

A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION OF
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
JANUARY 11, 2012 ISSUE

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES, CHANGE OF START DATE - All Wednesday night activities will resume on January 18th. (see page 8 for information)

BAPTISM - Jana McCommon was baptized and joined the church on Sunday, January 1, 2012. Jana has been a part of our congregation for some time now and we welcome her officially into our church family. Cathy Adams will serve as Jana's sponsor.



Cathy Adams and Jana McCommon



**“TELLING YOUR FAITH STORY”
CONFERENCE**

Igniting A Passion for Evangelism

Saturday, January 28, 2012

8:30 a.m. ~ 3:45 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
in Covington, TN

See information on page 9



UMW CHRISTMAS PARTY - was held in Shirley Bready's home on December 13. Approximately 30 attended the festive luncheon. Russell Phelps entertained the group with his lines of laughter. What a surprise when special guests and former FUMC members Becky May and her daughter, Pat Bellingrath, entered through the front door of the Bready home! Becky and Pat were so happy to have been a part of Covington's UMW party.

MARCH TO THE MANGER - Gifts for the March to the Manger have continued to come into the church. Our new total for this offering is \$7,248.00. These gifts will be used for Outreach with the TV, radio and live streaming broadcasts. Thank you for your gifts for this ministry!

2012 MINISTRY COMMITMENTS - On Sunday, January 29, each person in our church family will have the opportunity to make their personal commitment to the ministry of our church. Please be in prayer about how you may be called to serve God and your neighbor in the coming year.

The New Beginnings Sunday School class will have a pizza party on Friday, January 20th, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the New Beginnings Room.



Morning Song
ON THE SQUARE
SERVICE OF PRAISE
SUNDAY @ 8:30 A.M.

AT THE CHAMBER CENTER

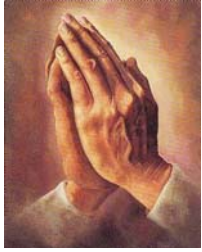
ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

January 1, 2011

MorningSong -	93
Sunday School -	119
Traditional Worship -	146
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,511.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 4,098.00

January 8, 2011

MorningSong -	108
Sunday School -	168
Traditional Worship -	181
MorningSong Offering -	\$ 2,705.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 6,052.00



CONDOLENCES - We extend out deepest sympathies to the Wallace family in the passing of Mrs. Lucille McCreight. She is the sister of FUMC's Bob Wallace, 4437 Mount Carmel Road, Covington 38019; and aunt to FUMC's Tim Wallace, 125 McLillie Lane, Covington 38019.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH - Come, join us for Children's Church as we search and learn about our Bible characters. At Epiphany, we made hobby camels and searched for the Star in the East with Stargazers. Children are invited to Children's Church each Sunday morning during Morning Song and Traditional Worship service. It is open to children Pre-K to 2nd grade.



Pictured are Christopher and Benjamin Smith as two of the three "Wise Men" looking for a star in the east while riding their camels.

THANK YOU...

Dear Church friends and family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, calls and visits while our granddaughter Marlee was in the hospital. It really touched our hearts when we needed it. Prayer comforts and truly works.

Bo and Lydia Anderson

COUNSELING

Counseling is available for individuals or couples. *Fees are based on ability to pay.*

Two counselors available:

Dr. Faye Beckett, Doctorate in Christian Counseling, Master of Science in Psychology. For appointment call the FUMC office 476-9694, ext. 19.



Cindy Pease, M.H.S.P., Licensed Professional Counselor, Nationally Certified. For appointment call the FUMC office 476-9694, ext.18.



MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTES...

- In Honor of **FUMC** Choir
Altar Guild Fund by Bill Jim and Helen Davis
- In Honor of **Ellen Clark**
Altar Guild Fund by Bill Jim and Helen Davis
- In Memory of **Wilbur and Melbagene Cash**
Caregivers Fund by Barry and Anne White
- In Honor of **David Duncan**
Food Pantry Fund by Spirit of Truth Church
- In Honor of **Cameron Face**
March to the Manger by Bill and Jean Face
- In Honor of **Lilly Face**
March to the Manger by Bill and Jean Face
- In Honor of **Max Girbach**
March to the Manger by Bill and Jean Face
- In Honor of **Addy Hanes**
March to the Manger by Bill and Jean Face
- In Honor of **Gary Liles**
Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin
- In Honor of **Mary Gene Matheny**
Bereavement Meal Fund by Peggy Miller
- In Honor of **Velma Peeler**
March to the Manger by Dot Peyton
- In Memory of **Martha Wallace**
March to the Manger by Debbie and Bud Neal



