

Ongoing Activities

Wednesdays

- Dossett Chapel, 3:15-5 p.m.
- Youth Praise Band, 5-6 p.m.
- Instrumental Ensemble, 5:30 p.m.-6:15 p.m.
- Youth Group, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Choir Rehearsal, 6:30-7:45 p.m.
- Adult Discipleship, 6:30-8 p.m.

Thursdays

- Henry Center Food Pantry, Financial Assistance, & Clothes Closet 12-2 p.m.
- Handbells, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; begins 1/12/17

Tuesdays

- Henry Center Food Pantry & Financial Assistance 12-2 p.m.

Trustees meeting this Thursday, January 12th, at 6:30 p.m., in the Conference Room.

A new **Young Mom's bible study** will begin this Friday, January 13th, from 9-10 a.m., and will meet for 6 weeks. The nursery will be open from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The study is on the book "*One Thousand Gifts*" by Ann Voskamp. Please contact Beth Harrison at 434-2425 for more information.

Our **Encouragers** group will meet next Tuesday, January 17th, at 12:30 p.m. at Ruby Tuesday. Everyone pays for their own meal. No reservation is required and we invite all widows/widowers to join us for a time of food and fellowship.

The Message—Pastor Paul Purdue

The writer of Hebrews paints a beautiful image of a heavenly stadium filled with all the saints cheering us as we progress towards the eternal prize, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily entangles us and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith... Do not grow weary or lose heart." (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Are you spiritually fit? Do you have a spiritual fitness routine? The first step in developing spiritual fitness is cultivating a practice of daily quiet time with God. In this quiet time we unload our burdens, confess our sins, evaluate our spiritual progress, and untangle our hearts from life's distractions. Too often Christians stumble around carrying spiritual weights like fear, shame, legalism, coveting, strife, anger, or un-forgiveness. God longs for us to check-in and lay aside these burdens and entanglements. We need a daily prayer routine.

My daily prayer goes like this: "Creator and Giver of Life, where did I fall short of your love and grace yesterday? Holy Spirit, show me where I failed to love. Oh Jesus, You loved us all the way to the cross - forgive me and come empower me to become more like you today." It is not quick or easy- but fitness never is. It takes time, discipline and effort. Don't you want to cross that heavenly finishing line knowing you did your very best? I strive for more than God's gracious participation trophy. I want Jesus to say, "Good job Purdue."

John Wesley called this daily checking in with God "spiritual respiration." We exhale the stale sinful air that poisons our soul and we inhale God's grace, peace and love, which empowers us to overcome sin and brokenness. Wesley wrote, "God's breathing into the soul, and the soul's breathing back what it receives from God; a continual action of God upon the soul, and a re-action of the soul upon God; an unceasing presence of God, the loving, pardoning God, manifested to the heart, and perceived by faith; and an unceasing return of love, praise, and prayer, offering up all the thoughts of our hearts, all the words of our tongues, all the works of our hands, all our body, soul, and spirit, to be a holy sacrifice, acceptable unto God in Christ Jesus." The privilege of the children of God.

Come join us Sunday as we explore the second step in spiritual fitness and consider how the Word of God and Worship can measure, correct and guide our spiritual walk. Let us run in such a way we win the prize!

*Grace and Love,
Pastor Paul*

FIT LIFE
Run to Get the Prize — 1 Cor 9:24

January 15th
"Follow the Leader - Walking as Jesus Walked"
1 John 2

January 22nd
"Team Matters - Finding Strength Together"
1 Thessalonians 3-5

January 29th
"Step Up To Serve - Moving Beyond Infant Formulas"
Hebrews 5:11-6:12 & 1 Corinthians 3

First Light & Outreach Ministry—Jeff Harrison



Hey Everyone,

How's everyone doing with those New Year's resolutions? I was reading in a devotion and they said New Years is great because it's a chance to start over, a New Beginning. I totally agree. They said that even every week and every day can be a chance to start over. Isn't that a reassuring thought? A chance to start over. I know for myself, some days are crazy busy, my children are melting down, I'm so stressed out, but I have a chance to start over. Every day, I can begin with prayer. Every week, I can begin with worship. Every year, I can make commitments to change for the better. I think God has wonderful things planned for us in 2017 and I look forward to accomplishing them with you!

