

LJ's LETTER

I remember summertime as a child - running or riding bikes through the neighborhood, playing games with our neighbors, finding crawdads in the water nearby, and swimming in the neighborhood pool. July was a time of relaxing and playing and maybe even vacation! It was a break from school and work and had a much-different pace than "ordinary" life.

I guess those memories are part of why I keep thinking that July is a slower time - or at least a time when life and work and family can move at a different pace. And in many ways it is. Many families will be in and out of town as they go on vacation, children and youth and teachers enjoy a break from school, and even our church calendar takes on a different feel with activities. We continue with our regular activities of Bible studies offered during the week, choir practice, and worship and Sunday School on Sundays. Our children have planned activities on Tuesdays while the youth meet on Wednesdays. In addition, we have Vacation Bible School July 11-15. Our theme this year is "Jesus" and is written by Debbie Fields, our awesome Director of Children and Youth, specifically for our group and our needs. It's going to be an amazing week!! Worship will have a different pace as well. We invite everyone to come casually dressed and enjoy some singing from the Cokesbury hymnal. On July 25 we'll be having a hymn sing, so find your favorites and be ready to request them!

So, you see, our pace is changing a bit as we enjoy this summer month of July, and yet there is much to see and do and be a part of in the life of our church. I hope to see you there! It's going to be great!

Blessings,

Lauri Jo

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United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met for their monthly meeting on June 10, 2010. Devotions were given by Gwen Chambers followed by the program in the form of a Litany led by Maxine Davidson.

Barry Tait will present the program for the next meeting on July 8.

The Holston Conference School of Christian Mission will be July 22-24 in Kingsport. This is always an extremely informative and interesting school, and this year will be just as great. Are you interested in learning more about Sudan, where Boo and Phyllis are? Or you can participate in an in-depth study of John's letters and understand what those letters mean to us today. Or maybe you want to know why we are involved in mission and what Christ calls us to do. All of the study leaders are professionals -- Rev. Randy Frye, Rev. Mike Sluder and wife Lori, Rev. Joel Campbell, Rev. Clark Jenkins, and Nancy Hobbs who is an Ordained Deacon and a Commissioned Missionary.

The school is open to all men, women, laity and clergy. Pastors and Lay Teachers will receive 1.5 CEU's of credit; lay speakers will receive Certified Advance Lay Speaker credit.

Registration fee is \$45 if received before July 8; \$50 thereafter. Child care is provided for \$25, or \$30 after July 8. The Children's Study will be *Hugging the World: Faith, Hope, Love in Action* with Marsheine McClurg.

And in addition to all of the above, the food is delicious, the music is harmonious, and the fellowship is tremendous.

The Runabouts

(Adult Ministries)

The month of July will be a hot and busy one for most of our church members. We still plan a get together for us during July but we'll be again staying locally and enjoying some of our local attractions. On Thursday, July 22nd, we plan to go together as a group to Sycamore Shoals State Park to take in the drama "LIBERTY". This is Tennessee's Official Outdoor Drama and is now in its 32nd season. The drama is presented in the Fort Watauga Amphitheater and tells the story of the American Revolution as told by the colonists who defied British law and settled on Cherokee lands, formed an independent government, made their own treaties with the Cherokees, defended their homes, and fought the British at the epic battle of King's Mountain. The drama is very well done and is very interesting historically. After seeing the drama, we'll better understand where our fierce East Tennessee independence comes from. The drama starts at 7:30 PM so we'll gather at the church around 6:00 PM and go together to the park.

Monday, July 26th will be our **BUNCO** day. We'll gather at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall to play Bunco and just enjoy being together. By the way, we'll have some light refreshments so **COME ON DOWN!!!**

--
Ron and Sarah Laws



Children & Youth News

ACOLYTES

June 27: J.J. Livingston

July 4: Katie Geagley

July 11: Kali Atwell

July 18: Mason Kechter

July 25: Emily Schubert

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sun, July 11-15

Time: 5:45-8:00 pm

First UMC, First Presbyterian, the kids from the Tree House Center and community will join together for five, fun nights of VBS. Our theme is **“Jesus”** and will focus on the life and teachings of Christ. Each night will be a little different and will include: Bible Stories, games, crafts, cooking activities, challenges, etc. **There will be a free supper served each night for the children from 5:45-6:00 with activities beginning at 6:15.** All children Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us.

