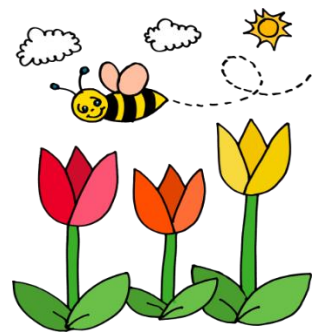




The News 'N' Views

April 2020



Published quarterly by and for the
retirees of the Memphis Annual Conference

That First Easter

The very first Easter was not in a crowded worship space with singing and praise. On the very first Easter the disciples were locked in their houses. It was dangerous for them to come out. They were afraid. They wanted to believe the good news they heard from the women, that Jesus had risen. It sounded too good to be true. They were living in a time of despair and fear. If they left their homes their lives and the lives of their loved ones might be at risk. Could a miracle really happen? Could life really win out over death? Could this time of terror and fear really be coming to an end?

Alone in their homes they dared to believe that hope was possible, that the long night was over and morning had broken, that God's love was the most powerful of all, even though it didn't seem quite real yet. Eventually, they were able to leave their homes. When the fear and danger had subsided, they went around celebrating and spreading the good news that Jesus was risen and love was the most powerful force on the earth.

This year, we get to experience a taste of what the first Ester was like – still in our homes daring to believe that hope is on the horizon. When it is safe for all people, when it is the most loving choice, we will come out, gathering together, singing and shouting the good news that God brings life even out of death. That love has the final say.

This year we might have gotten the closest taste yet to what that first Easter was really like. Without the Easter grass and colored eggs, without the new dress and shoes. In the quiet of our homes, let us continue to worship Him!

Editor: As with many things posted on the internet, it is almost impossible to authenticate the source and credit the author. This is true with today's devotional.



***He is Risen
Just as he said
Matthew 28:6***



Celebration of Life

Mary Mitchell Morgan - December 02, 1936 - January 23, 2020

Correspondence may be sent to her husband, Charles Morgan, 259 Edison Frog Jump Rd, Trenton, TN 38382

Paul Lincoln Phillips – November 20, 1934 - March 16, 2020

Correspondence may be sent to his wife, Jimmi, at 604 Gettysburg, Jackson, TN 38305



From the Mail Bag

Joe and Karen Geary, (Paris, TN): Since retiring last July, this has been a year of transition for us. We sold a home we owned in Cordova, downsized a lifetime of accumulation from our existing home in Paris and bought a new home near the high school. In December, our son Joshua married Courtney Murray and we rejoice with them. They live in Memphis. Besides taking care of endless details during this season of transition, Joe has been engaged with family history research here in the United States and also with a recent visit to Ireland. He has filled the pulpit for a number of churches in the past year and taught workshops on various topics for churches, districts and the conference. Karen, also retired, works part-time with her business Geary Graphics. Among other work she is a contributor to and provides creative design for Paris! Magazine. Both of us remain in good health and attend and support First U.M.C. of Paris. Thank you for contacting me and asking for our news. Moreover, thank you for the important work/ministry you do for others through The News 'N' Views.

Jerry and Dorothy Carr, (Brentwood, TN): A few months ago, my old Dell computer died. I procrastinated. Recently, I bought a new computer, and now I'm in better position to stay in touch. I sincerely hope that you are all well and safe from this terrible virus. Dot and I are well, just basically shut in. The dining halls at our complex are closed, but we can order food, and it is delivered to our apartment. Staff also grocery shop for us and bring supplies to our door. We are reading, talking, working puzzles and watching movies on DVD. And, with my new computer, we can receive Davis Chappell's sermons. David is the senior pastor of the Brentwood U.M.C. I happily encourage anyone to go to Brentwood's website and view a Chappell sermon: www.bumc.net, click on Worship, then Sermon, then the date wanted. You will be blessed! Life is GOOD!

