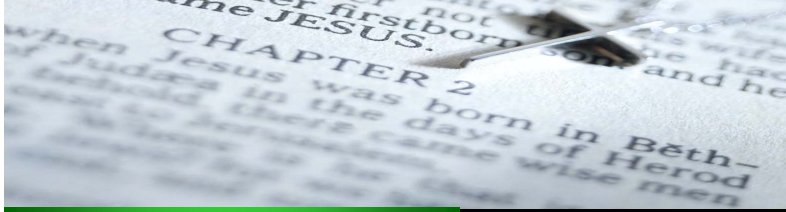


the focus



Ministry Staff

Tim Carpenter,
Senior Pastor
tim@clergy.net

Grace Phelps,
Outreach and Program
gphelps_fumc@bellsouth.net

Bill Face,
Congregational Care
bface_fumc@bellsouth.net

Jason Smith,
Youth Ministries
jsmith_fumc@bellsouth.net

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

Andi Katherine Delashmit
Director of Nursery

Office Support Staff

Holley Mills Morris,
Admin. & Financial Secretary
Hmorris_fumc@bellsouth.net

Peggy Miller,
Printing Secretary/Reception
pmiller_fumc@bellsouth.net

Musicians

Justin Hanson, Organist
Russell Phelps, Pianist

Facilities
Rebecca Paris,
Custodian

Kenny Summers,
Maintenance

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 2011

VBS was a great success. Attendance averaged 61 students per day. The children had great fun while learning of God and his teachings. Activities included Bible stories, crafts, singing, playing, movies and more!

Special thanks go out to all the adult and youth volunteers. We could not have a VBS program without you!



more photos on page 9

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES RESUME!

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 24 — Bible Studies, Youth Group and Fellowship Meal. If you can join us for the meal, please indicate the number of adults and children in the attendance pads at worship or contact Peggy Miller at "pmiller_fumc@bellsouth.net" or by phone at 476-9694. Please have your reservation in by 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 22.

5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal—Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Bible Studies
7:00 p.m. District Laity Meeting—

see more on page 5

CONGRATULATIONS! - **Georgia Caroline Cook** was born on July 5 and welcomed by her parents, Zach and Emily Cook and her brother, Jonah. Georgia's FUMC great grandmother is Dot Peyton.



We take great joy in announcing that Mrs. Elizabeth Bryant will celebrate her 102nd birthday on August 12. Mrs. Bryant's home address is 397 Bess Lane, Covington 38019.

HAPPY 102ND BIRTHDAY!!

UMW GENERAL MEETING will be Thursday, September 1, in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be at noon, the program starts at 12:30 p.m. Christian Counselor, Dr. Faye Beckett is the guest speaker.

SMITH FARM BID UPDATE - On July 20, at noon, the invitation to bid on the Smith Farm at Kelley Corner was closed. At that time, six sealed bids had been received by FUMC. On July 21, at 9:00 a.m., the bids were opened in the order received. The bidders: Glass Farms, Harris Hughes, Jr., Kelley Enterprises, Templeton Farms, Turner Farms and Yarbrow Farms. The lowest bid was recorded as \$201.99 and the highest bid recorded as \$248.26.

The next step in this process will be for the prospective bidders' farmland to be inspected by Ed Timberlake as farm manager. The inspection will include but is not limited to tilling, fertilizing, upkeep and other items. Based on the inspection and the bid information, Ed will make a recommendation to the Trustees at their August 16 meeting. The trustees will make the final selection.

The Smith Farm has 341 tillable acres and was gifted to FUMC in 1982 by Ruth Wiseman Smith. The contract is set for three years lease with an additional option of a two year lease extension. The current contract ends December 31, 2011. The Trustee committee is comprised of: JoAnn Anderson, Russell Bailey, Don Chastain (vice chair), Rick David, Keith Elzie, Martha McDaniel, Keith Phelps, Chad Smith, and Robert Yoakum (chair).

