

Embracing Growth: Reflections on Cultivating Faith in Eastertide

As we bid farewell to the season of Lent and welcome the vibrant spirit of renewal in Eastertide, let us pause and reflect on the journey we've embarked upon as a congregation. We've diligently cultivated the seeds of repentance, gratitude, obedience, generosity, belief, service, and praise within our hearts. And as we gathered this past Easter Sunday, we embraced the concept of planting wonder—a testament to our ongoing commitment to growth and spiritual enrichment.

This Lenten series on "Cultivating" has made me realize that, in our own ways, we've all been gardeners, learning to tend the soil of our souls. As we've gathered each week, it's been like receiving gentle rain and sunlight, nurturing our spiritual growth and renewal.

In Philippians 1:6, Paul's words resonate with our journey through Lent, echoing through the corridors of Eastertide, "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Paul's words remind us that our faith is a living, breathing entity, perpetually evolving and flourishing under our Creator's loving care.

As we reflect on the themes of Lent and Easter, we witness the intricate tapestry of our faith unfolding before us. We've turned inward, seeking forgiveness and embracing the transformative power of repentance. We've cultivated a spirit of gratitude, recognizing the abundance of blessings that grace our

lives each day. We've reaffirmed our belief in the promise of salvation, anchoring our faith in the unwavering love of God.

Moreover, we've responded to the call to service, extending our hands and hearts to our community with compassion and generosity. Through acts of kindness, we've embodied the essence of Christ's love, enriching the lives of those around us. And in moments of awe and wonder, we've marveled at the beauty and majesty of God's creation, finding inspiration in its boundless splendor that is Eastern Tennessee.

As we anticipate the future of our congregation, let us do so with hearts filled with hope and enthusiasm. Just as the earth awakens from its winter slumber, bursting forth with new life, so too are we positioned for a season of abundant blessings and spiritual flourishing. With our renewed emphasis on handson ministry through existing local partnerships and our exciting new collaborations with the South Africa Ministry Network, the horizon brims with promise and possibility.

Let us persist in cultivating our faith with steadfast dedication, knowing that God is faithful in bringing to fruition the good work He has begun in each of us. May the spring of 2024 be a time of blossoming and flourishing as we eagerly await the fulfillment of God's promises in our lives.

With love and anticipation, Pastor Steve

2024

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Your Neighbors in the Pew: Chuck & Phyllis Martin

By Julie A. Best

Chuck and Phyllis Martin hail from Libertyville, IL, which is a northern suburb of Chicago. Chuck lived at the top of the hill, and Phyllis' family lived at the bottom of the hill, but they never met until they were both out of high school. Chuck says, "It was an ideal community. Schools were within walking distance, and we walked home for lunch. I lived in the house that my grandfather built." It

sounds like a wonderful little community. Phyllis came from a family of girls. She is the youngest of five girls in her family (four names begin with the letter "P". There is a cute story about how the name Marsha got in the mix!).

Chuck's career began early in life. While he was still in high school, he worked part-time for a family friend who owned a heating/air conditioning wholesale company. Upon graduation, Chuck went to work for the firm full time, and devoted the next 36 years to the company. His plan was to retire after 40 years at the age of 60, but the company closed just a few years shy of his 60th birthday.

Phyllis and Chuck agreed that she should be a stay at home mother while their two children were young. When it was time for her to start a career outside the home, she worked for the school system so she would have the same hours and vacations as the children. It turned into a 28 year career with the local elementary school district. When Chuck's company closed and he was a few years short of his target retirement age, he, too, went to work for that same school district.

Phyllis was raised in the Lutheran church while Chuck's family were Methodist. They raised their son and daughter in the Methodist church and have many fond memories of family activities. Chuck and Phyllis served as chaperones/workers for several mission trips that their church sponsored. Chuck says, "The mission trips were good opportunities for middle class young folks to get a better understanding of the struggles that families in poverty face on a daily basis." When the children were grown, Chuck and Phyllis continued to participate in adult mission trips.