A special thanks goes out to the Young Adult Sunday School class for transporting and making arrangements to get the Tree House Kids here each evening!!!

July Coolager Activies

July 6: Bible Mystery Day Time: 12:45-4:00

*Spend the after solving tracking down the clues
And solving the Bible Mystery. All new event!
Sign up deadline for Aug. 7 event!!!!

July 11-15: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 20: Natural Tunnel State Park Time: 9:30-3:00
Bring: Swim stuff, sack lunch/drink, \$5.00

July 27: Messy Mary Day Time: 12:45-4:00

*Wear OLD, Play clothes and prepare to get dirty.
Bring a change of clothes to wear home.

Sat, Aug. 7: Jonesborough Storytelling Time: 9:30-1:30

*Free event but must be signed up in advance.
Need to leave church no later than 9:30. Bring
A sack lunch and drink!!!

July Youth Activities

Mon, July 5-Fri, July 9: Holston Youth Assembly

*Leave church Mon. at 12:45. Return home on
Fri. between 1:30-2:00 pm.

Wed, July 7: Paint day at Youth house (1:00-4:00)

Sun, July 11-Thurs, July 15: VBS Youth helpers needed

Wed, July 21: Warrior's Path Horseback (\$10)

Time: 11:00-3:00 Bring: sack lunch/drink

Sat, July 31: Doe River Gorge Day Quest (10:30-4:00)

Cost: \$10...Modest 1 piece suit, water SHOES

Shorts if going down zip line

Bring: sack lunch/drinks and snacks

Our Mission Notes

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unaware. Hebrews 13: 1-3



FUMC- Elizabethton works with Interfaith Hospitality Network as a support church through our giving through missions. We have a further opportunity to do so in the month of July as we name IHN as our Mission of the Month.

IHN unites hearts and hands to provide shelter, meals, compassion, and comprehensive services for homeless families. Who are our region's homeless? In the recent economic downturn, we see increasing numbers of traditional families, one-parent families, veterans, working people, and victims of domestic violence reduced to homelessness. The IHN staff connects families with a variety of community resources and services that assist families in pursuit of living independently. In our giving to IHN, we fulfill the Biblical imperative that we show hospitality and brotherly love to "angels unaware". Please consider a contribution to this ministry in July as an opportunity to show our love through our financial support.

May Mission of the Month was ARM and our congregation contributed \$160.00.

It's Lunch Time!

Each Monday morning at 10:30 AM from June through July, several ladies of the Abiding Love Bible Study group can be found in our church kitchen, preparing 130 sandwiches for lunch. Since 2008, FUMC has participated in the summer lunch program sponsored by Abortion Alternatives and Women's Center (AAWC). This program is designed to fill the gap during the out-of-school months for those children who receive free or reduced price lunches during the school year. Our recent successful food drive for ARM to collect snack foods was also for the purpose of this feeding program.

Lunch is delivered Monday through Friday by AAWC to children living in public housing developments in Elizabethton. We have developed a relationship especially with the children of the Tree House Community Center area who have attended several events at our church, sponsored by the Young Adult Sunday School class.

We give thanks that, through your giving to missions, FUMC is able to support this worthwhile ministry that seeks to feed those children who are most in need.

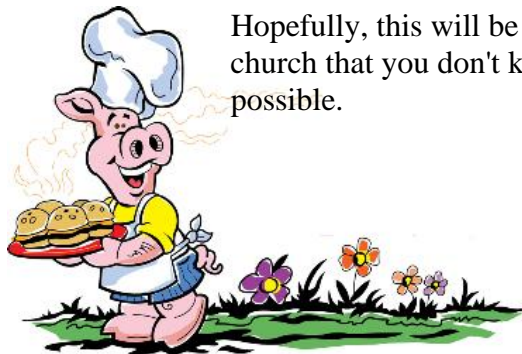
Please remember to pray for the Mission Team that will be going to Paraguay July 9-20.

