

The Church Bell

Transformed by Christ, we will:
TELL, TEACH, TOUCH the World.



Issue 9

May 2, 2016

Catch the wave at VBS!

by Denise Johns

When I think back to my years as a child, my fondest memories are of the days spent at Vacation Bible School. Back in those days, we spent two weeks at Bible School and the kids and adults were present Monday-Friday every day from 9-12.

The impact of those hours spent learning about Jesus and his love for all of his children helped me through some difficult situations in my childhood and also in my adult years. I still feel a lot of gratitude for those adults who helped me learn to trust In God and realize that He is the very best friend that I could ever have.

Of course, I also enjoyed the friendships with other children as well as the endless supply of red Kool-Aid, home-made Rice Krispies treats, and chocolate chip cookies that were the staples for our refreshment time every day.

Come catch the wave of God's Amazing Love as Vacation Bible School comes to 1st UMC **June 12th through June 15th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm each night**. This is our opportunity to give the children of our church and our community the wonderful hope and knowledge that God's amazing love is for every one of us and is always available!!! If you want to create a legacy there is absolutely no better way than to volunteer your time and energy to one of the most important ministries offered at the church!

Cokesbury's
SURF Shack!
Catch the Wave of
God's Amazing Love

Vacation Bible School
June 12 - 15th

To volunteer for VBS
or to register your child (or children) visit:
www.1stchurch.org/happening-at-1st

Please consider volunteering for this important ministry. Our children will be happy you did!

If you would like to volunteer to help with VBS or to register your children for this great event please visit:

www.1stchurch.org/happening-at-1st

or call Denise Johns at 982-1273.

Membership Sunday, May 15th

For the past few weeks, dozens of people have been exploring church membership as part of the 1st UMC 101 class. Coming up on May 15th, we're inviting those folks, and anyone else who wishes to be a member, to join the church on that day.

If this sounds like a step you wish to take, please get in touch with one of the pastors and simply say, "I want to join the church." They will provide you with a New Member Information sheet or give you the link to the form online.

Once you have completed the form, the pastors will make the arrangements for you to join on May 15th or another time.

We want to be your church, and church membership has its privileges. It is an honor and a blessing that goes both ways: it is good for you and good for our church. Simply let one of our pastors know that you are ready to join.



Senior Sunday

Graduation Day is quickly approaching. This is an important milestone in the lives of many young men and women here at 1st UMC. Coming up on Sunday, May 8th, we will honor our seniors during the day's worship services.

Continue to be in prayer for this year's graduates as they make plans for college and life beyond high school.

Keep in touch through your inbox!

While the printed edition of *The Church Bell* is a great way to keep up with all that's happening at 1st, we also send out information via email and on the website.

Each time a new edition of *The Church Bell* comes out you can get a link to the digital edition in your inbox. The pastors also send out previews of what's coming up each Sunday and reminders about important events.

To make sure you are on the email update list, please sign up online at:

<http://1stchurch.org/happening-at-1st/the-church-bell>



Staff

The main church phone number is **865-982-1273**

*Please note that ALL staff emails now end with **1stchurch.org** unless otherwise noted.

Pastors

Catherine Nance	cnance	ext. 111
Parker Benson	pbenson	ext. 106
Sarah Slack	sslack	ext. 107

Music

Terry Wilson	sacmusic	ext. 109
Susan Daves	sdaves	ext. 110
Chris Lee	clee	ext. 116
Dwain Pesterfield (organist)	DwainP602@bellsouth.net	

Children's Ministries

Denise Johns	djohns	ext. 113
Carmen Faircloth	ceaf26@att.net	

Youth Ministries

Nathan Irwin	nirwin	ext. 202
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Administrator

Mark Blodgett	mblodgett	ext. 103
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Communications

Clayton Hensley	chensley	ext. 100
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Membership Secretary

Jane Sanders	jsanders	ext. 101
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Welcome Table

Amelia Geis-Scott	ameliageis@yahoo.com	
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Technical Director

Samuel Williams	swilliams@1stchurch.org	
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Maintenance & Custodial Staff

Paul Brown, Sherri Justice, Bryan Holder	982-1273	
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When it comes to working on solutions to difficult problems, conversation really does matter. On April 24th, Dr. Joseph Reiff from Emory & Henry College came to 1st UMC to talk about a group of Methodist Ministers in Mississippi who stood up to segregation back in the early 1960's. As Dr. Reiff explained, the decisions to do this carried consequences in what some described as "Mississippi's Closed Society."



