

#### **Seasons of Growth**

A few weeks ago, Kelli and I decided to try our hand at growing tomatoes. Neither of us would claim to be seasoned gardeners, but the idea of slicing into a homegrown tomato on a warm summer evening—maybe with a little salt and pepper, and some Duke's mayonnaise layered onto a sandwich—was just too tempting. So we picked up a few plants, found a sunny spot, and got to work.

Of course, "getting to work" in our case meant reading the instructions on the little plastic tag stuck in the dirt and hoping the creatures of the night in our neighborhood wouldn't see them as an invitation to a buffet. We've been watering, checking on them, and even chatting to them a little (because we know that helps). Every morning, I find myself walking out to see if there's been any change—any new growth. Some mornings, it's hard to tell. But once in a while, I spot a new flower or a little green tomato, and I feel like we just won the garden lottery.

It's amazing how something so small and ordinary can bring such a sense of joy. But that's how growth works—it's often slow, hidden, and dependent on faithful care.

During Lent, we reflected on the theme of the Sacred in the Ordinary. We reminded one another that God often appears in everyday things—in bread and cup, in dust and oil, in the towel of service, and in quiet prayers. As we move into the summer months, that same truth remains. This is a season of growth, not just for gardens, but for souls. Spiritual growth doesn't happen overnight. Like tomato plants, it needs attention, sunlight, nourishment, and care. It needs space to stretch. It needs the right kind of weather and the occasional pruning. It requires community, because even tomato plants do better with a stake or a cage to hold them up.

At the Community Church, I see signs of growth all around. I see new friendships forming as people serve together on mission teams. I see folks exploring their faith in small groups, some for the very first time. I see people in the second chapter of life discovering fresh purpose and joy in service. And I see people asking real questions—about God, about Scripture, about their calling—and finding that there is space here to do that.

This summer, I hope you'll stay engaged and water your own soul. One way to do that is through worship. Beginning in July, we'll launch a new sermon series called "Hymns That Shaped Us." Each Sunday, one of our Preaching Pastors will reflect on a favorite hymn that played a meaningful role in their faith journey. We'll listen, sing, and reflect together on the songs that shaped our stories—and still speak to us today.

So come and grow with us. As Galatians 6:9 reminds us: "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

May this be a season of sacred, steady growth—for tomatoes, for faith, and for us all.

Pastor Steve

# JUNE - JULY 2025

Cultivating believers, disciples and servants to transform our community and world for Christ.

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# Pastoral Resident Report from Pastor Hannah



What an amazing journey I have been on while following the Lord's guidance to seminary and on to the Community Church to share this Pastoral Residency! The two year residency is drawing to a close, my dear brothers and sisters. I cannot begin to express gratitude and thanks for all you have poured into me. Jeff and I are forev-

er changed, and we have been made whole. I needed the process psychologically to see myself as a pastor embracing my long-awaited 40-year call being fulfilled. Before coming here, I had never done the minister side of funerals and weddings, and I had limited preaching experience. Although my previous church positions entailed pastoral care, discipleship, and administrative oversight, I was first there to serve as Worship and Arts Minister. Here at CCTV, I realized my heart was bedded in shepherding in congregational care. Continue to pray with us as we finalize our discerning process. Below is a list of opportunities I participated in that you provided time and or means:

- Pastor's Peer Group (Asbury Theological Seminary)
- Seedbed New Room Methodist Conference (Black Mountain, NC and Atlanta)
- Preaching African American Style (Asbury Theological Seminary)
- Generously built on my library
- Stephen Minister Leader Course (St. Louis)
- Methodist Annual Conferences (Tennessee)
- National General Conference (Mississippi)
- ICCC Annual Conference (Kansas City, MO)
- One CPE Unit (Clinical Pastoral Training for one semester)
- Coaching from the Duke Divinity Preaching Department
- Spoke twice at the Village Men's Breakfast
- Enjoyed countless hospital, in-home, and other facility visits

- Observed leadership committee meetings
- Preached eight times, taught adult Sunday School regularly, officiated 19 funerals and 4 inurnments, three weddings, one renewal of vows, and officiated one jacuzzi baptism
- Guest performer for the Christmas Village Women's Club luncheon at the Yacht Club
- Provided activities for outside concerts, movies, and TV series for contemporary genre fellowship
- Provided three self-guided visual art reflective prayer walks for Advent and Lent

I would be remiss to not mention my precious husband Jeffrey, who has gladly flowed into whatever has been needed for seminary, relocation to Tennessee, many house moves, and now yet another relocation to come. Many thanks go to my precious residency team: Linda Corso, Ann Snell, Margie Stephens, Mark Shillingburg, Barbara Coe, John Kahlenberg, and Jeff Conklin, who always prayed for me and gave me whatever support I needed. Pastors John and Katie have been such a source of encouragement, along with Pat and Candy facilitating me on so many fronts. I would like to thank Pastor Steve who has personally, with heart and all diligence, poured hours into my growing process while adapting my pastoral residency to be exactly what I needed. I am deeply touched and forever changed.

