

*Hallelujah!  
He is Risen!*

## FROM THE YOUTH LEADER

March 18, 2015

### Dearest Church Family

From graduating college, moving to Cleveland for my first job, to experiencing some of the best moments and grieving through some of the worst, the last two years have been an incredible journey. This church has played a very important role in my life and I am very grateful for that.

In the wake of my sister's death, my heart has increasingly called me to be closer to family, where I can walk through my grief with the only people who can truly understand it. It is with mixed feelings that I have decided to relocate back to Lexington, KY to be near my sister and a support system

that knows me well. I am excited for the opportunities that await me there, but will shed a tear for the people and memories that I am leaving behind here at FUMC. My last day at First Church will be April 2, 2015.

I am so thankful to have been given the opportunity to know and love the youth of this church. They have a heart for God and I know that many of them will go on to do great things. I can't wait to hear about their growth as they continue to know the Lord better. I will continue to remember this congregation, and its youth ministry, in my prayers for years to come. I ask that you would continue to pray for

me as I take this leap of faith into a new time in my life.

Peace & blessings to you all!



Hope Telfero

**Send-Off Picnic**  
**Join us on**  
**Sunday, March**  
**29th at 6:00 PM**  
**as we wish Hope**  
**well in her**  
**future endeavors.**



### Our Staff:

- Pastor.....Rev. Tim Bracken
- Minister to Sr. Adults.....Rev. Pat Hogan
- Administrative Assistant.....Molly Near
- Financial Secretary.....Mae Wilkins
- Director of Children's Ministry.....Jill Ingram
- Director of Youth Ministry.....Hope Telfero
- Chancel Choir Director.....Dr. Jim Burns
- Pianist.....Tausha Plate
- Organist.....Terry Barger
- Maintenance Director.....Chris Offrey
- Maintenance.....Jeff Smith
- Director of CDC.....Cathy Smith
- Director of PDO.....Rachel David
- Assist. Director of CDC/PDO.....Karon Steve

## Easter Celebration

- Sun, March 29 Palm Sunday  
*All children are part of the Palm Parade*
- Wed, April 1 Children's Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Walk-Thru
- Thurs, April 2 Dinner  
Maundy Thursday Service  
Youth Glow-N-The-Dark Egg Hunt
- Sat, April 4 SonRise Pageant-S. Advent Univ.
- Sun, April 5 Sunrise Easter Service  
Fellowship Fundraiser Breakfast  
Easter Service

## Wednesday Night Dinner

**FREE Hot Dogs**  
**on Wednesday, April 1**  
**before the Egg Hunt**  
The Fellowship Dinner will be on Thursday, April 2nd at 5:30 PM (before Maundy Service) Adults \$5.00/Kids \$2.00 (12 & Under) Please make your reservations during Sunday Service or through the church office by Monday.

The church newsletter is printed every two weeks. Any information wished to be entered is to be submitted no later than noon the Tuesday before it is printed and mailed/emailed. Newsletter request forms are located in the church office. Information turned in after this time will not be included until the next newsletter is printed. Turn in information for the next newsletter by noon April 7, 2015

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

We will be **ROCK CLIMBING on Tuesday, March 24** at Urban Rocks Gym in Chattanooga! Meet at the church at 2:45 PM, climb for 2 hours, and then have dinner together at Community Pie. All youth, grades 6-12, are invited! The cost is \$20, which covers climbing and dinner! We will return to the church by 9:00 PM. Please go to <http://urbanrocksgym.com> and follow the links to fill out the E-Waiver *before we go*.

On **Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 AM** the youth will be leaving to serve lunch at the Family Kitchen. Don't forget to bring money for lunch at Chic-Fil-A! We will be back to the church by 3:00 PM.

