

100 East Church Circle  
Kingsport, Tennessee 37660  
423-246-4471 • Fax: 423-246-1361  
www.FBSUMC.org



July 2021

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423-246-4471  
423-398-5495 (fax)

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423-224-1544

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423-224-1502

Child Care Center  
423-224-1527

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### *In Memory of Rev. Missy Ruth Shelton Belote*

#### **Words from Pastor Missy with some help from Pastor Misti Dawn**

It is important to dig deep and ask the hard questions about God. To not be afraid of things like doubt and uncertainty because God can handle whatever we have going on inside us. He already knows what we are thinking and feeling. There are answers even if one answer is that it's a mystery. Pastor Missy felt strongly that we shouldn't hide from such questions and to never allow them to separate us from God.

When we think of all that Pastor Missy has gone through some of us will ask why do evil things happen to good people? How can an all-loving (truly cares deeply for us), all-knowing (can see our suffering), and all-powerful (can stop the suffering at any time) God cause or allow suffering?

"We sometimes empower evil to where we can think it is on equal footing with God and that is never the case. God's power and grace, love, and mercy are the most powerful things on earth." -Missy

We must first define what we mean by good and evil. When we messed up in the Garden of Eden, it wasn't that we ate from the fruit and gained the knowledge of good and evil. It was that we desired to be the ones to define what those boundaries are. It allows us to rationalize what we do and make excuses. From God's perspective, which should be ours, good is whatever is God's will while evil is whatever is not God's will.

The truth is that God did not create evil. He did create us and gave us the free will to choose to not do His will or create evil ourselves. We are incredibly good at not doing God's will. This is the origin of sin which is literally translated as "missing the mark" or not doing God's will. Evil. There are consequences to evil. Generation after generation we have spread this evil in our world. Story after story in the Bible is about people making excuses for doing the things they know they shouldn't. The consequence is death. Or more specifically, the decay that we see in the world that leads to death. The breakdown of life or opposite of God's love that drives creation.

Paul wrote about how sin or evil seeps into us and changes us. This can be seen even at the biological level in the mutations that lead to cancer. We believe that all disease is caused by the sin that has seeped into our world over time. Cancer is not the result of the individual's sin but part of what it means to live in a tragically broken world that has been systematically separated from God's will. It is never God's will for us to suffer. He has no need to test our faith through disease. His desire is that we live with Him forever with no disease, no pain, no death -- a return to the Garden of Eden.

*continued on page 12*



**In Memory of Our Church  
Family Members ...**

**Roger Hanz - May 23**

**Jack Ailshie - June 2**

*Sympathy is expressed to his wife, Mary "Mickey" Ailshie.*

**Associate Pastor Missy Shelton Belote - June 3**

*Sympathy is expressed to her husband, Brad, children, Quilla, Zeb, and Zeke, her parents, Ron and Lowanda Shelton, and Brad's parents, Steve and Terry Belote.*

**Sympathy is expressed to . . .**

**Mark Bragg** on the May 11 death of his sister, **Karen Dawn Bragg Palmer;**

**Bill and Alice Kirk** on the May 13 death of their grandson, **Alex West,**  
and **Bill and Alice Kirk** on the May 18 death of their grandson, **Caleb Grisenti;**

**David Lively, Dave Lively, Jr., Mark Lively, Aaron, Ben and Josh Lively** on the May 17 death of  
father, grandfather, and great grandfather, **Robert Glen Lively;**

**Eddie Simmers and Grant Simmers** on the May 18 death of mother and grandmother, **Juliana Oliver Simmers;**

**Helen Kite** on the June 3 death of her brother, **Howard Frazier;**

**Samantha and Shelby Clark** on the June 7 death of their grandfather, **Olin Clark;**

**Barbara Cogliano and Toni Williams** on the June 9 death of mother and grandmother, **Edith Case;**

**Phillip Marshall, Lucy, Stella, and Jackson Marshall** on the May 31 death of  
grandmother and great grandmother, **Shirley Marshall;**

**Carol Garland, Cecilia Garland, Jennifer Garland, John Garland, and Luis Garcia-Garland** on the June 19 death of  
mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, **Martha Nelson;**

**Scott and Tricia Taylor, Sam and Sophia Taylor, Romilly Taylor, Lucas and Sarah Henderson, Levi and Parker**

**Henderson** on the June 20 death of mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, **Shirley Taylor**



Congratulations to **Mosley Hauk and Jordan McPherson**, who were married on May 15 at Oak Drive Baptist in Lynn Garden.



