

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 . . .

Happy February! It has been wonderful to be back in the office at the church! Julie, Sydney, and I have been so thankful to have 3 weeks together to welcome and care for Molly. We are doing pretty well overall, but definitely a little sleep deprived. We also feel deeply blessed by all of you who have sent texts, emails, cards, food, offered gifts, or called to encourage us as parents. We have felt loved and deeply supported by this church community, and we know what a unique gift it is. We are looking forward to having Molly here with us sometime soon so you all can meet her! The month of February in the church year is often a "gap" period between two big seasons. We have just come out of Christmastide/Epiphany, but we aren't quite to Lent just yet. As I write this I have a brief scripture from 1 Peter 1: 8-9, before me from a devotion I did just this morning. It reads:



"Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

As I have reflected on this, it struck me that even as we enter one of the coldest and dreariest of months outside...and even if we face seemingly insurmountable personal challenges or struggles...Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the same now and forever, and he is with us no matter what we are going through. Our faith in his unique message and the good news about his sacrifice and resurrection can give life equally to our souls, our hearts, our relationships, our work, our rest, and even our play. May we rejoice in this individually and as a church body day by day this month.

In this edition of The Flame newsletter, you will find many things that our church is doing in ministry that can we can celebrate and rejoice over, including: the announcement of a new staff person, the beginning of a new ministry, a planned fundraiser for missions, and a wonderful reflection on how Resurrection inspired our youth. *Continued on page 5*

Pastor
Rev. Chris Black
 cblack@firstumcmadisonville.org

Office & Technology Coordinator
Richard Beaubien
 rbeaubien@firstumcmadisonville.org

Music/Program Director
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
 vbreummer@gmail.com

Custodians
James & Kim Cox

Inside This Issue:

Sue's News	2
Resurrection 2022	3
Ministry News	3-5
Memorials & Honorariums	6
We Support our Church by: Our Gifts	6
Service & Prayers	7
Dates & Times	8
February Calendar	9
Contact & Announcements	10

. . . for February

I can't believe that it is already February 2022. January seems like a blur at this point. During January we rejoiced with Chris, Julie and Sydney in the birth of baby Molly. I think I said a few weeks ago that this was the first time that we have had a new baby in the pastor's family since the late 80s when Reverend Mike Johnson was our pastor and he and Jan and David welcomed Daniel and Stephen into their family. Chris, Julie and Sydney, just let us know what we can do to help you as you adjust to life with new baby Molly. We will help in any way we can. Welcome, Molly, to our church family!

The beginning of February brings changes to our church office staff. Richard Beaubien is now working in our church as our office manager and will continue to manage our technology needs and advancements. Reba has begun her life of retirement, but we know she and Duane will keep busy. They already have several trips planned, but they will continue to be a part of our church family. Reba will continue to be our treasurer and will be the one who pays our bills and keeps us in good standing. Thank you Reba for all you have done for us and will continue to do for us. Thank you most of all for being my friend and for always being there for me when I needed you. Enjoy your retirement!

As I said, February is here and we are beginning to pick up steam in planning and preparing for upcoming events that will take place in the next few months. Mark your calendar now for the big Birthday Bash that will take place on February 26th in the fellowship hall. Make your reservations now and get your tickets. Check out the information in the newsletter and in upcoming bulletins and emails and on the website.

The choir has begun work on the Easter can-

tata *One Day*. Right now our plan is to present our cantata on the Sunday after Easter which will be April 24th. We practice on Wednesdays at 6 PM. We would love for you to join us and be a part of the choir.

Please read the newsletter from cover to cover and keep it handy throughout the month of February. We will add events to the church calendar as the month progresses. Keep those on our prayer lists in your prayers. Remember those in nursing homes and assisted living situations and those who have health issues. Drop a few birthday cards and thinking of you cards to folks that are on your mind and in your heart. You'll maybe never know what a little of act of kindness might mean to someone. Reach out in some way to others and remember to PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!



