



Cookeville Methodist

a publication of

Cookeville First

UNITED METHODIST

SAVE THE DATE

- Sept. 17 Young at Heart
- 20 Membership Sunday
- 21 Pantry Packing
- 22 Food Pantry Distribution
- 25 Gospel Night Hymn Singing
- 25-27 Synergy Youth Retreat
- 27 Volunteer Appreciation
- Wesley Trip Meeting
- Gospel Music Sunday

100TH BIRTHDAY



Juanita Bilyeu is turning 100 on September 21, please join us in celebrating!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all that helped with the booth at Fall Fun Fest this past weekend! As we met a lot of people in our community and gave them information about our church, we also gave away bottled water, fans, and lollipops. We couldn't have done it without you!

Sunday Services

Worship Service

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Live Broadcasts

11 a.m.—News Talk FM 94.1

www.YouTube.com

Contact

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DOING GOOD WORKS

What is the work of a Christian? That doesn't sound like a challenging question, but history proves otherwise. Two camps fundamentally disagree about how to answer this question correctly.

Jesus is asked in John 6, "what must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." Jesus' answer along with scriptures such as Titus 3:5 and Galatians 2:16 stating we cannot earn salvation by good works moves some to believe that the only work of a Christian is to believe in Jesus and to share that belief with others. These Christians focus on personal salvation and evangelism but stay away from feeding the poor and visiting the sick. They say things like "the poor will always be with you," and "you cannot work your way into heaven." They are right on both accounts, but the bible does also ask us to feed the hungry.

The other side of this debate are Christians who read scriptures that encourage good deeds such as Galatians 6:9-10 and Hebrews 13:16. These Christians focus on helping others. They say things like "my worship is in the mission field," and "I see Jesus when I help others." They are right to help others, and they do experience Jesus in the mission field, but the bible also says not to forsake the assembly.

United Methodist Theology falls in the middle of these two camps. Middle ground is often seen as a place of compromise, but not so in this debate. The middle ground is where we experience the full grace of God.

The work of the Christian is to believe in the one God sent and to seek this one in worship and good works. When we visit the sick, feed the hungry and clothe the naked we are not working toward righteousness. We have been given the gift of righteousness through the sacrifice of Jesus. No, we are opening a channel for God's grace to flow. We believe in Jesus and this is precisely why we do good works. Our good works are a means of Grace, a vehicle for God's grace to flow freely through our hands and feet. Our good works are tied to the work of believing in the one God sent. When we do good works, we are not doing them to be seen, we are doing them so that the world sees Jesus. So, go into the world and do good works in the name of Jesus. May the name of Jesus be exalted in all your good works and may Jesus' grace be fully experienced by those you help.

~ Chip

By Our Presence

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Total In-person and Online Views 521

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Total In-person and Online Views 497

BY OUR GIFTS

Budget Receipts for Two Weeks \$ 58,150.44

Budget Expenses for Two Weeks \$ 43,962.42

ONLINE GIVING

We have several ways for you to support the ongoing ministries and operating expenses of your church.

- Mail your check to 165 E Broad St., Cookeville, TN 38501
- Automatic draft on the 5th and/or 20th each month.
- Online giving by credit card
- Online giving through recurring donations

Please call LuAnn in the church office at 526-2177 if you would like to setup automatic draft or have any questions about other options. Online giving is available through our website at www.cookevillefumc.org/giving. Thanks for your continued support!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY

September 27, 2026

Please join in the recognition and appreciation of our MANY volunteers on Sunday, September 27 at all three services. Volunteer ribbons will be available at the worship services and on the reception tables located on the front portico, the upstairs landing in the sanctuary building, and in the Freeman Lobby. Refreshments will be served from 9:15 a.m. - 11 a.m. in honor of all of the volunteers who staff the many ministries of FUMC.

Thank you, Volunteers! We could not staff the ministries of the church without your willingness to give of your time and energy!

