GOOD NEWS BANNER FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TO PRAISE GOD, WELCOME ALL, SERVE OTHERS, GROW IN FAITH, BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST AND SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

Reverend Matt Nieman A message from our Pastor

At the Table

Of all the memories you have, I'll wager that many of your strongest are those involving a meal at a table. Whether it was a



kid's birthday party, a wedding banquet, a meal at your favorite restaurant, or family dinners during holidays, we remember with more clarity the meals we have with family or friends.

Most of our meals are benign—simple conversations that connect us around food we enjoy. Some, however, involve more —a new face at the table, a parent using it as the opportunity to deliver a speech about proper behavior, remembrances of somebody no longer at the table, or an embarrassing moment among friends.

Regardless of circumstance, meals together dot our lives with significance and provide part of the storybook of our life journeys.

In our journeys of faith, we find significance at church dinners in the fellowship hall, small-group outings at friends' homes, and, of course, nourishment at the Lord's table for communion.

During the season of Lent, we will focus on the amazing moments of Jesus' life as he ate with friends and strangers alike. With insight from a book titled, Meeting Jesus at the Table by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr, our Sunday worship will be anchored around stories like Jesus feeding the multitudes, eating with "tax collectors and sinners," making room for all at the table, breaking bread one last time before his arrival at the cross, and others.

In addition, because of this focus, we will come to the table for communion at both services every Sunday from March 2 through April 20.

Be part of this journey to the cross that includes these occasions of eating and being nourished by the words and presence of Jesus.

Join us for Worship

9:00 am Casual Service Sanctuary

11:00 am Traditional Service Sanctuary

https://tinyurl.com/fpclivestream

We are a diverse and welcoming community of believers, called by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge God's gracious presence in the world. Our faithful response in praising God encompasses compassionate service to all, nurturing one another to grow in faith together and sending out disciples to share the Good News.





Adult Education

PASTOR MATT'S CLASS Library "Hope: A User's Guide" by MaryAnn McKibben Dana

How do we cultivate hope to face each day? How do we find the energy to persevere, knowing things don't always work out OK, no matter what the platitudes say? How do we pursue the work of justice, knowing that the task is too big for any of us? One thing is certain: real hope demands that we do something with it. That we live it out. That we use hope to participate in a bigger story playing out behind the bleak world we see on the news or in our social media feeds every day.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY Outdoors/Room D Led by Elizabeth Wilson

This class will discuss the weekly Lectionary text. The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of readings from the Scriptures, arranged and intended for proclamation during the worship of the people of God. This practice of assigning particular readings to each Sunday and festival has continued through the history of the Christian Church.

Congregational Workshops in March

The Session has launched a visioning process on the occasion of our 40th anniversary as a congregation. As a church, we are in a strong position. A good spirit and unity resides among us, we have many resources for ministry at our disposal, and we have plenty of opportunities to use these gifts into the future.

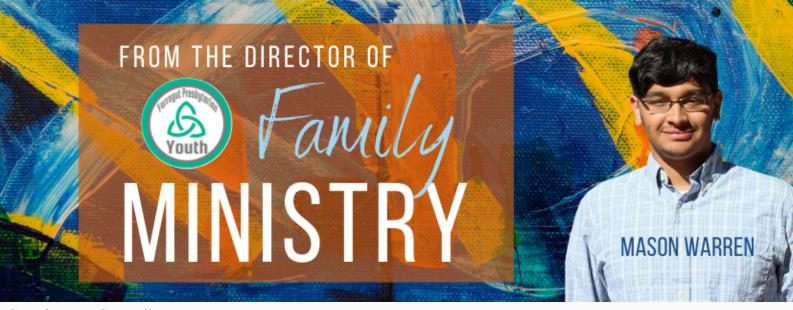
Because we are in this position of strength, the Session has enlisted the gifts of John Sharp to lead us in an assessment of where we are as a congregation and how we can use our gifts to better live into our calling. John and Whitney are new members of our congregation, and we are grateful they have found a home among us. John is a pastor and has worked with several nonprofits in helping them find their path toward achieving their mission.