**UNKNOWN ADDRESSES**

If you know an address for any of the following members, please contact Darres Carter, Membership Secretary at [dcarter@fbsumc.org](mailto:dcarter@fbsumc.org).

Kim Elizabeth  
Justin Gooch  
Devin Harris

Blake Hutchins-Eberhart  
Drew Johnson

Kevin Kay  
Joyce Lee  
Eric Salaita  
Jeff Thorpe



Congratulations to **Keith and Blaine Marschner** on the May 20 birth of their daughter, **Quinn Marschner** (grandparents: Ken and Karen Frohlich); Emily and Andy Novak

on the May 3 birth of their daughter, **Lucy Gray Nowak** (great grandmother, **Carolyn Kingdon**, grandparents Ken and Barbara Cook)

**Congratulations Graduate: Brantley Coggins** graduated from Spring Hill High School in Longview, TX

**SingleVision**

Contact Jane Adams at [jane.adams.kpt@gmail.com](mailto:jane.adams.kpt@gmail.com) or 423-246-1727 for information regarding Singles events.

**Live Wires Sunday School** by dial up telephone. A lesson is presented each week via teleconference. 10:30 on Wednesdays. Please call Linda Morton for information or to join the group (423-416-8317).

**Senior Adult Fellowship and Gatherings** will occur as soon as it is safe to connect in larger groups.

**History of Hymns** excerpt reprinted from [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org) (excerpt from the March, 2019 edition)  
***There Is a Balm in Gilead*** African American Spiritual

*Refrain:*

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
 There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

*Stanza:*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain.  
 But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

Few chapters in the Bible may have resonated with the souls of enslaved Africans in North America as Jeremiah 8 did. Israel was in exile. The Babylonians were preparing to violate their holy places for treasure, dishonoring their dead. This is a chapter of judgment and hopelessness. The exiled Jews are forced to live in a “far country” (Jeremiah 8:19). They wondered what they had done to deserve this. It is the most desperate and despondent time in Israel’s history. Then the chapter ends with these three rhetorical questions: “Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?” (Jeremiah 8:22, KJV)

The refrain of this spiritual offers encouragement and dares to respond with hope in the face of hopelessness, showing courage in the face of despair. African American theologian Howard Thurman (1899-1981) discusses the refrain of this spiritual: “The slave caught the mood of this spiritual dilemma and with it did an amazing thing. He straightened the question mark in Jeremiah’s sentence into an exclamation point: ‘*There is a balm in Gilead!*’ [italics in original] Here is the note of creative triumph” (Thurman, 60).

This note of “creative triumph” in the face of despair is the reason this spiritual holds a secure place in the canon of African American spirituals in hymnals today.

While the biblical context situates this text in Israel’s exile in Egypt (Jeremiah 46:11), many commentators have chosen to interpret this text from a Christological perspective. Commentator Matthew Henry (1662-1714) offers this assessment in his oft-cited *Exposition of the Old and New Testaments* (London, 1708-1710): “The blood of Christ is balm in Gilead, his Spirit is the Physician there, all-sufficient; so that the people may be healed, but will not. Thus [they] die unpardoned and unchanged, for they will not come to Christ to be saved.” It is this Christological typology of the Old Testament text that is reflected in the stanzas of the spiritual.

John Wesley elaborates on this text in his sermon, “Causes for the Inefficacy of Christianity,” preached on this passage in Dublin on July 2, 1798: “This question, as here proposed by the Prophet, relates only to a particular people, - the children of Israel. But I would here consider it in a general sense, with relation to all mankind. I would seriously inquire, Why has Christianity done so little good in the world? Is it not the balm, the outward means, which the great Physician has given to men, to restore their spiritual health? Why then is it not restored? You say, Because of the deep and universal corruption of human nature” (Wesley, n. p.).

