



THE SPIRIT

FOUNTAIN CITY UMC
OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Hey Church Family,

I had a blast on Sunday, September 24! It was so much fun for me to spend time preaching with my friend Rev. Wallis Brown. His wisdom, faithfulness, and enthusiasm for Christ have been a gift to me since I met him. Judging by the many comments, emails, and text messages, I get the sense this particular Sunday was meaningful to many of you as well. One person creatively put it this way: "I think my lights have been on low beam. I feel ready to turn on the high beams now."



And how about the choir, solo music, and The Journey band?! We are blessed with such gifted folks who passionately allow their gifts to give praise to God. Though Who we worship remains constant, it is important for us to be a church which embraces multiple expressions of worship style. Having a traditional service and a contemporary service in the same building is an expression of theology to our community about how we want to embrace the diverse ways God can be experienced.



We will worship again as One Church at 11 a.m. on December 24 and 31. It's always a blessing when we can worship as one combining our Traditional and Contemporary worship styles!

You hear me say this frequently, but let me repeat myself. I love being one of your pastors! Our congregation is such a beautiful group of people who want to do good and holy work for the community, who have a deep hunger for personal faith, and are willing to experiment with new ways of doing ministry for the sake of the Gospel. Praise be to God!

In Christian Service Beside You,
Pastor Don

Pastors

Rev. Don Hanshew, Senior Pastor
Rev. Chase Crickenberger, Associate Pastor

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

Pastor On Call: text or call 865-888-0192
(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 is provided from 8:30 a.m. through the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. worship services.



ON THE COVER

"Autumn leaves don't fall, they fly. they take their time and wander on this their only chance to soar." Delia Owens

If you would like to see one of your photos on the cover of *The Spirit*, email kathleen.bloom@fountaincityumc.org.

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

OUR GIFTS:

WEEKLY OFFERING

Aug 21-27	\$13,412.00
Aug 28-Sep 3	\$27,132.54
Sep 4-10	\$17,223.50
Sep 11-17	\$15,320.40
Sep 18-24	\$17,280.00

FAITH PROMISE

Faith Promise Sunday is October 22. Go to www.fountaincityumc.org and click on "GIVE" to make your commitment.



October Menu

- 4** Roasted Pork Loin, Roasted Red Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Coleslaw and Chocolate Cake
-  Fall Break. No Fellowship Meal and Programming
- 18** UWF Fundraising Meal: Vegetable Soup, Loaded Baked Potato Soup, Made-in-house Crackers, and Cinnamon Rolls
Lighter Meal: Baked Chicken Tenders with Mixed Steamed Vegetables
- 25** Chicken Pot Pie, Green Beans, Rolls, Tossed Salad and Peach Cobbler
Lighter Meal: Baked Chicken Tenders with Mixed Steamed Vegetables

*Menu subject to change based on product availability
 Adults : \$10
 Seniors (65+) : \$7
 Youth (MS & HS) : FREE
 Children (Birth-5th) : FREE
 Family Max : \$25

Register 



October 2023 Calendar of Events

- Oct 6:** Retired Pastors' Luncheon - Wesley Hall
- Oct 6-7:** Chancel Choir Retreat
- Oct 8:** Pastor Appreciation Day
- Oct 9-13:** Knox County Schools Fall Break No Fountain City Fellowship
- October 18:** UWF Missions Fundraiser Meal
- Oct 22:** Fountain City Connect Retirement reception for Ralph Paden
- Oct 27:** Parents' Night Out



Fountain City Connect
October 22, 2023 • 12:15 p.m.

We invite everyone to stop by Wesley Hall to enjoy some snacks and discover your next steps in growing in faith and connecting with others. Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, you will find this gathering a landing place to start your journey in calling FCUMC home. We hope to see you there!

Altar Flowers

Want a special way to honor or remember a loved one? Altar flowers are a great way to do just that and will enrich our Sanctuary! Any color will do. Contact the church office to sign up for October 22, November 26, December 10, or December 24. We also have a flower fund for times when we don't have a dedicated arrangement. Contributions are appreciated.

Fountain City United Methodist Church

212 Hotel Road, Knoxville, TN 37918
 Office Hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
 Phone: 865-689-5175

Email: spirit@fountaincityumc.org
 Website: www.fountaincityumc.org
 Social Media: [@fountaincityumc](https://www.instagram.com/fountaincityumc)

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Gail Clift 865-922-9408

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

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



Pastors are the guiding threads that weave together faith, community, and purpose. Pastor Don and Pastor Chase share their unwavering commitment, selfless service, and spiritual guidance at every turn. We would like to take a moment to pause, reflect, and express our heartfelt



gratitude to our pastors for Pastor Appreciation Day on Sunday, October 8, 2023.

Don and Chase are our spiritual leaders, counselors, teachers, and often, our confidants. Their responsibilities extend beyond delivering sermons; they shepherd our flock through life's ups and downs, offering solace during times of grief and celebrating joys in moments of triumph. They are the glue that binds our congregation together, fostering a sense of unity, belonging, and purpose and we are grateful for the leadership and love they share with us. Thank you Don and Chase!

