

First United
THE FLAME

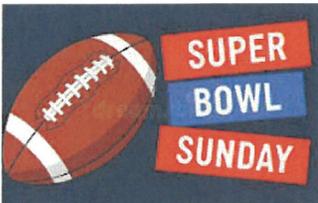
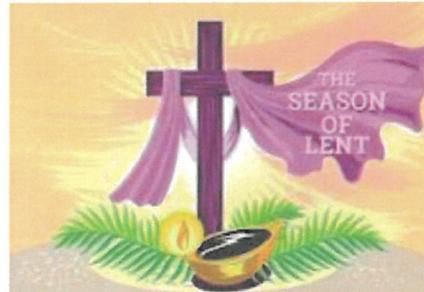
Methodist Church of McMinnville

February 2026

McMinnville First United Methodist Church invites local pastors and their congregations to join an ecumenical community Lenten worship series. Services will be held in the FUMC historic sanctuary beginning at 12:05 PM each Wednesday. Half-hour services are followed by a soup and sandwich lunch provided by the designated host church for that particular Wednesday. The series starts on Ash Wednesday, February 18, and continues each Wednesday through Holy Week. During lunch, we will collect offerings to support local non-profit organizations. This year's offerings will benefit MATCH (McMinnville Action to Create Housing) and/or other ministries ministering or advocating for homeless in our community, such as HOME, ServeM25, and FUMC. Several MATCH board members are also active in churches participating in the Lenten worship schedule. If you know of a church or pastor interested in participating, please share this link to insert their date for leading:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NKaEHX8gpuUBVoSC9ln6mVyNuQg7tdPHYwsc4PSZtLo/edit?tab=t.0> or contact the church office for more details.

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 2/25/2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 3/04/2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 3/11/2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 3/18/2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 3/25/2026 @ 12:05 PM
Wednesday, 4/01/2026 @ 12:05 PM



Super Bowl Sunday is February 8. Are you aware First UMC has three Webb House residents who are part of our congregation? These include Mr. Raleigh Miller, Bro. Dick Scott-Welch, & Ms. Vivian Dodson. Thanks to all who regularly visit our shut ins. Even still, assisted living residents can easily feel overlooked when they are no longer able to attend worship regularly. Wouldn't it be great if as many of us as possible visited them? Let's do that - the church is bringing a party to the Webb House for our 3 FUMC friends and their neighbors! Kickoff is set for 5:30 PM, so gathering in the Webb House common area around 5:00 PM seems appropriate. FUMC participants are encouraged to bring drinks, finger foods, etc., for residents, youth, and adult participants. Please note Webb House residents will have access to their regularly scheduled supper at 5:30. In addition to a comfortable TV room, Webb House will allow responsible use of their pool table (no food in that space). Just make sure to include the guests in the fun! Webb House will promote the event to the residents.

In Christ,

Ryan Heatherly, Pastor McMinnville First UMC

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

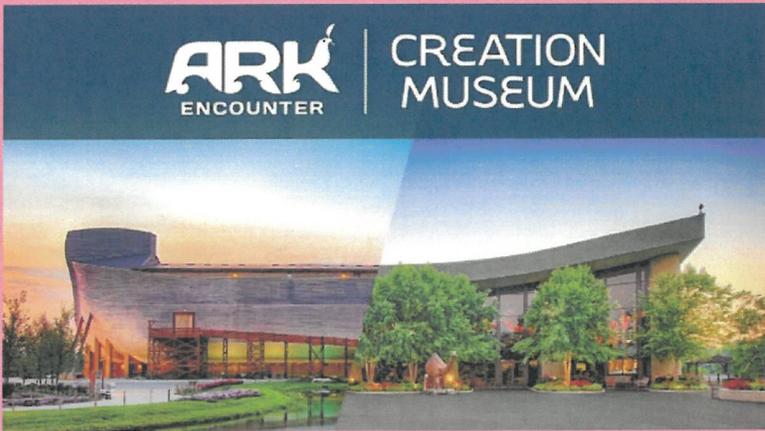
February is already here and this time of year brings on thoughts of love. Love for our family, friends, neighbors and anyone we may cross paths with. We may be asking ourselves “what can I get my spouse for Valentines Day to remind them of how much I love them?” *this is a reminder for you men to get your lady a nice gift this Valentines Day* Some good answers would be flowers, chocolate, diamonds, a night off from cooking dinner, you name it! If you need more suggestions please come see me :) We take this time/month to show those around us how we love and appreciate them. I can never express enough how much I love and appreciate my church family. You all can not compare to anyone else I’ve ever met or been around. You always show up for me, my family, and the ministries of this church. As children’s director of ministry, I’m always looking for ways to love on our kids and their families of this church. I’ve got some big plans for us this year! We’re gonna be spreading the love all year long, not just in February.



