



THE BOND



July 2024

Newsletter of the Norris Religious Fellowship
Interdenominational Community Church

*"In things agreed
upon unity,
In other things
liberty, In all
things the will be
one."*

NORRIS RELIGIOUS
FELLOWSHIP
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OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday & Thursday

We have scheduled another meeting for our proposed after-school program for Monday, July 8 at 4:00 p.m. This idea is gaining some momentum, and although there are a lot of specifics to be ironed out, we believe this experiment will come together in time for the beginning of the new school year. Once again, this effort will give us the opportunity to be good stewards of our facilities.

Don't forget that our ecumenical Vacation Bible School will take place on July 22nd-24th. As I've mentioned before, the first two sessions will take place at St. Francis Episcopal church, and the last session will take place here at the Fellowship. We'll conclude with a cookout on the 24th.

Ginny and I enjoyed our two weeks away—we were in need of a break! Both Ben Neal and Mike Smith commented very favorably on their experience leading our church in worship. They felt the warmth of your welcome and were grateful for the opportunity.

Grace and peace,

Bill

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawl ministry will not meet on a regular basis this summer. A meeting will be called if needed.

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap will not meet again until August.

Study Group

Study group will meet on Tuesday, July 16 at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be finishing our book, The Secret Message of Jesus, and deciding what the group will do next.

Sewing for Others

A talented group of volunteers who create clothing and blankets for children in tropical areas, p.j.s for local Christmas boxes, the shoebox ministry, blankets for newborns, and other necessities is now in need of fabric for their projects. They can use denim, flannel and any material suitable for children's wear, as well as men's shirts in good condition from which they use the cloth. During the month of July, bring your donations to church and put in the box labeled SEWING FOR OTHERS which will be in the narthex.

Supper Club

Supper Club will be held at Louis Restaurant in Fountain City on Tuesday, July 9 at 6 pm. Please let Susan Miller know if you will be able to attend. All are invited to join us for fellowship over a meal and an offering for a benevolent cause.

Fellowship Breakfast

Fellowship breakfast will be Sunday, July 7 at 9 am at Shoneys. All are invited to join in the fellowship before church services.

Dollar Sunday

July 14 will be Dollar Sunday. Isaiah 117 House in Clinton will soon be completed and ready for its first guests of children waiting for foster homes. Over the last several months some of our congregation as well as other friends have been painting on rocks to be placed on the grounds of Isaiah House. As a child readies to leave for a foster home they will be able to select rock to take with them. We will have the rocks on display and will dedicate them on Dollar Sunday, as well as taking an offering to help with finishing touches to the home.

Norris Ecumenical Association is Hosting
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 22-24, 2024
9:00 am – 12:30 pm

For rising Kindergarteners thru rising 5th Grade students



REGISTER TODAY!

Check your church website or newsletter for the registration form or contact:
Karla Kurtz at St. Francis Episcopal at office@stfrancishorris.org to get a copy.
Registration deadline is Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 12 Noon.

If you would like to volunteer or have other questions, please contact:
VBS Director Lesa Walker at lbailey323@gmail.com or call/text (865) 441-5459.



Volunteers Needed

Join us at Camp Firelight this summer!
It will be amazing and fun!

July 22nd - July 24th
9am - 12:30pm

VBS volunteer training
and decorating

Sunday, July 21st at 11am

If you can't volunteer your time, there are other ways to serve VBS. Please reach out to Lesa Walker with questions!

More information: ☎ 865.441.5459 ✉ lbailey323@gmail.com

Donations needed for Vacation Bible School!

We need to transform St. Francis to Camp Firelight for VBS. We would like to borrow a few items for decoration.

- Lanterns
- White Christmas Lights
- Woodland creatures stuffed animals (raccoons, squirrels, foxes, bears, etc.)

Drop off your items at the church on Sundays until July 14th, 2024

If there are any questions, please contact Karla or Lesa Walker. We are here to help!

