



Smoky Mountain Methodist Church

April 2026 Newsletter

From Our Pastor Rev. Parker Benson

Happy Easter!

Friday, March 20, was the first day of spring. It is no accident that Easter always comes in the spring, April 5 this year. At Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ – new birth, “the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.” (1 Cor 15.20)

We see this happen before our very eyes every year of our lives.

The four seasons are a constant reminder of death and resurrection: spring, summer, fall, and winter. We see the flowers blossom and the grass begin to grow; the trees start to bud and the birds build nests. Then it gets warmer as summer arrives, and the sun shines bright and the hay gets mowed, and people go to the lake and swim, and ski, and fish. Then, eventually, the nighttime starts to get cooler, and we start to see the leaves change color as the first signs of fall begin to appear. Before long we are picking pumpkins and raking leaves and wearing jackets and putting our lawn mowers away. And then the mornings are cold and frost is on the ground and the trees are bare and winter sets in, the long, hard winter. We watch the cold, gray sky for signs of snow and on frosty, frigid evenings we build a fire and cozy up to warm our hands, our legs, and our feet. Everything is dead now. Winter has set in.

But spring comes back – you can count on it. God promised Noah, “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” (Gen 8.22) The ground springs to life. The robins return and the air is warm, and we see yellow butterflies, and we smile. The four seasons are a constant reminder, an annual reminder, a repeated reminder, of death, rebirth, and resurrection. Blessed are your eyes because they see.

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

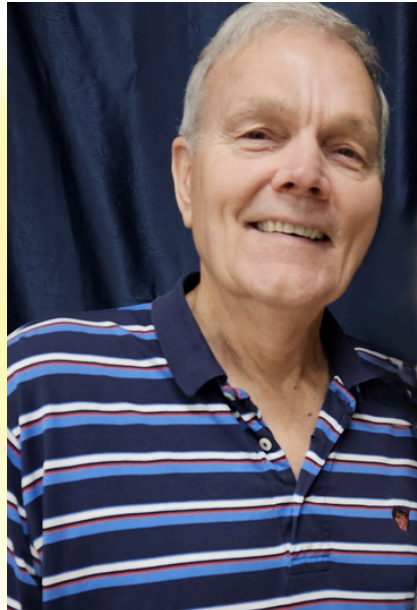


Parker

Smoky Mountain Methodist Church

Monthly Member's Spotlight

Mark Frady



Where were you born and raised?

I was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and was raised in Georgia

How long have you lived in TN?

I have spent 20 years in TN. Five of those years in Chattanooga and 15 of those years in Townsend

Name something unique about you that very few people know.

I have been my own boss in construction since I was 28

What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today?

Some of my favorite hobbies are gardening, pickleball, and bowling

What qualities do you admire most in others?

The qualities that I admire most is truthfulness, kindness, and compassion

Smoky Mountain Methodist Church

Monthly Member's Spotlight

Diane Frady



Where were you born and raised?

I was born in Orangeburg, SC and I was raised in a military home which means I have lived all over including living in Germany

How long have you lived in TN?

I have lived in Tennessee for 46 years. Thirty One of those years was in Chattanooga and 15 years has been in Townsend.

Name something unique about you that very few people know.

I started at WTS Media in Chattanooga in 1977

What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today?

I enjoy reading, walking, and bowling

What qualities do you admire most in others?

The qualities I admire most is honesty, friendliness, generosity, and sense of humor.



Happy Birthday

3rd Suzanne Rhoden

5th Louise Talley

7th Stan LaDuke

19th Barbara Goddard

28th Betty Smith

28th Ronnie Lee, Sr.

30th Ke Kai Ruckstuhl



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE SMOKYMOUNTAINGMC.ORG

GO TO THE HOMEPAGE AND CLICK ON
“GIVING.” IT’S SIMPLE AND EASY TO
USE! TRY IT TODAY!



SUNDAY SCHOOL SPRING QUARTER

JOIN US AT 9:30
EVERY SUNDAY IN THE
CHOIR ROOM. WE
WILL USE THE WESLEY
ADULT BIBLE STUDY
AS A GUIDE. PLEASE
SEE KRISTINE BROCK
FOR MORE DETAILS.



SMMC GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

When: April 3 at 7 pm
Where: Heritage High
School Auditorium



SMMC EASTER SUNDAY

When: April 5 at
10:30

Where: Heritage
High School
Auditorium

He Is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!!





Eight Week

BIBLE STUDY



TUESDAY APRIL 7-MAY 26
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Taught By ***Pastor Parker Benson***

The background of the poster is decorated with various colorful icons related to science and engineering. These include a red and yellow rocket, blue gears, a yellow calculator, a blue satellite dish, a blue and red DNA double helix, a blue and red horseshoe magnet, a blue laptop displaying a red line graph, a blue folder with a yellow tab, a blue globe, and a blue and yellow microscope. The icons are scattered around the central text.

SMMC

Engineering Career

Seminar

When: April 7 @ 5:30–7
Where: Trinity House

Men's Luncheon

Monday, April
20th at 11:00
a.m.

Calhouns in
Maryville, TN



***All men are welcome to attend for great food
and Christian fellowship!***

SMMC CAREER SEMINAR STARTING BUSINESS

When: April 21 @ 5:30-7

Where: Trinity House





Upcoming Youth and Children's Activities

K-5TH 5:30-6:30 YOUTH 6:30-7:30

APRIL-MAY

2026


SPRING SEASON



April
8TH

TIC TAC TOE WITH A TWIST

X	O	X
O	X	O
O	O	X






HULA HOOP CHAIN



April
22ND

May
6TH

CANDY SCRAMBEL

OUT OF SCHOOL BASH




May
22ND

3742 E. LAMAR ALEXANDER PARKWAY MARYVILLE, TN

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

When: May 15 from 5-7:30

Where: Pearson Springs Pavilion

Please everyone bring your favorite dish for a pot luck. The entree will be fried chicken and ham