Sue

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.

She grew up in Meigs County and graduated from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. He grew up in Sweetwater, was the drum major at Sweetwater High School and was famous for his halftime shows. He attended Hiwassee College and Pellissippi State and she graduated from University of Tennessee Chattanooga. They were married in our church in 1975. They have 2 sons, 2 daughters in law and 2 grandchildren. He worked on the family farm for several years. He built and operated the last privately owned ferry on the Little Tennessee River to reach a 240 acre island so he could raise grain. He is now a Senior Control Room Chief at a local industry. He enjoys woodworking. Her degree is in home economics. She was at one time the 4H program leader in Monroe County. Her hobbies are sewing, crafts and needlework. She is a great cook. Who are they? (Answer on page 8.)

SPECIAL REPORT **RESURRECTION** **2022 :** **TOGETHER** **AGAIN!**

Jan. 28, 2022

by: Vanessa Barr

We have an amazing youth group at First UMC -Madisonville, and that couldn't be more evident when watching them experience Resurrection 2022.

They danced. They sang. They listened. They raised their hands in the air to praise Jesus. They hugged each other when the messages hit close to home. They grew individually and as a group in those three days. Each year, I watch as



they soak up the music and the messages, and it is awesome to see how they absorb what is being said and are reminded how God is working in their lives.

Although Resurrection 2022 looked a little different this year due to Covid-19 protocols, the experience still packed a powerful punch. It felt good to be Together Again at the LeConte Center and in our cabin.



We had 28 youth and leaders ready to sing along with Roger Williams & the All Mixed-up Quartet, who started each session with energetic Christian music. Paul Epperson, a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and who now lives in South Carolina with his wife and five children, challenged our youth and leaders with each enthusiastic message he delivered.

Our youth embraced his stories that made us laugh and then made us sit up a little straighter as he turned the tale into an inspiring lesson about God's love for us.

Throughout the three days, we challenged repeatedly to give more of ourselves and our lives to Christ. And the youth accepted each challenge and let his words wrap around their hearts to make a difference in their daily lives.

The first night, Epperson asked if we truly trust in God. Do we believe what He is offering us? Do we let fear distract us and pull us away from Him? Epperson dared us to know what our "heart fears" are. Those fears that can immobilize you and tell you that you're on your own. He encouraged us to turn those fears over to God so that we walk through the difficulties, the insecurities, the uncertainty with Christ and not on our own. Around the LeConte Center, people stood and declared, "Jesus, I trust you."



Continues next page

Resurrection continued

Saturday morning, Epperson continued to build on his message, and reassured us that we all struggle. We've heard the phrase "We're in this together" countless times during the pandemic, but the message didn't end there. Our youth heard that not only do we all experience hardships but also what we go through isn't wasted. We can



learn, grow personally and help others through our experiences. That night, Epperson challenged us once again not to stay stuck in our struggles but to believe in the power of Jesus' life, death and resurrection to free us from the things life throws at us and from the inevitable mistakes we make. He told the story of the prodigal son and how the father embraced his son when he returned. Many of our youth were struck by this phrase Epperson shared: All my dirt and mud got on him and all his blood got on me. Do we let Jesus' forgiveness wash over us and help us move on?

Resurrection is a remarkable weekend, and we have so much fun. But we are also challenged to build our relationship with God, and our youth embrace that challenge. I see that with their attentiveness during the sessions, in the discussions we have back at the cabin, and in their actions toward each other.

We asked the youth what stands out for them about the weekend. Of course, playing games at the cabin, shopping at The Island, eating pizza late at night are mentioned. But they also sincerely talk about connecting with the speaker and with each other. They talk about learning from one another and the

different perspectives people have. Perhaps what made me most proud is when they said they like the group's inclusive way of letting everyone share and the respect they give to each other.

