

Have you ever wondered what 3,000 lbs. of food looks like? Now you know! On June 6, this food, along with household staples, will be shared with more than 50 families in the community through FUMC's Summer Shoppe. These items will help families get through the summer with children at home. To support Shoppes, mail a check to FUMC and notate "Shoppes" in the memo line.



New Staff

CJ Huskey joined the staff of FUMC in May as the new, part-time, Children's Ministry Coordinator. CJ, a recent graduate of Johnson University, will work closely with Next Gen Ministries Director, Billy Price, to nurture the growth of our youngest disciples.

Caleb Roberts became FUMC's new AV Production Director on May 26.

June Special Missions Offering

The Special Offering for the month of June will support the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). RMN is committed to intersectional justice across and beyond the United Methodist connection, working for the full participation of LGBTQ+ people throughout the life and leadership of the Church. FUMC became a Reconciling Congregation in January of 2023, and we will celebrate being in the RMN on Rainbow Sunday, June 14. If you would like to support the June Special Missions Offering, you can mail a check to: First UMC, 1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. Notate "monthly offering" in the memo line.

First United Methodist Church
1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Office: 865-483-4357
Pastor-on call: 865-272-9862
<https://fumcor.org>

First Things

June 2026

Stephen Ministers

First Church Celebrates a New Class of Caring Servants



April 28th marked the completion of 17 weeks of Stephen Ministry training for ten enthusiastic souls representing four different congregations. The graduating class includes: Bill Alender, Leah Baker, Debbie Buchanan, Lynne Burchell, Donnie Macklin, Mary Murray, Teri Smith-Pearson, Alan Owen, Terry Pfeiffer, and Linda Triolo. We are thankful for these caring servants who endured 40+ hours of training and for their dedication to the Stephen Ministry program. They were formally commissioned as new Stephen Ministers on Pentecost Sunday, May 24.



Joys and Concerns

New Member:

Robyn Maker joined 5/3 by baptism and profession of faith.

Recently Hospitalized:

Sandy Elkins, Lee Garrott, Wayne Houlberg, Bill Kilday, Lucretia Pack, Pat Ryan, Sandra Voina

In Sympathy:

Terrell Horne (died 4/25); service was held on May 8.

Connie Horne (died 5/1); service was held on May 8.

Phyllis Jacobson (died 4/30); service will be at FUMC on August 22, 11:30 a.m.

Jeffrey Kidd (died 5/4); visitation was held on May 16.

Marilyn Rouse (died 5/4); graveside was held on May 9.

Nancy Vath (died 5/3); service was at FUMC on May 31, 3:00 p.m.

Randall Weir (died 5/5); service will be at Weatherford on June 5, 5:00 p.m.

A Note from the Pastor

As June begins, the pastors and three lay members of First Church will be attending the Holston Annual Conference in Lake Junaluska, NC. This is an annual gathering of United Methodist leaders in our region (known as Holston).

What does it mean to be United Methodist? At its heart, it means living out a faith that is both deeply personal and actively shared. We are a people shaped by grace: prevenient grace that goes before us, justifying grace that reconciles us to God, and sanctifying grace that continues to transform us in love.

As United Methodists, we hold together both belief and action. Our tradition calls us to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors in tangible ways. We remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 22: 37-39: "You shall love the Lord your God... and... you shall love your neighbor as yourself." This command is not just an ideal, it is our way of life.

We are also a connectional people. This is why we gather annually. We do not journey alone but are bound together across communities, serving Christ through worship, mission, and service. Our faith is strengthened in fellowship and expressed in compassion for the world.

To be United Methodist is to seek holiness of heart and life, growing daily in Christ's love and extending that love beyond the walls of the church. It is a calling to be both rooted and reaching, grounded in grace and sent in hope.

June Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Lou Ann Cristy, Adam Griffith, Kim Jeskie, Keith Kizzire | 15 Ron Dobosy, Donna Murray, Kelly Heligas |
| 2 Ann Bratton, Janet Cook, Betsy Spooner, Kristi Younkin | 16 Carol Hetzel, Bob Schultz |
| 4 Karen Moore, Tiddle Thomas, Cari Helberg | 17 Karah Tull |
| 5 Donna Fairchild, Joe Thomas | 18 Naomi Asher, Judy Dodd |
| 6 Dan Ingersoll | 20 Judy Mason, Sarah White |
| 7 Ella Anderson, Ciara Matlock | 21 Kailin Hardwick, Marilyn Reafsnyder |
| 8 Sydney Sepulveda | 22 Jack Finchum, Fern Pruss |
| 9 Tina Brady, Brandon Cottrell, Myron Iwanski, Jonathan Young | 23 Ruth Maddigan, Fiona Page Boyd |
| 10 Virginia Forsberg, Carolyn Todd, Bethany Watson | 24 Pam Crisp, Karen Pelchar |
| 11 Matt Lindsey, Jan Ruyl | 25 Jo-Evin Fuller, Sandra Barry, Sam Kitchings, Anne Lawson, Jim Underwood |
| 12 Elizabeth Kindred, Peggy Gambrell, Andrew Gillenwaters, R.F. Glover, Christopher Thornburgh, Audrie Rouse, Connie Warford, Julianna Luby | 26 Lois Withrow |
| 13 Bebe Arnold, Samantha Sepulveda | 29 Edward Enos, Mary McAllister, Bob Parks, Pete Ruyl |
| | 30 Betsy Bonner, Josh Cartagena, Susan Ochs |

I consider it a privilege to be connected with you in worship and service as we all seek to grow as disciples in our love for God and one another.

In Christ,
Pastor Clair



All Around First Church



Social Concerns Team members Abby Alexander and Greg Smith represent FUMC at Oak Ridge Youth Pride in on May 9.



Pastor Ken delivered 47 food buckets from FUMC to the Holston Conference for the people of Liberia.



On May 17, the youth celebrated ORHS Class of 2026 graduate, Raelynn Beebe, who added her handprints to the Youth Loft wall.



Stewardship Report

As of April 30, 2026

- 2026 YTD Offering and Income: \$520,878
- 2026 YTD Budget Expenses: \$461,914
- 2025 YTD Offering and Income: \$517,180
- April Special Offering (Children's Ministries): \$1,764

Wesley Heritage

Jeremiah Lambert was appointed as the pastor of the Holston Circuit in 1783. The Holston Conference of the Methodist Church was formed and had its first meeting in Knoxville in 1824. From May 31—June 3, 2026, the Holston Annual Conference will meet in Lake Junaluska, NC.