

# thefocus

A biweekly publication of  
First United Methodist Church  
145 W. Church Avenue,  
Covington, TN 38019

November 18, 2010 issue

901.476.9694 (Office); 901.476.5352 (fax);  
901.476.2434 (MPNS)



## WITH GRATITUDE FOR EVELYN CHAPMAN

After serving as regular organist since 1970, (and filling-in beginning in 1947) Ms. Evelyn Chapman has decided to resign her position. We are very thankful for the dedication and service Evelyn has given to First United Methodist Church, and we are sincerely indebted to a wonderful musician and the many ways she has ministered with her music. **December 5** will be her last day as regular organist, and a reception will follow in the Cockrill Gift Room. All are invited to attend the reception. Let us all show our appreciation to her in the weeks to come.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE THANKSGIVING SERVICE

You are invited to attend the 2010 Community Wide Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 21 at 6:00p.m. It will be hosted by First Baptist Church in Covington. The address is 211 South Main Street. There will be worship and music performed by a mass choir. After the services you are invited to stay and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the fellowship hall. Invite your family and friends. This is always a wonderful service!

**FOURTH ANNUAL  
ADVENT PROCESSION  
SERVICE**  
NOVEMBER 28, 2010  
5:30 P.M.



PROCESSING FROM  
ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL  
TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
AND FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHORAL MUSIC PROVIDED BY  
THE *CHRIST CHURCH*  
CHAMBER SINGERS  
*CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,*  
MEMPHIS, TN



## NEEDED...CHILI

Following the Advent Procession Service on the 28th, we will once again share in a potluck Chili Supper Fellowship meal in our Fellowship Hall. Contact Sheila in the office at 476.9694 if you plan to make chili. We look forward to sharing in this meal with our family and friends.

## Ministry Staff

Tim Carpenter, Senior Pastor  
tim@clergy.net

Grace Phelps,  
Provisional Deacon  
Minister of Small Groups and  
Program Ministries  
gphelps\_fumc@bellsouth.net

Bill Face,  
Certified Lay Minister  
Minister of  
Congregational Care  
bface\_fumc@bellsouth.net

Rachel Harrell, Director of  
Music  
rachelyoung-  
harrell@gmail.com

Jaime Hunter, Director of  
Children's Ministries  
jhunterx5@yahoo.com

Jason Smith, Director of  
Youth Ministries  
Jsmith\_fumc@bellsouth.net

Cindy Pease, Counselor  
M.H.S.P.  
476-9694 Ext. 18

## Office Support Staff

Sheila R. Fleming  
Printing Secretary-  
Receptionist  
Sfleming\_fumc@bellsouth.net

Holley Mills Morris  
Admin. & Financial Secretary  
Hmorris\_fumc@bellsouth.net

## Musicians

Evelyn Chapman, Organist

Russell Phelps, Pianist

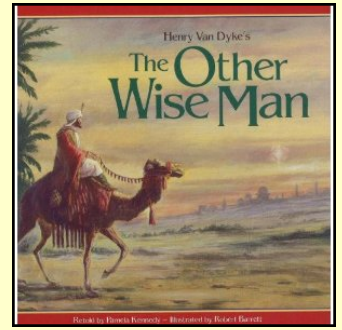
## Facilities

Rebecca Paris  
Custodian

Kenny Summers  
Maintenance

## THIRD MONDAY FUN & INFORMATION FORUM

You are invited to come and join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, December 20**. Beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Cockrill Gift class there will be Christmas cookies and coffee served while there is a reading of **Henry Van Dyke's "The Other Wise Man"**. Also, **Cindy Johnson** from Baptist Home Care and Hospice will be working in a blood pressure clinic. There will be goodie bags of Christmas cookies to take home. Invite your family and friends. Make your plans now to attend!



## NEW BEGINNINGS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

New Beginnings is the name of the Sunday school class formed by the Cockrill-Gift class and approximately half of the Go class. The class will be meeting in the old Cockrill-Gift classroom. We are following the Adult Bible Studies, Uniform Series as the study guide. We invite anyone who would like to come and join us in our continuing journey with God.