SERVANT MINISTRY NEWS

Please contact Tamika Parker at servant@cookevillefumc.org to volunteer or for more information about any of these programs.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AS WE MOVE THE PANTRY INDOORS

As we approach the month of October, Servant Ministries is undergoing some exciting and significant changes to better serve our community. We are transitioning our food pantry back into an inside pantry very similar to the way we operated before Covid.

We are asking members to help us stock items that assistance programs (like SNAP / food stamps) do not cover. Rather than a pre-packaged box, visitors to our indoor pantry will be given the option to select essential items from a list.

Items Needed Most Are:

- Hygiene & Personal Care: Shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and Q-tips
- First Aid & Health: Bandages and cough drops.
- Household & Paper Goods: Trash bags, paper towels, laundry and dish soap

Thank you for your continuous generosity and heart for this ministry. If you would like to donate any of the items listed above, please bring your donations to the Freeman Building kitchen at your convenience. If you are not able to get out to shop you can make a donation and one of our servant ministry team members can do the shopping for you and please be watching the newsletter and bulletin for monthly needed items.

PROTEIN ITEMS NEEDED FOR BLESSING BAGS

We are currently in need of protein donations such as canned SpaghettiOs, beef ravioli, Vienna sausages, Hormel chili, Jif creamy peanut butter cups, Slim Jims, Starkist light tuna packs, and Spam. We are also in need of Breakfast Bars such as pop-tarts and protein bars. All canned items need to have a pop top opening to allow easy access. While you are out shopping please consider picking up some of these items and they can be dropped off in the Freeman Building kitchen or church office at your convenience. Being able to offer a daily source of nutrition is a blessing, and it allows us to share grace and compassion for those who need it most.

SUPPORT FOOD TO THE RESCUE

Help us support Food to the Rescue by purchasing peanut butter for children in our community. Peanut butter is a simple, nutritious staple that helps provide children with meals when they need them most. Your donation can help fill a pantry shelf, a backpack, or a child's weekend meal with a little extra care and love. Together, we can help make a difference. Drop off 16 oz jars of peanut butter during the month of September in the church office or the narthex!



For updated information, please visit us online at www.cookevillefumc.org or find us on Facebook.

EMERGENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Betty Bertram Karen Dubree
Bill Bullington David Pollitt
John Deppen

Sympathy and prayers to Margaret Moody, family, and friends on the death her son ,Reggie Moody.

Sympathy and prayers to Ron Winningham, family, and friends, on the death of his wife, Patty Winningham.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

How old is YOUR directory picture? Are you in the directory at all? On Sunday, September 20, we will be taking pictures and updating directory and church database information. This will take place in the library area of the Freeman building, just outside the gym, before all services and during the Sunday School hour. Please stop by to update your family's picture and information! Please update your information even if you do not want a new picture.

100 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

This week marks 100 days until Christmas! Have you thought about placing a poinsettia in the sanctuary in honor or memory of someone special?

We are starting early this year in an attempt to have all of the poinsettias underwritten and dedicated. We purchase the poinsettias that adorn the sanctuary during the week of Christmas through the Choral Department at Cookeville High School. The sale of the poinsettias is a major fundraiser for the Choral Department. The order for those has to be placed early in the fall. The cost is \$20 each.

It is our hope that in starting the process earlier this year we can completely underwrite the cost of the poinsettias. We will order 50 poinsettias this year and if all of those are underwritten ... great! If we have more dedications than the 50 before the fundraiser deadline ... we will order more from the school. If we do not meet the goal of 50 poinsettias paid for and spoken for, we will reduce the order for 2027 accordingly.

The poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary of Sunday, December 20, and can be picked up after either of the Christmas Eve services.

For more information, email the church office at reception@cookevillefumc.org.



