



## Sam Venable to Present at XYZ

Well-known Knoxville humorist Sam Venable will offer the program at our eXtra Years of Zest (XYZ) gathering on Wednesday, October 12 at noon. Sam retired in 2014 from his daily duties at the Knoxville News Sentinel—a career that began in 1985—but continues to write a Sunday column for the Features section. Participants will share a catered meal of BBQ pork/chicken with all the sides. The cost is \$10 per person. Reservations can be made by calling the church office during business hours before noon on Monday, October 10. Don't miss this opportunity to spend a great time with friends.

## Help Our Finance Office Process Your Checks

You may not be aware, but financial institutions are being audited more frequently these days. As a result, our bank is cracking down on how checks submitted for deposit are written. While in the past, you could write "Methodist Church" or "First Meth," all checks must have "FUMC," "FUMCOR," or "First United Methodist Church" on the "Pay To The Order Of" line. Checks must NOT include memo information on that line. For instance, if you write "FUMC—Hygiene Kits" on the "Pay To" line, the bank will not deposit it.

And, of course, do not forget to use basic check writing etiquette: 1) be sure the numeric value agrees with the written value on the amount line and 2) use the memo to indicate the purpose of the check (General Fund, Keystone Fundraiser, etc.).

Remember: electronic giving is always a secure alternative! See our website for details or contact our Business and Finance Office for help.

**The Reconciling Ministries Network affiliation straw vote by FUMCOR church members will take place this Sunday and again on Oct. 9 and 16.**

If you are attending in-person worship, pick up a paper ballot sheet in the sanctuary or the multipurpose room. If you're worshipping online, you can vote on our website:

<http://fumcor.org/vote>

Only First Church members may vote, and only once in this round. The online ballot will only be live from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the voting days.

## Youth Retreat to Sterchi Lodge

FirstYouth is excited to share a successful trip to Sterchi Lodge! The new group of confirmands had a great start to their year and the current youth spent the weekend stepping up and becoming great leaders. We are looking forward to continuing to grow together in God's love. Thank you for your prayers and thoughts for the youth and leaders while they were out of town.



## Collection of Plastic Caps and Lids Resuming

We previously announced our collection of bottle caps and lids had to end because Greentree Plastics was going out of business. You might remember, working in partnership with Tellico Kiwanians, we had collected enough plastic to make three new sustainable benches for our playground. We had hoped to collect enough for two additional outdoor benches before the sad news. It is with great joy that we have learned that Greentree Plastics has been purchased, and the new owners want to restart production as soon as possible. So, all are invited to resume collecting caps and lids. You may drop your collection off in one of the wicker baskets in the library whenever the building is open.

## Save The Date: Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, November 6. Look for information in the mail on how you can continue to support the life-giving ministries of our church family.

## Join the YAHWEH Sisterhood

Are you looking for a Sunday School Class? Please come to the parlor (room 202) to join the YAHWEH Sisterhood and study with us. For more information, please contact Sandi Wright at (865) 482-4353.

## In Sympathy

### Nancy Fowlkes

who joined FUMC on January 14, 2003 and died September 22, 2022. We send our love to her husband, Chris Fowlkes and children Blake and Madyson.

### Pat Brandon

who joined January 27, 1985 and died September 27, 2022. We send our love to Beth Nickle and her friends and family.

## Dismissed

### Dee Crumm

### Mabel Yee

### Diana Griffith

### Patsy Baker (to NHC)

## Gifts

Offering This Week:	\$17,809
2022 YTD offering:	\$958,576
2021 YTD offering:	\$979,324
Monthly Mission Offering:	\$1,230

## Worship for October 2

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Sermon: Putting Faith Into Practice

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

8:45 am & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Services

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Preaching: Rev. Mark Flynn



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## The Magic of the Near Death Experience

Our church will be hosting a Zoom retreat which will explore the potential impact of a Near Death Experience. The program will be presented via Zoom by monks from the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, GA. Local participants will gather in the MPR for the program, lunch, and discussion.

The description on the monastery website states: "In the Near Death Experience we may come to know who God really is. Someone described it this way: 'an immense, radiant love poured out from God, consuming me with inexpressible love. With all my heart, I wanted to melt into Him as if we were one.' This experience is so powerful that it may alter our relationship with God in a radical way. We will explore the implications of this change."

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 15. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. The program begins at 9:30 a.m. and will be preceded by a time of gathering starting at 9:00 a.m.

For more information, please contact Jenny at [jcaughman@fumcor.org](mailto:jcaughman@fumcor.org).

## March with Branches, Young Adults, and the Reconciling Ministries Core Committee

The Branches and Young Adults Sunday School Classes, along with the Reconciling Ministries Core Committee, are continuing the First Church annual tradition of marching in the Knoxville Pridefest parade. We invite members of the congregation to join us for the walk. The parade is Friday evening, September 30. We'll be leaving the First Church parking lot at 3:30 p.m. for those wishing to ride the church bus or carpool. For questions or more information, please contact Kelsey Morris ([kelseym@fumcor.org](mailto:kelseym@fumcor.org)) or Greg Smith ([smit92611@gmail.com](mailto:smit92611@gmail.com)).



## Church Thanks!

Kelsey would like to thank all her Thursday school lunch volunteers! You are all so very appreciated and important to making Thursday lunches happen!

**Pastors** Mark Flynn, lead • Jenny Caughman, spiritual care • Denna Hornby, associate

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