Celebrating 17 Years of Dedication A Fond Farewell Celebration for Ralph Paden on October 22, 2023

Dear Church Family,
It is with mixed emotions that I officially announce that Ralph Paden will be retiring on October 31, 2023.



Nearly two decades ago Ralph stepped into the role of Lay Leader, a position he embraced with remarkable passion and commitment. His tireless devotion to our church community was evident from the beginning, and it was no surprise when he transitioned into the role of Facilities Director. In this capacity, he continued to lead with the same fervor, ensuring that our church was not only a spiritual haven but also a place of warmth and welcome.

Over the years Ralph and his team of staff and volunteers have been instrumental in helping our church be publicly recognized for its exceptional beauty and upkeep. His dedication to detail which creates an inviting environment is a testament to his deep faith and love of our church community.

But Ralph's impact extends far beyond the physical appearance of our church. He understands that the condition of our building and grounds conveys an unspoken message to our guests, members, and newcomers. A well-maintained church sends a message of hospitality, care, and respect. It silently communicates that if we care about our building this much, we will also care about you. His leadership sends a powerful message to all: "You are welcome here. This is a place of love and belonging."

Ralph's legacy is one of dedication, humility, and faithful service. Help us celebrate Ralph and his ministry on Sunday, October 22. A reception will be held in Wesley Hall from 9:45-10:45 a.m., and Ralph will be recognized in all three worship services. If you would like to give a financial gift to Ralph, please give it to him directly. Mark your calendars!

With grateful hearts, we wish Ralph joy and blessings in this next journey.
Pastor Don

**New Wednesday Night Offering
Desert Fathers & Mothers**

October 4-November 1 • 6:30-8:00 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Brett Opalinski is an ordained UM Elder. He has served in churches for over twenty years, as well as chaired the Board of Ordained Ministry for the Florida Annual Conference. He is a Candler graduate and has a Ph.D. in New Testament and Early Christianity from Iliff School of Theology/University of Denver.



Another Great Success with Operation Inasmuch 2023

The results are in! We had a wonderful day of service in our community on August 19, 2023. There were 294 volunteers from Fountain City UMC and Central Baptist Church of Fountain City who served on 27 projects for 730 person-hours.

We estimate that donations valued at over \$11,570 were received and over 3,000 people were served. Thank you church family and let's keep serving together!

Melton Scholarship Award Winners

Susannah Clabough

Joseph Coram

The Dr. William "Sonny" Melton Scholarship is given to persons who have participated in the music program of Fountain City UMC and plan to pursue a career in education or music. The recipients were chosen by the Melton Scholarship Committee. Congratulations Susannah and Joseph!

Join us for a short course!

Desert Fathers and Mothers

5 sessions
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00p
October 4 - November 1
Online

Explore the stories, world, and spirituality of a fascinating period in the Christian story. At a time when many felt the Church had become more enamored with the power of Rome than the humble way of Jesus, these Christian teachers began a great experiment to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ in real and meaningful ways.



DR. BRETT OPALINSKI
Assistant Dean of Methodist Studies
Candler School of Theology

REGISTER HERE

candlerfoundry@emory.edu



FOUNTAIN CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Making disciples. Changing lives.

*Use code: [fountaincityumc](#) to cover registration fee!

OCTOBER 6TH, 2023



18 HOLES AND ONE AMAZING CAUSE!

Local Knoxville Physician Assistant Schools, Lincoln Memorial University and South College partnered to host this tournament to show their support for the Knoxville Dream Center's contribution to the community.

Participation in the tournament supports the outreach opportunities the Knoxville Dream Center provides to our community. Come be a part of this wonderful event located at the beautiful Egwani Farms!

To register, check out KDC's website at <https://knoxvilledreamcenter.org/fairways-for-dreams>. If you have questions, please contact Tommy Halcomb at tommy@knoxvilledreamcenter.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello, parents and leaders! As a reminder, Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. On Sundays, we also have a bible study for our middle school students at the church from 4-5:30 p.m. Our high school students continue to meet at Chris & Betsy Castleberry's house (4505 Simona Road, 37918) from 6:30-8 p.m.

To start off each week, our high school students will meet Tuesdays at Chick-fil-A at 7:30 a.m. for a devotional and word of prayer. Both middle and high schoolers will continue to meet on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Last month, our high school students went on their fall retreat to Sterchi Lodge, a retreat in the mountains on the Tennessee/North Carolina border. We had a wonderful experience of growth and fellowship!



We are excited for our middle school students to have the same opportunity as the high schoolers did! On November 3-5, our Middle School students will head to Camp Bays Mountain, a Holston Conference United Methodist camp and retreat. We look forward to our time together and how God will use that weekend to help us grow.” Register >>



DIGITAL EDITION OF THE SPIRIT

Would you like to opt out of receiving the print edition of *The Spirit* newsletter and view it digitally instead? It is available in our weekly Friday News Flash and on our website.

