

First United Methodist Church

16 McTyeire St.

McKenzie, TN 38201

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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.

October 6, 2010

A WORD from the PASTOR

It is said there is something more inferior than being an atheist – it is believing in God, but having a false concept of God.*

In the parable of the Prodigal Son, Jesus shows us that God is like – a loving father. Jesus is teaching us the God of the Universe is like the father in this story. It's not enough to believe in God; we must understand the nature of the God Jesus came to introduce. In this parable we learn three important things about God.

First, God lets us make our own decisions. When the son came and asked for his inheritance – the father gave it to him. God allows us to make our choices!

Second, God receives us when we return. There are no conditions. There is no judgment. There is only welcome!

Finally, more than receiving us – God welcomes us – God restores us! The father ordered his servants to bring the best robe – and a new ring – and new sandals – the Father restored everything the son had lost! And to top it all off – he ordered a homecoming feast!

“What kind of God do you believe in?”

- Do you believe in a God who seeks you?
- A God who trusts you?
- A God who welcomes you?
- A God who restores lives through Christ?

This is the God we at McKenzie First believe in. This is the Good News we have to share.

**The Chalice*

*Peace,
Pastor Larry*

Sunday, Oct. 10, Text: Ephesians 1:3-14
Title: Why Praise God?

Laity Banquet Tickets are available in the church office through Sunday, Oct. 10. The banquet is October 17 at Paris FUMC Christian Life Center at 6:00 p.m. The meal will be catered by Showtyme, and Missy Jenkins Smith, survivor of the Heath High School shootings will be the featured speaker. Tickets are \$12.00 and must be purchased in advance.



Operation Christmas Child

Again this year I am heading up our drive for *Operation Christmas Child*, a program through the Samaritan's Purse organization which distributes Christmas gifts packaged in shoe box sized boxes to children who would not have one any other way. **Each Sunday in October** we will be collecting items for the boxes. There is a place in the lobby for your contributions. On Nov. 3rd as a group we will pack each box.

Schedule as follows:

Oct. 10th – School supplies and plastic shoe box sized containers.

Oct. 17th – Toys; small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals.

Oct. 24th – Hygiene products; soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes.

Oct. 31st – Candy, mints, gum, socks, hair clips, sunglasses, coloring books, etc. Please put food items in plastic baggies.

This is a great way to reach millions of boys and girls and provide opportunities to introduce them to the Savior, Jesus Christ. Please pray that the Lord will multiply his blessings upon this program so that more children will commit their hearts to Jesus. If you have any questions, please call me. Thank you. *Debbie Riley*



Sunday Night-Lights

Special Guest Speaker:

David Pugh will be giving his testimony in our October 10 Sunday Night Lights worship service at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited!

Please pray for... *Sunday Night Lights; First Place 4 Health participants; Mary Jane Sexton Brewer; Vickie Foster; Joey Anderson; Sandi & Kim McMahan; Zia Locke; Carla, Walter and*

Bubba Waddle; Charlene Jones; Mike Ward; Drake Damesworth; Charlotte McGinnis; Frank & Barbara Shiney; Myke, Patty and Justin Wilson; Courtney Worlds; Sandy Hutt; Lacy Riley; Debbie Riley; Roberta Newman; Michael Giles; Terry Conrad; Anders Rider; James Taylor; Martha Johnson; Lisa & Rusty McDowell; Darlene Martinez; Bill Knight; Bertha Knight; Becky Herron; Alice Curnutt; Jimmy Lane; Thomas Roditis; Rain; Our church; Our country; Our freedom; Sue & Jerry Doris; Don & Anita Heath; Damon Todd; Betty & Bill Featherstone; Sam Featherstone; Brandon Langley; Bev Nord; Betty Annis; Dr. Carl Freeman; Grady Jonathan Stanfill; Bob & Marilyn Putman; Bob & Jo Newton; Lucy Hickman; Eadie Van Nostrand; Ernestine Branon; Joyce McBride; Sybil King; Carolyn Burke; Mary Lou & Bill Boothe; Ruth Moncrief; Raymond & Jessie McDade; Lola Alexander; Jim Purcell; Al Ownby; Ina Faye Hall & family; Muriel Johnson; Mary Jo Vaughn; Our troops overseas and at home.