Rick & Vickie Dye, (Martin, TN): Vicki and I are making a good adjustment to retirement. I will have to admit that it was a bit harder than I expected. However, we have found plenty to do and are re-orienting our lives toward the future. We are thankful for all the wonderful memories we have from all of our years of service. Our family is well. My mother passed away the last of January. I appreciated the tremendous outpouring of sympathy from my colleagues and church friends. However, life goes on and so do we. While the future of everything seems to be up in the air, we know that together we can discover a new, purposeful life. I have been helping Amanda Crice at the U.T.M. Wesley Foundation. I served as the director from 1987-1995. It is interesting to come back and see how little has actually changed. Students are still students and at the core, the issues are still the same. I am impressed with how Amanda is able to relate to and help all of the students involved. I am now doing much more reading for pleasure and enlightenment. It is refreshing to be able to read a novel without wondering how to work it into a sermon. I believe I am continuing to grow in my awareness of self and others. We are thankful to be retired. We deeply miss all our church friends, but not any of the church problems! We are finding rest for our souls! Our prayer is that God continues to bless you and yours!

Margaret Simons, (Jackson, TN): Thanks for writing to me and asking for my news. I have so much to be thankful for. I still live in my own home and care for myself. At 97, I am not traveling much but I was able to visit my children in Ohio and in Texas. I look forward to attending the Simons family reunion every year.

Ann Page, (Franklin, TN): I appreciate your invitation to share in The News 'N' Views. I have intended to stay in touch with all my friends, but by living in Franklin, most of my West Tennessee contacts have dwindled. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to stay connected. I enjoy reading the newsletter and look forward to receiving it each quarter. I am currently enrolled in continuing education courses at Vanderbilt. I worship and serve at Christ United Methodist here in Franklin. I am part of the Joy Club and Fifty Forward, both for senior adults. I also help fold the church bulletins. I am active in the Pull Tight Theatre Guild which has quarterly presentations. Keeping up with all the grandchildren's activities keeps me busy, but I still find time to exercise (walk) and volunteer at a local pre-K program.

Reporter Glenn Hill

Nancy Wheatley, (Jackson, TN), called to say she had no news other than she is "doing well" which is saying a lot in these times. She sends her greeting to all her friends.



Glenn and Georgia Hill, (Murray, KY): We were blessed in West Kentucky with a mild winter and only one dusting of snow in all those months. We are thankful. February continued our new normal with speech therapy sessions, sales lot presence and other appointments. Georgia was able to attend ladies' luncheon events, get her hair cut (I mention that because we can't now – it's not an essential service) and a chest x-ray (turned out okay). We had another blessing added to the Hill family in March, with the birth of Callen Mac Hill, our 5th great-grandchild and third great grandson who was born to Christopher and Alison Hill. He weighed seven pounds, twelve ounces, and measured twenty and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. We are so grateful all went well. Right after the birth, the Coronavirus hit the airwaves, radios, TVs, internet, news, etc. It is an awful situation with churches and non-essential businesses closed. Our son, Roy Glenn Hill, has been wearing a neck brace after a truck accident 3 months ago. He was hoping to be able to remove the brace but after additional x-rays he was told the vertebrae were not healing. He required a spinal fusion - and three additional months with the brace. He is in pain but is at home being well taken care of by Lisa. Georgia and I have had carpenters around for a couple of weeks. They have installed new windows and are in the process of finishing up new siding on our 38-year-old modular home and are enclosing the porch of our little cabin with four windows and storm door with vinyl used on our home. Spring has arrived, grass is growing with an over-abundance of rain this season, flowers are blooming and all this makes us feel a lot better. We pray for your Spring to be a time of blessing, free from the viruses or quick recovery if you have suffered with it. May God bless and keep you safe in His care.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.

Reporter Jenna Garland

Bob and Doris Saywell, (Murray, KY): When Jenna called, she could hear Bob singing in the background "All Locked Up". Being unfamiliar with that song, I searched the Methodist Hymnal to no avail. The internet yielded a Hip Hop Rap song by Akon by that name. Somehow, I just don't see Bob doing Rap! Of course, it could have been an Adam Levine song "Locked Away" – but nah – still does not sound like Bob. My best recommendation – if you want to know what tickled Bob's fancy you had best call him. – Oh, they are both doing well even though locked away!

Jenna Garland 's church, Puryer and Mason's chapel U.M.C. in Hazel, KY, had worship service on YouTube with their pastor Leah Howe.



Robert and Sue McKinney, (Dexter, KY) took a novel approach to worship. They hosted a “drive in” church with over 30 cars showing up - all keeping proper social distancing.

Fay Garrett, (Murray, KY) is weathering this storm and staying well. Her son-in-law recently had surgery and will require several weeks to regain his strength.