We talk about hard stuff at Resurrection and during our lessons, and these youth – our youth – have the courage to speak up and speak out about life's challenges.

Jerry and I have the honor to laugh with, have fun with, and pray with these amazing young people. Thank you for your continued support of our youth ministry.

Black & White Birthday Gala



By Karen Rapping

Mark your calendar for **February 26, 2022** starting at **5pm** for a church wide birthday party.

In the cold dreary weeks between Christmas and Easter most of us need something fun to lift us out of the doldrums. What better way to brighten our mood than to have a birthday party for the entire church family?! This will be a **fund**-raising event for the Youth's mission projects.

"Awards" will be given for **Best Dressed, Most Original** and **Best Representative of Their Birth Month**. You are encouraged to wear Black, White or your birthstone color. This is your chance to put on that "little black dress" or bow tie and bling it up! Feel free to dress up as much as little as you wish. There will be a four-course meal catered by Carolyn Peters and her team. The menu includes:

Appetizer: Homemade pimento cheese w/ crackers

Garden Salad

Entrée: a choice of: Parmesan crusted chicken breast or Pork loin w/ honey butter garlic sauce.

hash brown potato casserole, green beans, cool carrots

Dessert: Homemade Cheesecake with strawberry glaze (plain available upon request)

Continues on the next page

Birthday Gala Continued

Richard Beaubien will be our Emcee for the evening's festivities and there will be music from each decade starting with the 1930s--see if you can name that tune! Guests will be seated with others sharing the same birth month. This will give us the opportunity to get better acquainted with new or potentially new members as well as members you haven't visited with in a while.

Please RSVP online at 1umcm.com, or with Richard in the Church office. Reservations are to be paid prior to or by February 16th. You may pay with a credit/debit card online, or with cash/check/credit or debit in the Church office in person or by phone at (423) 442-2471. The final day to RSVP and pay is February 18th!!!

From the Pastor's desk (continued).

I hope you will read through this month's newsletter with a prayerful heart in celebration, but also with an openness to how God might be calling you to get involved more deeply in the ministries of our church.

New Ministry Beginning in February:

The "1st Steps Ministry" is a new weekly child-care ministry that will give our children an opportunity to grow as disciples in their own way. During worship, following the children's moment, all children ages 3-9 will be invited to join our new 1st Steps Coordinator Erin Roberts (and another adult) for a fun devotion, activity, song, craft, and/or game. These activities will be geared toward Chris's message/scripture in worship for that day, but will be age appropriate to the group gathered.

Our hope is that this new children's church ministry will allow our kids to get spiritually fed in new ways, and that this special time will foster faith conversations at home. All participants will remain with Erin and her group for the duration of the worship service, and parents/

guardians will be able to pick their children up following worship. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please let Rev. Chris Black or Erin Roberts know.

Now, A Word about Morning Coffee...

My weekly "Morning Coffee" Videos took a brief hiatus during December and January but they will be returning to your inbox and to social media this month. Be on the lookout for them, and for some of the new things that will be offered up each week. I will be filming in new locations, teaching a little more, and profiling some folks from our church community. Please feel free to share our social media Facebook, Instagram & Twitter posts with your friends, and subscribe to our YouTube page for the latest content from our church.

Erin Roberts Is Joining Church Staff

Erin will be filling a new part-time position here at 1st United Methodist Church "1st Steps Coordinator." In addition to coordinating this new program Erin will also be working some during the week in other areas of children's ministry.



Erin is a senior at Tennessee Wesleyan University, where she is studying to get a Bachelor's degree in special education. She is also an assistant softball coach for the Sequoyah High School softball team, and the Madisonville Middle softball team. She has been involved in childcare in one way or another for many years, and is excited to begin growing into this new ministry role here at 1st UMC. If you see her around the church some this month training in the office or working in the classrooms feel free to welcome her!

Lots of Hope!

