



THE FLAME

First United Methodist Church of McMinnville

July 2025

July 4

The Heatherlys invite you to enjoy the McMinnville fireworks show from their backyard this Friday, July 4. The address is 104 Worley St. in McMinnville. Guests are not expected to bring any refreshments, but have permission to do so. Whether the Heatherlys provide any refreshments will be determined closer to the event. However, each attendee may want to bring a lawn chair. Please park in the driveway as much as possible, parking two cars side by side in the section towards the street where it is wide enough to do so. Parking can be scarce on July 4, and your vehicle should be safest in the driveway.

Discovery Park of America

Thirty-seven travelers plan to travel to Discovery Park of America in Union City, TN. What a big group! Travel dates are Tuesday and Wednesday, **July 8–9. We will depart from the church on Tuesday, July 8, at approximately 8:30 AM.** The church van can seat up to 11 passengers — please pack lightly if riding in the van. Families may carpool and are encouraged to coordinate with others for space as needed. Upon arrival in Union City, check into Holiday Inn Express & Suites for overnight stay July 8. Then, we will gather at Glenn & Vicki Heathely's residence (1136 Krislyndale Dr. Union City, TN 38261) for a cookout, yard games, & relaxation. Park facing the front of their home (located towards the 2 o'clock position in the cul-de-sac).

Based on Holiday Inn group rates, double queen rooms are \$152.60, and double queen suites are \$163.50. Tickets are ordered for both the Discovery Park and Real Bodies exhibit. We received a group rate of \$20 per child and \$25 per adult for park admission. Reimbursement can be paid to church by check with "Field Trip" in the memo line, placed in the offering plate or dropped off during weekly office hours. Travelers should bring money for meals and other personal expenses.

Sunday Schools

Our church offers a number of Sunday School options to our church family. Since 2024, some of these classes have experienced declining participation. We may want to consider consolidating some classes to achieve a richer classer experience. I am asking Sunday School class teachers to discuss with their respective classes if they might be open to potential merging of a couple classes. We could have a broader conversation with all classes relatively soon.

Nominations & leadership development team should expect to meet soon. I will communicate with team members soon to schedule a meeting. Begin identifying people you wish might serve on our various ministry team for 2026.

In Christ,
Ryan Heatherly

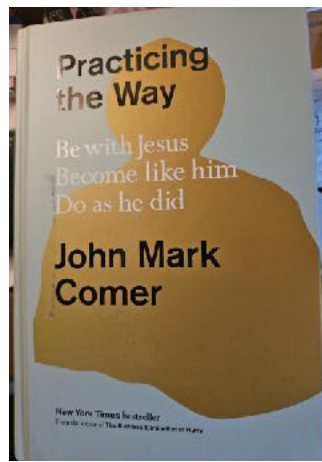
We have had a very active spring and early summer with our young people. From our Easter program, to Movie adventures, to Sunday School as well as Sunday and Wednesday evenings a lot has been and is going on. Our Sunday school class is averaging 8-10 young people per Sunday with occasional visitors including parents, adult volunteers and other curious guests. We have recently wrapped up the creative part of our large mural project and in a few weeks following our current study of Ephesians, we will begin to put the completed pieces together. I look forward to sharing the final result with you.



We wrapped up our regular Sunday evenings with a cookout at my house first of June and this past Sunday night had our first "Pizza and Croquet" event at the church. This is our summer replacement program for Sunday evenings which we will be doing on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings for the summer. The event seemed to well received with the possible exception of the grass and size of the yard at church so, we may be moving back to my house for the Sunday the 13th, to see if the grass and yard there are easier to navigate for beginning croquetters.



We were planning a break for the summer, but several of the youth expressed a desire to do something on Wednesday nights as it is a long time between Sundays {oh to be young again 😊} so, we are trying a book study on Wednesday evenings for the summer. The book is by John Mark Comer and is titled "Practicing the Way". It is about the path to being not just a "christian", but being a true disciple of Christ. We'll see how it goes. I have several extra copies of the book if anyone is interested in reading or participating in our study.



Study, there's a word! Part of my desire to share with our youth is what it means to "study" the Bible. I have shared with the youth a lesson I learned recently about "How we Bible". 1. Read 2. Ruminare[chew on] 3. Rememberize 4. Research 5. Rehearse. I feel this process is a good companion to "Practicing the Way". As we study Ephesians and now this book we are starting to put these practices to use. It is a slow process, but for most of these young people it is their first attempt at true Bible study. I would like to recommend this process for all my brothers and sisters in the church. After all, making disciples for the transformation of the world isn't something we can accomplish without divine inspiration. Where better to get it than from "The Word" and one another inspired by His Holy Spirit just as Paul just as Paul reveals to us in Ephesians 3. Finally, I request your prayers for our young people, for myself and the volunteers who assist me as we attempt to battle the world for souls and minds of our children...and one another. It is a challenge and a great blessing to serve you and them in this way and I thank you for the opportunity.

Peace and Love in Him,
Bruce



Beginning Sunday, July 6 our Chancel Choir will be taking a much needed rest for the summer months. As I'm sure you realize, our choir makes a large commitment to be at choir practice on Wednesdays and at our 10:30 a.m. service on Sundays, every week. Being in a small-church category, our choir is also small, but so very dedicated! I know that I certainly appreciate each member; their time, loyalty, and the fun and fellowship each one offers to our choir. Of course, the choir appreciates our organist, Robert Hicks, and his beautiful music every Sunday as I'm sure that you in the congregation do, also. As they can, our choir members will still be in the choir loft to sing hymns each Sunday this summer. However, we could use a little extra help!

