



## Remembering Our Saints This Sunday

Each year on a Sunday near All Saints Day, churches around the world name those faithfully departed members who died over the past twelve months. That celebration will take place for us during worship this coming Sunday, October 31. Our church family will remember, celebrate, and honor the following individuals in all three of our services:

Thomas Bratton  
William "Paul" Byrd  
John Cooke  
Michele Frisbee  
Bea Garber  
Michael Hatmaker  
Benny Houser  
Janese Longee  
David Mason

Russ Morel  
Chet Morris  
Joan O'Steen  
Jackie Pope  
Margaret Pryor  
Elizabeth Rea  
Don Sampsell  
Harold "Hal" Schmitt  
Tom Scott

Wilbur "Dub" Shults  
Franklin Skipper  
Ben Smith  
Bob Smith  
Tom Thornborgh  
Frank White  
George Wilson  
Lorraine Wright  
Lloyd Youngblood

We will also thank God for our other friends and family who have passed away since this time last year. Between now and Sunday morning, we encourage everyone to take a few moments to reflect on those in your life who have passed away and offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their lives.

### 2022 *Abounding In Hope* Financial Campaign



Our Finance Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation's leaders have already returned their 2022 financial Estimates of Giving cards! And so, even before we officially launch our Abounding In Hope financial campaign on November 7, we have already received 40 Estimates of Giving, which represents 14.5% of our goal of 275. Those Estimates represent a total of \$350,000, which is 29.5% of our goal of \$1,200,000! We thank God for this wonderful start and invite everyone to turn in their Estimates of Giving cards by Commitment Sunday, November 14.

### We Welcome New Members

How wonderful that two couples joined our church family on Sunday, October 24! Bill and Cheryl Beams made vows of membership during the contemporary service, and Richard and Gale Johnson became members during the 11:15 am traditional service. These couples committed themselves to support our church's ministries with their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, and members of our congregation proclaimed that we would support each of them on their spiritual journey. Welcome Bill, Cheryl, Richard, and Gale!

### Early Sunday School Class

Did you know we have an early Sunday School class that meets in the Chapel following the 8:45 service? This Sunday, Greg Smith will be leading the class in discussing what it means to be a Reconciling Congregation.

During the four Sundays in November, Dr. Bruce Spangler will be exploring Abraham's three-day hike up Mount Moriah to do the unthinkable, the immoral, and unconscionable "sacrifice" of Isaac, and why he becomes bestowed with the title of "father of faith." In *Hiking the Mountain of Faith: The Paradox of the Absurd*, Bruce will make use of Soren Kierkegaard's work, "Fear and Trembling," and John Wesley's pursuit of "Christian Perfection" to inform the conversation.

New members are always welcome. For more information contact Pastor Jenny: [jcaughman@fumcor.org](mailto:jcaughman@fumcor.org); 483-4357.

### Helping Hands Outreach

Can you take a hose off a faucet? How about changing a light bulb or raking some leaves? If you are willing and able we could use your skills in our Helping Hands outreach for some of our elderly church members still living in their homes. Our first service date is set for Saturday, November 6; plan to meet at the church at 10:00 am and go to the homes from there. If you are aware of church members who might benefit from this hands-on ministry, please contact Mark Diemer at [mpdiemer@comcast.net](mailto:mpdiemer@comcast.net) or 483-5410. Thanks for your prayerful consideration related to this new aspect of service in our Lord's name.

## In Loving Memory

### Don Sampsell

who joined our church on Sept 30, 2007 and died Oct 24, 2021. We extend love and sympathy to his wife Karen and children.