*In Christ,
Jeff*

Senior VIBES

Ongoing Events...

Adult Art Group

Fridays
10 a.m.- 12 p.m.
Main Bldg., #208



Knitting Group

3rd, 4th, & 5th
Tuesdays
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
FAC Bldg.
Room #4



Coming Events...

February 19th – Senior Adult Valentine Luncheon; 12:30-2 p.m.

(Please see sign-up on Senior Board for committees to help. February 10th is deadline for signing up to attend the luncheon.)

Senior Ministry—Esther J. Sims

Thought of the Week: *“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18.*

Basket Weaving!



What a treat to have Mrs. Cyndee Kissel come and instruct a group in this beautiful skill this week.

This Week’s Activities...

January 17th - Encouragers’ Luncheon, Ruby Tuesday

Happy Birthday!!!

January 13	Martha Carden
13	Sandra Gregory
14	Bunny Comer
14	George Jensen
17	Wilma Shasteen
18	Jack Crutcher
19	Laura Orr
19	Donna Johnson
21	Elton Thompson



Happy Belated Birthday to Mary Ann Allen who had a birthday on January 5th

Please check our prayer list in the newsletter and on the church’s white board outside the office. Help the staff stay in touch! If you have knowledge of any of our Senior Adult Members who would like to be remembered in prayer or would like a visit from our pastoral staff, please do not hesitate to let us know. Also, we acknowledge birthdays of Senior Adult Members weekly in the newsletter; if you would like to be added to the list give me a call (Esther: 455-5434).

Youth Ministry—Theresa Johnson

I hope everyone enjoyed the snow day last week and the unexpected long weekend. We’ll also have a long weekend next weekend in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our high school ski trip is also next weekend, and I appreciate your prayers for our youth and adult leaders who are going. I also hope everyone will take some time and prayerfully reflect on the life and work of Dr. King, read some of his words, repent of our treatment of our African American brothers and sisters, or participate in a MLK event. May we also prayerfully seek ways in which the Church today is called to be a catalyst for social reform and justice. Hear Dr. King’s words in his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” addressed to the church. “There was a time when the church was very powerful—in the time when the early Christians rejoiced at being deemed worthy to suffer for what they believed. In those days, the church was not merely a thermometer that recorded the ideas and principles of popular opinion; it was a thermostat that transformed the mores of society.” Especially to our youth--also remember that Dr. King carried out his great work empowered and guided by our Lord mostly as a young adult! God likewise desires to use you and your gifts for God’s mission in the world right now, to be instruments of God’s grace, love, and justice.



Upcoming events

- Friday-Monday, January 13th-16th High school ski trip
- Sunday, January 22nd Meeting about confirmation in FAC SS room @ 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 25th WNW parent meeting @ 7:30 p.m. ALL WNW PARENTS NEED TO ATTEND.
- Friday-Sunday, January 27th-29th Warmth in Winter (Opryland Hotel)

The \$155 total payment and registration forms for WNW are due now if you haven’t turned them in yet. Also, please let me know if you are interested in your youth joining our confirmation journey this year. It’s open to usually sixth graders or any youth who wants to more deeply explore his or her faith.

Peace in Christ,

Theresa (theresajfumc@lighttube.net or 931-224-8864)

Dossett Chapel—Jim Carter

We would like to thank all who gave to the angel tree program at Dossett Chapel this Christmas season. The gift cards are presented to the children each Christmas at a party prior to the Christmas vacation break. For many of these children there is not much more than these gift cards they receive at Christmas. They are distributed to the children each year with a small gift bag provided by the Chapel and its ministry partners, and the very much appreciated by the children.

We are also still hoping to find some additional volunteers to help at the Chapel with assistance needed in the lunch preparation. Please contact Jim Carter at jrcarter_55@hotmail.com if interested in helping out with the program.

Children's Ministry—Julie Uehlein

I have many goals for our Children's Ministry in 2017; one is to communicate in every way possible with parents. Our church is using a new tool called Text in Church. I highly encourage you to text the word CHILDREN to 931-452-4747 and then complete the short form that is sent back to you. You can also text CHURCH to the same number for FUMC updates. Help our staff keep you more informed with this tool.



