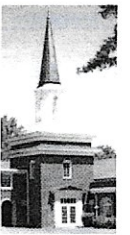




# Forest Heights United Methodist Church

863 West Forest Avenue | Jackson, Tennessee 38301  
Phone: 731-668-5209 | Fax: 731-668-5210 | Website: fhumc.com



## NEWSLETTER

November 2023

### WEEPING AND HOPING

As I reflect on the terrible situation in the Middle East, and other places in this world, I sometimes feel helpless and angry. There are times when it seems all that I can do is weep.

Deep in the Old Testament there is a piece of writing called Lamentations. It's traditionally thought to have been written by Jeremiah, who was called "the weeping prophet." Lamentations is a funeral song written about the destruction of Jerusalem. In 597 BC, the Babylonian army destroyed the city of Jerusalem. They deported all the able-bodied people to Babylonia where they remained in exile for almost fifty years. And as he surveyed the obvious tragedy of the situation, Jeremiah cried out: *"Is this nothing to you, all you who pass by?"* (Lam. 1:12) There are times in which the sorrow and tragedy in us and around us is so palpable, that we become distressed when others don't see and feel it as we do.

I don't know what touches you to turn your tears to anger. It may be the abuse of innocent and helpless people, or the wars of religious hatred, or so much starvation in a world of plenty or the homeless people who sleep in the doorways of churches and businesses. Of course, there is a time to act in the tradition of Jeremiah: to quit weeping long enough to grab the world by the coat tails and scream: *"Is this nothing to you, all you who pass by?"* If you care, you cannot remain dry-eyed and silent. But, still, there are some situations that lie beyond our power to help. There are circumstances in which we are as helpless as those who suffer, and the most (and the best) we can do is to weep, hoping and believing that God sees our tears and hears our cries.

A little girl stayed out to play much longer than she was supposed to stay. When she got home her mother scolded her and asked where she had been. She said that one of her playmates had broken her doll and she stopped and helped her fix it, for *two hours!* Her mother asked her how in the world she could help fix a broken doll. And, in all the innocence of a child, she said, *"I could not fix the doll, but I sat down with her and helped her cry."* There are some things beyond our fixing. There is some brokenness we cannot repair no matter how much time, money, or talent we have. All we can do is weep with those who weep. And when this all we can do, it is enough.

**Drew**

## **Nurture News -Serving Each Other**

- A Big Thank You** 1. All who helped set up, prepare, and clean up after our Fifth Sunday bring-a-dish lunch. The food was delicious and the fellowship wonderful.
2. All who participated in the Preschool Trunk or Treat. The smiles and laughter of the children were such a delight and blessing.

### **All Saints Day Remembrance**

On Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> during worship we will remember and celebrate the lives of our members who have joined the Church Triumphant. Those to be remembered are: **Ken Martin, Rosalina Salyers, Betty Thomas, Carolyn Perry, Kayo Mullins, Paul Sutton, Jack Foote and Bill Tate.**

### **Wednesday Bible Study Resumes**

When: November 29 – 10:00am

What: Advent Study

Where: Resource Room, second floor of main building.

Join us as Drew leads us as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

### **Happy Birthday this month to:**

<b>Samantha Wood</b>	<b>11/6</b>
<b>Tim Burgher</b>	<b>11/19</b>
<b>Janice Nation</b>	<b>11/26</b>
<b>Nancy Wheatley</b>	<b>11/28</b>

### **Happy Anniversary to:**

**Lynn & Tim Burgher – 11/8**  
**Julia & Harvey Howell – 11/12**





**All I want for Christmas** Let's help parents provide Christmas gifts for their families. Reelfoot Rural Ministries is hosting their annual Christmas toy store where parents can purchase toys and other Christmas items at greatly reduced prices. Please add your gifts to our collection table near the pastor's office. Feel free to join us on Thursday, Nov 30<sup>th</sup> as we take the toys to Reelfoot. We will stop for lunch at Boyette's!

Suggested items include art supplies, beauty products, sports equipment, tablets, phones, Roku, TVs, jewelry, ear buds, speakers, bicycles, scooters, skateboards, fishing equipment, camping equipment, remote controlled vehicles, Nerf items, dolls, trucks, baby toys, baby car seats, baby bouncers. All items should be new, with tags attached. Please do not wrap your gift so parents can easily choose items. Please see Sue Bryant if you have questions.

**Youth Retreat** Our youth are planning to attend the Jr.-Sr. High youth retreat at Lakeshore Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "This is Me." Please keep our youth in your prayers as they dive into God's word and discover what it says about who we are and what it means to live as a Christian in today's world.



## **Our church website: FHUMC.com is under new management!**

Marianne Archer has graciously agreed to take on this project. Be sure to visit our website frequently. Marianne welcomes suggestions on what you want to see on our webpage.

**Christmas Cookies** This year our youth Sunday School class will be baking Christmas cookies for our homebound members. We plan to fill the church with the delicious aroma of fresh baked cookies on Saturday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are needing 4 people to bring their favorite recipe and ingredients to work with the girls one on one. Please sign up on the list on the office bulletin board.



**Room in the Inn** Forest Heights will once again be providing meals for Room in the Inn. Our first meal will be on Wednesday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be hosting the first Wednesday of each month through April. Please sign up on the list on the church bulletin board. You can participate in this project by providing food, helping to serve, prayer, or leading a short devotion.

**Administrative Board Meeting** – The church board met Sunday, October 15 to prepare for Charge Conference scheduled for Tuesday, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5 PM. Minutes from that meeting can be obtained from Ms. Betty in the office. Our business meetings are always open to the entire membership.

# FRIENDSHIP

Cheryl and David Thomas started their love story in the fall of 1987. David moved to Jackson, TN, after he had graduated from Murray State University. He was employed by Malone and Hyde and worked in sales distribution for 20 years with various companies. David finally had an opportunity to put his education in media to work for the Jackson Sun followed by his current position as News Director of the online edition News/Talk radio 101.5FM.



David was born July 26, 1952, in Mayfield, KY, while Cheryl was born March 13, 1952, in Selmer, TN. Cheryl graduated from Jackson State Community College and continued her education at Lambuth College graduating in 1984, with a degree in business. Cheryl was an officer manager at Northside Medical Clinic employed there 10 years. Later she began working for RIFA as a thrift store manager retiring after 17 years of service.

Cheryl enjoys home decorating and is a master gardener. Her love for plants was encouraged by Kayo and Helen Mullins, and Bill and Sue Wyatt. She has taught Sunday school working with younger children and teens.

The Thomases enjoy travel too. One of David's favorite places to go is Mount Rushmore, while Cheryl's favorite is Niagara Falls and any beach.

David and Cheryl as a couple like serving as ushers and being trusted to lock up after Sunday church. David has been a member since 1974. Cheryl became a member in 1988. David finds us warming, inviting, and caring. He also says that many have been influential to him since he became a member.

Friendships pass from one to another.

**BE BLESSED!**