Chuck and Phyllis and their family were campers. It was on one of those trips that they found their retirement home. Phyllis' sister, Patty Pridemore, is a longtime Tellico Village resident, so Phyllis and Chuck had visited here many times. On this particular trip, however, they were camping, and checking out retirement possibilities. Chuck says, "We were not focused on Tellico Village, but we were committed to eastern Tennessee." They liked the people, the weather, the beauty, the cost of living - the list goes on. A real estate ad for a townhouse in Tellico Village caught their eye. And, as they say, the rest is history. Chuck says, "We pulled out of the campground on our way back to Illinois, went by the real estate office and made an offer." Chuck still had not reached that 60th birthday, so for three years, they rented out the townhouse. In June 2018, Phyllis was ready to retire from her position with the school system, so she made her way to Tellico Village alone. Chuck joined her in December of that same year, and they have been living out their dream.

Phyllis says, "The Community Church was a natural fit for us. With my Lutheran background and Chuck's Methodist traditions, we were comfortable with the interdenominational concept." Just as they were active members in their former church, they have been active members of our church. Phyllis helps count the offering, and Chuck has served on the Mission Team and as a Trustee. He is currently serving as the Vice-Chair of Council. It's a great thing when folks have skills and abilities, energy and good health, and a willingness to devote their time and attention to focus on the needs of our church. We are blessed to have them, and they, in turn, are blessed to be a part of our church. Thank you, Chuck and Phyllis, for your service.

"The
Community
Church was a
natural fit for us."
- Phyllis Martin -



MISSION OUTREACH

Mission outreach is a cornerstone of the Community Church at Tellico Village since its founding. Everyone – no matter what your talents, your age, or your experience – can be part of mission outreach at CCTV. From prayer warriors to food pantries to mission trips, there are ways to engage in helping to cultivate believers, disciples, and servants to transform our community and world for Christ.

Where is God calling you to use your gifts? Our CCTV Mission Partners have many opportunities for volunteer service – as much or as little time as each person's individual schedule will allow. Let us know how YOU might like to serve by filling out our Mission Interest Form located on the church website (tellicochurch.com/missions).

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

- Prayer Warrior
- Construction Skills
- Medical Skills
- Ministry/Evangelism/Bible teaching
- Language(s)
- Mentoring Students
- Business Management/Entrepreneurship
- Engineering
- Computer Programming/Technology
- Missionary Correspondence
- Teaching
- Social Work/Counseling
- Food Preparation

- Photography
- Finance/Accounting
- Strategic Planning
- Architecture
- Agriculture
- Other Areas

CCTV Mission Partner Focus



Compassion Ministries began in 2009 as an all-volunteer outreach initiative of Cornerstone Church. It was originally established to feed those in the local area who were in need. Because of incredible growth, it became a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization that now operates independently with its service area expanded to include remote areas of Appalachia.

It continues as an all-volunteer outreach ministry with all funding going toward its mission of serving those in need, regardless of race, creed, or ethnicity – everyone is welcome!

Opportunities for service include a local drive-thru food pantry at Cornerstone Church in Farragut twice a month and monthly food pantries in areas

of East Tennessee with high levels of poverty. Volunteers from CCTV are an important part of our partnership with Compassion Ministries and we are committed to recruiting 40 – 50 volunteers for two mobile food pantries this year.

SAVE THESE DATES: November 16 - Roane County December 7 - Monroe County

If you would like to be added to the notification list for all other local and mobile pantries throughout the year, please email us at missions@tellicochurch.org.

The Unthinkable

By Jeannine Wolf



We all know unplanned circumstances happen in life. We often hear stories of other people's problems. Stories of abuse, infidelity, job loss, criminal behavior, physical and mental health issues, and financial issues are just a few of the many challenges we know that can occur. Most of us hope none of those things will ever happen to us. However, if we live long enough, those trials can occur and the unthinkable happens. It can really knock us off our feet. Problems that others are experiencing are now happening to us.

When you are in a crisis, it is hard to cope, let alone have the proper perspective. First we must adjust to the new circumstances, before trying to change what is happening in our life. After the initial shock has worn off, we might feel alone, sad, angry, depressed or experience a host of other emotions. Sometimes we are ashamed or embarrassed, thinking people will look down on us and not associate with us anymore. These feelings only lead to more stress. I have heard it said many times, "This only happens in other people's families, not ours." Even though most of these emotions and feelings we are dealing with, along with the crisis are normal, but when one is going through this situation, it feels anything, but normal.