John has conducted a workshop with the Session and now would like to gather feedback from the congregation as to what you believe FPC's strengths are and where you think we can improve in our ministry. John will also share data that reflects the nature of religious life in America and how we are wellpositioned to be the church in this ever-changing landscape.

Please join us for one of two workshops here at the church: Sunday, March 9, from 3-5 p.m. (snacks provided) and Wednesday, March 12 from 5-7:30 (a light dinner will be provided first from 5-5:30). Please use the link or QR code to RSVP:

We hope you can attend; we would value your input.





Greetings FPC Family,

While the Spring season is rapidly approaching, our Family Ministries is gearing up for a lot of exciting activities and events coming up! While the Spring season is full of really fun events such as our annual Easter Egg hunt as well as the weekly fun we have in KidZone, much of the Spring season is spent preparing for the incredibly busy summer that FPC Family Ministries has each year. With that being said, we are incredibly excited to share with everyone a few of these exciting events!

First and foremost, we are excited to announce our 2025 Summer KidZone theme! We will be adapting and utilizing Group Publishing's True North curriculum. Prepare to witness Room A transform into the Alaskan wilderness where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers and glistening glaciers! As our kids explore this new terrain, they will dive deeper into God's word and discover that Jesus is a faithful friend whom we can always trust. He is our True North! This program will run each Sunday morning during the 9 am service from Sunday, June 1st through Sunday, August 3rd! We would love for you all to be apart of this amazing journey and we encourage you to volunteer with us!

Second, our youth program is gearing up for a very busy Summer! Between youth conferences and weekly opportunities for fellowship and fun, our youth have a full schedule! This year in addition to our yearly trip to Montreat, North Carolina for the Montreat Youth Conference, we will also be travelling alongside other youth from our Presbytery to participate in the 2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Louisville, Kentucky! This event only occurs once every three years and is a gathering of Presbyterian youth from across the globe! While these conferences are exciting opportunities for our youth, we will also have more local opportunities for our youth to engage with one another as well as serve. The youth group will be serving lunch at Volunteer Ministry Center in July as well as participating in the Presbytery Small & Mighty Youth program. As is always the case, if you would like to get involved with our youth program, be it joining us on a trip or just providing dinner for youth group one night, please feel free to reach out and let us know!

Finally, we want to share with you all some pictures of all the fun that we have had over the past few months as FPC Family Ministries! These are only but a few snapshots of the many laughs and smiles that we share when we gather and we would love for you to join us!

While the future of the Family Ministries at FPC look bright, we always want to encourage everyone within the greater Farragut Presbyterian Church family to know that they are always welcome to join us for any of our events! While many of our events focus on providing fun and exciting opportunities for our youth and children to participate in, all of our events are open to the whole church and we would love for you to join us!

Peace & Blessings, Mason Warren Director of Family Ministries Farragut Presbyterian Church

KIDS ZONE!

We invite any little adventurers aged 3-9 to come aboard for a Sunday morning full of fun at 9:00am in our Fellowship Hall!

Kids will dive into the magical world of God's love with Bible tales, catchy tunes, cool videos, and loads of giggles, while grown-up helpers guide them through arts, science, food and jam sessions.

Let's make Sundays a fun day!

YOUTH CLASS CAFE/PARLOR LED BY MASON WARREN

The Youth Sunday School Class meets to DIVE IN to the Old Testament! Each week throughout the school year, youth explore a specific book of the Old Testament utilizing videos and discussion. We will explore key themes like God's covenant with the Israelites, stories of pivotal figures like Abraham, Moses, David, and Daniel, learning about concepts of obedience, faith, justice, and redemption, while also examining how these stories and characters relate to their own lives and challenges today, especially through relatable experiences like dealing with difficult choices, facing adversity, and navigating relationships with others; all while understanding the historical context of the stories and how they foreshadow the coming of Jesus in the New Testament.

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OUTREACH BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING



Farragut Presbyterian Church believes an important part of our mission as a church is to reach out to those in need. Our outreach extends to our local community and beyond.

Our assistance takes many forms. We contribute financially to support many programs, but we also give of our time and talents to improve the quality of life of those experiencing life's tough challenges.

Beginning with the next newsletter, we will highlight one of our organizations each month. We love telling their stories and hope you will be inspired by the work of FPC to those in need.