Women's Fellowship News

Women's Fellowship 2024-2025 Elected Officers

At the Women's Fellowship Meeting held on June 30th the following were elected as officers for the coming year:

Co-Chair – Sara Brubaker
Co-Chair – Susan Bowling
Secretary – Cheryl Spaldi
Treasurer – Kathy Decker

Mark Your Calendars!

July 4th – Cookie Booth
October 12th – Annual Bazaar
TBD – Christmas in Norris
December 15th – Santa Claus/Christmas Potluck Party
Feb 15th – Book Sale
April 19th – Annual Plant Sale

NUMC Food Pantry

Donation Focus

July 2024: Shampoo & Conditioner

The next distribution will be Thursday, July 25, 2024, from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at Norris United Methodist Church.

Norris Clothing Closet

The Norris Area Clothing Closet needs men's spring/summer clothing: jeans (all sizes) shorts (all sizes), short-sleeved t-shirts (all sizes), and socks. They also assist residents at Journey Pure, many of whom are homeless, and they have a very specific request for men's boxer briefs (must be this style only) in size L (most requested). Currently, there is an abundance of spring/summer clothing for women and children, so please limit giving to the specific items above.

Items can be dropped off at Norris United Methodist Church at middle door. Please put in a plastic bag if inclement weather. Do not pack bags or boxes heavy as they have to be carried upstairs by volunteers. Contact Mary Ann Toennisson at toennisson@aol.com for questions or assistance.

Norris Religious Fellowship Executive Committee

6 June 2024

Members Present: Bill Ireland, Tracy Crouch Crossno, Jake Mounger, Yvonne Webb, Susan Bowling, and Lee Borgers

Prayer: Bill opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: Bill motioned for approval as written, Tracy seconded motion carried

Financial Report: Joan was not available for the meeting

Ministers Report: Bill will be on vacation from June 16 to 30.

VBS plans are underway the dates are July 22 to 24. Monday and Tuesday will be at the Episcopal Church and Wednesday they will be at the Fellowship for a cookout at the pavilion.

Monday, June 10, there will be a meeting about the after-school program.

September 15 there will be a Holocaust survivor here to speak.

The Interim Director for the ICCC will be at church on Sunday, June 9.

Old Business: No old business currently

New Business:

- Heat pumps – Lee talked to Jim Miller about the heat pumps in the Sanctuary and 2 in the Fellowship Hall. Jim will work on getting them in working order.
- We feel that the locks need to be rekeyed because we have no idea how many keys are in the community. We would like to charge people \$10 for a key that they can get back when they return their key. Bill will check with Oak Ridge Locksmith and see if they can do the work.
- Gutter drainage – The downspout outside the side door, toward the office, does not have a place to drain, the water is staying next to the building. Yvonne said she has an extra pipe that could be used to get the water away from the building.
- Meryl will hold a Cookie Decorating class in the Fellowship Hall on June 20.
- Custodian – We don't feel that the church is being cleaned sufficiently. Tracy will talk to Rachel Vann about the problem.
- Yvonne would like to have a Irrigation Timer for the newly planted bushes in the front. The purchase of a timer was approved, and Bill will get it.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Jon Ferguson
Hugo Hughes
Dianne Cole
Susan Miller
Mary Shelton
Col H.E Wolfe
Tracy Humphrey
Bud Blackwell
Bob Gregory
Lisa Rains,
Jackson Igou

If you have a prayer request, you may send them to the church email at norrisrf@comcast.net.

Let's Pray for one another

A simple way to do this is through our birthday calendar.

July Birthday's

3 Dorian Pierce
4 Robert Pierce
10 Patti Treece
14 Carolyn Stribling
18 Sophie Goins
19 Noam Haverkamp
23 Howard Helton
28 Zachary Denmark

Don't see your birthday listed?
please email the church office at norrisrf@comcast.net so we can add you.

July Greeters

July 7 - Jim Ryland
July 14 - Susan Bowling
July 21 – Tom Post
July 29 - Susan & Jim Millerf

Coffee & Fellowship

July 7 - Laura Croft & Sara Brubaker
July 14 - Yvonne Webb
July 21 - Kathy Decker & Paulette Booker
July 29 - Wendy Hall and Tom Post