There will not be an installment of Conversation Matters in May due to the Memorial Day holiday. We are currently working on an event for June. Keep reading *the Bell*, the bulletin and watching online for details.

If you would like a copy of Dr. Reiff's book, *Born of Conviction, White Methodists and Mississippi's Closed Society*, there are still a few available in the church office. You can get them at a discounted price of \$20 each.



Breakfast with hope

Thanks to your generosity, the New Jersey Mission Team was able to raise \$1200 for this summer's mission trip. On April 24th, team members got to the church early to cook up a hearty breakfast of sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy. More than 150 people came out for breakfast that morning.

From June 12th through June 18th, the mission team will return to the Jersey Shore where rebuilding continues following Superstorm Sandy which struck in the fall of 2012. The June trip will mark the second time a mission team from 1st UMC has traveled to the Garden State to help with rebuilding efforts. The team participates in a program called "A Future With Hope" which is an outreach of the Greater New Jersey Conference of the United Methodist Church. (www.afuturewithhope.org)

If you missed the breakfast and would still like to help support the mission team, please contact the church office at 982-1273 or email info@1stchurch.org.



Turnout high for Tales from the Trail

Bert "Wildcat" Emmerson began his journey as Appalachian Trail Chaplain on June 18, 2015 and wrapped it up on February 24, 2016.



After a nearly 2200 mile journey along the Appalachian Trail, 1st UMC's Bert Emmerson got a chance to bring his "Tales from the Trail" to an audience here at the church. More than 120 people came out to hear "Wildcat," including several fellow AT through-hikers. Bert is no stranger to the AT, this is something he's done before, but this time was different. Along the way he was there to listen to stories from hikers along the trail, talk to people at several Methodist churches, and from time to time provide a little "trail magic."

If you missed Bert's tales last week, you can catch him at Broadway UMC this Friday, May 6th following a BBQ supper at 6:00 pm. The cost of the meal is \$5. Reservations are requested by calling 982-6192.

Excitement building for Latvia Mission

by Carol Werker

The Latvia Mission Team has been meeting each month this year. We're getting to know each other and YES, the excitement is building! We'll be heading out on June 24th and return July 5th. In between those dates, our time will be spent at our sister church in Kuldiga.

Here are some ways we'll be in mission to the people in Latvia during this trip:

- Bible School for the children using the same materials as 1st UMC Maryville with the theme "Surf Shack: Catching The Wave of God's Amazing Love." The adults will be learning more about John Wesley.
- We have recently learned, that the church in Kuldiga would like to start construction on a kitchen. At this time they do not have one, but they believe this is a great way to reach out and share God's love with the Kuldiga community. It looks like we will be lowering the ceilings and framing in an existing room at the church. There will also be some other painting projects we may get into.
- We plan on visiting shut-ins and people who are hospitalized as well as working on odd jobs for people in the community.
- There will be a Sunday service at Kuldiga UMC and morning devotional times each day led by Kuldiga's pastor, Vivita, and some of our own mission team.

Those of you who have been to our sister church in the past know there is always an excursion planned, and always a picnic. Many of the older youth have moved away and Vivita has invited all of them back for a Homecoming while we are there. Their hospitality is so sincere and we truly have become brothers and sisters in Christ!



Community
Food Connection
of Blount County, Inc.

*Tickets are almost sold out for the celebration dinner marking 25-years of CFC. The event is on **May 5th**, tickets are \$50. Please call Linda Kerr Wells at **995-2271** if you are interested in going.*

1st News

After our time in Kuldiga, we will return to Riga where the *Friends of Latvia* will hold their annual meeting from July 1st-3rd. We will join others from England, Ireland, and the USA including Charles Maynard, our Maryville District Superintendent. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Latvia's freedom.

