

First United Methodist Church, Murray, KY

FIRST WORDS

MAY 2012

A Call to Action – Finding Your Spot –

Growing in Our Discipleship!

An essential part of our Christian faith and discipleship is service! God calls us to be in service to others as an expression of our faith and love for God. Many times that service is limited to just a few “jobs” that might be needed around the church. All of us should be willing to help keep our church clean and inviting. However, there are specific needs that often go unmet or overlooked. Most of these jobs only require a willingness to serve and be helpful to others. This sheet is designed to help you “***Find Your Spot***” as you serve Christ. First, please answer the following question: What spots have I already found to serve Christ through Murray First UMC?

The Church has many different ways in which you can find your spot. It is always best to find spots that interest and challenge you in your faith, yet draw on your gifts and graces. What specific gifts do you believe you possess or enjoy doing?

Setting priorities is also important. We all carry many different responsibilities. An important part of finding our spot is to set priorities. Are there things you need to give up in order to do something for God and His Church?

The most important factor is our willingness! Are you willing to serve Christ and His church? _____

Now What?

On the last page of this newsletter, you will find a list of possible service “spots”. Please take this list and prayerfully consider the area or areas in which you feel called to serve. Mark the sheet and turn it into the church office or give it to a member of the church staff. We believe that God has a marvelous plan and future for the life of our church. Your willingness to serve will only enhance God’s plan.

Thank you for taking the time to discover ways you can “Find your Spot”!

The Murray First UMC Staff

Love God...Serve Christ...Love Neighbors...Share Christ

Christian Sympathy

- With the family of Wells Purdom on his death on 4/17.
- With the family of Betsy Trevathan in the death of her sister, Jenny Engh, on 4/19.
- With the family of Bobbie Bibb in the death of her son-in-law, Dr. William Holman, on 4/22.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Wesley and Sarah McNutt Roberts on the birth of their son, Ethan Reece, on 4/24.

Prayer Concerns as of April 29

Hospital: Ray Broach, Grover Burkett

Special Prayers: Pedro Alverio, Dick Bazzell, David and Ann Bowker, John Bowker, Mrs. Burpoe (Marcia Koenecke's mother), Faye Beyers, Ella May Colister, Sue Costello, Mary Jo Critfield (niece of Jill Anderson), Mr. and Mrs. Jim Embry (Freda Lovett's son-in-law and daughter), Elaine Fox, Mary Beth Harp, Linda Hutson, Loretta Jobs, Bobbie Lane (knee replacement), Wyatt Lasley, Keith Lyles, Kathy McNutt, John Myers, Katie & Henley Newman (Justin Newman's sister-in-law and niece), Betty Polak (Gloria Alverio's mother), Lucinda Ragland (Mona Bolin's sister), Katherine Robinson, Georgeann Sanders, Doris Saywell, Priscilla Schanbacher, Kendra Schwepker, Audrey Scott, Linda Short, Virginia Smith (Amber Meadows' grandmother), Buel Stalls, Shelby Suiter (Craig Suiter's mother), Nancy and Joe Thurman, Joetta Tibbits, Joyce Tidwell (Tim Tidwell's sister-in-law), Carol Wimberley, John Winter

Military Overseas: Georgi Hernandez, brother of Pedro Alverio (USMC); Bryan Pierce, nephew of Gwen Lovett & cousin of Kathy Erwin

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

If you have not had your two year Safe Sanctuary training and wish to work with the children in VBS or youth this summer, mark your calendars for the next training. It will be taught by Mark Blankenship in the Contemporary Sunday School Classroom on the second floor of the CLC on Sunday, May 20, at 12 noon.

UMKids Corner:

FIRST LOOK PRESCHOOL

Sunday School 9:50-10:40 and
Wednesday nights from 5-7PM

252 BASICS



Parent Supports:

www.orangeparents.org

www.studio252.tv

Smartphone App:

“Parent Cue”

www.murrayfirst.com

For Kindergarten-6th Grade

THEMES THIS MONTH:

First Look:

What does God want you to do?
God wants me to do the right thing.
("Learn to do what is right." Isaiah 1:17)

252 Basics:

Responsibility: Showing you can be trusted with

Planning Ahead:

June 3: Summer Sunday School begins

June 24, 25: VBS Volunteer Training

July 9-13th: Vacation Bible School!