Please email spirit@fountaincityumc.org to update your preference.



The financial goal of Campaign 320 is to raise \$300,000 over three years together as a community of faith to eliminate our debt. The spiritual goal is to begin dreaming again about ministry that is “more than all we can ask or imagine.”

We invite you to consider what God wants to do through you to help us dream about “more than all we can ask or imagine.” You may give online at <https://www.fountaincityumc.org/campaign-320/>, use the QR Code below, or make a gift labeled Campaign 320. If you have questions, please contact us at 865-689-5175.



FOUNTAIN KIDS & FOUNTAIN LITTLES MINISTRY

Parents Night Out Glow Dance Party

(Costumes if kiddos wants to wear)

October 27, 2023 • 6-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per child or \$20 family max

Parents, it's time for another date night! We will have a glow dance party with games and an Armor of God devotion. Drop off your kiddos at the FCUMC Gym and enjoy a night out! **Register:**



Note to Adult Sunday School Classes: If your class would like to provide individually wrapped candy or small pumpkins for decorating, please notify Donna Lewis at donna.lewis@fountaincityumc.org. Our devotion for the night will be *The Armor of God*.

West of Bethlehem One Act Play • November 15, 2023

Even though it's only October, mark you calendar now for November 15 and alert your friends and family that we will have an awesome intergenerational night with The Word Players as we welcome them to our campus to prepare us all for Advent.



They will present *West of Bethlehem*, a one act play with music by Ethan Norman, offering fellowship as we kick off a busy season. We are blessed to have this opportunity as a reminder of the beauty, majesty, and perfection of the story God gave us. A story where God's majestic birth announcement, came to whom the world would call "the lowest of the low."

West of Bethlehem focuses on the powerful contrast in the imagery of the shepherds. In the kingdom of God, the shepherd is an honored title and a picture of leadership. In the kingdom of men, shepherds are the dregs of society and shepherding is a task of drudgery with little personal gain. This FREE intergenerational family event will bless us all and spiritually launch us into a meaningful Advent season. Childcare will be provided for ages 4 and under.

ADULT MINISTRIES



Fall Session Through November 8, 2023

It hurts to lose someone. Find help at GriefShare, a friendly, caring group who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. We have morning sessions and evening sessions each Wednesday. Please register at fountaincityumc.org/griefshare/ or with this QR Code:



Surviving the Holidays Seminar • November 15, 2023 • 10 a.m

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated?

Join us to learn how to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays. Register >>



**OUR PRESENCE
CELEBRATING WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Our church family continues to grow!
Please join us in celebrating the
following blessings!**

Join us in welcoming new member Andy Sharp,
who join our church on September 10, 2023.

Join us in welcoming new member John Buchheit,
who join our church on September 12, 2023.

Join us in celebrating the baptism of Emery Lane
Crickenberger on September 3, 2023. Proud parents
are Rev. Chase and Maddie Crickenberger.
Congratulations!



Volunteers At The Welcome Center

We need volunteers to serve in the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings! This is a wonderful ministry where we greet members and welcome guests to the church in a warm, caring environment.

We need greeters, guides to show guests to Sunday School classes and services, people to manage our magnificent display of breakfast goodies, and to make coffee and help with clean up.

Sign up >>



IN MEMORY & IN HONOR

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Jean Moore by Pairs & Spares SS Class
In Memory of Pete Brown by Larry & Molly Rutledge,
Tim & Carolyn Moore, Elizabeth Brown, Bruce & Jeanne
Luttrell, and Larry & Alta Huskey
In Memory of Luther & Bonnie Collins by Carolyn Collins
McCarter
In Memory of Sherman Morton by The Wheeler Family
In Memory of Ruth Smith by Pairs & Spares SS Class, and
Larry & Alta Huskey

FOUNTAIN CITY MINISTRY CENTER

In Memory of Jean Moore by Conrad & Wanda Majors,
and Rudy & Carol McBee

FATIH PROMISE

In Memory of Jean Moore by Gary & Teresa Hilliard, and
Karen Needy
In Memory of Sherman Morton by Gary & Teresa Hilliard

CHOIR FUND

In Honor of Celia Thompson by Bill & Martha Routh
In Memory of Sherman Morton by Evelyn McWilliams,
and Larry & Alta Huskey

We Offer Our Sympathy To

DJ Moore & family in the death of his wife, Jean
Moore, on August 24, 2023.

Elizabeth Morton & family in the death of her
husband, Sherman Morton, on September 17, 2023.

Eric Lokey & family in the death of his wife, Gina
“Gigi” Kinsey Lokey, on September 19, 2023.

Pat & Joe Kerschier & family in the death
of their son, Sammy McDonald, on September
22, 2023.



Stephen Ministry is our one-to-one lay caring ministry, providing high-quality, confidential, Christ centered care to people who are hurting.

If you would like to speak to a FCUMC Stephen Minister, please call Gail Clift at 865-207-6791 or email her at jlclift123@aol.com.

For more information on Stephen Ministry, check out <https://www.stephenministries.org/>.