, I must admit, when I get a little bit frustrated when it is difficult to get helpers to set up and clean up on these Wednesday nights. I have had to ask God for forgiveness at times when I have had these thoughts. I know that these suppers are very important times of fellowship for our folks. We have some who help almost every month and I truly appreciate their willingness to help. I want to thank all those who have helped in the past and I want them to know that I love them. I know that many of our church folks help in other ways such as providing food when needed, rides to appointments and the grocery store, doing maintenance work inside and outside the church, saying prayers and offering a helping hand in many other ways. Your love for our congregation and family and friends is beyond measure. Thank you for making strangers feel welcome. Thank you for showing love to your fellow man.

Let me get back to our suppers. We will not be able to meet together in August. I pray that this bump in our smooth road will be cleared and we can come together again soon and enjoy each others' wonderful food and company. I will rejoice when we are together again.

Love and Prayers,  
Dora Nelson

**Tuesday Night  
Community Dinner**

The dinners at the Presbyterian Church have started back up. It will be a simpler menu than

**Free Community Dinner**



was served before. The guests will drive up and a carry out meal will be delivered to their vehicle.

Our date to serve is Tuesday Sept 15, 2020. We can still choose what we serve but having most of the food items prepackaged will be most helpful. We will need prepackaged fruit, dessert, drinks and snack items. We will have a full list in next month's newsletter. If you are out and want to purchase any of these items ahead, they can be dropped off at the church. As time gets closer we will get the message out about helpers and definite food items needed.

THANK YOU to all the people who have helped provide food items and helped serve on our past rotations. A special THANK YOU to a church member who donates \$\$ throughout the year to help provide the main entree. It certainly helps to have these \$\$ to rely on.

May God continue to bless the generosity of our Church Family. Serving dinner to those less fortunate than us makes a difference in Body, Mind and Soul.

Thanks again,  
Kay Grubb and Dora Nelson



## Contact Info

We are working in the church office more and more. If you can't reach us there please call or email us at the numbers/email addresses listed below:

For Pastoral needs - Please call Pastor Keith at 865-803-2547 or email him at [keith\\_knight@aol.com](mailto:keith_knight@aol.com).

For Prayer requests - Please call Sue at 423-337-1830 or email her at [sue@firstumcmadisonville.org](mailto:sue@firstumcmadisonville.org). Let her know your praises also so we can all rejoice with you.

For other needs - Please call Reba at 423-442-2471 (office), 423-519-6628 (cell) or email her at [adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org](mailto:adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org).

If we do not answer our phone - leave a message - we will call you back.



## Holidays

Why are there no Federal Holidays in August?

I could not find any reason—there just aren't any! But—there are a lot of special days and even each week has as theme.

I have listed the themes for each week on the calendar on page 9. That made me think. If we really try to follow these themes all month long what a better place our town, our country, and our world will be.

There are many things celebrated each day in August. I will be sharing my thoughts about some of them each week when I send out my "Thought for the Day and Announcements" each week.

Let's try this and see if we can make a difference!

*Reba*

## Thank You

Dear Members of First United Methodist Church of Madisonville,



Thank you for your thoughts and prayers for our family. Our loss is great, our sorrow profound. But we know dad will live on in our hearts.

We certainly weren't prepared to lose dad so quickly, as he had just seen his oncologist four days prior to his hospitalization and was told everything looked good with his assessment and lab work. But we know God will bring us to Him when He is ready for us.

Whenever your regular letters of comfort and scripture arrive, they are amazingly perfect for our current circumstanced. They always lifts our spirit! Your cards with words of comfort were so appreciated and helpful, as we cope with our grief. Thank you for staying in touch with my mom during this difficult time.

We have such happy memories of dad and our

times with you. We love you all dearly. Thank you for being so special.

Love, Michele & Bill Russell Family  
(Gene & Carol Boulard's daughter)

The Family of Jim Pennington wishes to thank our friends at First United Methodist Church for the support and kindness that they have shown to us. The prayers for our family meant so much and will help in going forward. Through Christ we give thanks for the love of friends.

