

**Manchester First Methodist
Church**

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let
your
light
shine

**Manchester
First Methodist Church**
Michael A. Cobb—Pastor
105 N. Church St.
Manchester, TN 37355

Church Phone: 931-728-4624
Church Fax: 334-273-1113
Minister's Phone: 334-430-7868
pastor@manchesterfmc.org

EVERY SUNDAY

8:25am Blended Worship
9:45am Sunday School
10:55am Worship

Visit our Web Site
www.manchesterfmc.org

NOTE: The deadline for submission to The Lightshine is the 20th of each month.

Early receipt of your article will help ensure adequate room for that issue.

Please email any articles or info to churchassist@manchesterfmc.org.



THE LIGHTSHINE

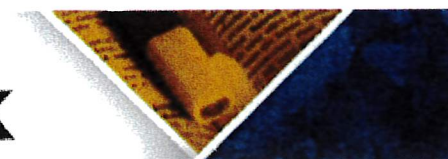
Manchester First Methodist Church

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the world.*



October 2025

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



*"My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I
remember you upon my bed and meditate on you
in the watches of the night" (Psalm 63:5-6).*

The Christian life is more than "Jesus and me." However, it's not less than that either. Today, many people still need to be awakened to the rich rewards of studying and living Scripture within community. God's Word challenges and realigns our selfish-self, from the beginning to Abraham's family and David's nation, through the era of the prophets, into the life of Christ and His Church. The communal nature of the Christian life is vital, and thankfully, all around us we can hear the voices of a generation beginning to join that ancient refrain from Hebrews 10:25, *not neglecting to meet together*. But equal to that communal refrain is the understanding that time alone with God is just as important as it has ever been—likely more so in this age of distraction. Theologian Jonathan Edwards echoed this sentiment long ago when he shared that the Christ-enamored heart has a gnawing ache to be with Him.

How is that working for you? If I get busy and forget to spend time with my wife or children, our relationship suffers. Our growth in Christ will do the same if we forget to retreat and feed our souls in quiet time with the Living Word. To believe that being in Christian community is enough is a half-truth. A healthy marriage and healthy family intentionally makes space for one another. Even when schedules appear to be filled, they ensure that have time together because time is a delight that they crave. But walking in unity with Christ demands the same. "True religion," according to Jonathan Edwards, is prioritizing seasons to be alone with God, to hear from Him in His Word and respond in prayer. Listen to how Edwards captured it over 250 years ago: *"A true Christian doubtless delights in religious fellowship and Christian conversation, finding much affection in it; but he also delights in retiring from Christian fellowship to converse with God in solitary places. This has a peculiar advantages for fixing one's heart and engaging in one's affections...on holy meditation and prayer."*

Regardless of whether you're a people-person or you prefer time alone, this aspect of the Christian life naturally goes against our nature. It requires us to be alone for the sole purpose of feeding the soul. As we round the Lenten corner and head towards Easter, remember there's always time to intentionally engage with God. Set the inclinations of our heart towards God and He will add to that a desire for more of His Spirit. You will be satisfied.

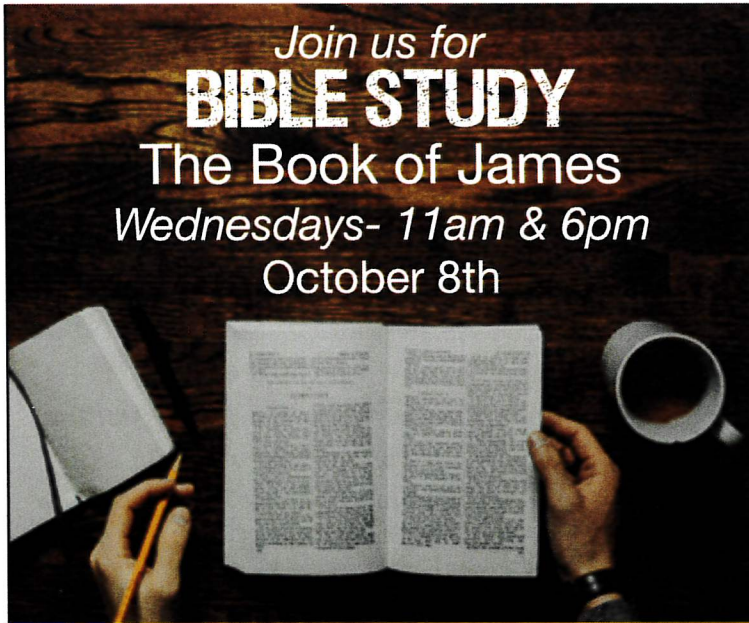
Grace & Peace,
Pastor Mike



Manchester FMC is actively seeking a part-time Children & Youth Minister to begin rebooting our programs. Interested candidates should contact Pastor Mike at pastor@manchesterfmc.org.