### **Glow-In-The-Dark Egg-stravaganza**

Following the service on **Thursday, April 2** Wear your best glow-in-the-dark or blacklight reactive clothes to this fun night of neon, eggs, and prizes! Expect to win cool stuff, play fun games, create your own glow-in-the-dark t-shirt, and have a blast with your friends *until 10:00 PM!* This is free, just bring a WHITE t-shirt in your size. Adults or parents interested in helping, email [hope@clevelandumc.com](mailto:hope@clevelandumc.com)

### **Summer Mission Trip**

Summer is right around the corner and sign-up is now available for the youth mission trip June 14-19. This year we will team with Passport Mission BASE in Atlanta, Ga. The sign up sheet is outside of Hope's office and you may sign up through May 1. We are also in need of chaperones for this trip. If you are interested, please let Kellie Bracken know.

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you are interested in church membership, we would love to see you in one of the two classes that will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the library. Classes will be on Sundays, March 29 and April 12.

## BAKE SALE

The Elan Circle will have a Bake Sale on Sunday, March 29th following the worship service. All proceeds benefit their mission initiatives.

## STORAGE UNIT AVAILABLE

There is a storage unit available for Rummage Sale donations! Items are to be taken to **UNIT N-29** at Ledford's Mini-Warehouses on N. Lee Hwy between 8:30-4:30 PM M-F. PLEASE box items!

## MISSION TRIPS

Sacred Road Indian Reservation—June 13-20—8 member team  
Youth Atlanta Mission Trip—June 14-19—30 member team  
Czech Republic Mission Trip—July 1-12 & 10-18—2 teams of 5  
UMCOR/Sager Brown—August 22-29—10 member team

Please be in prayer for these teams.

We are also seeking financial donations for these trips. If you would like to give, just designate to your preference.

## EASTER FLOWER CROSS

The Altar Guild will decorate the Easter Cross with fresh flowers on Easter morning. Please bring fresh flowers from your yard, or purchased, to the sanctuary before Sunday School that morning.

## EASTER EGG HUNT

**Wednesday, April 1 5:30-7:30 PM.**

We will have FREE hot dogs from 5:30-6:00 PM and then the Easter fun begins! There will be a live petting zoo and lots of fun activities for the kids! Could you help make this special by greeting guests, assisting in activities, and/or by providing 12 or more candy-filled eggs? Eggs are to be brought to the church between March 8—March 29 and placed in the large bin located in the Commons. If you are willing to serve the evening of, please contact the church office or Jill Ingram.

## SONRISE EASTER PAGEANT

**Saturday, April 4th** We still have tickets available for the Sonrise Pageant at Southern Adventist University! They're FREE! We will meet at the church at **9:30 AM**. You may either ride the church bus or drive yourself. The pageant begins at 10:30 AM and we should be back after lunch. There will be a lot of walking, so wear comfy shoes or come prepared! Please let Jill Ingram know if you, your family, or friends are interested and we will reserve tickets for you.

## VBS SIGN UP & NEWS

**VBS - May 31—June 4, 2015**

*G-Force: God's Love in Action*

This year kids will explore how to put their faith into action and how to fuel up and move through life with God. Beginning Sunday, April 19th you may register your child in the Commons OR online at [cokeburyvbs.com/fumcleveland](http://cokeburyvbs.com/fumcleveland) Please contact Juliann Hale at 503-4356 or Cindy Lepore at (334) 549-9191 if you are willing to volunteer this year in any way.

## OPPORTUNITIES

**First Church needs YOU to PRAY!!!**

Prayer Chain: Be contacted by phone, text, or email with emergency prayer needs.

Pre-Worship Prayer & During Worship Prayer: Come to the sanctuary 7:30-9:30 AM to pray before worship OR contact Jenann Lay about rotating Sundays with others to pray while worship is going on.

Be a Shepherd...or a Sheep!: Sign up in the Narthex to participate in either or both parts of this ministry.

Pray Over the Prayer List in the Worship Guide:

We need someone to lead/organize this. If you are interested, please talk to Kellie Bracken.

