



THE SPIRIT

FOUNTAIN CITY UMC
AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER



Rev. Don Hanshew, Senior Pastor

Ministry has been a wonderful whirlwind!

Our staff spent a good portion of a staff meeting in July putting together the first steps of a discipleship plan that will help all ages thrive in faith. Children filled our halls on three days in July with ministry and fellowship. The youth had a couple of soggy outings that were still filled with laughter and faith. Chase and I were able to meet with a number of you, including a young couple who plan to join the church, and I am deeply encouraged by the strong turnout for our Congregational Care revamp ...and I am only hitting the highlights!

Fountain City, you are an amazing church! God is on the move!

As we all slowly start to move where God is leading in an almost-post COVID world, let's all put our paddles in the water to make stronger strides in the same direction.

How? Three specific ways.

- 1: As **Congregational Care** ministries begin to firm up, there is still room for those who want to help make encouraging visits, calls, or send cards to people connected to our church. You can sign up by visiting our website at www.fountaincityumc.org.
- 2: Our **hospitality** is a little rusty on Sunday mornings. If you are currently an usher, greeter, or someone who likes the idea of blessing folks who come to our doors on Sunday morning or Tuesday evenings, or if you want to help greet worshippers online, but were unable to attend our hospitality meeting on July 25, please contact the church office. We would love to have you join us in welcoming people to our church. Even if you are not on this team, we need you in the seats, hallways, and digital world to eagerly say hello and welcome folks to our great church.
- 3: **Pray** for a chance to say *"Come sit with me."* Prayer changes things. Pray that God gives you an opportunity in the next few days to invite someone to come sit with you!

Bonus!

Per our Safety & Security Team, we can now have coffee and outside snacks in our Sunday school classes and small groups. Please follow wise and safe food handling guidelines, and have sanitizer handy.

There are lots of good things happening at Fountain City UMC, and we're just getting started. Pray that we will continue to follow where God is leading, and have the courage to paddle hard in that direction!

It feels so good to be home,
Don

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
FOR AUGUST**

Monday-Thursday:

8:30am-12:00pm

1:00pm-5:00pm

Friday:

8:30am-12:00pm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

8:30am: Traditional in the Sanctuary

9:45am: The Journey in the Gym

9:45am: Sunday School

11:00am: Traditional in the Sanctuary

11:00am: Thrive - small group experience
for all ages in Wesley Hall

Open Door Community Meal

at Fountain City Ministry Center

August 4 from 5:30-6:00pm

Serving our community is what we do at FCUMC! Doug Shipman and crew will be outdoors at FCMC on August 4 from 5:30-6:00pm serving up a great meal! If you know individuals or families who need meal assistance, please guide them to our community meals.

OUR PRESENCE:

CELEBRATING WITH OUR FCUMC FAMILY

Our extended church family continues to grow! We invite you to rejoice in this blessing with us!

Join us in celebrating new FCUMC members Bill and Davine Brasher. Welcome!

FOOD SERVICE HOSPITALITY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Doug Shipman needs volunteers to assist with food service hospitality on Sunday mornings, Tuesday evenings, as well as Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Please contact Doug at (865) 386-8778 if you are able to serve with this ministry.

SLIGHTLY USED IPADS NEEDED

Have you recently upgraded your iOS device? We are looking for 3-6 recent generation iPads to use as we launch fall activities. Please contact Ashley Garren in the church office at (865) 689-5175.

PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE, AND WITNESS

OUR GIFTS:

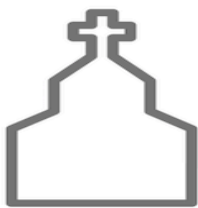
WEEKLY OFFERING

June 20-27	\$17,949.11
June 28-July 4	\$20,509
July 5-11	\$25,298
July 12-18	\$17,456.66

FAITH PROMISE

Faith Promise Sunday will be August 22. Please mail your check to the church office or go to www.fountaincityumc.org and click on "GIVE NOW" on our homepage to make your commitment.