As the co-chair of missions, we are always thankful for how our church shows up and shows out when we put out a call for help in a particular area of missions. Last year we had a yard sale benefiting our unhoused friends to help them reach personal goals. We had a huge success because of YOUR help. This yard sale is a huge job. It takes lots of prep work, organization, and many hands helping in lots of different areas. We have already had some generous donations of items to put in our yard sale. With that being said, we need help organizing said items and pricing them. If you have the time, even if its just an hour here and there please stop by the church and help. We have pricing guidelines so theres no guess work, and we have all the supplies you would need. “Many hands make light the work!” So lets show a whole lot of love and work together to make this years yard sale an even bigger success.

Keeping you all in prayer this season and every season throughout the year.

Julie



Combo Ticket Pricing:	
Seniors (Age 60+)	\$99.99
Adult (18-59)	109.99
Youth (11-17)	59.99
Children (10 & under)	Free

Parking is extra and can be added when purchasing tickets online.

Church Trip to Ark Encounter & Creation Museum: March 15 - March 17
The trip is open to everyone in the church but everyone is responsible for booking their own hotel room and purchasing their tickets with the exception of youth that are eligible for the church to purchase their ticket. The hotel we will be staying at is Town Place Suites by Marriott Cincinnati Airport South on 7488 Turfway Rd., Florence, KY. Many booking sites are cheaper than going straight through the hotel but book early to ensure you are able to get a room. We will travel on Sunday afternoon and stay overnight, then go to the Creation Museum on Monday the 16th and visit the Ark on Tuesday the 17th before traveling back home. Check with Bruce Watsons if you have questions.

Dear Church Family,

Greetings and Joy in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I hope everyone is safe and warm after our recent winter weather. Following our Christmas break this weather may cause one to feel not much is going on, but that is not the case with our youth, at least not in the planning of it.

We began the year with a Bowling Party on Saturday, January 3rd at our local "Pioneer Lanes". Including our young people, their guests, mentors, and parents we had 29 in attendance . A good time was had by all as we kicked off 2026 and put 2025 to rest.

Confirmation Class is still ongoing though nearing completion probably by mid March. I have been impressed with the apparent dedication of our youth, some most likely parent induced to give credit where credit is due. We have eight young people participating; Benjamin, Lily and Thomas Spanjer, Macy and Bryce Dodson, Rowdy Hicks, Hudson Heatherly, and Triston Lumans. And their respective mentors, Dennis Kronlage, Marsha Newman, Jim Pierce, Bobby Newby, Skip Zwemer, Mac McWhirter, Steve Tepley and Ken Murray have attended and helped with classes, attended special events,, and given of their time and money to assist our children on their Christian journey. I have been touched by the diligence and care they have contributed to this task. This week we have a special class on the sacraments of Baptism and Communion. I'm truly looking forward to seeing our children form hopefully, a more complete sense of their own relationship with our heavenly father, his Son and His Holy Spirit.