Carol Craig, (Hazel, KY) writes: I never thought I would look forward to yard work, but with the rain and being confined because of the virus, it has been a good way to use my time. There is only so much housework, TV, or reading a person can do! My son, Paul, and his family are moving to Michigan to be near his wife’s parents. Her parents have been experiencing some serious health issues. I will miss them greatly, especially my “little” Gracie. Grace is now almost 4 ft tall and is 3 ½ years old. I enjoy hearing her greet me on the phone, “Hi ya, LaLa”. I also miss seeing my two sisters and brother and look forward to being together again after this virus has passed. My house is beginning to

smell like an antiseptic manufacturing company!

PSA: Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

Reporter Deborah Morris

Marsha Carpenter Dorgan, (Murray, KY): Life seems to be good for Marsha. She had just come in from a drive through The Land Between the Lakes area when I called. Springtime has definitely come to that part of the world. Flowers, bushes, trees and everything in between was in full bloom. (I’m sure that it was beautiful.) Marsha has cut back on her trips to Colorado to see her daughter. She has not been since November. She talked as if she might take a road trip back to the West this summer after the corona virus has calmed down. We talked for several minutes about the advantages of being prepared. Having grown up with family members who had lived through the Great Depression, Marsha's father taught her well about being ready for most every upheaval in life - specifically how to raise your own food, how to keep a pantry well-stocked and how to help others obtain these same life lessons. Believe me, no one can ever say that Marsha Dorgan is not ready for a crisis. Marsha's son-in-law, a pilot living in the Paris Tennessee area, along with wife and children, was the first Henry County resident to have the Corona virus. He is now doing fine.

Jennie Doss, (Jackson, TN): Ms. Jennie says, “I’m trying to abide by the rules.” She has definitely stayed indoors with a couple of exceptions - a clinic visit for lab work and a trip

through Walgreens drive thru for medicine. Her son lives with her and he is a big help, now more than ever.

Larry and Vicki Kendrick, (Brownsville, TN): As most everyone is doing, the Kendricks are staying in and shopping online. Brother Larry had a doctor's appointment in Memphis and a visit to Jackson to pick up some online purchases. I am sure he was very cautious in his travels. Brother Larry and some of the church leaders are exploring the possibility of doing an Easter drive-in service. At this time, his congregation in Alamo are all doing well.

Barbara Arnold, (Holladay, TN): Barbara is recovering slowly from some surgeries she had earlier this year. For this reason, among many others, she is staying indoors. Friends help her with the shopping and leave the purchases on her front porch for her.

David and Deborah Morris, (Humboldt, TN): I'm the official "go-for" in this house – the one who organizes and runs the errands. David went to the VA Clinic in Jackson for routine blood work. The follow-up appointment was done over the telephone the following week. I am so glad David has his computer so that he can access whatever he needs from church services to his on line books. Most of all I am glad that everyone on my calling list was healthy.

Wesley and Becky Fears, (Oakland, TN): We are doing fine, so thankful for each other and our health as we stay home and enjoy our time together. Wesley was privileged to preside at the marriage of our youngest granddaughter in the fall. Our oldest granddaughter is expecting their first baby. Becky and I are very excited about becoming great grandparents!



Reporter Gail Gaddie

Dear Friends, I hope this News and Views finds you doing well and able to get out at least a little during this time of quarantine. My main activity is walking my dog, Billy, at Sea Isle Park. I took him one day to Audubon Park, but it was so deserted, it was almost spooky. I decided not to go there again until the quarantine is lifted. My daughter, Amy, and her husband live next door. Bill's daughter, Beth, lives with me. I have been to Amy's once during this time and even then, we observed social distancing! It is quite a time. Not going to church on Easter Sunday was probably the hardest for me. I watched services on the computer and TV, but oh, how I missed being present in the Lord's

House with other worshippers on that day. I have been glad to be in touch with other retirees and see how they are managing.

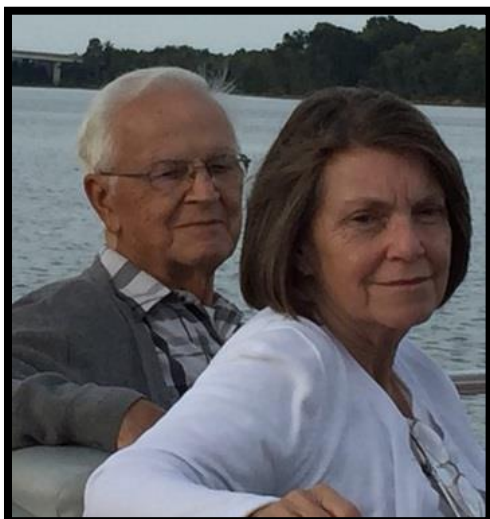
I spoke with **John and Robbie Holt**, (Memphis, TN) who said they were staying in during the quarantine and were watching a lot of TV. They watched the Easter Story on TV for the first time. Robbie also reported that **Ed Walton** was in the nursing home at Olive Branch with COPD and that **Paul and Carolyn Clayton** has been very good in helping to care for him. **Cecil and Janice Bellew** are also good friends of theirs.

