



Love As He Loves

This Lent, our focus has been on the “foolish love” God gives us – **unmerited, unconditional, unbounded, and transformational**. 1 Corinthians 13 is a passage about this very holy love. I invite you to participate in a process of transformation to bring that love forth in our lives.

The blanks in the passage below are where the word “love” (or pronouns referring to love) have been removed. Fill your name in the blanks. Then, read this out loud at least once a day. Celebrate the ways you love well in the phrases that feel natural. Make a commitment to work on whatever sounds a little off to you or places you need to be more intentional.

_____ is patient, _____ is kind, _____ isn't jealous,
_____ doesn't brag, _____ isn't arrogant, _____ isn't rude,
_____ doesn't seek its own advantage, _____ isn't irritable,
_____ doesn't keep a record of complaints, _____ isn't happy with injustice,
but _____ is happy with the truth. _____ puts up with all things,
_____ trusts in all things, _____ hopes for all things,
_____ endures all things. _____ never fails.

In all things, know that Jesus loves you like this and has confidence that you can love like He loves.

Blessings,

Pastor Monica

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Happy March, Friends!

Blessings from the Children's Ministry! We have had a great February and are excited to see what this month will bring us!

We are back in full swing with our Wednesday fun and fellowship. We eat at 5:30PM with the Youth and Adults and then break apart at 6:00PM for individual group times. Please remember that all Children's Ministry activities are open to any and all children, and we're always happy to see new faces!

March 17 is a date to remember for two important reasons: the Children will be leading the 10:00AM worship service and our annual church-wide Easter Egg Hunt will be immediately after the service, so make plans to be there and invite your friends to join us.

As always, thank you for loving and supporting the Children in their walk with God!

Blessings,

Nicole Harriman, Director of Children's Ministry

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Marching On

Hi CUMC family and friends! **I want to start by thanking you for making our recent Mardi Gras Breakfast a success – and a *delicious* one at that!** (Special shout-out to Lindsey Dixon for bringing a brigade of girls to help decorate tables and fill crêpes, as well as Carley Ruckman, Tynleigh Upchurch, Samuel Lavender, Ella Dixon, and Gavin Kemp for lending a hand.) Your support of YG events like these make our discipleship-building work possible!

EVENTS + UPDATES

We're continuing our *Word For Moments When* series on Wednesday nights at 6:00PM, following our 5:30PM meal with the Children and Adults. Our most recent lesson focused on moments when we need to forgive and be forgiven. **We will not be gathering on the Wednesday that falls during the week of Spring Break (March 27).** Enjoy your well-deserved mid-semester break!

We are still in need of adults to sit in on our sessions this semester to comply with Safe Sanctuary regulations. If you are available on one or more of these dates listed below, please contact me or Kristi.

- APRIL 3, 10, 17, 24
- MAY 1, 8

Last note for March: we'll be hosting our quarterly Youth Council meeting on Sunday, March 10 following the 10:00AM service.

If y'all have any questions, feel free to email or text me at your convenience. As always, thank you for what you do to make YG at CUMC a place where godly growth and good times collide!

Tucker Huseh, Director of Youth Ministry

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

Greetings, Church Family!

My buttercups have declared the good news – spring is almost here! We do seem to always get a cold snap after the buttercups have shown their beautiful yellow. (Sure hoping it will be a quick one when it comes!)

Our giving for the year is not keeping up with the pace of our budget needs. Some of the shortfall is due to a Sunday in January when we could not get the building warmed up well enough to gather. Our weekly offering is an important part of our ability to be a thriving church. When I'm looking at gaps in need, I like to break them into manageable buckets; then they seem a little less overwhelming. **If each giving household could contribute what they might spend on a meal out, we will start to meet our weekly need.**

Giving does not just have to be monetary. Your time is the most valuable asset you can give to your church. We are always looking for folks to help with things like providing groceries for the Wednesday night meal or sitting in on lessons with the Children and Youth (trust me, they want to get to know the cool adults in our church!), visiting shut-ins, and writing notes to people in times of celebration or grief. **If you are curious how you can give, reach out to me. I'll help get you in touch with the right folks to fulfill your giving need.** I'll take the time now to do a shameless plug: I'm looking for a couple of committee members to serve on the Finance Committee. If this is something you are interested in, please let me know. **Thank you, again, for being a giving church. Your gifts are what allows us as a church to preach the gospel, guide disciples, and reach out to our community.**

I will continue to remind you that you can make contributions via our weekly worship service offering, drop off at the church office, or via eGiving (carthageumc.org/give.html). I personally do eGiving and have found it to be a blessing. I pray for our church each Sunday when the plate is passed during service, but I also pause to pray for our church when I see my auto-withdrawal come out of my checking account each Friday. I've been told that a few folks have signed up for this since the last newsletter. We are grateful that you have!

