



Crossville First United Methodist Church

The Church With the Window on the Heart of Our Town

In Appreciation Rev. Steven Lee, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

Crystal, our boys-Nathanial, Parker, and Peyton, and I would like to express to you our deepest appreciation for the warm welcome we've received since our appointment to Crossville First UMC. Words are inadequate to convey how blessed and excited we are to be here in Cumberland County. We thank you for the many acts of love and radical hospitality demonstrated to us during this brief time with you.

We are looking forward to sharing in ministry alongside you and reaching out in love and concern to those who are hurting and/or unchurched in our area. Over the next few months, I hope you will find me to be a pastor you can trust, respect, and love. We pray that we will be given the opportunity to serve with you for many years, and that God will bless our time together.

Have a great summer, week-by-week! God bless you.

Love,
Steven

Commentary

Members of the Crossville FUMC congregation extended helping hands and many hours of service across the last two weeks of June to facilitate the settling in of the Lee family. Chris Smith and his round-up of volunteers stepped lively and often on the day the moving van arrived at the Lee's new home off Hwy 127-N. While professional movers hefted the large pieces, Chris' crew handled the numerous items of personal claim that characterized members of the family. In record time, boxes were unpacked, and their contents stowed as directed. Among the volunteers were some who brought food and drinks to serve the workers.

To celebrate the new appointment and Pastor Steven's first sermon on July 7, the congregation honored the family with a "Pounding," an old-fashioned practice of welcoming a new pastor. Whereas the event formerly meant offering a pound (or thereabouts) of pantry staples and related worthy homemaking starters, the modern celebration allows for newer translations.

Many congregants defied threatening rain and gathered at the Methodist Campground at 6:00 pm on July 7 for the privilege of pounding the preacher and enjoying an ice cream supper. The bounty of gifts ranged from fresh to canned green beans, paper goods for household and per-

sonal use, ready pantry items to others having long-term uses. The family received showers of love and respect during the friendly occasion when conversations and visits fostered harmony and good will.



A New Normal?

Rev. Dr. Louis Davis, Associate Pastor

Psalm 51:10 *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”*

What is normal? I laugh when I write this question. Normal is something like a dream, especially in the church. However, we do have our schedules and routines. Transitions are times when our “normal” gets all messed up. We get used to doing something, and we like it the way it is. We don’t like to change the way things are. There is certainly nothing wrong with routines. There is nothing wrong with having a schedule...and following it. The problem comes when we forget why we are doing the things we are doing. Our new pastor, Steven Lee, shared a scripture with the staff that has spoken to my heart. **Colossians 3:17**, *“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

How many times do we tell ourselves that what we are doing, we are doing it for the Lord? I do not think about it that much, but this is what the scripture tells us. Whatever we do, do everything in the name of Jesus. For me, that gives a different point of view for the way I live my life.

The picture shown here is a place called Caesarea Philippi. We read in Matthew 16 that Jesus came to this place and asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” Peter boldly declared that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus was anything but normal. He certainly turned upside

down the disciples’ and the world’s sense of “normal.”

Abigail is pictured looking at the “living water” coming down the mountain which eventually ends in the Jordan River. (Side note: There is SO much that I could share about this spot. It was so very interesting.)

My prayer is that we allow the “Living Water” to fall afresh on us so that we can truly serve God out of Joy and not obligation. As we enter into our “New Normal” as a church family, let us pray that prayer from Psalm 51:10, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”



Some Words about What's NEXT

Doug Hensley,
Next Generation Ministry

In the past few weeks, amidst shuffles and turnovers, many questions about leadership for our children’s ministry have come about. I want to take a time-out from my usual reporting about the youth’s activities and write a brief statement to everyone at church about some changes to expect.

At the end of June, we felt a shock when Donna King stepped down as director of the Next Generation Ministry program for our younger kids. She stepped down just days after her husband died, following his long illness. I believe she felt she could not give her full measure of duty to the church position while dealing with the responsibilities in her personal life. I trust you will keep Donna in your

prayers during her difficult time.

Now, in this period of transition, Scott Looney and I stepped into the co-leadership of the children’s ministry program, resuming the original roles we shared in the beginning of the Next Generation Ministry. What we need collectively as leaders and church members is to keep calm and trust God.

Remember, Joseph, after being kidnapped and sold into Egypt, woke up in prison but went to sleep the very same night in a palace. Why? Because he trusted God while living in his dungeon. You, too, must trust God no matter where you find yourself each day. He will care for you.