Sun-

Last UMK of the semester!

Aloha! It's a Luau!

Wednesday, May 9

5-7PM

Preschool-6th Invited

Teacher Recognition

Sunday, May 20th
during the morning
worship services.



**YOUTH
YARD SALE
& PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, May 12th
CLC Gym
7am-11am**

We will need workers to help price items Thursday, May 10th and workers at the sale on Saturday May 12th. If you are going on a mission trip, please



**UMY SUM-
MER MIS-
SIONS**

We are currently filling spots for our Mt. TOP mission team. Cost is \$150 per person and the dates are June 3-9th 2012. This trip is open to 7th-12th graders and will be a wonderful experience of serving our Christian brothers and sisters in Eastern Tennessee. Please contact Amanda ASAP if you would like to go.



Also, don't forget to be praying for our Nicaragua team



Sunday Night Schedule

- 4:00-5:30—Fusion (LTW/Praise Band)
- 5:30—Dinner in the CLC
- 6:00—Fellowship/games
- 6:20-7:15—Worship &

iD Bible



Wednesday Night Schedule

- 5:00-6:00—HW/Hang out time/ Outreach group
- 6:00—Dinner in social hall
- 6:30-8:00—MS/HS small group
- *Bus rides available if needed



Each Tuesday, all youth are invited to join us for our Prayer Breakfast with Jesus (PB w/J). We will meet at 7:15 am for a time of breakfast, prayer, and devotion. You are responsible for the cost of your own breakfast.

May 1st—Hardees

May 8th—Sammons

May 15th—FUMC (last prayer break-



Prime Timers News & Notes

PACK YOUR BAGS !!! It's time to go on our overnight trip to Berea, KY! We will be leaving the church parking lot on Monday, May 7, at 7:00 AM and should get to Berea around 1:00. Be assured we'll take some rest stops along the way. We'll check into the Daniel Boone Tavern Inn and we'll visit the Old Town Artisan Village. We'll have dinner at the Dinner Bell Restaurant. On Tuesday, May 8, we have breakfast at the Inn and then we'll be going on the Chamber of Commerce Tour which includes the college and The Log House Craft Gallery. We should be leaving Berea and heading home (with stops for snacks) around 3:00 PM. We'll probably get home around 10:00 PM or so. Please be sure and bring some comfortable shoes!!!

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Trivia Night so successful!! We had fun and made some money for the Relay for Life team!!!

Don't forget our luncheon on June 8!!! Our guests will be Patti Williams and Charlotte Rose from Hospice.

The Caring Friends Ministry Needs You!

There are many ways to serve in this vital ministry of caring for our loved ones who can no longer attend worship: visits, phone calls, cards and love notes, etc. If you sense God's nudge to help others, this is an awesome and rewarding opportunity to share His love and the love from this church with these beloved members. Contact Robin Dean to learn of ways that you can help: 436-2251. ***NOTE: Don't forget our meeting on May 6 at 2 PM in the CLC Conference Room.**

Relay for Life - May 4-5

If you would like to honor or remember someone with cancer by purchasing a luminaria, or torch of hope, you may do this through the church office or contact anyone on the Relay for Life team. These funds will go towards our overall fundraising efforts. Luminaria are \$5 each and Torches of Hope are \$100. Thank you for supporting Relay for Life and the fight against cancer!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Regular meetings for United Methodist Women

FRIENDSHIP-HANNAH CIRCLE

7 PM 3rd Monday in the Social Hall
Faye Rogers—753-7743

TUCKER-FROST CIRCLE

9:30 AM 2nd Tuesday in CLC Con. Rm.
Margaret Fritts—759-3950
m.fritts@bellsouth.net
Donna Toler—489-6232

RUTH WILSON CIRCLE

1:30 PM 2nd Monday in CLC Con. Rm.
Linda Burgess — 293—6435
Bobbie Waters — 753 —6856

WESLEYAN CIRCLE

9:30 AM 3rd Monday in CLC Con. Rm.
Carol Wimberley—759-3073
carogenew@newwavecomm.net

****Any woman, teenager and up, is warmly welcome to UMW. We, in United Methodist Women, have a wonderful bond of love and friendship! Please join us!***

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The UMW is collecting Labels for Education for Reelfoot Rural Ministries and Box Tops for Education for local schools. Please check your food packages for these labels. There are collection boxes (huge Campbell soup cans) in the Social Hall and in the CLC kitchen. Thank you for your help.
- May 13th has been designated as the United Methodist Women Candle Burning Service. For a donation of at least \$5, a mission contribution will be sent to the United Methodist Women for the General Board of Global Ministries. When people combine donations, the result multiplies into a broad-based mission outreach.