Blessings, Larry Anderson.

## THANK YOU FROM GIDEONS

"FUMC and Tim Carpenter,

The Gideons of Tipton County North Camp and the Gideons International would like to thank all of you for giving the Gideons the privilege to report on October 24 about the work that God is doing with His word as it is placed out there in a lost and dark world. We sincerely thank you and your congregation for the support of the Gideon Ministry and the great offering of \$ 375.25 in the traditional service and \$ 135.00 in the early service. That will buy a total of 102 full Bibles or 377 new testaments with Psalms and Proverbs. Sincerely Thanks in Christ Jesus, Buford Dempsey Walker, Tipton County North Camp

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

The marble top table and floral arrangement located in the front entrance to the sanctuary was given to the church in memory of Jack Peyton by the Henry Glass Sr. Family. The Peyton and Glass Families were next door neighbors for 37 years.

## MILK JUGS NEEDED..



We are once again collecting gallon milk jugs to use as luminaries for our annual Advent Procession. We are collecting until Sunday, November 28. There will be a bin on the stage in the Fellowship Hall to place your donations. Please wash jugs out before donating them.

## GO GETTERS



The Go Getters will meet on Monday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for dinner. It will be catered by Mike and Alice Morrison. The menu will be ham and all the trimmings. The cost will be \$ 8.00 per plate. After dinner the children of Cathy Sims' School of Dance will be our entertainment. All seniors are invited and encouraged to attend and bring a friend.

## ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

### November 7, 2010

MorningSong -	110
Sunday School -	128
Traditional Worship -	214
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,312.00
Traditional Worship Offering -	\$ 13,360.00

### November 14, 2010

MorningSong -	101
Sunday School -	143
Traditional Worship -	170
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,099.00
Traditional Worship Offering -	\$ 3,849.75



# 2010 FUMC Holiday Schedule

November 17	Children's Christmas Practice	6:30 p.m.
November 17	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.
November 21	Community Wide Thanksgiving Service at First Baptist	6:00 p.m.
November 21 - 27	School Thanksgiving Break	
November 28	Hanging of the Greens	11:00 a.m.
November 28	Advent Processional Service	5:30 p.m.
November 28	Chili Supper at FUMC immediately following processional service	
December 3	Children's Christmas Practice	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
December 4	Children's Christmas Practice	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
December 5	Youth Spaghetti Fundraiser Lunch	12:00 p.m.
December 5	Evelyn Chapman Reception in Cockrill Gift Class after 11:00 service	
December 5	Children's Christmas Program	6:30 p.m.
December 6	Go Getters Meeting and Meal	6:00 p.m.
December 11	Chancel Choir Dress Rehearsal	10:00 a.m.
December 12	Chancel Choir Christmas Program	4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
December 12	Meal served between Choir Programs	
December 13	Covington Christmas Parade	7:00 p.m.
December 14	UMW Christmas Luncheon	12:00 p.m.
December 19	March to the Manger Offering	8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
December 19	Youth Progressive Dinner	
December 20 - Jan 2	School Christmas Break	
December 21	Live Nativity	6:30, 7:00, 7:30 p.m.
December 22	Live Nativity	6:30, 7:00, 7:30 p.m.
December 23	Live Nativity	6:30, 7:00, 7:30 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship Service	5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
December 24	Church Office Closed	
December 27	Church Office Closed	
December 28 - 31	"Breakthrough" Youth Trip	

## UPPER ROOM PRAYER MINISTERS SCHEDULE

November 21	<u>Morning Song Service</u>	<u>Traditional Service</u>
	Janet Gairhan	Rhonda Patton, Nancy Peeler and
	Doris Ann Gray	Phyllis Richmond
November 28	<u>Morning Song Service</u>	<u>Traditional Service</u>
	Bob Hensley	Catherine Phelps
	Shirley Hensley	John Wallace



## NEW ARRIVAL



**Aubrey Nicole Williams was born on Thursday, November 11.** She is the daughter of Josh and Amber Williams. The proud FUMC grandparents are Roger and Brenda Williams. Their home address is 426 South Maple, Covington, 38019. Aubrey's FUMC great grandmother is Clara Nell Williams. Her home address is 1371 Highway 179, Covington, 38019.