As an assurance, I give you some words about what’s next for the children’s ministry.

- If you have questions, please address Scott or me directly or send either of us an email. Share your concerns and offer recommenda-

tions. Doug at nextgeneration@crossvillefumc.com; Scott at scott@crossvillefumc.com.

- Donna King put together a wonderful kids’ ministry team. We will work with them and move forward together. Many objectives already underway will continue on track.
- Regardless of what decisions emerge about leadership roles, the goals and intents of the Next Generation Ministry for children and families will always be the same: helping our children to learn about the love of Christ.

We read Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child/children in the way they should go, and when they are old, they shall not depart from it.” The teachers and workers in the children’s ministry are doing this kind of teaching continually.

Our shared duty is to keep calm and trust God.



Socks and More Socks !

This Photo by Un-

The response was huge! During the month of June, friends and associates of Bill Oglesby honored his memory by contributing an essential, but unusual commodity directed to the church's Clothing Closet Ministry. Wildly colorful socks in solids and patterns and in sizes for children, youth, and adults in the community were the designated means.

Bill, in his last leadership role, was chair of the Church Council, just one of many such positions he served in Crossville FUMC. He had his own assortment of bright, attention-grabbing socks which he

wore as a cheerful message about his joy in life. The connection between Bill and his socks was explained by his wife, Sally.

"Bill," she said, "happened to acquire a pair about five years ago. He was amused, and he enjoyed them. Soon family members and friends made wacky socks the expected gifts for his celebrations."

When the sock drive ended, Sally reported an estimate of more than 1000 pairs. Rhonda Phillips, church secretary, monitored count and the hand-over to the Clothing Closet.

A note from the Oglesby family had these words: "The collection was truly amazing and totally exceeded all expectations. We are truly grateful and humbled by the generosity, and we look forward to the impact it will make. We know that

Gloria Dauterman and her volunteers in the Clothing Closet will be sure that they are distributed in the best manner to those in need and spread some joy to those who will be receiving them.



Thank you all so much for your love and support." Sally, Jennifer, Alisa, and Curt.

Five of Your Wishes Can Come True

Debra B. Graham, MBA, BSN, RN-BC, CPHIMS

Families discuss plans for careers and retirement, but not for death. Who will make decisions for you when you no longer can? Five Wishes® (2011) is a planning guide for families to talk to each other about how they would like to be treated when they become very sick. The guide is a legal document that shares dying wishes with families about body and soul.

Who Can Use Five Wishes®?

Older adults are afraid of dying alone and in pain, but rarely share their fears with family (Fry, 1990). In one study 97% of people said it is important to put their wishes in writing, but only 37% had done so. (DiJulio, Hamel, Wu, & Brodie, 2017). Tennessee is one of 42 states where Five Wishes meets the legal requirements for an advance directive (Five Wishes, 2011). Anyone 18 years or older can fill out and sign a Five Wishes, 2011 document. With this signed, advance directive, family members do not have to make hard choices without knowing their loved one's wishes.

What are the Five Wishes?

The one document covers medical, legal, and spiritual topics. Therein, the five wishes address (1) who will make decisions, (2) medical treatment, (3) comfort measures, (4) personal care, and (5) spiritual care (Five Wishes, 2011). These disclosures allow family and healthcare providers to know exactly each person's requests. More information is available at (<https://fivewishes.org/>) or to request printed copies.

References

- DiJulio, B., Hamel, L., Wu, B., & Brodie, M. (2017, November 2). In serious illness in late life: the public's views and experiences. In *KFF Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation*. <https://www.kff.org/other/report/serious-illness-in-late-life-the-publics-views-and-experiences/>
- Five Wishes®. (2011). In *Aging with dignity*. Retrieved from <https://fivewishes.org>
- Fry, P. S. (1990, November). A factor analytic investigation of home-bound elderly individuals' concerns about death and dying, and their coping responses. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 46(6), 737-748.
- Sorrell, J. M. (2018). End-of-Life Conversations as a Legacy. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing*, 56(1), 32-35. doi:10.3928/02793695-20171219-03

Worship Arts Camp

Kimberly White, Director of Music

We conducted a Worship Fine Arts Camp for the first time, June 25-28, for children entering 2nd-to-6th grades. The theme for the week was *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"* (Philippians 4:13).

