



### *Holiday Hours*

The office will be closed November 26 and 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas, and December 31 and January 1 in celebration of the New Year.

### *Email Notifications*

Are you on our email notifications list? We regularly send out notifications via group email for things like class and event announcements, weather delays, and deaths. If you aren't receiving these, and would like to be on our email notification list, send an email to [Juliana@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:Juliana@cookevillefumc.org) with "Email Notification" in the subject line. Be sure to put your first and last name as well as your preferred email address in the body of the email. Some email apps hide the email address, so it's important to include it in the body of the email.

### **Sunday Services**

**Worship Service:**  
8:30, 10:55  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:55 a.m. Service Broadcast on  
News Talk FM 94.1/AM 1600

### **Nursery Available**

**Sunday Worship and Sunday School:** 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
Children ages birth to 3 years

**Phone:** 931-526-2177  
**Fax:** 931-372-9905  
**Email:** [office@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:office@cookevillefumc.org)  
[www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org)

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Have you ever thought of how gratitude or giving thanks (thanksgiving) might contribute to contentment? How do we experience contentment? How do we experience satisfaction, even spiritually? I think gratitude, when it penetrates to our core, has the ability to help us feel fortunate, blessed, and deeply content with the goodness and grace of God. That's what "counting your blessings" or "taking stock of your life" or prayers of gratitude actually do - they help us cherish the goodness of God in any given moment and feel deeply content.

There is actually an interesting Jewish tradition associated with the Passover Seder that functions as a trigger for gratitude and contentment. It is a song with the refrain in Hebrew, "Dayenu." Dayenu means "it would have been enough (sufficient)." The narrative of the Exodus is sung and remembered through the narrative of the song. Dayenu is like the chorus. It is the repeating refrain. With each segment that remembers and recounts God's saving action, it says - even if you had done just a portion of what you did as our savior/redeemer, it would have been enough. It would have been sufficient grace. It would have prompted our joy, worship and celebration of salvation. It would have been enough. Your grace is sufficient. Thank you.

The irony at times of abundance, especially like Thanksgiving when our plates are overflowing, is we are tempted to take it for granted. When we are full and satisfied, as Deuteronomy 8 says, we fail to remember the source of our blessing and give genuine thanks to God. The holiday, or holy-day of Thanksgiving, like all holidays as holy days, prompts us to consider deeply the goodness, gifts and grace of God in our lives. Even a portion of God's goodness would be enough to celebrate. Can we experience contentment, satisfaction, gratitude and even worship as a result? We can - if we celebrate the sufficiency of God's grace.

There was a moment in seminary when I only had one can of Campbell's chicken noodle soup, the heal of a piece of bread, and a half jar of peanut butter in the cabinet. That was all. It was a cold winter day. I sat alone at a parsonage dining room table. I bowed my head to pray and said, "Lord, you said to give thanks in all circumstances... so I thank you for this Campbell's chicken noodle soup, this heal piece of bread and peanut butter, and this glass of water for lunch. Help me enjoy it, to not be afraid of where my next meal is coming from, and be truly thankful." I ate the meager lunch and by the true grace of God, felt thankful and content. Dayenu. God's grace is sufficient in the moment. It prompts us to give thanks and be content in all circumstances. May it be so for all of us this Thanksgiving and beyond, even amid Covid-19 and in a historically difficult time. Remember, God's grace is always sufficient. All is well. Thanks be to God.

~ Kevin

## BY OUR PRESENCE

*Sunday, November 8, 2020*

Total In-person and Online Views 260

*Sunday, November 15, 2020*

Total In-person and Online Views 267

## BY OUR GIFTS

Actual Receipts for Two Weeks \$68,421.33

Actual Expenses for Two Weeks \$92,709.53

## Online Giving

During this time of social distancing, we have several ways for you to continue supporting the ongoing ministries and operating expenses of your church.

- Mail your check to 165 E Broad St.  
Cookeville, TN 38501
- Automatic draft on the 5<sup>th</sup> and/or 20<sup>th</sup> each month.
- Online giving by credit card
- Online giving through recurring donations

Please call LuAnn in the church office at 526-2177 if you would like to setup automatic draft or have any questions about other options. Online giving is available through our website at [www.cookevillefumc.org/giving](http://www.cookevillefumc.org/giving). Thanks for your continued support during these different times!

## Free Drive-Thru Flu Shot Clinic

### When:

**Every Tuesday, Wednesday,  
and Thursday  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

### Where:

**Cookeville Community Center  
240 Carlen Drive**

### Cost:

**Free, No Charge**

**No appointment necessary  
Remain in your vehicle  
Wear a short sleeve**

A service of the Putnam County Health Department



For updated information, please visit us online at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org) or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

## 3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Our 3rd grade students received their bibles October 25 at church in Dogwood Park! We celebrate these children and rejoice in this step in their journey with God.