The next week at our church

Sunday, October 10

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 practice
 7:00 p.m. Sunday Night Lights

Monday, October 11

9:00 a.m. CARE Group Meeting

Tuesday, October 12

7:00 p.m. Mullins Sub-Group meeting
 at Big Daddy's BBQ

Wednesday, October 13

11:00 a.m. Prayer in the Chapel
 5:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
 5:30 p.m. C & Y Christmas project
 6:00 p.m. FLOW meal
 Menu: Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, dessert
 6:30 p.m. C & Y classes
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, October 14

6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting

Saturday, October 16

7-11 a.m. C & Y Pancake Breakfast
 9:00 a.m. Newborns In Need

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK

ACOLYTES – Timothy Dillon, Larson King

LITURGIST – Kevan King

NURSERY – Elaine Brown, Gina King

GREETERS – Lucille Russell, Doris Smith

USHERS – Dianne Anderson; chairperson,
 Donna Bruce, Gina King

October 9 Meals on Wheels Angels

Cooks: Sandi McMahan, Clark Brown
 Delivery: Tim & Curtis Broadbent, Hollye Rider

October 13 Office Angels

Barney & Lossie Beers

October 13 Kitchen Angels

Crew Leader: Clark Brown; Bill & Margaret Stoner,
 Betsy Campbell, Joan & Hoot Gibson, Bettie Scates,
 Sandi McMahan, Pam & Eddie Freeman, Brenda
 Berryman, Elaine Brown, Debbie Riley

October United Neighbors needed items:

deodorant, shampoo, canned meat

Telephone numbers to reach the pastor: office
 352-2456; home 352-2730; cell 731-617-0142.
 Please don't hesitate to call if you have a need.

CHILDREN & YOUTH news

Smiley Update: Smiley has been on the move
 for almost a week now. Our youth (and even

some parents!) are having a ball sneaking
 around with him every night.

Three weeks to go.....

Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, October 16th
 from 7 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. This is another youth
 fundraiser and should be delicious (Kevan King
 will be in the kitchen!) We'll be serving
 pancakes, sausage and eggs for \$5.00, \$3.50
 for children 12 and under. And to round out the
 day, at 2:00 p.m. we are taking a trip to Holt
 Farms in Dresden. Watch the newsletter next
 week for more info.

**Wednesday, October 27th is Family Game
 Night.** There'll be a costume contest for all
 ages, and Bingo with prizes.



From Charlene . . .

A sincere "Thank you" to Charles Pruneau for
 his taking over choir director's duties for
 September. Having such talented members in
 our church is not unexpected, but having one
 willing to accept responsibilities so readily, is.
 My appreciation to him is heart-felt. It helped to
 make recovery so much more worry free.

October 17 is Laity Sunday

This year some of our members will tell
 us of their involvement in the church and in the
 community, and why they do what they do.
 Some of our speakers will surprise you. ☺
 Perhaps you and I, too, will hear the call of God.

Do you read Southern?

Boudreaux quit drinking, took a bath, quit
 chasing women, quit his poker games and started
 looking around. Suddenly he was cutting the grass at
 the church; even painted it and was faithful to be first
 to attend on Sundays. Father asked him what
 brought about the wonderful change that had come
 over him.

Boudreaux explained, "I heard 'Crisis' in the
 Gulf and if He's this close I want to be ready."

Thanks Corner . . .

Praise Band Drum Update

Thank you to Lucille Russell, Steve &
 Cherry Russell, Harold & Suzanne Russell,
 Clark Brown, Bryan & Betty Merrick, Jason &
 Jennifer Pinson, Al & Meredith Lampley,
 Jimmy & Kathy Patterson, Truman & Trudy
 Bateman, Nicky & Diane Stafford, and Mildred
 Colotta who have donated money toward the
 cost of our new drum set.

-Eddie Freeman-

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*