



WEEKLY NEWS

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
20 N. Dixie Ave, Cookeville TN, 38501 931-526-4424
6/13/2025



HIGH SCHOOL MONTREAT 2025



2025 High School Montreat was an amazing journey. The students spent a week learning about walking in the light of God. The Rev Casey Wait and the co-moderator of General assembly, the Rev. CeCe Armstrong, delivered powerful keynotes and sermons each day. Lives were changed and the students had space to work through parts of their life where they felt as if they were in darkness.

The air is truly thin at Montreat and we reveled in the divinity of God all week. Thank you all who supported us and prayed for us. We are very grateful for you. There is still opportunity to support the middle schoolers before we head on our adventure July 16th.

Rev. Katie Ory



Race, Racism, and Civil Rights in the U.S. – Past and Present

A class with Dr. Robert Owens

**Tuesday afternoons in June
from 4pm to 5pm (June 3-24)**

**First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall
20 N. Dixie Ave, Cookeville TN**

**\$25 (entire class) for community members and
"pay what you can" for members of First Pres**

**For more information contact Donna Simpson
931-265-5648 or to register contact First Pres at
(931) 526-4424**

The class will explore the ideology of race and the outgrowth of racism in America from the early years immediately following the abolition of slavery to the present day. This class will also view civil rights efforts in the United States in its close connection to racism. There will be some additional exploration of the involvement of the Church in the American civil rights movement.

Robert Owens has worked for years in Access and Diversity at Tennessee Tech University. In January of 2020, Owens was appointed Interim Vice President of Student Affairs at TTU. He serves as Chief Diversity Officer at Tech and in July of 2024, he became Senior Executive for Access and Community Outreach. Dr. Owens has helped TTU reach its highest levels of ethnic diversity in history. He has given presentations about TTU's retention programming for students of color across the United States.

In addition to his work at TTU, Dr. Owens serves as Pastor of a multi-ethnic church situated in the heart of Cookeville, TN; has served on boards of the Cookeville-Putnam County Chamber of Commerce and Highlands Residential Services (formerly the Cookeville Housing Authority); and coaches middle and high school boys basketball.

THE GIVING GRIDDLE

ALL ARE WELCOME!

JOIN US ON:

WED. JUNE 18TH from 6-8pm

SAT. JUNE 28TH from 10am-12pm

*RAIN OR SHINE!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

20 N. DIXIE AVE. COOKEVILLE TN 38501

Missions: Clean Earth

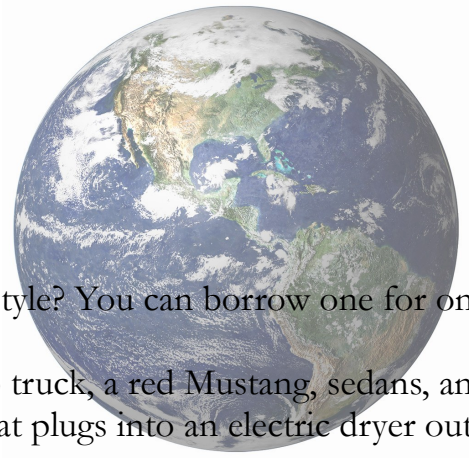
Borrow an Electric Vehicle (EV) for a week free from TTU!

Do you want to figure out if an electric vehicle fits your lifestyle? You can borrow one for one week for free.

TTU has five different EVs to lend, including a Ford pickup truck, a red Mustang, sedans, and more. You will receive instructions and an extension cord that plugs into an electric dryer outlet to conveniently charge the EV overnight at home.

Contact Bethany Smith at bvsmith@tntech.edu or 931-372-3830.

Diane and Sam Glasgow borrowed an EV from TTU. Feel free to ask us any questions. 931-260-9350 dianesamglasgow@gmail.com



Church Summer Schedule!

- Chancel Choir—Summer break begins May 28, until July 9.
- Adult Sunday School—All Adult S.S. classes are combined for June and July. They meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. Nursery will be available and breakfast refreshments will be served. All are welcome!
- Wednesday Night Gathering—Summer break begins June 4, until Sep. 10.
- Sunday Night Youth Group—Summer break begins June 1, until Sep. 7.
- Connected Voices-Summer break begins June 22, until Sep. 28.

BLESSING BOX

We continually collect food supplies in order to restock the box twice a week.



The blessing box was filled by an anonymous doner this week, in honor of Ben and Anita Underwood. Thank you!

Here is a list of some suggested items:

- Protein drinks
- Peanut butter crackers
- Tuna in foil pouches
- Small cans of fruits and veggies with pull tops
- Small raisin boxes
- Individual cereal boxes
- Bottled water, juice or juice boxes
- Individually packaged hygiene products
- Pull tab cans of soup or chili
- Small cereal boxes
- Granola bars
- Non-perishable food

No glass containers please.



Special Requested Items:

Peanut Butter, Ramen, Baby Wipes, Deodorant, Comb/Brush, Razors and Bug Spray

Update: Warming Shelter hours & needs

The Warming Shelter needs large bottles of shampoo, men's deodorant, body wash, 10 gallon and 30 gallon trash bags.

Drop them off on Fridays between 9 and 1 at the shelter,
United Church of Christ
502 Gould Ave, near Willow Ave., south of I-40
Tell them you're from First Presbyterian Church.

OR at our church anytime. Please label them: **UCC Showers**
They really appreciate our help!

Staying Connected

QUICK LINKS



You are able to give from the homepage of our website or click [here](#)



Lesotho Orphange

Enjoy this new BBC segment on Lesotho: [Link](#)

Learn more from the Associated Press: [Link](#)

New [Video of Lydia and the kids](#)

Notice it is cold and winter time in Lesotho.

Church News Deadline

Please submit your announcements for the newsletter, bulletin, website, marquee, etc., by Wednesday, the end of the day. Thank you!

STAFF

The Rev. Michael D. McLaughlin.....**Pastor**
The Rev. Katie Ory.....**Director of Children & Youth Ministry**
Paul Thurmond.....**Director of Music**
Amy Ainsley.....**Administrative Assistant**
Virginia Fillers.....**SoulSong Coordinator**

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20 N. Dixie Ave, Cookeville TN, 38501
931-526-4424

www.firstprescookeville.org

Office Hours: Wed.-Friday 9am-3pm

Rev. McLaughlin's Office Hrs.: Tue-Thur. 10am-1pm

ELDERS

2025 Dina Smith, Rick Woods
2026 Cade Arnold, Josh Dore
2027 Sidonie Sansom, Dee Tompkins

DEACONS

2025 Chris McCormick, Erica Scott
2026 Michelle Dore, Ron Ledbetter, Stacey Trent
2027 Kelly Appleton, Ann Hayes, Tony Lawson,
Colleen Mestayer, Gabrielle Pate, Shelley
Wiley

Clerk of Session: Donna Simpson, Interim