Part of our covenant with the Kuldiga Partnership states that 1st UMC Maryville continue to pray for them and we also ask you to pray for our Latvian Mission Team members:

Ron Werker (team lead), Carol Werker, Suzanne & Sydney Stratton, **1st UMC Maryville**
Jeff & Jenny, Nicholas & Eddie Harshbarger,
Tim & Zoe Hester, **Norris UMC**
Cindy Miller, **Wears Valley UMC**

Continue praying for General Conference

Later this month, thousands of United Methodists will gather in Portland, Oregon for something that only happens every four years. General Conference is the top legislative body for the denomination. During **May 10th through May 20th**, delegates to GC will consider resolutions pertaining to a wide variety of topics related to the denomination's Book of Discipline, its Social Principles and budgets for the UMC programs.

In April, people at 1st UMC-Maryville and all across the Holston Conference took time to pray for General Conference and the delegates from Holston who are traveling to Portland for it. Bells

also rang out throughout the Conference to raise awareness for this important event in the life of the UMC. 1st UMC's Rev. Catherine Nance joined several others in ringing the bell at Broadway UMC. Please continue to pray for General Conference.

To learn more about General Conference and to watch live streaming from it, please visit:

<http://umc.org/gc2016>



Courtesy of: *The Call*

Plowing the Road

by Mac Owen, CR National Director

"And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessings if we don't get discouraged and give up."

Galatians 6:9

As I plowed the road yesterday in our first big snow, I thought about the One who created such beauty. Everything looked brand new. But as pretty as it was, if I wanted to get out safely, I had to plow the road. Our recovery is much like that. God, our Father, makes us a brand new creation. At the same time I have to plow the road of doing an inventory, admitting my shortcomings, my character defects, as well as making amends, and taking a daily inventory. In Step Three, my salvation was complete and it was a free gift! That's only the beginning. Now it's time to plow the road and work on the relationships that God has given me.

Something to think about:

Is there a strained relationship in your life that needs your attention?
Is there anything you have been putting off in your life that needs your attention?

Come to Celebrate Recovery!

Each Wednesday Night (Asbury Hall, lower level)

5:30 pm Light Meal 6:30 pm Worship 7:40 pm Share Groups

May 11th - Ken Abbott, RELAPSE

May 18th - Parker Benson, GRATITUDE

Sports radio host, Will West shares his testimony during worship at Celebrate Recovery on April 27th.



by Mavis Ziegler

Great news! Since 1stUMC last hosted Family Promise this past March ALL of the families in the emergency housing phase of the program who were with us moved into their own apartments. Let me share just one of the stories. You remember Stacey and her son Gabe. Stacey told us when she left at the end of the week she thought she found a church home and sure enough, she is a regular attendee. She is also excited about promotion opportunities in her job. Little six-year-old Gabe, who prayed so eloquently over the meals, is doing great in school. Best of all, daughter Lexi was able to join them in their new home.

The *Family Promise* Mission truly changes lives for the better because of the dedicated service our congregation and others provide. It's incredible to think that a few hours of one's time results in significant and lasting change as family's go from homelessness to a stable and secure environment. Those who serve from our congregation experience significant and lasting changes as well when serving witness to the grace and gratitude from these families.

Please mark **June 5-12** on your calendar for the next host week at 1stUMC. If you have never served this mission there is a one-time training required. **Tuesday, May 17 at 1stUMC, 7:00 p.m., Room 151** is one of the scheduled trainings. Although not required, it would be helpful to know how many will attend. Please call the church office, **865-982-1273**, or email Mavis Ziegler at mavisziegler@yahoo.com. If this particular training time doesn't work for you please let me know and I can advise you of other training dates and times although they won't be at our church.

