

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 . . .

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18)

The month of November is traditionally a time when we are encouraged to give thanks and consider how we have been blessed. During this month we also usually find more time to gather with family and friends to share, eat, and visit. As I thought about all the fun traditions of this month, I was reminded of the verse offered above from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. It encourages us as disciples to adopt a simple path of walking through our daily lives in constant conversation with God, but with gratitude on our hearts and lips. As I thought about this, I was reminded of a quote from the Benedictine monk and author Brother David Steindl-Rast, who said, "It is not happiness that makes us grateful. It's gratefulness that makes us happy." His quote points to the tremendous power that gratitude and thanksgiving can have in our everyday lives and in our relationships with others.



Adam Hamilton in his book, "The Walk," comments on gratitude by saying, "We're not called to give thanks because everything in our lives is going wonderfully. We're called to give thanks because our life itself is a wonderful gift from God. When we pause to recognize this and to give thanks, we find our hearts are uplifted. Gratitude reorients us toward happiness, taking our eyes off of our complaints and focusing instead on the blessings we have received."

This month I hope you can find some daily moments to talk with God, and to find ways to say thank you to God for the blessings in your life, even when things are challenging. This simple path of prayer mixed with gratitude can be a beautiful way to mark the days of November as disciples of Jesus Christ.

I hope you will be on the lookout for opportunities here at the church to pray for one another, to study, to worship, and to be in fellowship together. November is a time in the church year that often previews the deeply rich season of preparation called Advent. This year, Advent will begin on Sunday, November 27th. My hope as your pastor is that the next 2 months will be a time for us to continue to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ together via the simple path offered above. May we grow deeper in love with God and with one another through prayer, and may others come to know about God's love through how we rejoice and give thanks as a church community.

See you around the church!

Chris

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- Youth Leaders
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Sue's News - November 2022

Every time I sit down to write my news for the newsletter I comment on how I can't believe another month has passed. I think October went by twice as fast as it really did. We had 2 different studies taking place—one taught by Pastor Chris and one taught by Marlee Tierce. We had great worship services. Planning for the rest of this year took place and even planning for the year 2023 is now well underway. We finished off October with a wonderful Trunk or Treat event where we know we gave out almost 500 hot dogs and we know that there were many more people than that in attendance. October was a great month.

I am writing this article on November 1. As I said, last night was our big Trunk or Treat event that we had been working toward for several weeks. This morning was a time to put away the things we used last night and move forward. I have been forward calendar looking today and trying to organize in my mind all the special things and events that will be going on during November. Do you realize that Advent begins on Sunday November 27th?! By the time we put out the December newsletter we will already be decorated for Advent/Christmas and that is only a little over 4 weeks away! Our Christmas cantata will be 4 weeks from this coming Sunday on December 4. Our next big community event, Breakfast with Santa, is just a little over 5 weeks away on December 10. Christmas Day will be here before we know it!

Make sure that you stay connected with us so that you will not miss out on anything. Please read your emails and texts and bulletins. Get in the habit of scanning through our church calendar that is on our website 1umcm.com. It is updated often as new events and opportunities are added. November and December are going to be very exciting months at First UMC Madisonville.

Sue



A huge Thank You all who helped make our Trunk or Treat a huge success! Check out some fun pictures here and on page 5!



Advent is coming!



The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27th this year. Followers of Jesus often use the days leading up to Christmas to celebrate and prepare for the coming of

Christ. Our congregation will mark the 4 weeks in Advent leading up to the Christmas season in some very rich, unique, and fun ways both on Sundays and throughout the week. Please be on the lookout for all the ways we will be preparing as a community to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

An Advent Study for Sundays:

The *"Angels of Christmas"* explores the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. In this study, the reader will explore the visits and dive deep into the history of the angel Gabriel and other angels-in the Old Testament. The *Angels of Christmas* uses these four angelic appearances to discuss God's presence in history and our lives today. The messages of the angels hold meaning for listeners both then and now. The study will begin Sunday, November 27th and meet each week after church. Please let Marlee Tierce know if you would like to participate in this study so she can have the books on hand. mtierce@aol.com; 423-884-2196; or let her know at church.

Let's Eat Together!

On Wednesday evening, November 16th we will be having a covered dish dinner at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate Thanksgiving.



This will be a time to gather as a church family, share a meal, and be in fellowship with one an-

other. Bring a dish or two of food to share. Pastor Chris may be bringing a ham or smoking a turkey to share. This dinner should be a wonderful time to be together and offer thanksgiving as a community.

Choir practice will be at 7:20 p.m. this evening.

Sunday November 6th is All Saints Day

Each year on the first Sunday in November, churches around the world name those faithfully departed members who have passed away within the past year. During worship on November 6th we will be honoring the saints of our church, along with the loved ones in our church



family who have passed away. We encourage you to take a moment, read over our list of members who have passed away since we last observed an All Saints Day, and offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their lives.