Each morning began with a Bible story, song, and prayer. The campers then began their rotations through classes that interpreted selected arts as means for worship. Four art forms represented were (1) Dance, taught by Camille Conner; (2) Visual Art, led by Jan Harding; (3) Drama, taught by Kimberly Rye; and (4) Music, led by Dana Beal and Lindsey Akin.

Show-and-Tell about additional interpretations of art in worship were given. The campers enjoyed being entertained by members of the cast for "Matilda" from the Cumberland County Playhouse. Our Organist, Georgina Upshaw, demonstrated many sounds made capable by the organ and how the organ works.

On the last day, the campers displayed and performed to family and friends what they learned throughout the week. An added input came from volunteers who brought talent and influence to bear each day. Applause is due to Dale Waters, Crystal Lee, Patty Hooie, Jane Burnett, Sidney Warner, Chole Smith, Phoebe Smith, Aidan Gibson, and Jacob White who made the week a success.

Plans are underway to offer the Worship Fine Arts Camp next summer, June 22 -25, 2020, with the theme being a trip around the world, exploring music, art, dance, and drama from other cultures.



Hispanic Ministry UMC

Rev. Janet Martinez, Pastora,
Tennessee Conference UMC

In the United Methodist Church, everyone, regardless of age, is a candidate for the Sacrament of Baptism. Parents and godparents receive classes about the meaning of baptism and about assuming the responsibility of being a spiritual leader for their children and youth.

The Sacrament of Baptism is administered only once. Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us a task with his great commission in which He told us: *"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."* Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV).

Jesus gave us his Holy Church to accomplish that task of administering his word and sacraments (MVC 1996, p. 18). Through our baptism, we are members of the Christ's Holy Church.

In the Hispanic congregation at Crossville FUMC, and with cultural expressions in their celebrations, ceremonies of baptism were held on April 28, 2019 and again on May 25, 2019. Family members and friends presented their children for the Sacrament of Baptism.

On April 28, Dayanara Virginia



Lemus, 10 years, was baptized. On May 25, five children of the Martinez-Matias family were baptized: Adriana Soledad Matias, 1 year, 3 months; Francisco Sebastian Matias, 8 years; David Juan Matias, 9 years; Angelina Martinez, 12 years; and Gaspar Martinez, 14 years.

Reverend Eliud Martinez and Rever-

end Janet Martinez conducted the sacred ritual for the members of their congregation. Pictures captured joyful expressions of love showing on the faces of the participants.



Our Plea for Your HELP

Jill Kemmer, Creative Worship and Communications Ministries
Anne Looney Cook,
Editor of Newsletter

We need your HELP in gathering PICTURES and ARTICLES for postings on our social media sites and for publishing in the newsletter.

As we work to enhance our Internet/Social Media presence, we need your input on a regular basis. We need your pictures and texts for our social media pages like Facebook, Instagram, and similar electronic venues. These items will be in addition to your submissions to the monthly newsletter.

So, in other words, when you take part in a church event of any kind and see a great newsworthy moment, please

take a picture, write a paragraph or two, and send to one or both of us: Jill Kemmer at jill@crossvillefumc.com and Anne Looney Cook at sewrite39@yahoo.com.

Many great happenings occur among our members. We can't be there to cover all such events, but we want to celebrate them as often as we can. We look forward to hearing from you and to sharing your coverage of actions and times that illustrate our United Methodist fellowship.



SMILE and
THANK YOU

Email for Clergy and Staff

Steven Lee, Senior Pastor
steven@crossvillefumc.com

Louis Davis, Associate Pastor
louis@crossvillefumc.com

Eluid & Janet Martinez, Pastor y Pastora
Hispanic Ministries
Eliud.Martinez@tnumc.com
janet.martinez@tnumc.com

Kimberly White, Director, Connectional Ministries and Music
kimberly@crossvillefumc.com

Doug Hensley, Next Generation Ministries
nextgeneration@crossvillefumc.com

Scott Looney, Next Generation Ministries
scott@crossvillefumc.com

S. Shadden, Director ASCP, Child Care
childcare@crossvillefumc.com

Jill Kemmer, Creative Worship and Communications Ministry
jill@crossvillefumc.com

Carol Bond, Executive Assistant
carol@crossvillefumc.com

Rhonda Phillips, Secretary
rhonda@crossvillefumc.com

Gregg Rector, Facilities Coordinator and AV Technician
gregg@crossvillefumc.com