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

July 31, 2011

MorningSong -	89
Sunday School -	122
Traditional Worship -	134
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,840.82
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 1,200.00

August 7, 2011

MorningSong -	90
Sunday School -	100
Traditional Worship -	145
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 952.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 2,708.00

SAMARITAN REPORT

July 9 through July 22, 2011:

- 2 household received 2 nights each in lodging totaling \$128.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received \$105.00 in miscellaneous items (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received \$285 in rent assistance (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received a total of \$50 in vehicular gas (paid to the vendor).
- 9 households received assistance with utilities totaling 777.91 (paid to the vendor).

Grand Totals January 1, 2011 through today's date:

- 3 individuals received \$344.82 for bus ticket to return home (paid to the vendor)
- 16 individual received \$310 total in groceries (paid to the vendor).
- 20 households received lodging (totaling \$1,265.99 and paid to the vendor).
- 10 households received \$530.78 in miscellaneous items (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received \$59.39 in assistance with prescriptions (paid to the vendor).
- 19 household received \$1833.70 in rent assistance (paid to the vendor).
- 106 households received assistance with utilities totaling \$8,876.01 (paid to the vendor)
- 29 households received a total of \$685 in vehicular gas (paid to the vendor).

Total households assisted: 209

Total amount expended: \$13,818.91

The current balance of the Samaritan Fund is \$32.84

Stories of interest:

- A young mother of two children, ages 11 and under one, requested assistance. The baby was very croupy and obviously sick. The mother appeared physically and mentally exhausted. Her baby had been sick on and off for three weeks and she had missed quite a lot of work resulting in reduced paychecks. She works at a local grocery store and this was her day off. She said she works 5-6 days a week depending on the time of the month according to the food stamp business. She makes between \$220 and \$240 a week. She produced pay stubs for the past six weeks and her last two paystubs were \$70 and \$140 each. She also showed invoices and paperwork where she has had the baby at the doctor's office and the hospital for breathing treatments in the past three weeks. Her paperwork indicated they had left the hospital earlier this morning after chest x-rays and breathing treatments.

Her request was for assistance with rent, utility bill and diapers. She had \$50 cash on her and said her paycheck (to be received the next day) would be \$170. Confidential Care for Women could not help with diapers. FUMC provided arrangements for diapers.

With her expected check of \$170, the church helped her with the balance of her rent. We provided a listing of other churches in the area for the utility. She is working and raising a family.

- Last winter, one of the pantry recipients who has been coming since the very beginning, stated that she had been diagnosed with cancer and asked for us to be praying for her. We added her to our prayer list. Two weeks ago when asked her how she was doing, she said she didn't have cancer...and that it either was misdiagnosed or it's healed! But either way she attributes the change in her situation to the prayers the church did for her. She was very passionate over the situation and she expressed thanks to everyone. This is just one of many tragic and terrific stories that the pantry workers come across each week and an example of the way the pantry touches the lives OF many in IN many ways. Faith can be found in the most unlikely places...

YOUTH PUTT-PUTT

The youth had an awesome time at Putt-Putt Sunday, July 24. It was a wonderful afternoon of fun, community, and goofing off. As you can see we all grew a little facial hair as well. Don't miss out on the next Youth Fun Night which is coming up on August 21 when we will be going Bowling! Hope to see you there.



YOUTH CALENDAR - mark you calendar of these upcoming youth events...

Sun. Aug 7	5:00 p.m.	6th - 12th Grade Parents Meeting—Fellowship Hall
Sun. Aug 7	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Aug 14	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Aug 21	4 - 8 p.m.	Bowling - Bartlett Lanes
Wed. Aug 24	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun., Aug 28	6:00 p.m.	Youth Kick-Off
Wed. Aug 31	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wed. Sep 7	5 - 9 p.m.	Dutton Concert—Collierville
Sun. Sep 11	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wed. Sep 14	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Sep 18	4 - 8 p.m.	Laser Tag—Memphis
Wed. Sep 21	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Sep 25	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wed. Sep 28	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group

GO GETTERS POTLUCK - Monday, August 1st the Go Getters will have a “Back to School” Potluck Supper at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to your potluck dish, please bring school supplies to be donated to children needing assistance with supplies for the new school year.