Faye Watson
Christine Hendricks
Howard Harvey
Beatrice Irwin
Ross Burrus
Freida Naylor

Charge Conference in November

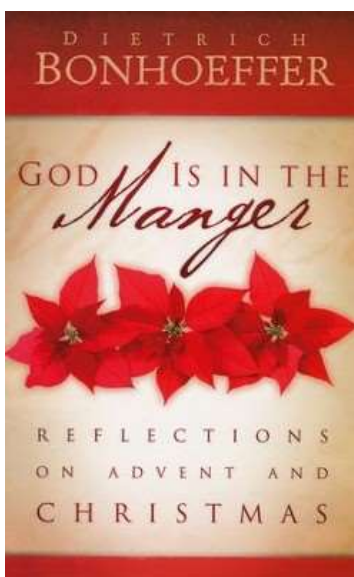
On Sunday afternoon November 6th at 2:00 p.m. our church will be having a Charge Conference in our sanctuary. This is the yearly meeting that our District Superintendent presides over to receive formal missional/ministry reports, and to hold votes on various church business items including (but not limited to) Pastor's compensation and nominated leadership for the upcoming year. The charge conference is one of the unique connectional points
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Continued from page 3.

between the local church and the broader Annual Conference. All are welcome to attend the meeting, but only those in our congregation who are members of the church council or current/retired clergy may vote.

On November 6th we will also be hosting 3 other church leadership teams who will do their charge conferences with us.

Advent Study on Wednesdays



Pastor Chris Black will lead an Advent Study on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. beginning on November 30th. The study will be based on a daily devotional entitled "God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Each week we will explore a different theme, en-

gage with scripture, and reflect on some thoughts and meditations from the pastor & martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This study promises to be a "timeless and moving reminder of the true gift of Christmas." The books are available for order on Amazon or at Cokesbury. The church office will try to have a few copies on hand for purchase depending on availability. If you have questions about the study then please feel free to email Pastor Chris Black at cblack@firstumcmadisonville.org.

Here are the themes for each Advent week:

November 30th: "Waiting"
 December 7th: "Mystery"
 December 14th: "Redemption"
 December 21st: "Incarnation"

Notes from The United Methodist Women



United Methodist Women

The UMW wishes to thank everyone for their generous contributions of school supplies. Those contributions will make the hard work of education—both as a student and a teacher—much easier. For the winter months we will be collecting tissues and latex/nitrile gloves for our schools in Madisonville to be distributed to the schools in much the same way we did the school supplies. These items were specifically requested by some church members working in the county schools.

Also, remember that November 13th is UMW Sunday, and they are putting together a very special program to commemorate the important role of women in the church. We hope to see you there!

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Before you go to bed Saturday night, November 5th, don't forget to set your clocks back an hour! We want you to be on time for church. For those of you who receive our texts we will send out reminder texts on Saturday night.





Our Service

Trustee

Different Trustees will be on duty each week-end for the rest of the year. This Sunday will be Richard Beaubien. 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.

November 6 - Communion Sunday
 November 13th - Lawrence Johnson in memory of Martha Johnson
 November 20th - Margaret Chester
 November 27th - Advent

Our Gifts

For October, 2022

General Operating Fund:

Needed: \$ 21,920 Rec'd: \$ 23,937

Building Fund:

Needed: \$ 4,084 Rec'd: \$ 5,603

Memorial Fund: \$ 235

Designated: \$ 1,000

Our Presence

Worship Service

Average for October, 2022

In person - 83

Online - 11

Memorials & Honors

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

The Community Assistance Fund in memory of Gene Carson by Don & Kris Browder

The Building Fund in memory of Ross Burrus by John Summitt & Joan Holland

The Community Assistance Fund in honor of Patty Williford by Don & Kris Browder

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, and we do not make payments to hotels or motels.

The Community Assistance Fund has received \$3,668 in donations this year/ \$235 in September, and has to date made a total of \$2,202 this year/\$479 in October in disbursements to those in need. We have gift cards for food and gas 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, gas or other items.

Additionally, every week we get calls out of the blue from people with specific needs, and have been able to help them. The price of gas has prompted a number of calls for assistance, and we are seeing an uptick in calls from the elderly and families with as children asking for assistance with medical bills and prescriptions, utilities, and housing needs. While we cannot fill all of those needs, your generosity makes it possible for us to be able to immediately say "yes" to people in need, and to be Christ's hands and feet every day.



