

From the Interim Pastor's Desk...

I come from a family that loves to read. Anything and everything. Books, newspapers, magazines. We read. When my sister and I went to the beach recently, every morning my sister would go get the newspaper so we could read it on the balcony as we had our coffee. I took two devotional magazines that I read every morning. We took books and magazines. We might forget to take the sun screen but we certainly didn't forget our reading material.

My father loved to read science fiction; my mother was an avid mystery reader; my sisters and I got hooked on Barbara Cartland romance novels on a trip to Europe when those were the only English-language books that we could find. My reading has expanded past those Barbara Cartland novels but I will confess that when I need total brain candy, something that doesn't require any thought, I still sometimes pick up a romance novel.

But I read lots besides brain candy. Obviously, I read more serious things. I am reading a book that John Zirkle loaned me by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine entitled "Short Stories by Jesus." Dr. Levine is a professor at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and she writes eloquently about the parables of Jesus. She is an author who causes me to re-think how I read and preach the parables of Jesus. As I continue to read this book, I am reminded of a quote I used from Calvin Metcalf in our Liturgy of Recognition for Graduates: "As we are being educated, we grow and change and rethink those things, which give value to life." The parables of Jesus had meaning for his original listeners and they continue to give meaning to our lives. Dr. Levine's work has given new value and worth and meaning to me and I am enjoying being challenged by her book.

I have also been reading some history. I have read "The Plantagenets" and "The War of the Roses" by Dan Jones about England from the twelfth to the fifteenth century. Fortunately, Dan Jones puts a chronology and map in the front of his books so, as you read, you can try to keep track of all the kings and queens. In a more modern history vein, I read "And Then All Hell Broke Loose: Two Decades in the Middle East" by Richard Engel, a correspondent for NBC news. I had read a review of this book in the Knoxville News-Sentinel and decided I wanted to read it. Getting different viewpoints on such a volatile area of the world reminds me that learning is a lifelong process.

Recently, I have also read books by Chris Grabenstein, an author that writes for middle-grade readers. I had read a review in the Knoxville-News-Sentinel of his book "Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics" which made me want to read his books. I adore this au-

thor. His books are great fun plus the ones I've read are about reading and libraries. I'm a great believer in reading things written for children, middle-grade readers, teens, and young adult readers. What are your children and their friends reading?

What are you reading to them? My parents used to read out loud to us and I think it is a great way for kids to learn to love books and reading. I have very vivid memories of my mother reciting "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," by Robert Frost. Her father knew Robert Frost so she grew up hearing Frost's poetry recited by her father. Every Christmas, my father read Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" to us during the month of December. The last Christmas my father was alive, he was in the hospital and I went and read "A Christmas Carol" to him. I have such special memories of books and stories and poems and plays because they were shared with family or friends.

As we begin the summer, I encourage you to expand your reading horizons. Try a new author, or a new genre of books. Try reading out loud. Find a good study Bible and read the information before each of the books and spend some time reading books that you haven't read – or haven't read for awhile. Or read a different translation of the Bible than you normally do. In my minister's study group, we read two or three different translations of passages to see what different words may be used. Read. Go to the library. Go to a bookstore. Exchange books with friends. Share recommendations with me. Read. Expand your knowledge. "In his creative wisdom, God has given us forward motion and the capacity to learn." Keep learning. Read!

Blessings,
 Diana

Quotations are from Calvin S. Metcalf, "Now I Read Me Down to Sleep" (Cleveland, TN: Mossy Creek Press, 2015).



Jefferson City, TN 37760
 721 Church St.
 First Presbyterian Church

HISTORIC MOSSY CREEK FOUNDATION

A Festival Park is coming soon to downtown Jefferson City! While giving a much-needed boost to the city's historic district, the park will be a place for community gatherings and family fun. Conveniently located on Main Street, the Veterans Memorial at Festival Park will feature a flag plaza of stately red bricks inscribed with sentiments of your choice in tribute to men and women — your family and friends — who served our country during times of both war and peace. The stories of East Tennessee families are rich with examples of military service to country, and now is the time to recall and commemorate those individuals by purchasing bricks in their honor or memory. Even if your family story didn't originate in Jefferson County, you're here now, so please include your story with those of your neighbors. Order your tribute bricks today!