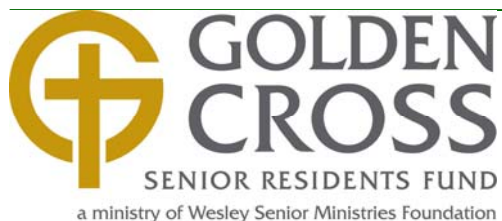
Special guest will be Officer Bill White, who will bring his drug dog.

MARY LOIS GRAVES, sister of FUMC's Mae Belle Wright and aunt to FUMC's Barry Wright, died in Ripley on July 20. Mrs. Mae Belle Wright's home address is 525 South Maple Street, Covington 38019.

EDITH LUTTRELL, wife of Andy Luttrell, and sister-in-law to FUMC's Adeline Shankle passed away recently. Adeline Shankle's home address is 219 West Sherrod, Covington 38019.



We extend our condolences to both families.



The Golden Cross Senior Residents Fund is a Christian ministry that uses individual donations to provide for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of low income independent living and assisted living communities of Wesley Senior Ministries Communities throughout West Tennessee, Western Kentucky, and Eastern Arkansas.

100% of gifts to the Golden Cross Senior Residents Fund go toward direct assistance for rent, food, and medical emergencies, plus programs and activities that promote a healthy and well-balanced life. There are countless stories that can be told about the people touched by the Golden Cross Senior Residents Fund. Their average age is 80 and the average income is \$715 per month. Many have outlived their entire family. Many have to choose between buying food, medicine or rent. For many, life would be lonely and scary without this ministry.

A special offering will be taken at communion on **Sunday, August 7th**, to assist with this program. Special envelopes will be provided. Please help us with this vital program. Our seniors depend on us!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDIES TO RESUME ON AUGUST 24

Mark your calendar now to be part of our Wednesday evening studies for the fall. We'll begin with a kick-off fellowship meal at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24 prepared for us by Mike and Alice Morrison.

Studies for adults, youth and children will meet from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Children will have 30 minutes of study time and 30 minutes of music. Youth will gather with Jason Smith for their time of study together.



Adults may choose from five different study options:

- Pastor's Bible Study with Rev. Tim Carpenter
- *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* with Rev. Grace Phelps
- *What United Methodists Believe* with Rev. Bill Franklin
- *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* with Brenda Wrather
- *Family Caregiver Education and Support* with Margaret Fleming and Carol Roy

Registration for the adult studies will take place after worship services on August 14 and 21. More detailed information on each of the adult studies will be available in the next edition of the newsletter and in upcoming worship bulletins.

We hope you will join us for fellowship and studies.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM TRIBUTES

In Honor of **Larry and JoAnn Anderson's** 50th wedding anniversary
Food Pantry Fund by Larry and JoAnn Anderson



THANK YOU...

A few weeks ago, a woman came into the church requesting assistance. Her husband had left her after 30 years of marriage. She is raising three children of her husband's niece. An appeal was made to the congregation to assist with the utility deposit at their new apartment. We thought you'd enjoy hearing her thanks:

"God Bless You! We thank you so much for everything that your church family have done for us. We love you, and thank you for everything.

Thank you for Caring So Much!"

*Mary Clark, Ka'Mata Burton
Memory Jarrett and Jori Clark*

The floral arrangement on the organ console on July 24, was given in memory of Chad Cromwell and to thank the congregation for the many prayers that were lifted up for Chad and his family following his tragic accident and death.

God Bless and Thank all of you,

The Cromwell Family

Thank you for the graduation gift of the new Bible and for having our mothers present them to us. Please keep me in your prayers as I am still hoping join the Marines. To make a long story short, there was some confusion with my medical records that were misread and misinterpreted, so I am anxiously waiting on the board to meet to clear-up the confusions, before I know the next step in my future.

Again...thanks so much for thinking of me!