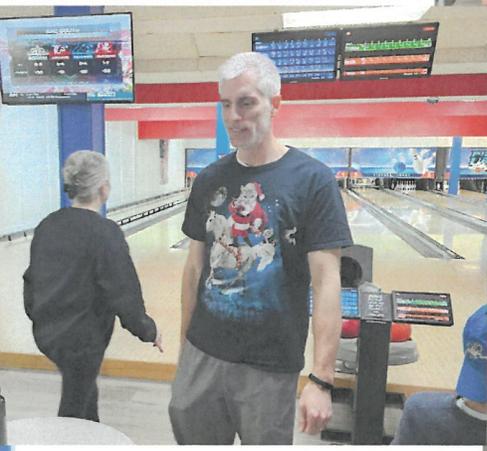
On February 8th, we will suspend confirmation to go to Webb House to enjoy the Super Bowl with our church members who reside there. I believe the time is to 5-5:30ish. All are invited to share in this event.

March 15th-+7th we will be traveling to the Cincinnati area of Northern Kentucky to see the Creation Science Museum on the 16th and to The Ark Experience on the 17th, then back home that evening. This is the week of Spring Break. Anyone who is interested in going with us is welcome. The hotel has been chosen and the church van will be taking those who don't want to drive themselves. These accommodations and space on the van are limited so if you'd like to go contact me and I will be happy to share the information with you or answer any questions you may have. I have attended both parks and found them very enlightening in both terms of science and in my own faith. I believe any one who attends will be similarly affected.

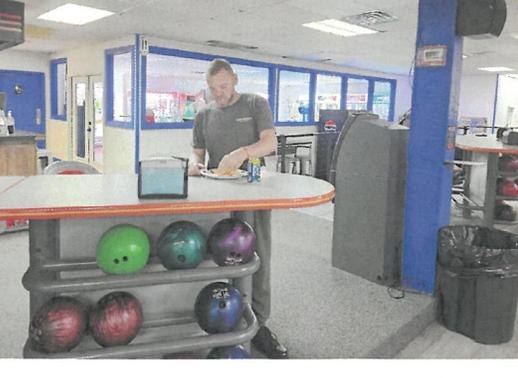
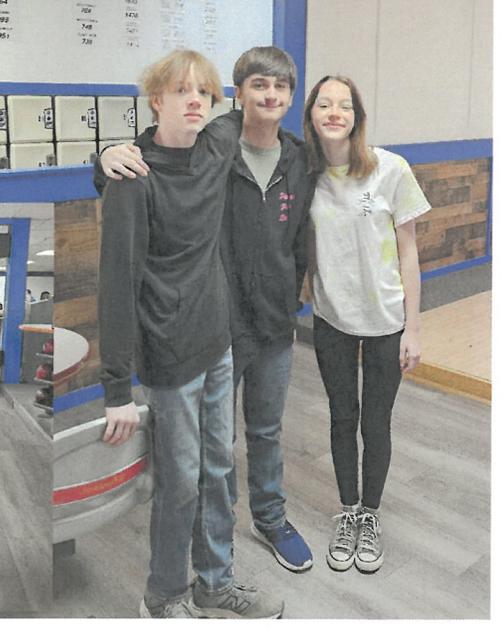
Also, on Wednesday, April 1st we will be having a special Seder meal in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm. This is the meal that many Jewish and Christian believers partake in to celebrate passover. We are studying the Old Testament in Youth Sunday School class and I hope to be in Exodus and the exit of the Children of Israel from Egypt . This meal celebrates our deliverance from bondage by the hand of God and the Hope we have in Him. If you are interested in attending this meal you must sign up for it in advance.

Please keep myself, Ryan, McKenzie, our youth, their families and mentors in your prayers and many thanks for your continued support and love.