Allean Simmons, (Jackson, TN) had a large family gathering at her home for Easter. There were five generations present. They had a great time with lots of people and plenty of food. Her granddaughter had the prayer before the meal. Allean will be 83, on July 31. It was the first time she has not been in church on Easter. Her pastor had the door of the church open and she went by to pray earlier that day. Four other people were there. Allean and I reminisced about the UN-Washington Trip that the Conference sponsored years ago. She, Demp, Bill and I went with a large group of teenagers from West Tennessee. Quite an experience! Allean's words to all of us are "Keep looking up!"

Dale Mathis and his wife live in **Huntingdon, TN.**, near their son and daughter-in-law and their two granddaughters, ages two and four. Their other son lives in Jacksonville, Florida, and are expecting their second child. Dale worked for the Human Services in Huntingdon for four years after he retired from the ministry. They bought a four-bedroom, 3-bathroom log house to be near their grandchildren. Their home sets on 2 and 1/2 acers of woods in town and is close to Walmart. Dale serves the church in Dresden.

Martha Ann Corle: I'm doing fine here at the **Village at Germantown**. It's good that I like it because this is pretty much the totality of my life right now. I can always find something interesting to do, so the days are just rolling by. I hope all is well with friends and colleagues in the conference.

Reporter Jacque Stricker



Harold and Jacque Stricker, (Cottage Grove, TN) are doing well. We, like everyone else, are staying close to home. Our calendar became open as the doctors decided they didn't want to see us. It is hard trying to maintain any NORMAL schedule. My dad at 97 is doing well and comes out every night for dinner and cards and then goes home. I gave him some masks because he still wants to buy his OWN food (I might not get what he wants- which isn't much anymore). Our youngest daughter moved about 2 miles away from us the end of January, before all this

craziness. We can see each other, just can't hug my grandbabies. We are working together on a garden and are excited to be able to do it together (at least this year. She might change her mind as we get into gardening). We started out watching Sunday services on TV. Palm Sunday, Mike Wimberly, my pastor, started "church" again, except we are in our cars in front of the church like a drive-in theater. He broadcasts over the radio like looking at Christmas lights and you tune to a certain radio station and can hear the music, only we get Mike. It's something. We were hit with hail and the blueberries that were in full bloom were hit. Haven't gone out yet to check on the damage. We'll do that after I get my article written (if I can wait that long. Might need a break.) We are praying for all of you that you are safe and as comfortable as you can be. We will be together once again. God Bless you all.

HB and Rosie Fields, (Paris, TN) are doing just fine. HB does grocery shopping for 3 families so he isn't "hunkered" down (but possibly wishes he was). He has his grandchildren with him. The grandkids are ready to get with their friends and Rosie and HB are ready for school to start. HB said he has some church members that are sick, fortunately not with the coronavirus. Although he is unable to actually go and visit with them, he does call and check on them. It's a hard time to be a pastor. HB said they were doing the internet worship services and although he would rather "talk" to the people, he said it showed where he had 132 views on the internet, where if he was at the pulpit he might have 50, so God's word is still going out, Thanks be to God.

Richard and Mary Jane King, (Paris, TN) are doing well. Richard is at Eiffel Gardens in the assisted living area. Mary Jane is unable to visit with him one on one because of the lock down. Richard is able to help with internet Sunday worship and Bible Study Programs. They are both doing well.

Mary Wright, (Jackson, TN) said she and her son, **Keith Wright**, are doing just fine. They are staying in and only going to the grocery. She apologized for not calling me but she didn't have anything to report. (It was sweet knowing she remembered me)

Covie Byler is in "lock down" at the nursing home but she would really like cards if at all possible. We think that isn't much, but when you are alone and "locked down" the card is a reminder that this too shall pass. Covie's address is Paris Health Center, 800 Volunteer Dr. Rm 411, Paris, TN 38242. Thank you in advance



Feeling guilty about your grandchildren watching too much T.V.? Mute it and turn the sub titles on BOOM – They are reading!