It is interesting that the enslaved people did not speak in this spiritual of the physical abuse that they faced in their bondage, but of a spiritual illness, the “sin-sick soul.” Perhaps they heard this alliterative phrase in some of the hymns being sung at that time. While there are numerous citations of this phrase in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century hymns, two of the more prominent hymnwriters – John Newton (1725-1807) and Charles Wesley (1707-1788) – most likely to have been sung in the worship of their masters use it. For example, Charles Wesley wrote, “Savior of the sin-sick soul/Give me faith to make me whole.” Hymnologist Carl Daw, Jr. points out three of John Newton’s hymns that include this phrase. He notes specifically “Here at Bethesda’s Pool, the Poor”:

*Here streams of wond’rous virtue flow to heal a sin-sick soul;  
 To wash the filthy white as snow, and make the wounded whole.*

Other hymns by Newton are “Physician of My Sin-sick Soul” and the frequently cited hymn in the nineteenth century, “How Lost Was My Condition” (Daw, 753-754):

*How lost was my condition, till Jesus made me whole,  
 There is but one Physician can cure a sin-sick soul.*

*Refrain:*

*There’s pow’r enough in Jesus to cure a sin-sick soul.  
 There’s a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole (The Revivalist, Troy, NY, 1868).*

An undesignated refrain published earlier in *The Chorus: or a Collection of Choruses and Hymns* (7th ed., Philadelphia, 1858) is almost identical to the refrain we know. The single stanza is quite different, however:

*There’s balm in Gilead; to make the wounded whole,  
 There’s power enough in Jesus, to cure the sin-sick soul.*

*I left my worldly honours, I left my worldly fame,  
 I left my young companions, and with them my good name.*

Given the possibility of hearing this phrase and the accompanying reference to being “made whole” or making the “wounded whole,” it is not unlikely that the slaves drew inspiration from it and borrowed it for this spiritual. If this connection is valid, we should not think of “Balm in Gilead” as a spiritual derivative of classic British hymns. Many hymns allude to earlier poetic works, including the hymns of Charles Wesley. “Balm in Gilead” is its own work and, even if citing works by Newton and Wesley, has long outlasted these particular hymns in our hymnals. (For the full article, visit [umcdiscipleship.org/resources](http://umcdiscipleship.org/resources) and search the hymn title.)

The author of this article, C. Michael Hawn, is University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Church Music and Adjunct Professor/Director, Doctor of Pastoral Music Program at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.

## Grief Counseling

Covenant Counseling is offering a **6-week series of one-hour Grief Support sessions starting in July**. These will be mid-day, on Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to try to accommodate those who are working and would like to participate. Shantel Shockey, Grief Counselor, will be leading the sessions here at First Broad Street UMC. Call Covenant to sign up: 423-765-0607.

**Good at Grief** will not meet in July. We will resume our regular meetings on August 5, noon - 1 p.m.



## Halo Haircuts

We are re-opening Halo Haircuts for two days this summer! One date occurred in June so don't miss the second one on **July 12**. As we resume post-pandemic, we will start off slowly and hope to pick back up to our regular routine soon. If this is a ministry that you would like to participate in, please let Karen Todd or Joy Eastridge know.



## CPR Classes

When: June 21, 5-8 p.m. or June 23, 9 a.m. - noon

Where: St. Dominic's School

What: Certify or Re-certify in CPR/AED/Adult, Child Heartsaver and Pediatric First Aid.

Cost: \$25, pay at the site

(\$18 goes to AHA, \$7 for equipment costs)

Teachers: Joy Eastridge, RN, and Delores Bertuso, RN



## Flower Delivery and Home Communion

If you are looking for a new avenue of service, consider taking flowers to the hospital on Mondays or serving communion to our AT HOME folks once a quarter. If you would like to deliver cheer to folks who are hospitalized, contact Angela Dotson and if you want to take out Home Communion, get in touch with Lisa Chase.

## Cleaning and Loaning Equipment

We are blessed to have a good supply of Medical Equipment to loan out to anyone that needs it. This equipment is not just for church members. We had a cleaning and organizing day so it is all sanitized and ready to go! It can be helpful to have a wheelchair or a transport chair or a bedside commode or bed railings when recovering.



