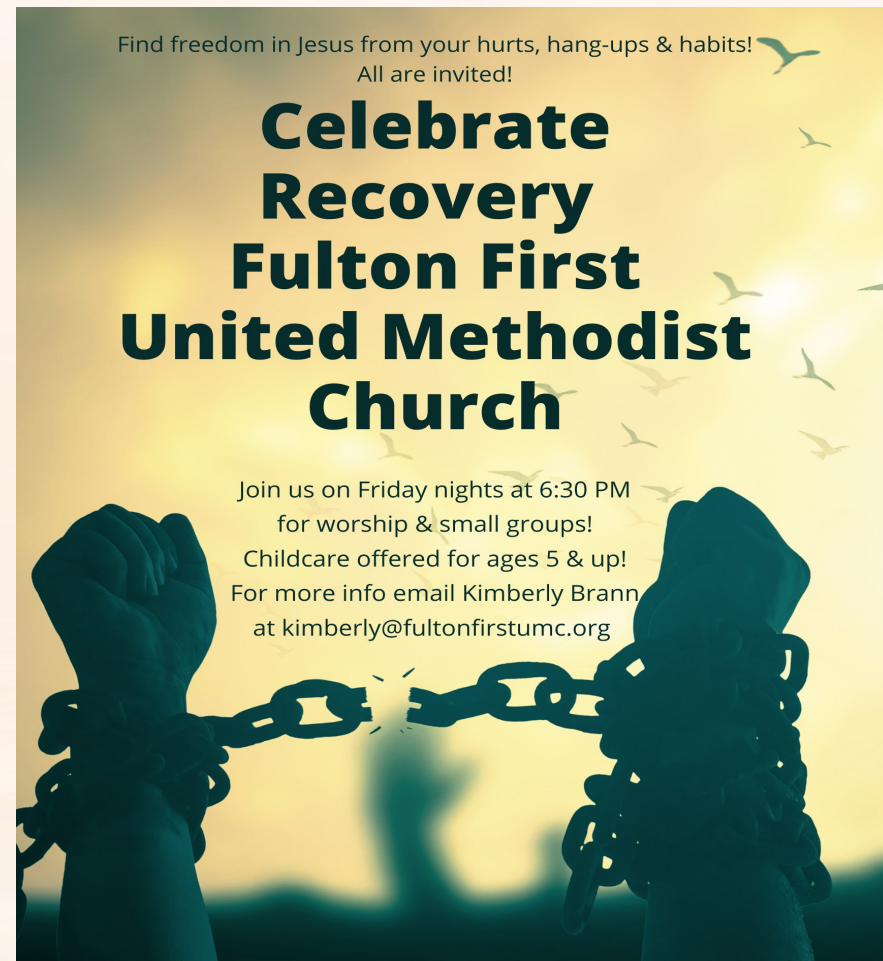


Celebrate Recovery is now having dinner on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. If you would like to help out and sponsor a meal, please contact Kimberly Brann at Kimberly@fultonfirstumc.org or call the office at 270-472-3514



Find freedom in Jesus from your hurts, hang-ups & habits!
All are invited!

Celebrate Recovery Fulton First United Methodist Church

Join us on Friday nights at 6:30 PM
for worship & small groups!
Childcare offered for ages 5 & up!
For more info email Kimberly Brann
at kimberly@fultonfirstumc.org



Fulton First United Methodist Church

Loving | Growing | Serving

PO Box 1386, 200 Carr Street

Fulton, KY 42041

270-472-3514

Susan Engle Carrigan, Lead Pastor

Kimberly Brann, Associate Pastor

Sunday Worship: *First Light* - 8:45 a.m. | *New Day* - 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.

Celebrate Recovery Worship: Fridays - 6:30 p.m.

Church Office: M - F, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Willingham Center: M - F, 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Pastor's Pen

Beth Moore made studying the Bible meaningful, fun, and community-building again. She gave women, and some men, the opportunity to dive into scripture in personal and meaningful ways that transformed women's ministry as we jumped into a new millennium. Many of the things she taught have stuck with me, though I haven't done any of her studies in recent years. She has a way of communicating that makes a scripture or a concept stick!

One of those concepts is that we are not anyone else's Holy Spirit. Beth shared that her husband doesn't study or pray the way she thinks he should. She has a very disciplined walk with God. She wakes up, gets her coffee and her Bible, and God and she spends some time starting their day together. Her husband? Why, he takes a walk with the dog and says he and God talk then. His Bible study seems rather haphazard to Beth. She would love to tell him he is doing it wrong, but God says, "Beth, you are not your husband's Holy Spirit!"

What does that mean exactly? We don't get to tell people what God thinks they should do or think when it comes to developing their relationship with God and we don't get to judge that they are doing it wrong. I know it's a weird concept, and the Church certainly hasn't always modeled that, but if you think about it, you will find that Beth Moore was right. If we grow to trust God more, we can grow together in grace without judging others, because we acknowledge that we aren't God's Holy Spirit.