Reporter Tom Perkins

Tom and Carol Smith, (Fulton, KY): Tom always has something interesting and unusual going on. Recently, Tom was out driving and came upon a box in the middle of the road. Inside the box was a very confused rooster. It seems the box must have fallen off a delivery truck. The rooster, who was unharmed by the experience, complained with clucks and squawks, but otherwise was no help. Tom did a little research and discovered the rooster was an exotic variety valued at over \$75. Guess that rules out Sunday dinner! After a little research, Tom was able to locate the owner who had a taste for expensive fowl. As it turns out, the owner didn't have plans to eat the bird: he had bigger plans. Tom and Carol attend the Cayce U.M.C. where Jim Wolfgang is the pastor. During this time of "social distancing", the church is having drive-in outdoor worship. Everyone remains in their car and the service is broadcast over loud speakers. The first Sunday they had 35 worshipers, the next 57. He said he could hardly wait to see what Easter Sunday brings. Will outdoor car lot services become a trend? Who knows when creative minds get together!

Rosalina Salyers, (Jackson, TN) says her heart is hurting for all those who are out of work because of this virus and prays that they can return to work as soon as it is safe. She says, "We must remember the ill and protect everyone and not forget people who are hurting and have been overlooked by the media." Rosalina attends Forest heights U.M.C. where she endures Harold Nation's preaching. Actually, that is NOT what she said – she has much praise for Bro. Harold.



Tom and Mary Perkins, (Dyersburg, TN) has not been affected much by the virus. Mary is very careful with her shopping. Tom is usually at home washing his hands and drying them with toilet paper! He has washed his hands so much that they are looking like an 80-year old's hands. Tom's Church on the Internet (Facebook) has greatly benefited in viewership since the onset of this virus. He collects music and sermons of all kinds and shares them with an ever-growing number of viewers from all over the world.

Day 1 without sports ... Found a young lady sitting on my couch. Apparently, she is my wife.

Day 6 of no sports ... Watching the birds fly over worms. The Cardinals lead the Blue Jays 3 to 1!

Reporter Joe Moseley



Joe and Carol Moseley, (Atoka, TN): Carol and I started the new year with a 21-day vacation that included a 14-day cruise to the Caribbean. Little did we know the drastic changes that were to come. We are now sheltering in place and handling it as well as can be expected. On March 1st I taught our Sunday school lesson and partook in Holy Communion at church. That was the last Sunday that the people of Munford First worshipped together. Since that time, we have watched Mike Pilcher preach on internet. Our Sunday school is also gathering together in front of our individual computers on Zoom. Perhaps this is the next best thing to actually being together. Missing church is the hardest part of “sheltering.” I never thought I would look forward to going to the grocery every 2 weeks as much as I do. I did sneak

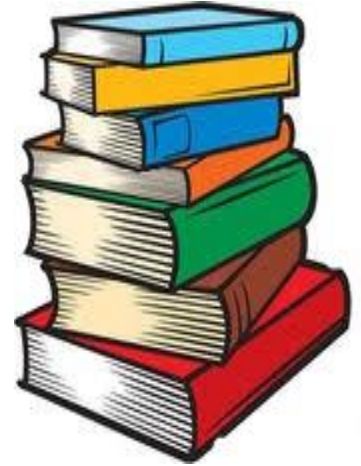
out to drive up to Martin, TN to deliver some Conference information to Mike Blake. After visiting with Mike, I went on to Dresden to see our youngest daughter, Donna, and our grandkids. And I must confess that I went to Lowes to pick up plants for my garden. Staying put is just so difficult! I close by saying, it is interesting that scripture has become more meaningful in this time of crisis and chaos. Here is 2 that seem appropriate to me. Hopefully they will be for you as well. One is a word of hope & encouragement. The other is a call to universal prayer.

We are pressed on every side by troubles, but not crushed and broken. We are perplexed because we don't know why things happen as they do, but we don't give up and quit. ⁹We are hunted down, but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going. 2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (The Living Bible)

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14 – NIV)

Joe and Becky Thornton, (Brownsville, TN): Becky and I are harboring safely here on the farm, were we are pretty isolated. Our daughter, Sarah, whose family attends Christ UMC in Memphis, brings us food from time to time. We have learned the fine art of ordering online and pick up at Walmart. In January and February, I shared preaching with David Comperry for Dan Camp at Covington UMC while Dan was on a leave of absence. It was a joy for me since that is my home church. We still attend Lester's Chapel, where I served for 37 years, and I am now the associate to James Ellington. We go when we can and I teach Sunday School, but there are only Facebook services now.