Those who received bibles: Isaac Bell, Kinley Comer, Lakyn Cumby, Maggie Davis, Audrey Goodman, Anna Gregory, Rebecca Jackson, Zachary Mahan, Brody Moore, Anna Cate Railing, Marlee Scruggs, Mack Swan, Phoebe Turner, and Roslyn Ziegler.

If you have a 3rd grader and did not receive your bible, please email [children@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:children@cookevillefumc.org).

## MUSIC THAT FEEDS

We are happy to present our MUSIC THAT FEEDS concert supporting God's Grace Food Pantry. The pantry is our servant ministry focus for November and we want to thank our music department for sharing this gift of music.

The concert will be available on our YouTube channel at 6 p.m. on Sunday, November 22, and will be available for you to watch anytime after. Your thank offering can be given through our church website at [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org) or by mailing a check to the church office. Thank you for supporting the ministry of God's Grace Food Pantry.

## FILMING SCHEDULE—HANGING OF THE GREENS

All Children and Youth age 3 through 12th grade are encouraged to participate in the filming of the 2020 Hanging of the Greens. The filming will take place in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, December 2. The schedule is subject to change with the increase in Covid-19 numbers. Any change in plans will be communicated on December 1 for the December 2 recording session. Dress as you see fit. Groups will not be wearing robes.

Age 3 through grade 4: 5:15 – 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Grade 5 through grade 12: 6 – 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

## THANK YOU FROM THE WESLEY FOUNDATION

Thank you so much for your continuous generosity in donating to the Wesley Foundation at Tennessee Tech. This has been a particularly difficult year to figure out ministry, and we are so grateful for your support in making it possible! We are currently offering outdoor, socially-distanced worship services and community nights following all the guidelines of TTU and the United Methodist Church. Thank you for being a part of the life-changing work in the lives of students at TTU Wesley, especially in a time when community is so necessary. We are grateful!

Grace and Peace,

Logan and Addison Shock



## YOUTH NEWS

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a good and restful weekend. Here are the youth announcements for the week:

- Youth will meet this Wednesday in Freeman Gym from 4-6 p.m. Arrival time is from 4:00 to 4:30p.m. We will not be having youth next week, November 25, because of Thanksgiving.
- We have a new 5th and 6th grade intern! Her name is Emily Bartholomew and she will be sending out an email later in the week introducing herself and to describe her role with 5th and 6th grade.
- This year we will be combining Warmth in the Winter and Discovery Weekend on February 12th-14th. Because of Covid-19, Warmth in Winter will be virtual and will take place on a projector in the gym. The worship, t-shirts, and curriculum will be provided by Warmth and Winter, but we will still incorporate everything that usually makes Discovery weekend special (Games, Youth talks, etc.). Since all this will be provided by Warmth in Winter, there is a registration fee of \$35 per student. I will email a registration form later in the week. The deadline for registration is December 18.
- This summer we will be attending a camp called SIFAT! The dates for this are June 27-July 1. SIFAT is truly an amazing place, and I am very excited that we have the opportunity to go. I will be posting registration details later, but I wanted to go ahead and put this out there so it can be added to calendars. I hope you all have a great week, and please let me know if you have any questions!

~ Clinton Wheeler

## HOW TO ACCESS SUNDAY SERVICES

Visit [www.cookevillefumc.org](http://www.cookevillefumc.org), and click the *Sunday's Service and Devotionals* slide. From there, you will be taken to a page that lists all the previously recorded sermons. Click on the date of the sermon title you want to watch, and you will be redirected to our YouTube page and the list of sermons. You can also live stream our service each Sunday on YouTube under *CookevilleFUMC*. There is a link to that page above the sermon titles on our web page.

Don't have Internet access? We also broadcast via radio at 11 a.m. on NewsTalk FM 94.1.

## ADVENT ACTIVITIES

### FUMC Kids Advent

Children grades K-4 are invited to join us for Kids Worship at the 9 a.m. service on Sunday mornings. Join us November 29 - December 27 for a special celebration of Advent. Each week, we will explore the story of Christmas as we anticipate and prepare for the birth of baby Jesus!

### The Hanging of the Greens, December 6

6 p.m. via YouTube/cookevillefumc

The 47th annual Hanging of the Greens, an Advent service of symbolism and music, will be available online on Sunday evening, December 6 at 6 p.m. The service will include musical selections by the Children, Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, Instrumental Ensembles, and Gospel Ensemble. The children and youth of the church will participate in the decorating of the sanctuary with greenery, wreaths, poinsettias, and candles.

### A Service of Lessons and Carols, December 13

6 p.m. via YouTube/cookevillefumc

The service of traditional Advent readings and seasonal music will be available online on Sunday evening, December 13 at 6 p.m. The service will feature well-loved Christmas carols, instrumental music, soloists, choirs and the handbell choir.

### Christmas with the Children, December 20

6 p.m. via YouTube/cookevillefumc

The FUMC Children's Choirs will present the Christmas story through instrumental music, solos, and readings. The program will conclude with the ever popular Nativity.

