

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

June 2012



Romans 12:1-2: Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

This is one of the passages of scripture that 'haunt' me in my waking hours. Not in a legalistic way, but in a way that causes me pain in disappointing a loving Father. (There are other passages that give me pause, but this is about Romans 12). Hear how it starts... "in view of God's mercy" - Paul is saying, 'look at the magnificent gift of redemption, sins forgiven and grace bestowed to live a new life'. I have to admit that God has been much more merciful to me than I deserve. Even in the midst of my stubbornness, inattention, and carelessness He still gives His grace and mercy. Paul wants us to understand that because of such wonderful grace we should sacrifice our lives to Him. Or as the old saying goes, 'He gave His all, I should give my all'.

As if that is not enough, it is verse two that is really disturbing. 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world'. How much of our thinking is the thinking of the world? Do we just think like everyone else or at least with a block of people that we find appealing? What about in the church? Is our thinking on organization, theology, worship, education, prayer, spiritual disciplines or missions biblical? Does the mission that Christ gave to us have anything to do with how we 'do church'? Or are we so caught up with traditional thinking that we

'...make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ' for the transformation of the world!'

cannot see the vastness of what God wants to do in us? I do not know about you, but I need to have my mind transformed so that I think what Jesus thinks about our mission, my life, worship – and everything else. I believe that this goes deeper than we know and most assuredly deeper than we want to admit. We are content to go along the way we are because it is what we know, are comfortable with and it is what we can manage, but what about God wanting to do more in us and through us than we could ever ask or think?

Maybe the transformation we need is for God to help us to quit thinking so small and start thinking His big thoughts for His world – that would be a transformation!

Rev. Tim Bracken
Email: tbracken@charter.net



MISSIONS CORNER



**When: SATURDAY, JUNE 2
7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Where: Church Parking Lot

Pulled Pork Barbeque lunch served at 11:30 a.m.

Benefits our people who are going to Czech Republic this summer. Please tell everyone you know about this!!!

YARD SALE DONATIONS NEEDED!

We already have great items to be sold including a car... **YES, A CAR!!** If you have items you would like to donate (NO CLOTHES, please), contact any of the following folks:

- Scott Huff - 943-4084
- Karl Kapoor - 928-2072
- Steve and Lisa Reis - 341-3741
- Sharon Cradic - 975-0240
- Serena Crowder - 833-1544
- Kellie Bracken - 929-3137

If you would like to help with food or donate food, please contact Kellie.

"NAME THAT PARLOR" CONTEST

The Church Council announces a contest to rename the renovated parlor. If you have suggestions, please complete the form on the tear-off portion of your Sunday bulletin and place in the offering plate, call the church office at 423-928-9222, ext. 1, or send suggestions via email to: kathy.fumc@charter.net. The deadline to enter is June 10. Winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Cokesbury Bookstore.



(Meetings will be held in Conference Room unless otherwise stated.)

Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 7, at 8:00 a.m.

Spiritual Development Pillar Meeting

Thursday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m.
Parlor

Community Mission

Food Distribution

Saturday, June 23
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Annex

ELC Board Meeting

Thursday, June 28, at 5:30 p.m.

Boy Scouts

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in gym

Girl Scouts—Troop #190

Monday, June 4
and
Monday, June 18

6:00—7:30 p.m.

Education Building—2nd floor

Prayers and Devotions

The Spiritual Pillar's Development team has initiated a new focus for the congregation. It will have the title "Prayers and Devotions". There will be a series of announcements at each service for several weeks, asking for all members to seek the counsel of the Holy Spirit concerning participation in dedicated prayer times for specific purposes.

The first meeting for those who respond will be 5PM on Sunday, June 10, in the church parlor, to describe in further detail our focus and God's plans for us as a functioning spiritual body of Christ.

There are many items concerning our congregation and our community for which we must begin unified prayer. Prayer is one of the Scriptural admonitions for a strong, healthy Body of Christ. Please begin seeking the counsel of the Holy Spirit to see what prayer focus you may be led to.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

King's Kids Mission Day

Sunday, June 10
(following worship)

We will eat lunch and then leave the church for our mission.

Please bring \$1 for each child eating.



**Friday, June 8,
from 6:00—9:00 p.m.
FUMC gym**

Hosted by:
Kathy Huff
Susan Davidson



"The Glory of God in all Creation" Vacation Bible School

June 25-29

5:30-8:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars and sign up to volunteer now!

(Contact Brandy Robinson or Susan Davidson)

Donations needed!!

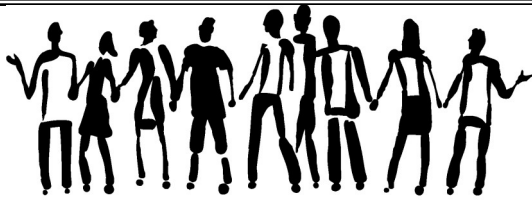
- Oreos
- M&M's
- Goldfish Crackers
- animal crackers
- frosted mini wheats
- marshmallows
- small succulent plants or ground cover plants

Contact information for Brandy Robinson, Director of Children's Ministries:

Email: children.fumc@charter.net

Office: 423-928-9222, ext. 7 Cell: 423-483-2980

Susan Davidson: 423-929-7479



YOUTH

WEDNESDAY **N**ITERS
will resume in the fall.

