

# the focus

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

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## Musicians

Justin Hanson, Organist  
Russell Phelps, Pianist

## Facilities

Rebecca Paris  
Custodian

Kenny Summers  
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**PARENTS NIGHT OUT** - Our Children/  
Youth Departments will offer child care  
service the evening of Friday, July 27 from  
5:30 - 8:30 p.m. This service is open to  
FUMC families. Our youth will be on hand  
to help watch and entertain the children.  
Yes, the nursery will be open!



Supper will be provided as well as games, crafts, snacks and  
a movie with popcorn.

This will all be provided for a small fee of \$8.00 per child.  
The fee covers the cost incurred this night for food and enter-  
tainment plus will provide a contribution to the Food Pantry/  
Samaritan Fund.

Please make a reservation by contacting Charlotte Quinley at  
476-9694 ext. 20 or cquinley\_fumc@bellsouth.net; or Peggy  
Miller at 476-9694 or pmiller\_fumc@bellsouth.net.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** - Our youth have  
some exciting events coming up. They  
will take a trip to Memphis on July 15 for  
Laser Tag and Putt-Putt. Then on July 29, they will  
have a pool party at the Covington Country Club Pool. On  
this night, they will welcome the upcoming 6th graders into  
UMYF. August 3 - 7, the youth will take a trip to St. Louis.  
Their trip will be filled with activities....St. Louis Cardinals  
game, Grant's Farm, Six Flags, City Museum, Bible time, St.  
Louis Zoo, The Basilica of St. Louis. Cost is \$100 per youth  
plus enough money for 9 meals and souvenirs. A non-  
refundable deposit of \$50 is due by July 22. Parents need to  
complete and sign the permission slip, which can be found on  
the back of the St. Louis Flyer or by contacting Peggy at 476-  
9694 or pmiller\_fumc@bellsouth.net.

# UMYF

A youth schedule can be found on page 8.

- ◇ We extend our warmest condolences to FUMC's Billy Fleming in the passing of his mother, **LaVerne Jones**. Billy and Gayle's home address is 1096 Holly Grove Road, Covington 38019.
- ◇ **Trey Erwin** passed away from pancreatic cancer on July 5. He was just 15 years old. Trey's parents are Lisa and Jay Erwin of Collierville. Jay and Skip Erwin are first cousins. Skip, Kendy, Cody and Gil Erwin's address is P.O. Box 572, Covington 38019.
- ◇ **Margaret Gilliam** passed away on July 7. Our deepest regards are sent to her mother and brother, FUMC's Elizabeth Bryant and Elton Bryant. Their home address is 397 Bess Lane, Covington 38019.



*"The ... donation is being made to the Samaritan Purse in honor of our Grandfather, Walter McBride, on the celebration of his 100th birthday.*

*Thank You*

*This donation is being given by this grandchildren. Papa has been a member of this church for over 50 years and it holds a very special place in his heart. We thank you so much for the care and consideration that you show him. The visits and remembrances mean so much to him and to us."*

Thank you,

Holly Beth Hopkins, Jeff Rickard,  
Lisa Richard, Walter Gregory Rickard  
and Lori Webb

*"Dear Church Family,*

*Words cannot begin to express our sincerest appreciation for all of the cards, phone calls, visits, food and, most importantly, prayers during the time of my mother's illness and passing. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family."*

Kathy Wallace

*July 15 - July 31*



Jul 16	Maddie Smith	Jul 23	Mike Morrison
Jul 17	Daniel Flanagan Will Turner		Michael Racine Emily Richardson
Jul 19	Sara Gangaware Stephen Smith	Jul 24	Benjamin Smith
Jul 20	Dot Greggs Phyllis McIntosh Nick Smith	Jul 25	Lynne Fisher Ellen Jackson
Jul 21	Tommy Cheairs III Chad Smith Susan Smith Louie Usher	Jul 27	Andrew Hughes
		July 28	Jack Owen
Jul 22	Ann Daniels		Jack Henry Simpson
		Jul 29	Sydney Smith Edith McBride Monica Rejaei



**UNsung HERO** - Nominations for 2012 Unsung Hero must be submitted by July 21. Nomination forms are at various locations in the church. Please complete the form and slip into the nomination box or turn into the church office. Contact George Patton at gpatton714@aol.com for more information.

**MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTES...**



In Honor of **Larry Anderson**

Food Pantry Fund by New Beginnings Sunday School Class

In Memory of **LaVerne Jones**

Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kenday Erwin

In Honor of **Bernice Liles**

Altar Guild Fund by Nadine Davis

In Honor of **Walter McBride**

Bereavement Meal Fund by Peggy Portis and Marsha Greenwood

Samaritan Fund by Martha Brasfield

Samaritan Fund by Dorothy Butler

Altar Guild Fund by Bill Jim and Helen Davis

Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin

Samaritan Fund by Mr. McBride's grandchildren - Lisa Rickard, Lori Webb, Jeff Rickard, Walter Gregory Rickard and Holly Beth Hopkins

In Memory of **Margaret Peterson**

Samaritan Fund by Joey and Ann Caldwell

Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin

Samaritan Fund by Sue Jones

Food Pantry Fund by the UMW Ruth Circle

In Memory of **Thomas Graydon Simpson**

Bereavement Meal Fund by Peggy Portis and Marsha Greenwood

In Memory of **Leah Bernstein Stone**

Samaritan Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin

**ATTENDANCE AND GIVING**

July 1, 2012

MorningSong -	91
Sunday School -	106
Traditional Worship -	138

MorningSong Offering -	\$ 3,161.00
Traditional Worship Offering-	\$ 7,367.20

July 8, 2012

MorningSong -	112
Sunday School -	118
Traditional Worship -	133
Bread of Life Worship -	50

MorningSong Offering	4,790.00
Traditional Worship Offering -	\$ 12,604.76

**HARVESTING CORN FOR THE FOOD PANTRY** - Keith Davis, from Tabernacle UMC, planted 2 acres of corn to be donated to Food Pantry patrons. On Saturday, July 23, FUMC members and Food Pantry Volunteers pulled corn, then bagged it for distribution. The Board of Education has graciously allows us to store the corn in their freezer. As a rough estimate we pulled about 6,000 ears that morning. One truckload of corn was taken directly to the Brighton food pantry was entirely distributed that day – they had over 120 families come through the pantry that morning who were delighted to get the corn. With the addition of the corn donated by the Covington FAA, we anticipate that there is enough to distribute corn at all four food pantry days in July. This is a real blessing for hundreds of people throughout Tipton county. Thanks to all who have made this possible!



We extend a special “thank you” to Sandy Burgess and the Covington Venture Crew (scouts) who were on hand to help.....we couldn't have done it without you!



**FFA FOOD PANTRY CONTRIBUTION** - The Covington FFA also provided corn for our Food Pantry. This is a photo of members of the Covington FFA chapter and their advisors who planted and harvested 1/2 acre of sweet corn for the food pantry on property owned by Eddie and Carol Daniel. Liz Flanagan reports that they pulled 2100 ears of corn which made 175 bags!

## SAMARITAN REPORT -



### June 22 through July 5, 2012:

- 2 households received lodging totaling \$64.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 1 household received miscellaneous items totaling \$25.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received rent totaling \$100.00 (paid to vendor).
- 16 households received \$937.15 towards utilities (paid to the vendor).
- 2 households received \$50.00 for vehicular gas (paid to the vendor).

### Year to Date totals - January 1, 2011 through July 25, 2012:

- 1 person received bus ticket totaling \$50.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 10 household received food items totaling \$275.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 49 households received lodging totaling \$2,652.99 (paid to the vendor).
- 16 households received miscellaneous items totaling \$1,289.23 (paid to the vendor).
- 16 household received rent assistance totaling \$1,807.00 (paid to the vendor).
- 149 households received utility assistance totaling \$9,657.99 (paid to the vendor).
- 30 households received vehicular gas totaling \$750.00 (paid to the vendor).

