

## Meet our new Pastor Mike Gudka & Family

Warm greetings to the wonderful community of Tullahoma First Methodist Church! Juliet and I are absolutely thrilled to become a part of your vibrant congregation! We can hardly wait to embark on this incredible journey with you, learning about the rich history of the town and the Church, and sharing in all the exciting things happening here. Together, we will follow the guiding light of the Holy Spirit into an exhilarating future.

Let us introduce ourselves a little better before we arrive in September: Juliet's journey began in the Philippines, where she grew up among ten siblings, making family gatherings a joyous and heartwarming affair. After our wedding, Juliet became an American Citizen. Her passion for serving in fulltime ministry led her to earn a seminary degree, graduating with a bachelors degree in Christian Education. She is fluent in English, Tagalog, and some Spanish. With her expertise in the insurance business, she's been an outstanding customer service agent and bookkeeper. Currently, she's seeking a job that provides health insurance, so any leads you have would be greatly appreciated.

A mother to her amazing son Matt, who is now 18 and pursuing college in Iowa, Juliet has been a pillar of strength and support for him since his father's passing when he was only three years old. Her love and care know no bounds. I officially adopted Matt several years ago. Juliet's interests span from cooking and gardening to singing and being an incredible intercessor and a prayer minister. She has a remarkable background in missionary work at Living Waters in the Philippines, touching the lives of many by helping them overcome past hurts. When you need a warm embrace and a radiant smile, Juliet will be there with open arms.

As for myself, I had the privilege of serving as an executive officer at a Fortune 500 company for two decades, leading one of the largest corporate universities in the industry. My journey of learning and growth includes a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Metropolitan State College and a Master's degree in Adult Learning from Drake University, where I was honored as an outstanding alumnus. My true calling, however, lies in the ministry, and I have devoted over 18 years to this fulfilling path. To fully embrace this calling, I earned a master's of divinity degree from St. Paul School of Theology, immersing myself in Wesleyan theology. My passion lies in helping people and churches realize their untapped potential in God's eyes and guiding them to chart a path towards greatness. As a certified pastoral counselor with a specialized certificate in drug and alcohol rehabilitation from the American Association of Christian Counselors, I am committed to supporting those in need.

Together, Juliet and I have a beautiful family that spreads across the United States, from Hawaii to Virginia, Iowa, and Colorado. Though we cherish every moment we get to spend with them, we rely on the wonders of technology and video calls to bridge the distances.

Nature is a haven for both of us, and we find joy in exploring the outdoors. I greatly enjoy hunting, fishing, or simply basking in the beauty of God's creation, praising Him for His wondrous works. Our love for travel knows no bounds, and we seek to use it as an opportunity to do God's work, making a difference wherever we go. Malawi in Africa has been particularly close to my heart, as I've been involved in missionary work there for many years, training pastors in Wesleyan theology. Witnessing the transformation of lives is a humbling and awe-inspiring experience.

Allow me to share a small confession with you. The last time I preached at Tullahoma, I had just undergone my second cataract surgery in two weeks, which limited my vision. Despite the challenge, I remained at the pulpit, my finger guiding me through the scriptures. Rest assured, this is not my usual preaching style. When we join you in September, you'll see me fully engaged, out of the pulpit, and sharing my love and passion for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I prefer to call what I do on Sunday mornings "teaching" rather than "preaching," as I seek to follow in the footsteps of our Rabbi Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, who was the ultimate teacher.

In conclusion, this is only a glimpse of who we are, and we are overflowing with anticipation to meet each and every one of you and forge meaningful connections. Together, with God's blessings, we will create a vibrant and flourishing community of faith.

*God bless you all abundantly,  
Pastor Mike and Juliet Gudka*



Sunday Mornings*Nursery available from 8am-12noon***8am** Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary**9am** First Light Modern Service, Family Activity Center (*streamed live on Facebook*)**10am** Sunday School for all ages; various locations**10:30am** Dossett Chapel Sunday School**11am** Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary (*streamed live on Facebook*)

# AUGUST

What's Happening In August**August 1st** Golden Circle, 11:30am-1:00pm Davidson Hall**August 11th** Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00pm; FAC Building**August 13th** Town Hall Meeting (Doctrine and Discipline; 10:00 am (FAC Building) 12:00pm (Sanctuary)**August 21st-24th** Wisdom & Grace Conference; Lake JunaluskaOngoing Activities**Tuesdays**

- Henry Center Food Pantry & Financial Assistance, 12-2pm
- Instrumental Ensemble, 5:15-6:15pm; Basement

**Wednesdays**

- Noon Prayer, 12-1pm; Sanctuary
- Wonderful Wednesdays: 3:30-4:30pm, Dossett Chapel
- Choir Ensemble, 5:30-6:30pm; Basement
- Handbells, 6:30-7:30pm; Basement

**Thursdays**

- Henry Center Food Pantry & Financial Assistance, 12-2pm
- Henry Center Clothes Closet, 12-2pm



United Women in Faith (formerly UMW), will now be known as Tullahoma First Women. Our motto is - Sit and listen, go and do. Circle meetings resume in September so now is the perfect time to ask others to join our circles. Pencil in November 17 & 18, Friday and Saturday, for our Bake Sale during the Kiwanis Craft Fair. Of course, the Pecan Sale will be here sooner than you think - have you tried the cinnamon pecans in a salad?

"I guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths." Proverbs 4:11 (NIV)

-Ann Hand

**Mark 10:14-1**

*“Jesus said, ‘Let the Little Children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.’”*



**Sunday Mornings**

**Nursery Hours**  
8 a.m. - 12 noon

**Sunday School**  
10 a.m.; 2nd floor,  
main building



Our 3rd - 5th grade girls back porch Bible study included writing our worries, sins and things weighing us down on a seashell. We took a little field trip to the home of Paul and Judy Bass to toss those shells in the water and give it all to God.



\*Check out page 10 for more Children's Ministry Updates



Our Children's Ministry Fall meeting is Sunday, August 6, at 10am in Davidson Hall. We are asking at least one (we prefer both) parent be in attendance.

Be in the know!

<u>August</u>			
6	Parent Meeting	10am	Davidson Hall
13	Picture Day	10am	SOUL Lounge
<u>September</u>			
15	Mom's Work Day at Church	9 – 11:30	
26	Church Wide Fellowship	5-7pm	725 Old Shelbyville Hwy
<u>October</u>			
8	Pack Food at Henry Center	10am	meet in SOUL Lounge
15	Field Trip to Fill Food Box	10am	meet in SOUL Lounge
27	Bonfire/S'mores	6pm	Harrison Home
31	Trick or Treat – Downtown Tullahoma	3-5pm	front lawn of church
<u>November</u>			
12	Sunday of Service	10am	Main Sanctuary
		11am	lunch- Davidson Hall
		Noon	projects begin
<u>December</u>			
3	Advent Craft	10am	meet in Davidson Hall
10	Tour Nativity/Games	10am	meet in SOUL Lounge
17	Christmas Program	10am	Main Sanctuary
17	Happy Birthday, Jesus Party	11am	FAC

TULLAHOMA  
**FIRST**  
**METHODIST**  
 — SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY



“Tables of Christmas” Event, Thursday, December 14, 2023. Those wishing to sponsor a table by decorating it and inviting guests to sit at their table can sign-up now. See sign-up list on Senior Adult Ministry Bulletin Board.

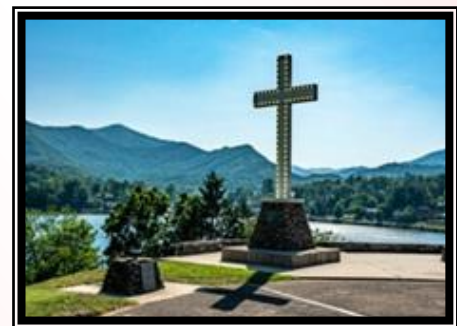


Volunteers are needed to drive our wheelchair accessible van. Must be between 25-69 years of age, valid Tennessee license, church member at least 6 months, have no moving violations or be at fault in an accident in the past year, attend a training session and read full church-owned vehicles policy (in church office or see Esther).