Your mission gifts make it possible for the Board of Global Ministries to:

- + Provide clean water and nourishing food
- + Pay for medical care
- + Minister to the needs of children
- + Support missionaries
- + Support advocacy efforts for women and children
- + Print Christian educational materials
- Build new churches

Over the past three years, Murray First has increased their giving from \$200 to \$850 to last year \$1,600! We have been thrilled and feel that God has been at work in helping all of us recognize the importance of helping others. Our goal this year is \$1,650 and we believe we can make this goal with your help. We want to make sure “our candle” burns bright to honor and memorialize all of those who have helped shape who we are. You may designate the donation in Honor of or in Memory of a loved one or someone special in your life. Some examples include honoring a newborn grandchild, honoring a Sunday school teacher, remembering a parent, grandparent, mission team member or a friend. All of those designated will be named in the bulletin on May 13th and published in the UMW Paris district booklet in the fall. You also will be provided with donation cards to be sent to the family in memory of and/or the honoree. ANY MEMBER OF MURRAY FIRST MAY MAKE A CONTRIBUTION. We will light the Murray First candle at our Sunday services on May 13th. Please make checks payable to: United Methodist Women and may be turned in to any circle president, the office, or Monica Bogle, UMW Treasurer. The deadline is May 1st.

Ministry in Action

Special Events and Happenings in our Church Family

Spots for you at Murray

First UMC . . .

Look – Affirm – Celebrate – Your Spot in God’s Ministry!

Please check the areas in which you would be willing to serve. If you need more information, please call the church office at 753-3812.

Worship & Teaching Ministries

- Usher – Greeter
- Media Tech & Ministry (*Work with sound, slides and/or TV*)
- Help in Children’s Nursery
- Teach/Assist in a Sunday School Class
- Help With a Children's Ministry Program
- Lead/Assist a VBS Small Group of Kids
- Lead/Assist a VBS Learning Center
- General VBS Worker
- Assist With Youth Ministries
- Serve Coffee Fellowship
- Serve As a Caring Friend
- Work On a Serving Team
(*Set Up and Serve For Special Fellowship Meals*)
- Provide a Meal for Someone In Need
(*Worship, Appointments, Etc.*)
- Provide a Ride for Someone In Need
(*Worship, Appointments, Etc.*)
- Participate In a Prayer Chain (Covenant Prayer Group)
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Quilting Missions Ministry
- Church Library Volunteer
- Help Input Web Content
- Help with New Church Directory
- Help With Sunday Liturgy
- Grief & Bereavement Meal Ministry
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Assist in decorating the sanctuary

Church Music

- Sing With Adult Choir
- Play Instrument For Worship
- Have a Specific Musical Gift?

Grounds & Facility Services

- Carpentry Projects
- General Repairs
- Painting
- Program Setups & Takedowns

Discipleship

- Coordinate Discipleship Programs
- Join a Disciple Bible Study
- Be a Small Group or Bible Study Leader
- New Member Development
- Youth Mentoring
- Volunteer with College Age or Young Adults

Mission and Outreach Ministries

- International Mission Team
- Disaster Response Team
- Warming Center Volunteer
- H.E.L.P. House Volunteers
- Community Kitchen
- Special Needs Ministry
- Sew dresses and shorts for Sew-A-Thon
- Make meals for Sew-A-Thon workers
- Join a UMW Circle for Missions
- Join Appalachian Missions Team

Other Areas of Service

- Assist in the Church Office during business hours
- Computer Data Entry
- Fold and Prepare Mailings or Bulletins
- Bus Drivers & Help w/ Maintenance
- Artistic Design for VBS, Bulletin Boards & Special Church Programs
- Answer Phone on Sunday Mornings
- Launder and press communion linens
- Be a Communion Steward
- Assist with Church Hospitality
- Assist with Community Outreach

Other Areas of Interest:

Please write below any skills, interests, or other areas of ministry where you might be interested in leading, participating, or having more information about.

Name _____

Cell Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____