Our Outreach Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 11am. Come join us! We are always looking for new ideas and ways to serve.







TIME TO CLEAN OUT THE GARDEN SHED & DONATE UNUSED ITEMS TO THE



arking lot picnic tables between March 9th - April 6th contact Joyce or Kent Williams for more information (all proceeds benefit Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry)



The Colors and Sounds of Our Worship

After Christmas, I took the Chancel Choir's stoles to be dry cleaned. As I collecting them in the Robing Room, someone asked me about the different colors of stoles the choir wears on their robes, and how they relate to the paraments in worship and the liturgical vestment Reverend Nieman wears over his robe. There are four liturgical colors: purple for Advent and Lent, green for Ordinary Time, white for Christmas and Easter, and red for Pentecost.

Our very own Soulful Sewing Sisters comprised of Mary Ellen Haig, Helen Nalley and Nancy Pevey (with special surgical skills from Dr. Haig) have sewn brand new purples stoles for the Advent and Lenten seasons. Choir stoles are reversible and are in the four colors we use at different times during the liturgical season. When I was asked about the colors, and what they symbolize, I was reminded that even though we have used these colors in the paraments on our pulpit and lectern for years, the reasons why might be something we took for granted. I personally have found symbols and the liturgical year very educational; they have enriched my understanding and appreciation of the Christian story.

The book, The Symbols of the Church by Maurice Dilasser includes this about liturgical colors in general: "In the present human condition in finite space and the limitation of time, the perception of the world is received through appearances. The colors combine in the splendor of natural light and reveal the uncreated light, the divine Word. Their liturgical symbolism follows from the language of colors." The most common liturgical colors are blue or purple for Advent and Lent, white for Christmas and Easter, green for Ordinary Time, and red for Pentecost Sunday. Much of what follows is taken from Dilasser's book.

Purple is the color of majesty for the coming of the King of Kings. It is also the color of Saturn, suited to the autumnal passage from life to death, to trials and ordeals. Purple replaced black in the 13th century, which was used for times of mourning and penance, vigils, Advent, and Lent. While purple has traditionally been the liturgical color for Advent and Lent, Blue is increasingly used for <u>Advent</u>, especially in Protestant churches, to distinguish it from <u>Lent</u>. Blue symbolizes the sky or heaven, where heralds proclaimed Jesus' birth. In some traditions, it symbolizes Mary, who is known as "the Queen of Heaven." It can also symbolize the waters of Genesis 1, the beginning of a new creation.

White symbolizes purity, holiness, and virtue, as well as respect and reverence. The New Testament consistently uses white to describe angels and the risen Lord. In the ancient Church, people were given white robes as soon as they emerged from the waters of baptism. White is used for all high Holy Days and festival days of <u>the Church Year</u>, especially the seasons of <u>Christmas</u> and <u>Easter</u>, as well as for baptism, marriage, ordination, and dedications. It is also used for memorial services and funerals as a symbol of the resurrection.

Green is the color of Venus and contrary to purple, marks the return of life in spring and conveys hope. It is the color of plants and purifying waters which regenerate. Liturgical green is symbolic of the "Tree of Life." Green is the color of Ordinary Time as it also represents the last days and the expectation of the world to come. Red is the color of Mars and the color of fire, blood, and passion. Since Vatican II, red represents the spilt blood of Christ, and can also be used on Passion Sunday and Good Friday. Red is also the color of the flames of love and the tongues of fire of Pentecost.

Of course, this is just a brief overview of the fascinating symbolism of colors used in the church. I encourage you to explore and learn more. Symbolism can make our worship and our spiritual journey more meaningful, especially if we understand their symbolic meaning.

Along with the colors of worship, there are also the sounds found in our worship. If one listens, you can hear everything from the pouring of water into the baptismal font to the wonderful peaceful sounds of silence as we pray and consider God's greatness in our lives. For our season of Lent, especially, there is a collage of Lenten symbols and music: purple ... fasting ... simplicity ... preparation ... baptism ... quiet ... ashes ... renewal ... conversion ... the cross ... repentance ... the catechumenate. The evolution of the Church's liturgical practices has certainly produced a rich and intricate tapestry for the season of Lent.