*January 16 -
January 31*



Jan 16	Will Clark Bonnie Wright	Jan 27	Lauren Enzor Kelley Mathis
Jan 17	Jan Palubicki Rebecca Paris	Jan 28	Tommy McDow
Jan 18	Mackenzie Love	Jan 29	Cassie Evans Ally Naifeh
Jan 19	W.T. Bailey Jerry Hunter		Barry Wright
Jan 22	Brittany Crockett	Jan 30	Skip Erwin Jr. Ann Hart
Jan 23	Pam Shelley		Keri Holt
Jan 25	Katelyn Stewart		Sarah McDowell
Jan 26	Bo Anderson Patricia Bailey		Carter Ray
	Georgianne Phelps	Jan 31	James Gray



DEALING WITH DEMENTIA -

Most people in this day have experienced, either personally or through a friend, the occasion of visiting a person with dementia so severe that he/she does not seem to be of this world. It is only natural to wonder where 'they' are. Is there any cognitive awareness? Do they recall fond memories? Can they hear us when we talk to them? Do they care that we are there to visit with them? Where is their soul?

The authors of "*No Act of Love Is Ever Wasted*" address the last question with the answer that the soul is 'right where it has always been'... believing that the soul is a person's identity in the eyes of God and does not disappear. Considering that God is still very present in the person with dementia makes it much easier to interact with that person even when we see no tangible evidence of understanding. Often we see no immediate understanding of prayer but we know that God hears; and if that person's soul is the presence of God then isn't God right there hearing/seeing our interactions? No matter the severity of the dementia, the spirit of God resides within that physical vessel. Caregivers, then, might be called guardians of God's very precious souls. Perhaps the realization that God is still present could make caring and caregiving a bit more joyful. Perhaps acknowledging this presence might create an even better relationship between care receiver and caregiver

Three copies of "*No Act of Love is Ever Wasted*" are available to be checked out. See Grace Phelps. FUMC member, Carliss Chastain, says of the book "This is a must-read for caregivers. I learned so much."

Reference: "*No Act of Love Is Ever Wasted*" by Jane M Thibault and Richard L Morgan.

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.



SAMARITAN FUND 2011 SUMMARY REPORT

January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

- 3 individuals received \$344.82 for bus ticket to return home (paid directly to the vendor)
- 30 individuals received \$730.00 total in groceries (paid directly to the vendor).
- 51 households received lodging totaling \$3,102.99 (paid to the vendor).
- 18 households received \$1,108.65 in miscellaneous items (paid to the vendor).
- 3 households received \$104.27 in assistance with prescriptions (paid to the vendor).
- 33 household received \$3,316.70 in rent assistance (paid directly to the vendor).
- 3 households received one space heater each to total \$121.00.
- 249 households received assistance with utilities totaling \$18,145.57 (paid to the vendor)
- 37 households received a total of \$935 in vehicular gas (paid directly to the vendor).
- 1 household received \$511 for Bereavement and Burnout Assistance (paid to bank for the family's benefit).

Total households assisted in 2011:	427
Total amount expended in 2011:	\$28,420.00

- ◇ 427 households have been assisted in 2011. Considering there are 260 weekdays in the year, this loosely totals to 1.64 household were assisted daily by FUMC during 2011. This does not account for the weekday holidays when the office is closed.
- ◇ \$28,420 has been expended in 2011 to these 427 households. Again using the 260 weekdays, this totals \$109.31 per weekday. Again, does not account for the weekday holidays when the office is closed. The \$28,420 is not a budgeted item – this is additional giving above the budget.

SAMARITAN FUND 2012

January 1 through January 6:

- 18 households received utility assistance totaling \$909.16 (paid to the vendor)
- 2 households received vehicular gas totaling \$50 (paid to the vendor)

Total households assisted:	20
Total amount expended:	\$959.16

Grace summed up this week of Samaritan Request best:

“It’s been quite a week for assistance requests. Thank you for the funds to be able to do what has been done.”

