

The Flame

From the Pastor's desk . . .

As we enter May I am reminded of all the transitions that traditionally take place during this month, especially for many of our young people. We will have graduations, and the end of another school year for teachers and administrators. Some of our parents will be making the shift toward summer childcare, and many youth will be starting summer jobs. It can be a fun time as we shift from the unpredictable weather of spring to the promise of the warmer days of summer. This month we have some fun things planned here at the church including our First UMC at the Movies Sermon Series. But in the midst of all the fun, and all our transitions I want to invite you to take a moment to reflect on your own personal mission as a disciple of Jesus Christ. As I was doing my devotion for this week I came across the familiar story of Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 from the gospel of Mark, chapter 6:

"As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?" And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men."



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

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In this scripture we see the disciples encouraging Jesus to send away the crowd that had gathered to hear him, so that they could get some food for themselves. Jesus responds to his disciples by saying, "You give them something to eat." Every time I read this I am always struck by how Jesus reacts immediately to the people's needs. In this statement we see Jesus trying to respond to people's needs as they come. As I read my devotion I found myself thinking about how I respond to other's needs when they are presented to me. Do I respond by immediately seeking to fill the need? Or am I tempted to protest with an excuse? As I thought about this I was reminded of a quote by Mother Teresa from the book A Simple Path, "We are all God's children so it is important to share God's gifts. Do not worry about why problems exist in the world—just respond to people's needs." In our passage Jesus responds immediately, despite the disciples protesting by saying, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?"

Even though the disciples can only find five loaves and two fish to offer, Jesus divides them up for all who are gathered, blesses the food, and disperses it amongst the people. The text then tells us that, And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.

What exactly happened between the dispersing of the food, the eating, and the gathering of the leftovers? Did Christ offer a miracle and multiply everything to feed everyone? Or did everyone in the crowd, seeing Christ bless and share what little they had, decide to offer the provisions they had for their journey to the lakeshore?

No matter what happened, we see clearly that Christ acted at once to address the needs of the people before him, and to provide for them.

Are there ways that you could act with more immediacy, intention, and even boldness to help someone in need this month? I hope you'll join me as we enter May in considering at least one new way that you could be a provider to someone who has a need around you, and then boldly act on those thoughts. I look forward to seeing you in Sunday worship or around the church.

Lots of Hope!

Chris

Sue's News—May 2022

I am writing this for the newsletter on the day after our choir presented the Easter cantata One Day. I hope that the words and music meant as much to you as it did to our accompanists, the choir and me as we presented from our hearts yesterday. We began working on this cantata in 2020 before the pandemic began. We did not have choir practice for many months during the worst of the pandemic. Our dear bass Alan Johnson passed away in May 2020. Our faithful tenor Art Fowler (and Penelope) moved to Knoxville. A few choir folks "retired" because of health reasons. All these losses left holes in our choir that we can never fill. When we started in person worship in the spring of 2021, the choir did not immediately regroup in full force. People (for good reason) were somewhat hesitant to sit close together in worship much less sing out when close together. We gradually built back to up to almost full strength. We did a Christmas cantata in December 2021 and it was a great feeling to be back pretty much in full strength again. Our faithful choir members were back in place. Since the pandemic we have added new members—Marlee, Charlie, Duane, John and Nathan. Then, a few weeks ago, we lost Bruce for several weeks and for the presentation when he broke his foot and couldn't get out of the house to come to church. Yesterday's presentation was a very special day for our choir because we finally

were able to present One Day in its entirety with a full choir. We felt good! (And Bruce and Judy were able to be at church!) It will be time sooner than you think to begin to work on our Christmas cantata, and we work on music for Sunday services every week. We would love for you to join our choir and be a part of this church ministry. This edition of The Flame is full of information about upcoming events and services. Keep it handy throughout the month. Watch the website.

See you in church.

Sue



Who Are They???

He has lived in Madisonville all of his life and she grew up in Loudon County and moved to Madisonville after college. She graduated from Hiwassee College and they both graduated from UT. He is a retired pharmacist and she worked as a 4 H agent for several years. They have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. He played soccer in high school. She is an excellent cake decorator and cook. They are very active in our church. Who are they?

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

1st UMC Fiesta FUNd-raiser

Mark your calendar for another FUNd-raising event here at First UMC.



You're invited to a Fiesta in the fellowship hall after worship on May 22nd. There will be a taco bar, nacho bar, desserts and drinks. Even vegetarians will find plenty to eat. The cost is only \$2.00 per person/children 3 and under free. Your \$2.00 ticket will allow you to



enter in the drawing for some really cool door prizes (pictures of some are shown here) - most of which have been donated by members of our congregation. You must be present at time of

drawing to be eligible to win. These door prizes will appeal to both adults and children, so come make this a family affair.