Lectionary passages reinforce the special nature of the season. The music carefully selected for traditional worship used during this season also builds on this groundwork, helping to bring alive the themes and moods of the liturgy, helping to set the season apart. Lenten music has its own particular beauty full of somber, minor sonorities. Lent has been an enormous source of inspiration for composers," the birthplace of gems like the hymn "O Sacred Head Now Wounded."

In a way, Lenten music began before the Church did. Jesus and the apostles sang Passover hymns on the first Holy Thursday, as testified by the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. The earliest Christians often sang of the passion and death of Christ, although their music is mostly lost. The High Middle Ages was a rich seedbed of penitential music. The Dies Irae ("Day of Wrath"), attributed to the 13th-century' musician Thomas of Celano, was eventually incorporated into the Requiem Mass in the 16th century. To this day, composers take great delight in using this apocalyptic text as a starting point for magnificent (and very loud) orchestrations.

Bach's name is inseparable from sacred music, especially Lenten music, due largely to his four oratorios based on the Gospel accounts of the Passion. Two of them are lost, but the St. John Passion and St. Matthew Passion are high-water marks for depth and complexity. From the opening notes of the St. John Passion, we are invited to contemplate a world thrown out of balance by sin and the innocence of the Lamb to be slain; in Bach's own understated way, the trial sequence of the St. John Passion chillingly reminds us of the world's darkness.

For our traditional worship during Lent, the area of hymn selection has great impact on the mood of our liturgies. Looking specifically at Lenten hymnody, we see that there are certain traditional hymns, coming from a number of sources (German chorales, spirituals, English hymn tunes). The hymns "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days," "Were You There?" and "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" are familiar to most congregations and should be a part of every Lent.

The anthems sung by the Chancel Choir and rung by the FPC Ringers during the Lenten season are chosen very carefully, as always, with the goal of enhancing the spoken Word. Tami Newsom, our Associate Director of Music also makes selections very carefully, avoiding those joyful pieces which are better saved for Easter or Ordinary Time. Not just during Lent, but every Sunday - all music chosen for traditional worship is selected to coincide with the lectionary scripture passages prescribed for the day, intended to illuminate the Word and work as a cohesive element for the theme of worship on that day. During Lent, you will hear that Lenten music is not simply more of what is played or sung during Ordinary Time, but has a character of its own.

Purple tells our eyes it is Lent; texts tell our mind it is Lent; prayers tell our hearts it is Lent; and music tells our ears it is Lent. Lent, like Advent, is a time for solemn and sober thought about one's sins leading to repentance. It denotes a quiet time for watching, waiting, and praying for Christ's passion and resurrection.



Many of our church members sing with Roane Choral Society. Come hear their concert, Songs of Ireland.

Ministries

Presbyterian Women

All circle meetings are held at the church

<u>Circle #1</u> 2nd Tuesday, 10 am Leaders: Megan Figel 240-319-6768 Kathy Emmerson 312-286-1676

<u>Circle #2</u> 2nd Tuesday, 10 am Leaders: Becky Thomason 865-607-0727 Linda Nunley

<u>Circle #3</u> 2nd Wednesday, 10 am Leaders: Mikie Lancaster 865-675-0360 Jo McElhaney 865-705-6518

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) groups build community, affirm women's calls to leadership and spiritual growth, raise concerns and channel information to and from Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery. Presbyterian Women is a loving community that can challenge and nurture you, and be a vehicle for making the world a better place for all of God's children. Consider joining an FPC Circle.

Check us out on Facebook: Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA) or on Instagram: PWPCUSA, Inc. <u>www.presbyterianwomen.org</u>

Men's Bible Study

February 13 and 27 8 a.m. / Narthex

The men of FPC gather twice a month for fellowship and a time of bible study. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month in the narthex at 8am. If you would like to join us, please contact John Neighbors or the church office to get on the contact list. Breakfast, coffee, and great fellowship provided!

Presbyterian Momen Birthday Offering Spring Luncheon

All FPC Women are invited to attend the luncheon, featuring speaker Shelley Binder, an avid researcher of the Titanic. Shelley grew up hearing stories about her great grandmother and great uncle who were survivors of the Titanic. She presents a very informative program with information and music.

