



The Spirit

Pastors: James E. Whedbee, Donald R. Hanshew Jr., Melissa R. Smith

Reunite with Old Friends

Bruce & Emy P., United Methodist workers in the Middle East, will be sharing with us on Wednesday, February 4, at 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Our church has supported Bruce & Emy for many years. Come and hear about their work. Bruce is a member of Holston Conference, and Emy is a member at Bookwalter UMC in Knoxville. They have worked in Muslim cities for over 20 years.

The Shack Book Study

On February 11 and 18, come explore the imagery, message, and theology of the popular fictional novel The Shack, by William P. Young. On these two consecutive Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall, we will discover, discuss, and discern. Rev. Don Hanshew will be facilitating the study. (Note: This study will discuss the book in depth and be a spoiler if you have not read the book.) All are welcome to attend.

Bubbles, Music, and Televisions

On February 13, our retirees will reminisce to tunes from the top 40 best-loved hits during the 1930's to 1980's. Our guest is Hugh Livingston who played with Lawrence Welk in the 1970's. Mr. Livingston directs senior music programs which focus on promoting health and wellness through music. Join us and be ready to tap your toes and "name that tune."

Please call Jean Payne for a reservation. Lunch will be served at noon for \$6.00. Our guest chefs are Carol Sewell and Roz Irwin. What better way to being the new year than with friends, good food, and good music?

Youth "OffeRing" Schedule Change

Our youth handbell ensemble "OffeRing" is moving from Mondays at 4:00 to Sundays at 5:00. This is an advanced handbell ensemble, but if you are a musical middle schooler or high schooler that would like to ring, we have an open position! Call Andrew Duncan at extension 108 to see if you might be ready for this group.

If you are interested in ringing, but not quite sure if handbells are for you, please come by on Tuesdays at 4:00 for OffeRing II rehearsal. This group is made up of beginners and more advanced ringers alike!

Worship With Us!

February 1, 2009

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Traditional Service (8:30 & 11:00)

Holy Communion

Mark 1:21-28

Sermon by Jim Whedbee

Contemporary Service (11:00)

the Journey

Holy Communion

"Collision of Old and New"

Genesis 17:7 & Luke 22:20

Sermon by Melissa Smith

Wednesday Fellowship

February 4, 2009

Fellowship Meal Menu (5:30)

Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit & Gravy,
Sausage Patties, Bacon,
Cheese Grits, Fresh Fruit

Light Side: Scrambled Eggs,
Fresh Fruit

Kid's Menu: French Toast Sticks,
Sausage Links

Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee

Adults \$6, Children (5th grade and
under) \$3; Families of 3 or more
\$16, Seniors (65+) \$5

Make your reservations on the
worship attendance card, or call
the church office before noon on
Tuesday, February 3.

THE PASTOR CORNERED

Each year on the first Sunday of November, following All Saints Day, we remember those of our church family who have died since the previous All Saints Day. It is a high moment of worship for us as we celebrate the lives of these saints who have influenced our lives through the years as we grow in faith.

To complement that special worship time, we began another tradition about four years ago. In continuing celebration of the birth of Jesus, we recognize in January the babies who have been born into our church family during the previous year. We could even go so far as to say that this is part of our All Saints recognition; for, indeed, these little ones are growing into sainthood. The rest of us saints are assisting them in that growth. Those of you who were in worship this past Sunday, January 25, rejoiced in the 26 new saints who are a part of our church family. That is certainly one of the signs of the great things that are going on among us at FCUMC as our children's ministry continues to grow.

Other statistics for 2008 are not quite as encouraging. However, we realize that statistics do not always tell the full story. The ministries that are taking place around here are those that touch lives in the church, in the community and around the world. We take seriously the invitation to follow Jesus.

Our building program is certainly requiring patience on the part of the staff each day, not to mention the detours and inconveniences that others must navigate every day, but especially on Wednesday evenings and Sundays. We are very grateful for everyone's patience and support in this process. Please do not let these issues keep you away. If you need assistance, in any way, please contact the staff. We will be glad to help you.

