

ISSUE

February
2022

Methodist Tribune

Church Information

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Prayer Requests

US Military & Government

Schools & Teachers

Healthcare Providers

Reba Finch

Jewell Spivey

Katherine Johnson

Tyler Stafford

Butch Barlow

Martha Moore

Brenda Heinrich

Scott Heinrich

Harold & Betty Martin

Jaymon Loftis

Melanie Rainey & family

~***~



this issue

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sundays, Feb. 6-May 1: 3:30-5:30pm GriefShare in the
Fellowship Hall**



**If you would like to add
something to the newsletter, please
contact before the 20th of the
month.**



2022



"A Caring Community of Faith"

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.” Proverbs 11: 24-25

I have some good news and some bad news folks. I'll start with the bad news first. As 2021 has come to a close we have checked our financial records to see the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on this church. The final numbers show that the church is moving backwards financially. In fact, it paints the picture of that for 2022 our giving is likely to be \$1500 short every month unless something changes. The situation was similar for 2020 and 2021 however, we received over \$34,000 in grants in the last few years that have helped us stay afloat during this time. Initially, the hope was that as the pandemic got under control, we would see people return to worship. But when the numbers have gone down to show COVID's presence in Jackson County was all but wiped out, people did not return to worship. And then new variants came to ratchet the numbers back up. This means major financial changes will be coming to this church this year. But even with those changes, your help is needed.

But didn't I say there was some good news? Because all this sounds horrible. So, here's the good

news. While there are no more grant programs available to apply for, I contacted a dear friend of mine at the UM foundation. I explained to him our situation and asked for guidance finding help. He has declared, based solely on our friendship, and trusting my word, that a check has already been issued and is on its way now to Gainesboro 1st in the amount of \$2500. That helps, but we need a few more of those, right? He also has agreed that he will match giving between now and Easter that is above and separate from someone's normal giving, up to \$2500.

If you regularly give, thank you. But those gifts will not be matched. To take advantage of these funds he is making available; you will need to give beyond and separate from your normal giving. There are a few ways that you can do this. First, simply write a separate check and put "Grant match" on the memo line. Or if you were giving during service, you can put your gift in an envelope and write "Grant match" on the outside of the envelope.

No matter how it finds its way to us, if it has these words on it, it should be tracked correctly. But if you're giving during Sunday morning service, I'm going to ask you to go a step further. I ask that at some point on Sunday, you place this check or envelope on the altar rail. This accomplishes two things. First, it reduces the chance for confusion as opposed to being in the offering plate. And secondly, it is a public act that I hope will encourage others in the congregation by letting them know that they are not alone in this endeavor. You can bring it up before or after service, during the prelude, during the offering, or during the altar call. Whenever you see fit. People don't have to see you do this, they just need to see the check lying there.

This grant, these matching funds, your giving, and a couple of changes the council has proposed, should put us in a healthy financial position that should continue for many years to come regardless of new developments with the pandemic or new variants. I am encouraged and excited that God has provided such a wonderful answer to our financial problems. But I am even more excited to see the truth of Proverbs 11 written above being made manifest as we see those in our congregation that increase giving also find increased blessing and joy in life.

Let's Celebrate!

ALWAYS THERE

Margaret Anderson
4343 Lebanon Road
T-1114
Hermitage, TN 37076

Reba Finch
104 Cox Avenue
Gainesboro, TN 38562

Ann Hart
141 Shorewood Drive
Long Beach, IN 46360

Katherine Johnson
Mabry Health Care
Room B-4
Gainesboro, TN 38562

Nancy Venable
820 Quarles Hollow Road
Gainesboro, TN 38562

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2022

BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

1 Benton Quarles
3 Rose Tuck
6 Howard Khouri
7 Suzanne Stafford
8 Kerry Mitchell
14 Maria Rakaska
17 Kenny Randolph
28 Will Babb

MARCH

13 Judy Ragland
13 Ron Rakaska
27 Susan Randolph
28 Linda Prill

ANNIVERSARIES

None for February and March

Send a card to those who cannot be with us, birthdays,
anniversaries, thinking of you cards!





MEMORIALS

None for February



Losing a loved one is hard and learning how to live without them is harder!

We will have a GriefShare class in the Fellowship Hall Feb. 6-May 1, 3:30-5:30pm.