DATE: MARCH 29, 2025

TIME: 11:30

CATERER: APPLE CAKE TEA ROOM (GLUTEN FREE WILL BE OFFERED

PRICE: \$15.00

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT BOTH 9:00 AND 11:00 SERVICES ON MARCH 9, 16, 23



Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in

the month of March in the United States since 1987. If you'd like to make your observance Presbyterianfocused, visit the Presbyterian Women website at www.presbyterianwomen.org to learn about the history of Presbyterian Women and to read various stories about Presbyterian Women just like you.

Activities

Chair Yoga

MONDAY AND FRIDAY 10:00 - 10:30 AM NARTHEX

Class designed for those with limited mobility or balance concerns.

TGIF Gentle Yoga

FRIDAY 7:00 - 8:00 PM NARTHEX

Gentle, slow flow class. Bring a mat and comfortable clothing. For beginner and experienced yogis.

Contact Jenny Trussell at CEDARSTUDIOS4@GMAIL.COM for additional information or a private introductory session! Both Yoga classes are free and open to the public. No childcare available

March Birthdays

- 3/01 Beth Martin
- 3/03 Olivia Colloredo
- 3/07 Terry Olberding
- 3/10 Byrd Mathis
- 3/13 Mia Key
- 3/15Whitney Sharp
- 3/17 Linda Stutzenberger
- 3/17 Holly Gary
- 3/17 Maria Medina
- 3/18 Mason Warren
- 3/20 Kent Williams
- 3/20 Michael Wright
- 3/20 Sam Hopson
- 3/22 Jerry Seiler
- 3/23 Chris Kszos
- 3/23 Cameron Foster
- 3/24 Carol Kraft
- 3/24 Lynn Kszos
- 3/27 Paul Johnson
- 3/28 Dixie Heflin
- 3/28Ciaran Fitzgerald
- 3/29 David Stutzenberger
- 3/29 Mark Scheuer
- 3/29 Carol Evans
- 3/31 Jo McElhaney
- 3/31 Steve Darnell

March Anniversaries

- 03/09 Van and Dixie Heflin
- 03/12 Matt and Beth Honey
- 03/12 Rob and Eva Lynch
- 03/14 Thom and Mary Ellen Haig
- 03/17 Victor and Kelly Schueler
- 03/20 John and Becky Thomason
- 03/21 Clay and Denise Griffin
- 03/23 Jerry and Beth Martin
- 03/24 Nathan and Byrd Mathis
- 03/29 Stuart and Donna Phillips

It's FOODIES time!!



Join this fun fellowship event that meets quarterly in small groups of 6-8 people. Participants bring a dish to pass from a provided menu recipe. We meet at the home of a designated host for a great dinner and fellowship. Sign up in the Narthex for our first meal that takes place on Saturday, March 15. Contact Pat Hickman with questions.

Our Our menu will include Appetizer: Irish soda bread and some cheeses Entrée: Corned Beef and Cabbage with potatoes and carrots Dessert: Key Lime Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce



Pat Dail, Jan Darnell, Kathy Emmerson, Marilyn Felts, Dean Fleming, Chuck Foriska, David Greaser, Frank Guess, Dixie Heflin, David Long, Beth and Jimmy Loyless, Ann McAnally, Irma McGuffey, Donny Matchen, Maria Medina, Shannon Needham, Tami Newsom, Buddy Wert

and Joul

Thank you all so much for the lovely reception, unexpected gifts, and the well-wishes on my recent retirement as office administrator. Your kindness and generosity are heart-warming and truly appreciated. I am so thankful for this extraordinary church family and blessed with the cherished friendships I have made.

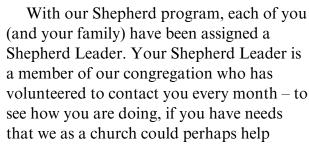
It was my honor to serve you in my small way, and I look forward to seeing you all at church on Sundays.

With love and abundant gratitude,

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SHEPHERD

MINISTRY



with, and to ask how they can be praying for you!

