

First Things

Issue No. 44

A weekly publication of First United Methodist Church, Oak Ridge, Tennessee

November 8, 2020

Food for Kids

Help put together bags for Food for Kids on Monday, November 9, starting at 12:00 noon in the Multipurpose room. Come at any time after 12:00. Delivery of bags to schools will be Tuesday, November 10, at 8:30 a.m. Masks are mandatory! Contact: Cara Weigel (481.8108).

Snowman Quarantined

Our United Methodist Women unit decided that Mr. Snowman will not collect hats, gloves, socks, etc., this year because of the church closure. Please make or purchase items to donate to FUMC's Thanksgiving and Christmas Shoppes (or consider a monetary donation). We hope Mr. Snowman will be back next year.

Pies Needed for Community Meal



We need store-bought pies for Thanksgiving. We will be providing a full Thanksgiving meal drive-thru on Wednesday, November 25. Many people have asked how to help. We'd love to provide each family/car with a pie. However, because of COVID-19, we cannot distribute homemade desserts. Instead, we ask that you bring unopened, store-bought pies (not frozen because space is tight) to the church, starting Monday, November 23. Contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you for helping all to find something to feel thankful for.

Tech Operators Needed

When live-in-person worship resumes, we will be live streaming all three Sunday services. Each service will require at least one additional tech volunteer who is operating a live stream video switcher. We also intend to stream other events such as funerals, weddings, and meetings in both of our worship spaces.

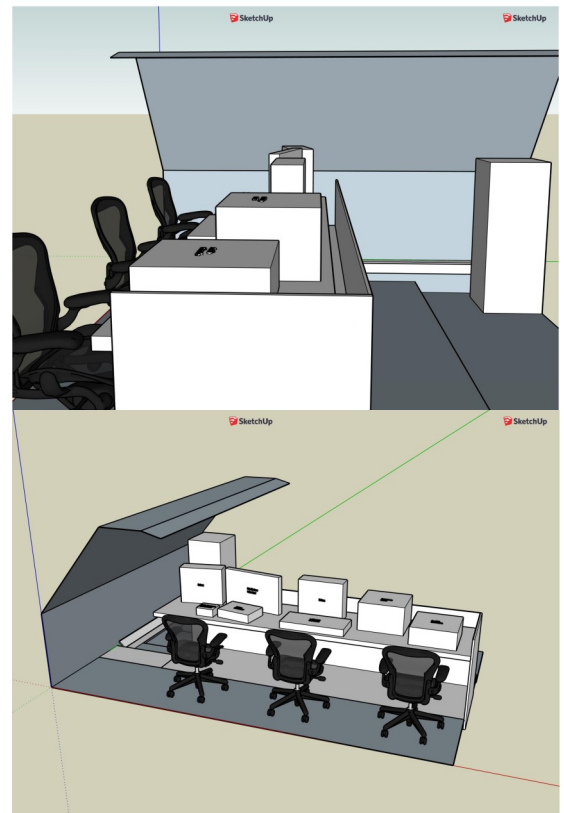
The Traditional service has typically had one volunteer who operates audio and lights. This person will be paired with the live stream operator and will need to also place text layovers (liturgy, lyrics, etc.) onto the live stream. These tasks could easily be split three ways if enough volunteers come forward.

The Contemporary service has had three tech volunteers who operate slides, lights, and audio. More volunteers to operate these would be greatly appreciated. One additional volunteer will be needed to operate the live stream switcher. Interested? Ready for training? Contact Jeff (jkile@fumcor.org).

Sanctuary Balcony Changes

When you return to our Sanctuary balcony, you will see some big changes. To accommodate the live streaming equipment, we have designed a three-person workstation. This workstation is located in the left rear of the balcony and required the removal of two pews. It can accommodate three tech operators who will run live stream, audio and text overlays (liturgy and lyrics for the live stream), and lights. This means that these operators will be behind any congregants who are gathered there. The stations that were located on the front left are gone. We are also exploring the possibility of re-carpeting the entire balcony.

Thank you to our Trustees who have monitored and approved all of this, to Mike Corcoran and Bob Lupu who did the construction, and to Linda Bowen who helped with design.



Youth Campfire Movie Night

On Friday, November 20, from 6:00-9:00 p.m., the youth will gather at the Gallaher home in Oak Ridge (131 Barrington Drive) for an outdoor campfire movie night. Youth grades 6-12 are invited. We will decide on a movie that evening. Bring a sweater and your mask and prepare for a cozy time! Contact Kayla Carico (kcarico@fumcor.org) with any questions and remember to text @1stjourney to 81010 to sign up for text updates.

