

Ashland City United Methodist Church
2226 Oak Street, Ashland City, TN 37015



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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-11:30

January 1, 2025



Dear Friends,

The new year has begun! We celebrate the hope of the many opportunities that 2026 will offer. With the many voices that clamor for our attention, it is difficult to maintain our focus on our task of living as faithful disciples of Jesus. Our time, energy, and resources are limited. We must make choices that reflect good stewardship of what God has trusted into our care.

Discipleship is not a program but a way of living that offers the world another way. As disciples of Jesus, our lives become oriented to relationships, sacrifice, and transformation. Focusing on these disciplines will deepen our faithfulness and foster our spiritual maturity as disciples of Jesus.

The Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference have named the following priorities that will guide the collaborative ministry of the United Methodist Churches of middle and western Tennessee and western Kentucky in this 2024-2028 season. I propose that Ashland City UMC adopt these as our priorities as we seek to serve Jesus in our region and world. I am suggesting that as we make decisions for our life and ministry together as a community of faith, we evaluate our efforts with the following priorities in mind.

Mental Health & Well-Being

- **We will work to foster a culture of well-being across our community to promote health and well-being.** This involves personally adopting healthy practices and being good role models as we encourage and support others who seek to improve their health.
- **We will seek to resource our congregation and community to care for the mental health and well-being of each other and their neighbors.** This could include training classes and support groups.

Professions of Faith

A disciple invites and leads others to experience the love of Christ. We will reclaim our mission to reach those who can join us to transform the world.

Culture of Call

We will nurture relationships that foster an environment where each of us can hear God's calling on our life. We are all called to be ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Spiritual Leadership Development

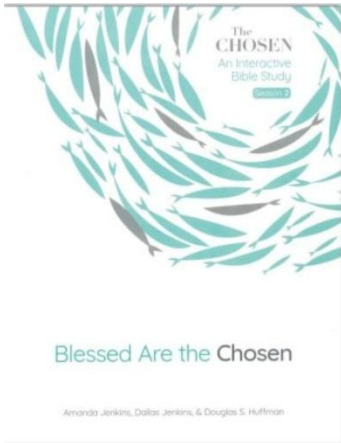
We will allocate time and resources to cultivate, develop, and educate faithful disciples to offer excellent leadership for current and future generations.

Disrupting & Dismantling Racism & Discrimination

We will acknowledge the areas where we need guidance in order to be a voice that speaks up for what is right and against what is wrong. This will help us live into becoming God's Beloved Community where everyone belongs.

I invite you to think and pray as you consider these priorities. Our first meeting of our church council for 2026 will be January 25, 2025 at 6:30pm. I plan to formally propose the adoption of these priorities at that time. Your comments, thoughts, prayers, and questions are always welcome and appreciated.

Blessings,
Allison



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

The Pastor's Bible Study resumes at 9:30am on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

We will be studying the life of Jesus using "*The Chosen*" television series, season 2 and *The Chosen Interactive Bible Study*, Season 2: *Blessed Are the Chosen* book. Please let Allison know if you would like her to order a book for you. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Fellowship hall.



The staff at ACUMC would like to wish you happy New Year. May this year bring you closer to everything you've been hoping for. Wishing you love and laughter in abundance this New Year.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA



The Ashland City UMC choir performed *A Child is Born: All is Well* on Sunday, December 21, 2025 at the 10:00am worship service. There was a fellowship meal afterward. We thank the choir for the beautiful praise music.

JOY TRIP

The Just Older Youth group enjoyed a Christmas meal at P'Body's Restaurant. This is a monthly event and everyone is welcome to join in the fun. The restaurant is different each month and they are always open to suggestions. The bus leaves at 10:00 am on the last Wednesday of the month or drive your car and meet up.





TWK ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS

The Book of Discipline, revised after the 2020/2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, is available online. While the hardbound edition costs \$29.99, Cokesbury has put it online for free. If you go to [cokesbury.com](https://www.cokesbury.com), you can find the tab under the offerings provided.

This version reflects the actions taken by the most recent General Conference which, as you are aware, is the governing assembly on church polity. Near the front is a concise history of our denomination, beginning with the Methodist Movement's arrival as English immigrants brought their faith with them through where we are today. Know who Martin Boehm was? Richard Allen? Philip Otterbein? Know why Lovely Lane in Baltimore is important in our history. It's all in there.

blessings,

Paul Randall Dickerson

Lay Representative to Annual Conference

Ashland City UMC

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The United Women in Faith of Ashland City United Methodist Church met Friday, December 5, 2025 in the fellowship hall. They enjoyed a Christmas brunch. The program was the Christmas special from the Chosen series. The women meet on the first Friday of each month and all are welcome.



TO THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Dear Ladies, Thank you so much for your generous donation. Your gift will allow us to continue our mission to meet the needs of those in our community who are victims of domestic violence. Your thoughtfulness will go a long way toward providing safety and shelter to those in need!