Fred and Anna Lou French, (Paducah, KY): The Frenches are aging in place and socially distancing (hunkering down). We are lamenting the current pause in corporate worship. We were able to stock up on library books and videos; but now with the library closed we're running out. We plan on swapping materials with Lou's sister. I visit the Kroger store to see if they have the stuff we've not been able to find previously only to find that they still don't have it. Our spirits are good and we're weathering the situation in relatively good fashion. Our children have started scheduling zoom conversations every Sunday evening; it's a good way to keep in touch. We have one granddaughter who's a health care worker. Amy is with a major hospital's urgent care office dealing with respiratory patients. I have had to suspend my hospital visitation ministry, where I often visited 10 or more United Methodist patients daily. I have been doing this daily for the last two years. It's been quite a change, and a little bit boring.



Steve and Juli Shapard, (Jackson, TN): Julie and I are "hunkering down" in the midst of the virus. We take walks, talk to friends and family by phone and watch a lot of TV. Our daughter and grandchildren do an occasional "driveby" to say "hi." We love our retirement here in Jackson and pray for our community, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and the world.

After all this social distancing, I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

Reporter Deborah Mathewson

Bill and Gloria Bouknight, (Columbia, SC): Bill reports that his wife, Gloria, underwent back surgery in March made necessary by spinal arthritis. Thankfully, the surgery was successful, and Gloria is now in much less pain. Bill and Gloria, like everyone else, are hunkered down because of the Corona 19 virus. They were blessed on Easter Sunday by Rev. Franklin Graham's televised service from Central Park in New York. Once the quarantine is lifted, Bill plans to return to preaching several times per month at two local United Methodist churches. "God is good all the time, even in a pandemic, especially in a pandemic! says Bill. Bill sends blessings to all!

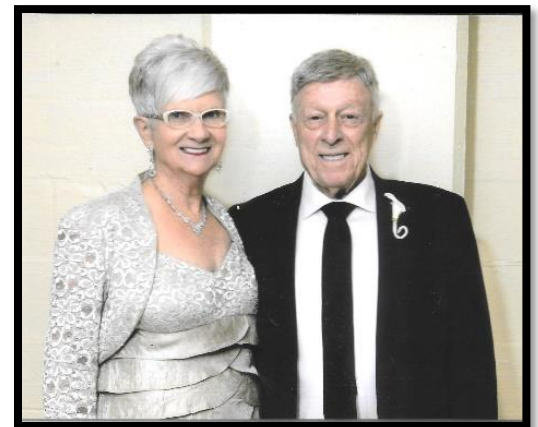
Harold and Linda Montgomery, (Jackson, TN): Harold says that they really have not done anything that is newsy; they are simply hunkered down like all seniors at this time. Harold

celebrated a birthday this month – but is not saying which one! The Montgomerys appreciate our efforts with the NEWS 'N' VIEWS.

Steve and Theresa Cavitt, (Farmington, KY): Steve says that he and Theresa are doing well, learning like everyone else to deal with masks, gloves, and isolation. Steve writes, "With the Kentucky governor instating the order to confine/isolate anyone for 14 days who crosses the state line, we have been trying to get our kids and grandkids to come and see us just for an hour but haven't had any takers. They are into virtual visits. Maybe 14 days with all of us under one roof may be a challenge after all." The Cavitts are praying for grace for family and friends, as well as for healing and health.

Marge Vaughn, (Jackson, TN): I had a pleasant conversation with Marge who is doing well at 94 years of age. Marge walks 2 miles every day in her neighborhood, weather permitting. She is still living in her own home, and each of her four adult children visit her for about a week at a time. Three of her children live in Memphis, and one lives in Knoxville. Marge is enjoying her church, Lambuth Memorial, in Jackson, where Billy once served. Marge said she appreciated my call.

