



THE SPIRIT

FOUNTAIN CITY UMC
FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Welcome, welcome February!

After a very chilly January, I think we're all hoping for just a little bit of warmth from Mother Nature. If I've jinxed us, my apologies in advance!

This past month at FCUMC, we've been focused on prayer—steeping ourselves, our community, our enemies, and especially our children, youth, and young adults in prayer. Prayer is one of the most vital practices in our faith. We're dedicating this year to ground our 200th year of ministry here in Fountain City in faithfulness. It's a year to celebrate our legacy while embracing both new and ongoing ministries, revitalizing our faith practices, and moving forward with intention—all of which require prayer.



I hope you'll continue to pray alongside me, our staff, and our leadership. If you haven't yet picked up one of our prayer cards, I'd love to send one to you! You can put it somewhere visible, like your bathroom mirror or by the coffee pot, as a daily reminder. Just let me know, and I'll make sure you receive one.

Let's pause and pray together now:

Creator God, as you make all things new in this world, we see this in the birth and growth of children who mature into youth and move into adulthood. Allow this faith community the Spirit-filled vision and ability to pour love and grace into their lives through our caring and ministries offered at FCUMC. Call persons who embody your love into staff and volunteer roles to share the means of grace, as young persons are offered a life of discipleship in your name.

Thank you for continuing to surround these ministries and young lives in prayer throughout this year.

We have so much to look forward to in February! Be sure to check the Friday News Flash each week for important details. Here are a few highlights:

- Wednesday Night Programming is back! It's not too late to join a class, but if you're still on the fence, don't worry because February 12 will be a special night! Pastor Don and I will host a fun Q&A session to answer your questions. For the next two weeks, we'll have a basket out in the building and a Google Form where you can submit your questions. We can't wait to hear what's on your mind!
- Two new classes start soon: On February 19, I'll be leading a Lent study, and Melissa Charles will guide a beautifully reflective study on Lent and Prayer Beads. Both offer wonderful opportunities to engage with the season in meaningful and exciting ways.

Finally, thank you. Thank you for embracing mission, for loving God, one another, and the world, and for continuing to walk this journey of faith together. I'm so grateful to be a part of this community with you.

Blessings,
Pastor Rachel

Pastors

Rev. Don Hanshew, Senior Pastor
Rev. Rachel Collins, Pastor of Discipleship

Email: pastor.don@fountaincityumc.org
pastor.rachel@fountaincityumc.org

Pastor On Call

text or call 865-689-7894
(After Hours & Weekends)

Sunday Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Discipleship
- 11:00 a.m. Journey Contemporary Service (Gym)
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

Childcare & children's ministry are provided from 8:30 a.m. through the conclusion of 11:00 a.m. worship.

**PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS,
SERVICE, AND WITNESS**

OUR GIFTS:

WEEKLY OFFERING

Dec 15-22	\$59,127.00
Dec 23-29	\$56,396.00
Dec 30-Jan 5	\$30,239.53
Jan 6-12	\$14,280.00

FAITH PROMISE

Faith Promise Sunday is February 23. This month we highlight these Faith Promise partners: Rise Against Hunger and Jubilee Project.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT
fellowship meal

February Menus

- 5** Taco Soup, Mexican Rice, Cornbread, Salad, Cookies
- 12** Chicken Cordon Bleu Casserole, Roasted Veggies, Salad, Rolls, Brownies
- 19** Meatloaf, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Chocolate cake
- 26** Chicken Scampi, Green Beans, Salad, Italian bread, Dessert TBD

Meals in February are free! However, please register all those attending so we can be good stewards of the church's finances and reduce waste.

You can register on a pew pad in the notes section, by calling the church office at 865-689-5175 or by using this QR code.



February 2025 Calendar of Events

February 8: Father Daughter Dance • 5:30 p.m.

February 9: Youth Super Bowl Party • 6 p.m.

February 12: Q&A with Pastor Don and Pastor Rachel • 6:30 p.m.

February 19: New Fountain City Fellowship classes begin • 6:30 p.m.

February 24: Preschool Registration opens for 2025-2026 School Year for Church Members and Current Families

February 26-New Step Study begins 6:30 p.m.