Statistically this is what happened in 2008:

- Sunday school average attendance decreased from 464 in 2007 to 460.
- Worship average attendance decreased from 648 to 647.
- Membership increased from 1,855 to 1,870. Membership changes included:
 - First-time professions of faith = 28
 - Received from other UM churches = 19
 - Received from other denominations = 30
 - Removed by death = 22
 - Transferred to other UM churches = 26
 - Transferred to other denominations = 5
 - Withdrawn by personal request = 9
- Amount received through pledges -- \$1,181,306 ('07 = \$1,181,375)
- Amount received from non-pledges -- \$205,441 ('07 = \$233,138)
- Capital Campaign funds received -- \$606,427 (first year)

(A more complete financial report is given elsewhere in this newsletter, and you will soon be receiving a special newsletter/update on the construction and renovations that are taking place.)

These numbers do not even begin to tell the story of Fountain City United Methodist Church and its ministry. However, it does alert us to some concerns which we must consider and from which we will learn and grow as we continue to serve our Lord and be a strong, vibrant witness to God's love.

Please continue to pray for our church, its staff and members and the ministries in which we all share.

- Jim



PRAYER FOCUS

John 14:1: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me."

Father, we live in troubling times. Help us to trust you in all ways and with all things. In Jesus' name, Amen.

What are you praying for? Let us know on our online prayer survey

- www.fountaincityumc.org/prayersurvey/

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

2009 Finance Update

On Monday, January 12, 2009, the Church Council approved the 2009 annual budget. This was a difficult decision as our country enters into a time of unprecedented economic uncertainty. A day does not go by that the local and national news does not mention the pressing economic issues that we are all experiencing. We, Fountain City UMC, are not immune to these issues; both personally and collectively. The information below briefly outlines the actual 2008 financial results:

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	Difference
Total Receipts	\$1,560,734	\$1,425,973	-\$134,663
Total Expenses	\$1,535,646	\$1,413,641	-\$121,827
Net Total	\$25,178	\$12,343	-\$12,835

We did an admirable job of managing the expenses to the contributions and receipts in 2008. Look for a more in-depth financial report in the next Spirit.

Don't Forget Your Tickets to the

Father/Daughter Valentine Dance

Saturday, February 7, 2009 - 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
\$5.00 per person - All Ages!

Tickets are still available for the dance! You can find them on Wednesday night, in the main office hallway on Sunday morning, and in the church office. This event is sponsored by the Children's Ministry Team.

Join the Studio!

If you have a child in 3rd-5th grade, the Tween Team Studio is an opportunity you won't want to miss! Kelley Flatford and Christina Burroughs are the teachers for this drama and multimedia group, which meets on Sunday evenings from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. in the choir room.

Snacks for The Net!

You remember that feeling you used to get when you came home from school as a kid – “wow, I'm hungry!” Our middle school students in The Net after-school program have that same feeling every day, and we need your help! Below is a list of snack items that The Net could use now that the second semester of school is up and running!

- Granola bars
- Fruit snacks
- Pretzels
- Goldfish crackers
- Popcorn
- Juice boxes or bottles of juice
- Vanilla wafers
- Chips & salsa
- Pudding cups
- Chex mix
- Sun Chips
- Baked Lays potato chips
- Graham crackers
- Teddy grahams
- Fruit (grapes, bananas, apples, etc.)
- Vegetables (carrots, celery sticks, etc.) & ranch dressing
- Paper plates and cups

Donation boxes are located in the old fellowship hall downstairs as well as in the hallway next to Wesley Hall. Thank you in advance for your help!



The Spirit Bible Question

Question: How many books of the Bible did Timothy write?

Know the answer? Email your answer to aduncan@fountaincityumc.org.

Last Week's Answer: *Paul* said: "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men." (Acts 20:26)

Congratulations to Ken Salmon for being the first to answer correctly!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Where Have You Been?

I am looking for new (and missing) choir members in our church! You may have sung with us for years and just stopped coming, or you may have never sung with us at all. We need you back (or here for the first time) as we prepare music for Lent and Easter. I know that there are gifted voices out there in our congregation, and that gift is from God to be shared - come on by and try us out!