The current balance of the Samaritan Fund is \$1,158.82

Operation Round-Up Utility Assistance Report



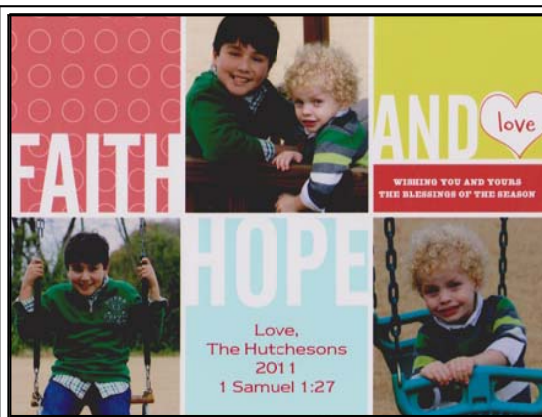
We are currently conducting interviews for Round-Up utility assistance once a month on the third Tuesday evening of the month here at the church. The first interviews were November 15 and December 20. We will interview again on January 17. Ten church members are trained to work as Round-Up interviewers.

Funds received from Round-Up proceeds YTD:	\$6,439.06
From Covington Electric:	\$2,889.54
From Covington Gas & Water:	\$2,049.52
From People Helping People:	\$1,500.00

Funds dispersed from Round-Up proceeds YTD:	\$ 795.00
To Covington Electric:	\$ 628.00
To Covington Gas & Water:	\$ 167.00

Current balance of Round-Up proceeds: **\$5,644.06**

Households applying for Round-Up funds:	12
Those approved:	7
Those declined:	5



FINDING A HOME - Many of you will recall that about two years ago, FUMC helped Nicholas and Brandon, two young boys who were in a difficult family situation. Since we first met them, the boys have been living with Ashley and Hutch Hutcheson as foster children. Ashley is the daughter of FUMC's Phil and Susan Huffman.

The boys, now ages 9 and 4, have found a good life with the Hutchesons. Ashley and Hutch are in the process of adopting the boys. Members and staff have kept up with the boys since they were with us and have witnessed the joyful happiness of the boys in a safe, loving and Christian home.



The Gathering

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there.”
 Matthew 18:20

Wednesday Nights

Jan. 18 ~ Apr. 25
 6:00 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Adult, Youth & Children’s Studies

Beginnings in Genesis with Tim Carpenter - Fellowship Hall

Through this study, participants will be invited to listen afresh to the witness of this opening book of the Bible and to understand more clearly God’s purpose in beginning to form a people with the likes of Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, and Jacob and Esau. Weekly study and preparation will be needed.

Walking with God in the Desert with Grace Phelps Now Classroom (3rd floor, Education Building)

Are you going through a difficult period of life? The loss of a loved one? Unemployment? A crisis of faith? During these desert times, it's easy to think God has disappeared. In this six-session DVD, the 12th volume of the Faith Lessons series by Ray Vanderlaan, you may discover that it's only when we are totally dependent on him that we find God is closer than ever. Weekly study and preparation will be needed.

Youth & Children’s Studies

Youth will meet in the Sr. High Room (3rd floor, Education Building) for Bible study and a time of fellowship together.

Children will meet on the lower floor of the Education building for thirty minutes of Bible-based education and crafts, and thirty minutes of music. Children are divided into three different age groupings for their classroom time and music.



TELLING YOUR FAITH STORY

Igniting A Passion for Evangelism

Saturday, January 28, 2012

8:30 a.m. ~ 3:45 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
in Covington, TN

This workshop designed for both clergy and laity will focus on important aspects of sharing your faith by highlighting:

- ♦ various ways to tell your faith story and connecting it to the biblical story of faith;
- ♦ the systemic concepts of Christian discipleship;
- ♦ the four primary audiences needing ministry and the various ministry goals associated with each group.

Teaching topics will include: building basic spiritual conversation skills, faith sharing, Bible storying, structuring the church for evangelism, and building blocks for creating an evangelistic church culture.

Workshop Presenters:



Kwasi Kena

Director of Evangelism Ministries
General Board of Discipleship

Rev. Kena's ministry experiences include: cross-cultural pastoral appointments, a new church start in the Iowa Annual Conference and teaching at Wartburg College in Waverly, IA. He has served as a commissioned missionary to Ghana West Africa and a Missionary in Residence with GBGM in New York City.



