



First Church NEWS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JON

“On the third day the friends of Christ coming at daybreak to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener God walked again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but of the dawn.” – G. K. Chesterton

Easter morning revealed a new reality in the world. The divine presence had filled our temporary humanity in the birth of Jesus; human and divine in one being. Now, at Easter, the proof has been shown: temporary humanity has now become eternal. Death holds no more power over us. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Blessings,

Jon





The Epworth Choir returns from its annual tour and will present a home concert featuring music from throughout the year and also *The Lenten Sketches*, by Joseph Martin with a large orchestral ensemble. The concert will take place on Sunday, April 7, at 7 p.m. Come and support this gem of our church!



All the men of the church and community are invited to gather on the first Saturday of every month for some food, a time for discussion, and lots of fellowship! It runs from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Wesley Hall and the next one will take place on **Saturday, April 6.**

Welcome,
New Members



A warm welcome to Lee and Judy Miller who have transferred their membership to First Church!

International Welcome Center
We need you!

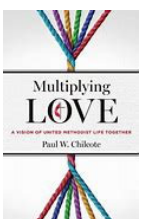
Resettling in a new community, let alone a brand new country, can be unsettling. Your job skills in your home country may not directly transfer to the US. Refugees often leave behind their extended families and the support they bring. They often struggle with things we take for granted like: communicating with the doctors about medical care for themselves and their families, going to the bank, or reading their children's homework assignments to be able to help.



Yet God calls us again and again in Scripture to love and help those who are strangers in our lands (Deuteronomy 10:18-19, Leviticus 25:35, Deuteronomy 27:19, and many others). So I wanted to let you know about an opportunity we have to make a difference for persons who are new to the US.

The International Welcome Center is a local agency that works with the State department to resettle refugees. This year, they'll begin welcoming six to eight families whose refugee status has been granted. We're being asked to provide a team of 4-6 people who are willing to welcome these new persons to the US and journey with them as they make their house a home, find a job, and get their children enrolled in school. Email Pastor Pippin (fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com) right away if you are interested in being part of this team!

Multiplying Love Study... Beginning on Sunday, April 7, join Pastor Jon in the parlor during the Sunday school hour (9:30) for a group study of the book, *Multiplying Love*, by Dr. Paul Chilcote. The book offers a wonderful vision of who the United Methodist Church is today and who we can become heading into the future. Let us know ASAP so we can make sure you have a copy of the book!



Volunteers For Groups - Contact Pastor Jon

In February, I shared that we had begun some discussions with our neighbors on Church Square (St. John's Episcopal and First Christian) about collaborating more closely and potentially redeveloping the block to more faithfully and effectively meet the needs of our community. We are ready to begin some of these conversations in earnest this spring and summer. We will have three teams of members of each congregation; a Prayer Team, an Admin/Legal Team, and a Real Estate Re-Development Team.

So that each congregation is represented equally in the groups, we may not be able to bring everyone on yet who is interested. There will be more places to provide input as the project would proceed this fall. However, if you are interested in participating in the groups forming this spring, please let me know at fallsfirstjon@gmail.com.

New Handbell Choir... Dean Wagner is starting a new handbell choir for beginners through intermediate players. Rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings from 6 to 6:45. with the start date still to be determined. If you are interested in participating, please contact



Dean at hdeanwagnerfumc@gmail.com or call Ext. 221.

Golf Outing... It's time to mark your calendars for the 18th Annual Bud Mills Memorial Golf Outing to benefit the Epworth Tour of 2025. The outing is at Brookledge again on Saturday, June 22, at 1:30 p.m. You may play in the event for \$90. We will be seeking hole and cart sponsors as well at the \$150 and \$25 levels. As always, we thank you for your support in this, our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please feel free to share this with the other churches.



The deadline for the May issue of the FCN is **Friday, April 19**. Please submit your articles to Kathy Kuzas at kkuzasfumccf@gmail.com.



Vacation Bible School... Camp Firelight will run from June 17 – 21. VBS is for children age 3 (by 9/30/24) through 4th grade. VBS SERVE is for 5th & 6th graders and Extreme is an afternoon extension for those entering 1st—6th grades. The cost is \$10 for the morning programs and \$60 per child for Extreme. Scholarships are available. You may sign up by using the QR code or go



to <http://fumccf.mycokesburyvbs.com>. If you have questions, please contact Donna Curfman at Ext. 213 or at dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com.

Chess Camp is returning this year! The program for children going into grades K and up will run in the mornings from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. the week of June 24 – 28. Beginners through advanced chess players are all welcome for a cost of \$25. This will include lunch each day. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center, in the church office and on our website.

Work Camp... Each year a group of adults and youth from First Church go to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky. There they take on projects for the folks who live there: painting, roofing, repairing. Helping these folks is a wonderfully rewarding experience. This year Work Camp will take place June 2—8. If you are interested in going, or just want more information, please contact Jack Steele at 330-697-8344.

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First United Methodist Church

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Jon Priebe - Lead Minister x211; Howard Pippin - Associate Minister x217; Forrest Waller and Marvin Brown - Senior Ministers Emeriti; Dean Wagner - Director of Music Ministries/Organist x221; Jennifer Brooks - Director of Weekday Preschool x220; Tim Zuschin - Assistant Choir Director; Donna Curfman - Children's Ministry Coordinator x213; Kathy Kuzas x212; Christy Meyers x210; Nancy Yeager x216; Sarah Neri; Kim Kerr; Ann Kaiser; John



The Gift/Memorial Book is located in the parlor and is open to **Mozelle, Andrea and Brenda Morris.**

Our Sympathies to Betty Douglas, Linda Brooks and family on the death of their sister, **Beverly Martin**, on 2/19; **Lee Minier** and family

on the death of his wife, member **Sharon Minier**, on 2/20; the family of member **Howard Dias** on his death on 2/27; **Michael (Terri) Light** and family on the death of his mother, member **Dorothy Light**, on 2/29; **Karen Doubrava** and family on the death of her mother, **Brenda Doubrava**, on 3/15.

Expressions of Thanks from Jean Finnegan...

Over the years I have requested prayer for members of my family. It has always been a great comfort to me. I wish to thank our wonderful church and all of the prayer group members for their continual support.



APRIL WORSHIP

Sunday, April 7

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, April 14

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, April 21

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon Priebe preaching

Sunday, April 28

8:30 & 10:30 - Pastor Howard Pippin preaching

From the Campriani family... We want to tell you how very much we appreciate all the help you have given to us. It has helped us with all the food and other things you have given to us. Everyone is a true blessing to us and we thank you so much.