

First United Methodist Church

July 21, 2010
Next issue Aug. 4

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Our Mission:

To be a Great
Commandment Church (love
of God & neighbor) in the
United Methodist Tradition

Our Tasks

To: Worship God, Reach
People, Nurture Faith, Build
Relationships, Serve Others

Our Culture

A place . . .

- Where people develop meaningful relationships with God and others
- Where grace rather than judgment is experienced
- Where honest questions and doubts are welcome
- Where wounded people can find healing and encouragement
- Where guests are invited and warmly welcomed
- Where children and youth are valued and affirmed

open hearts
open minds
open doors



FROM OUR PASTOR

It was good to receive Gene, Regan, Madelyn and Matthew McGahen, Jet Johnson, and Raymond Ferebee as new members. Welcome to our church family.

As always, Vacation Bible School was a huge success. Once again, we hit an all time attendance record. Thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make this event possible. I appreciate you!

Please consider sponsoring a local child through the Wilson County Backpack program, sponsored by our 20/30 SS class. This ministry provides at risk children food for the weekend when they do not receive school meals. Jesus once said, "I was hungry and you fed me." This is a practical way to live out that calling. Further information about this program can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and in Sunday's bulletin.

As mentioned before, we received many comments from the congregation during our recent listening sessions. One person wrote: "I don't think the preacher knows us. If something happened to me, would he know what to say? I know there are a lot of members, but maybe meet with groups. But I love the church and pastor."

I don't know who wrote that comment, but I'm sure he or she is right. I don't know all our members and friends. One of the (few) disadvantages of pastoring a large membership church is not knowing everyone. That's been complicated even more by the large number of new members who have joined in recent years. On the other hand, if you don't know me well, that's probably good news. It means your spouse has not died, or you haven't been critically ill, or you don't serve on one of the (sometimes boring) committees I work with! One of my favorite stories is about a woman who complained to her pastor that he never visited her. He replied, "Lady, you don't want to be that sick!"

Unfortunately, in a large church, there is no way to completely solve this problem. It is humanly impossible for me to know every member and friend in our church. However, if you would like to get better acquainted—I would absolutely love to do so! Just give me a call, and we can set a time and place to meet. It would be a great privilege to do so.

I hope to see you Sunday for worship and Sunday school. I'll be preaching from Isaiah 40:28-41, one of my favorite passages in all the Bible.

MARTIN



Join us for the **27th Annual Congregation-Wide Swim Party** THIS Sunday, July 25! Sponsored by the Family Council and Connect Team, festivities begin at 5:00pm at Sports Village. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided, each family should plan to bring a side or dessert. Sign up in the narthex.



Response to listening sessions & note from the Trustees... A Prayer Room and Children's Church Worship Area...

Requests for a more worshipful area for children during Children's Church (without the surroundings of toys as distractions) & for a Prayer Room have been fulfilled thanks to the JOY & Hope for the Journey SS classes, who have merged.

Their class will use the tables previously in the conference room, so it now serves as a great multi-purpose space (JOY/Hope SS class, Disciple Classroom & a meeting room). The old East Main church altar, candlesticks & pulpit from Mary Chaffin have been moved to the old conference room and serve as a new Children's Church Worship and Prayer Room. The Prayer/Children's Church room can also be used for small SS classes. What a good example of all ages working together with our resources to make a better place!

Welcome to Our Family:

Gene & Regan McGahen, Madelyn & Matthew, 170 Scotts Drive, Lebanon 37087
Raymond Ferebee, 1003 Peyton Circle, Lebanon TN 37087
By infant baptism: Jet Johnson, son of Jeremy & Rebecca Johnson, 1304 Northlynn Drive, Lebanon 37087

Our Love & Sympathy:

The Family of Frankie McConnell on her death July 8. (A memorial service will be at McKendree August 26, sign up in the office for a ride.)

Donna Sloan and Peggy Hudson on the death of their brother, Robert Parkhurst.

Chuck and Kandy Mallory, Maggie & Annie on the death of Kandy's mother, Louise Kirk in Jackson, TN.

Thank you's:

Church family - Clint & I want to thank you for the Robeez "Sunday" shoes for Everhett. We cannot wait until he is big enough to wear them to church. They were a thoughtful gift, thank you. Clint & Whitney Swain.