Chris

Our Service**Trustee**

The Trustee for the month of February is Mike Tallent. 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

- February 6th Jan Johnson
- February 13th Don and Kris Browder in memory of C.S. and Jo Sands
- February 20th Don and Kris Browder in memory of Gene Carson
- February 27th Barbara Penland in memory of Joe Penland & in honor of her son Larry's birthday.

Our Gifts**For January****General Operating Fund:**

Needed: \$21,920 **Rec'd:** \$ 23,702

Building Fund:

Needed: \$4,084 **Rec'd:** \$ 17,305

Memorial Fund: \$ 0

Designated: \$ 1,153

Our Presence**Online Streamed Worship Service**

Average for **January**

Views - 60

Online registered - 20

In person - 66

Memorials

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

The **Building Fund** in memory of:

Howard Harvey from:

Marlee Tierce
Duane & Reba Dopkins
Harold Hunt
Mike & Gabi Tallent
Kevin & Bev Taylor
Laurie & Roger McNeece
Alfred &Carolynn Greenwood

Beatrice Irwin from:

Duane & Reba Dopkins
Alfred &Carolynn Greenwood
Mike & Gabi Tallent
Kevin & Bev Taylor
Laurie & Roger McNeece

John Oliverio from

Pat Rapping
Duane & Reba Dopkins
Mike & Gabi Tallent
Kevin & Bev Taylor
Alfred &Carolynn Greenwood

Bill Sloan from

Kevin & Bev Taylor

The **General Fund** in memory of:

Beatrice Irwin from:

Marlee Tierce

Carl, Betty, Mike, and Angie**Balsinger** from:

Allen & Karen Balsinger

We Support Our Church By Our Prayers

On-going Prayer Concerns:

Kat Ahart
Sandy Anderson
Barbara Baiz
Karen Balsinger
Bill Beason
Nancy Byrum
Betty Carey
Bob Carl
Joseph Certo
Armida Conley
Jane Daily
Ryan Davidson
Greg Davis
Marilyn DePew
Bob Ferris
Marjorie Fezlar
Blair Gifford
Jimmy Goddard
Nelson Green
Roger Green
Mike Gregory
Nancy Hedegaard
Kevin Hershman
Betty Hicks
Jennifer Hicks

Dr Bob Hunt
Logan Hunt
Peggy Hyatt
Jan Johnson
Joe Alan Johnson
Gay Layne
Pamela Madden
Doris Melton
Freida Naylor
Maria Nelson
Mary Nelson
Jack Newman
George Norton
Maverick Patton
Barbara Pennington
Kristin Pennington
The Perry Family
Lee Anne Perry
Sue Price
Brad Reedy
Kevin Reynolds
Donna Roberson
Maria Rosian
Audrey Schepker
Francis Scott
Carolyn Sherrill
Tonya Wells Spires
John Stratton

Todd Strickland
Mike Summitt
Dick Turner
Jo West
Peggy White
Selena Wiggs
Michael Williamson
Eleanor Lane Willson
Eli Zinck
Pat & Kelly Burnette
Pat & Gary Cloud
Jo Curtis & Boyd
Curtis
Frank & Betty Dossett
Christine Hendricks
and son
Randy
Christy & Jason
Humberd
The Kapileo family
The Leamon family
Judy Mairui's
nephew
Dustin
MaryAnne & Ken
Nelson
Sandy & Mike
O'Neill

Carol & Rick Rapping
Chad Scrivner
John Summitt &
Joan Holland
Stella Van Zile's
daughter
The Venable family
Faye Watson &
family
Wanda Williford
Curwood Witt &
family
Bishop Debra
Wallace-
Padgett and
all Holston
Conference
Clergy

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.

Our Active Military Personnel:

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

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

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

Meetings

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will meet on Sunday, February 13th 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 928-660-1061. Ray Nelson, President



Board of Trustees

The Trustees will meet on Monday, February 14th at 6 PM in the conference room.

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 15th at 6 PM in the conference room.