Why is this important now? Because we are about to have a church conference to vote on an important mission opportunity. The motion from the Operation Team will be on the table for you to prayerfully consider how God is calling us to move forward. A lot of work, preparation, planning, and prayer have gone into this conference, and a lot of people are invested in an outcome, either for or against it. Churches have often dug themselves into "camps" and warred one camp against another. Historically, I feel sure this kind of vote has caused divisions and perhaps even the departure of the "losing camp". If we fall into this trap, we will all be losers, no matter what the outcome of this important vote.

I certainly hope we move forward with the Annie Ruth Pirtle Childcare Center. I do see a lot of doors opening to make this possible, and that is always an indication of the Holy Spirit's movement for me. But I am no one else's Holy Spirit and neither are you. If I have missed the mark, I trust God will help me see that through others, but I can't see it if my eyes are closed, and my heart is hard. Neither can you.

Please join me in prayer that as we move forward in whatever direction God takes us, we go trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, not our lobbying talents. We are one in Christ, we must choose to be one with each, so that we may be one in mission to the world we are called to serve. Come Holy Spirit.

SHARE WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN YOUR MINISTRY AREA!

**MAY
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE
4/19/24**

Send articles to Amanda Cabral.
amanda@fultonfirstumc.org



Who else
needs to
know
what I
know?

Please send calendar entries
and announcements to
Amanda in the Church Office.
amanda@fultonfirstumc.org



Fulton
First UMC

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY
Saturday, April 6th, 9 a.m.
**Organized by the
United Methodist Men**

All are invited!
Please meet in the
Fellowship Hall for
assignments.



Rotation Station Sunday School

In April Rotation Station Sunday School will be doing a cooking activity on the first Sunday to review what happened on Easter Sunday - sounds interesting! Come to the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 and see what Ms. Jennifer will have you doing!

Later on in April we will be studying what the Disciples and others did to spread the word about God and Jesus.

Congregational Care Team

The Congregational Care team appreciates the generosity of *Daniel Thomas at HD Graphics* for donating the sign for the Easter Egg Hunt. This sign can be used every year with peel-off date and time at the bottom. Thank you, Daniel, for your expertise and for putting it in the church front yard, too.



Mission Matters and Outreach Opportunities

The Mission & Outreach team meets the first Thursday of each month. You are welcome to join us anytime.

Our annual Easter egg hunt will be held on Saturday, March 30. We need your help. This is a joint event with the Congregational Care Team. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Susan Rushing, Judy Green or any member of the Mission Team or Congregational Care team.

We have three (3) mission teams staying at the Willingham Center in April.

April 6th thru 13th – Wisconsin Volunteers in Mission (VIM) ~30 volunteers

April 14th thru 20th – Nelson UMC – Booneville, MO

April 20th thru 28th – St. Philips Disaster Relief (SPDR) – Fridley, MN

If you are interested in acting as host & hostess for visiting mission teams, please contact Sidney Hailey at 270-472-3562.

We are planning a performance outreach event in May. The Skit Guys, Tommy Woodard and Eddie James, have been friends since high school. They both love to acting and making people laugh. With guidance from their youth pastor, they started to write and perform skits for their youth group. Today, The Skit Guys create content that draws people closer to Jesus and His Truth (and makes them laugh more!). You can check them out on You Tube. You will want to plan to attend.

May 17th – The Skit Guys – at FUMC

May 18th – FREE Market – FUMC Parking Lot

A new outreach event for us will be a FREE Market. We will ask church members to donate household items that you don't need or want. We will set up tables in our parking lot and invite the community to "shop" for FREE. Our goal is to reach those people who have a need they wouldn't otherwise be able to fulfill. Please start collecting items you would like to donate. We will need lots of help setting up our "market", meeting and greeting our customers and fellowshiping with them. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact a member of the Mission Team.



Hello all! Last month we spent some time discussing social media (specifically TikTok) and our faith, learned about the beginnings of Methodism, and put on two Holy Week shadow plays for Rotation Station Sunday School. This month we're planning to take a Mystery Trip in addition to our regular weekly activities! We are SO CLOSE to finishing out the school year, only a couple months to go! Thank you to everyone who has supported the youth with your prayers, gifts, and service. I hope that you will continue to pray for them in the coming months. If you ever want to spend some time with us please stop by! We're also looking for meals this month, if you're able to provide one please let me know. Thank you again!



Discipleship Team

The Discipleship Team met on Sunday, March 3rd in the Fellowship Hall. During the meeting, the team decided that instead of attempting to create a new adult Sunday School class, a campaign of the existing classes will be undertaken. In the near future, look for information around church and in publications about the classes offered in an effort to increase the attendance of adults in Sunday School classes.

Also, during the month of May, Robert Rushing will be leading a book study on Autopsy of a Deceased Church for anyone who would like to attend. The adult Sunday School classes will dismiss from their regular classes to attend, and anyone else in church is invited to be a part of this study. Look for more information in the coming weeks about this study.