Sincerely, Safe Haven Board of Directors

TO THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your generous contribution to APSU Wesley Foundation. Because of partners like you, we are able to continue ministering to and with college students in Clarksville – helping them grow in faith, build community, and transform the world. God bless you and keep you. Thank you again!

Peace, Rev. MK Myers, Campus Minister APSU Wesley Foundation

TO ACUMC AND PASTOR ALLISON

Your kind expression of sympathy is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated. Thank you for the beautiful service you did for our mother, Bobbi Bennett, in October. Please thank all the ladies and gentlemen who prepared our lunch afterwards. The food and fellowship were most appreciated and so thoughtful. Our mother would have been so pleased. We understand all the hours and effort required to do such a nice luncheon and we treasure the generosity of spirit involved. Thank you again to everyone who helped us say goodbye. God bless you all.

Sincerely, Joanne Bennett Formosa

HEAD START NEWS

On Friday, December 19th we hosted the Mid-Cumberland Head Start program for their Christmas breakfast. They provide the food, Kiwanis Club provides the gifts, we provide the space. Our Fellowship Hall was full of cheer. There were 34 enrolled children plus their siblings and families here. We were even serenaded by one of the grandfathers. Your volunteer time helps the Head Start program pay back their grants, and it shows the people of our community that we truly are a church that cares!



The staff at ACUMC would like to wish you happy New Year. May this year bring you closer to everything you've been hoping for. Wishing you love and laughter in abundance this New Year.

LADIES EVENING CIRCLE

The Ashland City UMC Ladies Evening Circle met on December 8, 2025 to assemble Christmas gift bags for many of our senior adults. The bags were delivered by the members of the group. It was great to see our members and friends who have not been able to join us in person. Note the pictures below and please remember them in your prayers.

The next meeting of the Ladies' Evening Circle will be Monday, January 12, 2026 at 6pm. We will continue our study on "Biblical Images of God".

TO THE LADIES CIRCLE

Thank you for the very nice goodie bag and even nicer the kind visit with Rochelle. My love to all of you. *Ann Binkley*

Thank you so much for the thoughtful gift bag of Christmas cookies. They brought back so many memories of past years. Thank you again and I wish you a blessed Christmas.

Vivian Cook

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11 Thank you for the Christmas bag. *Donna Denman*

God bless you with the same peace, hope, and love that you bring to the lives of others. Thanks so much for the Christmas gift bag! *Love, Peggy Eads*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Bob Batson, Earl Batson, Carin Casey, Helga Childers, Jane Crisp, Patsy DeLemos, Lucille Downs, Peggy Eades, Loretta English, Laura Guthrie, Cecelia Hudelson, Clint Johnson, Adrian Johnson, Cheryl Maxson, Mac McGlasson, Linda McMahan, Lanny Morrison, Joe Nicholson, Roy Salas, the Sanchez family, Ruth Sapp, Angie Williams, Katherine Wisdom

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Linda Head Atteberry, Monte & Janie Binkley, Tony Brian, Scott Cobb, Vivian Cook, James Gupton, Denise Jackson, Kevin & Michelle Jones, Joanna Low, Dian Lynch, Bobby Mansfield, Anna Shaver, Faye Silva, Sandra Smith, Tina Stout, Brenda Weathers, Jason White, Susan Callahan

Our World, Country, State, County, & City

SHUT IN LIST

Patty Sue Harper 203 Overlook Ct. White House, TN 37188

John Haywood, 25196 Hwy 12 S., AC

If you would like to add/remove someone from the Prayer List, call the church office or send us an email.

ON THE CALENDAR

UWF will meet January 2nd 10:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 am

Ladies Circle meet January 12th 6:00 pm

Choir Practice Sundays after service

Al-Anon Mondays 6:00 pm

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Date	Giving	Attendance
12/07/25	\$3,104	41
12/14/25	\$2,979	37
12/21/25	\$2,107	0
12/28/25	\$0	0

Weekly budget needs: \$4,137

January Anniversaries

Joe & Linda Nicholson 01/09

January Birthdays

Sissy Stokes 01/10

Laura Guthrie 01/14

Haley Marshall 01/16

Phillip Breedlove 01/30

Steven Hudelson 01/31

February Anniversaries

Lanny and Debbie Morrison 2/19

February Birthdays

Wanda McMahan 2/04

John Albright 2/06

Karsten Binkley 2/21

Ann Binkley 2/24

David Courson 2/25



**Ann
Binkley**



**Mac
McGlasson**



**Billy Don
and Myrna
Morris**



**Cecelia
Hudelson**



**Patti Sue
and Lisa
Harper**

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

FACEBOOK LIVE – Ashland City UMC MISSION STATEMENT OF THE CHURCH

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

MORNING PRAYER

“New every morning is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.”

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Bible Verse for the Month

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Lamentations 3:22-24

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Quote for the Month

“Take the first step in faith. You don’t have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.