



FIRST THINGS FROM FIRST UMC, ALCOA

3rd Week of May, 2022

Choctaw Mission Trip:

As many of you know, I, along with several of our church members and other friends, will be heading up the 2022 Choctaw Mission Trip to Philadelphia, Mississippi. The Holston Conference has had an annual mission to the Choctaw Nation for over 30 years. The team was not able to go in 2020 or 2021 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We are so happy to go this year, even with many limitations. Our primary goal for this year's mission is to provide a Vacation Bible School for the children and youth. It is estimated that we may be able to interact with about 100 children and youth in grades 1 - 8 for this year's mission.

We will be leaving with a team of 20 people on June 18th and will return on June 25th. We are asking two things of the Alcoa Church Family:

1- Pray for the team and pray for the Choctaw Nation, most especially the children and youth. In past years, we have seen many children and youth give their lives to Jesus during these mission trips.

2- Consider giving us a Wal-Mart gift card for the mission trip. There is a Wal-Mart near the camp where we stay. With the gift cards, we can purchase food, gas and VBS supplies. Your donation (any amount helps) will be greatly appreciated. If you wish, you may also make a monetary donation and simply mark it "Choctaw Mission."

Thank you all so much - more information about the Choctaw Mission will follow in upcoming newsletters.

Blessings,

Pastor Todd



One Worship Service for Sunday Mornings for the Summer Months:

After much prayer, discussions, many meetings, and upon the recommendation of the Education Committee, the staff has agreed to change our summer Sunday schedule starting June 5, 2022 to the following:

- Blended Worship at 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday @ Six worship - 6:00 p.m.

We will keep this schedule during the months of June, July and August and we will evaluate the service times moving forward as we experience this new schedule. The worship will be a more blended service with a variety of music and musical sharing. We also pray that bringing the entire church family together for worship with strengthen our ministry.

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.

Help us Honor our Graduates:

Help us honor the 2022 graduates. If you have a student graduation please let us know so we can help honor the student's accomplishments and hard work. Please send the following information to tchancey@alcoafumc.com or text info to Pastor Todd at 423-290-3999.

- Name of Graduate
- Date of Graduation
- Degree or accomplishments
- School they are graduating from
- Graduation picture

Blessings and thanks for helping us honor our graduates.



J.O.Y. full News:

Next on our J.O.Y. calendar – we travel to Crossville to the Cumberland County Playhouse Tuesday, June 7th – “On Golden Pond” – 1:00 show – tickets - \$28.00 Lunch at 11:00 – Cumberland State Park Restaurant (renamed Homestead Harvest Restaurant) – buffet - \$15.00 per person, including tip. Bus leaves the church parking lot at 10:30 am. Still room on the bus or may drive separately! Sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Desk!

June 24th, Friday – Drift Boat Cowboys @ the GSM Heritage Center – 7:00 show - This is Justin Hall's band. This concert WILL sell out, so please sign up as soon as possible! They are so good! Be sure to note when you sign up if you're a member of the Heritage Center or not. General admission - \$15.00/members-\$10.00. Tickets are purchased online. Seating is now provided. After we procure our seats then, dinner at the Riverstone Restaurant. Bus will leave the church parking lot by 4:30.

July 22nd Friday – “Hello Dolly” @ the Bijou Theatre – 7:30 show - \$25.00 tickets – A Word Players production. Dinner at Copper Cellar.

August 4th, Thursday – “9 to 5” @ the Barter Theater in Abington, Va. 2:00 show. \$32.00 tickets. Lunch at Luke's Café

Pick up a full schedule of all events planned for our seniors located on the table under the J.O.Y. marquee and on the table under the TV in the front hallway. Signup sheets for all events are located at the Welcome Desk in the front hallway.



Questions for a Sunday Evening:

(5 Sessions, facilitated by David Lawson)

You are invited to join us as we begin a new format for study. We are going to discuss 4-5 questions over the course of 5 sessions. We meet from 4:30 to 5:45 on Sunday evening. We will talk about the questions listed below. We have set the first 2 dates and will settle the remainder among the attendees and in coordination with our church calendar.

Each discussion will be independent so you can join for all or a select few sessions. The discussions are not necessarily linked. The goal of these discussions is to help us individually discover our deeper assumptions, values, and beliefs as we explore each question and to come to a deeper appreciation of other positions. Out of the 20 questions proposed, these received the most interest.

- May 15, 2022: What is the purpose of the local church?
- May 22, 2022: What are the 5 Solas?
- TBD: What is the authority structure for a Christian?
- TBD: How secure are we in our salvation?
- TBD: What is prayer?

