# The First Epistle

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

900 Spring Street ~ Johnson City TN 37604 Phone: 423-928-9222 ~ Fax: 423-928-9223

E-mail: kathy.fumc@charter.net Website: www.1stchurchjc.org

# August 2013



I want to tell you again how much

I have appreciated the warm of

welcome to First UMC. The

hospitality I have received

during the moving process, all

the wonderful food, smiles,

hugs, and genuine expressions

of Christian love have made this

transition a great experience. I

am also appreciative of the warm welcome to my son Andy and his family. We truly feel like we are home!

I am excited about the upcoming Fall season in the life of the church. We will be getting back to school, back to Wednesday Niter, back into the routines of the church after

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"...make more and better summer break. I look forward to being a part of all the activities.

the world!'

I also want to praise you for the ministries that take place inside the church and with the surrounding

community. I have heard praise

community. I have heard praise reports of record numbers at the Food Pantry.

I am excited about the Neighborhood Center and the Henley property and the potential those bring to our ministries here.

And just one more thing, I love the worship here. We truly come together as a community praising God for divine work in our midst.

God bless each and every one of you and thank you so much for helping me to learn your names and hear your stories. Keep sharing.

Blessings, Jane



# July 31 **E-VOTION**

Today I am reading in Luke—12:13-21:

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable, "The land of a rich man produced abundantly, and he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this. I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry. But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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Moving has reminded me how much stuff I have--I found boxes that I hadn't unpacked the last time I moved. And common sense tells me I don't need all this stuff. attachment to the stuff rejoices that I have lots of storage at the parsonage for all my stuff. If I keep it up, I'm going to have to build a barn to store it in. And thinking about my stuff gives me a little sympathy for this guy in this scripture who builds the larger barns. But just because I understand him and can identify with his barns doesn't mean we are right about all our stuff.

I have received (and maybe you have too) the message in my life that I can have it all. And for many years I believed that. This Scripture reminds me that the more stuff I have, the

more blessed I am and the more I should share with those in need. I find myself asking if I am (and we are) like the rich man building the barns to store his grain. Are we ever satisfied with what we have and say "Enough-can't take any more?" This parable asks us to think about our stuff -- How much do we really need? And when we have more than we need, what do we do with it? Perhaps when we have a more abundant "crop" than we have expected: a good year in business, a bonus, a windfall, perhaps we might thank God from whom all good things come and give, even if just a portion, to those whose crops have failed while ours have flourished. AMEN.

If you have an email address and would like to receive weekly E-Votions, please email the church office at: kathy.fumc@charter.net.

E-votions are also available on the church website: www.1stchurchjc.org.

Rev. Jane Taylor

Email: revjetaylor@gmail.com phone: 423.928.9222, ext. 2

### FOOD PANTRY MISSION REPORT

Praises for the Food Pantry distribution last Saturday, July 27. Our dedicated volunteers set a record in giving out more boxes than ever before! 127 families were helped this month. Thank you First UMC for your gifts that make this ministry a possibility.







AUGUST ECTIONARY

Hosea 11:1-11 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

#### August 11, 2013 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

### August 18, 2013 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

### August 25, 2013 14th Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

First United Methodist Church members, neighbors and friends gathered for a pre-game picnic at Cardinal Park and then moved over to the stadium watch a baseball game featuring the Johnson City Cardinals on Tuesday, July 30.

The picnic featured many great sides, hotdogs, and even better fellowship. Church member Marcus Grant went out to throw the first pitch and then before the game some of the FUMC Chancel Choir, along with some extra helpers, beautifully performed the National Anthem.

Please see pictures on the church Website as well at www.1stchurchjc.org



# ANNOUCEMENTS

#### **BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE!**













The House is coming down! The Trustees are continuing to diligently work on the plans for the demolition of the Henley property next door to the church. We have an ambitious goal of \$30,000 that we are trying to raise to bring the house down. Please prayerfully consider your gifts and contribute to this cause. This property will allow us to expand our ministries and hopefully assist us in making disciples!