Zachary Dickey

FUMC CALENDAR JULY 27 - AUGUST 10, 2011

Wednesday, Jul 27, 2011

6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl—Go Classroom
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, Jul 28, 2011

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
 1-3:00p.m. Altar Guild - Sanctuary/
 Cockrill Gift
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

Saturday, Jul 30, 2011

No Food Pantry

Sunday, Jul 31, 2011

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, Aug 1, 2011

6:00 p.m. Go Getters - Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Aug 2, 2011

5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

Wednesday, Aug 3, 2011

6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl - Go Classroom
 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, Aug 4, 2011

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
 11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study -
 Carol Daniel's home.
 1-3:00p.m. Altar Guild - Sanctuary/
 Cockrill Gift
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

Saturday, Aug 6, 2011

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry - Covington

Sunday, Aug 7, 2011

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship - Golden
 Cross Collection
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Golden
 Cross Collection
 5:00 p.m. 6th - 12th Grade Parents Meeting -
 Fellowship Hall
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, Aug 8, 2011

12:00 p.m. UMW Ruth Circle - Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. UMW Rebekah Circle
 - Hylde Sloan Home

Tuesday, Aug 9, 2011

9:30 a.m. UMW Adah-Mary Circle-Cockrill Gift
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

**FUMC Regular Office Hours:
 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday**

August 1 - August 15



Aug 2	Keith Anderson Martha Brasfied Mac McDowell III	Aug 10	Jordan Davis Jeffrey Nix Carter Todd
Aug 4	Jackson Akins Tanner Akins Debbie Neal Mike Racine	Aug 12	Carolyn Turner Elizabeth Bryant Amy David
Aug 6	Cade Carter Sampson	Aug 13	Henry Glass, Sr. Mary Catherine Turner
Aug 8	Linda Ray Rebecca Stigler Ed Timberlake	Aug 14	Lee Delashmit
Aug 9	Tim Cousar Emogene Ray	Aug 15	Dennis Hart

FABLE OF THE PORCUPINE - It was the coldest winter ever. Many animals died because of the cold. The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together to keep warm. This way they covered and protected themselves; however, the quills of each porcupine would wound their closest companion.



After a while, the porcupines decided to distance themselves from one another. They began to die, alone and frozen. So, the porcupines had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth. Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. They learned to live with the little wounds caused by the close relationship of their companions. The heat generated by the closeness enabled the porcupines to survive.

The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect people. Individuals learning to live with the imperfections of others and can admire another person's good qualities.



“Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.”
Ephesians 4:1-2

NEW ADDRESS:

Hope everyone is having a great summer. Thanks for keeping me posted on all the church news.

Much love,
Jan

Jan Palubicki
106 Camellia Trace Drive
Maryville, TN 37801
(865) 984-2414 home
janpalubicki@yahoo.com

COUNSELING

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

Fees are based on ability to pay.



WORSHIP BROADCASTS

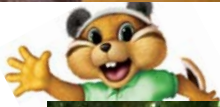
Live radio broadcast of the Traditional Worship on WKBL AM 1250 @ 11:00 a.m.

Traditional service: Delayed broadcast on KBJ Cable TV, Channel 5 (city) and 19 (county). Sundays at 1:00 p.m. and Tuesdays at 12 Noon.

MorningSong on the Square: Delayed Broadcast on KBJ Cable TV, Channel 5 (city) and 19 (county). Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Also, live streaming of the traditional service is available at www.covingtonfumc.com, as well as streaming of past services, at any time.

FUMC 2011 VBS PANDA- MANIA





UPPER ROOM PRAYER SCHEDULE



July 31
Morning Song Service
Larry Anderson and Joey Caldwell

Traditional Service
Catherine Phelps and John Wallace

August 7
Morning Song Service
Don and Carliss Chastain

Traditional Service
Rhonda Patton, Nancy Peeler and
Phyllis Richmond

August 14
Morning Song Service
Ellen Clark and Bonnie Wright

Traditional Service
Mike and Alice Morrison

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

**MISSION STATEMENT OF
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION OF
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
145 CHURCH ST.
COVINGTON, TN 38019

www.covingtonfumc.com



JULY 27, 2011