

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1386 Fulton, KY 42041
200 Carr Street Fulton, Kentucky 42041
Church – 270-472-3514 Willingham Center – 270-472-3510
Rev. Nancy Johnston Varden, Pastor

The Visitor

Early Church – 8:45 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:50 a.m.

Visit our web site: www.fulton-umc.org

June 15, 2017



Lynn Yates, Richard & Lyda Rice, Michelle Richter, Church & Pastor, Ronnie, Martha, Izora, & Family, Buddy McCloud, Persecuted Christians, Family of Martha Tidwell, Shirley Martin, Joan Lacewell, Joyce Tibbs, Pam Dame, Tom Kelly, Kelly Johnson, Family of Josh Taylor, Rebecca Fry, Leslie Marcum, Greg & Debbie Williams, People of London, the Family of Bobby LeCornu, Kristi Rezabek, Jim Ketterman, Jimmy Brasure, Susan Parr, Kim Murray, Stacey Homra, Leslie Marcum, Three-in-One Children, Parents, & Volunteers, family of Charles Shepherd, Janis & Steve Mooney, Josh Hankins, Family of Doris Harris, Service Men & Women, Our Local, State, National, and World Leaders, Phil Lampley, Pat Gammon, Jeffrey Don Howard, Family of Howard McAlister, Shelby Rushing

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Nursery

June 18 Susanna Whitesell
June 25 Carmen Barclay
July 2 Amy Barclay
July 9 Kelly Barnes

Children's Church

June 18 Jordan & Kelly Barnes
June 25 John & Katie Parr
July 2 Dave & Amy Barclay
July 9 John Lane & Jennifer McConnell

Acolytes

June 18 Virginia Varden
June 25 Katie Barclay
July 2 Jentry McConnell
July 9 Avery Nanney

Altar Flowers

June 18 Alice Voegeli
June 25 Alice Voegeli
July 2 Joan Homra
July 9 Joan Homra

Background Checks

Per our safe sanctuary policy, anyone who is working with our Children or Youth and is over the age of 18 must have a background check on file. These must be repeated every TWO years. This includes Nursery, Children's Church, UMYF, Rotation Station, VBS, DayShore, and 3-in-1. If you work in these areas, please contact Ashlee this week to ensure you have had your background check completed!

UMW

Circles will resume in the fall.

UMM

Next meeting is July 1st at 8:00am.

UMYF

Swim and Scripture on June 21st!

Farewell Picnic For Tori

The SPRC would like to invite you to celebrate Tori as her time here at Fulton First comes to an end and she begins a new adventure in Baton Rouge!

When: Saturday, June 17, 2017

Time: 6-8PM

Where: Robert and Susan Rushing's Home
2002 Magnolia Drive
Fulton, KY 42041

Please contact Susan Rushing if you would like to help out. [270-214-0016](tel:270-214-0016)

Happy Birthday!

June

Virginia Varden	Shawn Simpson
Hudson Reid Barnes	Michael Gossum
Matthew Moss	Hal Warren
Karl Ivey	Jane Morgan
Joan Warren	Robert Rushing
Terri Hodges	

VBS

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 19th-23rd. We are needing empty paper towel rolls and ribbon donations for our craft.

We also need volunteers to work the week of VBS! Please contact Pam Dame if you are wanting to volunteer

From the Pastor's Desk...

Here is Why We Need Visioning

I am about to have my one-year anniversary as Lead Pastor of First UMC- Fulton. And I want to take that time to share some thoughts about our missional calling here at First. We are a church that loves our community but we, like a lot of churches, struggle to know what to do to reach out to our neighbors.

You all have done a great job of investing in our children and at times other children. And over the past 3 years you did a specific, significant expansion of our ministry toward the youth. Children's ministry has amazing lay leadership—truly at a level that is difficult to find. Ministry to children and youth is often the easy, go-to thing that communities do agree on. So, it is a good and understandable thing that those ministries have gotten positive attention—always more to do. But moving.

Our fellowship and worship again is one of those areas that we are prone to *go* to for our calling and identity. These are often called our internal, spiritual work. And the work that goes into fellowship and worship is growing and moving here, and prayerfully will continue to become richer and even deeper spiritual experiences for all.

But here is the question that I am pushing at, one that I am not certain of the answer, “Do we know who we are and what our mission is?” As United Methodist our mission statement says, “To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” And if we listen to the scripture passage shared on Trinity Sunday we are called to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” (Matthew 28:19a) Those of us that attended Annual Conference over a week ago were reminded that we are called to “offer Jesus to a hurting world one neighborhood at a time.”

But this still gets me back to my question, “Do we, Fulton First UMC, know who we are and what our mission is?” And the even harder question, “How do we *faithfully* and with *passion* fulfill that mission?”

We have the Willingham Center that was part of a vision to do something for the community and to draw people to us. The complete vision of it has not been what was originally planned. And along the way there have been hurts and difficulties at adapting the ministry of the Willingham Center in this new reality—one that does not involve the pool. Good ministry is happening there but we have never visioned and asked, “What is the Willingham Center to our missional calling as a church?” *Do we need to take a breath there?*

Every aspect about ministry and sharing Christ is about being able to adapt to our current realities and to the current culture. Being adaptable as a church

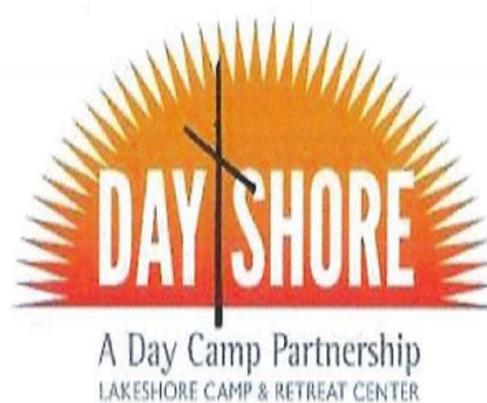
means having a lot of self-insight first, addressing our weaknesses second, and third, building our strengths.

The Church Council of Fulton First committed this year to every other month having Visioning Gatherings instead of our regular meetings. Good work and conversation is happening there but we need more people around the table to make it even more effective work. We need *you* there.

Tuesday, July 11 and Tuesday, September 12 are our next Visioning Gatherings. Please plan now to be a part of one of these gatherings. Pray for these vital meetings for the sharing of the Gospel of Christ here on the corner of Carr Avenue and Second Street. These gatherings are for sharing in loving-kindness our strengths, weaknesses, and insights.

Why is this important? We live in a moment in church history when deep change is underway, both in culture and in the church. Much of society has decided that we do not have what they need, so they stay away. They need to experience the Gospel! To see it lived out in ways that impact lives, overcome their skepticism and their cynicism. And we are the people of God that are called to share that Gospel. Please join us.

-Pastor Nancy



The DayShore Camp is different from any other Lakeshore event because it's hosted at individual churches. The event includes arts, crafts, recreation, worship and study!

Activities will include:

- Archery
- Arts and Crafts
- Basketball and other games
- Christ-centered lessons
- Daily group worship
- Gaga Ball
- Silly songs
- So Much Moore!

DayShore will be at Fulton First UMC July 17-21st. Registration applications may be picked up in the Church office. Cost is \$50 per student. Scholarships are available on an as needed basis.