



FELLOWSHIP

LaFollette United Methodist Church 808 East Central Avenue, LaFollette, TN 37766
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MEET THE CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Kenneth L. Faught
Pastor

Pam Olivio
Secretary

Ed Hatfield
Custodian

Karen Hendricks
Music Director

Donna Prater
Music Accompanist

From The Pastor: LENT 2011 ~ So, How's It Going?

I've been thinking (perhaps too much) about Lent in general and our modern observances of Lent in particular. The test for many of us seems to be how to "give up" something without it really "costing us" anything! Or, perhaps more directly, how can we "give up" something that will be for "our benefit"? We don't mind sacrifice – so long as it doesn't cost us anything! (Please keep in mind that I'm not just talking about *you*. I'm talking about *us*.)

Lent is defined as the season of forty days (not counting Sundays) which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter). It is a time of *preparation* for our celebration of Easter. During the Lenten season emphasis is placed upon self-denial/discipline and acts of service toward others. The observance should be regarded as a time of personal reflection, self-examination, and renewal. When reading about Lent in its historical context we keep encountering difficult words like "prayer", "repentance", "penitence", "alms-giving", "charity", "self-sacrifice", "confession", "fasting", "meditation", and "abstinence". Do these words describe your observance of Lent?

In recent years I have been very much a child of our culture – both church and secular. I have "given up" . . . chocolate, soft drinks, potato chips, coffee, desserts (you get the picture). I had a student once who gave up "profanity" for Lent! (I'm guessing it returned for Easter.) A friend announced this year that he is giving up video games. Others are giving up facebook. I hear of those who give up television. One church I know was challenged by their pastor to give up alcohol (the drinking kind).

Lent seems to have gone the way of worship. It's all about us – what makes us happy or what makes us feel better or what allows us to "check the box" as being observant without becoming too committed. I've concluded that there is a certain silliness in our modern expressions of Lent. The Lord of the universe humbles himself, comes into the world as a baby, lives a life of service and sacrifice, suffers, becomes obedient unto death in order to take away our sin, . . . and we want to demonstrate our gratitude by giving up M&Ms for a few weeks (but not on Sundays)!

This is one reason that I have tried to encourage us to think of Lent in terms of "giving" something and not just "giving up" something. Giving costs us something. (Giving up may just save us something.) And how about returning to some of the ancient practices of the church with at least an effort toward confession, prayer, meditation, and fasting? To really observe Lent would stretch us . . . inconvenience us . . . maybe even cost us. It would certainly set us as odds with the world – and with most of the church.

Call me when you need me. I will come.
~Kenny



 <p>No Koinonia Circle in April</p>	 <p>Please take a JUDAS BAG from the tree and return it with a Lenten offering on Palm Sunday. Offerings are used for missions needs during the year. To receive credit for cash offerings, please put your name in the bag. Checks should be made to "LUMC" and marked "Judas Bags".</p>	 <p>CHURCH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL April 18, 6 P.M.</p> <p>Finance Committee 5 P.M.</p>	 <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE (Holy Communion) April 21, 7 P.M.</p>	 <p>SIX FRIDAYS OF LENT Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church 5 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. \$10 Per Person Children 8 and Under \$5</p>
 <p>MISSIONS LUNCHEON APRIL 3, NOON Menu: Chili Dogs Cole Slaw Chips Dessert Drinks</p>	 <p>STAFF/PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE Thursday, April 14, 5:30 P.M.</p>	 <p>LAFOLLETTE COURT ASSISTED LIVING, April 20 Potluck (5:45) & Devotional (6:30)</p>	 <p>EASTER Sunrise Service Breakfast (April 24, 6:30/7:00 A.M.)</p>	 <p>HAPPY EASTER!</p>
 <p>BAPTISM for Nora Elizabeth Snodderly April 3, 10:45 A.M.</p>	 <p>Palm Sunday Rev. Dr. Adam McKee Oak Ridge DS, Preaching April 17, 10:45 A.M.</p>	 <p>WOMEN OF FAITH APRIL 6, 11 A.M. (Potluck, Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>Speaker: Detective Brandon Elkins CC Sheriff's Department</p> 	 <p>EASTER CANTATA April 24, 10:45 A.M. "Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone"</p>	



