

A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION OF
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER 30, 2011 ISSUE

Ministry Staff

Tim Carpenter,
Senior Pastor
tim@clergy.net

Grace Phelps,
Outreach and Program
Ministries
gphelps_fumc@bellsouth.net

Bill Face,
Congregational Care
bface_fumc@bellsouth.net

Charlotte Quinley
Director of Children and Nursery
Ministries

Jason Smith,
Youth Ministries
jsmith_fumc@bellsouth.net

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

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



WELCOME NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

First UMC welcomes Janet Kinney as the new Director of Music. A native Memphian, Janet attended Briarcrest Christian School, where she was involved in the choir and band. She received a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she graduated Summa Cum Laude. After embarking on a career in education, she earned Masters of Education and Educational Specialist degrees from Union University. She has been teaching music in the greater Memphis area for 14 years. She comes from a family of church musicians, and enjoys serving in a church that values the importance of music in their service each week.

Janet will begin her work with First United Methodist Church on January 4. She will lead music for both services, working with both the Chancel Choir and the Praise Band. In addition, she will assist the children with Vacation Bible School, and occasionally lead music classes for adults. We look forward to the ministry that Janet will bring to our community of faith.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ELLEN CLARK - First UMC owes a debt of gratitude to Ellen Clark for her selfless devotion of choir direction during the past year as a volunteer. Through Ellen's direction, the chancel choir has continued to produce beautiful music for worship and for specials, including a cantata at Easter and a cantata on December 11 during worship.

SPECIAL THANKS TO PRAISE BAND - We extend special thanks and appreciation to the members of our Praise Band for all their volunteer work during the time we were without a Music Director. Thank you, Cherri Freeman, Kim Stewart, John Wallace and Bonnie Wright. We look forward to your continued service to FUMC.

Please give a warm thank you to Ellen, Cherri, Kim, John and Bonnie when you see them. The church has been blessed by their efforts.

Advent and Christmas at First United Methodist Church

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

December

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL Sunday the 4th, 7:00 p.m.

A sequel to last year's production "The First Leon," Leon learns a lesson in humility as he rediscovers the meaning of Christmas. "The Next Noel" is a 35 minute musical filled with a number of new songs, as well as a healthy dash of traditional carols. Followed by "Happy Birthday Jesus" cake and cookies, in Fellowship Hall.

CHANCEL CHOIR CANTATA Sunday the 11th, 11:00 a.m.

Drawing upon familiar seasonal melodies and texts, this cantata will present three suites of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Presented during the Traditional Worship service, it promises to be a blessing to all who receive the timeless message of the season through this music.

LIVE NATIVITY

Wednesday—Friday, 21st— 23rd, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 p.m. (weather permitting)

On the South lawn of the church, these presentations are a special time for families and individuals to contemplate the Incarnation.

SERVICE OF LESSONS, CAROLS, AND COMMUNION

Saturday the 24th, 5:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

Hear again through scripture and song the wonderful gospel story of God's acts of salvation and grace in human history, culminating in the Incarnation in Jesus Christ. The service concludes with a candlelight singing of *Silent Night*, and also includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All Christians are welcome to partake of the Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS DAY Sunday 25th, **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10:00 a.m.**

Rarely does Christmas day fall on a Sunday, but this year we have the extra joy of it happening. Join us for ONE service of worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, as MorningSong and the Traditional Service combine.



CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER -

A printed copy of the November-December UMC Memphis Conference newsletter "Circuit Writer" is available on the table leading to the Fellowship Hall. It is also available online at www.memphis-umc.org.

YOUTH CALENDAR...



Wed. Nov 30	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Dec 4	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wed. Dec 7	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Dec 11	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wed. Dec 14	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Sun. Dec 18	6:00 p.m.	Progressive Dinner
Dec. 21 - 28	-----	no youth activity

95 SPECIAL BIRTHDAY - Mr. Charles Fisher IV will celebrate his 95th birthday on December 8th. His home address is 341 Fisher Road, Covington 38019.



The UMW will have their Christmas Luncheon at noon on December 13 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per plate. You are welcome to bring guests. Entertainment will be provided by Russell Phelps.