- September 4, Labor Day (office closed)
- September 5, Golden Circle
- October 3, Golden Circle
- October 18, Christmas Craft Project
- November 5, All Saint’s Sunday
- November 7, Golden Circle
- November 12, Sunday Day of Service
- November 17, Play (Fayetteville)
- November 23, Thanksgiving
- November 26, Play (Murfreesboro)
- December 5, Golden Circle
- December 14, Tables of Christmas
- December 25-26, Christmas Holidays

**Festival of Wisdom & Grace**  
**Lake Junaluska**  
**August 21-24**



**There is still time for you to make your own reservations.**

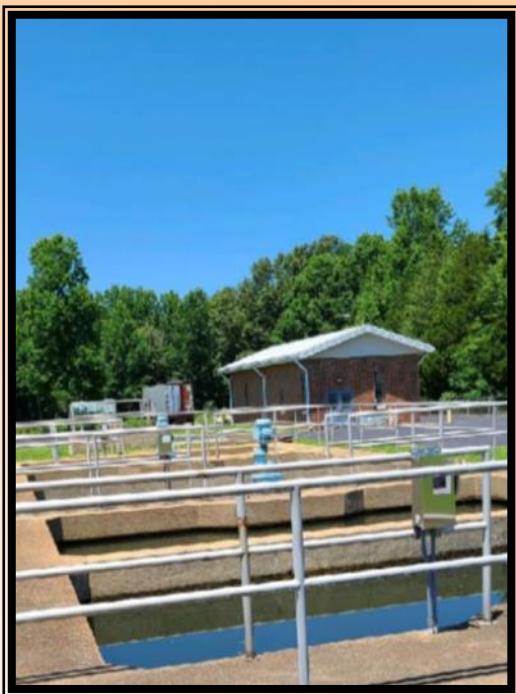


“Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.” Ephesians 4: 29. When peopl ask for you advice, you’ve been given both a privilege

# TULLAHOMA FIRST METHODIST — SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY




Golden Circle’s tour to the Duck River Utility water treatment plant was a real eye opener. Seeing and hearing how our water is purified for our use is amazing. Not to mention how many gallons of water is stored in our water towers and used by the residents of Tullahoma. Our tour guides, Richard and Kim, really know their business. Check out the pictures of our trip below. Next month, Leslie Warren from Centerstone will be our speaker. She is an Assessment Worker at Centerstone.



**August Birthdays**

Ruth Wilson, August 1  
 Rush Bricken, August 4  
 Jim Henry, August 4  
 Jim House, August 5  
 Ann Lester, August 6  
 Bill Betheman, August 6  
 Jerry Tivrucht, 9  
 Connie Hyde, August 18  
 Beverly Beam, August 27  
 Dr. Bill Sanders, August 27  
 Emily Thoma, August 28  
 Bob Barksdale, August 31




**VISIT SENIOR ADULT BULLETIN BOARD FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

SUMMER 2023

MISSIONS UPDATE

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# DID YOU KNOW?

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## DOSSETT CHAPEL

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DOSSETT CHAPEL IS PAUSING OPERATIONS FOR THE SUMMER SCHOOL BREAK. THIS WILL ALLOW OUR VOLUNTEERS A SUMMER BREAK, VACATIONS, VISITS WITH CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

THE COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK WITH OUR TEENAGERS IS CONTINUING, HOWEVER SUMMER IS OUR MOST ACTIVE SEASON SINCE THE KIDS ARE OUT FOR BREAK. WE'VE REBUILT 7 RIDING LAWNMOWERS, 3 PUSH LAWNMOWERS, MOWED MANY LAWNS, CLEANED OUT SHEDS AND HELPED SETUP NEW SHEDS AS WELL AS HELPED ONE OF OUR CONGREGATION MEMBERS REPLACE A TRANSMISSION.

WE'RE URGENTLY LOOKING FOR RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION FOR A SINGLE MOTHER WITH 3 DISABLED CHILDREN (AND SHE HAS CANCER). IF ANYONE HAS A VEHICLE THEY'D BE WILLING TO DONATE OR SELL INEXPENSIVELY, PLEASE CONTACT JEFF ELLISON (JEFF.ELLISON@ME.COM)

DOSSETT CHAPEL WILL BE HOSTING A BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 STUDENTS FROM THE DOSSETT COMMUNITY ON JULY 23RD. BECAUSE OF THE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION FOR LAST YEAR'S BACKPACK CAMPAIGN, WE ARE ABLE TO USE THOSE FUNDS AGAIN THIS YEAR TO PURCHASE BACKPACKS, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, HAIRCUTS, AND SHOE VOUCHERS. THANK YOU!

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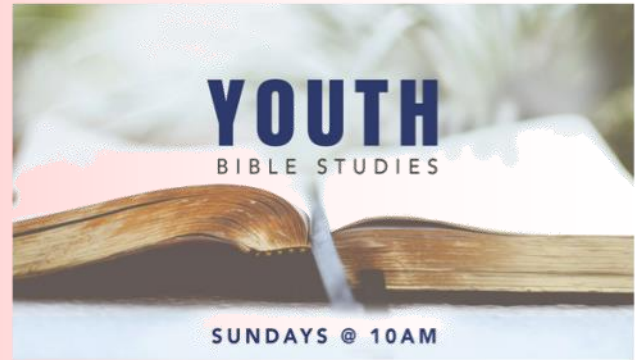
## HENRY CENTER

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HENRY CENTER IS COLLECTING USED STEEL TOED BOOTS AS WELL AS MONETARY DONATIONS FOR STEEL TOED BOOTS TO HELP A LOCAL STAFFING AGENCY WHOSE CLIENTS NEED PPE.

THE CLOTHES CLOSET IS CLOSED ON THURSDAYS UNTIL JULY 13 BUT WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS ON TUESDAYS 9:30-11:30.

TULLAHOMA  
 **FIRST**  
**METHODIST**  
 YOUTH



**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY**

Youth Bible Study | 10 a.m. Youth Room  
 High School Tribe | 6-7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Middle School Tribe | 6-7:30 p.m.  
 Disciple Bible Study | 6-8 p.m.

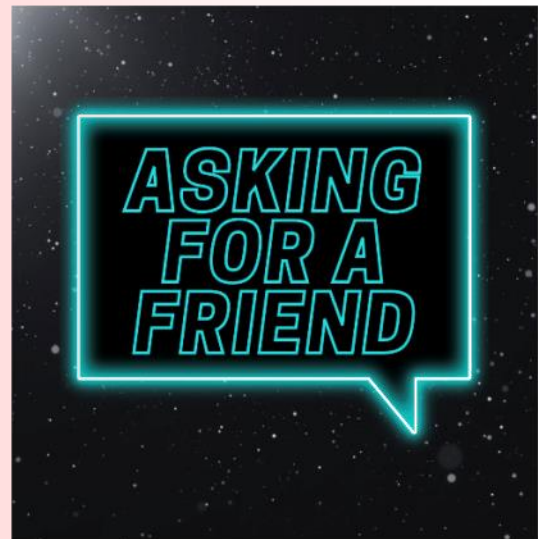
**THURSDAY**

Disc Golf at Sunrise Rotary Course EMS | 6 - 7:30 p.m.

**EVENTS IN AUGUST**

Youth Ministry Kick - Off for youth & parents | Sunday, August 6  
 5-6:30 p.m.

**AUGUST**  
 THE LIFE OF JOSHUA



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

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## at Tullahoma First Methodist Church

### **MAIN BUILDING**

#### **Seekers | Chapel**

Singles and Couples; Traditional Bible curriculum

#### **Journey | Room 209 Balcony**

Singles and Couples; Book studies / Books of the Bible

#### **Hope | Room 211 Balcony**

Couples; Bible based / Current event discussions

#### **Questers | Room 213 Balcony**

Singles and Couples; Traditional Bible curriculum

#### **Married Folk | Room 112**

Couples; Devotionals and Discussion

#### **Children | SOUL Lounge (Children's Dept)**

Pre-K-5th Grades; New Testament Studies

### **FAMILY ACTIVITY CENTER**

#### **Strangely Warmed | B2**

Singles and Couple; Traditional Bible Curriculum

#### **Youth | 6th-12th Youth Room**

Youth Bible Study | Old & New Testaments



Sanctuary Music - Doug Clark, Music Director  
Chris Blondin - Accompanist/Organist



*“Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 5:19-20*

The **Sanctuary Choir**, **Instrumental Ensemble**, and **Canterbury Ringers** are committed to musical excellence, to glorify God, and to create a musical atmosphere in which our congregation can worship the Lord in spirit and truth. If you are interested in being a part of the Sanctuary Music program or have any questions, please contact Doug Clark at [doug.fumc@gmail.com](mailto:doug.fumc@gmail.com).