**Coffee & Fellowship On Sundays
At The Welcome Center**

We love seeing our church family come together at the Welcome Center for some coffee and warm conversations! Join us before or after worship! Stop by the Welcome Center from 8:15-11:15 a.m. and let us bless you! See you Sunday!

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If Knox County Schools are closed due to weather related concerns, all church activities will be canceled unless otherwise noted. Notifications will be shared through Realm, email and social media.

Please be mindful of your safety when attending in-person events during winter weather. While we strive to maintain clear pathways, parking lots and sidewalks may still be icy or snow-covered, especially after overnight precipitation. Use caution and take your time as you navigate these areas.

STEPHEN MINISTRY
Gail Clift 865-922-9408

INTERCESSORY PRAYER
Tim Brown 865-599-3429
Tom Harrington 865-687-9460
prayer@fountaincityumc.org

The Winter Session of Fountain City Fellowship is in full swing! During this semester, the common theme is expanding our faith through prayer. In our Bicentennial year, it is crucial that our faith community is connected with what God envisions for Fountain City UMC going forward into this milestone year.

FOUNTAIN CITY FELLOWSHIP

We have a few classes that are ongoing from January and two new classes which will begin this month. Check out the programming details below and select one that interests you!

Children & Youth Ministries

Our youth and children's ministries continue their vibrant programming! From engaging lessons and exciting activities to opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship, there's something for everyone. We are looking forward to seeing your children and youth each week as we journey together in faith, friendship, and fun!

The Gifts of Imperfection

Jennifer Smith is leading this study on Brene Brown's *The Gifts of Imperfection*, which explores how to embrace authenticity, courage, and self-compassion by letting go of who we think we're supposed to be and accepting who we truly are. Rooted in principles that align with both our Christian faith and 12-step recovery programs, it offers a path to wholehearted living through gratitude, resilience, and meaningful connection. Together, we reflect on the ten guideposts for cultivating a life of purpose and joy. Whether you're on a recovery journey or seeking spiritual growth (or both), this study provides a supportive space to grow and thrive.

January 15-February 16

Season Two of The Chosen

Join in as this class follows Jesus and His disciples into season Two. Guided by a creative group of leaders, we will encounter miracles, a well-known sermon, and people who don't like Jesus. Come and see on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m., then stay for dinner.

January 15-April 30

The History of these Halls

History struggles with the question, "Where did we come from?" It can also help us understand where we are going. Led by retired Rev. Jim Dougherty and Rev. Don Hanshew, this class offers a vibrant blend of storytelling, historical insights, and engaging discussions. From early circuit riders braving the frontier to transformative community outreach, you'll explore our rich heritage through lively presentations and guest speakers. Discover how generations of faithful service shaped our church and continue to inspire us today. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, reflect, and become part of the ongoing story of what makes us FCUMC!

January 15-February 16

Ask Your Pastor Fellowship Evening

Pastor Don and Pastor Rachel will host a fun Q&A session to answer your questions. We can't wait to hear what's on your mind!

February 12 6:30 PM

The Season of Lent

This Lent, join Pastor Rachel for an engaging study designed to deepen your faith and make space for meaningful reflection. We'll explore themes of renewal, connection, and God's love through Scripture, discussion, and creative practices. This class offers a chance to journey alongside others and discover how the Lenten season invites us to grow in grace. No matter where you are in your faith, you're welcome here. Bring a friend!

February 19-April 2

Prayer Beads and the Lenten Season

Join Melissa Charles and embark on a meaningful Lenten journey with *We Are Beloved: A Lenten Journey with Protestant Prayer Beads* by Kristen E. Vincent. This class will guide you in learning how to use prayer beads as a tool for reflection and connection, helping you draw closer to God during this sacred season. Together, we'll explore the themes of Lent with a few intentional stops along the way, creating space for prayer, self discovery, and renewal. Whether you're familiar with prayer beads or new to the practice, this is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your faith and embrace your identity as God's beloved. Cost: \$25 for materials.

February 19-April 9

Warm Heart

I wanted to share some observations about the Warming Center. Pastor Don often asks us where we have seen God at work in our Church. I invite you to “sit with me” on any Warming Center night and you will be touched, amazed, and proud of what you see.