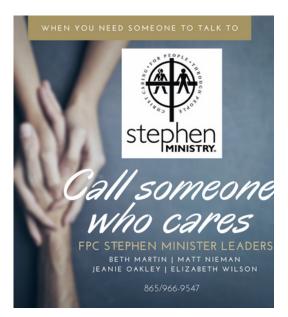
We are blessed to have 30 Shepherd Leaders who have felt called to help in this ministry. Each Shepherd Leader has approximately 5-7 families within their "flock". Your Shepherd Leader will contact you each month in the way that is best for you, be it a phone call, card, email, or by text. Or perhaps you have an opportunity to see each other at church or in the community and can share at that time.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

February 25 11:00 am Room D

Join this wonderful group of knitters and crocheters to make shawls for FPC members who need extra comfort during a difficult time. Patterns and yarn are provided.



Our Stephen Ministry Leaders can help:

Beth Martin (865) 776-3132

Matt Nieman (865) 966-9547

Jeanie Oakley (256) 468-4501

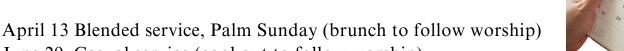
Joanie Scheuer (865) 705-1571

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At its meeting on February 24, the Session:

- Heard from Pastor Matt that discussions are underway among staff on how to improve church-wide communication about congregational events and programs. Stream-lining Constant Contact emails and promoting greater use of the Good News Banner and social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.) are under consideration.
- Was reminded about the feedback from the congregation last year regarding a potential Fresh Look II project. Survey and focus group results were provided to the Session as a refresher, but also for the benefit of new elders who were hearing of the results for the first time. While the Session has not yet identified the priorities of greatest need, refurbishments to the sanctuary and narthex will be strongly considered. Digital imaging of the space by an outside vendor has been completed. An agreement with Brewer Ingram Fuller Architects will be entered soon for their design work.

MARK YOURCALENDAR!



June 29 Casual service (cookout to follow worship)

September 28 Casual service (tailgate to follow worship)

November 9 Blended service, Stewardship Sunday (Thanksgiving meal to follow worship) December 7 Casual service, Children's Christmas Program

December 14 Traditional service, Lessons and Carols (reception to follow worship) December 28 Traditional service

Financia	al Report as of Ja	nuary 2025	
	Actual for January	YTD January	YTD January Budget
Operating Income	\$46,609	\$46,609	\$57,340
Big Fish Academy Income	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Total Income	\$48,609	\$48,609	\$59,340
Operating Expenses	\$55,025	\$55,025	\$59,262
Total Expenses	\$55,025	\$55,025	\$59,262
Total Income less Expenses	(\$6,416)	(\$6,416)	\$78



Farragut Presbyterian Church 209 Jamestowne Blvd. Knoxville, TN 37934 865-966-9547 office@fpctn.org www.fpctn.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9-3 Friday 9-1

<u>Get Social!</u> Farragut Presbyterian is live on Facebook, Instagram, and X. Have something to post? Send to our social media coordinator, Emily Sweetland, at social@fpctn.org or text 865-567-7636



https://www.instagram.com/farrgutpesbyterian



https://www.facebook.com/FPCKnox



@FarrPres



Farragut Presbyterian Church



When donating used items to KARM tell the employee the name of the church. The church will receive gift cards to KARM Stores that can be given to someone in need.



Support FPC Christian Ed with Kroger Community Rewards Program. Link your Kroger reward card to FPC. Sign up at: Visit https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCo mmunityRewardsNow/ Our organization number is YU915.

STAFF

Pastor **Reverend Matt Nieman** matt@fpctn.org 402-660-2451 (call or text)

Sandra Porter Bohlken **Office Administrator** office@fpctn.org 865-966-9547

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Sandra Porter Bohlken Music Director, Casual Service singsandrab@gmail.com

SESSION

Administration Kathy Emmerson Cheryl Cardwell

Christian Education Beth Honey Cheyanne Feldhausen

> Church Life Gayle Williams Jeff Thode

Outreach Scott McKinney Jan Darnell

<u>Property</u> Thom Haig Rick Van Allen

Worship and Music MaryAnne Walls Eva Quinley Lynch

Clerk of Session Lisa Gary