## TRIBUTES RECEIVED AS OF NOVEMBER 16

(Designated to the UMW Candleburning Fund of FUMC)

In memory of Jack Peyton given by Bill Jim and Helen Davis, In memory of Johnny Proud by Bill Jim and Helen Davis.

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## YOUTH SPAGHETTI "TO-GO" FUNDRAISER

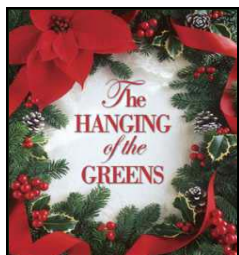
Tickets for the Youth Spaghetti "To Go" Fundraiser will be on sale Sunday, November 21 and 28 following the MorningSong Worship, Sunday School and the Traditional Worship Service. The cost per ticket will be \$ 5.00. Meal will include Spaghetti, Garlic Bread and Salad to go on December 5. The money raised during this event will benefit the youth's winter retreat. Table for buying tickets will be at door for MorningSong and outside of Sanctuary for Traditional Service.



## YOUTH BREAKTHRU WINTER RETREAT

The BREAKTHRU (youth winter retreat) payment in the amount of \$ 110.00 is due to Jason by Sunday, November 28. If you are not able to make payment in full, please make sure to let Jason know that your youth should be included with the group. The date has been changed for the deposit for the trip, hence the short notice regarding your payment. If there are needs for financial help for the trip, please let Jason know. Thank you for your understanding.

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## HANGING OF THE GREENS

The Annual **Hanging of the Greens** ceremony will take place the morning of November 28 during the traditional worship service. This is always a special way to begin the Advent season.

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## SPECIAL OFFICE HOURS

The church office will have special office hours during the Thanksgiving holiday week. The office will be CLOSED on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26.

If there are any additions that should be added to the bulletins for the week of Thanksgiving they need to be in to the office no later than Wednesday morning, November 24. Thank you for your assistance with this matter

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## COUNSELING

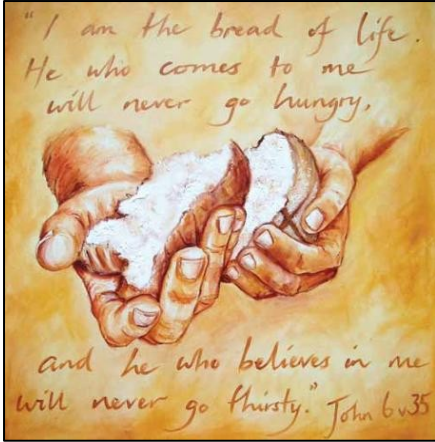


Counseling is available for individuals or couples. Cindy Pease, S.,L.P.S./ M.H.S.P., Licensed Professional Counselor, Nationally Certified, is available for appointment by contacting the FUMC office 476-9694 at ext.18.

*Fees are based on ability to pay.*

# Bread of Life Food Ministry Update

So far this month, our food ministry has already served 195 families in only two Saturdays. Our Covington pantry has had some logistical challenges as we began bringing all recipients indoors to wait for their food due to the cold and rainy weather, but we are working through those. Thanks to all those who have served and /or offered your financial support of the food ministry.



**Great news! We now have access to a panel truck in which to haul our food from the Food Bank!** Tommy Dunavant, Emergency Management Coordinator for Tipton County and County Executive Jeff Huffman have become aware of the huge growth in our feeding ministry and asked if there was something the county could do to support us in some way. Because of the volume of food we are moving these days – **over 5,000 lbs. per week** – it has become a real challenge for our faithful truckers who have been taking their pickup trucks to Memphis each week. We inquired if the county might have a truck that could be used for that purpose. Tommy Dunavant located an appropriate truck and Jeff Huffman made available some Community Development grant money to purchase it. The county will be leasing it to the Bread of Life Food Ministry for \$1.00 a year! Starting next week, all our food can be picked up in that truck in one trip! God has once again provided exactly what we needed when it was needed.