- Andrew

Employment Opportunity

We are seeking a full-time reception/clerk. The position requires 40 hours of office work as well as a familiarity with Microsoft Word, Publisher, and Excel; familiarity with ACS Technologies software is a plus. Applicants should be willing to help all groups and field questions about the life of the church. Background checks are required for employment. Call the church office at (865) 689-5175 for more information and an application. The deadline for applications and resumes is February 6, 2009.

Parenting Training and Support

Sunday evenings, beginning February 7, and ending March 29, a seven-week series of Love & Logic philosophy, techniques, and strategies will be offered. Sessions will begin at 6:00 and end at 7:30. Cost is \$15 (some grants are available). Childcare is available, if requested when you register. (Deadline for childcare is February 4.)

Wednesday evenings, beginning February 11, we will continue with our regularly scheduled Parenting Partners activity. This time will be offered for discussion and support. There is no cost for Wednesday meetings.

To register for either or both of these growing opportunities for parents, please contact LeRoy Hatcher at 689-5175, ext.111; or by e-mail at lhatcher@fountaincityumc.org.

Construction Update

The construction at FCUMC is still going well! As always, continue to watch the website at www.fountaincityumc.org for any changes that will affect your Sunday school classes.

- The sidewalk at the corner of Fountain Road and Fountain City Lake is under currently under construction.
- Construction work continues on the elevator area.
- The heat and air conditioning contractor continues to work on several classrooms in the Preschool/ECM area. Again this week, Preschool and Sunday school classes that usually meet in rooms 123 and 125 will be meeting in classrooms 138 and 137 close to Wesley Hall. As always, if there are changes to this construction schedule, the changes will be noted on the FCUMC website.

If you get lost on Sunday morning, please contact a greeter for directions!

IN MEMORY AND HONOR

Capital Campaign: In Memory Of: Art Merryman by Marion & JoAnn Merryman, Dave Hodgekiss, John & Lorie Merryman; **Wahnita Harrigan** by Knox City Schools Social Worker Department; Leslie & Glenn Mays; **Charles Rose** by the Pairs & Spares Class; **Tom Chilcote** by Craig Holtzclaw; Mossie Taylor

In Honor Of: Alta Mason Huskey by Mary Frances & Guy Tucker; **Hanley Coppock on her birthday** by Craig Holtzclaw

Choir Fund: In Memory Of: Tom Chilcote by Charles & Kathy Harrington

Fountain City Ministry Center: In Memory Of: Jane Wells, Art Merryman, Charlie Sanders by Tom Harrington; **Tom, Margaret, & Wayne Chilcote** by Tom Harrington

In Honor Of: Diane Greve, Maggie Meek, Bill Addonizio by the Christian Homebuilders Class

The Net Fund: In Honor Of: Patricia Paden by Kathryn Paden

Scholarship Fund: In Honor Of: Evelyn Carter, Jack Harrigan by the Christian Fellowship Class

CHURCH CALENDAR: JANUARY 23 - JANUARY 31, 2009

Friday, January 30

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA Room)

Saturday, January 31

9:00 AM Faith UMC Planning Retreat (Wesley Hall)

11:00 AM Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby (Gym)

10:00 AM Basketball (Gencay) (Gym)

6:00 PM Pairs & Spares Class Social (Wesley Hall)

Sunday, February 1

8:30 AM Worship (Sanctuary)+

9:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)*

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages (Church-wide)

11:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)+

The Journey Contemporary Worship (Gym)+

5:00 PM *OffeRing* Youth Handbells (Handbell Room)

Disciple I (Room 208)

5:45 PM Youth Superbowl Party (Various Rooms)

Lytle Bible Study (Room 106)*

6:00 PM Nichols Bible Study (Room 136)

Tween Team Studio (Choir Room)

Monday, February 2

8:30 AM Preschool (Monday-Friday) (Various Rooms)

9:00 AM Aerobics (M-W-F) (Gym)

9:30 AM Bible Study (Sewell) (Room 136)

3:30 PM The Net (Monday-Friday)