# PRESCHOOL MINISTRY



## Mom's Connect Summer Break

We look forward to seeing you again in August.

### Preschool in July

**July Theme:** Press Play

**Bible Story:** God is always with me.

**Memory Verse:** "Trust in the LORD with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5, NIV

**Key Question:** Who can trust God?

**Bottom Line:** I can trust God.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me.

LAMBS will meet on July 7 and 21.



## Join FBS Children for Summer Fun!!

### Kids JAM

July 7 and 21

6:00-7:30 p.m.

### Summer Missions

4th and 5th grade build project

July 21

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Collect tubes of quarters for international missions

### Back to School Bash

July 28

6:00-7:30 p.m.

### Promotion Sunday

August 1

# Vacation Bible School



## Kids in Action!

Mission Project:  
Backpacks for  
Zimbabwe



*To give a memorial in honor or memory of friend or a loved one, please mail your check to the Finance Office at 100 East Church Circle, Kingsport, TN, 37660 and mark "memorial" on the memo line of your check.*

*In Memory Of*

**CARPENTER'S HELPERS**

**Bob Eaton and Robert Peden** by friends



**ENDOWMENT**

**Ethel Odom, Jane Yost, Witt Langstaff** by friends

**FOOD**

**John Umberger, Glenn Gott, Ron Stidham, John Kane, Eddie Simmers, Sr.** by Darres Carter  
**Van Blair** by James and Mary Adams  
**John Umberger** by Jane Adams

**FRIENDSHIP DINER**

**Susan Pond** by friends

**FURNITURE**

**Glenn Gott** by Mary Sue Still and family, Brad and Katrina Willingham, Jane Adams, Steve and Lavinia Gott, friends, Bob and Dot Dorr, John and Gretta Stillman

**GENERAL**

**Margaret Penland** by Paul Walker  
**Erma Burton** by Roger McGrady and Connie Richardson  
**John Umberger** by Al and Terry Tolson, Pres and Vanessa Lawhon

**MUSIC**

**Lynn Harris** by friends

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Aldean Giles** by friends

**SINGLEVISION**

**Louise Morrison** by Jane Adams

*In Honor Of*

**ENDOWMENT**

**Tom and Jo Brock** by friends

**FAITH PROMISE**

**Harry and Pat Turner** by friends

**PARISH NURSE**

**Cathy Hunt** by Fred and Gina Pinney

**Celebrate Our Birthdays by Calling Someone on the List -- contact info available in the *churchLife* app or in your printed church directory.**

**July 1**

Rita Frost  
Vicki Baker  
David Hale  
Kim Elizabeth  
Missy Burton

**July 2**

Ed Montgomery  
David Basinger  
Joey Dunn  
Janie Bonner  
Tegan Ehrenfried  
Eden Vickers

**July 3**

Junior Price  
Erin West

**July 4**

Linda Morton  
Willis Vicars  
Jeff McCord  
Tina Karst  
Eliza Hutchinson

**July 5**

Kitty Smith  
Dayton Christian  
Charles Phillips  
Ron Shelton  
Jeff Berry  
Jeff Thorpe  
Ernie Cox  
Trevor Salyer

**July 6**

Frank Wadewitz  
Jared Wenk

**July 7**

David Sewell  
Alycen Nigro  
Whitney Blessing

**July 8**

Louisa Toncray  
Jim Watson  
Jim Henderson  
Kellye Henry  
Connor Walker  
Violet Brogden

**July 9**

Dot Dorr  
Linda Fanslow  
Benny Peace  
Rick Streeter  
Elaine Zoeller

Sharon Flowers  
Matt Anthony  
Brian Shafer  
Amanda Leonard  
Dieter Smith  
Alex Horner  
Elijah Robinson

**July 10**

Les Heaton  
Rob Fannon  
Mary Smith  
Jeff Alexander  
Keith Parker  
Afton Burton  
Blair Herr

**July 11**

Kathy Moore  
Martin Wright  
Bob George  
Melinda King  
Mike Turner  
Morgan Randolph  
Erik Peterson  
Katie Heidt  
Logan McDavid