## In the Hospitals

MMC: Kelly Dagenhart  
Jerry Delene

## Our Gifts

Offering This Week: \$8955  
2021 Year to Date: \$1,078,235  
2020 Year to Date: \$1,097,542  
Monthly Mission Offering: \$2110

## Pastors

Mark Flynn, lead  
Jenny Caughman, spiritual care  
Seth O'Kegley-Gibson, worship

## Contact Information

865.483.4357 [www.fumcor.org](http://www.fumcor.org)  
Pastor on call: 865.272.9862

## Worship for October 31

Feast of All Saints

Sermon: Freeing People from Death

Scripture: John 11: 32-44

8:45 & 11:15 am Traditional Services

9:45 Contemporary Service

Preaching: Mark Flynn, Lead Pastor



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Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Return Service requested

## Thanksgiving and Christmas Shoppes Right Around the Corner

Our November 22 Thanksgiving drive-thru event (the first part of the Thanksgiving & Christmas Shoppe to support our community in need) is fast approaching and our Christmas Shoppe drive-thru follows soon after on December 18.

We have received many of the Thanksgiving referrals and are organizing them. We will be asking for lots of donations as we will be helping 60 families at Thanksgiving and another 60 families at Christmas!

This year, we're using SignUpGenius, an online service, to list our needs and for you to register to buy for our community in need ([fumcor.org/christmas-shoppe/](http://fumcor.org/christmas-shoppe/)). If you are unable to access the internet or need assistance using that online service, please contact the church office. We will be happy to help.

For Thanksgiving, our focus is essentials—coats, shoes, blankets, underwear, socks, and books. These

necessities will be given to each family along with the Thanksgiving food/paper/hygiene products.

If you have any of the items by November 7, please bring them to one of our worship services. We will be celebrating the opportunity to serve God by presenting these gifts—alongside our financial offerings—as part of all three worship services that day. We would love to have so many coats that our altars are overflowing!



All donated items must be new, please. They must be clearly marked with the child's identification number (provided when registering) and must be returned to church no later than November 18.

Drop donations at First UMC when the office is open (Monday–Thursday 8:00 am—4:30 pm).

Thank you, Church, for your consistently compassionate responses to our community's needs. Let's love and support our neighbors well this Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Learn more at <https://www.fumcor.org/christmas-shoppe>

# Highlights From October's Church Council Meeting

The Council approved a motion to officially create a First United Methodist Recovery Ministry, instructing the Staff-Parish Relations Committee to hire a full-time Recovery Ministry Director, the Finance Committee to create a budget for it, and the Nominations Committee to populate a three-year paneled Recovery Ministry Committee to support and oversee the ministry.

Realizing all Sunday morning schedules have positives and negatives, the Council discussed our current schedule challenges: 1) 8:45 am worship attendees must wait 45 minutes for children and youth Sunday School classes and 2) many strong adult Sunday School classes meet during contemporary worship. Three options for a new schedule were put forth. The first two center around combining our two traditional services. One option is based on one-hour blocks.

- 9:00 am worship
- 10:00 am Sunday school
- 11 am service of worship

With this option, we would have to decide whether contemporary or traditional worship met at 9 am. A second option would maintain our current schedule, with 45-minute blocks, but combine the two traditional services at 11:15 am.

- 9:45 am contemporary worship
- 10:30 am Sunday school
- 11:15 am traditional service

A third option would return to our pre-Covid schedule:

- 8:45 am traditional worship
- 10:00 am Sunday school
- 11:00 am contemporary and traditional worship

This option would require Pastor Mark to preach earlier in traditional and Pastor Jenny to begin the contemporary service. Then those two would switch locations allowing Mark to preach later in contemporary and Jenny to help conclude traditional worship.

Knowing the importance of this decision, the Council decided to collect data by surveying the worshipping congregation for the next month on the proposed options.

The Council provided initial approval to pursue a participatory relationship with Family Promise of Roane County, whose mission is to shelter first-time homeless children and their families in safe, stable, and caring environments. A Family Promise Team will be established for oversight.

The Council approved a request to set up a core team of lay members to develop a church-wide process of prayer, storytelling, personal meetings, relationship building, bible study, dialogue/discussion groups, book clubs, continuing education events, etc. that would help our congregation discern whether joining the reconciling movement is right for our church.