*“I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and do all in my power to strengthen its ministry by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness.”*

**HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

**OUR PRAYERS**

- Our country, our leaders, and our troops
- Charles Ownby
- Jean Benecke
- Joanna Duncan
- Don Wood
- Cameron Touchstone
- Chris Offrey
- Jerry Dye and Family
- Jim Barger
- Emily Varnell
- Alan David
- Mary Glen Davis
- Jordann Dempsey
- Lois Ellis
- Gary Farner
- Kim Faulkner
- Karen Fisher
- Gil Frederick
- Toye Gibson
- Mike Goodman
- Renee Henderson
- Gail Howard
- Clint Hutto
- Megan Jones
- Bill Kibler
- Nancy Lane
- Elaine Larson
- Helen Leach
- Ruth Lee
- Neil Liner
- Charlie McDonald
- Betty McLain
- Larry and Barb Miller
- Carolyn Owens
- Gail Ownby
- Tilley Phillips
- Darci Pittman
- Una Poe
- Bradley Sink
- Cathy Smith
- Stuart Switzer
- Janice Tate
- Addison Thompson
- Judy Watts
- Joan Wheeler
- Corky Whitlock



**NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE TO ADD OR REMOVE NAMES FROM THE PRAYER LIST.**

Long Term Prayers

- Don Alley
- Debbie Ambert
- Maxine Baker
- Patricia Bishop
- Bernard Branham
- Rusty Cook
- Kaye Coultrey
- Bill and Carol Creech

**OUR PRESENCE**

	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Worship</u>
3/8/15	55	225
3/15/15	58	231

**OUR GIFTS**



Budget Receipts 3/8/14	5,644.75
Receipts to date:	93,391.00
Expenditures to date:	124,416.60
Receipts/Expenditures + or [-]	[31,025.60]
Budget to date:	159,185.00
Budget Receipts 3/15/14	10,175.40
Receipts to date:	103,566.40
Expenditures to date:	128,418.65
Receipts/Expenditures + or [-]	[24,852.28]
Budget to date:	172,830.00

**OUR SERVICE**

**Prayer Team:** Debbie Melton

**Ushers:** Mark Grissom, Head; Frank Calfee, Don Wood, Joe Hogan, Ron Merz

**Sonshine Kids:** Katie Simpkins and Anne Cadle

**JAM:** Jill Ingram and Dana Longest

**Altar Flowers**—sign up outside the church office.

**Sunday, March 22**

- 7:30 AM Sanctuary Open for Prayer
- 8:30 AM Early Worship
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:45 AM Morning Worship
- 4:30 PM Bell Choir
- 5:00 PM First Youth
- 5:00 PM Confirmation

**Monday, March 23**

- 6:00 PM Scouts

**Tuesday, March 24**

- 10:00 AM May Dooley Circle
- 11:00 PM Youth Rock Climbing
- 11:00 AM Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, March 25**

- 10:00 AM Women's Study on Hebrews
- 6:15 PM Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 26**

- 12:00 PM Youth Trip to Asbury University

**Saturday, March 28**

- 11:00 AM Youth Mission Day

**Monday—Friday**

- 7:30 AM CDC
- 9:00 AM PDO—CLOSED

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- March 29—Palm Sunday
- April 1—Children's Easter Egg Hunt & Walk-Thru
- April 2—Dinner, Maundy Thursday Service, Youth Glow-N-the-Dark Egg Hunt
- April 4—UMM Breakfast, SonRise Easter Pageant
- April 5—Easter Sunrise Service, Fellowship Fundraiser Breakfast, Easter Service, Elan Circle
- April 9—UMW Unit Meeting
- April 12-19—Family Promise Week
- April 14—May Dooley Circle
- April 16—Seekers Circle
- April 19—Finance Committee Meeting, Red-back Hymnal Singing
- April 29—Last Night of Children's Choirs

*Open hearts, open minds, open doors...the people of the United Methodist Church.*



**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

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## Gifts to the Church

### **To the Building Fund**

In memory of Austin Davis:

Bob and Nancy Boyd

### **To the Choir Fund**

In memory of Charles Hurley:

CDCC Courtesy Fund

### **To the General Budget**

In memory of Austin Davis:

Weston Hills Property Owners

### **To the Prayer Shawl Ministry**

In memory of Joyce Mary Howard:

Sue Ledford

### **To the United Methodist Men**

In memory of Bill Lee:

Bob and Libby Carmon