the focus

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Covington, TN

October 17, 2025 A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

Mark Your Calendars - Something Special Is Coming!

In just one week, on *Sunday, October 26th*, we'll once again come together in worship with our friends from Canaan Missionary Baptist Church for our second annual joint worship service.

Last year, Covington First UMC had the joy of hosting this powerful time of praise. This year, Canaan has graciously invited us to join them across the square for another spirit-filled morning of worship and fellowship.

The service begins at 10:00 a.m., with a fellowship lunch to follow.

Sky will be delivering the message, our musicians and singers from both congregations will unite in leading worship, and there will be a special time planned for children and youth as well.

We are excited to gather with our Canaan brothers and sisters in Christ and lift our voices together in praise. You won't want to miss this joyful and meaningful day of worship!



Sky McCracken Senior Pastor

Cathy Adams Coordinator of Pastoral Care & Evangelism Adamscat50@gmail.com

Sandy Burgess Office Manager sburgess@covingtonfumc.com

> Kit Burrow Maintenance

Ethan Cedarfield Director of Youth/Young Adults

> Justin Hanson Organist

Jennifer Lindley Children's Director jlindley@covingtonfumc.com

Carole Mathis Worship Director cmathis@covingtonfumc.com

Liz Newman Director of Outreach lnewman@covingtonfumc.com

FUMC Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

"Leading people to Christ, Learning to be Disciples, Loving through Service."



Bags of individually wrapped candy are needed for this year's Costume & Candy community event.

Donations may be left in the boxes provided or brought to the church office. This year's event is on a Friday night, and we are expecting a very large crowd.

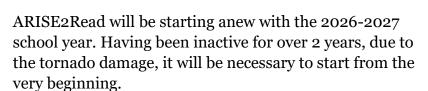




COSTUMES & CANDY

Join the fun, become a table host! Friday October 31, 5:30 - 8:00 PM. This is a fantastic community outreach opportunity!

Contact Liz Newman or the church office for more information.



ARISE2Read is a ministry focusing on second grade literacy. We will be mentoring at both Charger Academy and Covington Elementary school.

Volunteers are needed to dedicate one hour a week, during the school year, to mentoring and coaching two second grade students. Using the team read approach, students receive one-on-one coaching twice a week focusing on simple, but essential, sight words and phrases. Arise2Read positively impacts the lives of children, teachers, parents, and the community by providing students with individualized tutoring during one of the most critical years for students.

Training and all supplies will be provided.



Interested in becoming an ARISE2Read mentor? Need more information? Contact Liz Newman in the church office, 901-476-9694 or email

LNewman@CovingtonFUMC.com

Methodist Prep is having a fundraiser!

If you'd like to support our school by purchasing some beautiful live Christmas greenery, contact Amy Shrum at 901-493-7866. These wreaths and garlands are so pretty and smell like Christmas! **Orders are due by Wednesday, November 6th**. All greenery will be shipped to the church the first week of December. We also have options to deliver to people who aren't local, so please reach out if you'd like to see those options as well!













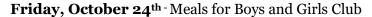
The monthly meeting of United Women in Faith was held October 13th in Fellowship Hall. The ladies enjoyed a delicious lunch of potato soup, ham & cheese sliders, and pumpkin spice cake. After lunch, and a short devotional, a presentation was made by Covington Civic

Center Director, Stephanie Pugh. Mrs.

Pugh gave some highlights as to the Downtown Grant Program that is being used for improvements on the square by both the city and business owners. She also provided information on upcoming happenings in Covington, including the Charms facility expansion and the return of Dickens Christmas.

During the business portion of the meeting, kudos were expressed for efforts put forth by everyone involved with the Rummage Sale fundraiser, which profited over \$1,600.00 for the missions and ministries of the group. The ladies discussed and signed up to prepare and serve a meal for the kids at the Boys and Girls Club, Friday, October 24th. If you missed the meeting and would like to help with this event please contact Kathy Wallace or Martha McDaniel.

In addition to the Boys and Girls Club meal other important dates were brought to attention:



- Food Prep 1:00 p.m. CLC Kitchen
- Deliver/Serve 3:00 p.m. leave CLC

Saturday, October 25th - Metro District Annual Meeting - Mullins UMC

Meet in the upper church parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

Refreshments at 9:30 a.m.

Program 10 a.m. - noon RSVP to Kathy

Friday, October 31st - Operation Christmas Child boxes due

Monday, November 10th - UWF Meeting -12:00 Noon

Program –CASA presentation & making blankets for CASA (Bring a pair of scissors and plan to stay to help tie blankets)

Tuesday, December 9th - UWF Christmas Dinner - 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Special Musical Guest Aaron Brock Spouses and Guests welcome.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this active group contact Kathy Wallace or Martha McDaniel for more information OR just show up at the next meeting, Monday, November 10th, at noon, in Fellowship Hall. We'd love to have you!