God is working in each volunteer, cleaning crew, food maker, those who donate, those who pick up food, the schedulers, and more, but especially in each guest. They are grateful and thankful for what we provide. This church has been the hands and feet of Jesus in a special way. We have had community volunteers who have never been in this church before who have worked beside us. I am personally grateful for each volunteer and for a church who took a step outside our comfort zone to make this happen. The best part of my night is the comment I get every time I am there from one of our guests which is “I love you!” Come and be blessed!

Gail Clift
FCUMC Unhoused Team

Scan for information about
the Warming Center



Sign up for a shift



Thank you so much for your generous support of the North Knoxville Warming Center at Fountain City United Methodist Church! At this time, we are no longer accepting in-kind donations except for shelf-stable food items. A list of preferred food items can be found on our website and financial gifts are always welcomed. Your contributions make a real difference in our community, and we're incredibly grateful.

Rise Against Hunger 2025

They may look like simple bags of rice and soy, but Rise Against Hunger meals represent the hopes and dreams of people worldwide. Join us for our 11th Annual Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event on Saturday, March 1, 2025, when we will package 40,000 meals to help end hunger worldwide.

We need volunteers to sign up to package meals, one hundred individuals per meal packaging shift, as well as a clean-up shift. We also need strong individuals to unload the truck and set up on Friday night.

This is a family friendly and multi-generational project, and there are tasks for all ages. It's time to come together as a community to support a great cause!

Faith Promise funds, Scroggie Endowment funds, and other donations make this event possible. We need our entire church family to show up in a big way to help end world hunger. **Questions?** Contact Sandy Morgan at slmorgan3327@gmail.com

RISE AGAINST HUNGER
Meal Packaging Event
March 1, 2025

Sign up for a shift

Fountain City United Methodist
Rise AGAINST HUNGER

Schedule

Friday, February 28 • 6-7:30 p.m.

Unload Rise Against Hunger truck & setup for Saturday's meal packaging event. We need strong, able-bodied folks to unload the truck and carry food and equipment (up to 50 lbs.) to the Gym. This group will also set up the gym for meal packaging the next day.

Saturday, March 1 • Three Shifts

Meal Packaging Shift One • 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Meal Packaging Shift Two • 12 p.m.-2 p.m.

Clean up shift • 2-3 p.m.

PRESCHOOL

Preschool Registration Opens February 24 for 2025-2026 School Year

The FCUMC Preschool is a part-time program welcoming children from six months to four years old. Serving the Fountain City community and beyond for sixty years, our Preschool is a play-based, child-focused program providing individualized learning opportunities across all areas of a child's development.

Preschool registration will open on February 24 for church members and currently enrolled families.



For more information, please contact Director Alycia Truett at preschool@fountaintcityumc.org.

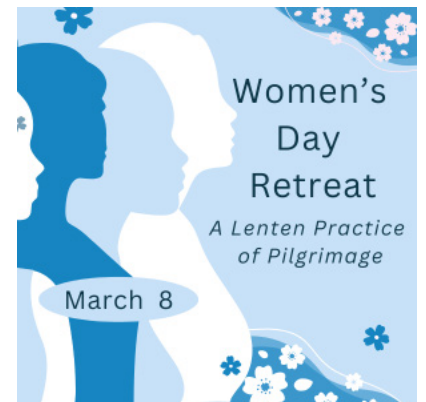
ADULT MINISTRY

Women's Day Retreat • March 8 • 10am-12pm

Would you like to learn to walk more closely with God during the season of Lent? Share in this time with other women of all ages who feel that tug as well and perhaps make new friends as a bonus!

Discipleship Ministries is offering a Women's Day Retreat on March 8 by Belly of the Whale ministries in Wesley Hall.

The Rev. Sharon Garner, a member of the United Methodist Spiritual Directors and Retreat Leaders, will guide participants through the two-hour session titled *A Lenten Practice of Pilgrimage*. Lunch and games will bring some added joy to the day! Together we will integrate the themes of pilgrimage into a forty-day plan for gently and gracefully walking through Lent.



Registration opens on February 1. The cost is \$15. Come, be a part of this Women's Day Retreat at Fountain City UMC!