The Church Bus was sold, a new 2022 shuttle bus has been purchased, and it will arrive in December.

The Missions Committee distributed \$16,000 in September, with local charities receiving \$14,000, Central American ministries receiving \$1,000, and middle Tennessee flood victims receiving \$1,000. This brings our total distribution to \$53,000 for the year, which is 57% of our annual budget. A total of \$3,000 has been provided for the Church food pantry.

The Finance Committee reported that with 67% of the year complete, we have received 75% of anticipated revenue (including 73% of our Estimates of Giving) totaling \$1,073,508. Expenses are at 65% with a total of \$931,000. The surplus of \$142,412 is almost exactly the amount of the PPP loan.

Trustees report that water damage and general disrepair in the counters and cabinets in First Steps classrooms have escalated due to mold and rotten wood. They are investigating ways to replace the original 1965 cabinets.

Contractors are installing new LED lights to cover the dark sidewalks from the church Office to First Steps, and then around to the Lutheran parking lot for parents who drop off and pick up children in the dark winter months.

The United Methodist Women's Christian Homemaking Circle are donating coats and shoes for children at Willow Brook Elementary School.

Shelby Fowler reported our Children's Fall Break Camp was successful, with 11 kids in attendance. Preparations are underway for our Fall Fest on October 31st! We will have games, food, trunk or treating, and lots of candy!

Jeff Kile reports that new MPR stage backdrop lights are here. Construction materials will soon be purchased for a new backdrop which is scheduled to be built and installed within 3 weeks. Also, a new amplifier and speaker controls for the Nave lobby and Narthex have been ordered and will be installed soon.

The Adult Ministries Committee is exploring a Marriage Enrichment workshop, as well as programs such as Rise Against Hunger.

Our 6th Annual Young Adult Friendsgiving will soon take place. This is historically our Young Adult group's most well-attended event and is a great time for all involved. All college-age through mid-30s adults are welcome. Contact Pastor Seth or Erin Boyd for more information.

The Small Group Committee, under the leadership of Chair Phil Fairchild, continues to actively explore offering new small groups. They have contacted people who had joined the church in the last three years to see if they are interested in a small group.

The Finance Committee set goals for our upcoming 2022 financial stewardship campaign: 275 estimates of giving for \$1.2 million.



## Come to the Fall Festival This Sunday

**4-6:** Fall Festival  
**Starting at 4:** Blessing of the Animals  
 Contact Shelby Fowler (sfowler@fumcor.org) to volunteer

## We Celebrate Lori Crawford's 25 Years Of Service

Our First Steps Child Development Center is staffed by many amazing, dedicated folks. And yet, even in that community of saints, Lori Crawford stands out. We thank God for her 25 years of service to the children of our church family and community. Thank you "Ms. Crawford!"



## Flowers Wanted for Traditional Worship

You may have noticed recently that there have been Sundays with fewer or no flowers at the altar in the Nave. These flowers are donations that are made in honor or memory of loved ones. Please consider signing up for an arrangement. These floral arrangements are \$35 a week and they may be picked up after the 11:15 am worship service. You can take them home to enjoy or leave them for us to take to homebound and hospitalized members. Mott's Floral will bill you directly for the flowers after you receive them. It's important to note that these are not church-budgeted expenses, and we rely on your generosity and support for these flowers. Check the church website to sign up, and contact Pastor Seth (sokegley@fumcor.org) with questions.

## The United Methodist Women Thank You

Our church's United Methodist Women thank you for your firm support for our unit! You have responded generously to our two major fund-raising efforts this year:

- Bakeless Bake Sale: raised over \$3,000 dollars this year. This giving helps us support fifteen different organizations (e.g., TORCH, ADFAC, Girls Inc., Blossom Center, and other local charities).
- Blanket Sunday: was also a great success. We were able to send over \$1,200 to Church World Service to provide blankets and tools to needy people in disaster areas.

Again, a heartfelt THANK YOU for all that you do every year to support all our unit's efforts.