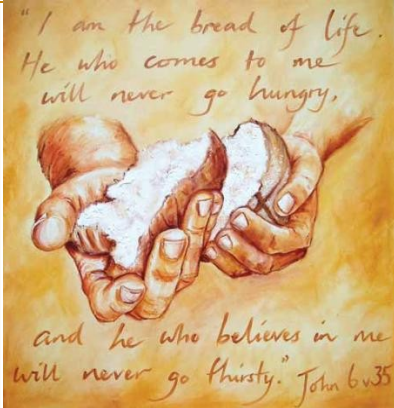
Total households assisted: 271  
Total amount expended: \$16,482.21

Current Samaritan Fund Balance is \$2,932.21
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### Notes of interest:

- A request for a refrigerator on behalf a mother of two children, ages 6 and 10 months, who was very down and discouraged was made around 12:47 p.m. one day, by 1:37 p.m., the need had been met with the offer of two different refrigerators PLUS a commitment of \$50 to purchase a new small appliance! Thank you so much for your prayers and responses to this appeal. Something as small as a refrigerator can provide hope that someone cares and is praying for her. Thank you so much for your gifts.
- At the week's beginning, the Samaritan balance was below \$0. An appeal was made and the gifts have been amazing. Thank you for your continued support of prayers and gifts to this ministry.
- A single father who needed help with a utility bill came to the church for help. He had been working for one of the local ginning operations and had been laid off the end of May. He has applied for unemployment, but his benefits have not started yet. He has two children of whom he has sole custody. Fairly recently, he has moved back in with his father who is dying of cancer and his disabled younger brother. His father is now bedridden and the family is working together to take care of him. His father and brother each receive a disability check. He is actively seeking employment. We provided him with a job listing of entry level positions available. He was able to qualify for utility assistance under the Operation Round-Up program. His quiet resolve in the face of difficult circumstances, and his determination to take care of his children and his father were a real blessing to those of us who worked with him.

Should you learn of a child needing food please share that the Tipton County schools began the **USDA Summer Feeding Program for Kids** on Tuesday, May 29 at Crestview Elementary, Covington High School, Brighton High School and Munford Elementary. Thank you for your prayers and everyone involved with the feeding program for the children.



## Bread of Life Feeding Ministry Update June 2012

Thanks to everyone who served and donated to the Bread of Life Food Pantry during June! Thanks to about 30 folks who turned out on Saturday, June 23 to help pull about 6,000 ears of sweet corn for the pantry which was planted by farmer Keith Davis. On Thursday, June 28, Liz Flanagan and members of the Covington FFA pulled another 2,100 ears from their ½ acre plot – a big thank you to them as well.

The corn is being stored at a walk-in freezer at the Tipton County Board of Education until it can be distributed in July. Thanks to Henry Glass, Jr. for making that possible!

	<u>June 2012</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Households served:	187 (Covington) 189 (Brighton) <b>376 (Total)</b>	409 (Covington) 380 (Brighton) <b>789 (Total) *</b>
Individuals served:	532 (Covington) 647 (Brighton) <b>1,179 (Total)</b>	1,179 (Covington) 1,092 (Brighton) <b>2,152 (Total) *</b>
Volunteers serving:	175 persons served at least once	
Pounds of food:	13,657 (Mid-South Food Bank) 921  1,200 (sweet corn) <b>15,778 (Total) – 7.9 tons</b>	84,665 (Mid-South Food Bank) 2,331 (Save-A-Lot) 2,045 (Kroger) 1,313 (purchased) 1,200 (sweet corn) <b>91,561(YTD Total) – 45.7 tons</b>
Cost of food:	\$1,315.36	\$8,205.24
Cost per pound:	8.3 cents	8.9 cents
Average cost per household:	<b>\$3.49 (for a distribution of food in June)</b>	

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



## Round-Up Utility Assistance Report From January - June 2012

Round-Up is a utility assistance program which began in November 2011 and is offered to needy Covington residents. Funds are administered by our Bread of Life Outreach program. City residents are offered the option to “round up” their electric and gas utility bills to the nearest whole number. That money goes into a pool of funds which are made available to city residents who have had something unexpected or emergency happen causing them to need assistance in paying their utility bill.

**YTD funds received from Round-Up proceeds: \$21,009.46**

From Covington Electric: \$11,280.70  
From Covington G,W & S: \$ 9,728.76

**YTD funds dispersed from Round-Up proceeds: \$ 5,969.82**

To Covington Electric: \$ 4,091.05  
To Covington G, W & S: \$ 1,878.77

**Current balance of Round-up proceeds: \$21,045.98**

**YTD households applying for Round-Up funds: 40**

Those approved: 32  
Those denied: 8

### COUNSELING. . .

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

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



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



**SPECIAL OFFERING -**  
Our July 1 Communion Offering netted \$702.00 for Confidential Care for Women.

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST** THURSDAYS 7:00 A.M.  
**IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
ONLY \$3.00