Tom Albin

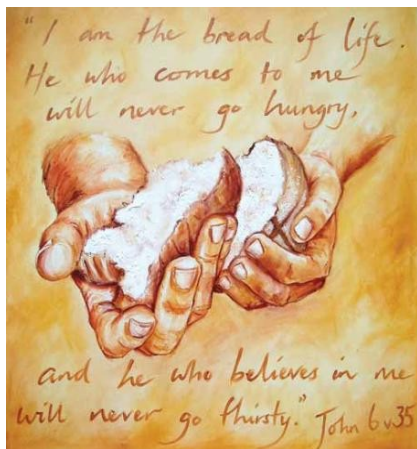
Program Team Leader for The Upper Room Ministries

Rev. Albin has served as a pastor and for 12 years taught at Boston University School of Theology and University of Dubuque Divinity School. Since 1999, he has worked in several capacities with The Upper Room in Nashville. His teaching strengths lie in the areas of spiritual formation, Wesley studies, historical theology, mission and evangelism.

Special Event Sponsored by the Conference Intentional Discipleship Action Team

Registration Deadline is Monday, January 23, 2012

If you wish to attend, please sign the sheet available after Sunday's MorningSong or Traditional worship. Or, call Peggy Miller in the church office at 476-9694. Cost is \$15 per person which includes lunch.



Bread of Life Feeding Ministry Update *December 2011*

Thanks to everyone who served and donated to the Bread of Life Food Pantry during December! All four distribution days drew very large crowds. We appreciate the donation of over 400 pounds of ground venison by Arnold Bull, and Farmers and Hunters for the Hungry. A special thank to Kathy Wallace and her family who made for 100 packages of homebaked Christmas cookies to distribute at the Brighton pantry at their distribution on Thursday, December 22. We were also glad to have the student council from Tipton-Rosemark Academy with us to serve at the Covington pantry on Saturday, December 17. Thanks to all those who helped us feed the need this month!

	<u>December 2011</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Households served:	219 (Covington) 189 (Brighton) 408 (Total)	625 (Covington) 399 (Brighton) 1,024 (Total) *
Individuals served:	608 (Covington) 601 (Brighton) 1,209 (Total)	1,761 (Covington) 1,229 (Brighton) 2,999 (Total) *
Volunteers serving:	175 persons served at least once	
Pounds of food:	13,852 (Mid-South Food Bank) 55 (Save-A-Lot meat) 307 (Kroger meat) 500 (donated) 750 (purchased Save-A-Lot) 15,464 (Total) – 7.7 tons	138,530 (Mid-South Food Bank) 1,862 (Save-A-Lot meat) 1,442 (Kroger meat) 5,650 (donated miscellaneous) 1,000 (purchased) 148,484 (YTD Total) – 74.2 tons
Cost of food:	\$2,735.08	\$14,024.67
Cost per pound:	5.6 cents	10.5 cents
Average cost per household:	\$6.70 (for a distribution of food in December)	

* These are distinct families and individuals who were served at least once during the year – some on a monthly basis.

FUMC CALENDAR JANUARY 10, 2012 - JANUARY 24, 2012

Wednesday, Jan 11, 2012

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

Thursday, Jan 12, 2012

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - New Beg.
 1-3:00 p.m. Altar Guild - Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.
 6:30 p.m. Finance and Stewardship Meeting
 New Beginnings Room

Saturday, Jan 14, 2012

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

Sunday, Jan 15, 2012

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

Monday, Jan 16, 2012 - MLK Holiday

Office Closed

Tuesday, Jan 17, 2012

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.
 7:00 p.m. Trustee's Meeting - New Beginnings

Wednesday, Jan 18, 2012

6:00 p.m. Bible Studies
 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl - Go Classroom
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, Jan 19, 2012

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

Friday, Jan 20, 2012

5-8:00 p.m. New Beginnings Class Pizza Party
 - New Beginnings room

Saturday, Jan 21, 2012

9:00 p.m. Food Pantry - Covington

Sunday, Jan 22, 2012

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, Jan 10, 2012

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

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



coat

Share the Warmth Coat Closet Report

Those receiving coats from Nov. 5, 2011 – Jan 7, 2012:

Households:	179 families
Adults:	223
Children:	<u>236</u>
Total:	459

Coats still on hand:	298
Total coats donated:	757



UPPER ROOM PRAYER SCHEDULE



January 1 Morning Song Service Bob and Shirley Hensley	Traditional Service Arnold Bull, Dennis McDuffie and Tom Rogers
January 8 Morning Song Service Barbara Lakey and Elizabeth Posey	Traditional Service Kendy Erwin and Phyllis Richmond
January 15 Morning Song Service Elizabeth Posey and Kathy Wallace	Traditional Service Melissa Mitchell and Emily Richardson

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

**MISSION STATEMENT OF
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CHURCH**

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COVINGTON, TN 38019

www.covingtonfumc.com



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