MUSIC REHEARSALS

Wesley Singers:
Sundays - 4:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir:
Wednesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Mission Trip

Summer is here, and that means it's time for **Mission Trip!**

This year we are doing a *combined trip* with **Sulphur Springs and Gray UMC** in **Charlotte, NC** on **June 3-9th**.

We will be staying at [Providence UMC](#) (just outside of the city) and working at several inner city locations (Habitat for Humanity, Men's Uptown Shelter, Friendship Trays, etc.) as well as hosting a few nights of Bible School in an underprivileged community.

This will be an excellent opportunity for our students to *serve those in need and to create new relationships*.

Summer Youth Breakfasts

During the month of June, we will be doing breakfasts on Thursday mornings. *We are in need of servants who would be willing to host a breakfast at their house at 9:00 AM one Thursday (you don't have to be a youth parent to be involved!).*

During this time we will eat, enjoy fellowship, and hear a devotion from one of our students. Afterward we will serve in a local mission setting or participate in other activities such as going to the park or Fun Expedition.

Sunday Servants

June 3

Crucifer: Brandon Jung
Acolytes: Kelsey Jung and Abigail Robinson
Snack Supper Host: Mission Trip

June 10

Crucifer: Nate Berning
Acolytes: Emma Berning
Snack Supper Host: NO YOUTH

June 17

Crucifer: Leah Eddy
Acolytes: Martha Campbell
Snack Supper: VOLUNTEER NEEDED

June 24

Crucifer: Ethan Morelock
Acolytes: Frankie Cradic and Chloe Cradic
Snack Supper: Karen Seaver

Grace & Peace,

John Rowe

Director of Youth Ministries
(423) 928-9222 ext. 6
Email: jrowe.fumc@charter.net
Check out FUMC Youth on Facebook!
<http://www.facebook.com/FirstUMC.Youth>



God's Grace Covers Me

I am...

G - God's
R - Redeemed
A - Accepted
C - Chosen
E - Expression

.....of love.

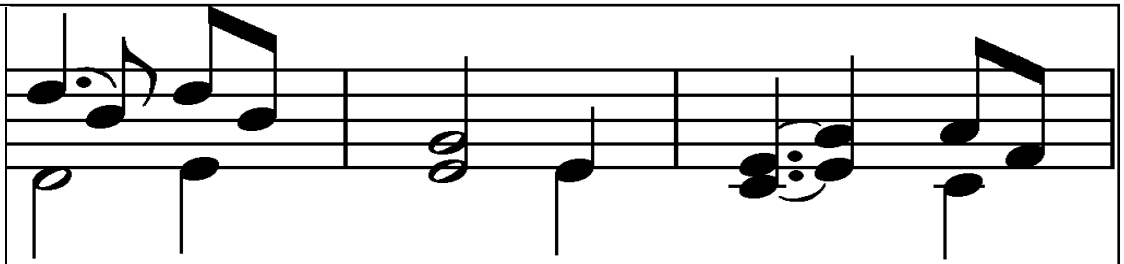
*God chose you from the beginning.
II Thessalonians 2:13*



Join the Young at Heart
for lunch at
Mediterranean Garden
in Johnson City
on Thursday, June 28.

Bus will leave the Pine Street parking lot at 12:30 p.m. Call the church office to make your reservation!

WORSHIP NOTES



Summer is fast upon us. Summer offers a time for vacation, a time for travel, a time to get away from everything – OOPS! Not everything! There is never a time to get away from our loving Father and God.

As the Worship Pillar, we would like to suggest that worship not take a vacation.

We offer these suggestions for you to grow in faith, and stay connected with God and each other this summer:

Go to church:

At home, come to First UMC to renew relationships with each other and with God.

As you travel, go to church. You will stop for lunch, stop for church anywhere, worship your God, and then eat lunch.

At you destination, go to church. Be grateful for your down time. Witness your faith to others. Teach your family, children, and friends the value of worship.

Worship as a family at home and on the road:

Purchase a family devotional book;

Pick up an Upper Room in the connector, or go to the General Board of Discipleship online at www.gbod.org and click the quick link to Upper Room.

Witness to your family, children, and friends that staying connected to God is one of your personal values.

Stay connected to your church:

The Sunday Scriptures are from the Lectionary and follow a pattern. Stay connected and ready to worship when your travels are over. *(see list below)*

FYI: If you want a great epic read this summer, get a modern translation of the Bible, like the New century version or the Message, and read 1 Samuel through 1 Kings 11, the story of the three great Kings of Israel. This also reads well for children a chapter or so at a time.

Above all, stay connected to God. He is always connected to you.