TEACHER NEEDED... Methodist-Presbyterian Nursery School is looking for an assistant teacher for Monday-Wednesday-Friday mornings from 8 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Those interested in this position may pick up an application at the First Presbyterian Church office. Please contact Andrea Franklin, at 603-0126, for any questions regarding this position.

Share the Warmth Coat Closet Ministry



coat

During November, 260 coats were distributed to 100 different needy families on food pantry days – 111 adult and 149 kid’s coats. Our current coat inventory stands at just over 300 coats and we will continue to distribute them as long as they last – one per person. Thank you to all who have donated coats and / or volunteered your time to work in the Coat Closet. If you’ve not yet cleaned out your closet, your coats are still needed!

December 1 -

December 15



Dec 01	Landon Beasley	Dec 08	Patricia Anderson
	Jean Face		Charles Fisher IV
	Patsy Fleming	Dec 12	Caroline Glass
	Bettye Shelley		Faye Hughes
Dec 02	Kyle Pugh		Leigh Smith
	Peggy Watson	Dec 13	Peter Bierman
Dec 03	Oney Naifeh		Ellen Clark
Dec 04	Sheri Burdette		Kaye Smith
Dec 06	John Oliver Posey	Dec 14	Sharon O'Connor
Dec 07	Nadine Davis		
	Kelley Holt		

THANK YOU...

"Thanks to the Sunday School Classes of FUMC and the individuals for their generous donations for Tipton County Commission on Aging. Because of you, we raised \$800.00 for TCCA which provides many programs and services for our Tipton County Seniors."

In Christian Love,
Shirley Bready

"Bereavement Team,

A special thanks to each one of you on the bereavement committee. The food was delicious, your kind words of sympathy and love shown by each of you will always be remembered by my family. Our church is blessed by so many wonderful, caring people."

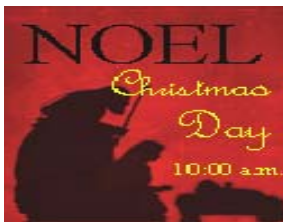
Love to you all,
Wanda Lakey and family

Go Getters

Go Getters will have their annual Christmas Party on December 5th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will be catered. Cost is \$7.00 per person. Emma Simonton, age 11, great-granddaughter of Hylda Sloan, will fill the air with Christmas spirit by playing Christmas music on her harp. Everyone is invited to join this holiday feast.



SPECIAL OFFERING - We received \$144.88 in donations during the Advent Service Chili supper. These funds will go toward the cost of the service.



COMBINED SERVICE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

On Christmas day, join us for ONE service of worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, as MorningSong and the Traditional Service combine. Sunday School follows after the worship service.

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

November 20, 2011

MorningSong -	84
Sunday School -	137
Traditional Worship -	149
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,561.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 5,445.00

November 27, 2011

MorningSong -	96
Sunday School -	
Traditional Worship -	171
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 993.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 2,724.97

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTES...

In Memory of **Dorothy Baker**

Bereavement Meal Fund by Russell and Nancy Lindsey

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Nancy Elaine Bradley**

Emory M. and Dora Mai Bradley Lakeshore UMA Scholarship Fund
by Susan and Joseph R. Niolan, Jr

In Memory of **Addison and Rebecca Bringle**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Rhea Dabney**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Albert David**

Food Pantry Fund by Russell and Nancy Lindsey

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin

Worship and Choir Fund by The Chancel Choir

In Memory of **Henry Hartji**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Bernice Hanson**

Worship and Choir Fund by Peggy Miller

In Memory of **Jim Johnson**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Harold Love**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

In Memory of **Bette Niolon Ramsey**

Emory M. and Dora Mai Bradley Lakeshore UMA Scholarship Fund
by Susan and Joseph R. Niolan, Jr

In Memory of **Joanne Black Stafford**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready

Samaritan Fund by Graydon and Nancy Simpson

In Memory of **Mary Neal Franklin Thorn**

Samaritan Fund by Tom and Shirley Bready



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.



Morning Song

ON THE SQUARE

SERVICE OF PRAISE

SUNDAY @ 8:30 A.M.