While Stacey and her children, along with thousands of other families, found their own home with the help of Family Promise Mission their still remains a need. When families are experiencing their greatest crisis there is hope. YOU provide that hope with your service. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,
Mavis Ziegler, Family Promise coordinator at 1stUMC
865-748-0532 after 3:00 p.m. weekdays



News

Denise Johns
Children's Ministry Director
djohns@1stchurch.org

Vacation Bible School
June 12 th—15th
6:00 to 8:00 pm



Mission projects going strong by Denise Johns

The children of our church are busy serving the community in various ways. The current fifth and sixth grade class has been busy making blankets for children who are in the *Family Promise* Program. The blankets have been made with great love and the children are so happy to be making a difference in the life of other children.



Also, the children who have been attending the *Kids Own Worship* experience have been busy decorating pillowcases for the children at *Family Promise*. The children have given a lot of thought to how to decorate the pillow cases to show the recipient that God loves them.



The children in the fifth and sixth grade class and the kids in the KOW worship program are so eager to share God's love with other children who live in our community. I have learned so much from the children as they can teach the adults of our church so much. I encourage you to pray for the children of our church as they dedicate themselves to be a light to the world!

Cincinnati Mission Trip
June 12-18
Cost is \$125

Come work with a local church in Cincinnati and work with various community agencies. This is a great way to serve in a city setting!

**There is a special
combo price for
youth going on both
the Mission Trip &
Assembly.**

That cost is \$200.

**Please contact
Nathan for details!**



Youth Worship & Fellowship
Sundays at 6:00 pm

**Lock-in
Friday, May 27th**

Charleston Beach Trip
The week of July 25th

Nathan Irwin, Director of Youth
nirwin@1stchurch.org
865-982-1273

Jr. & Sr. High
Assembly
June 27 - July 1st
Cost is \$125



Happening this year at Tennessee Wesleyan College in Athens, TN, this event is for youth going into 7th grade up to finishing 12th grade. Assembly features awesome worship, fellowship and a way to grow in the community of Christ.

Memorials & Honorariums

Building Fund

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Van Myers	Glen & Joyce Ledbetter
Van Myers	Ralph & Shirley Smith
Van Myers	Friend
Karen Farthing	Willard Middleton
Van Myers	Dale Carnes
Van Myers	Ed & Judy Green
Van Myers	Jim & Carol Gallimore
Van Myers	Don & Cathy Watson
Van Myers	JoAnn Matthews
Van Myers	Robert & Marilyn Byrd
Van Myers	Wilma Douglas
Van Myers	Barbara Handley
Van Myers	Shirley M. Heatherly
Van Myers	Robert & Pat Carroll
Van Myers	Jane Cannon
Van Myers	Jerry & Frances Hodge
Van Myers	Jim Porter & Family

Holston Home for Children

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Dick & Marolyn Finney	Ernest & Anne Hand

Memorial Fund

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Gertrude Williams	Ray & Suzanne Smith
Bart & Lou Peak	Ernest & Anne Hand
Brian Cook	Phil & Amy Large
<i>In honor of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Bart "Wildcat" Emmerson	Phil & Amy Large

United Methodist Women Missions

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Bart Peak	UMW
Ann McWilliams	UMW
Dick Finney	UMW
Marolyn Finney	UMW
Lou Peak	UMW
Mildred Biehler	UMW
Bart Peak	UMW Circle 1
Dick Finney	UMW Circle 1
Lou Peak	UMW Circle 1
Mildred Biehler	UMW Circle 2

Women's Center of South Sudan

<i>In honor of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Jane Robinson	UMW

Welcome Table

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Jean Lambert	Andrew & Judith Simon
Mildred Biehler	Doug & Joanne Gove
Jean Lambert	Gerald Lambert
Mildred Biehler	FASC
Mildred Biehler	Frances Batson
Jean Lambert	Tyler & Catherine Johnson
Mildred Biehler	John & Susan Magill
Mildred Biehler	Glenn & JoAnn Doig
Mildred Biehler	Jim Porter & Family

Our Church Family

In Memoriam:

Martin Schuele

Joined First Church: March 25, 2007

Entered the Church Triumphant: April 29, 2016

Mary Ann Burchfield

Joined First Church: October 6, 1991

Entered the Church Triumphant: May 1, 2016

Sundays

- * 7:35 am Morning Glory Chorus, 249
- * 8:15 am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- * 9:15 am Sunday School (Various rooms)
- * 10:30 am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- * 10:30 am Contemporary Worship, Asbury
- * 5:15 pm Evensong Handbells, 252
- * 6:00 pm Youth Worship & Fellowship

May 22nd

- 11:00 am CMAT
- 4:00 pm Outreach Team, 202

Mondays

- * 5:30 pm Coffee Talk (Youth),
Vienna Coffee

May 9th

- 10:00 am UMW Circle 2, 205
- 11:30 am Men's Connection,
Asbury Place Bistro

May 16th

- 10:00 am Book Club, 202

May 23rd

- 7:00 pm Church Council, 202

Tuesdays

- * 7:00 pm Pickleball, Asbury Hall

May 17th

- 7:00 pm Family Promise Training, 151

Wednesdays

- * 5:30 pm *Celebrate Recovery* Light Meal, Asbury Hall
- * 6:30 pm *Celebrate Recovery* Worship, Asbury Hall
- * 7:40 pm *Celebrate Recovery* Share Groups (various rooms)

- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays

- * 6:00 am Men's Bible Study, 254
- * 10:00 am Asagao Handbells, 252
- * 5:00 pm Welcome Table, Asbury Hall

May 12th

- 10:00 am Knit Together Ministry, 205

May 19th

- 10:00 am UMW Board, 205

Fridays

- * 10:00 am Covenant Session 2, 202

Happening at



If you have a church related event you would like us to promote please look for the link to the event promotion form in the "Happening at 1st" section of www.1schurch.org. Information should be submitted a month before the event.

Sunday morning greeter program expanding!
We are looking for greeters to work the front doors of the church for all services on Sunday morning. In addition, greeters are needed outside the Porte Cochere for 8:15 & 10:30 traditional services. To get involved contact Glenn Doig at 984-7181 or call the church office at 982-1273.

Maryville First United Methodist Church
804 Montvale Station Road
Maryville, Tennessee 37803
Phone: 865-982-1273 / Fax: 865-983-5408
Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG

US POSTAGE
PAID
MARYVILLE TN
PERMIT NO. 113

Items needed

- 1 bag sugar (4-5 lbs.)
 - 1 bag Self-rising flour (4-5 lbs.)
 - 1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)
 - 1 box Splenda/Sucralose (50 ct.)
- *You can buy larger quantities and we will use them to fill other buckets.*
- 1 package powdered milk (10 oz. or less)
You can buy boxes of 3 oz. packages
 - 1 box old-fashioned oats (18 oz. or less)
 - 1 bag rice (2 lbs.)
 - 1 bag dried beans (2 lbs.)
 - Canned ham
(one 2 lb. ham or two 1 lb. hams)
- * These are difficult to find. Food City closest to the mall should have them. You might also find them at Walmart and Kroger.*
- \$5 for each bucket for shipping

If you have any questions please send an email to info@1stchurch.org .

Help us pack 100 food buckets for Zimbabwe!

The Hands-on Mission Project has been organized by the Holston Conference of the UMC for about 15 years now and each year it gets bigger. In the Maryville District food buckets are filled to be taken to Zimbabwe. Other districts provide school kits, home buckets, sewing kits and other versions of the food buckets.

The food buckets collected and packed at 1st UMC will be going to the Ishe Anesu Project in Zimbabwe. Ishe Anesu means "God with Us." The mission is an after-school project designed to provide education to the underprivileged children, orphans, and the poorest of the poor.

Please bring the items in the list on the left to the area in front of the church office by **Sunday, May 15th**.

If you would like for us to shop for you, a donation of \$35 will cover the total expenses. Volunteers are needed to pack the buckets on **Saturday, May 21st at 10:00 am**.

www.1stchurch.org
ONLINE ALL THE TIME!

