



THE CHIMES

April 2022

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ELIZABETHTON, TN



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church™

Jesus said, "The light is with you only for a little while. Walk while you have light so the darkness doesn't overtake you. Those who walk in darkness don't know where they are going. As long as you have light, believe in the light so that you may become people whose lives are determined by the light" (John 12:35-36)

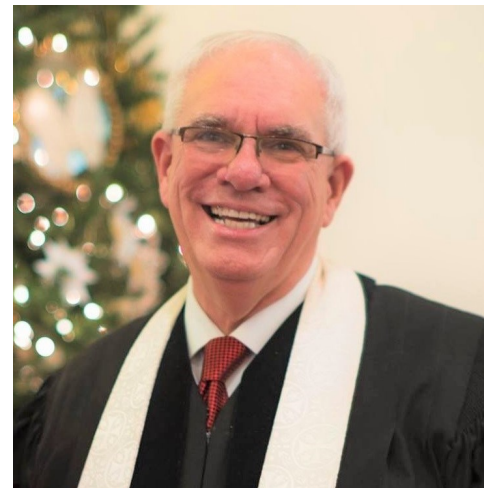
I cannot find even a hint of what happened on the day after the crucifixion. We know that it was a day of worship, but there are no details of that Sabbath recorded in Scripture.

Darkness is the only word that we have. On Easter Mary came to the tomb while it was still dark. Knowing how John wrote, I suspect that he had more in mind than telling us that it was early morning. Darkness is always symbolic of the absence of Christ, and they had spent a day without Him.

It is hard for me to imagine worshipping God on the day that Jesus' body lay in a tomb. He had been condemned to the cross by the very ones who took their important places in the worship. The Light of the world had been extinguished and worship had to be like people feeling their way through darkness.

Mary seemed the most anxious for the darkness to end. She left while it was still dark, and headed back to the place where she had last seen the Lamp that once illuminated her way. She was as one who was fleeing the darkness. She did not expect what she found: She saw Jesus, and in Him was life, and that life was the Light of all who believe. Never again would there be a day in the darkness.

Grace and Peace,
Rev Ray





THE RESURRECTION CROSS

✦ We will adorn the Resurrection Cross with flowers for our Easter Sunday Worship Service.

Memorials and/or honorarium contributions to the Resurrection Cross are being accepted and will be listed in the May Chimes Newsletter. Donations received will go towards a special missions project "Hand of Hope" palliative care packages for cancer patients at our local hospitals. Deadline for submissions is Sunday, April 17th.

In Memory/Honor of: _____
(Circle One)
Given by: _____

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Given by: _____



2nd....John Connors, Eleanor Roark
 4th....Margo Bentley
 5th.....Ruth Ritchie
 9th.....Landon Beall
 11th.....Mark Dugger
 12th.....Jack Hyder
 13th.....Robin Folse, Stephanie Keith, Bill Stanton
 14th.....Rochelle James, Dustin Milhorn, Betty O'Neal
 15th.....Steven Seeley
 17th.....Carole Hayes
 18th.....Joe Alexander, Harry Cox
 19th.....JD Livingston II, Becky Pinkston
 22nd....Kathy Connors
 23rd.....Steve Hayes, Gracie Murden
 24th.....Daniel Bowers, Bob Carroll
 25th.....Debbie Wortman
 26th.....Jerrie Sue Bowers, Easton Forinash
 27th.....David Arney, Chris Little
 28th.....Jobelle Hood, Chris Dillow
 30th.....Jesse Combs

**Please advise Robin in the Church Office of additions or corrections*

Acolyte Ministry

April 3rd: Bentley & Caroline

Acolyte Parent: Bentley

April 10th: Lilly & Millie

Acolyte Parent: Bunton

April 17th: Jack & Piper Kate

Acolyte Parent: Bennett

April 24th: Kate & Taylor

Acolyte Parent: Campbell



Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will meet on
 Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 PM
 in the Fellowship Hall.
 Please see Dicky Lou Cantey
 for more information.

APRIL MISSION OF THE MONTH



FOCUS ON FAITH

Camp Bays Mountain is a camp with a long legacy and an important purpose...helping campers grow in the Christian faith. They offer an environment where children and youth can find opportunities to explore and grow in their faith. This is done daily through Morning Watch, Prayer Times, Evening Worship, and Bible Studies. Also, every camper is part of a small group of about ten campers with two counselors/mentors that journey with them. There are also Pastors and Church Leaders every week that serve as Ministers-In-Residence.

