



Church Council Highlights

Our Church Council met on Tuesday, October 24. Here are a few highlights.

- The Trustees and SPRC are pleased to announce the hiring of Jody Hetherington as part of our facilities staff. Jody has an extensive background in maintenance and is also a licensed residential contractor and certified Home Inspection technician.
- The Blossom Center has requested our Missions Committee expand an existing playground by building another fence. This project will be smaller and located on the opposite side of their building from the one we completed in August.
- The Social Concerns Committee has been encouraging people to attend Anderson County Library Board meetings in defense of book access. They are currently planning a celebration in January to mark the one-year anniversary of our church joining the Reconciling Ministries Network. As part of that celebration, we will be screening the video series "Theology, Identity, and Me."
- A Music Assistant position will be funded for 10 hours per week to support Organist and Choirmaster Josh Sumter. This position will be funded for the remainder of 2023 and included in the 2024 budget.
- We are now offering two grief groups: 1) An ongoing monthly group for parents and grandparents who have lost children. 2) A new seven-week group for anyone dealing with grief. This group begins on Thursday, October 26 from 1:30-3:00 p.m. Childcare provided.



Advent Poinsettias

It's that time of year again! If you would like to purchase poinsettias for the first two Sundays of Advent (December 3 and December 10), please submit your order no later than November 12. If you would like to purchase poinsettias for the final two Sundays of Advent (December 17 and December 24), please submit your order no later than November 19. Order forms can be found with the ushers and greeters on Sundays or in the church office throughout the week. The cost of each poinsettia is \$17 and may be made via cash or a check made payable to First UMC with "poinsettias" in the memo line. Please submit payment with your order form in the offering plates or in the church office. Questions may be directed to Josh Sumter at jsumter@fumcor.org.

Earn. Save. Give. Campaign Update

The Finance Committee is pleased to announce that our 2024 Earn. Save. Give. financial stewardship campaign has received 72 estimates, or 28% of our 250 estimate goal totaling \$595,246, or 49% of our \$1,210,000 goal. We would like to express our gratitude to all who have already turned in their estimates. For those who have not yet returned their estimates, we encourage you to do so on or before Commitment Sunday, November 5.



Have you made your estimate of giving yet? Visit our website at fumcor.org/give.

Questions? Contact Rev. Flynn (mflynn@fumcor.org) or Linda Bowen (lbowen@fumcor.org) for more information.

Senior Adult Luncheon Returns!

Don't miss our Senior Adult Luncheon on Wednesday, November 8, where we will celebrate the delicate beauty of snowflakes and their miraculous patterns. The theme of the luncheon is "Jewels From The Sky," and our presenter, Kris Light, will explain the science behind these natural masterpieces, including why snow is white. Kris will also have snowflake jewelry and note cards available for purchase, with 20% of the proceeds being donated to our Senior Adults.

The menu will feature a spread of turkey and dressing, accompanied by gravy, mashed potatoes, and green beans. Additionally, there will be a refreshing congealed cranberry salad, perfectly baked dinner rolls, and a scrumptious pumpkin pie crunch dessert to top it all off.

Please make your reservations by Thursday, November 2 by contacting the church office. The cost is \$15, and we are happy to announce that we now accept credit cards for payment.

Schola Cantorum

On October 22, attendees of the traditional worship service may have noticed a small choir leading the worship. This ensemble, called Schola Cantorum, is a recent addition to our music ministry at First United Methodist Church. The goal of Schola Cantorum is to expand the range of choral music offered at our church. The name Schola Cantorum is inspired by a choir of highly trained singers founded by Pope Gregory I in medieval Rome. Like its namesake, the new small ensemble at FUMC will perform various forms of chant and tackle challenging music that is not suitable for a large choir. Schola Cantorum is excited to contribute to the enhancement of worship at our church.

Fall Festival is Sunday

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Trunk-or-Treating,
games, and food!

In the Hospital:

We know of no one.

Dismissed:

Blaise Ochs
Lula Bartholomew

Our Giving:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Weekly offering: | \$ 15,350 |
| 2023 YTD offering: | \$ 1,069,644 |
| 2022 YTD offering: | \$ 1,074,604 |
| Mission offering: | \$ 1,300 |

Worship for October 29

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-12

Sermon: Money, Money, Money

8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Multipurpose Room
Preaching: Rev. Denna Hornby



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Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Reminder for Participants in *White Too Long*

Those planning to participate in our November Sunday School series based on *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in Christianity* by Robert P. Jones, are strongly encouraged to read the book prior to the classes. The class will be led by Rev. Leah Burns, Holston Conference Associate Director of Connectional Ministries for Multicultural Ministries, and is open to all people. The classes will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. Each session will include group discussions and teaching by Rev. Burns. **Please note: the resource material contains graphic descriptions of violence against Black people and hard truths about white Christianity.** If you are having difficulty ordering the book or need financial assistance, please contact one of our pastoral staff.

First Steps Dinner & Auction

Join us for a night of delicious food and exciting bidding at our upcoming Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on November 3 from 6:00-7:30 p.m! Hosted by the First Steps Child Development Center, this event is a fantastic opportunity to support a great cause while enjoying a worry-free homemade dinner.

With a variety of hot-ticket items up for auction, including tickets, luxury packages, and themed baskets, there's something for everyone to bid on. For only \$10 per ticket (with a family cap of \$40), you'll be treated to spaghetti bolognese or vegetarian option, an "Olive Garden"-style salad, garlic bread, and dessert.

For more information, please contact Julie Martin or Susan Whitney at 865-483-6291 or fsdirector@fumcor.org.

Information For All Saints' Day

Every year, First United Methodist Church joins congregations around the world to celebrate All Saints' Day. Our main aim during these worship services is to express gratitude to God for the individuals who have passed away since the last All Saints' Day and were important to us. This year's celebration will take place in all three of our worship services on Sunday, November 5. We would appreciate your assistance in making this day special.

If there is someone you would like to ensure is included on our list of members or non-members for November 6 please email that information to mflynn@fumcor.org or contact our church office.

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