A big welcome and thank you to Emily Rice for agreeing to be our Pre-K Sunday School coordinator. Also, thanks goes to our Pre-K rotating teachers that include Ryan Bond, Mary Lambeth Gomez, Morgan Hanson and Teri Kanan. I had the joy of teaching the Pre-K kiddos Sunday morning and let me tell you...they are precious!!!

Our 6 week Winter Wednesday night programming begins January 25th from 4-5 p.m. Grades K – 5 will break into different age groups and meet with myself and Gwyn Diller to study about honesty and friendships. We will have a devotion time followed by fun/games/crafts with some music mixed in. The Halos (ages potty trained 3 – Pre K) will meet at the same time with Katie Davenport and Whitney Newton. The nursery will be available during this time for parents that are volunteering.

Mark your calendars for January 22nd for our Winter parent's meeting that will take place following the 11 a.m. service in the art room. The nursery will be available as well as childcare in the Soul Lounge. I ask that at least one adult member from your household attend.

Info relating to our Children's Ministry is available at the Information Station desk (at the top of the steps in the Children's Department). Any forms or info you need will be at this desk. All sign-up sheets (parents and children) will be located on the bulletin board that is located between the bathroom doors in the Children's Department. All info pertaining to the nursery and nursery aged children will be kept in the nursery or on the bulletin board to the right of the nursery door.

Jesus said, "Let the Little Children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Mark 10:14-1

*Partnering WITH You,
Miss Julie*

Mission Moment—Holt Cason



The Hope Center in Latvia was established out of a desire to serve God by providing a new beginning for young, single mothers and their babies. In the face of economic hardship and lack of living space, many young women (or girls) thought they had no choice other than abortion. To address this concern we established the Hope Center, a non-profit organization that provides expectant single mothers with shelter and support, giving them a viable alternative to abortion. Today, we are asking for funds to purchase new furniture for the Hope Center. Will you help by contributing to the HOPE CENTER FURNITURE FUND?

Henry Center Clothes Closet



I want to share a Clothes Closet customer's answer to prayer the last Thursday we were open before Christmas.

Just prior to opening the doors to those waiting outside in the cold, workers brought up a very nice kitchen table with 6 chairs. A young lady in line checked in and immediately came to me saying she'd like to have the table and chairs and I reserved them for her. She continued to shop for a short while also obtaining a few other items but soon returned to the table and sat down in one of the chairs. I told her she could continue to shop but she said "I've got what I wanted and I'll just wait for my Mom to come with a truck so we can take the set home."

After a few minutes the young lady got up and came over to me with big tears in her eyes. She said when she first got to the Closet that day she had looked in the door to see if there was a table but there was none that she could see. She sat in her car until time for the Closet to open and when she came in the door, there sat the table and chairs. While more tears ran down her face, she said that she had prayed that she could fulfill her mother's wish today, going on to say "that Big Man does answer prayer." She explained that she and her Mom had purchased an old house early last year and had worked hard to refurbish it, however, their stored furniture burned recently. She said her mother's one Christmas wish was to have a kitchen table and chairs for the family to sit around and enjoy their Christmas meal together. I put my arm around her and we spent some time talking about God and about how He loves and cares for us.

Someone recently asked me what I did at the Clothes Closet on Thursdays and I laughingly answered "I talk." Yes, I talk, as my job is to greet people as they enter and then to check them out and talk/listen with anyone who wants to share joys, grief, anger, hurt, etc. As I have said before, yes we bless many people who visit the Clothes Closet but they are not the only ones blessed. We, who volunteer, also receive a great blessing when we are able to provide needed items, God's love and prayer with those who enter.

To the membership of our church, whether you give items, donate money, work at the Clothes Closet or lift us up in prayer, you are a vital part of this important ministry at FUMC.

As we begin this new year, we invite you to come join our team of volunteers at the Clothes Closet and I believe you too will be blessed.