Sweet Potato Drop a Big Success:

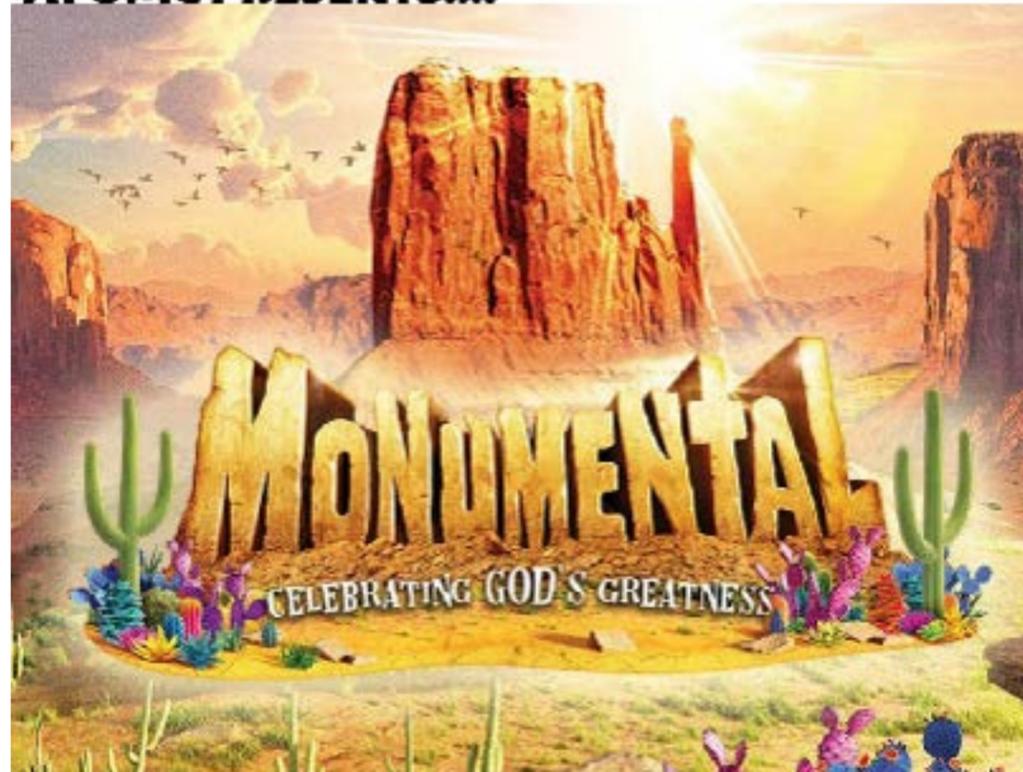
On Friday May 7th, about 21,000 pounds of sweet potatoes were delivered to the parking lot of Alcoa First United Methodist Church. The potatoes came from Fayetteville, Tennessee in a program coordinated by the Society of St. Andrew headquartered in Nashville. On Friday evening and Saturday morning, about 65 workers placed the potatoes in 10-pound net produce bags.

Workers were members of Alcoa First United Methodist Church and members and ministers who are part of AWAKE – 21 in Blount County. The bagging was completed by 10 a.m. It was obvious that many hands make quick work. The potatoes were picked up by 14 different food agencies serving Blount and surrounding counties. Those agencies make food available to families throughout East Tennessee.

The potatoes were purchased by the Society of St. Andrew, who also pay to have the potatoes transported. It accepts donations to support the program. The potato drop was organized and coordinated by the United Methodist Men of Alcoa First United Methodist Church.



AFUMC PRESENTS....



JUNE 12-15 - SAVE THE DATE!

*Please note that it was previously advertised that a potential Youth Director candidate would be at the picnic to talk to parents and students. Due to circumstances beyond our control, that meet-and-greet has been postponed. The picnic will, however, still go on as planned.



Women's Fellowship Group:

The first meeting of the women's fellowship group was wonderful! Thank you so much to everyone that attended! We will be having a second meeting on May 22 at noon in the youth room. We will be doing another small pot luck so bring a dish and a friend!
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Wellness Ministry:

The Wellness Ministry will meet Tuesday, May 24 in the Green Room, from 2:30-4:00 PM. Darunee's group will be making stir-fry!

Sign-up sheet is on the table outside the church office.



Birthdays

- 05/01 Doris Bailey, Trent Tucker
- 05/02 Emily Reynolds
- 05/03 Jill Hall, Timothy Kinkead
- 05/06 Darunee Lawson
- 05/07 Peggy Chapman, Debra Galbraith
- 05/08 Ruth Ann Kirk
- 05/09 Janine Juckett, Bob Shipley, Maxanna Young
- 05/11 Linda Hartley, Don Heinemann
- 05/13 Wes Giles
- 05/15 Hank Snyder
- 05/16 Becky Lohr
- 05/17 Todd Chancey
- 05/18 Leah Barringer
- 05/19 Emma Trent
- 05/20 Clint Abbott
- 05/21 Desiree Jones
- 05/22 Margie Davis, Lillian Emmett, Ramsey Walsh, Cinda Weller
- 05/26 James Petersen
- 05/27 Elizabeth Scharschu
- 05/28 Ian Dickinson, Emily Duggan, Mary Duggan
- 05/29 Emmit Rawls
- 05/30 Eleanor Hill
- 05/31 Tony Graf

Church Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

5:00 pm Children's & Youth
End of School Year Picnic
@ Springbrook Pavilion
6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, MAY 12

7:00 am Jerry Page Men's Bible Study
(Nova SS Classroom)

SUNDAY, MAY 15

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



Church Staff

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Pastor
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Pastor Emeritus

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