



FIRST THINGS FROM FIRST UMC, ALCOA

4th Week of April, 2022

Summer is Coming - One Worship Service Being Considered:

The staff and Education Committee have made recommendations to the Church Council to consider trying one worship service for the summer months (June, July and August) of 2022. The church council agreed it was primarily a staff decision with the recommendation of the Education Committee. The Education committee includes worship services as well as many other areas of ministry.

This all came about when several members recommended us trying one Sunday morning worship service to see how we could build our attendance following the Covid-19 Pandemic. Our sanctuary can seat about 600 people, and currently we are having about 200 - 225 total on any normal Sunday. Palm Sunday and Easter were a bit more, understandably.

When we split 200 - 225 people, it makes our sanctuary seem empty. On Palm Sunday, we combined worship into one service for the Easter musical worship and many, many people commented on how wonderful it was to see the sanctuary fuller and how great it was to have both the 8:30 and 11:00 worshippers together in one service. Many people commented they got to see and fellowship with people they had not seen in a long while.

The staff will be considering a decision and we would appreciate your input. We cannot please everyone, but we hope to do what is best for the church family. Our goal is to grow worship and fellowship as we move forward past the pandemic. The recommendations are as follows:

- Summer Months - June, July and August, with an evaluation to follow.
- Worship at 9:30 a.m. with blended music.
- Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. for all ages.

Some concerns have been shared, most of which have been minimal, and have to do with music choices and worship/Sunday school times. Palm Sunday was an example of how good all our music offerings are. During the Palm Sunday service we enjoyed the Children's Choir, the Chancel Choir, the Praise Band and the Beverly Bells and it seemed everyone was blessed.

We want to hear from you. Please email Pastor Todd at tchancey@alcoafumc, or text him at 423-290-3999 and let him or other staff members know of any concerns or affirmations about trying one service this summer. Also, Pastor Todd is available just about any time for a conversation, just call him and set up an appointment at 423-290-3999. A decision will be made by May 1, 2022.

Blessings,
Pastor Todd

Altar Flowers:

What more beautiful way to honor or memorialize a family member or friend than to place lovely, spring flowers on God's altar table on a Sunday morning!

Let's fill up our Altar Flowers calendar!



Wellness Ministry:

The Wellness ministry will meet Tuesday, April 26 from 2:30-4:00 PM in the Green Room. Fried Rice will be made. Sign-up sheet is on the table outside the church office.

J.O.Y. Ministry - Just Older Youth:

Hot Off The Press! Our 2022 J.O.Y. events schedules are now available! Pick up your copy today!

Coming up -

Saturday, April 23rd - National Cornbread Festival - South Pittsburg, TN. Bus leaves the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m. sharp! Tickets have been purchased. Meals are on your own. Spend the day perusing main street, crafts, food, a free tour of the Lodge Cast Iron factory, and a trolley ride through their Dogwood trail/historical district. Should be back to the church by 5:00 p.m. Weather is predicted to be gorgeous!

Friday, May 6th - Always Patsy Cline at the Clarence Brown Theater. Show begins at 7:30 p.m. We'll have dinner at O'Charley's Restaurant in Alcoa. Bus will leave the church parking lot at 4:30 p.m. Tickets have been purchased.

On Golden Pond in Crossville, Tn.

GSM Heritage Center Concert Series - Drift Boats Cowboys

Hello Dolly

9 to 5 - Barter Theater

These events and so much more! Check out the J.O.Y. Marquee and sign up at the Welcome Desk today!



Wonderful Wednesdays Starting Back:

Below, you will find information about the return of our Wonderful Wednesday meals. This information comes via Jim Nutter and Shawn Jones.

Wonderful Wednesday Suppers are Back!

A few weeks ago, I visited with Todd in his office for the first time. I wanted to ask him about several topics concerning church attendance, outreach, and group meals after 2 years of Covid-19. Of course, he responded positively, and suggested that I lead Wonderful Wednesday. I didn't see that coming!

SO, mark your calendar! Wednesday May 4th @ 6:00 PM is the return of our Wonderful Wednesdays.

