

“KNOXVILLE AREA QUILTING FRIENDS” ARE MOVING BACK TO UNION

Our quilters ran out of room in our ½ time room, and about 2 ½ years ago moved to a larger room at the **Cedar Bluff Library**. At their last monthly meeting, January 4th, 2020, they outgrew even the Library with 45members is attendance! They are coming back to Union, this time using our large gym. **Bernie Fay** has scoped out the available electrical outlets and advised them how to avoid electrical overload with so many sewing machines. Our church will make available a welcome gift to each, A Jesus Film CDs & Four Spiritual Laws tracts, and our 4x6 Union CP Church Post Cards – all in a common basket to choose from. In another month or so Pastor **Leonard** will be invited to greet the group and bring a monthly devotional. (We don’t want to spook the group by forcing religion down their throats at the first meeting.) This group does many worthy projects to help others in the name of **Christ**. If you are a quilter or would like to learn how to quilt, join us the First Saturday of each month from Noon to 3pm. **For Info: Call Debbie Anders: 865-323-0323**

JANUARY EVENTS NOW ON THE CALENDAR

Next Saturday, January 25th, Union will sponsor workshops to discuss Unification of The Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (the African American Church), and a proposed Constitutional Amendment. **All Elders** should attend this event. It will begin at 1:00 pm and go until finished.

On Sunday, January 26th, Union will host the Presbytery of East Tennessee Denominational Sunday. This will feature an All-Sing (you call out the hymns and we will sing them), a wonderful message by our own Cumberland Presbyterian minister, Dr. Thomas Campbell about “Peculiar People”, communion and a great dinner by our kitchen angels. Do not miss this event.

UNION FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY IN PROGRESS

Union’s directory is a “Fellowship” directory. You do NOT have to be a member to be included. Our Union Office Manager, Judy Perkins will also publish optional addresses and phone numbers. Help us stay up to date of any changes. **Jerry Godolphin**, our photographer can make your portrait before Wednesday suppers or Bible Study, or after Sunday Services. Photographs are taken on the Gym stage. Let Jerry know in advance to confirm he’s available.

Jerry Godolphin 865-661-5690 Cell or Text

BILLY GRAHM QUOTE - ON THE CHURCH

“I am convinced if the church went back to the main task of proclaiming the Gospel it would see people being converted to Christ, and it would have a far greater impact on the social, moral, and psychological needs of people than anything else it could possibly do.”

The Vine

Jesus said: “I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5 NLT



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PASTOR LEONARD’S CORNER

To the Greatest Church in the World!

Great things are happening at Union. We had a great year last year with many plans for 2020. Let’s look at a few:

1. The windows in the gym are on schedule. Starting Monday, January 20 they are to begin installing them (Two of the windows fell out some time back and new windows had to be ordered). So, no Wednesday evening meals until further notice. Bible study will be at 6:45 pm in the Bible Warrior Classroom with Gary Hamby leading the study.
2. New elders will be elected Sunday, February 2nd. Session has nominated **Leland Hughes and Gina Wood**.
3. A new series of sermons on Love for the love month.
4. Plans for new audiovisual equipment in the Sanctuary (projects and screens).
5. Today the following youth are at GraceCONVO in Gatlinburg: **Blakely Boles, Brett Boles, Alexia Morrison, Brodie Roberts, Guy Roberts, Sam Rowe, Griffin Wiley and Anna Wood**. They are chaperoned by **Gina Wood and Dave Roberts**.
6. Today at 3:00 pm in the gym, the **Biblical Esther** will be here to tell her story.

Pastor Leonard Turner 865-966-9040

LETTER TO THE CHURCH

From: Dave Garner, Safety Team Leader (This is a first in a series of letters.)

In the highly unlikely event that an active shooter turns up at Union, what do you do to avoid harm? First, I stress that an active shooter situation is very highly unlikely, and it is much more likely that we have a tornado, fire, or even earthquake event. We do have safety plans for those events also that we will cover in a later article.

If the shooter avoids our first line of defense, Locked doors during the service, and safety team members monitoring our entry points before service and even during the service, what do you do if this unthinkable evil happens.

Your safety team have attended over five different training sessions on this topic and the basic directions was common for all the training.

***Run *Hide *Fight**

At the FBI seminar that our team attended on Saturday January 11, their three actions were:

***Avoid *Deny *Defend**

Looking at these protective actions in more detail, the first natural reaction is to run away from the danger if you can. This is what you would do if possible.

The church sanctuary has double doors at the entry plus a single door for exit. These doors are not locked on the inside and you can simply push the door bar to open. At the front of the sanctuary there is an exit door on both sides of the front sanctuary. A member of the safety team will exit the building to make sure it is safe outside. Do not call 911 until you are in a safe place outside the building.

A general rule is that you check for the exits every time you enter any building.

Our alarm code is "Code Red" if we have time to shout it. If an active shooter event occurs and you are unable to run away, take cover by getting down out of site of the shooter using available cover. Stay there until told by police that the situation is safe now.

Your trained safety team will act to stop the shooter as fast as possible before law enforcement arrives. Law enforcement will be on the scene in an average of 3 to 6 minutes. It is important that both our safety team members and regular citizens have nothing in your hands when police arrive on the scene. Police officers are training to look at hands for possible weapons on entry. First police on the scene will be shouting "police, get down, get down". Follow police directions once they arrive. Again, it is highly unlikely that an active shooting event will occur. Only one active church shooter event has occurred in Knoxville in the last 20 years. If you have questions or want more details, ask safety team members. They have the orange name tags.

As always, we call on and rely on the Lord to protect us.

Dave Garner, Safety Team Director, Retired KCSO

BACKGROUND CHECKS

As part of the Safe Sanctuaries policy of the Cumberland Presbyterian Denomination, **yearly background checks must be completed by all staff, elders, teachers and volunteers working with children and youth.**

We are asking you to fill out a background check online. Simply go to: <https://cpcmc.org/safe-sanctuary>. When you are asked for the name of the Presbytery, please enter East Tennessee. Judy Perkins at the following email address: union@unioncpcchurch.com, should receive the results of the background check.



ANNA WOOD TEACHES YOUTH

Last Sunday our youth were privileged to have one of their own teach the Bible lesson to them.