GriefShare

January 8-April 2 • 10 am-12 pm

It hurts to lose someone. Find help at GriefShare, a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Contact Dixie at bopp.dixie@gmail.com or 865-599-2030 with questions.



Register >>



YOUTH MINISTRY

Super Bowl Sunday • February 9 • 6 PM • Wesley Hall

It's that time of year again—time for touchdowns, snacks, and the best commercials! Come to the epic Youth Super Bowl Party as we watch the big game together. Whether you're here for the action, the halftime show, or just the food, there's something for everyone! Bring an appetizer and wear your team colors!



We would like to thank the chaperones who accompanied our youth to Resurrection 2025. It was truly a bonding experience among our youth and an opportunity for spiritual growth and a deeper connection with God.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Fountain Kids Wednesday Kids Club Winter Five Week Game Plan

The winter months can be tough on kids but we have a Game Plan called "What God has in store for you"!

Check-in at 6:15 p.m. on the second floor for Kids Club at 6:30 p.m. Parents, pick up your kiddos at 7:30 p.m.

Fountain Kids Sunday Schedule

Fountain Kids Sunday School • 9:45 a.m.

Fountain Littles Sunday School • 9:45 a.m.

Fountain Kids Bible Experience • 11 a.m.

Fountain Littles Childcare • 11 a.m.

22nd Annual Father Daughter Dance

Saturday, February 8, 2025 • 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

We hope you got your tickets to our ever popular Father Daughter Dance because it has sold out!

This is one of the biggest fundraisers for Fountain Kids Ministry and we are so excited to share this experience with you!



Sold out!

Father Daughter Dance

February 8 • FCUMC Gym

We We Offer Our Sympathy To

Rob White in the death of his mother, Helen White,
on December 26, 2025.

Sandy Cannon in the death of her husband, Gary
Cannon, on December 29, 2024.

Gene Patton in the death of his mother, Ann Patton,
on January 6, 2025.

Jayne Hillhouse in the death of her father, Carlton
Henderson, on January 7, 2025.

Kim Shipley in the death of her father, John Turner,
on January 9, 2025.

WAYS TO GIVE



In Person
or Mail In



Online/Mobile
Banking

Your Giving Matters!

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

Fountain City United Methodist Church
212 Hotel Road, Knoxville, TN 37918

Office Hours: M-T, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Phone: 865-689-5175

Email: spirit@fountaincityumc.org
Website: www.fountaincityumc.org
Social Media: @fountaincityumc

IN MEMORY & IN HONOR

Benevolence Fund

In Memory of Dr. Allen & Carol Chamberlain by Chad
Chamberlain & Alice Brown

Choir Fund

In Honor of Fran Burroughs & Leslie Hill by Lee & Susan
Iglehart

In Memory of Mike Hueser by Allen & Debby Abernathy,
Mahan & Laura Archer, Lee & Susan Iglehart, Melody
Johnson, Stephanie Norris, Sue George, Peggy Lewis,
Karen & Greg Swabe, Laura Solonyka, Sandra Martin
Jean & Gerald Hueser, Work Place Interiors, and Marianne
Worthington

General Fund

In Honor of Church Staff by Tom & Emily Cloud

In Honor of Church Staff by Karen Needy

In Memory of Dr. Allen & Carol Chamberlain by Chad
Chamberlain & Alice Brown

In Memory of Fred Graves by TN-KY Annual Conference

In Memory of Fred Graves by Ralph & Tracey Paden

In Memory of Mike Hueser by Ralph & Tracey Paden

Faith Promise

In Memory of Bill Routh by Tom Harrington

In Memory of Cynthia Wildman by Tom Harrington

In Memory of Fred Graves by Tom Harrington

In Memory of Jerry Griffey by Tom Harrington

In Memory of Mike Hueser by Tom Harrington

Youth Renovation

In Memory of Randy, Lonnie & Ryan Womack by Scotty
& Twila Womack

A Friendly Reminder



TAKE
your keys



LOCK
your vehicle



HIDE
your valuables

in our parking lots

ON THE COVER

*Winter giveth the fields, and the trees so old,
their beards of icicles and snow. - Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow*

If you would like to see one of your photos
grace the cover of a future *The Spirit*,