



The First Epistle

First United Methodist Church

900 Spring Street, Johnson City, TN 37604 Phone: (423) 928-9222

May 2020 Newsletter

Email: office@1stchurchjc.org Website: 1stchurchjc.org

UPDATE FROM THE PASTORS

Dear First Church Family,

On April 28, 2020, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor stated that the United Methodist churches of the Holston Conference are to remain closed until further notice. You may be aware that Governor Bill Lee has scaled back some of the COVID-19 restrictions for the state of Tennessee; however, the Holston Conference includes churches in Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia so we as Holston churches must look beyond our local community, county, and even state. In addition, conference leadership has made statements about many of the usual activities including camping ministry, annual conference, and mission projects. Here is a summary of the information:

- In-person worship gatherings and church activities remain suspended until further notice
- Early Learning Center at FUMC is closed until further notice
- Holston Annual Conference is rescheduled to an online event on June 27 at 1:00pm
- Hands-On Mission Project for collecting school supplies is postponed to late summer or fall.
- UMCOR kit collection is postponed until the Three Rivers District office is reopened
- Holston Conference camps are closed this summer, including Camp in the Community

In the meantime, we, the people of First United Methodist Church will continue to be the body of Christ in the world. We will continue to worship together online from our different locations. We will continue to reach out to our children and youth in our community. We will continue to care for our older generation. We will continue to support one another through small groups, prayers, calls, cards, and emails. We will continue to grow in our faith and our love of God. We will continue to sustain the mission of First Church through our tithes and offerings. If you have not already, please consider giving to First Church online at <http://bit.ly/GiveTo1st>, setting up offerings through your own financial institution, or mailing in gifts to 900 Spring Street, Johnson City, TN 37604.

Thank you for all of your support, encouragement, and prayers. First Church is a truly amazing group of people that seeks to love God and neighbor. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Blessings,
Pastor Jodie and Pastor Gary

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Jodie Ihfe, Senior Pastor
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Billy Walker
Director of Worship & Music
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Director of Outreach & Discipleship
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Director of Children's Ministries
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Bree Nelson, Director of Jr. High Youth
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Drew & Sharon Cradic
Directors of Sr. High Youth
sharon.cradic@1stchurchjc.org
(423)676-5510 (D)
(423)676-5511(S)

Susan Dove Fields, Organist

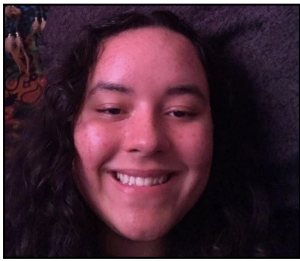
Wayne Holloway & Elisa Wardeska
Treasurers
treasurer@1stChurchJC.org

Jennifer Boarman, Bulletin Coordinator
jennifer.boarman@1stchurchjc.org
(423)943-8388

Finley Cook, Wednesday Night Chef
finleyac1@gmail.com

Worship Online each week at www.1stchurchjc.org or facebook.com/1stchurchjc

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Jaylah Brady
Science Hill High School



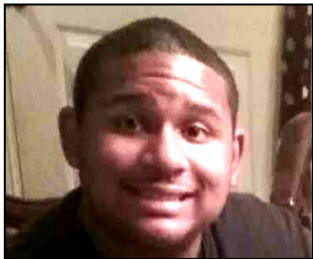
Deivon Buie
Science Hill High School



Deesha Burney
Science Hill High School



Moziah McKinney
Science Hill High School



Delo Pender
Science Hill High School



Xavier Reid
Science Hill High School



Josie Roberts
Daniel Boone High School



Tyan Rogers
University High School

First Church Youth Ministries is collecting letters and cards for our High School graduates to show our support and encouragement. You may email your letters to sharon.cradic@1stchurchjc.org or mail letters and cards to the church. Sharon Cradic, First United Methodist Church, 900 Spring Street, Johnson City, TN 37604. *In addition, there will be a special slideshow honoring our high school graduates during the worship service video for May 17, 2020.*

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY GRADUATES



Kelsey Bailey
East Tennessee
State University



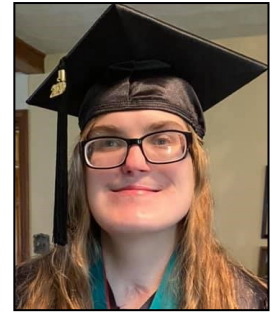
Martha Campbell
East Tennessee
State University



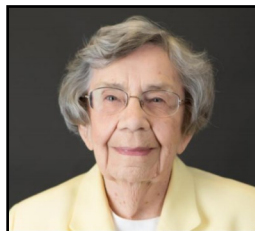
Kyle Cook-McCrary
Southern Wesleyan
University



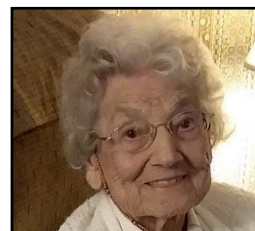
Braden Trent
East Tennessee
State University



Maddie Woosley
Northeast State
Community College



Nancy Stevenson
814 University Parkway
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-928-5488
Birthday: May 11



Evelyn Moore
700 Sharon Drive
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-282-3790
Birthday: May 22

While visits are not encouraged at this time, please send a birthday card to each of these long time church members and faithful servants of God letting them know you are celebrating their 100th birthday with them.