I have a few more weeks and until then, I am still all yours. Please continue to reach towards knowing Jesus intimately inside the core of your being. May the God of all comfort and peace be with you until our work on earth for the Kingdom is complete .

Pastor Hannah Perry



#### **Items Accepted:**

- Caps and Lids
- Cellphones
- Eyeglasses
- Ink Cartridges
- Postage Stamps
   (canceled; leave 1/4" edge)
- Pull Tabs
- Toiletry Items (new; any size)

#### Your help is appreciated in the following ways:

- Please put your items in the appropriately labeled baskets. There are two larger plastic bins for caps and lids.
- Please only donate the items that are requested. There are 3x5 cards in a stand on the top of the Wishing Well that list all of the collections on one side and the specifics for the cap and lid collection on the other side. Feel free to take one home with you as a reminder.
- If you bring your items to church in a bag, please sort the items and place them in the appropriate baskets.
- For those responsible for picking up the donated items for an agency, please clear out the basket(s) on a regular basis. If you are unable to do so, please ask someone to do it in your place.

The Wishing Well Care and Share collection area is located under the grand staircase.

# **MISSION OUTREACH**

## **Emergency Assistance Report**

Thanks to the generosity of our church family, the Good Samaritan Center and Good Shepherd Center each received a check for \$6,850 to help them feed families and assist those in need with everyday living expenses. Your gifts make a significant difference during these tough economic times!

Both agencies expressed their deepest appreciation for YOUR support!



CCTV Mission Team Leader Don Lucas and his wife Lois are regular volunteers at The Good Samaritan Center (Loudon County). They presented the check to Cindy Black, Executive Director.



Pastor Katie presented the check to Tina Smith (left), Executive Director of The Good Shepherd Center (Monroe County). Also pictured are Nancy Gregg, CCTV Director of Missions and Aaron Sewell, Development Director at Good Shepherd Center.

## Service Opportunities

#### Mission Outreach Opportunity - July 7-11 Central United Methodist Church - Lenoir City



Sign up as a volunteer through June 22. For information, email mission@tellicochurch.org.

Love to work with kids? Want to share Jesus? Love camp games and crafts?

CCTV Mission Outreach will partner with Central United Methodist Church in Lenoir City to host "Camp in the Community" (CITC) during the week of July 7-11, 2025.

#### https://www.campinthecommunity.org

This will be a faith-based "day camp" for disadvantaged/ low-income children, ages 5-14, from the Lenoir City area. Volunteers - both men and women - are needed to serve as group assistants or to help with set-up and clean up each day. You don't need to commit to the entire week with the flexibility to select half-day shifts that fit into your schedule.

# FOOD PANTRY

THURSDAYS | JUNE 19 & JULY 17 Cornerstone Church of God in Farragut

SATURDAY | JUNE 21 Mobile Pantry - Morgan County

SATURDAY | JULY 19 Mobile Pantry - Scott County

> **Email mission@tellicochurch.org for more info.** Hosted by Compassion Ministries, a CCTV Mission Partner



CCTV will be part of the volunteer workforce building the first home in the new Hilltop Hideaway community - the "Apostle Build" - anticipated to start mid-summer. There will be lots of volunteer opportunities from construction to preparing lunches. To participate in this mission outreach project, visit the site and register at <u>https://volunteer.bloomerang.co/JE/wi157gpoqdygr6</u> to see and select shifts and receive future communications. STAY TUNED.... watch for news updates in the coming weeks!

## What skills and abilities could you bring to CCTV Missions Outreach?

Let us know how YOU might like to serve by completing the online Mission Interest Form (tellicochurch.com/missions).

## Mission Partner Update



CCTV is part of the network that provides support to several meaningful ministries and projects in South Africa including the Refilwe Bophelo Clinic (Sister Didi's clinic) and Thembalethu, a ministry to children who are suffering from AIDS-related terminal diseases. The decision has been made that our CCTV mission team will not make the trip in July, but CCTV will be purchasing medical supplies such as children's vitamins, antibiotic ointments, and other non-prescription drugs to send with those from the South Africa Ministry Network that will be traveling there from July 10–21. We will also be sending "comfort dolls" that our CCTV Crafters are making to give to the child patients at Thembalethu. CCTV will explore the possibility of sending a mission team to South Africa in 2026 as part of our ongoing relationship with these mission partners. Please continue to be in prayer for these valued mission partners who serve as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in areas of desperate need.