Barbara Pennington

To my Church Family,

Thank you so much for your kind generosity. What I've done for the Church is entirely out of love for it.

This meant so very much to me.

Again, my gratitude,  
Richard Beaubien

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

### Good Shepherd Center

The needs at The Good Shepherd Center at this time are - -

- ◆ canned pasta products
- ◆ fruit cups

Donations for the GSC may be delivered to them Monday – Thursday, 10AM – Noon. If you cannot deliver to them during these hours you can drop your donations at the church any time. There is a blue tote at the front entrance to the church to put them in.



### Spending Your Spare Time

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

- used candles and yarn leftovers for Camp Wesley Woods
- empty prescription bottles for the animal shelter or other organizations who use them
- 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 or other organizations
- Box Tops for Education—either cut the coupons from the package or scan your receipt for the new digital coupons
- aluminum cans—proceeds from sale will benefit our children's programs (There is a barrel for them at the front entrance of the church.)

### Building/Property Maintenance

We have several people who have worked diligently to maintain our church building and grounds and the parsonage and grounds. I will not try to list them all—I don't want to leave anyone out. Just know that your church family truly appreciates all that you do.

If you are not one of those people who have worked on our property and grounds but are willing and able to help, please contact Mike Tallent, Trustees Chairperson, (423-253-7540) and offer your assistance.

Thank you again, your Church Family

### August Special Offering

Holston United Methodist Home for Children provides hope and healing for a brighter future by sharing the love of Jesus with children and families struggling with life's challenges.

The special offering for August is for **Holston United Methodist Home for Children**. Each month that has five Sundays we collect a special offering for the ministry of **HHC**.

Please prayerfully consider what you will give this month to support their work. You may send your donations in any time during the month.



### Blessing Box

If anyone wants to help keep the box filled, we welcome your assistance with things like:

- canned food with pull tabs
- socks
- crackers
- toilet paper
- non-perishable foods
- bottled water
- small snacks
- baby wipes
- toiletries such as: bath soap, deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes

The **Son Seekers** Sunday School class sends our thanks to all who are supporting this project by their donations to help us keep it stocked.



## Our Prayers

### **Our Active Military Personnel**

Nathan Greenwood—US Navy  
 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:**

Mary Margaret Mason—Wood Village,  
 Sweetwater  
 Judy Lee—Northshore Heights, Knoxville  
 Edna Bonifacius—Asbury Place, Maryville  
 Gerri Benton—Wood Village Assisted Living,  
 Sweetwater  
 Steve Cavett—River Oaks, Room 307, Loudon  
 Pat & Howard Harvey—Wood Village Assisted  
 Living, Sweetwater  
 Shirley Nappier (Harold Hunt's mother-in-law)  
 Ouachita Health Care  
 Becky Chester—NHC, Farragut