United Methodist Women

The **United Methodist Women** will meet on Sunday, February 20th at 11:45 AM (immediately after the worship service) in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. All women of the church are invited to attend.

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 and Boy Scouts

The **Cub Scouts** meet on Monday evenings at 6 PM in the Community Room on our lower level. For questions, please call Leona Layman at 423-462-4024. The **Boy Scouts** 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

The answer is: Ben & Margaret Chester

February

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Suzanne Benton
- 3 Emily Pennington
- 6 Floyd Reedy
- 7 Mary Fowler Wise
- 8 Regan Jung
- 9 Nancy Byrum
- 10 Hunter Cavett
- Elida Houvenagle
- 12 Mat Vinyard
- Jeff McMillan
- 17 Bethany Williford
- Merritt Sherrer
- 18 Cole Strickland
- Cooper Strickland
- 20 Zeke Lizeski
- 22 Reba Dopkins
- Danny Gibson
- 24 Rick Saunders
- 27 Heather Houvenagle
- Elise Kile
- 28 Margaret Chester

Happy Anniversary

- 17 Rick & Carol Rapping
- 28 Mat & Stephanie Vinyard

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 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.



February 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	3	4 AA 5:30 PM Community Room	5
6 In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM	7 Cub Scouts 6 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Community Room	8 Lions Club/GSC Eye Exams 8:30 – 2:30 Community Room	9 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	10	11 AA 5:30 PM Community Room	12
13 UMM Breakfast 9 AM in the fellowship hall Worship 10:30 AM Scouts Lunch 11:30AM— Fellowship Hall	14 Trustees 6 PM Cub Scouts 6 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Community Room Valentine's Day	15 Finance 6 PM Community Café 4:30 PM Presbyterian Church	16 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	17	18 AA 5:30 PM Community Room	19
20 In Person & Online Worship 10:30 AM UMW after worship in the fellowship hall	21 Cub Scouts 6 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Community Room	22	23 UMYF at 6 PM Choir 6 PM	24	25 AA 5:30 PM Community Room	26 Black & White Birthday Gala at 5 PM
27 In Person & Online Worship - Transfiguration Sunday 10:30 AM	28 Cub Scouts 6 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Community Room					



143 College Street
Mailing Address:
P O Box 157
Madisonville, TN 37354
Phone: 423-442-2471
Fax: 423-442-2434

F
o
l
l
o
w
u
s
a
t:

Website: 1umcm.com



Firstumcmadisonville



Firstumcmadville



@1umcm



Firstumcmadisonvilletn

UPCOMING

Honoring Reba Dopkins

The SPRC committee is sponsoring an honor reception for Reba in the Gathering/Welcome Center. It will start at 9:15 AM prior to the February 20th Sunday service. Please join us in honoring her for her many years of service to our church. There will be finger foods and drinks. Please coordinate with Marlee Tierce if you are willing to bring finger food. mtierce@aol.com 423-884-2196.

Ash Wednesday Service, March 2nd

Ash Wednesday is a unique day in the church year where we gather to mark the beginning of the 40 day season of Lent. Our worship together will be a time to put aside past sins and failures through repentance, and to kick off a period of time to foster new beginnings in our relationship with Jesus Christ. All are welcome to gather in the fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. for a soup supper, and then we will move to the sanctuary for a special service of worship, with the imposition of ashes, at 6:45 p.m. Please mark your calendars to join us!

Volunteers for our crib nursery are needed!

Friends, when you all went about designing and updating our church building many years ago you set apart a wonderful area specifically for the care of young children and babies. I know prior to the pandemic we had volunteers and even paid staff helping in our nursery. It is now time to get our crib nursery, and our toddler room for 6 month-2 year olds going again. We are in need of at least 2 volunteers a week who would be willing to keep the crib nursery and/or the toddler room. Please be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center. If we can get enough volunteers our hope will be to begin this ministry in March. If you have questions