**July 12**

Wilma Jenkins  
Mary Porter  
Betsy Cooper  
Lawrence Shupe  
Krystal McReynolds  
John Penland  
Ann Romance

**July 13**

Bob Bogart  
Glenn Lytz  
Dana Nanney  
Paul Haun  
Josh Bearden  
Andrew Goad  
Samuel Kerns

**July 14**

Bruce Sites  
Susan Berry  
John Williams  
Gary Dye  
Chere Flanigan  
Fiona Penley

**July 15**

Kathy Parham  
Susan Carty  
Greg Creech  
Tabitha Kerns

Benjamin Thayer

**July 16**

Cheryl Wyker  
John Aycock  
Michelle Penland  
Michael Bennett  
Andrew Larkins

**July 17**

Janet Mullins  
Greg Marcum  
Mike Todd  
Brad Killen  
Shingai Musesengwa  
Ryan Thayer  
Heath Dyon  
Luke Stocker  
McKenzie Hauk  
Parks Hauk  
Dagny Wells

**July 18**

Sue Bragg  
Devan Price  
Rhys Jeffers  
Edynn Brooks  
Maddox Free

**July 19**

Jo Bryant  
Ginger McKenzie  
Walter Scott  
Carlo Hoskins  
Amanda Tipton  
Brandy Robinson  
Cole Thomas

**July 20**

Melodie Stice  
Leslie Keefauver  
Donna Strong  
Frank Underwood  
Aaron Metcalf  
Angie Allman  
Joey Wood

**July 21**

Wes Moreland  
Pat Cox  
Cheryl Cleary  
JD Cooley  
Lindsey Harris  
Abigail Hilton  
Izabelle Hilton

**July 22**

Richard McKee  
Susan Krein

Janet Lenham  
Eric Smith  
Mark Smyth  
Brooke Seal  
Daine Stocker  
Maggie Potente

**July 23**

Lynn Johnson  
Pat Turner  
Gayle Bogart  
Larry Daniels  
Jim Cooper  
Nathan Musser  
Toni Williams  
Jenna Bailey

**July 24**

Brenda Marshall  
Peggy Baldock  
David Hammonds  
Melissa Dillon  
Stephen West  
Brantley Hereford  
Adrian Hong

**July 25**

Ruby Ryans  
Barbara Smith  
Susan Girgis  
Karen Baker  
Stan Gall  
Kim Bailey  
Vincent Guidi-  
Louveire  
Bryan Wilson  
Zeb Belote  
Willa Holley

**July 26**

Bill Harkleroad  
Nancy Hayes  
David Lovelace  
Ted Frazier  
Amy Still  
Heidi Gall  
Raleigh Miller  
Cole Ridings

**July 27**

Faye Kern  
Larry Newman  
Vivian McIntire  
Judi Overbay  
Sherry Grygotis  
Shawn Grass  
Kim Stambaugh  
Kelly Kowen  
Ben Hunt

Nathan Price

**July 28**

Mary Masters  
Peyton Ball

**July 29**

Hal McHorris  
Linda Bogan  
Bill Tholstrup  
Bo Burton  
Mattilyn Oliver

**July 30**

John Mykytka  
Faye Taylor  
Olan Jones  
Joe Alley  
Denise Wright  
Janice Le Blanc  
Henry Bailey  
CeeGee McCord  
Laura Bright  
Walt Clark  
Josh Bolinsky

**July 31**

Bill Eason  
Sharon Duncan  
Mary Lee  
Stephanie LaGuardia  
Marshall Jewett

## God Is Faithful...We Are Back

The pandemic altered the course of our lives in every way imaginable, not the least of which was the inability to be together in mission and ministry. We all hungered for the opportunity to serve our community and be together in relationship in a way that healed brokenness and glorified God. God's grace and faithfulness fed our hunger to be in ministry, and the leadership and patience of First Broad Street persevered. We now celebrate the liberating experience of Youth Mission Week!