## Scholarship Sunday 2025



CCTV has a history of supporting deserving students in our local communities through our Scholarship Program. Since its beginning in 1992, over 144 students have received scholarship awards totaling over \$840,000. Scholarship recipients are selected by members of our CCTV Mission Team and Scholarship Sub Team through an application and interview process held each spring with Greenback, Lenoir City, Loudon, and Sequoyah High Schools. Each scholarship winner receives an initial award of \$2,750 that is renewable for the next 3 years with a total financial award of \$11,000. At our 2025 Scholarship Sunday we heard from 14 ongoing recipients and our 4 new high school graduates. Our recipients and their families are grateful for your generosity and investment in the future of these outstanding young men and women.

# Welcome Our New Members

**Deborah Gracia** is from Pennsylvania then lived in Chattanooga for 23 years and now lives in the Toqua Greens neighborhood. She worked in clinical social work therapy and is a published poet. She has been in choirs and choir leadership in Catholic, Episcopalian and Protestant churches. In her spare time she enjoys golf, composing music, reading, BSF, and spending time with friends.





Mike and Sandy Thomas are originally from Sterling Heights, Michigan and live in the Chatuga Coves neighborhood. Mike has a Lutheran background and Sandy has a Catholic background. Mike likes photography, reading, history and traveling. Sandy is certified by Michigan State University as an advanced master gardener and is retired. She is a beginner mosaic artist.

Jeff and Susan Weber join us with a dual membership with St. Thomas the Apostle. They have a Roman Catholic background. They moved from Lawrenceville, Georgia and live in the Chatuga Coves neighborhood. Jeff is retired from Motorola and owned/operated a home inspection business. He likes woodworking, sports and fitness training. Susan is retired and likes watercolors, hiking, and woodworking.





## Is God Calling You to Be That Person With Skin On?

By Jeannine Wolf

The story below is just an excerpt from a much larger article by Pastor Jim Graff of Faith Family Church in Victoria, Texas. I want you to consider if you are being called by God to be that person "with skin on."

#### Jesus With Skin On

By Pastor Jim Graff

Life has a way of challenging us.

It has a way of throwing our missteps and failures in our faces in an attempt to discourage us from keeping on. No matter who we are, we're subject to that disappointment, and most of us have been there quite a few times. (I know I have.)

In those moments, it doesn't take long to realize that no matter who you are, you don't want to go through life alone. You want someone to walk alongside you, to help you in your darkest times. Thankfully, God already has those people picked out for each one of us. That's why He gave us the Church, as a place to make friends who would love us, support us, and strengthen us through every season.

I once heard about a little boy who was going to sleep for the night and was afraid of the dark. So he crept his way into his mom's room and whispered, "Momma, I'm afraid."

She said, "Don't worry son. Jesus is with you."

He thought about it for minute, and then said, "I know He is, Momma, but I want someone with skin on."

How many times have we felt like that in the midst of a trial? We know Jesus is there, but we want someone with skin on. Someone who is willing to walk alongside us, to feel our pain, to comfort us and to counsel us. Church, we're called to be those people. We're called to cheer each other on. Just the presence of a friend in a tough time - to sit with us, pray for us, love on us - makes all the difference.

Stephen Ministers are those people "with skin on." You may be a Stephen Minister and just don't know it. **Attend the upcoming informational night about Stephen Ministry on Thursday, June 19 at 6pm in the Founders Chapel.** Feel free to talk with any Stephen Minister wearing a button saying "Ask Me About Stephen Ministry."

Jan Elliott • Lori York • Jeannine Wolf • Marjorie Stephens



INFORMATIONAL MEETING JUNE 19 | 6PM | FOUNDERS CHAPEL Training Starts in the Fall

NOTE: The church office will be closed Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.





The spaghetti suppers hosted by CCTV have concluded for the season and will resume on September 18.



Summer Ice Cream Social

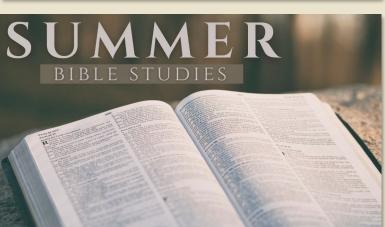
Date & Time - TBD

watch the e-news for updates!



9:00AM + ROOMS 1A/B





Start your summer off with one of the Bible studies listed below. Contact the church office for information or to sign up.