I would like to try something a little different during the summer months this season. You are ALL invited to be a part of our "INSTANT CHOIR"! If you like to sing, you are invited to sit with us and sing with the choir as we sing the hymns each Sunday morning! There will be no anthem (a big word for the special piece of music that the choir sings each Sunday morning) and we will sing familiar hymns. You can sing one Sunday or every Sunday! You can enjoy our service from an entirely different perspective as you sit behind our Pastor Ryan and you can keep an eye on him and the congregation! If you've ever thought about singing, but just don't feel that you can make a commitment, starting July 5, you can sing whenever you want, as often as every Sunday or only once! Just show up in the choir room about 10:20 a.m. and be ready to sing your praises to God! Let's give this a try and have a little fun as we worship together!

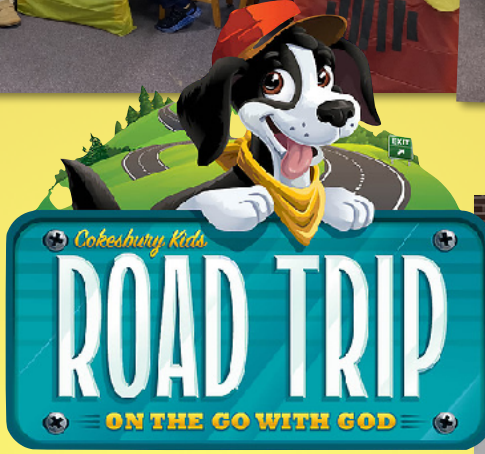
Please come as you are (and want), enjoy the fellowship, and sing along with our "INSTANT CHOIR" and help lead the congregation in singing hymns. Try it, you'll like it!

Donna Campbell





VBS
FUN





INDEPENDENCE DAY

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PLATES INCLUDE:
2 PANCAKES
2 PIECES BACON
DRINK (Coffee, Juice, Water)



COST:

Adults \$10.00

Children under 10 \$6.00

Serving from 7am to 10am
Friday, July 4
on the Court Square in
Downtown McMinnville

Coffee, Juice, or Bottled Water
without breakfast \$2.00 each

Extra side of bacon
(2 slices) \$3.00

Proceeds will go to our **F.U.E.L** program to feed needy children over the weekend.





Mountain T.O.P.
Oregon UMC's
Dangerous
Hope Mission
Team

Visited on
June 15

Good Neighbors Cooks & Driver Schedule



July 3

Cook: Mary
Route 1: Sandlin
Route 2: Hinds
Route 3: Sandlin
Route 4: Young
Route 5: Alsbrook

July 17

Cook: Dennis
Route 1: Sandlin
Route 2: Dennis
Route 3: Hall
Route 4: Dodson
Route 5: Alsbrook

Thank you for giving

In Memory of: Sara Jean Thaxton, Charlie Campbell,
Charlotte Boyd

Given by: Glenn & Lynn Davis, Carolyn B. Sewell,
Ronnie & Debbie Dunham, Woody & Becky Woodiel

To: Homeless, General, Local Church

Feeding the Homeless





Weddings, graduation celebrations, holidays, get togethers—all are important. Make them an opportunity to celebrate, be sustainable, and influence friends and family. Choose service ware that can be washed and reused; collect compostable food waste. **Show by your example.**

Decorate with home or locally grown seasonal flowers, resulting in fewer transport emissions and less likelihood of poor treatment of farm workers—a justice issue. After the event, deliver the flowers to a hospital, nursing home, or to someone you love or who needs a lift. Compost any flowers that have withered.

Give party favors that give back. Look for something plant-able, like herbs, succulents, seed packets. Or display a sign that you've made a donation in your guests' honor, such as planting trees or caring for endangered wildlife. Invite additional contributions and follow up with the amount raised and a thank you for caring for God's creation.

Air conditioners use a high amount of energy to cool a space, resulting in more greenhouse gas emissions. Ceiling fans, on the other hand, use minimal energy to circulate air and can make a room feel cooler without drastically reducing the temperature. **Flip the switch to your fan.**

Work with nature this summer to stay cooler. Shut blinds and drapes where the sun beats down; open windows at night; amplify that breeze with a window fan. Take a cue from siesta cultures, where many people work morning and later afternoon, chilling out during the hottest hours of the day.

Cool your own temperature by reconnecting with nature. With life's hot pressures assaulting you, take time to be in God's creation to gain perspective and renewal. Shade offers a 10–15-degree respite from direct sunlight.

Please hold Bishop Graves and his family close in your prayers as they mourn the passing of his beloved mother, Billie Schumpert Graves. The bishop was fortunate to spend time with his mother before she died.

If you'd like to offer words of comfort, you may send cards or notes to the bishop and his family through the TWK Office at 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville, TN 37212, or by email at Bishop@twkumc.org.

Thank you for your prayers and support for Bishop Graves and his family.

July

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Cindy Chandler Alex & Lea Street	2 Dick Scott-Welch Tom & Dianna Thaxton	3 Charlie & Diane Grove	4 Lorie Pierce Julie Holt	5 Doug Haynes Mary Anne Noblin
6	7 Lucinda Smith	8 Paula Stotts Carolyn Moge Monte & Dana Mullican	9 Powell Wallace	10	11	12 Gene & Lequita Maxwell
13	14 Jason & Sarah Murphy	15 Elliot Harvey Macy Dodson	16	17 Joe & Sam Harvey	18	19
20 Sharon Baugh	21 Robin Phillips Rowdy Hicks	22	23 Thomas & Peggy Bratcher	24	25 Ray & Betty Troop	26
27 Wes Bryan Livia Chastain Ken & Tricia Murphy	28	29 Corky & Thetis Keel	30	31		