## 193rd Sulphur Springs Camp Meeting

August 4-7 at 6:30pm

#### **Boy Scouts**

Mondays at 7:00pm

#### **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

#### **Full Staff Meeting**

Monday, August 5 , at 11:00am Conference Room

#### **Trustees Meeting**

Tuesday, August 6, at 7:00pm Conference Room

#### **Finance Committee Meeting**

Please note that this meeting has been rescheduled and will be held on Thursday, August 8, at 8:00am in the Conference Room.

# <u>Staff Parish Relations Committee</u> Meeting

Thursday, August 8, 5:30pm Conference Room

#### **Pillar Chair Meeting**

Tuesday, August 13, at 7:00pm Conference Room

### **Intercessory Prayer Ministry**

"Praying for Others"
Wednesday, August 14, at 9:00am
Chapel ~ Everyone invited!

#### **Community Mission Food Distribution**

Saturday, August 24 10:00am—12:00pm Neighborhood Center

#### Save the Date!

Church Picnic
Rotary Park / Harris Pavilion
Sunday, September 8 ~ 5:00-8:00pm
Meat, drink and paper goods
will be provided.
There will be door prizes and
activities for all ages.
Bring a side dish to share and
enjoy an evening of fellowship!

Sponsored by the Outreach Pillar

#### **Servants Needed!**

Servants are always needed for the nursery, Sunday school, and Wednesday Niter. If you would like to serve, please contact Brandy Robinson at: <a href="mailto:children.fumc@charter.net">children.fumc@charter.net</a> or 423-928-9222, ext. 7

# CONGRATULATIONS

# SHHS Percussion Ensemble Selected for Showcase concert!

Congratulations to Dan McGuire and the Science Hill Percussion Ensemble, which is one of two ensembles selected from around the world to perform a showcase concert at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention!

This is arguably the highest honor achievable for high school percussion ensembles in our country. It is a true international competition: the last time the ensemble auditioned in 2009, a school from Texas and from Paris, France were selected. Percussionists from around the globe, representing regions such as Ghana, Japan, Southeast Asia, Europe, South America, and the United States will be in attendance at PASIC in 2013, which will be held in Indianapolis, IN.

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Congratulations to Brantlee Garland and Nic Scheele, members of Boy Scout Troop 36, who were recognized for their accomplishments in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor held at First UMC on July 20, 2013.

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Congratulations to Alexandra & Andrew Bowling in the birth of their daughter, Ava Grace, on July 18. Ava Grace is the granddaughter of Dr. Steven C. Marrs. Ava Grace was premature, weighing 1 lb. 11 oz. at birth and is still in the NICU. She is growing — she is up to a little more than 2 pounds. Praise God! Please keep them in your prayers.

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Congratulations to Greg and Mendy Gentry Rogers, who welcomed a son, Kallan Maric Rogers, on Friday, July 27. Kallan weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. His proud siblings are Sabry, Tyan and Caden. He is the grandson of Jan & Garland Gentry.



#### **Promotion Sunday**

August 4

Our promotion celebration will begin at 9:15am during Sunday School. Parents are welcome to attend!

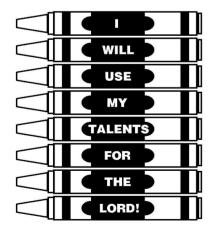
#### **King's Kids Mission Day**

August 11 following worship We will eat and then leave the church to visit our elderly friends. We will return to the church by 1:30pm.

#### **Children's Council Meeting**

August 25 at 4:30pm This council is open to anyone!

Contact information for Brandy Robinson,
Director of Children's Ministries:
Email: <a href="mailto:children.fumc@charter.net">children.fumc@charter.net</a>
Office: 423-928-9222, ext. 7
Cell: 423-483-2980



#### Do You Have the Gift of Teaching?

We are looking for a teacher for a newly forming 5th-6th grade Sunday School class. I hope you will prayerfully consider if God is calling you to this important ministry to our older elementary/up and coming youth. Brandy and John have big plans for this group!