Gil Erwin October 17 October 19 Chris Gangaware October 21 Leah Gangaware October 23 Jeffrey Bryant Rhett Olesen Jimmy Richardson October 24 Mel Walton October 27 Blair Brasfield **Graeson Carter** CH Sullivan

October 30 Dale Byrd
Molly Flanagan
October 31 Susan Sampson
November 1 Bo David
Billy Jones

Susan Thornton

November 2 Gail Ganier Glenda Fullen

November 5 Brooke Shipley

Clark Turner John Wallace

November 6 Zachary Mitchell
November 7 Sherrie Wright
November 8 Jack Winberry
November 10 Kevin Holt

Alice Morrison

Virginia Rhodes Olesen

Amanda Phillips

GIVING & ATTENDANCE

October 5, 2025

In Person 8:30 service: 69
In Person 11:00 service: 79
Sunday School: 50
Facebook Views 8:30 service: 252
Facebook Views 11:00 service: 419
Offering: \$5,153.00

October 12, 2025

In Person 8:30 service:	57
In Person 11:00 service:	81
Sunday School:	46
Facebook Views 8:30 service:	236
Facebook Views 11:00 service:	497
Offering:	\$3,676.00



Physical Concerns

Faye Beckett
Pat Frovarp
Gail Ganier
Pete Gutierrez
Sue Hoerter
Beth Lakey
Kyle Maclin
Sophie Nolan
Donna VanDouser
Shirley Young

Undergoing Treatment for Cancer

Lydia Anderson
Donald Brock
Kenneth Coulston
Bettye Davis
Janet Greggs
Christine Hight
Robert Hurt
Bob Lakey
Rickey Lindsey
Lois Martin
Jennifer Jones Moore
Johnny Nichols
Francine Oldham
Ellen Sherrill
Tucker James

Condolences

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Charlie Elam Sr.**Operating Fund by Russ and Patricia Bailey

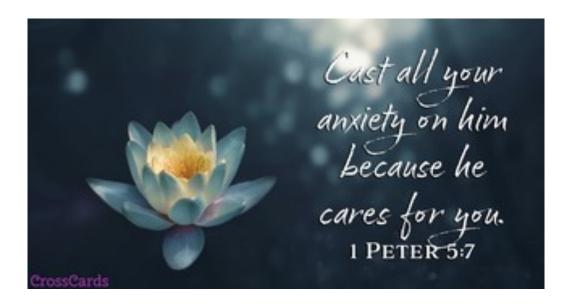
In Memory of **Mrs. Evelyn Elam**Operating Fund by Russ and Patricia Bailey

In Memory of Carolyn Calhoun Hall Food Pantry Fund by Nancy Simpson

In Memory of **Jimmy Overton**Organ Restoration Fund by Joe and Sandra Naifeh

In Memory of **Lilah Stokes**Organ Restoration Fund by Beverly Smith

January St



Event Calendar

Saturday, October 18:

9:00 AM: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Covington

Sunday, October 19:

8:30 AM: Modern Worship - Christian Life Center

9:45 AM: Sunday School

11:00 AM: Traditional Worship - Sanctuary2:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Monday, October 20:

10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

5:00 PM: Tipton County Chorus - Christian Life Center

6:30 PM: Church Council Meeting - New Beginnings Room

Tuesday, October 21:

9:00 AM: Tipton County Line Dancers - Christian Life Center

4:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Wednesday, October 22:

10:00 AM: Adult Bible Study - New Beginnings room

5:30 PM: Children and Youth Activities - Christian Life Center/Education Building

7:00 PM: Choir Practice at Canaan MB Church

Thursday, October 23:

7:00 AM: Men's Prayer Breakfast - Fellowship Hall

10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center5:00 PM: Charge Conference - Sanctuary

Saturday, October 25:

9:00 AM: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Munford

Sunday, October 26:

10:00 AM: Combined Worship with Canaan MB Church at Canaan

2:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Monday, October 27:

10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

6:00 PM: Tipton County Chorus - Christian Life Center

Tuesday, October 28:

9:00 AM: Tipton County Line Dancers - Christian Life Center

4:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Wednesday, October 29:

10:00 AM: Adult Bible Study - New Beginnings Room

5:30 PM: Children and Youth Activities - Christian Life Center/Education Building

7:00 PM: Choir Practice - Sanctuary



WORSHIP TIMES

Modern Worship

Sundays at 8:30 a.m. Christian Life Center

Traditional Worship

Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary



NOV. 7-9, 2025

First United Methodist Church

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