"More Amazing Women of the Bible" with Deb Thompson Who: Women
What: A lecture-based study of prominent women from scripture
Where: Rooms 1A/B (Sunday School Room)
When: (4 sessions) Wednesdays 10-11am, June 4-25

"More Amazing Women DEBRIEF" with Gail Hockerman
Who: Women
What: A time to debrief the lecture from "More Amazing Women of the Bible" in a small group setting
Where: Parlor
When: (4 sessions) Wednesdays 11am-12pm, June 4-25

"10 Men of the Bible" with Ken Kinzler & Bill Barbour
Who: Men
What: A small group discussion on 10 prominent men in scripture and their stories; a study guide will be included
Where: Rooms 2A/B
When: (9 sessions) Tuesdays 4:00-5:15pm, June 3-July 29

"The Younger Crowd Sermon Recap"

Who: Co-ed of Late Career and Early Retirement What: A space to fellowship, share prayer requests, enjoy refreshments, and debrief the Sunday sermon and scripture Where: Tellico Joe

When: (4 sessions) Mondays 5:30-6:30pm, June 2, 16 & July 7, 21



### **Finance News**

#### Cryptocurrency



As promised, we have added an option on our website online giving page for donating cryptocurrency. Just hit the button at the top of the page to process your donation.

#### **Stock Donations**

With the transfer of our investments to The Trust Company, comes a change in processing stock donations. We have closed the Fidelity investment account and any instructions you may have about stock transfers for that account are obsolete. New stock transfer instructions will be sent in response to email requests at accounting@tellicochurch.org.

As always, we thank you for your generous gifts that enable our church to serve as God's hands and feet here on earth.

## **Memorial Gifts**



Duane Beck Sarah Beck

Bill Crowder Carol Scott Bill & Shauna Oden

Elaine Hitch Lloyd & Claire Donnelly

Dick Schmeling Martha Wilkerson Florence Quackenbush

> Jim Zang Marge Brooks

### Thank You

Thank you for the beautiful flowers the church sent. It's probably one of the prettiest bouquets that I've seen it. It's really gorgeous, and I'm very thankful.

Karen Bush

## Save the Date - Women's Ministry

Save the date for the upcoming women's conference on October 24-25. The 2025 theme will be "Pause, Reset, Play." Additional information and details will be coming your way.

Finance F	Facts
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## **APRIL YEAR-TO-DATE 2025**

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
INCOME	\$829.961	\$716,812
EXPENSES (including mortgage principal)	\$656,555	\$716,428
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$152,950	\$384
Mortgage Principal Year-to-Date		\$128,757
Mortgage Interest Year-to-Dat	e	\$16,134
Mortgage Balance		\$1,577,210
Endowment Fund		\$390,660



# JUNE/JULY 2025 • CCTV NEWSLETTER



#### 130 Chota Center • Loudon, TN 37774 • 865.458.1516 • tellicochurch.com • mail@tellicochurch.org

## **GENERAL INFO**

Church Calendar...... tellicochurch.com/events

#### Want to explore church membership?

Please call the church office for details if you are interested. You may inquire about membership and other spiritual matters.

#### **Pastoral Care**

*Please contact the church office for your pastoral care needs.* 

## **STAFF**

Senior Pastor	Dr. Stephen B. Prevatte
Pastor of Worship and Music	Rev. Dr. John Orr
Associate Pastor	. Rev. Dr. Katie Morgan-Harper
Pastoral Resident	Rev. Hannah Perry
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Martin C. Singley, III
Office Manager	Pat Ouderkirk
Director of AVL	Rex Prather
Director of Communications.	Gregg Randolph
Financial Assistant	Cathy Bradley
Receptionist/Secretary	Candy Smith
Facilities Manager	Jeff McDaniel
Kitchen Coordinator	Victoria McComb
Director of Missions	Nancy Gregg
Organist/Accompanist	Andrew Duncan

#### The church office is open Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm and Friday, 9am-noon.

#### **2025 Council Voting Members**









(L-R): Chuck Martin, Council Chair Jim Sandridge, Council Vice-Chair, Chair of Personnel Team Kaye Sandridge, Chair of Engagement Team Peggy Welch, Chair of Finance Team







(L-R): Lynne MacConnell - Congregational Care Team Leader Leslie Shuman, Chair of Trustees Judy Heard, Chair of Worship & Music Team Don Lucas, Chair of Mission Team

Spiritual Support

Alcoholics Anonymous Every Monday at 7pm Lower CLC

Al-Anon Every Monday at 10am Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

United Methodist Church - Loudon Every Tuesday at 7pm

Caregivers Support Group (Includes Alzheimer's Support Group) 2nd & 4th Tuesday of month, 1pm Lower CLC

Grief Support Group Scott & Suzanne Duncan

Guy to Guy Chuck Hitch Hospitalization Support Contact the church office

Parkinson's Support Group 1st Thursday of month, 1pm Lower CLC Kathy Milam, Peggy Crowder

Pastoral Counseling Rev. Dr. Stephen Prevatte

Prayer Chain Jan Elliott

Prayer Shawls Knitters & Crocheters 2nd Monday of month, 11am Conference Room Jan Martin

**Stephen Ministry** Jan Elliott, Marjorie Stephens, Jeannine Wolf, Lori York

For more information please contact the church office (865-458-1516).