John and Peggy Lloyd, (Drummonds, TN): John and Peggy stay busy caring for Debbie, their 58- year old special needs adult child; Peggy has to give anti-seizure medication to Debbie two times per day, as well as providing other necessary care for Debbie. John and Peggy celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary in March. Because of the mandate, they celebrated quietly at home. Their grandson's April wedding in Houston has been postponed until June. The Lloyds have been going only to doctors' appointments and the grocery store at this time of COVID-19 crisis.



Deborah and Harry Mathewson, (Memphis, TN):

Deborah and Harry are obeying the stay-at-home mandate except for essential business which includes picking up meds and taking them to the Parkview where Harry's 93-year old mother has lived since May of 2019. "We are staying well and busy at home with yard work, lots more home cooking than our usual days, reading, speaking on the phone with friends and relatives in California and West Virginia, and doing videos of homilies in our home for church members and others on Deborah's Facebook page and the Facebook page of Friends of Atoka. This has been a learning experience for both Harry and me," says Deborah. We will soon celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary at home with a home-cooked meal served on our wedding china and crystal glassware. Our anniversary trip to Dollywood will have to come whenever God is

ready for us to go. We watched several Easter services on TV and enjoyed a nice walk in our neighborhood after the rain stopped, with our dogs.

Gene & Joyce Rollins, (Milan, TN): The Rollins know how to throw a celebration! In March they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The event also served as Gene's 82nd birthday and marked 50 years in ministry. WAY TO GO!

Reporter Marcia Tate

Lynn McLargin, (Germantown, TN): I always enjoy reading The News 'N' Views and look forward to receiving it. Thanks for allowing me to share my news. I live in an apartment community here in Germantown. I LOVE it here – garage parking, valet trash removal (just put it outside my door and it magically disappears!). There are currently three restaurants but we will be expanding to five this summer. Several stores and boutiques are part of our community. Trader Joes often shares their flowers with us. I enjoy participating in the book club. I am active at the Church of the Holy Communion, Episcopal. I periodically do the reflections for the Sunday evening contemplative service. In that service we examine scriptures in a very different way than during a preaching sermon. All in all, I can say I am a happy camper and have settled back in after living near the beach in Florida for six years.

Reporter Pat Calhoun

Jane Edwards, (Newbern, TN): Jane spent the Christmas holidays with her sister in Georgia. She has one sister and two brothers. She enjoyed this time with her family. Jane is quiet Facebook savvy as one of her posts went viral with over 1,000 views. She was teaching a neighbor's child how to make the palm crosses. Unfortunately, they were not used as the church did not have public worship (but they are ready for next year!) Jane is excited about her church (Newbern U.M.C.) and loves her pastor, Tyler Needly.

Frank and Ann Gardner, (Martin, TN): Ann reported that her family was doing well. They are staying in and only going out for doctor's appointments. Ann is diabetic and keeps a close check on her blood sugar. She has a granddaughter who is also a diabetic (since early childhood) and is now having vision problems. Grandson Matthew is in welding school in St Louis, Grandson Jordan is in his second year of law school in Nashville. He is completing much of his course work on line.

Bill and Nancy Hart, (Memphis, TN): Nancy shared that the Harts are doing well in this time of social distancing. Their daughter does their shopping and often prepares meals for them. Nancy is quite the "hip" grandma – she is learning to Face Time so she can read stories to

the grandchildren. Bill is being especially careful. He recently had surgery for lung cancer but is recovering well.

Donald and Becky Van Voorhis, (Bartlett, TN): I only had a brief conversation with the Van Voorhis. They are doing well. They worship at Rossville U.M.C. near Collierville and occasionally Donald teaches Sunday School at the Bartlett U.M.C.

Ted and Cathey Leach, (Columbiana, AL): Although Ted is not preaching now, he does stay busy. Ted retired from a church in Birmingham in 2010. Caring for family members keeps both of them busy. Ted cares for an aunt in Kingston, TN. He frequently goes up to check on her. During this time of increased risk, he decided to stay a month. Meanwhile, Cathey is staying in Alabama helping care for their son-in-law who is waiting for a lung transplant.

Ken and Virginia Burnett, (Cordova, TN): Although Ken is retired, he is preaching at Park Chapel U.M.C. near Sommerville and Bolivar. He followed Gordon Henderson who has passed away. Ken has been at Park Chapel for 14 years and is 87 years strong. Ken says other than a “bum knee and a little A-fib” he is doing well. Their daughter, Ann, is the Minister of Music in Franklin, TN. Their other children are in healthcare – giving the family a long heritage in the fields of service. Ken did share with me that **Cecil and Janice Bellew** tested positive for the virus but are recovering at home.