4" x 8" brick: \$ 50 8" x 8" brick: \$100

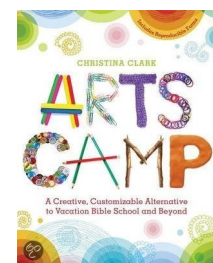
More information and online ordering available at www.mossycreekfoundation.com/veteransmemorial or by contacting Linda Gass at lindatgass@gmail.com or 865.356.6014.

Many thanks,
 Susan Nowell, Vice President and Design Chair
 Mossy Creek Foundation

SAVE THE DATE



Monday, July 4-Friday, July 8— APPALACHIAN OUTREACH WEEK is fast approaching. Our week is Monday, July 4 - Friday, July 8. We need several VOLUNTEERS to help us cook, serve and clean-up. For Breakfast (Monday-Friday) times are 6:00 a.m. preparation and 7:00 a.m. serve and Dinner (Monday-Thursday) with a 4:30 p.m. preparation time and a 5:30 p.m. serve. Sign-up sheets for those who wish to help will be posted in the back hall soon! We will have at least 85 AO workers to feed. Thanks in advance for your help to make this Mission Project a success. If you have any questions, contact JoAnne Vest at 865-680-4416 or JAV124rb@gmail.com.



Sunday, July 17-Wednesday, July 20— Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is Arts Camp! Look for more information in the July Newsletter or see Kay Williams.

Announcements



CHURCH PICNIC AT THE PATTON'S
Mark your calendar for June 5th, at 4:00 p.m. for our annual church picnic to be held at Pat and Mary Ellen Patton's home on the lake. The church will be providing fried chicken and we are asking everyone to bring a side or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided. We will eat at approximately 6:00 p.m. Don't forget to bring your chairs! We hope to see all of you at 7472 Circle Point Dr. in Talbott! (see directions below). There will be swimming, boating, and just plain visiting, so come and enjoy!!! If you have any questions, please contact Pat or Mary Ellen (423-585-0822).

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DIRECTIONS TO PATTON'S HOUSE

Follow 11E towards Morristown, for approximately 4 miles. At the first stop light (Citgo Station on left) turn left onto Lakeshore Dr. Follow Lakeshore Dr. for 0.7 of a mile and turn left onto Pratt Rd. Follow Pratt Rd. for 1.4 miles and turn left onto Allen Rd. On Allen Rd., you will come to a street sign that says Lebanon Church Rd. Bear to the right and Allen Road becomes Windy Cove Rd. Follow Windy Cove for 0.5 miles until you see a sign that says, "Point Seven". Turn left here onto Circle Point Dr. Drive to the top of the hill and turn left. (That starts our circle) Our house is on the left with two stone pillars flanking the driveway.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING GROUP

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Club will meet on Saturday, June 18th, at 8:00 a.m. to hike the Chimney Tops Trail. This well known trail has recently undergone a major rehabilitation by the Park Service; it's a popular trail, despite its steepness. Views from the top are excellent, if you're willing to climb the first "chimney."



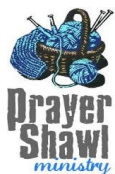
GIFTS OF MEN SUNDAY

On Sunday, June 19th, we will be having our Gifts of Men Sunday. Our own Phil Williams will be preaching.



SIT 'N KNIT GROUP

On Friday, June 24th, at 7:00 p.m. we will be having the Sit 'n Knit gathering at the home of Eva Zirkle (1454 Royal Dr.). Please note that we are meeting a week later than normal.



Paper Shredding Event



CHURCH WIDE SHRED EVENT

On Monday, June 27th, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. we will be having a free shred event. Everyone is invited to bring their sensitive/confidential documents to be shredded securely. For more information, call the church office.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you very much for your prayers, cards, and calls during my hospital stay at Vanderbilt and my recovery. 12 hour brain surgery is not as much fun as going to Disney World, but we were sure blessed with the care that was given! My doctors are pleased with my progress. I am walking and resting. I am deaf in my right ear and have balance issues, but I am doing great! Blessings to all!