The Bulletin Board

On Sept. 12th, we will be having our annual BBQ immediately following Sunday School. The BBQ will be hosted by our newly formed Family Life Committee. As in our own families, we welcome the opportunity to not only worship together, but to also fellowship together. In the Methodist tradition, that usually means sharing a meal. Jesus always shared His meals with the disciples or His followers, and we want to begin having dinners periodically that will bring us together as a church family to also share a meal.

Just as in our own families, we need to come together and be willing to help one another in putting on the dinners. We need all ages: young, old, men, women, and youth. There are many tasks that need to be done in order to put the dinners together and make them successful. We will need volunteers to cook, serve and cleanup. We would like to have enough volunteers so that no one will have to work every dinner. We want everyone to be able to sit with their family and friends but in order for that to happen, someone else must be willing to take their place.

There is a reason our new committee is called Family Life. In a family, all the members contribute. That is what we are asking of our church family. If we all have a servant's heart, the work will not fall on just a few.



Hopefully, this will be an opportunity for you to get involved, to get to know someone in our church that you don't know, to have a good time, and to work hard to make the best dinners possible.

Gaye Stanton

Family Life Chair

July
will be
"Camp Meeting"
month with congregational
singing out of the Cokesbury
Hymnal each Sunday for
worship and a Hymn Sing
July 25th.



Chancel Choir will sing August 2nd at
Sulpher Springs Camp Meeting.



If you are interested in applying for a student scholarship for the Fall 2010 semester, please request an application from the church office, download the application from our website, or request by email.

The church website is: www.elizfumc.com
email: soblessed@embarqmail.com



Congrats to those who have completed Disciple 1 Bible Study!

Those who completed the course are:

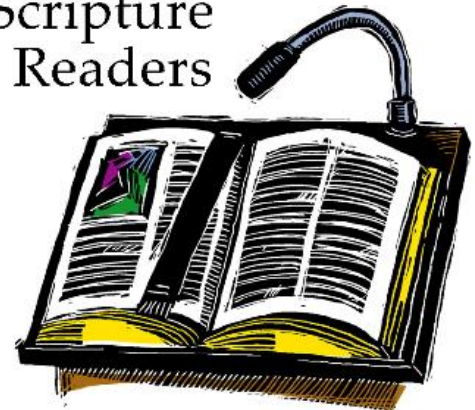
Jobelle Hood, Gayle Hood, Ron Laws, Sarah Laws, Margo Bentley, Julie Bentley, Susan Hathaway, Jean Madgett, Gwen Chambers, and Marie Geisler. A special thank you for the dedication and service given by Jim Hardin and Michael Dick who were the instructors of this class.

It's not too late!!! You can sign up for the next classes!!!

New classes are being offered beginning at the end of August. Please sign up in the office or with Lauri Jo.

Volunteers are Needed to read Scripture on Sunday Mornings.

Scripture
Readers



A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please sign up for the Sunday you wish serve and list your contact information. Robin will email or call you with the scripture you will be reading. Thank you for willing to serve.

Donations

Thanks again to our family and extended family for their contributions as well as for honoring and remembering their loved ones.

MEMORIALS GIVEN TO:

GENERAL BUDGET

- John Nichols by Jack and Phyllis Meece
- John Nichols by Sam and Ruth Ritchie
- John Nichols by Phyllis Lovette
- John Nichols by Goldean Deal
- John Nichols by Pairs and Spares Sunday School

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- John Nichols by Don and Joanne Blair

HONORARIUM GIVEN TO:

GENERAL BUDGET

- Alice, Corrine, and Mary Sharp by Bonnie Price



First United Methodist Church, Elizabethton Tennessee

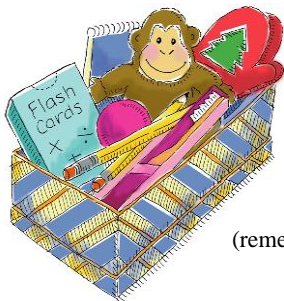
Mark your Calendar JULY

| | USHERS | SOUND | VIDEO | NURSERY | ACOLYTES |
|----------|--------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 07-04-10 | Team 2 | Doug Canter | Doug Hulshult | Hannah Hulshult | Katie Geagley |
| 07-11-10 | Team 3 | Doug Canter | Sage Geagley | Chris Geagley | Kali Atwell |
| 07-18-10 | Team 4 | Doug Canter | JD Livingston | Robin Crawford | Mason Kechter |
| 07-25-10 | Team 5 | Doug Canter | Rachel Hulshult | Julie Bentley | Emily Schubert |



| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 5 th | Church Offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day! Happy 4th! |
| 8 th | UMW Meeting - 1:00 pm in the King's Daughters Class Room |
| 11 th | Administrative Council Meeting in sanctuary immediately following Sunday School. |
| 9 th —20 th | Pray for the Paraguay Mission Team. |
| 11 th -15 th | Vacation Bible School |
| 17 th | Food for the Multitude 8:00 am St. Thomas Episcopal Church |
| 18 th | Knitting Ministry 4:00—6:00 pm in the Church Parlor. |
| 22 nd -24 th | The Holston Conference School of Christian Mission, Kingsport. (for details see UMW article page 2) |
| July 22 nd | Runabouts' Outing - Sycamore Shoals State Park drama "LIBERTY" |
| 25 th | Hymn Sing |
| 26 th | Runabouts' BUNCO day—1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall |

***All the Cooler and Youth Activities are not included in this schedule, please refer Children and Youth section of Newsletter each group's schedule of events.**



Filler Items for Shoeboxes Socks

(remember they must fit in a shoebox)



Interfaith Hospitality Network

| Happy Birthday to.... | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|----------------|------|-----------------|
| Catherine Armstrong | 7/1 | Greg Powers | 7/18 | Brent McCann |
| Erin Bradley-Weatherford | 7/1 | Laura Holland | 7/19 | George Simmons |
| Jean Madgett | 7/1 | Jason Blevins | 7/19 | Lewis Bowers |
| Alice Sharp | 7/2 | Carroll Boone | 7/19 | Kathleen Bowers |
| Jackson Blevins | 7/11 | Emily Schubert | 7/20 | Don Cooper |
| Eula Harrison | 7/14 | Bailey Gwinn | 7/21 | Martha Epperson |
| | | David LaPorte | 7/21 | Marlo LaPorte |
| | | | | Doug Hulshult |
| | | | | 7/21 |
| | | | | 7/21 |
| | | | | 7/24 |
| | | | | 7/26 |
| | | | | 7/26 |
| | | | | 7/29 |
| | | | | 7/29 |
| | | | | 7/31 |



First United Methodist Church
325 East E Street
Elizabethton, TN 37643

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JULY

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Our Staff and Services

| | |
|--|---|
| <p><u>PASTOR:</u> Lauri Jo Cranford revlj@embarqmail.com</p> | <p><u>STATED MEETINGS</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Weekly</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Sunday</u> 9:55 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Worship Children’s Church Fellowship Time Sunday School United Methodist Youth</p> |
| <p><u>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:</u> Robin Gray soblessed@embarqmail.com</p> | <p>11:00 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 6:00—7:30 p.m.</p> |
| <p><u>MINISTER TO CHILDREN/YOUTH:</u> Debbie Fields fumckids@embarqmail.com</p> | <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Wednesday</u> 3:15—4:45 p.m.</p> <p>Coolagers Mid Week Adult Bible Study Handbell Choir Rehearsal Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> |
| <p><u>MINISTER OF MUSIC:</u> David Hale dhrhhale@chartertn.net</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Monthly</p> <p>Administrative Council 2nd Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Trustees 2nd Sunday, 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Women 2nd Thursday, 1:00 p.m. 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.</p> |
| <p><u>CONTACT US:</u> Phone: (423)543-3505 Fax: (423)543-2168</p> | <p>Circle #6</p> |
| <p><u>WEBSITE:</u> www.elizfumc.com</p> | |