Grace and Peace be with you,

The Worship Pillar



June 3, 2012
Trinity Sunday/First Sunday After Pentecost
Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29 (UMH 761)
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-173

June 10, 2012
Second Sunday after Pentecost
1 Samuel 8:4-20 (11:14-15)
Psalm 138 (UMH 853)
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

June 17, 2012
Third Sunday After Pentecost
1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
Psalm 20 or Psalm 92 (UMH 811)
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13), 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

June 24, 2012
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
1 Samuel 17:(1a , 4-11, 19-23), 32-49
Psalm 9:9-20 (UMH 744)
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

Gifts & Memorials

A gift has been given to the O.C. (Butch) Farr Jr. Scholarship Fund by the Farr family.

John & Janice Moore have given gifts, as follows: a gift to Interfaith Hospitality Network in honor of the May 12th marriage of Cooper & Mollie Gross Warren; a gift toward the purchase of a warmer for the kitchen in memory of Enos Ferguson.

Donna Garland Robbins has donated funds toward purchase of round tables for the Fellowship Hall in honor of her parents, Kathleen & Calvin Garland.

Stephen & Luanne Love has donated funds toward the purchase of round tables for the Fellowship Hall in memory of their daughter, Anna Elizabeth Love.

A gift has been given by Clay & Bonnie Marrs in honor of the Friendship Sunday School class.

Other memorial gifts have been given, as follows:

In memory of **Stanley Deakins:**
Bill & Carolyn Wood—Building Fund

In memory of **Connie Wood:**
Ellen Ferguson
Lillian G. Paul & Carolyn G. Coordes
Elizabeth & Donald Dale
Linda Hodge—Building Fund
Elizabeth Wells

In memory of **Edith Keys:**
Ellen Ferguson
Church Women United of Johnson City
to the Capital Funds Campaign
Linda Hodge—Building Fund
Judy Story
Elizabeth Wells

In memory of **Irene Hager:**
Thomas & Harriett Hager

In memory of **Frances Grills:**
David Garrett—Parlor Fund

In memory of **Mrs. C.E. Goulding Sr.:**
Mary & Buck McClellan

In memory of **Art Overlee:**
Sue McGaha

Congratulations!



Mollie Elaine Gross and Dr. Andrew Cooper Warren were married Saturday, May 12, 2012, at First UMC.

In Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Lana Scott & family in the death of her father, Enos Ferguson, who passed away on April 29.

Nancy McMann & family in the death of her father, Phil Taylor, who passed away on May 21.



**National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society**

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group
2nd Tuesday of every month

Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.
at Quillen Rehabilitation Center.
Contact Mendy Hall
at
(423) 791-4712
for more information.

Worship Volunteers

June 3

Nursery: Pat Miller
Greeter—8:15: Kent & Midge Merrill
Greeters—10:30: Dale & Karen Schmitt,
Luanne Love and Grier Washam
Prayer: Ben Peeples

June 10

Nursery: Kathy & Scott Huff
Greeter—8:15: Dedri Minutolo
Greeters—10:30: Diana Boarman,
Janice Williams and Jane Eddy
Children's Message: Rev. Tim Bracken
Prayer: Cathy Peeples

June 17

Nursery: Cathie Rosecrance
Greeters—8:15: Ann & Frank Mohap
Greeters—10:30: Art Eckerson, Novice
Gross and Sharon & Drew Cradic
Children's Message: John Rowe
Prayer: Joann Boyd

June 24

Nursery: Pam & Jim Heaton
Greeter—8:15: Polly Crowder
Greeters—10:30: Ernie & Jo Cross,
Judy Cook and Katie Mahoney
Children's Message: Kellie Bracken
Prayer: Katie Walker

Volunteers are needed! If you would like to serve in any of these important functions on Sunday morning, please call the church office.

In Gratitude

Dear First Methodist Church:
The family of Stanley Deakins acknowledges with much appreciation for your love and care of our father during his illness and death. Daddy loved worshipping at First Methodist and had a great friend and confidant in Rev. Thayer.

The meal was delicious and the ladies so gracious. It was like coming home again to the place we worshipped when we were children; living behind the church.

Bless First Methodist, Lord!
The Family of Stanley Deakins

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

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

"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SUNDAY:

8:15 a.m. Early Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
4:30 p.m. Wesley Singers
5:30 p.m. Snack Supper
6:00 p.m. UMYF

WEDNESDAY:

7:30 p.m. 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 of Friends:

Friday, May 1, at 6:30 p.m.
Church Parlor

UMW Executive & General Meetings

Thursday, June 7:
5:00 p.m. UMW Executive Committee
Conference Room
6:00 p.m. UMW Dinner & Program
Fellowship Hall
Hostess: Circle of Hope

Circle 1:

Thursday, June 14, at 10:00 a.m.
Elizabeth Wells, hostess

Circle of Hope:

Tuesday, June 26, at 6:00 p.m.
Picnic hosted by Janice Moore



**School of Christian Mission
July 26—28, 2012**

at
State Street United Methodist Church
Bristol, Virginia

School registration deadline:
July 12, 2012

Clergy may earn 1.5 CEU's;
certification is for
advance lay speakers only.

For more information, see the
UMW bulletin board.

Purpose of United Methodist Women

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.