More than 125 Middle and High School youth and adults participated in Youth Mission Week here in our own community, June 7th through 11th, an alternative to traveling away to Johns Island and Saltville as is customary. It was determined that it was still too early in the pandemic to have a mission trip that involved being housed in mass. The mission team completed projects on five homes in our community, including wheelchair ramps on four of the five homes. They traveled to Dollywood for a day of fellowship and fun, followed by a day of partnering with *Rise Against Hunger* in packaging 40,000 meals to provide nutritious meals to a place in the world where children are starving and malnourished.

We want to thank the congregation for the prayers, support, and opportunity to gather together once again in response to the needs of those around us. We praise God for His constant faithfulness and enduring grace as we have heard the voice of the Lord saying, whom shall I send and who will go for us. Then we said we, here we are, send us . . . . (Isaiah 6:8, Paraphrased.)



**YOUTH  
MISSION  
WEEK**

## “Bring One” Items

*You are invited to bring the following items to church to support our Food Ministry. Thank you.*

**Donation items for the week of July 4:** hearty soups and crackers and/or powdered or evaporated milk

**Donation items for the week of July 11:** cereal and/or powdered or evaporated milk

**Donation items for the week of July 18:** peanut butter, jelly, and/or canned fruit

**Donation items for the week of July 25:** spaghetti sauce and noodles



## Strictly for Hunger Table Returns

The annual Strictly for Hunger Table has returned and will run through Sunday, September 5th. This is an opportunity for the congregation to donate items from their garden or baked goods to be available for other members of the congregation to take for a donation that will be used to supplement the items purchased for the Food Ministry. Items commonly provided include vegetables, baked goods and flowers. We thank you for planning to share these items with others, enabling the church to respond to those who come to us for food throughout the year. So, remember to stop by the table just outside of the Chapel and help provide food for someone’s table in our community while taking food home for your own.



## Holston Conference UMW: Join us for *Mission u* (Online) Save the Dates - July 23-24, 2021

We have known and felt what it is like when “things are falling apart on us.” We have experienced a great unraveling that has shifted, quite literally, everything. Could there be, as 2 Corinthians puts it, “far more here than meets the eye?”

*Mission u*, like many activities in our lives, has moved **online**. While virtual, we are still creating spaces for spiritual community, lifelong friendships, lessons that change us and our communities, and spiritual practices that arrive when we need them most. In a time when it looks like things are falling apart on us, God’s grace is still unfolding and life is being made new. Indeed: There’s far more here than meets the eye. Will you join us? At our upcoming *Mission u*, we will examine anxiety, the culture of violence that impacts children in and out of schools, and how we as God’s people can deepen our moral witness and respond faithfully.

### Our 2021 *Mission u* will offer the following studies:

- *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*, edited by Erin James-Brown
- *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* by Monique Morris
- *Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church’s Moral Witness Through Radical Discipleship* by Darryl W. Stephens
- *Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence: A Curriculum for Youth Leaders* by Jay Godfrey

Smoky Mountain District Mission u team members are Susan Daffron (Dean), Kim Hill (Assistant Dean), Lori Sluder, Tim Jones, Ben Smith, Deborah Carte, Kacye Castenir, Sandra Guinn, Beverly Hayden, Janie Hull, Janet Jonas, and Tawana Teague. **For more information, visit [unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org).**



**Need some inspiration for cooking the next family meal? Try this one from Jane Adams, found in the United Methodist Women's Cookbook.**

**Like what you see? . . .**

**Pick up your copy of the cookbook for only \$12!**



## **Banana Split Pie**

1 graham cracker crust  
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese  
1 cup confectioners sugar  
5 tablespoons milk  
2 bananas  
1 medium size can (15 1/2 oz.) crushed pineapple  
Cool Whip  
Maraschino cherries  
Nuts (optional)

Line 9 or 10 inch pie plate with graham cracker crust. Soften cream cheese. Beat cheese, sugar, milk until smooth. Pour into graham cracker crust. Slice bananas on top of cream cheese mixture. Drain crushed pineapple and pour over bananas. Top with Cool Whip. Garnish with cherries and nuts and drizzle with chocolate.