AT THE CHAMBER CENTER

SAMARITAN FUND -

November 12 through November 18, 2011:

- 2 households received 3 nights lodging totaling \$96 (paid to the vendor).
- 1 household received \$15 in diapers (paid to the vendor).
- 1 household received \$50 in rent assistance (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received 1 space heater valued at \$44 each to total \$88.
- 5 households received \$299.00 in utility assistance (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 directly to the vendor)
- 25 individuals received \$530 total in groceries (paid directly to the vendor).
- 44 households received lodging totaling \$2,776.99 (paid to the vendor).
- 16 households received \$1,061.65 in miscellaneous items (paid to the vendor).
- 3 households received \$104.27 in assistance with prescriptions (paid to the vendor).
- 30 household received \$2,636.70 in rent assistance (paid directly to the vendor).
- 2 households received one space heater valued at \$44 each to total \$88.
- 200 households received assistance with utilities totaling \$15,152.27 (paid to the vendor)
- 36 households received a total of \$910 in vehicular gas (paid directly to the vendor).

Total households assisted: 359
Total amount expended: \$23,604.70

The current balance of the Samaritan Fund is \$494.24

Stories of interest:

- ◇ A special thank you to the God's Grace and Hope Sunday School Classes for hosting their recent bake sale. \$756.00 has been received to date designated to the Samaritan Fund. **Thank you to all!**
- ◇ There has been much in the news recently about the struggle Mid-South Food Bank is having in securing food in the marketplace. There is such great need and nationwide, food banks are vying for an ever decreasing supply of available food items. We were unable to obtain turkeys for either of our pantries this year. Rather than not having any holiday meat, we arranged with a local grocery store to purchase chicken hens. Recently, Noel Smith Howe of IPL, in Brighton, called asking if their company could do something for the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. Their check for \$850 arrived in the mail on Tuesday, Nov. 15 and funded hens for both the Brighton and Covington Food Pantries. Thank you, Noel, Dale and Terri at IPL. **God provided just what was needed through your generous spirit.**
- ◇ A lady came into the church just before Thanksgiving, offering to make a donation to our Food Pantry. At first sight, our staff thought this woman was someone in need, coming to ask for assistance. It was quite a surprise when she pulled \$300 out of her purse stating that she wanted to make a donation to help folks for Thanksgiving. **We are blessed with many kinds of help from our community.**
- ◇ Our FUMC Youth joined forces with other local UMC youth to help at the Brighton Food Pantry in November. The FUMC youth packed the food bags while the visiting youth carried the food parcels to the patrons' vehicles. The bagging and carrying tasks were handled in a tremendous fashion. **Thank you to all the youth for their work.**

FUMC CALENDAR NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 2011

Wednesday, Nov 30, 2011

6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Practice - sanctuary
 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl - Go Classroom
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, Dec 1, 2011

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

Friday, Dec 2, 2011

5:30 p.m. Children's Pizza Supper - Fellowship Hall
 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec 3, 2011

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry - Covington

Sunday, Dec 4, 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
 7:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program
 7:45 p.m. "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Party - Fellowship Hall

Monday, Dec 5, 2011

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

Tuesday, Dec 6, 2011

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

Wednesday, Dec 7, 2011

12:00 p.m. Friendship Class Christmas Party - Peggy Miller home

Thursday, Dec 8, 2011

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

Saturday, Dec 10, 2011

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry - Trust Co. Bank -Brighton

Sunday, Dec 11, 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

Tuesday, Dec 13, 2011

12:00 p.m. UMW Christmas Party - Fellowship Hall
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

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

WORSHIP BROADCASTS

Live radio broadcast of the Traditional Worship on WKBL AM 1250 @ 11 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 Channel 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.





UPPER ROOM PRAYER SCHEDULE



December 4 Morning Song Service Larry Anderson and Joey Caldwell	Traditional Service John Wallace
December 11 Morning Song Service Don and Carliss Chastain	Traditional Service Rhonda Patton and Nancy Peeler
December 18 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
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CHURCH**

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145 CHURCH ST.
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