First UMC; Thank you so much for allowing our mission team to spend the night of June 12 in your FLC. We had a wonderful mission trip to the ASP camp in Winfield, Tennessee. We built ramps & other construction needs to help people in the area. Lakeview UMC, Shreveport, Louisiana

Knitting Group-I don't know what the UMW would do without your wonderful group of knitting ladies! Thank you for the shawls & baby blankets sent to the Assembly & for the Mission Study teachers. Your group certainly goes above & beyond. All gifts will be used & cherished & the users will know they have been blessed. Blessings to all of you, Margaret Partee

Dear Church Family: Words cannot express how grateful we are for you! Your prayers, meals, & encouraging words have gotten us through this challenging time & we cannot say thank you enough! We feel truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Much love, Joy, David, Ella Kate, & CeCe Pine

Dear church family, Our family has recently moved to Lancaster & we've begun attending the local UMC. Our family flourished in the loving & supportive environment of First UMC, from the PDO program, SS classes, camps & VBS, our children were consistently nourished, loved, cared for, & guided in their walk with God. Mike & I found camaraderie & growth that only comes with true fellowship in our SS class, the Faithful Followers, as well as in our involvement in the women's and men's groups and Bible studies. FUMC is a church that is wisely led & lovingly run. Thank you so much for the friendships built & support received over the last five years. We miss you! With much love, Betty & Mike Proctor-Bjorgo; River, Mackenzie, & Cheyenne

Congratulations to:

Sarah Griffin and Ann Marie Horn who were awarded the Alicia Stephens Scholarship for 2010-2011.

Visitors:

July 11: Jonathon Nolan & Haven Kelley; Matt Spry; Sandy & Taylor Fields; Tyler Oakley; Robert Partee; Jeremy, Sherry, & Dustin Powell; Beverly Hurd & Rodney & Sydney Gibbs; Lisa Hull; Henry Atkinson Elisa Selva; Mike, Jessica, Will, Jillian & Zack Cook; Pat Oakley; Beth Ashe; Lance & BJ Sumrell; Linda Sutton;
July 18: Colleen Murray; John & Lisa Murray; Karen Bene; Richard & Heather Clements & Family; Kathryn Dailey; Tim & Lynne Agee; George & Libby Wheeler; Bella & Sophie Macaso; Jay & Connie Hitt; Darla Smith & Brittany Breaux; Danny W.; Christina Wilson; Woody Boyd; Jane Morgan; Carol & Roxanne Jones; Sheila J. Murphy; Tara & Lana Kate Grissim.

NEW Updated Church Directory:

We will take pictures Sunday, August 8, 22 and 29. You have several options:



- You may use the picture from our last directory
- You may submit a picture that is NOT a professional picture
- You may call Patty at the office to make an appointment during the week
- You may have your picture taken in the courtyard on the designated Sundays.
- If you are a new member and like the picture that was taken the day you joined, we can use that picture.

UNITED METHODIST MEN **United Methodist Men**
will NOT meet in August

Women of the Church
Meetings are held quarterly on the first Tuesday at 11:00 am. All WOC members are encouraged to attend and friends are always welcome!
Ruth Group: TBA Martha Group: TBA



Wilson County Backpack Program: This school year our church is supporting a backpack program that will provide food for 50 or more Wilson County children through the weekends. The cost of this program per student for the entire school year is \$150. Please fill out the attached form and place it along with your donation in an envelope in the offering plate or send it to the office by July 31.

I would like to adopt _____ (#) students for the weekend backpack program. I have enclosed \$150 for each student adopted.

I would like to support the weekend backpack program in the amount of \$ _____.



Mature Motivated Methodists (Seniors Group)

Older Adult August Birthdays:

Flo Carson (01); Esther Arrington (05); Barbara Gibson (05); Marie LeCornu (17); Bob Beebe (25); George Turner (27).

Join us for **Golden Agers** on Thurs., Aug. 12, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a delicious lunch, celebrate August birthdays and, since August is "back to school" month, we'll enjoy a program based on *Everything I Needed to Know I Learned In Kindergarten*. No need to sign up!

Mark your calendars for another fun **MMM trip on August 16. Visit The Frist Center in Nashville**, MMM'ers will enjoy \$5 admission and 15% off gifts in the Gift Shop and lunch in the Café. Exhibits include: "The Golden Age of Couture: 1947-57", "Chihuly at the Frist" (the most acclaimed glass artist of our time) and "From Post Office To Art Center". We will leave the church at 9:00am, arrive at the Frist by 10:00am, enjoy the exhibits on our own until 11:00am, eat lunch, listen to 40s, 50s and 60s music broadcast in the lobby at 12:30 and then take part in a guided tour of the exhibits at 1:30. It will be a full, but fun, day! Sign up in the church office. Cost is admission (\$5.00), lunch (\$10-\$15) and any gifts you purchase.

To all **Sunday school teachers and small group leaders - the next training time** is Sun., Aug. 1, from 12—2pm. Lunch will be served, provided by Kent Younes with Carabbas. We will have a workshop-type experience entitled "Teaching for Life". Please let Lori know by July 26th if you will attend. We'd love to see you and share your teaching gifts with the group!

Becky Dewall Shoe Drive ... We are collecting new and slightly used shoes to be used locally in Wilson County. Please put in the box outside the office or the FLC lobby or contributions can be made to the church with "shoe drive" in the memo.

NEW PROGRAM!
Sunday Night G.I.F.T.
"Growing in Faith Together" begins Sunday, Sept. 12 from 5—7pm.