### **On-going Prayer Concerns:**

|                    |                                      |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sharon Amundson    | Barbara Roberson                     |
| Catherine Ashton   | Donna Roberson                       |
| Barbara Baiz       | Meredith Robinson                    |
| Charles Baker      | Catherine Reed                       |
| Janet Bales        | Paul Robbins                         |
| Wanda Barger       | Maria Rosian                         |
| Steve Berrong      | A. J. Ruggiero                       |
| Susan M Blalock    | Susan Sherrer                        |
| Nancy Byrum        | Tonya Wells Spires                   |
| Gene Carson        | John Stratton                        |
| Jane Daily         | Todd Strickland                      |
| Greg Davis         | Mike Summitt                         |
| Marilyn DePew      | Emma Tate                            |
| Debbie Denton      | Debbie Tucker                        |
| Tony Ellison       | Alexander Wade                       |
| Courtney Farmer    | Faye Watson                          |
| Marjorie Fezlar    | Bill & Jo West                       |
| John H Ford        | Peggy White                          |
| Tammy George       | Selena Wiggs                         |
| Mable Graham       | Eli Zinck                            |
| Clifton Greenwood  | Wendy and Rick Garland               |
| Richard Hall       | Christine Hendricks and<br>son-Randy |
| Ashley Harmon      | The Leamon family                    |
| Betty Hicks        | Margaret & Bob Marshall              |
| Bill Huddleston    | Mary Margaret and<br>Dickie Mason    |
| Brad Hughes        | Sandy & Mike O'Neill                 |
| Dr Bob Hunt        | Dwaine & Carolyn Peters              |
| Logan Hunt         | The Drew Teague family               |
| Peggy Hyatt        | Joyce & Dick Turner                  |
| Virginia Jacobs    | Michael and Becky<br>Wacaster        |
| Jan Johnson        | Curwood Witt & family                |
| Pauline Kauffman   |                                      |
| Gay Layne          |                                      |
| Irad Lee           |                                      |
| Doug Lottes        |                                      |
| Mckinzie           |                                      |
| Doris Melton       |                                      |
| Susan Miley        |                                      |
| Christopher Miller |                                      |
| Freida Naylor      |                                      |
| Maria Nelson       |                                      |
| Mary Nelson        |                                      |
| Norman Nelson      |                                      |
| Barbara Pennington |                                      |
| Kristin Pennington |                                      |
| Linda Plemons      |                                      |
| Bill Poole         |                                      |
| Carol Rapping      |                                      |

### Our Gifts

#### For July

#### General Operating Fund:

Needed: \$20,862 Rec'd: \$ 17,388

#### Building Fund:

Needed: \$4,034 Rec'd: \$ 8,660

Memorial Fund: \$ 1,050

Designated: \$ 600

### Our Presence

#### Online Streamed Worship Service

Average for the month

Views— 95

Registered— 50

### Our Commitments

For August . . . .

. . . .will be announced when we are meeting again, either outside or in our sanctuary.





# August 2020

| SUN                                                                                                        | MON                                        | TUE                                       | WED                        | THU | FRI | SAT    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| 2<br><b>Online Worship</b> 11 AM at lumcm.com—we will be observing Holy Communion                          | 3                                          | 4                                         | 5<br>UMYF Zoom at 6:30 PM  | 6   | 7   | 1<br>8 |
| National Simplify your Life Week                                                                           |                                            |                                           |                            |     |     |        |
| 9<br><b>Online Worship</b> 11 AM at lumcm.com                                                              | 10<br><b>Trustees</b> 6 PM In the Youth Rm | 11<br><b>Finance Comm</b> 6 PM Phone Conf | 12<br>UMYF Zoom at 6:30 PM | 13  | 14  | 15     |
| National Smile Week                                                                                        |                                            |                                           |                            |     |     |        |
| 16<br><b>Online Worship</b> 11 AM at lumcm.com                                                             | 17                                         | 18                                        | 19<br>UMYF Zoom at 6:30 PM | 20  | 21  | 22     |
| National Friendship Week                                                                                   |                                            |                                           |                            |     |     |        |
| 23<br><b>Online Worship</b> 11 AM at lumcm.com                                                             | 24                                         | 25                                        | 26<br>UMYF Zoom at 6:30 PM | 27  | 28  | 29     |
| National Be Kind to Humankind Week                                                                         |                                            |                                           |                            |     |     |        |
| 30<br><b>Online Worship</b> 11 AM at lumcm.com<br><b>5th Sunday Offering for Holston Home for children</b> | 31                                         |                                           |                            |     |     |        |



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[https://twitter.com/  
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First United Methodist Church  
Madisonville, TN



## **ELECTRONIC GIVING**

**If you would like to give electronically**

**GO TO [1umcm.com](http://1umcm.com)  
click on ONLINE GIVING**

**ONE-TIME GIFTS** are simple to set up using a bank account, or from a debit or credit card.

**RECURRING GIFTS** can be set up on a schedule that works for you,  
with flexibility to track and manage your giving pattern.

**By setting up a bank transfer from your checking or savings accounts,  
approximately **3%** more of your gift will go to ministry compared to a credit/debit card transaction.**

**FOR ASSISTANCE**, please call Reba Hall at 423-442-2471.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**