Your Giving Matters Ways to Give



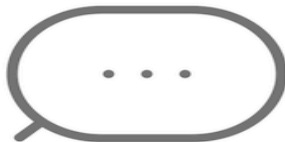
MAIL

to the Church
212 Hotel Rd, 37918



MOBILE

thru the
Realm app



TEXT

givecumc \$amt
to 73256



ONLINE

fountaincityumc.org

Thank you for remaining faithful with your tithes and offerings so we can continue to be the church. Our operating expenses will continue, whether or not we have corporate worship.

Ashley Garren, Financial Assistant
ashley.garren@fountaincityumc.org 865-689-5175

DIGITAL EDITION OF *THE SPIRIT* AVAILABLE

Would you like to opt out of receiving the print edition of *The Spirit* monthly newsletter and see it digitally instead? It is available online through our weekly *E-Spirit* as well as on our website at www.fountaincityumc.org. Please email us at spirit@fountaincityumc.org to update your preference.

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO:

Ancient cultures around the world associated white lilies with spirituality. If you'd like to see one of your photos grace the cover of a future *The Spirit* newsletter, please email Kathleen Bloom at kathleen.bloom@fountaincityumc.org.

As we head into fall at Fountain City UMC, we are excited to announce the details of our Wednesday evening programming and meals. Yes! Our Wednesday night fellowship meal is back!

We will begin our fall activities on August 11 and will go through November 17. (Our Youth Group will continue to meet into December.) We can't wait to see our church family back in the building on Wednesday evenings this fall!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE FALL 2021

We will begin our fall schedule on August 11 with an abridged evening. Our regular schedule will begin August 18.

August 11 • 6:30pm: Kick-off • Free Pizza

Our first meal of the fall season will be free for everyone! Fountain Kids will enjoy pizza on the front lawn, the Youth will have pizza in Old Fellowship Hall, and adults will have pizza in the Gym. Please register in Realm so that we can plan for attendance.

August 11 • 7:30pm: Wrap up & Prayer

All are welcome to gather on the front lawn for prayer over our children, schools, teachers and administrators for the upcoming school year.

August 18 • 5:30pm: Fellowship Meal in the Gym (Doors open at 5:00pm)

Please enter the building at the Welcome Center. (Youth may be dropped off and picked up at the Old Fellowship Hall door). Registration and online payment for meals is available in Realm. Cash and checks are accepted at the door via touchless pay system, so please plan to bring exact change. Details about our fellowship meals can be found on our website along with the menu each week.

Meal Prices:

Adults: \$9

Youth / Seniors: \$5

Children Birth-5th Grade: Free

(There will be a family cap of \$25)

August 18 • 6:30pm: Programming

Parents of Fountain Kids & Fountain Littles will check in their children at the Welcome Center; the Youth will proceed to Old Fellowship Hall; and adult programming will be available in Wesley Hall.

Our adult programming entitled **God At Work** will be offered by Jim Whedbee and will include conversations with individuals living out their faith outside of the church. For details, please visit our website at www.fountaincityumc.org.

The schedule beginning on August 18 will continue throughout the fall. Please plan to join us on Wednesday nights for a delicious meal, faithfulness and fellowship!

Meet with your Small Group on Wednesday Nights

Have you ever wanted to form a small group or already have one going on Sunday morning during Thrive? Wednesday nights are the perfect opportunity to take the ministry of your small group into your week and gather in fellowship with one another. Spaces will be provided for those who would like to meet in small group and nurture their faith together. Come out and join us for the meal, and then meet up with your small group in one of our small group spaces after you're done eating.

But if we live in the light in the same way as he is in the light, we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from every sin. 1 John 1:7

Fountain Kids Club is back!

Wednesday, August 11 at 6:30 pm

Yay! Finally, Kids Club will be back in action on Wednesday nights beginning August 11 with our **BACK-TO-SCHOOL PALOOZA** outside on the front lawn of the church from 6:30-7:30 pm. We will have a blast getting back together! Parents, drop off and check in kiddos at the outdoor table. At 7:30 pm, we ask that parents come back for a moment of prayer over our children, schools, teachers and administrators for the upcoming school year.