—Kay Gowan



Church Street Cafe welcomes any donations of fresh vegetables and fruit for the "give away" food table which is provided for our guests each meal. If you have extra food and wish to donate, please wash and bag. Leave donations in the church kitchen on the second or fourth Monday (all day) or Tuesday morning.

Also paper grocery bags are needed for the food distribution. These can be requested at Food City and Ingles as you check out. Remember that you are welcome to attend a meal anytime! Come see what is happening at Church Street Cafe and meet your neighbors. Food is served 5:00-6:30...drop in!

Our Church Street Café has welcomed neighborhood folks the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month since February, 2015. The ten meals prepared in 2016 have served an average of 40 guests each meal plus team members and other church workers. The opportunity to share in these neighborhood meals of food and fellowship is a true blessing. With truck delivery help from Sunset Gap Mission, we have received goods monthly from the Midwest Food Bank, Atlanta, GA, which allows us to share even more with neighbors in need. Please consider spending a Tuesday afternoon or evening seeing the Café in action. You may want to offer your help to set-up, prepare food, clean up or simply visit with our guests while sharing a meal. With summer approaching, the teams can use help from all ages, to make this special time with our neighbors even more meaningful.



The 22nd Annual Yard Sale for Missions, October 1, 2016, needs you! Your prayers, your donations of goods, your creativity and your time are the ingredients that make the yard sale a giving, loving, welcoming event for FPC and those who come to shop, to eat and enjoy. The yard sale recipients for 2016 are Ruth Brown, mission co-worker in the Congo and Sunset Gap, Cosby, TN.

Yard sale collection dates for donated items will begin in August. However, storage space is available before August, if needed. Please call Linda Noonkesser, 865-216-0715, or Del Deaton, 865-250-5557, if you have questions. Also, please consider filling a basket for the Silent Auction with items that will appeal to folks who enjoy the option to "make a bid" or "buy it now" on a special purchase.

To sign up for making a Silent Auction Basket, please go to www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548aea2da6f94-yard for more information. Your help in ways...large or small...make the Missions Yard Sale an amazing outreach of giving and serving. Thank you!



Please consider volunteering with us! The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a great place to find clothing, building materials, and home furnishings at exceptional bargain prices. Shopping here helps raise funds to build more houses in Jefferson County. Our volunteers are absolutely essential for us to continue our daily operations and offer our community the wonderful assortment of treasures found in our ReStore! Ask about Volunteer opportunities today!! Stop in or call us at 865-471-7749.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Role

Mr., Mrs., Miss Fix-It

Description

Fixes furniture or other donated items that need some TLC.

Cashier

Works cash register proficiently, knows sales promotions for the day, directs customers to the concierge desk and answers general questions and guides customers through store.

Greeter

Greets customers as they enter the store and wish them a happy day on their way out.

Department Head

Makes sure merchandise is cleaned, priced, and brought out on the sales floor in a timely manner. Ensures that merchandise is displayed nicely and answers customer questions.

Organizer

Organizes the merchandise for select departments.

Hospitality

Makes baked goods for volunteer groups.

Drivers are needed for donation pick-ups on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for the Restore. Hours of operation are 9:00am to 3:00pm. Any available hours will be an extremely valuable contribution to our mission.

FINANCE REPORT

MONTHLY INCOME		YEAR-TO-DATE (YTD) INCOME/EXPENSES		
			YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
MAY 1	\$5,745.00			
MAY 8	\$2,213.38	INCOME	\$88,805.04	\$90,243.80
MAY 15	\$2,815.00	EXPENSES	\$75,119.79	\$92,285.17
MAY 22	\$4,104.41			
MAY 29	\$1,232.00			
TOTAL			YTD INCOME OVER EXPENSES: \$13,685.26	
TOTAL				



JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Esther O'Hare Jimmy Hodges	2 Youth Mission Trip	3	4 Presbytery Meeting @ King University
5 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Church Picnic at the Patton's William Gowan	6	7 Building & Grounds Meeting 6:30 p.m.	8 Session 6:30 p.m. George Twine	9 Mt. LeConte Hike Angie Out	10 Matt & Jennifer Gowan JoAnne Vest	11
12 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Sunday School Appreciation	13	14 Church Street Café 5:00 p.m.	15 Fellowship Hall Reserved Gail Twine Angie Out	16 DJ Needs Zee Troutman Carly Kirkpatrick	17	18 Hike 8:00 a.m.
19 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. FATHER'S DAY GIFT OF MEN Angie Out John Zirkle Jim & Anne Smith	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Anne Smith	21 Del Deaton John & Eva Zirkle Rodney & Delynn McCash	22 Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m. David Needs Denny & Alice Pryor	23 Greg Woodruff	24 Sit 'n Knit 7:00 p.m. Allen Evans Allen & Susan Evans	25 Wedding Shower Travis Folsom/ Blythe Tyrone 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sara Piper Jim & Mary Hodges
26 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Jennifer Bates	27 Shred-It Day 1:00-3:00 p.m.	28 Church Street Café 5:00 p.m.	29	30		

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Jim Forney
 Terry Jaros
 Bob and Irene Shurden
 Mary Winslow
 Charles Chandler
 John Cagle, Principal at JCHS, whose father passed away
 Les and Pam Price, who lost their house to a fire on May 11
 Inez Maddox, Arlene Peck's cousin
 Brent Sykes, Kent and Susan Clouser's son
 Skylar McMillan, Diana's great-niece
 All members of the military and their families, especially those stationed overseas.

Kay Gowan
 J.V. Cline
 Sara Piper
 Jim and Del Deaton
 Steve Wintermute
 Ameriah, Charles, JahCaris, and Shevonne Chandler
 Jennifer Robinson, Debby Rinehart's friend's niece
 Marilu Gomez, Aunt of Karenna Malavanti
 Rhonda Masoner, a friend of Diana Moore
 The Pastor Nominating Committee

MISSION INTERESTS FAR AND NEAR:

Hope Unlimited
 Safe Space
 Jefferson Rural Clinic
 Crossworld, Bruce and Deb Robinson's Organization in Haiti

Recovery House
 Samaritan House
 Ruth Brown, PCUSA missionary in Congo

CHURCH STREET CAFÉ:

Barbara Dean
 Darlene White, who is scheduled for surgery
 Sue Murray, recently released from the hospital
 Dana Claunch, who broke an ankle and will need surgery
 David Brock, friend of Debbie Pyper, who is hospitalized
 Rachel Harmon, nursing student at Carson-Newman working in Thailand for the summer

Joelene Vannatter
 Dale and Barbara Hickey, health issues
 Tammy Staffon, for her son and daughter
 Audrey Line, Steve Line's mother
 Chris Partes, friend of Adrian Blanc, who is on dialysis

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Bobbie Tipton, Rachael Williams' Mamaw's sister, who is recovering from back surgery
 Harry Ogden, Jim Ogden's brother, who is recovering from a broken hip
 Kyler Quelch, Gail Twine's daughter's nephew, who has been confined to a wheelchair since birth, has undergone surgery to be able to walk
 Carolyn Armstrong, Arlene Peck's sister, who has fallen and has fractured her vertebrae
 Kristen Zelinski, The Rinehart's daughter-in-law, who will undergo another surgery on June 2nd
 Janice Veal's husband, friend of Sue Swilley, who has been diagnosed with cancer and is in hospice
 Randy Cook, married to John Zirkle's cousin, has been diagnosed with chronic traumatic encephalopathy
 Jannette Hypes, Connor's mom, who is recovering from surgery
 Doug Sexton, friend of the Rineharts
 Carson Babb, who is recovering from surgery
 Jeri Henley, friend of Gail Twine, who is facing heart surgery
 Kathy Ackerman, Dick Gombert's daughter
 Stephanie Hortman, friend of Eva Zirkle, a young mother, who has been diagnosed with a recurrent chestwall tumor
 Linda Raines, friend of the Folsoms and Clousers, who is continuing chemotherapy treatments
 Charlie May Bozeman, Mary Hodges' mother
 Brent McLean, Heather Hill's brother, who is recovering at home

IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, C.R. Vest
 HERITAGE CENTER: Bonnie Young
 JEFFERSON COUNTY NURSING HOME: Celeste Reneau, Lucille Tinsley