**Thanks to our young people who re-bagged several thousand pounds of potatoes this past Sunday!** Waymon McDade, Frank Racy, Russell Lindsey and Chad Newman pulled trailers to Martin, TN on Saturday, Nov. 6 and picked up the potatoes (thanks to them!) which were free to us from the Society of St. Andrew, a non-profit organization which gleans the fields of commercial food growers after their harvest. Many of the potatoes were bagged in 50 lb. sacks, which are far too large for our food pantry families. So, Jason Smith and twelve of our young people went to Jimmy & Yvonne Bryant's shop where the potatoes are being stored (thanks to the Bryants!) and re-bagged the potatoes into **228 smaller bags. They used over 500 of your donated plastic grocery sacks to do this, so please keep bringing those sacks in!**

**The demographics of our food recipients are shifting.** We adjust the sizes of food allotments families receive based on how many in their household. Because of that, we carefully monitor the sizes of the families coming to us for food each month and we order the food based on those statistics. For the first six months, our family demographics held steady at these numbers at both pantries:

<b>Small families</b>	<b>(1-3 persons)</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Medium families</b>	<b>(4 - 6 persons)</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Large families</b>	<b>(7- 10 persons)</b>	<b>5%</b>

Over the past two months, the Covington pantry has seen an increase in small families – particularly in elderly recipients who live alone. Their statistics have shifted to:

<b>Small families</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>Medium families</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>Large families</b>	<b>3%</b>
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The Brighton pantry has seen a significant uptick in medium sized families coming to us for food. Based on conversations with qualifiers at Brighton, this seems to be driven some by extended families moving in together in the same residence trying to make ends meet. Their breakdown has changed to:

<b>Small families</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>Medium families</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>Large families</b>	<b>5%</b>
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We will adjust our food orders accordingly so that we can do our best to meet the needs of the families who come to us in both locations.

# Scheduled Events for November 17 through December 1, 2010

## Wednesday, November 17, 2010

5:00 p.m. Church Wide Meal - Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. Fall Bible Studies  
6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Children's Music & Studies  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry - Go Class  
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

## Thursday, November 18, 2010

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Cockrill Gift  
1-3:00 p.m. Altar Guild-Sanctuary/Cockrill Gift  
6:30 p.m. ZUMBA - Sr. High Classroom

## Saturday, November 20, 2010

9:00 a.m. Covington Food Pantry

## Sunday, November 21, 2010

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
1:00 p.m. Delayed broadcast of traditional worship service, KBJ  
5:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study  
6:00 p.m. **Community Thanksgiving Service hosted by First Baptist Covington**

## Monday, November 22, 2010

6:00 p.m. Rebroadcast of Morning Song worship service KBJ

## Tuesday, November 23, 2010

6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting - Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. ZUMBA - Sr. High Class

## Wednesday, November 24, 2010

**NO ACTIVITIES DUE TO SCHOOL BREAK**

## Thursday, November 25, 2010

**Church Office Closed for Holiday**  
7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Cockrill Gift Class  
1- 3:00 p.m. Altar Guild-Sanctuary/Cockrill Gift  
6:30 p.m. ZUMBA - Sr. High Class

## Friday, November 26, 2010

**Church Office Closed for Holiday**

## Saturday, November 27, 2010

9:00 a.m. Brighton Food Pantry until 11:00 a.m.

## Sunday, November 28, 2010

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Hanging of the Greens  
1:00 p.m. Delayed broadcast of traditional worship service, KBJ  
5:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study  
5:30 p.m. **Advent Processional with Chili Supper to follow at FUMC**

## Monday, November 29, 2010

6:00 p.m. Rebroadcast of Morning Song worship service KBJ

## Tuesday, November 30, 2010

6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting - Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. ZUMBA - Sr. High Class

## Wednesday, December 1, 2010

6:00 p.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. Women's Study  
6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Children's Music & Studies  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry - Go Class  
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

## CARL PERKINS STAR TREE

It is once again time to put up the Carl Perkins Star Tree. We will have the tree set up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 21. If you would like to buy a gift for a needy child, please choose one of more stars from the tree. Find the corresponding list on the table by the tree and write your name and phone number next to the item listed on the star(s) you have chosen. Please leave the gifts in the Fellowship Hall (with the star attached to the gift) no later than Sunday, December 5. **DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.** If you have any questions, please contact Martha McDaniel at 476.5511 or Lauren Enzor at 354.5806. As always, the HOPE Class thanks you for your support of this important mission project.