Denise Dix	Karen Henegar
Donna Keeling	Charles Roberts
Richard Eddings	Nancy Daniel
Mary Rounds	Linda Forrester
Missionaries: The Guzman's (Mexico), The Barbee's (Thailand), The Reyes' (Latin America), The Babcock's (Malawi).	



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

A gift was given to the Music Fund in memory of Charlie Fechter by Pat & Joane Cassidy.

A gift was given to the General Fund in memory of Jerry Botkin by Pat & Joan Cassidy.



JoAnn Hartman- 1st	Claus Thormaehlen-14th
Deborah Amacher- 3rd	Jonathan Henegar- 19th
Linda Langham- 3rd	June Holland- 23rd
Julie Giffin- 5th	Bobbie Barclay- 24th
Ansley Beachboard- 8th	Rowland Cobb- 25th
Jett Trussler- 10th	Jessica Jernigan- 27th
Jim Thorington- 11th	Briley Holland- 28th
Gary Nester- 12th	Joe Burt- 31st



FROM THE CLC DIRECTOR- ANGIE GANN

Our preschool ministry is off to a great start to the new school year! The children are back into their school routines, and we are gearing up for a busy season filled with fun, fellowship, and ministry opportunities.

In October, we're thrilled to bring back Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 24, 2025, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This is always such a special outreach to our community, and we love getting to share the love of Christ in this way.

In November, we will gather for our Annual Thanksgiving Lunch on Friday, November 14, 2025, from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This is not just for our preschool families but for our whole church family, and we hope you'll make plans to be with us.

In December, our children will share the joy of the season in our Christmas Musical on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Together we will celebrate the birth of Jesus through music and performance. So please continue to keep our preschool ministry in your prayers as we teach, love, and care for the children God has placed in our care.



FROM NICOLE HOLLAND

The Kingdom Kids program is currently under renovation. Stay tuned for more info!

During Traditional Sunday service 11 am until 12 pm, we are having Children's Church upstairs in the classroom. Please bring your children (pre-K thru 5th grade) and join us! We are studying Seedbed's "Life of Discipleship." Snacks & drinks provided.

ONE DAY OF HOPE FREE EVENTS

GROCERY DAY OF HOPE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 | 9AM - 11AM
PARKING LOT WILL OPEN AT 8AM
HOPE CENTER - CANVAS COMMUNITY CHURCH PARKING LOT
1886 MCARTHUR STREET, MANCHESTER, TN

ONE DAY OF HOPE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 9AM - 2PM
COFFEE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
99 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, MANCHESTER, TN
KIDS ZONE - JOB & CAREER SERVICES - HAIRCUTS
MEDICAL & DENTAL SCREENINGS - FAMILY PORTRAITS - CLOTHING
SHOES - PRAYER - HYGIENE - COMMUNITY SERVICES - LUNCH

1 DAY OF HOPE

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST - NO ID REQUIRED
RAIN OR SHINE - NO SMOKING - SERVICE ANIMALS ONLY
FOR INFORMATION, VISIT:
[FACEBOOK.COM/ONEDAYOFHOPECC](https://facebook.com/onedayofhopecc)

OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

DOOR GREETERS

First Service
The Smoyak's - 10/5
The Smoyak's - 10/12
The Truesdale's - 10/19
Topsy Layne-10/26
Kelly Meltzer - 10/26

Second Service
The West's - 10/5
The West's - 10/12
Mike Giffin+TBA - 10/19
Nicole Holland+TBA-
10/26

COFFEE TIME
Lois Thormaehlen- 10/5, 10/12
Linda Langham- 10/19, 10/26

KITCHEN MONITOR
Brenda Fibelkorn- October

COUNTERS
Butch Niederhauser & Virginia McKee

ALTAR GUILD
Joane Cassidy & Kaye Pratt

NOVEMBER COMMUNION
Prep TBA
SERVERS- First Service SERVERS- 2nd Service
The Thormaehlen's The Giffin's & Thorington's

BUILDING CHECKERS
Week of 10/5- Tammy Corona
Week of 10/12- John Richardson
Week of 10/19- Rogers Starr
Week of 10/26- Chris West

