

THE FLAME



OUR WORSHIP TIMES:

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

Why Tell Others About Jesus?



Just before he ascended to Heaven, Jesus told his disciples, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...” (Matthew 28:19, NIV)

However, some Christians ask, “Why? Why should we witness about Jesus Christ?” There are two answers to this question, because there are two questions behind this first question. Next time, we will discuss the second question.

The first of these questions is: Do you really think that people will go to hell if they do not confess Jesus Christ as Savior? After all, isn’t God a loving God? What kind of God would create human life, only to condemn them to eternity without Him just because they didn’t go to the right place of religious worship, or didn’t go to any at all?

God Is Love!

It is true that God is loving. John 3:16 tells us, “For God so loved the world...” And I John 4:8 says, “God is love.” Because of these and other statements, we sometimes think of God as a kind of “grandfatherly” gentleman in Heaven, not liking some of the things people do, but smiling anyway, saying, “KIDS WILL BE KIDS!!!”

But God is also a righteous and just God. God wants everyone to know His love and experience it everyday— but what will He do with persons who consciously reject Him?

When I was in high school, I had a serious crush on Cheri Jones. She and her twin sister rode the same bus to school as I did, and we kidded around and talked a lot my sophomore and junior years. Finally, in my senior year, once I had a driver’s license and had summoned up considerable courage, I asked her to go out on a date. Several times I asked her. Cheri was fairly popular, and had had several boyfriends, and I asked her out when she was “between” boyfriends— but she always turned me down. She was kind and gracious, and I never felt real hurt by the refusal— but she turned me down. She, in fact, nicely, rejected me. Finally, I gave up. After all, I could not violate her will and **MAKE** her date me!

Unlike me and Cheri Jones, God will not give up on any person here in this life. God will continue to send His message of love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ to every person who has not yet trusted in Him. God continues to lead His people to the far-flung corners of the world to spread the gospel of Christ. God will prepare every heart and mind to hear the gospel— that is what John Wesley called “prevenient grace.”

(See *Pastor* continued on Page 5)

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Roger McNeece

Custodians
James & Kim Cox



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. . . for November

This column is called Sue's News and I have some exciting news from Sue and family! I am going to be a GREAT AUNT and my brother Gary is going to become a GRANDFATHER. Grant and Mikayla are expecting a new baby around the end of May. They are so excited. For those of you who do not know, Grant is my one and only nephew and he has been my special buddy since the day he was born. He and Mikayla were married on March 13th—literally at the very beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic when everything began to shut down. They both continued to work as essential workers during the shutdown. Grant is a pest control technician and Mikayla is a nurse. Mikayla is a wonderful young lady and we are so glad that she has become a part of the Hamilton family. Please pray for this young couple and for the child that they are bringing into this world during these very uncertain times. I will keep you updated.

A Great Aunt!

I am writing this on the last Tuesday in October and the afternoon today was wonderful. My brother Gary blew the leaves off of the grass and I push mowed the lawn. I kept thinking to myself that I was so lucky to be able to be outside and able to do yard work. I know that sometimes we take the physical ability to do these things for granted. I plan to be more appreciative for the things that I have and that I can do.

This will be a very different November for our church. I (and a lot of other folks) really missed our October Pumpkin Patch. November will be an adjustment too, but we can still make it very

special. We have a big event coming up on Veteran's Day November 11 at noon. We will be dedicating the flag pole in the columbarium area in memory of Lee Johnson and we will be recognizing the service of many more veterans of our church family. The dedication will be outside and we will practice social distancing and wear masks. Please mark your calendar for this special event. Our thanks to Bob Marshall who has done most of the work in putting this very special event together.

We will be worshipping outdoors in the upper parking lot as long as the weather cooperates. We have had three great services together outdoors and hope we can have several more. Please join us at 10:30 AM on Sunday mornings. We will continue to have our online service if you cannot attend in person.

Sue

Music / Program Director





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

The **Building Fund** in memory of:

Edna Bonifacius by:

Barbara Pennington

Susan Miley by:

Alfred &Carolynn Greenwood

John Summitt & Joan Holland

Reba & Duane Dopkins

Jim Pennington by:

Angela Tallent

Gene Carson by:

Angela Tallent

The **Building Fund** in honor of the *Life of Service* of

Sue Hamilton and **Jan Johnson** by:

Angela Tallent

All Saints Sunday

The first Sunday after Halloween is traditionally observed in our church as All Saints Sunday. This is the time we remember the saints of our church fellowship who have passed away during the past year. This year's All Saints Day is November 1. The saints of First UMC Madisonville that we remember are Alan Johnson, Jim Pennington, Gene Carson and Susan Miley. Please remember our saints and pray for their families and friends. We will do our remembrance service when we are able to do indoor worship.



**Remembering
the Saints**

November



Happy Birthday

- 4 Sandra Tompkins
- Haley Harrell Allen
- 7 Alexito Martinez-Barker
- 10 Megan Cavett
- 11 Barbara Penland
- 14 Mike Pence
- 15 Blair Clements
- 17 Peyton Dotson
- 21 Roger McNeece
- 23 Alexis Kagley
- 28 Gary Hamilton
- 30 Zander Liszeski

Happy Anniversary

- 1 Rusty & Wendy Poole
- 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 we are. Please email the office at 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.