## CONGRATULATIONS

On Tuesday, November 16, Mr. Ross McDaniel graduated from the Memphis Police Academy. Congratulations on this accomplishment.



## UPCOMING MENUS FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

[Make your reservations no later than Monday at 4:00 p.m. for the meal.](#) You may contact the church office at 476.9694 or email: [hmorris\\_fumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:hmorris_fumc@bellsouth.net). Thank you! ["Standing" reservations are encouraged!](#)

[Adult Menu for November 24](#)    [Children's Menu](#)    [Dessert](#)

**NO MEAL DUE TO SCHOOL BREAK**

[Adult Menu for December 1](#)

Hamburger Steaks  
Hashbrown casserole  
Black Eyes Peas  
Rolls

[Children's Menu](#)

Corn Dogs  
Macaroni & Cheese

[Dessert](#)

Cupcakes



## REELFOOT MINISTRY TOY DRIVE

The Go Class is again sponsoring the annual Christmas toy drive for Reelfoot Rural Ministry. A suggested list of age group appropriate toys will be distributed to each Sunday School class. Please bring toys to the Go Class by December 3. Thank you!



### Birthdays...

## November 18 - November 30

November 17 - David Smith  
November 18 - Billy Anderson, Rowan Maxwell  
November 19 - Bill Wallace  
November 23 - Cathy Adams  
November 24 - Melanie Enzor, Bob Hensley,  
Charlotte Quinley  
November 25 - Stacy Buxton, Trent Thornton  
November 26 - Norma Kugler  
November 27 - Tim Wallace  
November 29 - Nancy Simpson  
November 30 - Dee Anna Aday, Jordan Carpenter,  
Peggy Portis, Lauren Smith



## Grace Place Prison Ministries needs toothbrushes!!

Each year, the women of Grace Place at Mark Luttrell Prison for Women make up Christmas bags for all the inmates there with basic personal hygiene items. They have asked us here at FUMC to help them with toothbrushes.

They need **350 brushes**, individually wrapped, please. You may drop off your donations in the cardboard box in the hallway going into the sanctuary. If you would like to donate cash for the purchase of toothbrushes, please designate that on your check. For more information, contact Grace Phelps at 476.9694.

**Deadline is Sunday, Dec. 5.**

**Thank you!**

## WEEKLY SAMARITAN REPORT

3 households received assistance with utilities totaling \$ 300.49 (paid to the vendor)  
2 households received \$ 100 for rent. (paid to the vendor)  
2 households received total of \$ 60.00 vehicular as (paid to the vendor)  
1 household space heater

The current balance of the Samaritan Fund is a \$ 630.17. Thanks to all who have donated!



### WEDNESDAY EVENING WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

Enjoy classroom—Third floor of Education Building

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 3 – Dec. 8, 2010

A gathering of women for fellowship, study, and reflection together on our spiritual journeys. Our text for the study is called *Feeding on the Word* from the *Companions in Christ* series, which is published by the Upper Room. The study focuses on new and different ways to make scripture a integral part of your daily faith journey. Join us!

## BAPTISM

**Carter Joseph Todd**, son of Alex and Tara Todd, grandson of Sheri Gilbreath, and great-grandson of Tom and Shirley Bready, was baptized on November 14. Carter is one of five living generations and his great-great grandmother, Mary L. Kimery, also attended with several other relatives. Please pray for Carter, that he may become a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.



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“Leading Others to Christ,  
Learning to Be Disciples,  
Loving through Service.”

*MISSION STATEMENT OF  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH*

NOVEMBER 18, 2010