4:30 PM Dance for Joy (Fellowship Hall)

5:00 PM Weight Watchers (Choir Room)

6:30 PM Basketball (Stewart) (Gym)

7:00 PM Cub Scouts (Various Rooms)

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA Room)

Tuesday, February 3

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Room 136)

9:00 AM Staff Meeting (Room 136)

10:00 AM Bridge (Youth Room)

4:00 PM *OffeRing II* Youth Handbells (Handbell Room)

5:00 PM Dance for Joy (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting (Room 117)

Operation INASMUCH Planning Team (Youth Rm)

Wednesday, February 4

4:00 PM Youth Choir (Choir Room)

5:00 PM *Genesis* Children's Handbells (Bell Room)

5:30 PM Fellowship Meal (Gym)

6:30 PM Wednesday Night Children's Programming
(Upstairs Children's wing)

Tollers Adult Handbells (Handbell Room)*

(Wednesday continued)

6:30 PM Middle School Bible Study (Youth Room)

High School Bible Study (The Net)

Caregivers (Room 112)*

Financial Peace (Room 117)*

Parenting Partners Workshop (Room 201)*

Pastor's Bible Study (Room 136)*

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)*

7:45 PM *The Journey* Band Rehearsal (Wesley Hall)*

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA Room)

Thursday, February 5

8:00 AM Building Construction Group (Room 136)

5:00 PM Dance for Joy (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting (Wesley Hall)

7:30 PM Volleyball (Gym)*

9:00 PM Men's Basketball (Gym)

Friday, February 6

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA Room)

Saturday, February 7

6:00 PM Daddy/Daughter Valentine's Dance (Gym)

* Childcare provided for children from birth to fifth grade
+ Activities provided for children from birth through 3-year-old Sunday school.

Youth Happenings

- Sunday, February 1, 5:45 p.m. Superbowl Party: Watch the game on a giant video screen, play in the open gym and with gaming systems. Bring a two-liter drink, snack food and a friend.
- February 16-17: Ski Getaway (\$45 deposit & registration due February 4, total cost is \$145)
- February 22: Youth Sunday
- February 27-28: 30-Hour Famine

Emergency On Call - January 31 - February 1

Melissa Smith

February Drivers

Morning: Tim McComas

After Church: Craig Holtzclaw

Medical Transportation: Jean Payne

Stephen Ministry: Peter Keyes

Intercessory Prayer

Mary Bolton; Tom Harrington

THE SPIRIT

Fountain City United Methodist Church
212 Hotel Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37918-3296
(865) 689-5175/FAX (865) 689-4693

Website: www.fountaincityumc.org
Email: fcumc@fountaincityumc.org

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OUR PRAYERS

Members in the Hospital as of January 27, 2009
(removed for privacy)

Members Recently Discharged from the Hospital
(removed for privacy)

OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, January 25, 2009

Sunday School	513
Youth Resurrection	52
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship	197
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship	383
11:00 a.m. <i>The Journey</i>	100
WEE Worship (8:30 & 11:00)	47
Total Morning Worship	779
Wednesday Fellowship Meal (Jan. 21)	136

OUR GIFTS

Received 1/12-1/18	\$18,447.11
Received 1/19-1/25	\$27,065.18
Year to Date	\$91,078.45
2009 Budget	\$1,431,468.00
January Salt & Light	\$88.00

OUR SERVICE

February 8:30 Ushers: Charles & Celia Thompson, Head Ushers; Troy Lawson, David & Debbie Vandergriff, Rogan Oliver

February 11:00 Ushers: Gary & Mark Hillard - Head Ushers; Jason Hillard, Frank & Nancy Faulkner, Buzzy Freeman, Teresa Hillard, Nicole & Brent Eldridge, Ronnie Jones, Gary McMahon

February Greeters: Eleanor Thurman, Jackie Benshoof, Lynn Osborne, Erma Prather, Virginia Frye, Lisa & Russell Lay

Snow Policy Reminder



If Knox County Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Preschool and other activities at the church are also cancelled.



The website will be updated with weather news as well.