I need you to do two things:

1.) RSVP to the church office @ 865-982-5551.

2.) Invite someone to join us. Invite a church family member you haven't seen recently. Invite a neighbor you haven't visited with in a while.

Shawn Jones' company Food & Company will be catering the meal, so you don't have to cook. We will have a basket for you to donate what you can to cover our costs.

Almost 4 years ago I made the great decision to retire and move to Alcoa. One of the first social events I attended was a Wonderful Wednesday meal. I no sooner sat down with my supper when a tall woman approached my table and said, "Hi, I'm Cindy Murphy!" and joined me. I've been coming back ever since.

Alcoa Methodist is, and must continue to be a shining beacon of love in Springbrook. I can't wait to see all your shining, friendly faces enjoying a meal of fellowship on Wednesday, May 4th @ 6:00 PM!

Jim Nutter

Menu for Wonderful Wednesday on May 4:

Tossed Garden Salad
Herb Roasted Chicken
Rosemary Garlic Oven Roasted Potatoes
Fresh Baked Biscuits
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Lemonade and Iced Tea

Thanks,
Shawn Jones

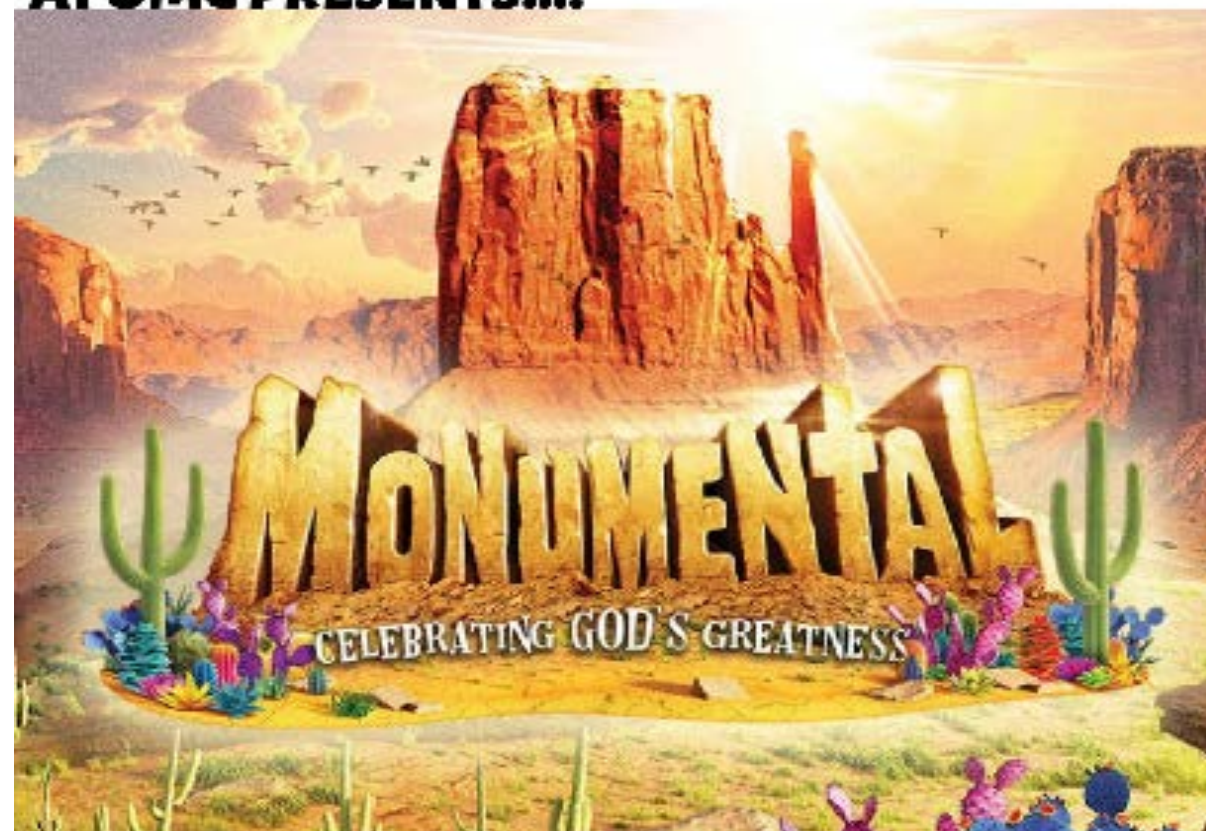




Guidelines for the Bill Bailey Scholarship Fund:

1. The purpose of the College/Technical Scholarship Fund is to provide financial assistance for members of First United Methodist Church Alcoa attending an accredited college/university or vocational/technical school. These funds do not require demonstration of academic merit or financial need, but are intended simply to provide financial assistance to those members who meet the requirements.
2. Applications must be submitted to the church office by **June 1** of each year.
3. Awards will be determined by a Selection Committee composed of the Pastor, Lay Leader, Chair of Church Council, Chair of the Executive Committee and two members selected at-large by the Nominating Committee. Awards will be announced by June 15th of each year.
4. Awards may be paid either to the student or the college at the discretion of the student.
5. The amount of the award shall be determined by the Selection Committee based upon funds available and the number of qualified applicants and may vary each year. As a general guideline, it is the intent of this scholarship to award grant money in the year which it becomes available.
6. Applicants may be asked to supply proof of enrollment before the funds are awarded or after the semester begins.
7. Applicants may apply for funds each year they attend an accredited college/university or vocational/technical school. They must be prepared to demonstrate satisfactory progress as requested by the Selection Committee. There shall be no specific requirements to demonstrate satisfactory progress, allowing the Selection Committee to deal with each applicant individually.

AFUMC PRESENTS....



JUNE 12-15 - SAVE THE DATE!

Sticky Notes from the Office:

Love God.
Love one another.
Love your neighbor.
Love your enemy.
That about covers it.

In Christ's meticulous census,
the community exempt from
the love of Christians
has a population of exactly zero.

-Beth Moore

April Birthdays

- April 2 Elsie Hill
- April 3 David Hitchcock, Sara Shelton
- April 4 Barbara Chapin
- April 5 Stan Barnett, Robert Gibbs
- April 6 Debbie Goldberger
- April 7 Becky Derrick
- April 8 Frances Presnell, Duana Shaver
- April 9 Shelby McNeal
- April 10 Brian Perkins
- April 11 Carol Balshuweit
- April 12 Dontae Jones, Faye Sundahl
- April 18 Rob Daugherty, Ron Scott
- April 19 Brandi Kinkead, Tristan Piercy
Karen Whaley
- April 22 Braylon Hawkins,
Larry McNamee
- April 24 Diane Hafner, David Lawson,
Tabitha Travis
- April 25 Emily Cochran,
Kristen Bassarab (Lidvall)
- April 27 Lisa Goins
- April 29 Suzanne Werkema

Church Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

- 5:00 pm Children's Choir
- 5:30 pm Kid's Club
- 5:30 pm Resurgence Youth
- 6:30 pm Praise Band Practice
- 7:30 PM Choir Practice

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

- 7:00 am Jerry Page Men's Bible Study
(Youth Room)

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

- 9:00 am J.O.Y Ministry Cornbread Festival

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

- 8:30 am Traditional Worship
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 6:00 pm Sunday @ Six

Church Staff

REV. J. TODD CHANCEY
Pastor
423-290-3999

REV. JOE GREEN
Pastor Emeritus

JOHNNY WALKER
Church Business Administrator
& Director of Visitation
865-582-6941

LYNSEY WOLFE
Administrative Assistant
lwolfe@alcoafumc.com
Church Office- (865)982-5551

PATTI MOORE
Children's Minister
childrensministry@alcoafumc.com

BETH GREEN
Director of Music Ministries
& Worship Coordinator

SARAH CLINARD
Interim Nursery Coordinator

CARLA TAYLOR
Accompanist

JOHN TATE
Church Accountant

SHAWN JONES
Media Technology
techteam@alcoafumc.com

LIZ CHANCEY & DEBBIE WEST
Media Technologies Support

JOE VAN CLEAVE
Custodian

