



The Midweek Visitor

First United Methodist Church

Our mission is to lead persons to Christ and disciple believers

March 21, 2018

(931) 728-4624

(615) 521-3346

Serving the people of Manchester since 1813
Senior Pastor, Rev. Randall T. Brown



Next week there will be Community Wide Holy Week Luncheon each day at the Manchester Presbyterian Church starting at noon. A luncheon will be served each day at 12:30. This is Monday -Thursday.

Thursday evening we will be having our Maundy Thursday service. The meal will be in the fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. and the communion service will be at 6:30 p.m.

On Good Friday you are encouraged to attend the Noon Service at St. Bede's Episcopal Church.

Easter Sunday our schedule will be as follows:
6:30 A.M. Sunrise Service on the front steps of the church

7:00 A.M. Pancake Breakfast (fundraiser) in the fellowship hall

8:30 A.M. Early Service

9:30 A.M. Coffee Time

11:00 A.M. Late Church

See You Sunday

Randy Brown

Inspiring Stewardship

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10). In our last article as part of this year’s stewardship emphasis, we saw that God is the owner of everything and that we are managers and stewards of what God has given us. We considered how each of us has been given gifts of time and talents as blessings of God’s grace. We also learned about the importance of using these gifts for God’s glory, for the good of others, and for the ministry here at First United Methodist Church. In addition to time and talents, God has also given us financial resources. For most of us, this means working to secure monetary gain. But make no mistake about it: According to Deuteronomy chapter

8, God gives us the ability to earn money. According to King Solomon, even work itself is a gift from God (Eccl. 5:19) In fact, everything we have — even the air we breathe in order to be able to work — is a gift that has been temporarily loaned to us by God. All of us know the old saying, “You can’t take it with you.” That’s why whatever we are going to do with the financial resources God has entrusted to us has to be done in this life. In fact, whatever we intend to do for the Lord with our money, we need to be doing now. Or as one person observed, “Do your giving while you’re living so you’ll be knowing where it’s going!” How we use the money which God has given to us is an indicator of our priorities. Our checkbook will reveal clearly the things that are really important to us. How we spend our money is, in fact, a barometer of our spiritual temperature and of our personal faith. You see, it doesn’t take a lot of faith to make a rational, logical decision concerning our giving. As we review expenses and anticipated income, we can easily find the balance and base our commitment on the numbers alone. Remember, giving is not to help “poor God” pay the bills. Giving is not because God needs anything from us. Giving is God’s way of growing Christians. Every time we give for God’s glory from hearts that have been redeemed by God’s love and grace, we give away a little of our selfishness. Every time we give of our resources that have been loaned to us by God, we grow in grace and in our walk with Christ. As you consider your life during this time of stewardship emphasis, will you begin by first giving yourself to the Lord? Will you then be one of the “Faithful Stewards of God’s Infinite Grace” who will step out by faith by giving your time, your talents and your treasure to the Lord?



A NOTE FROM DANA...

Several years ago, I was serving a United Methodist Church in South Georgia. I recall one Sunday morning when the church organist came to me during the Sunday School hour and said “there is a

man in the sanctuary standing at the altar. I'm not real sure, but I think he wants to get saved!" I said, "Well then you should talk to him about that!" Her reply was honest and probably indicative of many Christians nowadays. "Well, I don't know what to say to this person about becoming a Christian!" What do you think YOU would do in that situation? Truth be told, there may be some among us who just would feel downright uncomfortable about "witnessing" to someone else that way. And to be sure, there are others who would get out their Message Bible and preach a sermon! I think either of these methods would be OK. The most important thing for us is to show LOVE to people who are seekers. As Christians, you and I are privy to the greatest news the world could ever know! There IS a God who loves us and who has made salvation and LIFE POSSIBLE for us! We do our witnessing in a thousand different ways! And perhaps that's the beauty of the Gospel message – it is for everybody! As for that man at the altar in South Georgia a few years ago-I took him to my office that day and introduced him to the Savior and he accepted Jesus! WHO will YOU influence for the Kingdom today?

Grace and Peace,

Dana



As we continue to talk about peace on Wednesday night, we explore the key question: **What are ways you can be a peacemaker?** It's one thing to say that peace is important, it's another thing to actively work towards making peace. As kids go about their day, we hope they stop, look around, and see how they can help make peace between people they know who are experiencing an argument. In **1 Samuel 25:1-35**, Abigail intervenes when her husband picks a fight with David. Abigail immediately knew what was happening and made a plan to present gifts to David and calm his anger. Her quick actions promoted peace between the two men. Bottom Line: **Prove you care more about others by being part of the solution.** Peace is often about helping stop an argument before it can escalate into something worse. Acting as a peacemaker between

others will take time and energy, but God can give us the strength to help others make peace. Sometimes our outside perspective is what someone might need to see a peaceful solution. Reminder: Saturday, March 24 is our Easter Egg Hunt! I hope you will join us at Westwood Elementary School at 11:00 am for the fun. Thank you to everyone who has helped. Everyone who has brought candy, the youth who have stuffed eggs for us, and of course my team of volunteers who are always there to help our children. I could not do this job without all the help from all of you.

Mrs. Jackie
jackiemconnelly@aol.com



Back again this year by popular demand the youth will be having an Easter sunrise breakfast on Easter Sunday morning. The sunrise service will be at 6:30 AM and we will serve breakfast from the conclusion of the sunrise service through coffee time. Please make plans now to attend this annual event as we have fellowship and celebrate the risen Savior Jesus Christ.

In the grip of HIS Grace,

Randa

MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS

God's World & Our Nation

Jay Newton; Terra Bingham; Allen Stone; Michael Starr; Craig Johnson; Brad Sanders; Justin Hendrix; Landon Norwood; Cameron Wainright; Nick Hill; Ashley Thames; Kelsie Ross; and all in the military service & their families.

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Rob, Devon & Charlie Tessier | Jimmy Stephens | Ron Short |
| Stan McHann | Susan Wood | Jon McHann |
| Sabrina Gilliam | Bernice Thornton | Dorothy Bon |
| Cookie Brassfield | Clay Riddle | Don & Mary Rounds |
| Linda Langham | David Holdaway | Brad & Teri Edwards |
| Jeanette Taylor | Jean Johanson | Ava Brazelton |
| Charles Rogers | Jesse Overall | Sandy Locke Matlock |
| Michael Keeling | Mike Marshall (Home) | Lillian Nolan |
| Charles Broadrick | | |

Please keep our Nursing Home Residents and Homebound Members on your prayer list even though they may not be listed above.

MARCH 21, 2018

Please let the church office know when you would like your name removed from the prayer listing.

Copies of the complete Prayer Concerns list are available at the Welcome Center counter.

Memorials & Honorariums

A gift was given to the General Budget in memory of Mrs. Dabney Owen by Mrs. Maggie L. Beck.

A gift was given to the Music Ministry in honor of Mrs. Mary Frances Brantley by Ms. Barbara Williams.

In Memory Of

Please Remember the Families of those who have recently passed away:

- Gary Jernigan
- Mike Parsley
- Shane Uselton

I Will Support My Church With My Presence

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Attendance: | March 18 |
| Sunday School | 86 |
| 8:25 Service | 72 |
| 10:55 Service | 84 |

I Will Support My Church With My Gifts

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | March 18 |
| Sunday School | 91.00 |
| Missions | 220.00 |
| Good Samaritan | 0.00 |
| Coffee Time | 15.00 |
| Youth Fund | 329.00 |
| Music | 0.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary | 0.00 |
| Required weekly | 9,347.00 |
| Budget Contribution | 6,376.00 |
| Year-to-date offering | 86,162.00 |
| Offering needed to date | 102,817.00 |
| (+/-) Difference | -16,655.00 |

I Will Support My Church With My Service

Acolytes

March 25 8:25 Megan Fibelkorn 10:55 Madison Miller
 April 1 Natalie Fibelkorn Elizabeth Miller

Building Checker

Week of March 25 Jay Trussler
 Week of April 1 Jonathan Shedd

Coffee Time

March 25 Wade Stevenson
 April 1 Youth Sunrise Breakfast

Altar Guild

March Kay Smoyak

Counters

March Mike Anderson & Brett Henley

Greeters

March 25 8:25 Sarah & Tommy Potuk
 10:55 Betty & Jerry Watkins
 April 1 8:25 Patty & Charles Roberts
 10:55 Maggie Smith & Denise Dix

MIDWEEK VISITOR

Kitchen Monitor

March Sue Reid
 April Lois Thormaehlen

Welcome Center

March 25 8:15 Ann & Wade Stevenson
 10:45 Mike & Julie Giffin

Bakers/Visitors

March 25 Bea Ferrell
 April 1 Karla Childs

Good Samaritan Workers:

March 26: Marie Kimble, Max & Judy Hester and Mike and Karla Childs



Wednesday Night Menus

March 21: Herb roasted chicken, homemade mashed potatoes, buttered corn, roll, tossed salad/dressings & banana pudding

March 28: No Wednesday Night Dinner – Spring Break



Easter Lily Order Forms are due in the Church Office by March 27, 2018. Easter Lilies are \$6 each. If you have any questions, please let the Church Secretary know. Thank you!

MIDWEEK VISITOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Sanctuary Choir** will meet for rehearsal on Wednesday evening at 7:15 p.m. in the choir room.

“AMAZING LOVE-HOW CAN IT BE” Please join the **Community Outreach Choir** as we celebrate Easter with the 2018 musical “Amazing Love-How Can It Be?” The performances will be **Thursday, March 22 and Friday, March 23 at 7:00 PM** both evenings. The presentation will be in the Sanctuary of Trinity Baptist Church located at 1513 McArthur Drive here in Manchester. Everyone is invited!

The **Disciple Bible Study** will NOT meet this coming Sunday, March 25, 2018.

The **Sanctuary Handbell Choir** will NOT meet on March 26, 2018.

The Coffee County Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring the annual **Holy Week Services**, March 26-March 30. Services will be held at noon each day in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 1001 Jackson Street here in Manchester. The Friday, March 30 service will be held at St. Bede’s Episcopal Church, 97 St. Bede’s Drive. The services are about 30 minutes in length and feature a different local pastor preaching each day. A light lunch will be served following the service with the proceeds benefiting Good Samaritan of Manchester.

Maundy Thursday: Our church will host the annual Maundy Thursday Service, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. We will begin with supper at 6 p.m. and you are asked to bring soups and sandwiches. The Maundy Thursday service will be in the Fellowship Hall.

April 1 **EASTER SUNDAY** that’s no April fool hoax. Sunrise service at 6:30 am and Breakfast at 7 am prepared by the Youth of the Church. The rest of the day is on regular schedule. Communion in the Chapel.

Just about ANYTHING you need to know about the mission and ministry of Manchester First UMC can be found at our website, www.manchesterfirst.org! Download the “Mid-Week Visitor,” audio and video of sermons and children’s sermons, link to other important web sites and even find help for those who need it. Check out our website today!

And don’t forget about our church APP which is available for your smart phone on Google Play Store or Apple App Store! (Mobile MFUMC)

7/13-14 Vacation Bible School – Polar Blast: *Where Jesus’ Love Is Cool*, where kids chill with new friends and warm up to Jesus – the coolest friend of all.

First United Methodist Church
105 Church Street
Manchester, TN 37355
931-728-4624
www.manchesterfirst.org
manchesterfume@gmail.com
**ADDRESS SERVICE
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Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Manchester TN 37355
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FEBRUARY 14, 2018

MIDWEEK VISITOR