Wednesday, August 18 at 6:30 pm

We will be back in our rooms upstairs for our amazing Kids Club.

Fountain Kids & Fountain Littles Sunday School • 9:45am Sundays This Fall

We are looking for volunteers and paid childcare staff who are 18 years or older to help with our children's ministry. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jenny Cook at jenny.cook@fountaincityumc.org or (865) 357-6350.

THRIVE

A New Small Group Experience For All Ages
Sundays at 11:00am



Join us every Sunday at 11:00 am in Wesley Hall for our new small group experience, Thrive.

Together we will tackle the big questions of our faith and the content of the week's sermons.

Most importantly, we want to come together to thrive and grow in our faith so that we might better live into our relationship and covenant with Christ.

OPERATION INASMUCH



Calling all volunteers who like to knit, crochet, or quilt! Our contribution to Project Inasmuch this year will be to complete as many lap robes/baby blankets we can. Join us at Fountain City UMC on Aug. 28 from 9am-3pm to sew squares together. Come for any part of the day or all day. If you can't join us, you can make squares or complete blankets (knitted, crocheted, or quilted) ahead of time and bring them to the church on August 28. Finished product should be approximately 32" by 40". For the knit pattern or the crochet pattern, please visit our website. Questions? Call Sandy at 865-254-3222. Make plans to join us for this fun event!

KIDS MISSION PALOOZA-INASMUCH

What: Kids Mission Palooza-Inasmuch project for children in grades K-5 and their families

When: Saturday, August 28 9am-12pm

Where: Central Baptist Church of Fountain City fellowship hall and Fountain City Ministry Center

Why: To serve others by assembling compassion bags for the homeless, making cards, taking guided tour of Fountain City Ministry Center, and assembling toy bags and stocking food for clients' children

For a complete list of opportunities to volunteer on August 28 or to register for an event, please visit our website at www.fountaincityumc.org.

FOUNTAIN KIDS

FOUNTAIN LITTLES

**This month we are exploring WISDOM
(a reflection of God)**

Week 1:

We start the month with Jesus and our only glimpse into His life as a child. In Luke 2:41-52, we discover that Jesus knew His Father's house was where He needed to be. Jesus grew in wisdom, faith, and friendship, and this is the model we should follow as we seek to grow in our relationships with God.

Week 2:

For week two, we head to 1 Kings 2:4-28. The time had come for King David's son, Solomon, to take the throne. When Solomon became king, God offered Solomon the choice of anything to help him rule the kingdom of Israel. Instead of choosing power or wealth, Solomon chose wisdom. Quickly, that wisdom was put to the test. Solomon had to arbitrate a difficult moment between two women. God helped him make a wise ruling that solved the situation.

Week 3:

We look to something Solomon wrote in Proverbs 22:3 for week three. *Wise people see danger and go to a safe place, but childish people keep going and suffer for it* (NIRV). Without thinking, people can rush into a situation and soon discover that they are in trouble. Solomon warns us to make sure we know what we're facing before moving forward with a decision.

Week 4:

In week four, we head to 2 Chronicles 10 and discover what happens with Solomon's son, Rehoboam. When he took over as king of Israel, the people pleaded with him to make their lives easier. Rehoboam received counsel on both sides of this issue, but rather than acting on the advice of his father's advisers; he acts on the foolish advice of his friends. This ends up causing a split in the nation of Israel, creating Israel and Judah.

Week 5:

We finish up the month with something Paul wrote in Romans 12:2. *Don't live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what he wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect* (NIRV). As we put our faith in Jesus and allow His Spirit to change us, we not only grow in our relationship with Jesus but we also mature in how we see the world and the choices we'll make.

This month's theme is Construction Zone, and the incredible machines you see at a construction site are pretty powerful. We want them to remember that God is more powerful than anything or any person they will ever face in this world. They can always look to God for help because God's Power. Is. AWESOME!

