

First United Methodist Church

16 McTyeire St.

McKenzie, TN 38201

731-352-2456 fax 731-352-5651 e-mail: mckfumc@bellsouth.net www, mckenziefumc.org

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FAITH @ FIRST

McKenzie First United Methodist Church exists to worship God and

enable open-minded people to discover the freedom of God's grace through Jesus Christ.

January 27, 2010

A WORD from the PASTOR

Imagine it is 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning and suddenly you're awake. You've overslept – last night when you went to bed you were too tired and forgot to turn on the alarm. You wake your family and speed them up to get ready for church, even if late, and miss Sunday School.

It's now 10:30 a.m. – miraculously you've managed to get your family into the car. Finally you arrive at church and your nerves are rattled. By the time the family gets inside the church building, it's time to worship God.

Even though you are a little flustered, there is a sense of contentment already by seeing all the gracious faces. And you are already anticipating the hour before you; how may I respond to God during this time?

But, for many the last thing on our minds is worshipping God. Sleeping late and a quiet Sunday morning might actually be the truest sense of rest. And yet many of us make an investment of time and wits to come together and worship. Why?

Worship is a choice. As Christians we feel there are many reasons to be here at McKenzie First in Sunday worship. Ultimately, for many the reason comes down to one main cause – God is worthy to be worshipped – not the god of work or family or sports or friends, only the one true God.

There are various elements of worship which become meaningful to us. Some enjoy the music and the singing, or the preaching. It is possible to allow ourselves to become focused on the external form of worship rather than the CENTRAL ELEMENT OF TRUE WORSHIP – OUR RESPONSE TO GOD. That will mean different things to different people: joy, thanksgiving, brokenness, repentance, or prayer as we cry out to God.

Thus, true worship is to open us to God's blessing. The Westminster Shorter Catechism of Faith states, "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." To glorify God – that is worship. To enjoy Him forever – that is the all encompassing reward of worship. (Some details are reprinted.)

See you in morning worship Sunday.

Larry

Sunday, January 31 Text: Luke 4:21-30
Title: Jesus Speaks To The Church

We're all invited to the wedding

Everyone is invited to attend the wedding of **Mark Anderson II and Heather McCartney** this Saturday, Jan. 30 here at the church. The ceremony is at 2:00 p.m., music begins at 1:30. Reception will follow in Underwood Hall.

Board Vacancy

Interested in an important position with the board? Feeling creative? We need someone to maintain and regularly update two bulletin boards in the hallway next to the sanctuary. These boards are an important tool in interpreting the life of our congregation. Previous experience with Disney or a love for your church is required – latter is preferred. If interested, please talk with Fred Sistler.

Three Opportunities

Janet McCarty, sister to Audrey Sistler and a Methodist missionary serving as Officer-in-Charge of the Southern Philippines Methodist College (SPMC), will be speaking three times during her stay with us.

She will speak at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2 to the Mullins' subgroup at Joyce Hayes' home. The presentation will focus on the students at SPMC. On Wednesday, Feb. 3, the UMW will sponsor the same presentation open to the entire church (men and women) and other interested people following a noon lunch. Please sign up for the lunch outside the church's main office.

At 6 p.m. after the fellowship meal Wednesday evening, Janet will give a different presentation focusing on Filipino culture.

Lunch will be served

Plan to stay for lunch on **February 7**. Immediately following the service, **UMM will be serving chili, soup, cornbread, and dessert** (home-made by some of our great cooks). Donations will be accepted to support on going projects.

CHILDREN & YOUTH news

Wed., Feb. 10th – 1st through 4th grade classes and 6th through 8th grade classes will be delivering Valentine cards to the McKenzie Health Care Center. We will leave at 6:00 and will return by 7:00. Permission slips required – be sure yours is on file.

Are you . . .

Interested in being part of a small group (3-4?) of photographers who would record mission activities, Vacation Bible School, classes and other church happenings? **We really need you to help tell the story of the life of our church family.** No one person would be responsible for everything. If interested, please contact Fred Sistler.

Health Kits

Health kits for UMCOR can be brought to the office any time until **Feb. 14**. Our district office will take care of getting them where they go on the 15th.

