



Kelsey Bids Farewell

Dear Church, It is with a heavy heart that I write to let you know of my resignation as youth director. My last day of work will be October 8, 2023. The past two years have been truly wonderful and fulfilling, but my time as an employee has come to an end. I am looking forward to becoming a member of FUMC and experiencing the joy of worshipping on Sunday mornings. I am incredibly thankful for my time as youth director and the relationships I have formed. Kayla and I will still be around though, as FUMC is our home and all of you are our family.



With all the love in the world,
Kelsey Morris

Christmas Choir Rehearsals Begin

Join us for Christmas Choir rehearsals starting on Wednesday, October 4, from 7:00-7:30 p.m. Rehearsals will continue every Wednesday until our concert on December 10. This is the perfect opportunity for those who can't commit to singing every Sunday throughout the year. Come and be a part of uplifting spirits and sharing the beauty of music. This year, our Christmas Choir will be presenting the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah. If you would like to join or have any questions, please contact Josh Sumter at jsumter@fumcor.org.

Mark Your Calendars

First Church Family Ministries will host our annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 29, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on the front lawn. We will have Trunk-or-Treating, games, food, and more. Join us in your best Halloween costume and enjoy the festivities! If you would like to volunteer or participate as a Trunk-or-Treat car, please scan this code.



Pride Parade Sign-Up

The Social Concerns Committee is once again sponsoring a group to march in the October 6 Knoxville Pride Parade. If you would like to participate and walk with the FUMCOR banner, please contact Greg Smith at smit92611@gmail.com or look for people in the Welcome Center for the next two Sunday mornings wearing Pride T-shirts. They will be happy to sign you up!

Keystone Open House Sunday

"I was near desperate for a break. Keystone has been a lifesaver for me!"

These are the words of a caregiver at Keystone who had limited financial resources but direly needed relief. Thanks to our generous supporters, Keystone was able to provide a scholarship for this caregiver's spouse, giving her respite and peace of mind.

All are invited to attend Keystone's Open House, which will take place this Sunday, September 24 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. We hope to see you there.

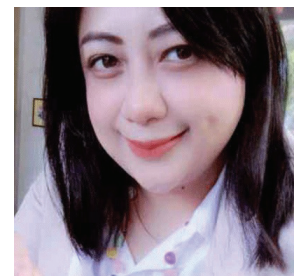


Keystone has launched its 6th annual Carry the Stone fundraiser to benefit scholarships and continue our 35-year history of never turning anyone away for the inability to pay. Your ongoing generosity makes it possible for us to provide a lifeline to caregivers and their loved ones.

Please join us by mailing your donation to Keystone at 1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, donating online at www.keystonetn.org, or dropping off your donation at the Keystone/Church office. Thank you!

Indonesian Pastor to Lecture on Environmental Ethics

Rev. Angie Wuysang of Indonesia will speak on the ethics of eating, eco-theology, and environmental ethics during the current climate crisis from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Sunday, September 24, in First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge's fellowship hall. This will be the sixth talk in the Science and Theology Lecture Series cosponsored by First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Church.



Wuysang's lecture will address the overlap between food and environmental issues, as seen through a faith lens, as well as shed light on issues affecting her country, which consists of 17,000 islands. Wuysang is an ordained minister of the Christian Evangelical Church in Minahasa. She also is a researcher and teacher of courses on eco-theology and environmental ethics, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and theology of religions.

Worship for September 24

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: John 13:1-17

Sermon: We Are All Recovering From Something

8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Multipurpose Room
Preaching: Matt Holder, Melinda Holder, Dan Ingersoll

In the Hospital:

Becky Szymanski (MMC)
- no visitors as this time

Discharged:

Sandi Wright (to NHC OR)
- no visitors as this time

Our Giving:

Weekly offering:	\$ 20,104
2023 YTD offering:	\$ 975,295
2022 YTD offering:	\$ 932,606
Mission offering:	\$ 1,100



1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Our Youth Choir Sings This Sunday

We are thrilled to announce the long-awaited return of our youth choir this Sunday at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. The choir will grace our traditional services for the first time since before the pandemic, and their presence will surely uplift our spirits. Together, we can create an atmosphere of love and appreciation for their work.

Over the decades, the Youth Choir has been a powerful program through which God has changed lives; let's support this program with our prayers and presence. For any inquiries or further information, please contact Josh at jsumter@fumcor.org.

Sign Up Now For a Great Senior Adult Luncheon

We are excited to welcome the band "The Missing Goats" to our Wednesday, October 11 Senior Adult Luncheon. Led by our very own Steve Reddick, the band plays a mix of Irish, Scottish, and Americana Folk music. Our menu will include BBQ pork, coleslaw, red roasted potatoes, fruit, and a chess bar dessert, and it will cost \$15. We now accept credit cards for payment. Call the church office at (865) 483-4357 to make your reservations by October 5. Please plan to join us for this lively and entertaining program.

Blessing of the Animals

October 1 at 1:00 pm on the front lawn



On October 1 at 1:00 p.m., our pastoral staff will gather on the front lawn of our church to celebrate the annual Blessing of the Animals. This heartwarming event provides an opportunity for our beloved pets to receive individual blessings, prayers, and love. From dogs and cats to horses, frogs, lizards, snakes, and birds, all animals are welcome. Not only does this event bring joy and comfort to our furry and feathered friends, but it also connects animal lovers within our community. Come and meet other families whose lives are enriched by their animal companions.

This event is held each year on the Sunday closest to October 4, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, who had a special love for animals. For more information, contact Mark Flynn at mflynn@fumcor.org.

Pastors Mark Flynn, lead • Jenny Caughman, spiritual care • Denna Hornby, associate
Contact Information 865.483.4357 • www.fumcor.org • Pastor on call: 865.272.9862