News from Holston Conference and Hiwassee District

At our recent Charge Conference our church was honored with the presentation of awards from Holston Conference and Hiwassee District for 2019.

We were presented with certificates from Hiwassee District for *Excellence in Evangelism* and for *Paying 100%* of our *District Apportionment*.

A third certificate came from the General Council on Finance and Administration *For Giving Faithfully 100%* to the *Holston Conference Apportionment*.

Thank you for your continued generosity so we can be the *Church* that God calls us to be.



Re-Opening Plan

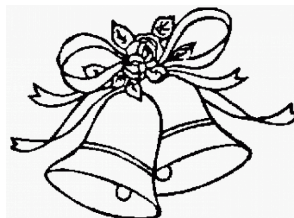
We do have approval of our **Indoor Worship** plan. There are a couple of items that we still need to put into place before we can move into our building. Also please keep in mind that the Holston Conference and Hiwassee District are asking that we continue to worship outside as long as weather permits. Studies have shown that churches are one of the places that the COVID-19 spreads the most. We all love each other and we want to show that love by handshakes, hugs and just being near each other.

We have begun to have some committee meetings and the United Methodist Youth Fellowship inside our fellowship hall. All are wearing masks and practicing social distancing.



We ask you all to join in celebrating with us the marriages of:

Roxanna Gruin
and
Jonathan Taylor



Kaitlyn Riffey
and
Jacob Owens

They were married Saturday, October 24, 2020.

They were married on Saturday, October 1st, 2020.

Roxanna is the daughter of Gabi and Mike Tallent.

Jacob is the nephew of Jerry Barr.

Best Wishes and Congratulations may be sent to them at:
1016 Mitchell Rd, Nashville, TN 37206.

Best Wishes and Congratulation may be sent to them at:
111 Hawkins Road,
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Upper Rooms

We still have a few copies of the Nov/Dec issue of the Upper Room Devotional Book in the white tote at the front entrance to the church.

If you would like a digital copy please e-mail me and I will send it to you.

Reba

adminassist@firstumcmadisonville.org

**Lee Johnson
Veterans Flag Memorial**

On Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at noon, this memorial site will be dedicated to Lee Johnson and other veterans associated with our church family. Many of you have already purchased black granite plates that will have your veteran’s service information engraved on them. They will be installed on the top of the base in time for this dedication.

If you would like to order a plate to honor your veteran you may come by the office and pick up an order form.

This project was started by the Johnson family at the time of Lee’s death when they asked that memorials for Lee be given for a flag in his memory.

We look forward to seeing you at the dedication on Wednesday, Nov 11, at noon in our columbarium area. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing.



(Pastor continued from page 1)

But— what if a person, or many persons, continue to reject Him? Although God is love, He will not force His love on anyone who does not want to be loved. He is just, and lets every person make their own choice. If a person, by what they say or by the way they live their life, makes it clear that he or she doesn’t want God “messing around with their life,” God — who is just and fair — will not violate that person’s will. God will not “MAKE” anyone spend eternity in Heaven if they do not want to be there.

Yet, people are more receptive to the gospel, and less receptive, at different times in their lives. So we continue to share the Gospel, everywhere we can, with everyone we can. Because we can never be sure when God has prepared a human heart to be most receptive to the Good News of Jesus Christ. There are people in our community, maybe living next door to us, who may have rejected Jesus in their lives, or just never responded to Jesus and have let God’s love and Christ’s church drop out of interest in their lives. Perhaps they think that “religion” or the Christian faith is not for them— they are just not wired that way. Yet— they need to hear, too.

Let us continue to answer the call of Jesus, and “go, and make disciples...” everywhere we can, and share God’s love in Christ with everyone we can. God wants everyone to know His love. Let us not let some people put us off by rejecting Christ at one time in their lives— let us continue to give everyone multiple, even endless chances, to hear the Gospel we believe, and trust the Savior we trust, and have the confidence in eternal life that we have. Let us never give up in sharing God’s love in Jesus Christ in words and actions. Because we never know when a person who last month rejected Christ might be ready to turn to Him. Don’t we want everyone to be with God in Heaven, for eternity?

See you Sunday at the “place of faith and sharing!”

Keith G. Knight

CONTACT US

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.

For Prayer requests - Please call Sue at 423-337-1830 or email her at 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 adminasist@firstumcmadisonville.org.

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

Wednesday Night Covered Dish Suppers

Dear Church Family,
As most of you have figured out by now, we are not having Wednesday Night Suppers.



There is light at the end of the tunnel, as we are having outside services in our parking lot. Praise God. If things progress, we might get to have one of our suppers in the next few months. Keep praying for each other and being a good neighbor where ever you can. God answers all our prayers in his time. We just need to be patient.

Dora Nelson



Stay Safe!!