In Loving Memory

Mable Buskirk

who joined FUMC July 1, 2008, and died on November 1. We extend love and sympathy to her daughters Cindy Steele, Bev Cochran, and family.

Hospitalized

Discharged: Mary Kate O'Kain,
Bruce Spangler

Our Gifts

Offering this Week	\$19,670
2020 Year to Date	\$1,135,937
2019 Year to Date	\$1,119,144
Special Offering Oct.	\$4,520
Special Offering Nov.	\$195

Pastors

Mark Flynn, lead pastor
Chris Black, associate pastor
Jenny Caughman, spiritual care

Contact Information

865.483.4357
www.fumcor.org
Pastor on call: 865.272.9862

Ways to Help Thanksgiving & Christmas Shoppes

The Shoppes are just weeks away, and we're busily sorting all you've provided so far. Thank you! We are still filling needs for essentials. Contact Nancy Kile (fnpkile@comcast.net) or Vicki Hinkel (vhinkel@comcast.net) to donate specific items for children/youth. Or, now you can stop by the church office to pick up a hard-copy gift-request card; see Danielle Gallaher. And, as always, you can write a check to FUMC (memo: T-giving/X-mas Shoppes). Remember to visit the website (fumcor.org) for details.

Focus this week:

- **Blankets.** We need lots of new, warm blankets/throws for elementary-age children.

Four drop-off locations: **FUMC Welcome Center** (Monday–Wednesday, 8:00 a.m.–noon) use the intercom and leave donations on the table inside; contact-free drop-off in the vestibule of **Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce** (Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.); the front porch of Pat & Jan Ryan's home (**110 Miramar Circle**); the front porch of Jim & Sheila Michel's home (**106 Danbury Drive**). Porch drop-offs are contact free. Please leave donations in the box provided on the porch—no need to call or ring the doorbell.



1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Return Service Requested



Special November Offering: ADFAC

Helping Our Neighbors in Need

The needs of our extended community have changed dramatically during the last six months, and Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties has been there to answer more requests than ever while pivoting and embracing flexibility to continue to serve during the pandemic. ADFAC assists thousands of individuals and families each year in Anderson, Campbell, Morgan, and Roane counties. It is handling client interviews and counseling by phone to limit exposure to COVID-19 and to protect its staff, clients, and our community. Besides reduced incomes, some of ADFAC's clients are battling mental health issues and depression, which must be addressed to be able to work and maintain self-sufficiency. "ADFAC's commitment to providing programming that helps our neighbors is what drives us," said Annie Cachiero, ADFAC's executive director. Please give generously. Each dollar donated is used to lift our neighbors in need.

Shopping Amazon Smile Benefits FUMCOR

Do you know that when you shop online at Amazon Smile, your purchase dollars can provide a .5% reward to the charity of your choice? To let your online shopping benefit FUMCOR, visit smile.amazon.com, and designate "First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge" as your charity of choice. Consider doing this as you prepare for the upcoming holiday giving season. If you want to purchase items for our upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas Shoppes, you can have those gifts sent directly to First UMC, Attn: Christmas Shoppe (and include the ID number for your child), 1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike. Just another easy way to support our congregation's ministries!

Carry the Stone 2020

Keystone Fundraiser

In March, Keystone Adult Day Program closed its doors because of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Though we cannot safely be together in person yet, our mission of supporting caregivers and those living with dementia continues.** We have maintained our commitment to those we serve by securing grant monies to help retain our highly trained staff; developing and deploying Keystone Activity Totes customized for participants; recording exercise, activities, and devotions for participants to access from home; staying in contact by phone; and staying current and training staff on best practices for dementia care. Because of the closure, Keystone has lost revenue and is raising money through donations. To donate, make your check payable to FUMC (memo: Keystone Fundraiser). Thank you for helping us honor and celebrate the enduring presence of the human spirit for those living with dementia.

College Students Zoom Dinner

On the third Monday of every month, FUMC college students and their friends are invited to hop on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. to hang out and catch up while eating dinner. To pre-register and get the Zoom link emailed to you ahead of time, visit our website and click on "college" under the "ministries" tab. If you have any questions, contact Seth O'Kegley (sokegley@fumcor.org).