



Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

August 2024 Newsletter

From Our Pastor

Reverend Parker Benson

Well, I just returned from my annual motorcycle trip on my Harley-Davidson Street Glide I call *Pearl*. We rode almost three thousand miles through 10 states: Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and maybe Massachusetts and Connecticut. It is hard to keep track of what state you are in when you ride the backroad, two-lane highways.

The highlights:

I stopped in Gallipolis, Ohio, the gravesite of Emma Gatewood, affectionately known as "Grandma Gatewood." She hiked the entire Appalachian Trail at the ages of 67, 69, and 71. I read a book entitled, Grandma Gatewood's Walk, by Ben Montgomery, and was so inspired that I wanted to visit her grave and hike a few miles of the AT in Ohio named "The Gatewood Trail," which I did.

I toured the tiny house in Winchester, Virginia, where Patsy Cline was born and raised. She lived there when she had her first break on the Arthur Godfrey television show where she won a contest – and \$10,000 – by singing, "Walkin After Midnight." Patsy and Loretta Lynn were the same age and became close friends. Sadly, Patsy died in a plane crash in Camden, Tennessee in 1963. She was only 30 years old.

I then rode up to Swan Lake, New York, where I toured the actual site of the 1969 Woodstock Music Festival. There is a large monument there (it is hard to find) and you can see where the stage was and the huge field where all the people were – approximately 400,000. The monument lists all the singers who performed at Woodstock including: The Grateful Dead, Sly & The Family Stone, The Band, Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young, Blood, Sweat, & Tears, Ten Years After, Joe Cocker, Jimi Hendrix, Credence Clearwater Revival, The Who, and Janis Joplin. It is amazing that they had this huge concert in a field basically in the middle of nowhere.

My last destination was the Seabee Museum in Davisville, Rhode Island. There I saw the history and memorabilia of the Seabees, the Naval Construction Unit, of which I was a part in the late 70's. I served in Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3, stationed in Port Hueneme, California and Okinawa. It was very enjoyable to walk down memory lane through the museum and see trucks and dozers like I used to operate. There is also a nice chapel on the museum grounds, and I went in there alone and prayed.

Now I am back home – safe and sound. I missed my wife, my church, and my hills of Tennessee. By God's grace I had a safe trip. I prayed for safety and God said, "You do your part," and I did. Together we had a great trip and I praise God for the joy and freedom of touring America, a great country. And I am glad to be home.

In Christ,
Parker



Thanks to the Outreach Team for serving lunch to the
faculty and staff at Heritage High School on July 29!
Lots of good food and fun!



Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

MONTHLY MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Meet Jewel Smith



1. Where were you born and raised? I was born and raised in upper East TN in the town of Elizabethton. That's in Carter County and is about 7 miles from Johnson City.

1a. How long have you lived in Tennessee? Forever except for a year at Benning, GA and a few months in New Orleans.

2. Name something unique about you that very few people know. I grew up in the country and belonged to the 4-H Club. I won a Betty Crocker Award Pin and a certificate for my biscuits and corn bread. Don still calls me Betty when I put on an apron and start heating the oven!!!

3. What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today? I love to be outdoors working in my five beds of raised vegetables and taking care of a variety of flowers. Reading is a necessity in my life also: there is nothing better than opening a new book and being off to another world.

4. What qualities do you admire most in others? A strong faith; honesty, a positive attitude, a willingness to volunteer, caring for others, and an enjoyment of life.

A Christian's Prayer for Peace

Loving Lord, we know that deep in the heart of every man there is a yearning for peace. The nations try in vain to forge peace initiatives, peace plans and peace treaties, and yet we know that in this world there will be no peace until the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace Himself, returns from His place in heaven—where even now, He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

We thank You that Your Word tells us that in this world we will have tribulation and times of war until that glorious future day when Jesus comes to reign on earth as our heavenly King of kings, Lord of lords and Prince of Peace. In that day, the earth will be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea. And so Lord, as we live our heartfelt plea to You for peace in this troubled world, we know that the only true world peace will come through our Lord Jesus Christ, when He returns to set up His kingdom of peace, over which He will rule for 1000 years, until He has put under His feet all the enemies of peace and love and hope and joy.

But Lord, in the meanwhile we are to live in a fallen world that is lying in the power of the evil one, and so we pray that we may take up the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God and stand fast in this evil day. Thank You that we can be confident of this—that we have the peace of God in our hearts for Jesus said “my peace I leave with You—let not Your hearts be troubled—behold I am coming quickly.” Now may the Lord of peace himself give us His peace at all times and in every situation. The Lord be with us all.

In Jesus Holy Name, Amen.

**Knowing Jesus*

Excuse me, what's your name again?



Please locate your name tags
and start wearing them on your
Sunday wares!!

Since we are continuing to
grow in membership, it would be
a great help to everyone if we
could put a name to a face!

Repetition works! Thanks!



Meet Sandy & Dave Tubbs

August 2 Karen Gale
 August 3 Michael Mulligan
 August 11 Hilda Chesney
 August 11 Santi Salazar
 August 12 Beth Clarke



August 12 Debbie Cummings
 August 17 Teresa Mulligan
 August 24 Dick Hostetler
 August 24 Dianne McRae
 August 26 Amanda Webb



44 Prophecies Fulfilled by Jesus

#26 Bought a Potter's Field
 O.T. Zechariah 11:12-13
 N.T. Matthew 27:9-10

#27 Falsely Accused
 O.T. Psalm 35:11
 N.T. Mark 14:57-58

#28 Silent before Accusers
 O.T. Isaiah 53:7
 N.T. Mark 15:4-5

#29 Spat Upon & Struck
 O.T. Isaiah 50:6
 N.T. Matthew 26:67

Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

Council Meeting July 3, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

Financial Report

- Operating expenses were \$14,000 over the plan for June, because of benevolence contributions made that month. The operating expenses remain under the June's plan by \$2,300.
- Tithes and donations exceeded the June plan by \$7,100; for the year these funds are \$57,600 over plan, moving the church to reaching more than 75% of its annual target.
- Building fund: increased by \$3,000 since May 2024, cash available for the fund is now \$554,851
- Expenses: The church has begun setting aside \$35,000 per quarter from its cash balance to account for a new associate pastor, once one is hired.

Steve McGee informed Council the new gutters are now replaced on Trinity House; we may consider installing gutter guards in the fall.

Cathy Kresica passed along the news that the Heritage High School teachers' luncheon is set for July 29th. It was greatly appreciated by all of the faculty.

G Lybrand attended the Global Conference and said it was a great event. George brought back a full report of the conference if anyone would like to read it; it will be located in the office of Trinity House.

Audrey Pettis has asked for assistance in performing office duties for SMGMC. She will be invited to the August church council meeting to explain what she does, and where she needs help.

Men's Luncheon
Thursday, August 15th @ 11
Calhouns