MISSION

The Board of Directors mission was to Dream, Define, Design, Develop and Dedicate a new facility for the next generation of campers of our region. Phase 1 was finished in 2017. Phase 2 was finished in 2018; and Phase 3 was finished in 2019.



VBS

Save the Dates

June 27th—July 1st

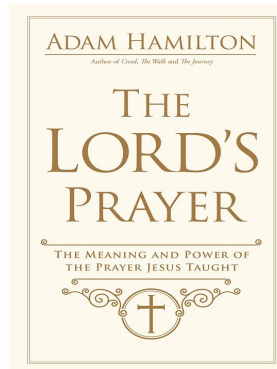
Please see Jen Bradley for volunteer opportunities



Prior to our Lent Bible Studies, we are having a Lenten Dinner from 5:00 PM —5:45 PM. Our last Dinner will be on Wednesday, April 6th. Watch for more information in your Sunday Bulletin.

Please join us for a special Lent Bible Study
"The Lord's Prayer" with Rev Ray.

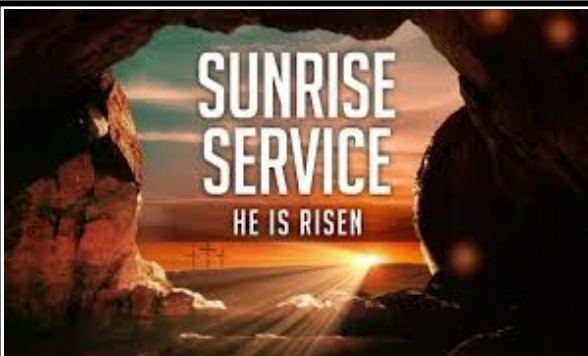
The study is on Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary and will continue through April 13th.



Sunday, April 10th at 10:00 AM



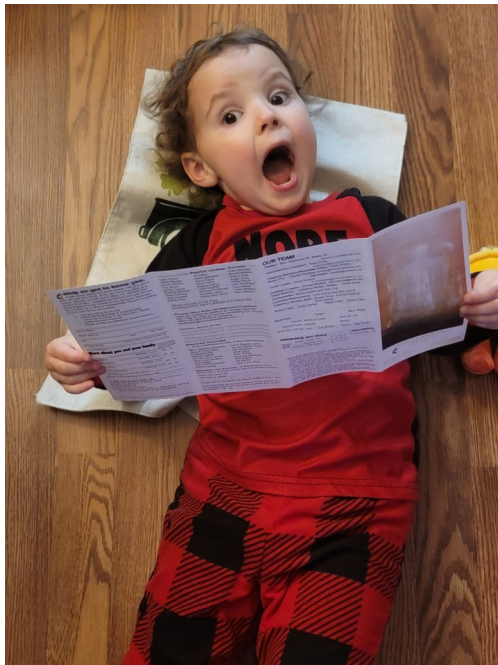
Join us for a special Maundy Thursday service on April 14th at 6:00 PM. First Baptist Church and First Christian Church will worship with us as we remember the last supper of our Lord.



Join us in the Memory Garden for our Sunrise Service at 7:00 AM on April 17th.

Coffee, Juice and donuts will be provided in the Fellowship Hall after the service.



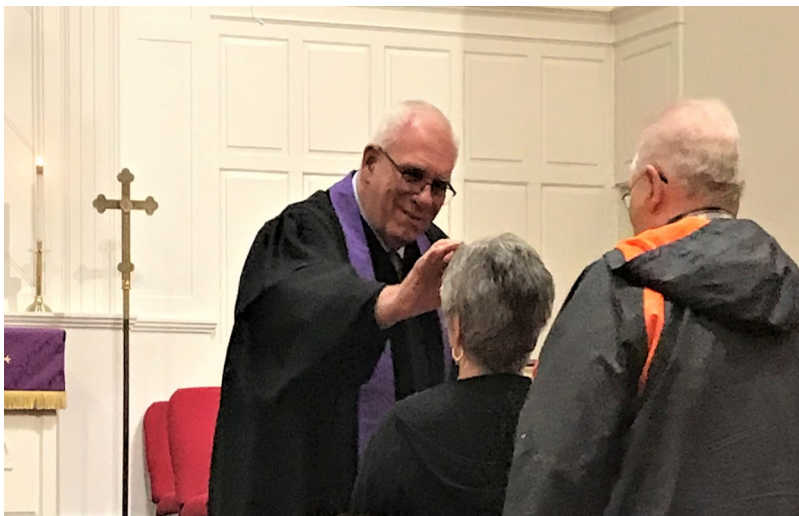


the Church is a
family
1 Corinthians 3:1-4





Let us
WORSHIP
Together



We are home!!!

