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THE MESSENGER of the First United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 427
Winchester, TN 37398
Rev. Steve Angus, Pastor



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Radio Broadcast—Sunday 11AM WZYX AM 1440, FM 94.5



**IMPORTANT FACILITY
REVITALIZATION
INFORMATION!!!**

If you have ever read the Old Testament books of First and Second Kings and First and Second

Chronicles you know that there are so many different kings, you need a scorecard to try and keep them straight. I confess I have trouble remembering some of them and more often than not find myself consulting a Bible dictionary for assistance in trying to make sure I pronounce their names correctly. I want to mention one of these kings and share with you something I believe can have a meaningful impact on our congregation. This particular king's name was Joash. Joash was unique in that he became king when he was just a boy barely seven years old. He was one of those monarchs who started off serving God faithfully and leading the people to do what was right before God. Sadly, he did not finish well and ended up going astray. During his time of obedience to God, he looked at the condition of the House of God and realized it had been neglected and was in need of repair. He settled on the idea of having a special chest prepared and placed in the Temple. When the people came to worship they were invited to put their gifts into the chest. These funds had one purpose. They were to be used to make the needed repairs on the building that had been set aside for the worship of God. The scripture states that when the people heard about this, they were pleased to serve God in this way.

Why am I sharing this story with you? I believe you recognize the similarities between this story and the Facility Revitalization project that is starting to take place throughout our church home. Already windows are being placed in the Education building and with the next month replacing the roof on the sanctuary will begin and will continue until all the buildings have new roofs. This will be followed by painting and new flooring throughout the facility.

Beginning this Sunday (Easter Sunday) and throughout the entire month of April, we will be having our own Chest of Joash placed prominently in the sanctuary and the gym during worship. We are asking our church family to do two things during this month.

First, we asking you to make a financial contribution and place this special offering inside the Chest.

We hope this influx of cash will help us stay ahead of our needs to borrow funds and maintain a pay as we go plan.

Second, we are also asking that our people will also consider sharing an estimate of giving of what you will strive to give over the next 24 months.

We are planning to have a congregational potluck lunch on Sunday, May 6 at which time we have the “Great Reveal” of what we have collected and what we can hope to receive during the months ahead.

One of the exciting things that occurred in the time of Joash was the response of the people. With great joy and generosity, they brought their gifts because they longed for the place dedicated to God could be as beautiful as possible. I hope this will be the spirit in which we will respond. I ask you to make this a focus of prayer and that we too can restore the House of God at First United Methodist Church as an expression of the trust we have in our God.

If you have questions regarding this process or if you would like to know of ways you can help in making this a reality please call me. There is much to be done even beyond the needs outlined in the Facility Revitalization plan that I would be glad to discuss with you.

Please find enclosed a commitment card for you to complete and place in the Chest of Joash or return to the church office.

Yours in Christ, Steve

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

2018 UMW RETREAT: A one-day women’s retreat is planned for Saturday, April 21, 2018, in the Fellowship Hall of the Winchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The theme is “Treasured.” Susan Walton will facilitate the event. Registration forms are available in the church office, from Sharon Conroy or Carolyn Watkins, and on the UMW bulletin board in the Barrett Building. Further details are available on the registration form. All women are invited to enjoy this day of fellowship with ladies across our community. Last date for registering is April 9th, so get moving, as we’d hate for you to miss it.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April 1 Kathy Prince	April 15 Carlos Nichols
April 2 Ray Cobb	April 17 David Faulkner
April 3 William Lavender, Kingston Maxwell Stan & Cindy Henn	April 18 Linda Stewart
April 4 Sean Smith	April 19 Faye Kautz, John Feaster Betsy Craig Bob & Sandy Campbell
April 5 Mike Rowland, Babs Feaster, Shelly Lynch	April 20 Joy Scott Bob & Sandra Brown
April 6 Marcie Deedy Wayne & Heather Olson	April 21 Randy & Sandy Davis
April 7 Loretta Smith, Timothy Foster	April 22 Bettye Warmbrod, Steve Swann
April 8 Catie Clark	April 23 John Smith, Patrick Greer, Lucy Majors
April 9 Linda Bussell	April 24 Carolyn Burgoyne
April 11 Jake Mallory	April 25 Michelle Feller
April 12 Ingrid York, Karen Summers, Jacob Clark Bryan & Jane Myers	April 28 Ron & Deborah Bailey
April 13 Nancy Holt	April 29 John Bailey
	April 30 Wanda Spencer

FIRST FRUITS

The Mission Committee will be collecting **CANNED FRUIT** (any kind, any size) for Good Samaritan during the month of April. A **HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT DONATED MAC N CHEESE IN MARCH.** Bring your donation any Sunday in April.



A FEW NOTES FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

EASTER! What is Easter to you? To me, Easter is the celebration of Jesus' victory over sin, death, hell, and the grave! It marks the resurrection of the Lord who saves us from the destruction in our lives caused by Satan! It is our glorious reminder that God's love is eternal!

Easter is not confined to one day! Just as Lent was a season of preparing our hearts for Easter, so Easter is a season, until the day of Pentecost. How, then, will we as individuals live the season of Easter?

First, we should let the joy of the Lord's victory continue to resonate in our hearts daily. Next, we should give thanks to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for that victory, and for the love that led to Jesus to sacrifice himself for us. Lastly, we should live like the forgiven people that we are, eschewing sin and doing our very best to be a witness for Jesus in our little corner of the world.

If we do these things, then Easter is far more than merely a day on the church calendar. May the true meaning of Easter live on in your hearts throughout the coming year!

Peace, Jon

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WESLEY PRESCHOOL

March was a great month at Wesley Preschool. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day, read books by Eric Carle and enjoyed Spring Break.

We are looking forward to a busy schedule for April as well. We will be learning about Easter and will have our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 2nd. Our Authors for April are Laura Numeroff and Christie Matheson. We will also be taking a field trip to the Winchester Fire Department to meet the firemen, learn about their equipment, and will even deliver a few **goodies while we are there!**

We are happy to announce that all our classes are full for our summer session. We currently have 2 spots left in our PreK class for the 2018-2019 school year. If you are interested give Ms. Lisa a call.

Thank you for your continued support of our Wesley Preschool. Ms. Lisa



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Thank you to the Wine family and everyone who helped make our Easter Egg Hunt so wonderful!

Wednesday evenings 6:00-7:00 Mission Possible- Join us for a variety of mission opportunities and learning to give and serve others.

Sunday Mornings Children's church we will continue with "The Story." First Sunday's of the month, communion Sunday we do not meet. There are quiet bags and extra worksheets available for these Sunday's.

Save the Date! VBS plans are underway for June 25-29.

Parents of children in 4th-5th grade, I am working on special plans for this age group and would love to visit with you can get your feedback.



YOUTH NEWS

Easter Sunrise Service

Come join us Easter morning bright and early at 6:30 for the youth lead service, at Harvey's Gardens on the Cowan Highway.

Let us celebrate and rejoice together that the tomb was empty.

No youth Easter Sunday!!

Jacksonville Mission Trip

June 16th-June 23rd **Cost:** \$200 (\$50 deposit)

This year we will be traveling down to the Jacksonville, FL to help spread God's love by continuing to help with the flood relief.

Don't forget to register your Kroger Card to help support the youth! Every time you shop and use your Kroger card a percentage goes to the youth! See Jason for more info



STEWARDSHIP IS A LIFESTYLE, YTD AVERAGES 2018

Sunday School Average: 147 Worship Average: 241
Weekly Needed: \$10,327.00 Weekly Average Received: \$9787.00