Please continue to practice social distancing and wear a face mask.

Face Masks – washable & reusable - (given to us by the county health dept) are available here at the church. If anyone needs one or two, please stop by to pick them up.

Reba is still making cloth masks for anyone who would like one or more. Just call to be sure she is in the office or make other arrangements to pick one up.

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Please be sure that your clocks are set back one hour. Daylight savings time ended Saturday night/Sunday morning, Oct 31/Nov 1.



. . . 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

- ◆ fruit cups
- ◆ kids breakfast foods such as:

instant oatmeal

individual cereal boxes,

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

Blessing Box

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

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

Food for Friends

Right now we have many people and families on our prayer list. We have had quite a few people who have been hospitalized or homebound. A good meal is always appreciated. If you would be willing to fix a meal or part of a meal, please let Sue know at sue@firstumcmadisonville.org or by phone at 423 337-1830 or call the church office at 423 442-2471. Sue will make a list and try to organize the list. Thanks in advance for supporting this food ministry.



Our Prayers

Our Active Military Personnel

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

Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:

Wood Village, Sweetwater
 Mary Margaret Mason
 Pat & Howard Harvey
 Gerri Benton

Northshore Heights, Knoxville
 Judy Lee

River Oaks, Loudon
 Steve Cavett, Room 307

Ouachita Health Care
 Shirley Nappier (Harold Hunt's m-in-law)

On-going Prayer Concerns:

Sharon Amundson	Gerald Phillips
Catherine Ashton	Bill Poole
Barbara Baiz	Carol Rapping
Charles Baker	Barbara Roberson
Janet Bales	Donna Roberson
Wanda Barger	Meredith Robinson
Steve Berrong	Catherine Reed
Susan M Blalock	Darlene Reed
Cooper Burks	Kevin Reynolds
Nancy Byrum	Paul Robbins
Becky Chester	Maria Rosian
Jane Daily	Francis Scott
Greg Davis	Susan Sherrer
Marilyn DePew	Tonya Wells Spires
Tony Ellison	John Stratton
Courtney Farmer	Todd Strickland
Marjorie Fezlar	Mike Summitt
John H Ford	Emma Tate
Tammy George	Debbie Tucker
Kerry Gladden	Alexander Wade
Mable Graham	Faye Watson
Mike Gregory	Peggy White
Richard Hall	Selena Wiggs
Ashley Harmon	Eli Zinck
Betty Hicks	Mitch & Lisa Borden
Jennifer Hicks	Casey & Mike Deaguero
April Hill	Wendy and Rick Garland
Bill Huddleston	The Grubb Family
Brad Hughes	Christine Hendricks and son-Randy
Dr Bob Hunt	Rev. Jason & Christy Humberd
Logan Hunt	The Leamon family
Peggy Hyatt	Mary Margaret and Dickie Mason
Virginia Jacobs	Sandy & Mike O'Neill
Tim Johnson	The Drew Teague family
Gay Layne	Joyce & Dick Turner
Irad Lee	Michael and Becky Wacaster
Doug Lottes	Curwood Witt & family
Mckinzie	
Doris Melton	
Christopher Miller	
Freida Naylor	
Maria Nelson	
Mary Nelson	
Norman Nelson	
Susie Nelson	
Rev. John Oldham	
Barbara Pennington	
Kristin Pennington	

Our Gifts

For October

General Operating Fund:

Needed: \$20,862 Rec'd: \$ 18,392

Building Fund:

Needed: \$4,034 Rec'd: \$ 4,345

Memorial Fund: \$ 480

Designated: \$ 1,225

Our Presence

Online Streamed Worship Service

Average for the month

Views— 100

Registered and in person— 59

Our Commitments

For November

Go to the website at 1umcm.com for more info.





November 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>All Saints Day</i> <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i> Outdoor In-person and Online Worship 10:30 AM at lumcm.com	2	3	4 UMYF at 6M	5	6	7
8 Outdoor In-person and Online Worship 10:30 AM at lumcm.com	9 Trustees 6 PM Fellowship Hall	10 Finance Comm 6 PM Fellowship Hall	11 Veterans Flag Memorial Dedication Noon UMYF at 6 PM	12	13	14
15 Outdoor In-person and Online Worship 10:30 AM at lumcm.com	16	17	18 UMYF at 6 PM	19	20	21
22 Outdoor In-person and Online Worship 10:30 AM at lumcm.com	23	24	25 UMYF at 6 PM	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	27	28
29 Outdoor In-person and Online Worship 10:30 AM at lumcm.com	30	<p>Our Online Worship services will continue (with a couple of changes) as we move forward with In-Person Worship.</p> <p>Our Online Worship at umcm.com will now be at 10:30 AM.</p> <p>You can also listen on the radio at 91.1 FM at 10:30 AM if you are in the vicinity of our church.</p> <p>The order of worship may be a little different from what we have been experiencing but it will still be First United Methodist Church.</p>				



First United Methodist Church
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Fax: 423-442-2434
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Monday thru Friday

Our website:
www.1umcm.com

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Twitter

[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
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!