Please pray for . . . Juanita Gunter; Mark Anderson II & Heather McCartney; J. W. Sterling; Mildred Bunnell; Mark Anderson I; Karen May; Judy Cooper; Kellie Cooper; Chase Mitchell; Felicia Mesavage; Mary Martinez-Karas; Alice Curnutt; Marsha Holiday & family; Dr. Joglekar; First Place 4 Health participants; Ibbie Lou Ingram; Bill, Kristie, Will, & Alexis Reaves; Judy White; John D'Adamo; Charles Hodge; Dennis Smith; Sue, Jerry, & Lynn Dorris; Don & Anita Heath; Thomas & Luceil Brummitt; Sally, Frazier, & Garrett Allen; Mr. T.; Thomas Roditis; Our church; Fred Sistler; Rev. Larry Riley; Leaders & teachers in our church; Our youth; People of Haiti; Volunteers in Haiti; Shane McClelland; Mary Jane Sexton Brewer; Vickie Foster; Soldiers and family members of 278th ACR; Darlene Martinez; All God's children; Tommy Ellis; Ross Martin; Sam Featherstone; Sandi & Kim McMahan; Zia Locke; Connie Laymon; Grady Jonathan Stanfill; Bob & Marilyn Putman; Jo Newton; Michelle Hagins; Anna Weatherford; David "Perk" and Betsy Kee Perkins; Mary Kee; Shirley Martin; Lucy Hickman; Jacob, Leah, & Emma Partridge; Soldiers & family members of 194th ENBDE; Ernestine Branon; Joyce McBride; Carolyn Burke; Mary Lou & Bill Boothe; Mary Frances & Don David; Ruth Moncrief; Raymond & Jessie McDade; Lola Alexander; Jean A. Melton; Margaret & Jim Purcell; Ina Faye Hall & family; Muriel Johnson; Mary Jo Vaughn; Ray & Brenda Berryman; Our troops overseas and at home.

The next week at our church

Sunday, January 31
 8:30 a.m. UMM meeting
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Class
 10:50 a.m. Worship Service
 5:00 p.m. First Place 4 Health
 6:00 p.m. Peals of Praise Handbell rehearsal

Tuesday, February 2
 7:00 p.m. Mullins Sub-group meeting
 at the home of Joyce Hayes

Wednesday, February 3
 12:00 p.m. UMW Lunch, McCarty program
 5:30 p.m. Fellowship meal
 menu: Pork chops, veggies, bread, dessert
 6:00 p.m. FLOW classes – Janet McCarty will speak
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice


VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK

ACOLYTES – Larson King, Timothy Dillon
LITURGIST – Dianne Anderson
NURSERY – Diane Harvey, Leah Partridge
GREETERS – Larry & Dianne Anderson
USHERS – Bryan Merrick; chairperson,
 Jack Elam, Jim Padgett, Jimmy Patterson

Jan. 30 Meals on Wheels Angels
 Cooks and delivery: Youth, leaders, & parents

February 3 FLOW Kitchen Angels
 Kevan & Gina King, Larry & Debbie Riley, Barney & Lossie Beers, Charles & Betty Thompson, Youth will be clean up crew.

January United Neighbors needed items:
 Dry beans, rice



FUMC Staff

J. Larry Riley, Pastor
John Pugh, Pastor Emeritus
Fred Sistler, Director of Ministries
Charlene Jones, Director of Music
Sandra McMahan, Organist, Handbell Director
Donna Bruce & Gina King, C & Y Directors
Kathy Patterson, Administrative Assistant

Memorials January 24, 2010

In Memory of Betsy Barcroft
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW
 Glenn & Kathy Sacks MOW
 Jill Holland & Mike Laughrey MOW
 Jerome & Diana Crawford MOW
 June Brummitt C & Y
 Bill & Margaret Stoner

In Memory of Ann Hood
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW

In Memory of John Morris
 Dr. & Mrs. Harold Russell & family MOW

In Memory of Finis Murray
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW

In Memory of Minnie Pinazzi
 Bettie Scates Handbells
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW
 Jerome & Diana Crawford Choir

In Memory of Rebecca Riley
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW

In Memory of Ann Sexton
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW

In Memory of Betty Simmons
 Raymond & Jessie McDade MOW
 Dr. & Mrs. Harold Russell & family MOW
 Hoot & Joan Gibson MOW
 Mildred Colotta C & Y
 Barney & Lossie Beers MOW
 Bettie Scates Handbells
 June Brummitt C & Y
 Jill Holland & Mike Laughrey MOW
 Al & Meredith Lampley C & Y
 Bob & Jenny Edwards C & Y
 Glenn & Kathy Sacks MOW
 Constance Sexton

THANKS CORNER . . .

Dear Church Friends,
 Thank you for all your cards, visits, prayers and wonderful food. We appreciate your thoughts and deeds. We are so lucky to belong to such a wonderful church family.

Sincerely,
 Betsy Campbell

Thank you so much for the gorgeous red & white arrangement sent to Mother's visitation. My heart leapt with joy to have something there from my adopted home. The Church is & always has been the source of comfort and joy in my life & I truly felt the peace of God & the love of Christ with us in our time of deep sorrow for our loss, but great joy for her entry in the love & joy in Christ.

Always,
 Jo Ann

McKenzie FUMC,
 Many thanks for the cards, prayers, and visit from Brother Riley during my recent hospital stay of heart & renal failure. Without everyone's support, each day would be more of a struggle. I'm so thankful I'm a part of this great church family.

Much love to all,
 Darlene Martinez

Dear Church Members,
 Thank you for the Christmas cards and to the youth who delivered them. We enjoyed each one of them.

A special thanks to Gus and Maggie Glass for their darling picture.

Love to all,
 Jack & Shirley Martin