# **YOUTH**

Upcoming Events and News:

#### **Fall Parent Meeting**

August 4

Following the 10:30am worship service, we will gather in the parlor for a quick, 30-minute meeting outlining the upcoming Fall dates, to address any concerns you may have, and to sign up for snack supper dates in the Fall.

#### **Youth Promotion**

August 4

Sunday afternoon we will be heading up to Watauga Lake to Barbara and Alan LeClair's lake house for a **6**<sup>th</sup> **grade promotion/everyone-is-back-in-school party**. We will meet at the church at **1:30pm** and return at **6:30pm**. I hope that everyone will make an effort at getting their student(s) here to help kick off our Fall programming! Please RSVP so that we will be able to better plan for food.

#### **Senior Recognition**

August 11

Following the 10:30am worship service, we will be hosting a reception recognizing our six graduating seniors: Leah Eddy, Brandon Jung, Catherine Hopkins, Jackson Seaver, Elizabeth Simmons, and Amanda Minutolo. All non-senior parents are asked to bring a finger food to share with the church family as we celebrate with our graduates. Please let me know if your family intends to participate and what item you plan to bring.

#### **Confirmation Class**

Confirmation class for rising 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will begin on August 18 as a part of First UMYF Sunday night programming. Following Snack Supper at 5:30pm, confirmands will take part in the confirmation classes taught by Pastor Jane at 6:00pm. Confirmation classes will be held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

#### **NO Snack Supper**

until August 11

#### **Fall Retreat**

September 20-22 Buffalo Mountain Camp

#### **Sunday Servants**

#### August 4

Crucifer: Nate Berning Acolytes: Emma Berning Snack Supper: Youth Promotion

#### August 11

Crucifer: Brandon Jung
Acolyte: Kelsey Jung and
Abigail Robinson

Snack Supper: Volunteers needed!

#### August 18

Crucifer: Frankie Cradic Acolytes: Chloe Cradic

Snack Supper: Volunteers needed!

#### August 25

Crucifer: Leah Eddy

Acolytes: Martha Campbell and

Marcus Grant

Snack Supper: Volunteers needed!

#### September 1

Crucifer: Ethan Morelock

Acolytes: EJ Bailey

Snack Supper: Volunteers needed!

# GIFTS & MEMORIALS

A gift has been given in honor of the birth of **Ava Grace Bowling** by Drs. Bonnie & Clay Marrs.

A gift has been given by Thomas & Harriett Hager in memory of **Tom Hager.** 

Gifts have been given in memory of **Thelma Bolinger** by: Judy Story; Pat & Joe Faber; Linda Matney; Michael Mixon; Sue McGaha; Dianna Boarman; Elizabeth Bailey; Joyce Ottinger; Kathie & Fred Tucker; Matt & Ann Rinaldi & family; Lynda Townsend & Johnson & family; Ellen Ferguson; Bryson Harding; Katie & Dan Mahoney; Mr. & Mrs. William E. Wood; The Wesley Class of First UMC; Sam & Jane Martin; and, Dennis Lamport & Jill Rossiter.

A gift has been given in memory of **C.T. Shipley** by Rick & Jamie Coomer.

Gifts have been given in memory of **Martha Miller Sudderth** by: Jimmy Spiro; UMW Circle 1 of First UMC; and, Allen & Cheryl Patton.

Kathie & Fred Tucker have given a gift in celebration of the 90th birthday of Nancy McMahan's mother, **Bernice Taylor**.

Gifts have been given in memory of **Dr. John Edwin Falls, Jr.** by:
The Wesley Class of First UMC;
Betty McGaha; Sue McGaha; Bryson Harding; the faculty and staff of East Tennessee State University; Katie & Dan Mahoney; Kaye & George Jones; Joan Warden; Mr. & Mrs. William E. Wood; and, Elizabeth Bailey.

A gift has been given in memory of **Walter Bussart** by Bryson Harding.