We came home late Monday, March 14th and have been adjusting to life with a million follow up appointments and a newborn.

Finley is doing well and is over the 6 pound mark. He's still on oxygen but we will follow up with pulmonology in Knoxville to see when we go off that. We have another trip to Vanderbilt next Monday for another eye check but everything there seems mostly stable. We aren't sure where his next surgery will be as the surgeon here wants the opinion of some others who could hopefully do a less invasive procedure. I'm thankful for a surgeon who is willing to seek the best option without ego. We love having him home and the lack of sleep is tolerable to get to hold him in our house. We appreciate all the prayers, cards, and gifts we have received and can't wait for Finley to be strong enough to see people at church! Thank you.

We love you!

Annalee, Cameron & Finley



Casserole Brigade

Our FUMC Casserole Brigaders will be delivering casseroles to Loaves and Fishes Feeding Ministry this Thursday, March 24th. Our next serving rotation date will be on Thursday, April 28th. Thank you so much to all the FUMC Servants who lovingly prepare these creative casseroles for those in our community in need. These are hot and nourishing meals for them and much appreciated! Anyone who wants to join this brigade is welcome!!!! You can never have too much!



Casserole Ministry

Loaves & Fishes Ministry

Sunday, March 20th some FUMC Servants helped me put together 30 blessing bags of shampoo, body wash, soap, and hand sanitizer for the families that are served by Loaves and Fishes Ministry. I will be sending 20 more on Friday, assembled by myself, Jude, and Sydnee Barnett. I thought this would be a good ministry for my grandchildren to help with!

As always, much love and appreciation to all of the kind servants at FUMC who always help in any way they possibly can! We couldn't do any of these missions without your help and support and prayers!

Susan Hathaway

April 3, 2022 Team 6 (Richard Lovette-Captain)

April 10, 2022 Team 7 (Scotty Bunton-Captain)

April 17, 2022 Team 1 (Stan Bentley-Captain)

April 24, 2022 Team 2 (Greg Bowers-Captain)



All the men of the church are invited to attend the United Methodist Men's meeting on Saturday, April 9th at 8:00 AM.

(Please bring your breakfast with you).

Altar Flower Vases

Please remember to return altar flower transport vases so that we may use them again.

Thanks so much!



The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 14th at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All of the ladies of church are invited to attend this special time of fellowship.



NURSERY MINISTRY



Volunteer Opportunity

We have openings for workers in the Sunday morning nursery. Two people are assigned each Sunday and will only serve every 4-5 weeks. We currently have 2 babies so there's plenty of cuddle time! Please prayerfully consider this service to our church. It is much needed but often forgotten way to serve. Contact Margo Bentley for more information.

Roses in December

By: Danielle Gentry

Roses in December - what do you suppose it means?
An oddity of nature? Or a sign of things to be?
Hope of life in times of sorrow -
Miracles yet unseen?

Rose's heads nodding greetings in the cooling breeze - from bushes far apart.
One yellow tinged with rosy pink - the other - gold as sun.
Their scent wafts sweetly through the air,
As twilight turns to dark.

I feel they somehow speak to me,
And bid me to come near.
I bury my face in their fragrance -
And the tension leaves my soul.
I hear them whisper, "Peace be still -
There is no need to fear."

Look at those around us, brown and withered now -
Others that surround us have fallen to the ground.
Yet, we are bright and fragrant,
In the midst of winter's chill.
Patiently, we await as God leads us to be found.

We have stood the winter chill, the rain, the wind, the snow.
Yet we continue to remain as messengers from God.
He leads the weary souls to us to whisper, "Peace be still."
God's love will bring you through the trials -
Though winter's cold winds blow.

My heart now understands the meaning of those roses in December.
Messages from God to those in pain and grief.
Hope to quiet the souls who feel despair with no relief.
"Peace be still" is the whisper I always will remember.
I will never forget the message of those roses in December.