Sunday, September 20 — Membership Sunday, Directory Update

8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School — Classrooms
11:00 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Renew Service — Wesley Chapel

Monday, September 21

7:00 a.m. Monday Morning Bible Study — Jeff Wall Hall
9:00 a.m. Pickleball — Gym
 Pantry Packing — Parking Garage
9:30 a.m. Mah Jongg — B012
1:00 p.m. Pickleball — Gym
5:00 p.m. Jacob's Ladder Board Meeting — CLC 401

Tuesday, September 22

9:00 a.m. Pickleball — Gym
9:30 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
 Mah Jongg (ALL Class) — B012
 iPhone (ALL Class) — B210
10:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
1:00 p.m. Pickleball — Gym
 Balance (ALL Class) — B214
2:00 p.m. Dulcimer Class — B017
 Food Pantry — Wesley Chapel
3:00 p.m. Religion (ALL Class) — B210
3:30 p.m. Pickleball (ALL Class) — Gym

Wednesday, September 23

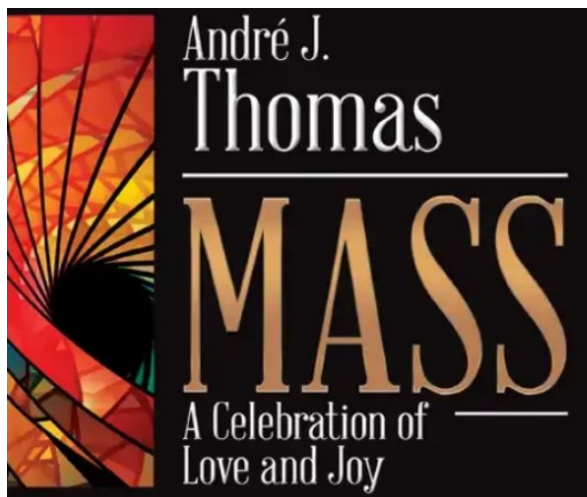
9:00 a.m. Hope Academy — B012
9:30 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
10:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
2:30 p.m. Knitting — B206
3:00 p.m. School Pick-up — Off Campus
 GriefShare — B206
3:30 p.m. Creed (WNL Class) — Jeff Wall Hall
 Wesley (WNL Class) — B210
4:00 p.m. Children's Choir— Music Suite
 Youth Group — Youth Room
5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal — Christian Life Center
6:00 p.m. Grace and Equality (WNL Class) — B210
 Emotionally Healthy Spirituality (WNL Class) — B017
 New Testament (WNL Class) — B214
 Prayer Walking Group (WNL Class) — Freeman Library
 The Chosen Season 4 (WNL Class) — B206
 What it Takes (WNL Class) — B213
 Children's Group — CLC, 2nd Floor
 Youth Choir — Music Suite
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir — Music Suite

Thursday, September 24

8:00 a.m. Women's Upper Room Devotion Time — B206
9:00 a.m. Pickleball — Gym
9:30 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
10:15 a.m. Early Childhood Music — 206B
10:30 a.m. Daytime Bible Study — B206
11:00 a.m. Grace on the Go — Side Parking Lot
1:00 p.m. Table Tennis — Gym
 Mah Jongg — B012
4:45 p.m. Handbell Choir — Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Disciple I — B206
 Chamber Choir — Music Suite

Friday, September 25

7:45 a.m. Dipsy Doodle—Off Campus
6:00 p.m. Gospel Night Hymn Singing — Sanctuary



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Cookeville, TN 38501

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Gospel Music Sunday September 27 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. sanctuary services

Sharing the story of grace in the heart of town.

GOSPEL NIGHT HYMN SING



Join us Friday evening, September 25 at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary for a Gospel Night Hymn Sing. There's nothing to register for, just show up and sing with us!

Would you like a new
or updated nametag?



Email or call Jammie at the church
office.

reception@cookevillefumc.org
931-526-2177

FAITH AND FAMILY DAY AT TTU FOOTBALL

Faith and Family Day



TTU is having Faith and Family Day on October 10, 2026. The church can get \$21 tickets to the 2:30 game against Furman, if we can get a group of ten or more to go. If you are interested, please sign up online at www.cookevillefumc.org/football by October 2.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Save the Date! Volunteer Recognition Sunday, September 27! Join us as we recognize our many volunteers!