1st—6th grade: Music, Snack Supper, VBS type classes.

Adults: Bible Studies (Ladies, Disciple & other small groups). Track open for walking. Childcare for infant through Kindergarten provided for class participants only.

UMYF with Youth Music from 5—7:30pm



Sunday Night G.I.F.T.
Growing in Faith Together

"Let the children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14



VBS was such a success this year! We had well over 300 in attendance—WOW! This is a record here at Lebanon First. We not only were able to serve MANY of our own children but children from our community as well. We had fun with games, storytelling, crafts, science, food, and much more! Many wonderful and lifelong memories were made. **I would like to thank** all of the volunteers who took their time and love and helped make this year's VBS such a success. A special thanks to the Men's Club for providing the wonderful hot dogs and hamburgers on the first night, they are always YUMMY! Thank you to the church members who donated food to the volunteer lounge. The volunteers thoroughly enjoyed all of the delicious dishes! Also, a huge thank you to Erin Stone and Michelle Wilde for all of your hard work and dedication in leading yet another year of VBS! You are the best! We are so blessed to have such wonderful children and adults here at Lebanon First.

Our children's ministry is in need of 6 loving and nurturing adults to **teach and lead our children in a Sunday School class**. I ask that everyone pray about this wonderful opportunity and serve where the Lord leads. If He is leading you to teach a Sunday School class please let me know and I will be more than happy to talk to you about this. Again, I ask that everyone pray about this opportunity because we are in need. May God lead you into your area of service.

Samantha



Promotion Sunday is Sun., August 8. Children will move up to their next age or grade-level class. If you or a family member have not missed any days or just one day of Sunday School, we would like to recognize you at our worship services on the 8th! Please let Lori Reynolds know by August 2.

Tuesdays in the Family Life Center: Volleyball 6—8 pm. Track is open for adults!



Tuesdays at First Church!



Our Production Team needs volunteers. Anyone interested in learning to operate our projection system for 8:30 or 11:00 services should contact the church office, 444-3315, or John Oakley at fumcproduction@gmail.com. No previous experience is necessary. We will train you to your level of interest.

New York Youth Mission Trip:



When you see our youth, ask them about the trip, and we will be sharing the highlights with everyone at both services in the near future. The entire group would like to thank our congregation for its support. Your prayers over the course of our trip allowed us to reach out to so many in need. Thank You.

Highlights will be shared during both services, this Sunday, July 25!

Read daily updates about our trip at our Blog! <http://fumclebanonyouth.blogspot.com/>



July Worship Volunteers

Ushers

8:30 Butch Jenkins, Teresa Williams, Jim Romano, Danny Snider, Geneva Thomas

11:00 Elgan Usrey, Holly Key, Tim Wiley

Greeters: **8:30** John & Barbara Huheey; John & Faye Lloyd; **11:00** David & Pamela Savell; Janyce Spurlock

Thank you to our music volunteers who sing and provide music in our worship, 52 Sundays a year & more.

Ministry Staff of Lebanon First

Dr. Martin Thielen, *Senior Pastor*
Bucky Hesson, *Minister of Congregational Care*
Patty Caldwell, *Business Administrator*
Lori Reynolds, *Director of Education*
Samantha Granstaff, *Director of Children's Ministry*
Joey Willis, *Minister of Youth*
Windell Little, *Director of Music*
Sarah Willard & Lisa Durham, *Administrative Staff*
John Oakley, *Sound & Media*
Lucy Lee, *Director of Assimilation*
Teresa Barlow, *Children's Worship & Nursery Director*
Linda Clemmons, *Parent's Day Out Director*
Erin Stone, *Preschool 4 Teacher*
Joey Jane Bradshaw, *Preschool 3 Teacher*

Attendance and Offering Report

July 11

Worship 611 (8:30– 359; 11– 252)
Sunday School 275
Budget \$19,766; Capt. Impr. \$1,770; UMCOR \$100;
Friends of Music \$125; Backpack \$1,409
Communion \$72; Brooks House \$205;

July 18

Worship 623 (8:30– 353; 11– 270)
Sunday School 310
Budget \$12,314; Capt. Impr. \$417;
Communion \$655; Homesafe \$10;
Backpack \$3,345; Becky Dewall Shoe Drive \$25

**Monthly Electronic—
General \$14,095, Cap. Imp. \$1,175**

Contribution Envelopes: Please complete an envelope from the pew or use the envelopes you receive in the mail. Include your full name to insure the contribution is recorded to the correct family. This is our permanent record of your contribution. If you do not use an envelope the counters have to complete one with your name on it. If you are contributing to two different accounts please write 2 checks. Communion contributions are best inserted in an envelope and put on the altar rail as opposed to folding bills. Thanks for your help!

News from **Lebanon First United Methodist**

415 West Main, Lebanon 37087



Worship with us, Sundays 8:30 & 11
Fellowship Time 9:15, Sunday School

Address Service
Requested

Dated Material

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