That is where a Stephen Minister can help. You will be able to talk to someone who is nonjudgmental and will be there for you, supporting and not giving advice. This can help you through this difficult time. The problem will not necessarily go away, but you won't feel all alone and this helps give you strength to cope with what is happening in your life. If you are in "The Unthinkable" call one of our Stephen Minister Leaders. However, do not be surprised if we call you first. We are here to help.

Jan Elliott • Lori York • Jeannine Wolf



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.

Women's Conference



WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

- FEATURING -

YVONNE CONTE JUNE 21-22, 2024



ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Yvonne Conte, author of seven books about humor and joy, is a successful keynote speaker in the corporate world. She is the founder and director of Day of Joy, and brings a story of inspiration and freedom in Christ. Her desire is to encourage women in their walk with God and help them learn to trust Him with life's challenges.

Yvonne's fast paced humorous presentations are peppered with personal anecdotes and real-life experiences. She provides insights into the trials and triumphs we face. She brings laughter and encouragement, delighting her audiences as she offers life-changing material.

Yvonne promises to improve the way women live, work, and play by changing the way they look at the world, causing them to be happier, healthier individuals. She is down to earth, relatable, and believable. She loves working with women and keeps them laughing while they learn to walk closer to Jesus every day.

Each of the sessions will contribute to living a life of great abundance as Jesus promised, by knowing Him more deeply, by recognizing and gratefully thanking Him for all things, and by walking joyfully in the path that he planned for us.

VISIT THE SPEAKER'S WEBSITES:

www.yvonneconte.com www.dayofjoy.org

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, June 21

Community Church at Tellico Village 130 Chota Center Loudon, TN 37774

6:00pm Arrive & Welcome

6:45pm Session 1

Saturday, June 22

White Stone Inn Chapel 1200 Paint Rock Road Kingston, TN 37763

10:00am Arrive & Welcome

10:30am Session 2 11:45am Lunch 1:00pm Session 3

3:00pm Conference Concludes

COST (includes lunch):

Registration: \$85

• Early Bird Discount: \$80 through May 5

Last day to register is May 19

HOW TO REGISTER (starting April 28):

- Online at www.tellicochurch.org
- In the Narthex after Sunday services
- At the church office during business hours

Ministry Fair













Cultivating Generosity - Finance Team

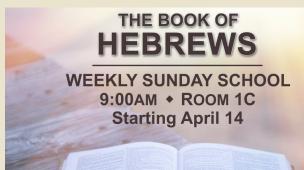


This past Lenten Season our pastors led us through a series based on cultivating our hearts. One week specifically focused on cultivating generosity, expounding on the sin of greed: placing one's own needs above God's. We combat greed by living out a Gospel-centered generosity. Where greed can cause us to look inward, generosity empowers us to look outward with our words and actions in addition to our finances. In hopes to celebrate and challenge us as a congregation, we will be highlighting different services and missions here at the Community Church in upcoming newsletters and publications. Our prayer is that this will not only be educational for everyone but will inspire you to give of your time, talents, and treasures more freely.





HEBREWS - New Sunday School Topic



The anonymous book of Hebrews is a unique contribution to the canon of Scripture. Like many other New Testament letters, Hebrews begins without an introduction, though it closes with blessings and greetings. The author sheds light on the form of Hebrews by referring to his writing as a "word of exhortation." Hebrews is written in a pastoral voice with many practical exhortations, leading many to consider it a single sermon or sermonic discourse, addressed to converts from Judaism under pressure to revert to Jewish faith.

Hebrews is also considered one of the most beautifully written and stylistically polished books of the New Testament, a literary masterpiece. The author is a master of rhetorical debate and persuasion. He also demonstrates his profound theological prowess with his use of imagery, metaphor, allusion, Old Testament analogy, and typology. Throughout his exposition and exhortation, the author weaves a beautiful tapestry of biblical theology with the aim of exalting the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Join us for this 9-week study as we explore the book of Hebrews.

Prayer Chain

Have you felt the need for prayer support during a loss or problem you are suffering and just don't know where to turn? The prayer chain is a group of people who pray independently and confidentially for requests received by email. Your request may be as brief as your name or contain as much information as you'd like to share. We must have the permission of the person being prayed for. This is separate from the Sunday bulletin list.

It works simply...call the leader with the information, and the leader emails each member with the request. Follow up information is always welcome. Would you like to be a member of this mission? There are no meetings! You receive a request and pray and continue to hold that person in your prayers. You will receive a monthly review list. Would you like to be prayed for?

