

First United Methodist Church

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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.

May 26, 2010

A WORD from the PASTOR

This story was on National Public Radio; it is about Jeff Smith, the "Frugal Gourmet" who used to be on the PBS television channel. Jeff was traveling through Washington state in a remote area when he came across a flock of sheep, who were crossing the road. He stopped his car to wait and soon the shepherd of the flock came by on horseback.

Jeff Smith, an ordained minister, had a question for the shepherd. He asked, "What do you think when you hear the expression 'Lamb of God?'"

The answer was most revealing. The shepherd began: Spring time is a tough time of year for sheep and shepherd. It's a tragic time. It is lambing time, when many ewes give birth. The shepherd must deal with problems. Sometimes a lamb dies at birth, sometimes an ewe dies giving birth.

In the process of giving life, in one place a mother sheep has lost her baby at birth. In another place a lamb has lost his mother. In reality a sheep will not take a lamb that is not her own. So what you have is: a mother sheep full of milk that will not nourish another baby; and a little lamb hungry for milk. Soon the baby will starve to death.

It is a scene of abundance and scarcity all at once.

And this is what the shepherd must do. (This is a bit graphic but it is the truth.) To reconcile this moment of tragedy, the shepherd takes the lamb that has died and slits its throat. Then the good shepherd washes the living lamb in the blood of the one who died. Now the mother sheep will accept the baby washed in the blood of her own. The lamb who died gives life to the lamb that is motherless. Out of death comes life.

The shepherd then said, "*That is what I know about the Lamb of God...*"

What do you know about the "Lamb of God?"

*Peace,
Larry*



Sunday, May 30 Text: John 16:12-15
Title: The Holy Spirit Produces

United Methodist Men

This Sunday, May 30, will be our last meeting until September. A light breakfast will be provided. Come for the food and fellowship at 8:30 a.m. Everyone, please make an effort to attend. Thanks.
Clark Brown

CHILDREN & YOUTH news

Mark your calendars with these upcoming summer events:

Afternoon in the Park - Sunday, June 6th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Pre-K thru 4th grade. Come play and have a picnic! You bring your blankets and chairs and we'll bring the picnic and games. Weather permitting.

Venture River - Wed., June 23rd, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 4th grade and up. Chaperones will be needed for 3rd grade and younger. Watch the newsletter next week for more info.

4th of July Float - Middle School will help with building the parade float. Riders will be needed for the parade on July 3. There is no set schedule right now, but we will keep you posted. Some building will take place at Gina's house where we can swim to get out of the heat!!

2010 Annual Conference

Annual Conference is June 6-8 in Collierville. Please pray for our conference, our pastor, our conference delegates, and the church world-wide.

Fred Sistler will be bringing our message on June 6, as Larry heads out for Collierville.

"Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere." Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Your church will be starting a **weekly prayer meeting** on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the chapel for 30-45 minutes. The first meeting will be **June 9**. There will be no Bible study or sermon; the focus will be on praying together for the things which concern us and affect us. It will be a time of prayer for our church, our community, our country and our world. No particular form of prayer will be followed or expected. There will be a leader each week. If the time and day are not the best, they can be adjusted as needed. The meetings will be open to all ages. Please come whenever you can, for the sake of us all.
Fred

Please pray for... Family of Ross Martin; Family of Dot Neisler; Dottie Norris; Fannie & Autris Langley; Bob Finley; Betty Berry; Danny Allen; Mary Martinez-Karas; Dooney Carroll; Marsha Holiday; Alice Curnutt; Trent Johnson; J. W. Sterling; Suzanne Howell; Thomas Roditis; Sam Featherstone; Martha Johnson; First Place 4 Health participants; Shelly Dillon; Brenda Berryman; Vicki Foster; Mary Jane Sexton Brewer; Eva Sue & Jerry Dorris; Don & Anita Heath; Thomas & Louceil Brummitt; Our church; Rev. Riley & family; Larry Byrd & family; Sandi & Kim McMahan; Zia Locke; Hannah Potts; Lauren Riley; Felicia Mesavage; Danny Allen; Angela Ezell; Nicky & Diane Stafford; Corene Bennett; Grady Jonathan Stanfill; Michelle Hagins; Bob & Marilyn Putman; Jo Newton; Mary Kee; Shirley Martin; Lucy Hickman; Eadie Van Nostrand; Ernestine Branon; Joyce McBride; Sybil King; Carolyn Burke; Mary Lou & Bill Boothe; Mary Frances & Don David; 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, May 30

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
 6:30 p.m. Sunday Night-Lights

Monday, May 31

Office closed - Memorial Day Observance

Thursday, June 3

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK

ACOLYTES – Jacob Pinson, Larson King

LITURGIST – Clark Brown

NURSERY – Elaine Brown, Gina King

GREETERS – Jill Holland, Mike Laughrey

USHERS – Jimmy Patterson; chairperson, Burnell Beers, Truman Bateman

May 29 Meals on Wheels Angels

Cook: Youth, leaders, and parents
 Delivery: Youth, leaders, and parents

June United Neighbors needed item:

macaroni & cheese



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

Honorariums and

Memorials

May 16, 2010

In Memory of Ray Berryman

Marian Smith C & Y

In Memory of Tommy Ellis

Marian Smith C & Y

May 23, 2010

In Honor of Drew Hayes & John Kermit Laughrey - College Graduation

Elaine & Jake Brown

In Memory of Madeline Barker

Marshall & Robin Russell MOW

In Memory of Ray Berryman

Charles & Betty Thompson MOW

Elaine & Jake Brown

In Memory of Tommy Ellis

Marshall & Robin Russell MOW

In Memory of Rev. Raymond Owen

MHS Class of 1951

Hoot & Joan Gibson Mission

Jerry & Mary Weatherford Mission

Charles & Betty Thompson Mission

Bettie Scates Mission

Lois W. Vaughn Mission

Gaylon & Joann Hickman Mission

In Memory of Margaret Purcell

Charles & Betty Thompson MOW

Sunday Night-Lights

Practice moves to 6:30 p.m. this week. If you can sing or play an instrument, please come and join us!

There will be a Church Council Meeting Thursday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m. All church members are invited to attend.

Ready to Learn

Personally I'm always ready to learn, although I do not always like being taught.

~Sir Winston Churchill~

Thanks Corner...

FUMC,
 I wish to thank Bro. Riley, Charles & Betty Thompson for their visit and all the cards, prayers, thoughts I received during my recent hospital stay. This is the most stressful and scariest time in my life, but was more tolerable knowing I have a wonderful church family and God is with me always.

In Christ,
 Darlene Martinez

Thank you for the food you brought to the funeral home. It was so very nice of you.

Beverly & Garland Ellis

Thanks for the beautiful arrangement.