Week 1 Story Focus: God is powerful. We will kick off the month with God's first display of awesome power when we talk about how God made everything out of nothing. That includes God making you and me. We want our preschoolers to know that God MADE them. Wow!

Week 2 Story Focus: God's power is awesome! We will hear the story of God using His awesome power to divide the Red Sea and make a dry path for Moses and the Israelites to walk across. Just in case we've heard this story so many times we've lost some of the wonder, let's read that again. God DIVIDED a body of water for His people. There was a wall of water on each side of them as they walked across on dry land! THAT is powerful!

Week 3 Story Focus: God's power can give me what I need. We will talk about how God's power can give us what we need—even when what we need is nowhere to be found. That is what happened with Moses and the Israelites. They needed water in the worst way, but there was no water anywhere. God used His power to make water come from a rock. Water. From. A. Rock. God is so powerful!

Week 4 Story Focus: God's power helps me make the right choice. We will hear Daniel's story and how God's power helped him make a hard but right choice. Doing the right thing isn't always easy, but God will help us make the right choice and obey Him.

Week 5 Story Focus: God's power can protect me. We will end the month with Daniel's incredible story of being thrown into a den of lions for praying to the one true God. God showed that His power can protect Daniel and us when He forced those lions' mouths shut! We pray that your preschoolers will hear the stories and (bottom line this month) know that God is awesome and mighty and powerful.



Rev. Chase Crickenberger, Associate Pastor

On July 23, Apple TV+ released the second season of what might be one of my singular favorite shows of the last decade, Ted Lasso. Those of you who follow sports probably remember the origin story of Ted Lasso, premiering not as a serialized sitcom but instead a series of ESPN advertisements that aired over the course of two or three years. Needless to say, when Apple TV+ announced in 2019 that they would be turning the advertisements into a sitcom people reacted with the same standoffish pessimism that they did with the release of the sitcom adaptation of the GEICO cavemen advertisements in 2007. However, Ted Lasso, with its endlessly optimistic and loveable titular character, defied all expectations and was nominated for more Emmys this year than any other television program in history.

For those who have not seen the show, let me set the scene for you. Ted Lasso, the title character, is a DII college football coach from Oklahoma, played by Jason Sudeikis, who is recruited by a major Premier League English soccer team with no experience of having ever played or coached soccer. Little does he know that he is merely a pawn of the club owner who won the team from her husband in a bitter and very public divorce. However, it is amazing how little of the show has to do with soccer. Instead, it is about a man with an infectious and undying optimism facing a world that seems relentless, cruel, and out to get him. It's about the egos of British soccer players and the soft centers of those who put up the biggest barriers. It's about what it means to be a loyal friend, husband and father. Ultimately, Ted Lasso is not only a story about what it fundamentally means to be human, it's a message for us as Christians about how we should live out our faith.

There is nothing in the show that is overtly religious and neither is it a family friendly show -- while Ted Lasso may not use many expletives, his co-stars certainly do. However, Ted Lasso lives out his faith in a way that seems hard to find in this day and age. The directors don't need to address his religious beliefs, we know Ted Lasso is a Christian by his love. Ted is far from a perfect character, but his love for his fellow human beings, his team, and those around him -- even those who do not reciprocate that love -- is no doubt a model for us as disciples of Jesus the Christ. Jesus famously said in the Gospel of Matthew, *"But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing"* (NRSV). Ted doesn't know what he is doing, he just assumes that the default human condition should not be hatred, but love and tenderness. He loves with his right hand without his left hand nor his brain even realizing that it is not the norm. He expects no reward, no affirmation, and nothing in return. He is just an affable, effective everyman in the truest sense of the word, who coaches not by knowing the technical skills of the game but by creating compassionate and united players and teams.