# COMMUNITY NEEDS

The following was received from Aaron Scott of Family Promise of Greater Johnson City (formerly IHN):

#### Friends,

A few families have achieved their goal of graduating from the IHN and Families Moving Home programs! There are a few final things these families need assistance with as they prepare to move on to the next stage of their lives. Perhaps you or a member of your congregation may be able to help.

First, we have moves scheduled for two families in the coming days (one move tomorrow and one on Monday). Our moving help is a little thin at this time and these families have limited support. If you have a way to spread the word, we could use a few bodies to help move some furniture.

Second, another family has already moved out of the program but is having car issues. The mom has \$400 saved and is looking for leads on good reliable cars for sale in the \$1,000 or under range. If you know of someone with a car for sale, let us know.

Thanks for spreading the word on these needs!

#### **Aaron Scott**

Development Manager
Family Promise of Greater Johnson City
P.O. Box 205
Johnson City, TN 37605-0205
423-202-7805
aaron@familypromisejc.com
www.familypromisejc.com

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A church family needs a refrigerator and stove, nothing fancy, in good working condition. If you or someone you know has either of those items for sale, please call the church office at 423-928-9222.

# In Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Steve Robinson & family in the death of his grandmother, Ruth Robinson, who passed away on July 29 in Jenkins, Kentucky;

Bobby Pleasant & family in the death of his son-in-law, Andy Sharp, of Knoxville, who passed away on July 17, 2013;

Bob & Judy Bolinger and family in the death of his mother, Thelma Bolinger, who passed away on June 24, 2013;

Lou Falls & family in the death of her husband, Dr. John Falls, who passed away on June 12; and,

Patti Woodacre, Angela Fleenor and their families in the death of their father, John W. Judy, who passed away on June 17.



## **Playground Work Day**

Saturday, August 3 8:00am—12:00pm

### **ELC Night at Chick-Fil-A**

Thursday, August 8 4:00—7:00pm 3206 Peoples Street, Johnson City ELC will receive 10% of all sales

#### **Tree Street Yard Sale**

Saturday, September 7
ELC Fundraiser—Spaces in the Pine
Street parking lot will be available
to rent for those who want to sell
their goods and wares.

Mark your calendars! 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reindeer Run and Santa Stroll

Sunday, December 15, 3:00pm

First United Methodist Church 900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604

"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #216 Johnson City, TN 37604

#### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

#### SUNDAYS:

8:15am Early Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 5:30pm Youth Snack Supper (No Snack Supper until Aug. 11) 6:00pm UMYF

#### WEDNESDAYS:

7:30pm Chancel Choir

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday—Thursday: 9:00—11:00 a.m. 2:00—4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

## VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE at

www.1stchurchjc.org

#### Soup Labels & Box Tops Needed!

The UMW requests your help in collecting Campbell's soup labels and General Mills box tops (for education) for our missions at Red Bird Mission School. For soup labels, clip only the UPC label, please be sure that the complete barcode and the "Labels for Education" trademark remains intact, and place labels and box tops in one of the collection containers, which have been placed around the church for your convenience.

# **United Methodist Women**

#### Circle 1:

Thursday, August 8, at 10:00am Jane Childers, hostess

#### **Circle of Hope:**

Tuesday, August 27, at 7:00pm Peggy Humphreys, hostess

#### Circle 2:

Thursday, September 5, at 10:00am

#### **Circle of Friends:**

NO August meeting Friday, September 6, at 6:30pm

#### **Next General Meeting:**

Coffee in the Parlor Thursday, October 3, at 10:00am Executive Team hosting Program: World Thank Offering



United Methodist Women's Day September 29, 2013

**UMW Christmas Party** Saturday, December 7, at noon

#### **Johnson City District Annual Retreat**

will be held on Saturday, August 3, at First United Methodist Church in Johnson City. Gayle King from our conference office in Alcoa will be our guest speaker. The time of the District Annual Meeting is likely to be changed from November to October in order to enlist the services of a well-known speaker. Watch for notices about this change. The Jelly Jar Collection date will coincide with the date of the rescheduled District Annual Meeting.

District Hands On Mission Project this year will be Buffalo Mountain Camp.