On-going Prayer Concerns:

Richard and Rose Lain
(Ruppel family friends)
Gina Bradea (friend of Gabi Tallent)
Gerald Leichty (Regina Warfel's cousin)
Joey Kelley and family
C. A. Clark (Carolynn Greenwood's uncle)
The Pyros family
Phil (Melanie Slouka's family)
Bob Ferris (Kat Ahart's neighbor)
Janie & Jack Thomas
Dr. Thomas Cox
Tom Jensen (Gabi Tallent's friend))
Harry Kious (Friend of The Nelsons)
Mary Ann & Ken Nelson
James Harrell (Mason/Tallent friend)
Dick Butler (friend of Carolyn Peters)
Barbara, Joanne and Toni (Ruppel family friends)
Steve Oaks and family
Lynn Pyros & Family
Tom & Denise Washburn
Frank Dossett
Libby Hicks

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.

Trip Tolbert
Infant Elsie Mae Rose & family
Norman Nelson
Terry Steinrock
David Ginsburg
Stephanie Dean
Mary Nelson
Stella VanZile & Family
Allison Slouka
Ray Sammons
Annalese Bryant
April Stinnett
Jennie Schutte
Pam (Janet Ruppel's friend)
Stan & Kay Collett
Ronnie Gay
Shelby Nelson
Jeff Smith
Karen Paxton
Jim Bromwell
Sharon Torbett Allmon
Dustin & Becky Seay
Lee Anne Perry
Sandra Coleman
Joe Alan Johnson
Joe Grubb
Scott Turney
Fred Schwartz
Dr. Mike McCoy
Brad Hughes
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)
Valerie Stratton (Dora Nelson's sister-in-law)
Mable Graham
Barbara Raper
Kat Ahart
Barbara Baiz
Karen Balsinger
Joseph Certo
Roger Green
Brad Reedy
Mari Rosian
John Stratton
Todd Strickland
Dick Turner
Jo West
Pat & Gary Cloud
The Kapileo family
The Leamon family
Sandy & Mike O'Neill
Carol & Rick Rapping

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.

Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

Pat Harvey, Mary Margaret Mason & Nancy Byrum
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

Meetings

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will meet on Sunday, November 13th at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited. Breakfast will be provided.



Board of Trustees

The Trustees will meet on Monday, November 7th at 6 PM in the conference room.

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 8th at 6 PM in the fellowship hall.

United Methodist Women



The United Methodist Women will meet on Sunday, November 20th 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** meet at 6 PM on Mondays, in the Youth room.

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

November 2022

Happy Birthday!

- 4 Haley Allen
- 7 Alexito Barker
- 10 Megan Cavett
- 11 Barbara Penland
- 15 Blair Clements
- 16 Erin Roberts
- 17 Russ Grubb
- 21 Roger McNeece
- 22 Rhett Miller
- 24 Brooke Kennedy
- 28 Zander Liszeski

Happy Anniversary

- 6 Jeff & Karen McMillan
- 21 Ben & Wanda Barger
- 22 Mike & Gabi Tallent



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.

November 2022

OFFICIAL Live Calendar with Details and up-to-date Updates /Changes
at the bottom of 1umcm.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	3	4 Head Start 12:30 PM Fellowship Hall AA 5:30 PM Community Room	5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 2AM tomorrow! Art for Seniors 9:00 - 2:30 Fellowship Hall
6 UMM 9AM, Fellowship Hall In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM Hiwassee Charge Conference 2:00 PM, Sanctuary	7 Trustees 6 PM, Conference. Rm Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Community. Room	8 Election Day Lion's Club Eye Exams 8:30 AM—12 Noon Community Room Finance Committee 6 PM, Fellowship Hall	9 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	10	11 Veterans Day AA 5:30 PM Community Room	12 BSA Eagle Scout Ceremony 3:00 PM, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
13 UMM 9:00 AM, Fellowship Hall In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM	14 Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Comm. Rm	15	16 Thanksgiving Covered Dish Dinner 6:00 PM, Fellowship Hall Choir 7:20 PM	17	18 AA 5:30 PM Community Room	19 Kiwanis Thanksgiving basket handout 10:00 AM Upper Parking Lot
20 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM - Sanctuary UMW 11:45 AM - Fellowship Hall	21 Cub Scouts 6 PM Youth Room Scouts BSA 7 PM Community Room	22	23 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 AA 5:30 PM Comm Rm	26
27 In Person Sunday Worship 10:30 AM—Sanctuary	28	29	30 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM			



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Jan Lowry & Mia Sage Beason Invite You!



Art Workshops for Seniors

November 4th



Ukrainian Inspired Christmas Eggs

Vonore Community Center

4 pm – 6 pm

Limit 20 participants

November 5th



Christmas Assemblage Sculpture

First Methodist Church - Madisonville

9 am – 11 am

Limit 20 participants

November 5th



Ukrainian Inspired Christmas Eggs

First Methodist Church - Madisonville

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Limit 20 participants

Through programming with the Vonore Museum

Call 423.442.3210 to sign up for these FREE Art Workshops for Seniors.

This project is supported in part by the Arts & Culture Alliance and the National Endowment for the Arts.