Reporter Bobbie Clarke

Bobbie Clarke, (Jackson, TN): I have enjoyed so much calling people on my list. Being in touch is important all the time but so much more during this time of isolation and social distancing. Like others, I have been staying in. I miss my main source of exercise: shopping. I am able to navigate around Krogers using the shopping buggy for balance. My first stop is usually the Starbuck kiosk for a Salted Carmel Macchiato. At my age, I figure I can afford to indulge just a little. I have also enjoyed trips to my physical therapist. Therapy helps to reduce the stiffness that ‘ol Arthur’ causes. I have recently had to say good bye to my long-time dog companion, Annabel. She was 17 years old. My son, Tim, first got her for our granddaughter when she was just a baby, but Annabel has lived with us for many years. She used to enjoy taking long walks with my husband, John. Maybe she and John are walking once again.

Health tip: Spread chili peppers on your hands – It does nothing to fight the virus but you learn really fast not to touch your face!



Judd and Gale Mowery, (Troy, TN): Judd says that he enjoys fishing and staying at home – which is fortunate during this time of social distancing (not sure if you have to be six feet away from a fish) Judd is also very active in the Emmaus Community in addition to serving two churches.

Harrell and Janice Nation, (Jackson, TN): Since Harrell is my pastor, I have an inside track on what he is doing – which recently is not much. Like many pastors he has experimented on different ways to reach out to his congregation. Forest Heights U.M.C. does not usually stream or video their service

but this has proved to be a good way to reach some of the members. I imagine that preaching to an empty church has its challenges but he is doing a wonderful job. Check out our Facebook page and You Tube links. Harrell and Janice plan to retire (again) in June. They will certainly be missed.

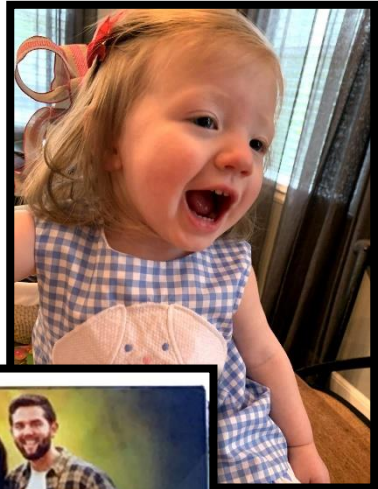
Drew Brewer, (Jackson, TN): Drew sends a very happy “Hello”. Drew knew my husband, John. That made our conservation together so meaningful to me. Drew is enjoying retirement, filling in pulpits as needed and visiting various churches. We are blessed to have him worship with us at Forest Heights frequently. Drew is enjoying have more free time to spend with his daughter and grandson.

Jim and Pat Calhoun, (Union City, TN): Jim and Pat have been my longtime friends. It was so good to be able to call and talk with them – not sure why I wait so long to call them. They worship at the First United Methodist Church in Union City. Both Jim and Pat are doing physical therapy – Jim for his heart and Pat for her healing fractured leg. In December Jim tried once more to retire. This is his seventh or eighth attempt. I guess you can say he flunked the course on retirement. They are certainly going to miss the wonderful folks at Cobbs Chapel U.M.C. and Mt Manuel U.M.C.



It was good to hear from Roger and Sue Henson (Advance, MO). Since moving to Missouri several years ago, Roger has had multiple health issues. He said Missouri had nothing to do with t – just age. He is doing better now and enjoys being closer to family. He says it is difficult to remain in touch with his friends and appreciates receiving The News ‘N Views.

Russell and Carroll Gallimore, (Jackson, TN): Like most folks, Carroll and Russell have been a little “stir-crazy” during the pandemic. They can hardly wait to join friends for meals and table games. Their eldest granddaughter, Katie, graduates from Arlington High School this spring. They’re saddened she’ll miss her Senior Prom and graduation events. Her 20-year-old brother, Griffin, is completing his second year at UT-Martin. He is preparing to enter the medical field as a dentist. Griffin is currently featured on a billboard (*see photo*) on the 45 By-pass near Passmore Lane in north Jackson (*makes proud grandparents want to pop a button!*). An older grandson, Navin in Portland , Oregon , is completing his degree in Mechanical Engineering. The newest preemie granddaughter, Mia, is now nineteen months old. She’s progressing nicely, walking and saying a few words.



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