Music Notes

One of the tested skills that I teach to my 5th grade students in Language Arts is author's point of view. My teaching of the skill is not very complex in that it is basically kept to first person point of view and third person point of view with discussion being given to third person omniscient and third person limited. Now for those of you who are not in my 5th grade; let me explain. First person point of view occurs when the author of a story, usually a narrative, tells a story and is a character of the story. The author becomes part of the plot and is involved in the actions of the story. In the story the reader will notice frequent use of "I", "me", "we", "us", and personal possessive pronouns. Third person point of view is a method of storytelling in which the author is like a narrator; he may or may not know the thoughts and feelings of all the characters in the story. The author does not take part in the story. The author is simply telling the story as he sees it.

Let's relate this concept to being a church member. Are you a church member with a third person point of view? Are you simply on the outside looking in? A bystander just willing to be on the outskirts of everything going on? Maybe you can go as far as being third person omniscient. You know the thoughts and feelings of everyone involved in our church and are more than willing to share them with anyone who asks. Or are you a church member with a first person point of view? You are an intricate character in this church's story, maybe even the main character. You are a part of everything that happens in the church! When a job needs to be done you're the first to volunteer, you serve on several committees, you are a Sunday School teacher, you're involved in the music program, you spend more hours at church or in church activities than anywhere else, etc. etc. etc.

Let's imagine that you wrote a narrative about this church. Wouldn't it be wonderful to be the main character and write about all the things that you and fellow members did for God and our church...to be able to say I did this; we accomplished this; God blessed us; God gave me this joy; etc., etc, etc.

Never settle for just being an observer, complacent with sitting on the side lines! Get involved! You can't imagine the rewards that you shall reap. So...let's hear it for first person point of view!

Karen



MISSION TEAM OPPORTUNITY

The Mission Team is making plans to participate in the **Alabama Rural Ministry Project** in Tuskegee, AL, in early June. Work projects will include construction and repair of homes for rural, low income families and other community service. Help is needed. Join the team and participate in this special way of serving others. For more information contact Marie Kile (566-7666).



CONGRATULATIONS to new Eagle Scouts David Hickman and Andy Hickman, shown with their uncle, John Hickman (left), grandfather, Waymon Hickman (center), and father, Logan Hickman (right).



Birthday Celebration!

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| Chrissy Faught | 4/1 |
| Bob Hearne | 4/4 |
| JoAnne Troutman | 4/6 |
| Jean Brown | 4/7 |
| Mike Stagnolia | 4/13 |
| Christine Mullins | 4/14 |
| Aline Ridenour | 4/14 |
| Jeanne Smith | 4/15 |
| Conrad Troutman, Jr. | 4/15 |
| John Claiborne, III | 4/17 |
| Don Smith | 4/17 |
| Bob Clingner | 4/25 |



HOW WAS YOUR WINTER?

The winter was long and cold but spring is finally here. Spring chores are at hand. Winter for me is a time to reflect back on all the hard work that has been done in the season's leading up to winter. A time for slowing if you will and just catching my breath from the fast pace of spring, summer, and fall. As each winter approaches, I find myself dreading the cold more and more each year.

As we start counting down the days of spring, summer, and fall, let us put some warmth back into the winter seasons as well.

When In Need Turn Everything Real over to faith and prayer and you will surely find warmth for the heart and soul. And remember, this warmth is not just for one season only. It is available 365 days a year.

Your Custodian
Edward Hatfield

PRAYER
Faith



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



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|---------------------------|------|
| Keith and Marie Kile | 4/7 |
| Jarrett and Celeste Sharp | 4/13 |
| Bob and Nancy Hearne | 4/16 |

PLEASE NOTE:
On-line giving to LUMC is now available. Go to our home page (www.lafolletteumc.org) and click on the "E-Giving Icon.



The Sawing Circle has changed its name to **THE SAWING CIRCUS**. Eighteen projects have been completed. Volunteers and donations are welcome.