That is what we are missing in this world today. In watching the series, it is easy for us as the audience to feel much the same as those around him, exhausted by his enthusiasm and positivity. What that says about us as a modern audience is far more important than what it says about Ted, though. As Christians, we could all learn a thing or two from Ted Lasso. So, if I challenge you to do anything this month, please go give Ted Lasso a watch. You won't be disappointed if you do, and maybe on the other side we might all better understand better what it means for others to know we are Christians by our love.

God Bless, Rev. Chase Crickenberger

Pastor on Call
865-888-0192

July 30-Aug 1: Don Hanshew

Aug 6-8: Chase Crickenburger

Aug 13-15: Don Hanshew

Aug 20-22: Chase Crickenburger

Aug 27-29: Don Hanshew

STEPHEN MINISTRY
Gail Clift (865) 922-9408

INTERCESSORY PRAYER
Tim Brown (865) 599-3429
Tom Harrington (865) 687-9460

For more details
check out our website:
www.fountaincityumc.org

IN MEMORY & IN HONOR

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Bob & Helen Temple by David & Desiree Eldridge, and Joe Eldridge
In Honor of Mark Biagi by Mike & Deb Rogers
In Memory of Nancy Cloud by Mark Cloud
In Honor of UMW Sarah Circle by Mary Emma Scott
In Memory of Willie Morgan by Mary Emma Scott
In Memory of R.C. Condon by Darrow and Lucy Condon
In Honor of Tom and Emily Cloud by Mary Emma Scott

FAITH PROMISE FOR MISSIONS

In Memory of Marvin Holtzclaw by Tom Harrington
In Honor of Karen Nedy by Alvah & Cheryl Bible
In Honor of Jim & Judy Whedbee by Tom & Emily Cloud
In Honor of Jim & Betty Dougherty by Tom & Emily Cloud
In Memory of Erin Sewell by Tom & Emily Cloud
In Memory of Dan Kelly by Tom Harrington
In Memory of Charlotte Miller by Tom Harrington

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

In Memory of R.C. Condon by Dave & Mary Fredna Danford, and Roz Irwin
In Honor of Seth Charles by Tom & Emily Cloud

FOUNTAIN CITY MINISTRY CENTER

In Memory of T.J. Slack by Tom Harrington
In Memory of Charles Wildman by Tom Harrington

SLOAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of Charles & Ruth Sloan by Tom Cloud
In Honor of Bill Cloud by Mark Biagi
In Honor of Troy & June Lawson by Mark Biagi

MELTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of Nancy Cloud by Mark Cloud

OUR SYMPATHIES

We extend our sympathy to the family of Frank Reagan, who passed away on June 12.

We extend our sympathy to Cindy Heiskell in the death of her daughter, Olivia, on June 19.

We extend our sympathy to Sandy Morgan, Jeff Morgan, & Susan Crawley and families in the death of their mother, Willie Morgan, on June 20.

We extend our sympathy to Sheryl Tindell in the death of her father, Roger Summers, on June 30.

We extend our sympathy to Bob Slack in the death of his brother, T.J. Slack, on July 13.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Lois Davis who passed away on July 18.

We extend our sympathy to Cherie Brown in the death of her sister, Charlotte Miller, on July 22.

We extend our sympathy to the Kelly family in the death of Rev. Dan Kelly on July 24.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Welcome Back Stephanie



We are excited to announce that Stephanie Wayland has returned to the organ bench! Stephanie served as our organist for many years until her decision to retire in 2012. It is now 2021, and she is back, and the music staff couldn't be happier. Welcome home, dear friend!

Keyboard Concert • August 22 at 3pm

After a forced break last year, the second piano is scheduled to move into the chancel, and the Keyboard Concert is making its return on August 22 at 3pm in the Sanctuary. Music staff past and present will unite to present a program full of music that is sure to both inspire and entertain. Leslie, Kim, and Stephanie, will be joined by Andrew Duncan, Sheree Beeler, and Joshua Bracken. The only rule of the day is that no one plays alone. Duets, trios, and quartets only!

This is a free concert, but donations to support the Melton Scholarship Fund will be collected. Thank you for giving toward the education of our future teachers and musicians!