Peace and Love in Him,
Bruce



Bowling Fun @ Pioneer Lanes



**Prayer Shawl Ladies,
We received a beautiful prayer shawl
someone in your group knitted.**

**I read the flyer that came with it. The words
in this material was so moving.**

**Thank each of you for this ministry. We were
very much touched that you cared.**

Mike & Phyllis Turner



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Good Neighbors

February 5

Cook: Mac

Route 1: Sandlin

Route 2: Sub

Route 3: Sandlin

Route 4: Young

Route 5: Alsbrook

February 19

Cook: Brock's

Route 1: Sandlin

Route 2: Sub

Route 3: Miller

Route 4: Spanjer

Route 5: Alsbrook



**Welcome new member, John Tobias.
John joined during early service and was
baptized on January 11.**

DAY TRIPS OR OUTINGS WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

The church used to have a group called Super Stars that went on regular outings or day trips on the church bus or van. We no longer have the bus but still have a church van. We would like to see if there is any interest in reviving or creating a new group to get together and have some fun outings. Whether you are a seasoned young at heart senior, retired, or stay at home mom who craves fellowship, this opportunity is for you. Outings always include a meal and some fun activity that can be done in a day.

Please contact Tena at the office and let her know if this is something of interest to you and/or you feel led to plan and organize trips for this group. If there is enough interest, we hope to start these gatherings soon. This could also include getting together somewhere local to eat and having other activities such as games, crafting, painting, etc. The ideas are limitless, and the only requirement is to have fun and spend time together.

A few examples of trips/outings over the years are as follows:
Beersheba Springs Assembly for Christmas at Beersheba
Cookie Jar Cafe in Dunlap & Wooden's Apple House
Fall Creek Falls Restaurant
Cumberland County Playhouse in Crossville
Bell Buckle Cafe

Call 931-473-4419 to express your interest and ideas.

EMPOWER UPPER CUMBERLAND: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for Empower volunteers to help serve in the youth room at First United Methodist Church on the following dates:
3/10, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 8/11, 9/15, 10/13

Families meet together beginning at 5:30pm and a meal is provided. Meetings are over by 7:30pm.

Volunteers will be working alongside others and will not be by themselves. You'll be helping create a welcoming, supportive, and safe environment for our youth during Empower nights.

If you're willing to serve and help out one week for those 2 hours, we would love to have you join us!

For more information or to sign up, please contact:

Brittany Parker
Circles Specialist



931-314-5404

FEBRUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Charlie Grove Cynthia Ratz Kristen Hodges	3 Michael Ratz	4 Megan Miller	5 Carly Stotts Matt Sands	6 Bert Brown Randal & Donna Rampp (A)	7 Dana Mullican
8	9	10 Gary Lane	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Jim & Lorie Pierce (A) Steve Tepley & Margaret (A)	19 Louise Brown Ronnie Dunham	20 Tammy Love	21
22	23 Larry Layne	24 Carter Alsbrook	25 Neil Schultz	26 Bryan Miller	27	28
Bruce Watson Feb. 29						

FEBRUARY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETINGS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>SPRC MEETING @ 1:15</p> <p>Lunch will be provided for team after 2nd service</p> <p>CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 5PM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Volunteer Training for Jail Ministry @ Park Theater @ 6pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Meal @ 5pm Adult Bible Study, Children, Youth @ 6pm</p> <p>(Meets weekly)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>SUPER BOWL PARTY @ WEBB HOUSE 5:30 PM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PRAYER SHAWL MEETING @ 10AM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>STAFF MEETING @ 10AM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Meal @ 5pm Adult Bible Study, Children, Youth @ 6pm</p> <p>(Meets weekly)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>SHEPHERDING TEAM MEETING @ 10AM</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>TRUSTEES MEETING @ 1:30PM</p> <p>CHURCH COUNCIL @ 2:45PM</p> <p>CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 5PM</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>UMW MEETING @ 9:30AM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>LENTEN SERVICE 12:05PM & LUNCH</p> <p>MEAL @ 5PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE @ 6PM</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 5PM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>STAFF MEETING @ 10AM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LENTEN SERVICE 12:05PM & LUNCH</p> <p>Meal @ 5pm Adult Bible Study, Children, Youth @ 6pm</p> <p>(Meets weekly)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 12:30PM-5:30PM</p> <p>OUTREACH BUILDING</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>