Have a blessed March. Great things are coming. Daylight Savings Time is March 10. I am looking forward to an extra hour of sunshine after I get off work each day. Spring officially starts just a few days after that on March 19, and we all are looking forward to a wonderful Easter celebration on March 31. Easter is my favorite holiday! I love the promises that were made on that cross and from the grave that we get to experience every day. **There are so many things we can be thankful for this month!**

Heather Gammon, Chair of Finance

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

COMING UP AT CUMC

“Foolish Love” Adult Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:00PM

Join Pastor Monica each week on a journey through this Lenten series focused on the wasteful, prodigal, hopeful, foolish love that God offers us.

WOW Women’s Bible Study Wednesdays at 9:00AM

From Eve to Deborah to Ruth and Esther, women have played a crucial role in God's story of redemption. Join us for this multi-week study of the lives of women throughout Scripture who have inspired generations of women in their faith and devotion to God. Books are available to purchase for \$19 in the church office. **Questions? Contact Jodi Gammon.**

Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, March 17 | 11:00AM

The hunt is on! Enjoy an afternoon on our front lawn filled with fun for littles and big people alike. All in the community are welcome!

Palm Sunday Sunday, March 24 | 10:00AM

Celebrate the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem and the start of Holy Week at our Palm Sunday service.

Good Friday To-Go Friday, March 29 | 12:00-1:00PM

Journey with us through Jesus’ final hours before His death on the cross over the lunch hour. A free, light lunch will be provided to all.



Holy Thursday Experience Thursday, March 28 | 6:00PM

Share in a night of contemplative worship and fellowship at a dinner experience inspired by the final Passover feast of Jesus (often referred to as the Last Supper), in which Jesus humbly washed the feet of His disciples, gave the great command of love, and instituted the sacrament of holy communion.

Reservations are required so we can be certain to have enough space and materials. Please reserve your spot by calling or emailing the church office **no later than Tuesday, March 26.**

EMAIL: carthageumcsecretary@gmail.com
PHONE: 615-735-0343

Resurrection Sunday Services Sunday, March 31 | 6:00AM + 10:00AM

Celebrate our risen Savior at our 6:00AM Sunrise Service at the Dixon’s family home or our 10:00AM Sanctuary Service!

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

CHURCH + COMMUNITY NEWS

PICKLEBALL AT CARTHAGE UMC

UPDATED PLAY HOURS

MONDAYS / FRIDAYS*

8:30AM

TUESDAYS / THURSDAYS*

6:00PM

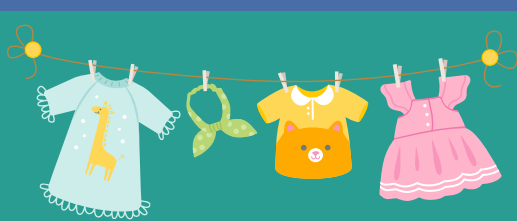
*EXCLUDING MARCH 7 + 8

ALL AGES AND
EXPERIENCE LEVELS
ARE WELCOME!

PADDLES
AVAILABLE AT
CUMC TO USE!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT RANDY + MARY LESLIE WAKEFIELD, JOANN JAMES, OR LIZ CARVER.



SMITH COUNTY PRESCHOOL CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

MARCH 8
9AM-5PM

MARCH 9
9AM-12PM

THE CUMC CATCH-UP

CHURCH + COMMUNITY NEWS

Church Directory Photo + Contact Info Submissions Due by Friday, March 15

Carthage UMC is in the process of creating a new church directory! **Please send a photo of you/your family to Kristi at media.carthagetnumc@gmail.com.** If your personal information has recently changed, **please contact the church office or send the updated information via email to Deanna at carthageumcsecretary@gmail.com.**



The CUMC Food Bank Is Now Open!