**FBSUMC Financial Report: YTD Ending May, 2021**

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Pledges	\$ 647,389	\$ 636,250
Other Offerings	\$ 781,938	\$ 596,196
Total Revenue (includes Child Center, Kitchen, etc)	\$1,429,327	\$ 1,232,446
<b>Expenses</b>	\$1,261,266	\$ 1,265,779
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 168,061	\$ -33,334
<b>Capital Debt</b>	\$ 0	
<b>Cash on Hand (Working Capital)</b>	\$1,179,255	\$ 505,988*

\*(\$673,267) more than required

## Ways to Give:

- ❖ Mail: 100 East Church Circle  
Kingsport, TN 37660
- ❖ Text **FBSGIVE to 73256**
- ❖ Church app: "churchlife"
- ❖ Online: [fbsumc.org](http://fbsumc.org) - Give Tab

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLINE**

*All newsletter articles must be submitted for consideration by the first Monday of the previous month for the following monthly newsletter. The deadline for the August newsletter will be 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 5, by contacting Meredith Brown at [mbrown@fbsumc.org](mailto:mbrown@fbsumc.org) or 423-224-1522. All articles are subject to editing.*

First Broad Street  
United Methodist Church  
100 East Church Circle  
Kingsport, TN 37660  
423-246-4471

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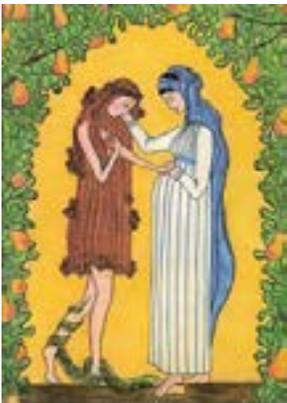
... continued from front page

We look at what happened as we feel the loss of someone so incredible, so beautiful and full of all the good things that God offers and cry out that it's not fair! It's not right! It is a deep, deep wrong. God agrees with us. He fixed the issue. He healed her, and she is living with Him without disease, without pain, and without death. The problem is that we are left here without her. We have not yet caught up to where she is.

"I've personally experienced God's Kingdom on earth when trying to adopt our children and during my cancer diagnosis. It's hard to put into words what it's like to be on the receiving end of God's love through others. What I've learned is that I have to do my part to help others experience this amazing grace and love. When we take this seriously, we become transformed, and people say I want to be part of that, I want to be that. It's irresistible. I just thank God that He uses us in our brokenness to be agents of God's Kingdom and bringing it here to earth." -Missy

Jesus came to interrupt the decay caused by evil. He taught us to realign ourselves with God's will through the Holy Spirit. We stop the spread of evil by choosing to stop sinning with God's help, but He takes it a step further. He gives us the ability to begin healing the damage of sin already done. To sew up the tear in the fabric of our reality. We can work backwards to erase sin in the world by forgiving the sin done to us by others. Then we teach those we forgive to forgive the ones that hurt them and so on. We get to cleanse that darkness from our broken world rather than spread it.

God still isn't done. He gives us the ability to grab hold of a piece of Heaven and bring it down to earth. This creates a well of goodness that goes where we go so that as people encounter us, they must stop and ask why we are different. Why do they feel welcome and love unlike anything else when they come near us? We live with one foot in Heaven and one on earth. A dual vision of suffering and celebration filled with hope until one day we see it fully. We have a hope that helps us navigate the uncertainty created by evil in our world. Evil that took Pastor Missy from us far too soon.



She loved this painting of Mary comforting Eve because the baby she carried would stop the darkness began by the first sin. Mary bruises the head of the serpent with her foot the same way our witness as God's people stops the spread of evil in the world. Missy saw her witness as her purpose and her legacy. She understood that God can turn what was meant for evil into something life giving, if we allow Him to. Let us continue her work. His work.

"I believe like a child that suffering will be healed and made up for, that all the humiliating absurdity of human contradictions will vanish like a pitiful mirage...that in the world's finale, at the moment of eternal harmony, something so precious will come to pass that it will suffice for all hearts, for the comforting of all resentments, for the atonement of all the crimes of humanity, of all the blood that they've shed; that it will make it not only possible to forgive but to justify all that has happened." -Fyodor Dostoevsky

"They say of some temporal suffering, 'No future bliss can make up for it,' not knowing that Heaven, once attained, will world backwards and turn even that agony into a glory." -CS Lewis