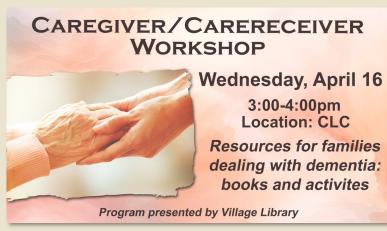
Please contact the church office to connect with the prayer chain.













Emotional, spiritual, practical support and encouragement for men & women who have suffered the death of a loved one.

Thursdays, 10am-12pm (through June 27) Classrooms 2A & B - Christian Life Center

Call the church office for more information or to register.



STARTING POINT

learn about us

meet new people

get connected

Sunday, April 14
Following Each Service • Fireside Room



tellicochurch.com



Back by popular demand!

The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, advanced professional handbell choir based in Raleigh, North Carolina. Since its founding in 1990,

The Raleigh Ringers has been dazzling concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock 'n' roll tunes arranged just for handbells. The Raleigh Ringers performs on one of the most extensive collections of bells and bell-like instruments owned by any handbell ensemble in the world.











GIVE ONLINE AT TELLICOCHURCH.COM/GIVE

April Finance News

In September 2009, the church took out a loan of \$5,900,000 to construct the sanctuary, which was opened December 2010. An IMAGINE Campaign run in 2013-2016 brought in \$1,522,324 to greatly reduce the principal balance. Over the years there have been several modifications to the mortgage. The latest change to terms in April 2021 lowered the interest rate from 4.25% to 2.94%, resulting in significant savings in interest expense.

In the month of March, we reached a milestone with our mortgage balance dipping below \$2,000,000. The current rate continues through 2031. In 2026 all prepaid penalties expire. The Finance Team will make recommendations as warranted.

BUS TRANSPORTATION is available for the 10:30 service from anywhere in the village. If you wish to ride the bus, please call the church office by Thursday of the week you wish to use transportation.

Memorial Gifts Remembering...

Barb & Earle Boyer
Anne McNeer

Sassy Strickland Brooks
David & Catherine Brown

Al Johnson

Jim & Charlene Barton Mona & Elton Pierson

Becky Moore

Elton & Mona Pierson

Ray Scott

Brock & Nancy Benn Jim & Charlene Barton Diana & James Gahrs Michael & Kandace Hollenbach Galene Kloster



Thank You

Once again our spirits were lifted by the caring people in the Community Church. The flowers are very much appreciated. I study the arrangement in awe of someone's ability to create such peaceful beauty.

Ken & Mary Loehr

Congratulations

Congratulations to church member Kathy Thorn on celebrating her 100th birthday in March!



Finance Facts

FEBRUARY YEAR-TO-DATE 2024

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
INCOME	\$442,161	\$395,411
EXPENSES (including mortgage principal)	\$300,540	\$320,849
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$141,621	\$74,562
Mortgage Principal Year-to-Date		\$38,850
Mortgage Interest Year-to-D	ate	\$10,496
Mortgage Balance		\$2,011,466
Endowment Fund		\$385,662

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

GENERAL INFO

Worship Services		
Watch our livestream (YouTube) each Sunday at 10:30.		
Visit our website to watch Sunday's service live.		
Sunday School 9:00		
Find us on Facebook facebook.com/tellicochurch		
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

STAFF

Senior Pastor	Dr. Stephen B. Prevatte
Associate Pastor	Rev. Devin Phillips
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	
Facilities Manager	Jeff McDaniel
Kitchen Coordinator	
Organist/Accompanist	Andrew Duncan

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

2024 Council Voting Members



care needs.







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







(L-R): Leslie Shuman, Chair of Trustees
Judy Heard, Chair of Worship & Music Team
Nancy Gregg, Chair of Mission Team

Spiritual Support

Alcoholics Anonymous
Every Monday at 7pm
Women every Friday at 10:30am
Lower CLC

Al-Anon

United Methodist Church - Loudon Every Tuesday at 7pm

Caregiver's Support Group

(Includes Alzheimer's Support Group)
2nd & 4th Tuesday of month, 1pm
Fellowship Hall
Lynne MacConnell

Grief Support Group *Scott & Suzanne Duncan*

Guy to Guy Chuck Hitch

Hospitalization Support *Call 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, Jeannine Wolf, Lori York

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