## YOUTH CALENDAR -

Sunday, July 15	2:45 - 7:45 p.m.	UMYF Laser Tag/Putt-Putt
Sunday, July 22	5:00 - 5:45 p.m.	Parent's Planning Meeting
Sunday, July 22	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	UMYF at Church
Friday, July 27	5:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Parent's Night Out
Sunday, July 29	7:00 - 8:45 p.m.	UMYF Pool Party and Cookout - Covington Country Club Pool
August 3 - 7		St. Louis Trip



**FOUND** - A pair of reading glasses was left in the sanctuary on Sunday, July 7. Please contact Peggy or Holley at 476-9694 to claim the glasses.

## BREAD OF LIFE HOSTS TRAINING FOR FOOD PANTRY

**PATRONS** - Starting Wednesday, July 18, our Bread of Life Outreach ministries will begin hosting training classes for food pantry patrons through the UT Extension Service. This course will teach ways to make limited funds and food stamps go further toward feeding their families.

Tipton county extension service has just begun to offer this training course called Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and we are among the first in the county to serve as a host site for the training. The classes will meet on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for 60 – 90 minutes for six weeks in our Fellowship Hall. Classes will include such information as:



- ◆ How to shop wisely – clipping coupons, using store ads, buying generic items instead of name brands, buying more fresh foods instead of prepared foods;
- ◆ How to cook more healthy meals on a budget using fresh foods – recipes will be provided;
- ◆ How to read and understand food labels;
- ◆ Basic food safety;
- ◆ Exercise and weight control;

Food pantry patrons who came during May and June were invited to participate and 85 households have expressed an interest! Class sizes are 12-15 persons, so we will continue hosting the classes until all those who are interested have been able to attend. If you are interested in attending the training or know someone who could benefit from this training, please contact Grace Phelps at 476-9694.



**FUMC CALENDAR JULY 27, 2012 - JULY 11, 2012**

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

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

Thursday, July 12, 2012

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
1-3:00 p.m. Altar Guild - Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

Saturday, July 14, 2012

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

Sunday, July 15, 2012

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
2:45-7:45pm UMYF Laser Tag/Putt-Putt

Tuesday, July 17, 2012

6:00 p.m. Health Advocacy Meeting-New Beg.  
6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting - Friendship Class  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.  
7:00 p.m. Trustee's Meeting - New Beginning

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

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

Thursday, July 19, 2012

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
1-3:00 p.m. Altar Guild - Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Education Bldg.

Saturday, July 21, 2012

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry - Covington

Sunday, July 22, 2012

8:30 a.m. MorningSong Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Youth Parent's Planning Meeting  
6:00 p.m. UMYF

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

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

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



**END OF SUMMER  
YOUTH trip to St. Louis**

**AUGUST 3 - 7**

Cost is \$100. Deposit of \$50 is due by July 22.



**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](http://www.covingtonfumc.com), as well as streaming of past services, at any time.





UPPER ROOM PRAYER SCHEDULE



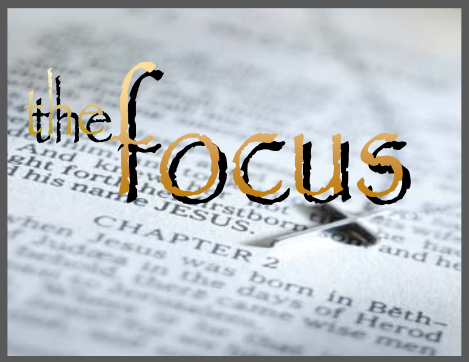
<p><b>July 15</b>  <b>MorningSong Service</b>          Ray and Janice Newbill</p>	<p><b>Traditional Service</b>          Melissa Mitchell and Emily Richardson</p>
<p><b>July 22</b>  <b>MorningSong Service</b>          Frank and Barbra Racy</p>	<p><b>Traditional Service</b>          Phyllis Richmond and Brenda Wrather</p>
<p><b>July 29</b>  <b>MorningSong Service</b>          no ministry available</p>	<p><b>Traditional Service</b>          Rhonda Patton and Nancy Peeler</p>

“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  
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 COVINGTON, TN 38019  
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[WWW.COVINGTONFUMC.COM](http://WWW.COVINGTONFUMC.COM)



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