Linda Roberts

Worship Attendance (Jan. 8th)	
8:00 a.m.	44
First Light	152
11:00 a.m.	121
Total	317
Sunday School	103
Dossett Wednesday	41

Offering Counters (Jan. 15th)

Steve & Julia Mayes
Terry & Dian Rayfield

Greeters/Welcome Teams (January 15th)

8:00 a.m. Lynn Cason
Ross Roepke

9:00 a.m. Shanna & Anna
Brooks

11:00 a.m. Bill Bethmann
Mary Etta Ward
Ruth Wilson

Offering Envelopes

Envelopes are ready for pick up for those who pre-ordered them. If you did not pre-order but would like some, we do have extra boxes available. Just see Renee in the finance office.

Keeping In Prayers

Kevin Youse (friend of George Stone)	William F. Johnson (friend of the Cook family)	Ed & Bobbie Prater (brother & sister-in-law of Bob Prater)
Mary Keel	Billy Roy Murray (Nancy Wright's family)	Mario Braston (friend of Bertha Smith)
Nancy Vining (mother of Charlie Vining)	Leon Smith	Anthony Robinson, Scott Dowling & Mary Lundy (family of Wilma Finchum)
Elise Walker (daughter of LE & Judy Wright)	Don Bond	
Jimmye Lou Smith	RE Alexander	
Forrest Frame	Joyce Mathis	

United Methodist Women Circle 7—Tammy Brown

Due to final semester of grad school, I am passing the torch for Circle 7. I am pleased to announce that Bertha Smith will be stepping up to fill the role for leader of Circle 7 UMW. What a beautiful spirit she has within, and her heart for this woman's group says much the same if you know her as we do. Please continue to lift her and the UMW up in prayer as we go forward with 2017. We have a fantastic group of women that want to serve this church and community. UMW is understanding that their mission is about social justice and action for women and children. Circle 7 has continuously looked for ways to serve the Blue Monarch, CASA, The Henry Center, Partners for Healing, Dosset, and countless other ministries, as well as responded with fervent prayer and support to those in their church family. This circle will continue to meet throughout the school year, the 3rd Sunday of every month at 4:30 pm in Davidson Hall and is open to new membership. Currently our make-up includes young mothers as well as a few older, like myself, who enjoy gathering once a month for prayer, fellowship, devotion, and program. If you are interested in joining, please come out to our next meeting.

For all Circle 7 members: this note is especially for you! For the month of January we will actually meet on the 4th Sunday, January 22nd, and our program will be Partners for Healing. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact Bertha Smith at 931-434-9700.

Blessings and Peace to you all! Happy New Year! Tammy Mentzer Brown

Connect

Senior Pastor

Administrative Assistant
First Light/Outreach Ministry
Interim Dir. of Ministry w/ Youth
Children's Ministry
Senior's Ministry
Henry Center Ministry
Dossett Chapel
Organist and Accompanist
Music Director
Music Ministry (First Light)
Financial Secretary
Facilitator
Stephen Ministries

931.455.5434

Pastor Paul Purdue

Mandy White
Jeff Harrison
Theresa Johnson
Julie Uehlein
Esther J. Sims
Theresa Johnson
Jim Carter
Michelle Anderson
Doug Clark
John Cook
Renee Evans
Elmo Birkhead
Larry Crabtree
Rosemary Crabtree

fumc@lighttube.net

paulfumc@lighttube.net
fumc@lighttube.net
jeffhfumc@lighttube.net
theresajfumc@lighttube.net
childrensfumc@lighttube.net
ejsfumc@lighttube.net
theresajfumc@lighttube.net
jcarter_55@hotmail.com
clavierbelle@gmail.com
doug.fumc@gmail.com
johnjaniece@bellsouth.net
financesfumc@lighttube.net
fumc23@lighttube.net
49crab@bellsouth.net
janecrab@bellsouth.net



Receive this newsletter electronically and get *The Good News faster. Help us save paper, postage and time!* Email fumc@lighttube.net to opt out of the printed version. You can also find the newsletter our new website, fumctullahoma.com

Postmaster Address Change to Same
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
208 W. Lauderdale Street
Tullahoma TN 37388

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
TULLAHOMA TN (USPS 754-990)
PRINTED WEEKLY EXCEPT
THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS