

## WELCOME NEW CHURCH HOST

We welcome Tracy Fitzwater as our new church host. Tracy began this position on January 1st.

## 10 WEEK MUSIC THEATRE ACTING CLASS AT FUMC

(featuring each student in a Final Showcase)

January 11-March 18

Monday afternoons - 4-6 p.m. for ages 12-18; Thursday afternoons - 4-6 p.m. for ages 5-11

Class size limited to 15, [sign up by January 6th](#)

Classes and lessons taught by Kristi Shamburger, a professional actress with an MFA in Music Theatre from The University of Nevada, Las Vegas. [www.shamburgerproductions.com](http://www.shamburgerproductions.com) To sign up for classes and cost info: Email: [dksham@yahoo.com](mailto:dksham@yahoo.com)

## SHARE THE WARMTH

For the 2nd year, the congregation is invited to "Share The Warmth" to those less fortunate in our area. The W.O.W. Circle is collecting gloves, hats, scarves and throws for both men and women. We find a greater need in the men's area. New items are most appreciated. We will be accepting the items through January 10th for distribution in January. May God bless you as you provide much needed warmth for others.

## MEALS FOR ROOM IN THE INN MINISTRY

Room in the Inn is a homeless shelter in our community that provides temporary shelter to single adults and families. The first Friday of each month our church provides the evening meal to Room in the Inn. We currently have a need for classes, individuals, or groups who would be interested in sponsoring and delivering meals for Friday, February 5th and Friday, March 5th. Meals may be prepared or catered to feed a group of 25 residents. If you or your group would be interested in participating in this wonderful opportunity to serve, please contact [Byron Lynn at 809-5203](#).

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>	<u>8:30 Open Table</u>	<u>11:00 Open Table</u>	<u>Total</u>
Dec 6	434	665 (Men's Ret.-49)	107	45	1,300
Dec 13	447	601	81	56	1,185
Dec 20	437	616	83	83	1,219
Christmas Eve	350 (2:00)	1,050 (4:00)	1,100 (7:00)	400 (11:00)	52 (Hispanic)
Dec 27	198	331	77	53	659

*Up and Coming @ FUMC*

is published monthly by First United Methodist Church, 265 W. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

January 2010

Vol. No. 1

## PREACHING SCHEDULE

### January 10

8:30 am in the Family Life Center  
8:30 am in the Sanctuary  
11:00 am in the Family Life Center  
11:00 am in the Sanctuary

Carlos Uroza  
Michael O'Bannon  
Carlos Uroza  
Michael O'Bannon

### January 17

8:30 am in the Family Life Center  
8:30 am in the Sanctuary  
11:00 am in the Family Life Center  
11:00 am in the Sanctuary

Michael O'Bannon  
Carlos Uroza  
Tommy Perkins  
Michael O'Bannon

### January 24

8:30 am in the Family Life Center  
8:30 am in the Sanctuary  
11:00 am in the Family Life Center  
11:00 am in the Sanctuary

Tommy Perkins  
Michael O'Bannon  
Tommy Perkins  
Michael O'Bannon

### January 31

8:30 am in the Family Life Center  
8:30 am in the Sanctuary  
11:00 am in the Family Life Center  
11:00 am in the Sanctuary

Carlos Uroza  
Michael O'Bannon  
Carlos Uroza  
Michael O'Bannon

## INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT PROGRAMS

On Sunday, January 10th, from 9:30-10:45 am outside the Narthex in the East Wing, we will have information and registration for Adult programs. Please stop by if you would like to register or if you have questions. Wednesday night suppers and programs begin on Wednesday, January 13th.

## WHAT'S YOUR RESOLUTION FOR 2010???

If it has anything to do with eating healthy, getting fit, losing weight, or just bettering your health in general, you need to attend the *Eat & Be Well* informational meeting on **Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 pm in room 114**. The *Eat & Be Well* program is designed to change your body from an acidic state to a more alkaline state eating whole foods the way God intended, plus losing weight at the same time! Come join us January 14th to hear the facts. You will be glad you did.

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY (FUMC)

What: Book signing by local author, David Thomas

Cokesbury Book Sale: 20% to our Library

When: January 13th, 6:00-8:00 pm (First Wed. night supper)

Where: Upstairs in Library

## SNOW POLICY

Snow season is upon us, and it is important to have a policy for programming when the weather is threatening. Therefore, please make note of the following policy regarding inclement weather:

If the Rutherford County and/or Murfreesboro City Schools are closed because of inclement weather (snow, tornado, heavy rains, etc.) all church-sponsored evening programming at the church campus will be cancelled. This includes meetings, meals, choir rehearsals, and weeknight worship services. This does not include any programming by outside groups (e.g., AI-Anon, Community Bible Study, etc.). Sunday morning worship services will not be cancelled due to inclement weather. If anyone is in question, please call the church office (615-893-1322).

## ALTAR FLOWER CHART

The 2010 Altar Flower Chart is now up on the wall beside the elevator on the first floor. Please sign up for altar flowers, especially during January, February, and March.

## REGISTER NOW FOR 2010 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Be sure to mark the date for the upcoming Women's Retreat on February 19th - 21st. We will be going to Beersheba Springs with many special treats for all of you. The theme is "Loving Well" and we will be using a special Beth Moore study in a retreat format. That means a DVD session with Beth Moore and then a discussion group of the topic. She will present four different types of people in our lives and God wants us to love them all. There will be fun, surprises, fellowship, and good food. Miriam will give us a special women's message on Sunday that you won't want to miss! The registration fee is \$115 (\$125 after 1/15) which includes four meals, your lodging (with a roommate), and your materials. You can sign up at the Retreat table in the Narthex or drop off your check with your registration form. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pat McIntosh at 494-3822.

## MURFREESBORO DISTRICT LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING SHEPHERD SCHOOL

Sunday, January 24th, 1:30-4:00 pm

First UMC of Tullahoma

Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center desk or in the church office for a list of the workshops offered. If you need more information you may call the District Office at 893-5886.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO**

Robert and Nikki Lowe Murfree on the birth of their son, Samuel Hardy Murfree, born Saturday, November 28, 2009. The paternal grandparents are Bob and Betsy Murfree. The maternal grandparents are Steven and Donita Guy and Carl and Wanda Lowe.

**BAPTISM**

On Sunday, December 20th, we celebrated the baptism of Brady Jennings Clark, son of Christina Leigh and Daniel Joseph Clark, Jr. The paternal grandparents are Dan and Sue Clark. The maternal grandparents are Debbi and Tim Smallwood and David and Michelle Russell.

On Sunday, December 27th, we celebrated the baptism of Mason Elliott Hopper, son of Elliott Bert and Stacia Lois Waltz Hopper. The paternal grandparents are Robert and Carolyn Hopper. The maternal grandparents are Richard and Melody Waltz. Mason has an older sister, Caroline Melody.

**NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome into our church family:

- Douglas & Jeannette Boxeth of 108 Old Orchard Drive, Lascassas, TN 37085. Their home phone number is 763-222-3936.
- Mary Elizabeth Gillespie of 116 River Downs Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN 37128. Mary Elizabeth and her husband, Matthew, have two children, Holt and Cari Beth. Their home phone number is 907-6760.
- Shawn and Michelle Napier of 2023 Avery Park Drive, Smyrna, TN 37167. Their home phone number is 931-273-0810.
- Crystal Armbruster of 1100 Grantland Ave., Murfreesboro, TN 37129. Her home phone number is 217-4702.
- Marian Wright of 910 St. Andrews Dr., Apt M16, Murfreesboro, TN 37128. Her home phone number is 731-234-2209.

**SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mark and Ginny Kestner and family in the loss of Mark's father, Clyde Winfred Kestner, who passed away Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

**USHERS FOR FEBRUARY**

8:30 AM Traditional: Larry Lyon, Zane Cantrell, Sonny Reynolds, Kay Thompson, Ken Crutcher, Jim McElyea, Bart Bass, Wes Dugan

11:00 AM Traditional: John Sallee, Larry Robeson, Charlie Baum, Alan Bridges, Ron Nall, John Rhome, Ben Spielman, Bob Tuma, Don & Hanna Witherspoon

8:30 AM Open Table: Robin Evans, Jimi Evans, Raheema Evans, Shawn Wright

11:00 AM Open Table: Beverly Waldon, Ty Waldon, Tonia Cunningham

- \*\*\*\*\*
- ★ **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER FOR JAN. 10, 2010** ★
- ★ 8:30 Davis Miller & Trey Campbell Caroline Miller ★
- ★ 11:00 Rebecca Soetje & Ally Navarro Garrett Noffsinger ★
- ★ **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER FOR JAN. 17, 2010** ★
- ★ 8:30 Olivia Zietz & Baylee Hayes Matthew Leifheit ★
- ★ 11:00 Ashleigh King & Brandi Dunn Jennifer Curtis ★
- ★ **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER FOR JAN. 24, 2010** ★
- ★ 8:30 Adam LaPorte & Kyle Dotson Hunter Bullock ★
- ★ 11:00 Bailey Graves & Sylvia Waldon Tori Peterson ★
- ★ **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER FOR JAN. 31, 2010** ★
- ★ 8:30 Morgan Jernigan & Elizabeth Penn Michael Zietz ★
- ★ 11:00 AnnaLevi Chavis & Rebecca Soetje Brandi Dunn ★
- \*\*\*\*\*

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade CHAOS** – Jan. 10 – 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bring \$3.00 for dinner. Beginning studies on decisions and consequences.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock in and Bowling** – Jan. 17 – 8:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. \$8.00 to bowl unlimited games between 9 and 11:00. Snacks at church. Lights out at 1:00 a.m. Friends are welcome as long as they are in the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade CHAOS** – Jan. 24 – 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$3.00 for dinner.

**Confirmation Classes begin Jan. 10** during the Sunday school hour.

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Fellowship** – Feb. 7, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

**MOTHER'S DAY OUT 2010 REGISTRATION**

Mother's Day Out 2010 registration will begin on February 1st for present MDO and church members, February 3rd for preschool members, and February 8th for the community. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the West Wing (Children's wing). There is a \$75.00 registration fee. Child must be 1 or 2 by September 30, 2010. For more information contact the director, Julie Trollinger (893-1322 ext. 38).

**PERSONS BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION**

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Rebecca Slaughter-MTMC                                  | Nancy Baker-At Home    |
| Charlotte McKnight-MTMC                                 | Dick Malone-At Home    |
| Bill Caruthers-At Home                                  | Nelda Pope-At Home     |
| Lizabeth Branson-At Home                                | Sonny Reynolds-At Home |
| Rev. John Sessoms-At Home                               | Colton Sheets-At Home  |
| Ralph Tramel, Sr.-At Home                               | Fred Dansby-At Home    |
| Ben & Betty Ferguson-At Home                            | Mark Harrell-At Home   |
| Erv Manning-Adams Place                                 | Larsen Purvis-At Home  |
| Sybil White-Adams Place                                 | Martin Moseley-At Home |
| Nancy Ross-Sunnington                                   | Billie Russell-At Home |
| Betty Caruthers-Northside Health                        | Nancy Pierce-At Home   |
| Arthur Beard (Tami Smith's father)-At Home              |                        |
| Fred Turnbow (Chris Turnbow's grandfather)-At Home      |                        |
| John Throneberry (Ava Eaton's friend)-At Home           |                        |
| Archie Lin (Frank Davis' brother-in-law)-Lake Worth, FL |                        |
| Frances Marks (Nick Marks' grandmother)-Lebanon Rehab   |                        |
| Lillian Taylor (Chris Taylor's mother)-At Home          |                        |
| Holly Sneed (Tracy Priddy's sister)-At Home             |                        |
| Christine Burns (Jim Burns' mother)-At Home             |                        |
| Dee Berkebile (Terry Dezort's mother)-At Home           |                        |
| Harold Coke-At his brother's residence in Nashville     |                        |
| Christine Cantrell (Ann Graves' mother)-At Home         |                        |
| Clara Delbridge-Richland Place, Nashville               |                        |
| Nancy Butler (Craig Butler's mother)-Tunica, MS         |                        |

**STORM VICTIMS AND FAMILIES**

**MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Chris Nall, Jeff Walker, Doug Brown, John Reynolds, Mason Harlow, Luke Naughton, William Rhome, Tim Ferguson, Nicholas Phillips, Ingram Cope, Josh Berry, Clint Ervin, Chase Moss, Josh Thurman, Ben Cahill, Lloyd Denny, Michael Maglio, Jr., Hugh Hanna, Mark Collins, David Walker, Blake Troutman, Richard D. Forth, Mark Thomas, Brandon Kyle Hall, Matt Crisafulli, Thomas Hosfelt, Jay Patton, Zachary Kragness, Heather Clemens, Michael Clemens, Jeremiah Borrajo, Curt Oglesby, Patrick Caukin, Jay Patton

**WELCOME CENTER HOSTS FOR FEBRUARY**

Mary Ann Richardson, Charlene Arbuckle, Robin Robertson

**JANUARY SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON**

You are invited to the January Senior Adult Luncheon on Thursday, January 21st. After a wonderful meal prepared by our new church host, Tracy Fitzwater, we are going to be educated by Mr. Jerry Bailey about the plethora of Senior opportunities and programs provided by Murfreesboro's Linebaugh Library. Sign up for this luncheon in your Sunday School classes, in the church office, or at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or email [tperkins@fumcm.org](mailto:tperkins@fumcm.org) no later than Friday, January 15th.

**THANK YOU**

To our dear friends at FUMC:

There are no words that are strong enough to express how all of you have made such a deep impact on Colton, Tim, and I. "Thank you" doesn't even begin to say or express how we feel.

The gift cards, some have sent cash, toys for Colton, magazines, books, (an autographed by the author book), all of the meals, etc. for our family. We were just overwhelmed. We never expected or thought in a million years we would ever need those things...but we did. We haven't been able to work the way we did, and everything just stops...the clock stops. One minute you are driving to work complaining about the traffic...and the next minute you are shaken to your core.

The FUMC Family of parents, helpers, Sunday School teachers, Youth ministry group and children has been the **BIGGEST** source of inspiration to Colton, Tim, and I. Every time we would read a card, an E-Card, etc. we would cry together. I am so moved, deeply touched, and forever changed by the sentiments and actions of everyone. I know we needed it.

It has taken me awhile to share with you how much we have appreciated all you have done and how it has MADE A DIFFERENCE in our lives and our healing process, but it has been difficult to find the words that say how we feel. Each time I would want to sit down and write this letter, I would fall apart.

We are 5 months into treatment, and I honestly never thought we would get to this point. That first week of diagnosis, tests, surgeries, and "not knowing" what we were facing became cruel and unbearable.

To be writing this letter today, is a true testimony to God's strength and love for all of us. I will admit he has had to carry Tim and I many times through this process so far. He has even had to put one foot in front of the other for me, but he has done it and has given us a great prognosis for Colton.

When we get in the car to go to the hospital for surgery and chemo treatments, Colton gets so excited and says, "Mommy, Colton go to church, Colton go to school!" It breaks my heart that he can't be a part of this amazing family at FUMC for the next few months, but I know he WILL get better with all your prayers, and he WILL be back! He is what they call "neutropenic", so his counts are so low, that we can't risk being around groups of people. If he gets sick while he is neutropenic, it is literally life or death for him. We know that with God's help, your continued prayers and support, this too, shall pass. I can't wait until I can bring him back to Sunday school again or take him to the grocery store, or just the simplest things we sometimes take for granted that we do as a family in our every day lives.

I've never asked for anything, I have always taken pride in being able to take care of myself and my family and have loved taking care of others. Now, I have humbled myself and I know we can't do this on our own. It takes everything we have inside of us to make sure that "wonderful little man" of ours is taken care of. There isn't much left after that for anything else.

Tim and I KNOW that with God, all things are possible and miracles happen every day. We find mini triumphs each day in every battle we are fighting. It gives us strength and hope for the next day. Miriam Seyler has been an angel sent from heaven. Daryn, Kitty, Donna, all of you know who you are. My cup is overflowing...

When Colton becomes a young man someday, I want him to know how many people loved him, prayed for him, and made sure he was healed. I pray for all of you and your families and thank God everyday for the many blessings he has given us...including ALL OF YOU!

The Youth Ministry at FUMC can never fully understand the impact they have had on our lives. When you are young, you face the world with eyes wide open and everything seems limitless. They have opened their hearts to us and dedicated their Saturdays to helping a 3-year old and a family that has been shaken to their core. Colton continues to talk about "Santa" visiting and the parade and all of his "friends" that came to see him. This memory will always be with him...and all of you gave that hope to our son.

For those of you who don't know, this information is a true testament to God's miracles.

It is funny how God has a plan and no matter what, that plan will happen.

About a month before Colton got sick and was diagnosed, I was picking Colton up from school, and out of the blue, he said, "Mommy, I want a brother". I couldn't believe it and laughed so hard. When I got home, I made Colton tell Tim what he said and we both laughed again and forgot about it.

When we were in the hospital that second week after Colton was diagnosed, I wasn't feeling well. I went to the Doctor...

Colton must have known... I am pregnant, and Colton is having a baby sister in March.

You will never understand the impact you have had on all of our lives, and we love you all. May God continue to bless us all!

We would like to ask for all of you to continue to pray for those that you may not know that are suffering from this diagnosis. The children that are on Vanderbilt's 6a floor. Many of them do not have the prognosis Colton has and their families need our prayers. Baby Hatcher, Austin, Brittany, Lyric, Savannah, and many others.

With all of our love,  
Colton, Tim, Jennifer Sheets, and Baby Sheets

P.S. Do Tim and I a favor tonight...give those precious children of yours so many hugs and kisses tonight. They are an amazing gift from God.