In Memory

Donations to the church have been received in Memory of:

Fred Bowers

Pastor's Discretionary (Contingency) Fund

Ruth Bowers

Maryetta Elliott

Bobbie Wood

Sam & Vickie Shipley

Gary & Meg Brown

Fairview Baptist Church

Mike & Laura Norris

Herb & Barbara Sawyer

Jim & Clara Perkins

Ann Watts

William & Lois Schaff

Marc, Monique, Laine & Wyatt Cossich

Greg, Julie, Alan & Daniel Bowers

Richard & Norma Tetrick

Jennifer Stroupe & David Arney

Lynn, Billy & Cheryl Smith

Susan Huntington



Fred Bowers
February 21, 2022

Fred Bowers

Nicole McDonald (Memory Garden)

Jeffrey Djerlek (General Budget Fund)

Jean Madgett (General Memorial Fund)

Rev. David Burkette

Richard & Norma Tetrick

(John Crockett Memorial Mission Fund)

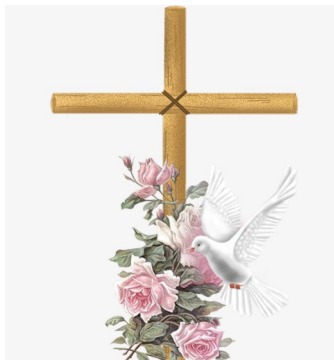
Cecil Hankins

Sam & Vickie Shipley (Worship Ministry)

Lanny & Martha Epperson (Missions Ministry)

Greg, Julie, Alan & Daniel Bowers

(Missions Ministry)



Dr. John Crockett

Charles & Pat Green

(John Crockett Memorial Mission Fund)

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE
Make yourself at home!

Host Class Responsibilities

- ✓ Make sure the coffee pots are plugged in and turned on at the appropriate time
- ✓ Provide Juice and Coffee each week
- ✓ Provide light refreshments on the last Sunday of the month
- ✓ Clean up afterwards

Sunday School begins at 11:20 AM. Please encourage everyone to make it to class on time. Our teachers work very hard to provide great and thought provoking lessons—you don't want to miss!

April 17th: Believer's Class



The Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, April 21st at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Dave Wortman for more information.



The Administrative Council will meet on Thursday, April 28th at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Sam Shipley for more information.



From the Fred Bowers Family:

How blessed we are to be a part of this loving church family. We are humbly grateful for every kindness shared during Fred's long illness and his transition to Heaven. Your faithful prayers have sustained us thus far. We covet your continued prayers in the coming days.

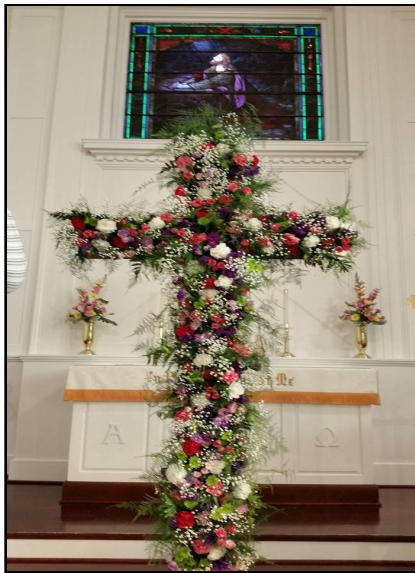
Ruth, Debbie, Betsy and Bert



Worship With Us

IN-PERSON & ONLINE
Sunday mornings at 10:00





Regular Weekly Schedule

Sunday Worship	10:00 AM
Sunday School	11:20 AM
Sunday Night Bible Study	6:00 PM
Sunday Night 4:12 Jr. & Sr. High	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday Night Handbell Practice	7:00 PM
Wednesday Coolagers	6:00 PM
Wednesday Life Lessons	6:00 PM
Wednesday Choir Practice	7:00 PM

April 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 Worship 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM	4 Card Ministry 10:00 AM	5	6 Lent Bible Study 6:00 PM	7	8	9 United Methodist Men: 8:00 AM
10 Palm Sunday Service 10:00 AM Bible Study 6 PM	11	12	13 Lent Bible Study 6:00 PM	14 United Methodist Women: 1:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 PM	15	16
17 Sunrise Service 7:00 AM Easter Service 10:00 AM	18 Card Ministry 10:00 AM	19	20 Newsletter Deadline Life Lessons 6 PM	21 Finance Committee 6:00 PM	22	23
24 Worship 10:00 AM	25	26	27 Life Lessons 6 PM	28 Administrative Council 6:00 PM	29	30

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

Palm Sunday Service (April 10th): 10:00 AM

Maundy Thursday Service & Communion (April 14th): 6:00 PM

Easter Sunrise Service (April 17th): Memory Garden 7:00 AM

Easter Worship Service (April 17th): 10:00 AM



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