Graciously and lovingly built by Doug deLong for those in our community suffering from food insecurity, this food box is located in the back parking lot. Pastor Monica and a group of CUMC members prayed over the box after the 10:00AM service on Scout Sunday (February 4). **Canned or non-perishable food items may be donated by dropping them off directly in the box.**



Thank You, Sweetheart Night Helpers!

A big thank you to all those who assisted with the Habitat for Humanity Father-Daughter Sweetheart Night last month. Whether you provided desserts, cooked and served the meal, decorated, or helped with tear-down and clean-up, your help was so greatly appreciated. It was another successful event enjoyed by all the dads and daughters who attended. Thanks for your support!



THE CUMC CATCH-UP

CELEBRATE + CONNECT

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Luke Wyatt	03/01
Missy Baker	03/04
Maxwell Long	03/05
Carol McDonald	03/05
Jude Summers	03/05
Nicole Harriman	03/06
Mark Webster	03/06
Seth McRae	03/08
Brad Tippy	03/08
Diane Dillehay	03/10
Nancy Moran	03/13
Dick Fulton	03/14
Ronnie Jenkins	03/14
Jordan Patrick	03/15
Davis Sanders	03/15
Stan Webster	03/18
Cayden Good	03/19
Candy Carlyle	03/20
Andrea Tencza	03/20
Addison Pope	03/21
Ryder Grisham	03/22
Robert Daniel	03/24
Mandy Beaty	03/25
Cole Miller	03/25
Eli Bush	03/26
Sarah Good	03/26
Phyllis Eckel	03/27
Jennifer Perry	03/27
Samuel Lavender	03/28
Barry Clemons	03/29
Suzanna Gammon	03/29
Oliver Martin	03/30
Bennett Gammon	03/31

ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH

Don and Phyllis Eckel	03/01
Joe and Monica Mowdy	03/18
Seth and Michelle McRae	03/19

**RECENTLY MOVED?
JUST MARRIED?
NEW MEMBER?**

**Contact the church office to
have your info updated!**



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P.O. Box 241
Carthage, TN 37030



www.carthagetnumc.org



615-735-0343



carthageumcsecretary@gmail.com (General Inquiries)
media.carthagetnumc@gmail.com (Events + Newsletter)



Carthage United Methodist Church
Livestream, Facebook + YouTube

CARTHAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC	2
3 3 rd Sunday in Lent	4 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 12 – 6 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive/CLC	5 Smith Co. Schools-No Classes 6 p.m. Pickleball/CLC	6 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Meal 6 p.m. Children's Ministry 6 p.m. Monica's Bible Study 6 p.m. Youth 7 p.m. Choir	7 12 Noon Zoom Bible Study	8 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. SCPS Spring Consignment Sale	9 9 a.m. – 12 Noon SCPS Spring Consignment Sale
10 4 th Sunday in Lent 3-4 p.m. Pack 367 4-5:30 p.m. Troop 367	11 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 5-7 pm. The Spot	12 6 p.m. Pickleball/CLC	13 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Meal 6 p.m. Children's Ministry 6 p.m. Monica's Bible Study 6 p.m. Youth 7 p.m. Choir	14 12 Noon Zoom Bible Study	15 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC	16
17 5 th Sunday in Lent 3-4 p.m. Pack 367	18 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 5-7 pm. The Spot	19 6 p.m. Pickleball/CLC	20 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Meal 6 p.m. Children's Ministry 6 p.m. Monica's Bible Study 6 p.m. Youth 7 p.m. Choir	21 12 Noon Zoom Bible Study	22 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC	23
24 PALM SUNDAY	25 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC Smith Co. Schools-Spring Break	26 6 p.m. Pickleball/CLC Smith Co. Schools- Spring Break	27 8:30 a.m. Pickleball/CLC Smith Co. Schools-Spring Break	28 12 Noon Zoom Bible Study 6 p.m. HOLY THURSDAY SVC Smith Co. Schools-Spring Break	29 GOOD FRIDAY-CUMC OFFICE CLOSED 12 Noon Good Friday-To-Go Svc Smith Co. Schools-Spring Break	30
31 EASTER COMMUNION 6 a.m. Sunrise Svc at Dixon's Home 10 a.m. Worship Svc						