### The Longest Night, December 20-25

via YouTube/cookevillefumc

A special devotional, designed for those living through difficult times during the holiday season, will be available online from December 20 - 25.

### Christmas Eve, December 24

#### Communion Elements Distribution

4 - 6 p.m., Sanctuary

Our pastors will distribute consecrated communion elements (to be taken home for your Christmas gathering) from 4 - 6 p.m. at the front entrance to our sanctuary. You and your guests are welcome to enter the sanctuary to light candles, pause in prayer, and then exit out the south side of the sanctuary. Communion elements will also be available on Sunday, December 20, at both services.

#### Candlelight Service

6 p.m. via YouTube/cookevillefumc

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, available online, will feature favorite carols and Christmas music, a sermon by Dr. Kevin Conrad, and the opportunity for your family to observe Holy Communion. The candlelight service will close with the singing of *Silent Night*.

## KEEPING THE FAITH

Thanks to all of you who have already turned in your pledge cards for 2021. For those who have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so within the next two weeks. You can place your pledge card in the offering plate at a worship service (extra pledge cards can be found at the welcome table), mail it in, email [luann@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:luann@cookevillefumc.org), or call LuAnn at 526-2177. These annual pledges are a crucial part of our ministry planning, so we deeply appreciate receiving them by November 22. Prayerfully consider what God can do with your investment in the ministries of First United Methodist Church ... then give with joy. Let's join together in "keeping the faith."



Methodist Church of Cookeville

165 East Broad Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501

**COOKEVILLE METHODIST**  
(USPS 563-600) Published biweekly,  
except Christmas week at  
First United Methodist Church  
165 E. Broad Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
Periodicals Postage Paid at Cookeville, TN 38501  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:  
Cookeville Methodist  
165 E. Broad Street, Cookeville, TN 38501

### *Did you know God's Grace Food Pantry can receive cash back from purchases using your Kroger Rewards Card?*

You get to keep all your same gas benefits and discounts, this is just an additional benefit provided by Kroger.

Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to register your card. You will be asked for the NPO number for God's Grace Food Pantry which is **96948**.

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church.*

#### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| The Asante family    | Susie Klein      |
| Janey Bassett        | Gayle Lester     |
| Tia Bassett          | Brady Livingston |
| Juanita Bilyeu       | Annette Lynch    |
| Nathaniel Bone       | Brian Maffett    |
| Robert Buck          | Amy Maberry      |
| Savannah Lynn Caylor | Sylvia McCann    |
| Peggy Cho            | Linda McConnell  |
| Scott Crouch         | Jeff Meek        |
| Mary Mac Darnell     | Naomi Mitchum    |
| Ferdinand DiFurio    | Harper Mynatt    |
| Nadia DiFurio        | Larry Norton     |
| Delaney Duncan       | Sue Pope         |
| Hazel Dyer           | Rob Poteet       |
| Hollis Ferris        | Mary Jo Rogers   |
| Brian Lee Foster     | Roxanne Self     |
| Serenity Garrett     | Garvan Smith     |
| Mary Garrison        | Hazel Smith      |
| Pat Gilbreath        | Sarah Stockton   |
| Katie Goryl          | Jan Thompson     |
| Nate Griffis         | Tracy Thompson   |
| Hunter Harris        | Jessie Watts     |
| Bob Jones            | Pam White        |
| Ann Kellman          | Carolyn Whitson  |
| Mary Byrd King       |                  |

#### ADVENT STUDY

Despite all the complications throughout this year, Advent and Christmas are still on the way! Each Advent season, we offer a church-wide Advent study and we plan to do so again this year. We're still working on the fine details and we will keep you updated on specific offerings, but we're happy to announce that this year's study is *Sent, Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas* by UMC pastor and writer Jorge Acevedo. We believe that God sent Christ into the world as our Savior — it's what Christmas is all about — and in turn, Christ sends us into the world. In this study, we will work to better understand how, where, and why. Please stay tuned for more!

We also offer a daily devotional each Christmas season. This year, our daily devotional book is *Our Greatest Gift, A Wonderful Life In Christ*. We're excited about both of these offerings. Both books are available at church on Sunday after the service, or at the church office during the week. The cost for *Sent* is \$10, and there is no charge for *Our Greatest Gift*.

— Rev. Rob W.

#### GET THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

Consider getting the Cookeville Methodist digitally! In addition to helping us save on postage and printing costs, you'll get the newsletter in full color before the printed copy has even been folded!

Email [office@cookevillefumc.org](mailto:office@cookevillefumc.org) with "Newsletter" in the subject line with your first and last name. Every other Tuesday you'll receive an email with a link to the current newsletter. You can also find it (along with past editions) and subscribe through an online form on our website at [www.cookevillefumc.org/resources/fumc-newsletters](http://www.cookevillefumc.org/resources/fumc-newsletters).