This is a fund-raising event, and we hope you will open your heart, wal-



let/ checkbook, and donate more than the price of a ticket. All proceeds and donation will go to Isaiah 117 House.



Even if you don't like tacos, come enjoy a dessert and a glass of iced tea, and support this worthy cause!

Moments from Easter & Holy Week

We had a rich and beautiful Holy Week/Easter as a church family! Here are a few snapshots from last month.



“First UMC at the Movies” Sermon Series this Month!

During the month of May, the Rev. Chris Black will be offering a unique and fun sermon series entitled “First UMC at the Movies.” Each Sunday during worship we will look at themes from different films (or series) and relate them to our own life of discipleship.

Our conversations will be deeply rooted in scripture but will also feature some movie scenes as well. Below is the list of films we will be talking about during our series. (This is so you can watch them for the first time, or re-watch them to get ready for church!)

May 1st: Star Wars (A New Hope)

May 8th: The Lion King

May 15th: Mary Poppins

May 22nd: Field of Dreams

May 29th: Heroes: Where Wonder Woman meets Indiana Jones

Coffee with the Pastor for our visitors



Rev. Chris Black invites all those who have been visiting our church in worship, or those who have thought about

becoming members, to join him for a coffee (or tea, soda or even water!) and conversation in our church conference room at 9 a.m. on Sunday, May 22nd. This will be an informal time where you may chat with Chris to learn more about our church, its ministries, our mission, and what it means to become a member. Even if you aren't ready to join yet, this will be a wonderful time where you can learn more about our unique United Methodist faith community, and ask Chris any questions you may have. If you want more information about this conversation feel free to email Chris—cblack@firstumcmadisonville.org

Graduate Reception

On Sunday morning May 8th we will honor our high school graduates with a reception in the gathering area beginning at 9:30 AM. This year we have 8 graduates—Merritt Sherrer and Jaxon Pfrogner (Tellico Plains High School), Cooper Strickland, Cole Strickland and Nathan Ruppel (Sequoyah High School), Kayana Donegan (Clinton High School), Elise Kile (Loudon High School) and Alexis Kagley (Penn Foster). This is our chance to tell these fine young people how proud we are of them. Join us on May 8th beginning at 9:30 AM!



2022

We Support our Church By:

Our Service

Trustee

The Trustee for the month of April is Ray Nelson. 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 423-442-2036. She has the schedule and will be happy to hear from you.

All Sundays for May are covered, except for May 29th .

Our Gifts

For April, 2022

General Operating Fund:

Needed: \$21,920 **Rec'd:** \$ 22,253

Building Fund:

Needed: \$4,084 **Rec'd:** \$ 4,818

Memorial Fund: \$ 900

Designated: \$ 1,319

Our Presence

Worship Service

Average for April, 2022

In person - 103

Online - 10

Memorials & Honors

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

The **Building Fund** in memory of:

Christine Hendricks from:

Alfred & Carolynn Greenwood
John Summitt & Joan Holland
Wayne & Lucille Peery

Faye Watson from:

Regina Warfel
Alfred & Carolynn Greenwood
Bill & Kathy Garner
John Summitt & Joan Holland
Wayne & Lucille Peery
Barbara Penland
Mary Giles Ritchie
Floyd Reedy
Mike & Gabi Tallent

The **General Fund** in memory of:

Christine Hendricks from:

Charles & Phyllis Harrell

Faye Watson from:

Todd & Lee Anne Strickland

The Pastor's Community Assistance Fund in memory of:

Paul Huff from Mary Alice Huff

Ward and Gordon Families from Tim & Laura Ward

Paul Robbins/Frank Tweed from Steve & Janet Tweed

Nathan Donegan, Tee Gregg & Lucas

Chermely from Peter & Jill Alliman

Kay Grubb from Ray & Dora Nelson

Martha Russell Johnson from Lawrence Johnson

George Radosevich from Mike & Deb Radosevich

Mahala Ruppel from Edmond & Janet Ruppel

Faye Watson from Roger & Laurie McNeece

The Pastor's Community Assistance Fund in honor of:

Family & Friends from Ray & Dora Nelson

Janet Tweed from Laurie McNeece

We Support Our Church By Our Prayers

On-going Prayer Concerns:

Jim Bromwell
 Sharon Torbett Allmon
 Pat Rapking & Family
 John Maiuri & Family
 Allen Reedy
 Dustin & Becky Seay
 Lee Anne Perry
 Family of Christine Hendricks
 Family of Faye Watson
 Sandra Coleman
 Wanda Stephens
 Joe Alan Johnson
 Joe Grubb
 Scott Turney
 Fred Schwartz
 Dr. Mike McCoy
 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)
 Brad Hughes
 Lonnie Allmon (Karen Rapking's co-worker)
 Carl (Kathy Isbill's brother)
 Maria Nelson
 Valerie Stratton (Dora Nelson's sister-in-law)
 Mable Graham
 Barbara Raper
 Kat Ahart
 Barbara Baiz
 Karen Balsinger
 Nancy Byrum
 Bob Carl
 Joseph Certo
 Roger Green
 Betty Hicks
 Gay Layne
 Freida Naylor
 Maria Nelson
 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 Rapking
 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
NHC Farragut
 Sam Grubb
Life Care Center of Athens
 Marilyn DePew
Life Care Center of Blount County

Dora Nelson has asked that a very special "Thank You" be extended to all who helped make the recent Community Café event at the Presbyterian Church such a success, and since the editor of this publication loves Ms. Dora and everything she does for this church, here it is:

Thank You!

Meetings

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will meet on Sunday, May 8th at 9:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.



All men of the church are invited. Breakfast will be served. For more information I can be contacted at (423) 210-0992 Mark Radosevich, President

Board of Trustees

The Trustees will meet on Monday, May 9th at 7 PM in the conference room.

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 10th at 7 PM in the fellowship hall.



United
Methodist
Women

United Methodist Women
Due to scheduling issues, the **United Methodist Women** have decided to NOT meet in the month of May. More info will be available soon.

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** meet on Monday evenings at 6 PM on our lower level. For questions, please call Leona Layman at 423-462-4024. The **Scouts BSA** meet at 7 PM 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

May 2022

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Elizabeth Benton |
| 2 | Lee Anne Strickland |
| 5 | Bev Taylor |
| 7 | Britney Williford |
| 10 | Todd Strickland |
| 11 | Jill Alliman |
| 13 | Lucille Peery |
| 22 | Steve Cornett |
| 25 | Pat Rapking |
| 26 | Samantha Kadau |
| 27 | Jon Grubb |
| 30 | Hannah Harrell |
| 31 | Ben Barger |

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 16 | Kevin & Sarah Kile |
| 27 | Blair & Linda Clements |
| 29 | David & Jackie Hargett |
| | Harold & Carolyn Hunt |
| 30 | Shane & Megan Cavett |

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.

May 2022

OFFICIAL Calendar with up-to-date Updates /Changes
 @ 1umcm.com



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM	2 Cub Scouts 6 PM Downstairs Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	3	4 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	5	6 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	7
8 UMM Breakfast 9 AM Fellowship hall HS Graduate Reception 9:30 AM Gathering area In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM	9 Trustees 6 PM, Conference Rm Cub Scouts 6 PM Downstairs Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	10 Lion's Club Eye Exams 8:30 AM—12 Noon Community Room Finance Committee 6 PM, Fellowship Hall	11 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	12	13 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	14
15 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM Faye Watson's Celebration of Life 2:00 PM, Sanctuary	16 Cub Scouts 6 PM 1st Floor Scouts BSA 7 PM Comm. Rm Room	17	18 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	19	20 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	21
22 Coffee w/ Pastor 9 AM Conference Rm In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM - Sanctuary Fiesta for Isaiah 117 11:45 AM—Fellowship Hall	23 Cub Scouts 6 PM Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	24	25 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	26	27 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 5:30 PM Community Room	28
29 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM - Sanctuary	30 Cub Scouts 6 PM Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	31				



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2022 Holston Annual Conference Hands-On Mission Project Liberia & Zimbabwe

Hiwassee District: Collecting Health Kits for Liberia— Goal 400 – Drop off date and location TBD
Pack these items in a 2-gallon Zip-Loc bag:

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 2 toothbrushes
- 2 tubes toothpaste (6.4. oz. or less)
- 1 bottle shampoo (15 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle lotion (18 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle roll-on deodorant (4 oz. or less)
- 1 small spray perfume/cologne/body mist (4 oz. or less)

Pack these separately in sandwich-size Zip-Loc bag—
please do NOT put in larger 2-gallon bag:

- 1 tube antibacterial ointment (1 oz.)
- 1 bottle Tylenol/acetaminophen 500mg (24 ct.)



Please include \$ 5.00 per kit to cover the shipping costs to Africa. Please put the money/check for your kits in a separate envelope paper clipped to the Zip-Loc bag — do not put money in the Zip-Loc container itself. There is a plastic tote in the Gathering Area for collection.