#### **Sanctuary Choir:**

The Sanctuary Choir is primarily made up of adults but is open to high school students as well. The choir meets downstairs in the Choral Hall and is **Wednesdays at 5:30pm. We will start back on August 9.**

#### **Instrumental Ensemble:**

The Instrumental Ensemble meets downstairs in the Instrumental Hall and is on **Tuesdays at 5:15pm. We will start back on August 15.**

#### **Canterbury Ringers:**

The Canterbury Ringers are our handbell choir that meet downstairs next to the Choral Hall and meet **Wednesdays at 6:30pm. We will start back on August 9.**



# Methodist Men's Fish Fry

**Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 – 7:00

*Family Activity Center*

**Tickets: Adult \$10**

**Children (≤12) \$5**

**Tickets on Sale After 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 Services**

**Beginning July 16**

## Meet your Children's Ministry Fall Sunday School Leaders!

I want to give a huge thank you to all of our parents who lead a lesson on The Fruit of The Spirit this summer, it was great to see everyone interact!

Fall Sunday School resumes August 6 at 10am. We are excited to announce that we will be offering 4 total classes on Sundays. Here are your leaders:

**Coordinators:** Leigha Epley and Laura Lockmiller

**Pre K:** John & Tina Rose, Brianna Lorange and Jean Hill (substitute)

**K- 1:** Angie Meaker and Dianne Barksdale (substitute)

**2-3:** Susan Warwick and Sylvia Epley (substitute)

**4-5:** Jennie Kubitz and Aimee Whitt (substitute)



### Meet Tina Rose, the Pre-K Sunday School Leaders

John and Tina Rose recently moved to the area and have been members of Tullahoma First Methodist for over a year. Tina has a background in Christian Education and loves being in the classroom with preschoolers. John has taught different ages in Sunday School for over 15 years. We enjoy spending time with our daughter, her husband and our three grandsons. We look forward to meeting and spending time with your children.



Laura Lockmiller, Jennie Kuebitz, Angie Meaker, Dianne Barksdale, Jean Hill, and Leigha Epley

### Meet Angie Meaker, the K-1st Grade Sunday School Leader

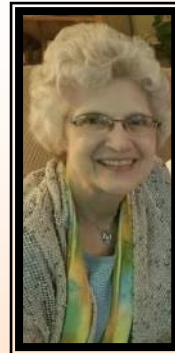
Angie Meaker will be teaching our K-1 Sunday School class. She joined Tullahoma First Methodist Church a little over a year ago and regularly attends the First Light service. She previously attended Coldwater UMC and Decherd UMC, where she taught children and youth for over twelve years. She is also currently serving as Recording Secretary on our Church Administrative Council and on the First Light coffee ministry team. She and her husband, Daniel, live in Estill Springs. They have four children and four grandchildren.

### Meet Susan Warwick, the 2nd-3rd Grade Sunday School Leader

I am Susan Warwick. I will be teaching the 2nd-3rd grade Sunday School class starting this September. My husband Larry and I, along with our children John, Christopher, and Elizabeth, are long time members of First UMC Tullahoma, attending since the fall of 1984, coming from the Garden state of New Jersey! I am excited to be teaching your children, and look forward to learning together of God's great love for each one of them. I feel so privileged to have a small part in helping your children grow in a personal relationship with their savior Jesus Christ. I look forward to getting to know your children and you parents, as well. If I can be of help, or you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. Thank you for entrusting your children to my care for these coming Sunday mornings.



Hailey Prebola, Helper



### Meet Jennie Kuebitz, the 4th-5th Grade Sunday School Leader

Jennie grew up in the church so she had a strong foundation from the very beginning. This upbringing, and being part of God's family of faith has influenced her in so many ways.

First of all, attending Sunday school and being part of the church choir is something that she has done since childhood. So it was likely that God would lead her on this path to do the same here at FMC Tullahoma.

Jennie and her family have been attending church here since 2010 after they moved here upon her husband's retirement from the Air Force.

She is thankful that God has lead her here to serve currently in the Worship band, as Sunday School teacher, and Children's Choir Director.

When asked why she serves our children in this capacity, she states it's because so many of her Sunday school teachers were a positive influence in her Christian walk and she hopes to be that for our children.

### Keeping In Prayers

Sharon Anderson (*Friend of Richard & Peggy Columbia*)  
 Forrest & Amanda McCulloch (*Friends of Kelton Garner*)  
 Shirley Jones (*mother of Chelsy*)

*Campbell and grandmother of Madison Dochety*  
 Champagne Rutledge  
 Ryan Bond  
 John Fetty

Jerry Thurman  
 Anne Miller  
 Paul Brotherton  
 Mark & Rachael Chaney  
 Katie Jo Bailey

*If you have someone you would like to add to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 455-5434 or fumc@lighttube.net. Also, if you have updates about your loved one currently on the prayer list, please contact the office with that information. It is important for us to have the most accurate information so that we may provide the appropriate congregational care.*

#### Finance

June 2023

#### Revenue

YTD Budget \$429,084  
 Received \$368,731

#### Expenditures

YTD Budget \$429,084  
 Disbursed \$383,037

#### Attendance

Average Attendance 2023

8:00 a.m. Worship	53
First Light Worship	147
11:00 a.m. Worship	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>295</b>
Sunday School	63

### Memorials

#### **Mary Lou Barnett**

*from*

*Ronald H. Kohl  
 Bryce & Tanna Heathcott  
 Dr. John & Carol Petty  
 Charlotte Hatheway  
 Maggie R. Smith  
 Charlotte Daniel  
 William & Charlotte  
 Bethmann  
 Tennessee Poultry  
 Association*

#### **Linda Thomas**

*from*

*W.C. & Jane Driver  
 William & Charlotte Bethmann*

#### **Joyce Mathis**

*from*

*W.C. & Jane Driver*

#### **Joan Alexander**

*from*

*Karen M. Bennett  
 Charlotte Hatheway  
 Jeffrey & Susan Monahan*

#### **Shirley Miller**

*from*

*Charlotte Hatheway  
 Lex & Lynn Hutcheson  
 R.C. Wilson  
 William & Charlotte  
 Bethmann*

#### **Charles Haffner**

*from*

*Rosanna Bates*

#### **Ross Roepke**

*from*

*William & Charlotte  
 Bethmann*

#### **Margaret Perkins**

*from*

*W.C. & Jane Driver  
 Christadelphian Sunday  
 School Class  
 William & Connie Smart*

#### **Genna & Sheven Bigger**

*from*

*Laura Orr*

#### **Jim Mitchell**

*from*

*William & Charlotte  
 Bethmann  
 James & Lisa Henry II*

#### **Dean Coleman**

*from*

*Salem Community Flower  
 Fund*

### Connect

Administrative Assistant  
Worship & Communications  
Discipleship & Youth  
Missions  
Children & Fellowship  
Senior Adults & Congregational Care  
Dossett Chapel  
Traditional Music Ministry  
Organist and Accompanist  
First Light Music Ministry  
Finance Assistant  
Facilitator

Annelise Brechler  
Jeff Harrison  
Kris Roberts  
Jordan Ennis  
Julie Uehlein  
Esther J. Sims  
Jeff Ellison  
Doug Clark  
Chris Blondin  
John Cook  
Karen Douglas  
Elmo Birkhead

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fumc23@lighttube.net

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**Church Office:** 931-455-5434 or fumc@lighttube.net ♦

**Finance Office:** 931-455-7127 or financefumc@lighttube.net

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 8am-4pm

### **A** TEXT IN CHURCH

To receive text messages & emails from the church to keep you in the loop about everything that is going on, just text the word **church** to 931-452-4747 and click on the response. You may also sign up to receive texts from specific areas of ministry. For our Children's Ministry, text **children**; for our Senior Adults ministry, text **fumcsam**. Once your form is filled out, we will begin sending you all the info you'll need.



Our main Facebook page is First Methodist Church. We also have a **Youth** page - FUMC Tullahoma Youth Ministry; and a **Children's** page - Children's Ministry of FUMC Tullahoma.

To receive this newsletter electronically, just email the office at [fumc@lighttube.net](mailto:fumc@lighttube.net). Help us save paper, postage, and time! You can also find the newsletter on our website, [www.tullahomafmc.com](http://www.tullahomafmc.com)

Postmaster Address Change to Same

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