

**Melton Meal Train** Wanda Melton is home and recovering from surgery. A meal train has been set up for her and her family at <https://tinyurl.com/WandaMeltonMealTrain>.

**Safe Sanctuary Training** There will be a Safe Sanctuary training session on Sunday, May 22, at 3:30 pm in Jenkins Hall. Anyone who works with our youth or children (including Choir Tour chaperones, VBS, and summer camp volunteers) needs to be Safe Sanctuary trained. Questions? Contact Mimi Sanders at [mimi\\_sanders@tfumc.org](mailto:mimi_sanders@tfumc.org).

**Share Your Tucker First Memories** Sunday, May 22, is Heritage Sunday in The United Methodist Church. We will honor and celebrate our history as a church on this day together. We want to display some of your Tucker First UMC memories in the Gathering Room before and after worship. If you have photos you would like to be part of the display, please drop them off at the church office or email them to Rev. Anne Cumings at [anne.cumings@ngumc.net](mailto:anne.cumings@ngumc.net). Please make sure they are clearly labeled if you would like your photos returned to you.

**Volunteers Needed for Summer Music & Drama Camps** The Music & Arts ministry at Tucker First is excited that we have so many children participating in musical activities this summer. You can help in little and big ways. Volunteers are needed to assist with snacks, greeting, costumes, drama, or just be another adult. You can sign up for one day or all five days. Contact Beverly Blissitt at [bblissit@tfumc.org](mailto:bblissit@tfumc.org) to volunteer.

**VBS Volunteers Needed** Vacation Bible School is June 20-24. We need lots of volunteers to make this week a success! If you're interested in volunteering at VBS but don't know where to start, the following is a list of volunteer slots for this year's VBS program.

- T-shirt coordinator and team members
- Registration team member— handles June 20th registrations
- Group leaders
- Drama/Bible storytellers
- Music, recreation, crafts, snacks, or science team members
- Opening/closing assembly team members – actors, sound/ AV operators, puppeteers, etc.
- Traffic controller and team for driveway drop-off and pickup
- Student pickup indoor coordinator

If you are interested in volunteering for VBS 2022, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/VBS22-VolunteerSignup>.

**Mission Garden News** Our new Mission Garden supports our neighbors in need with fresh, organic vegetables during the summer and fall growing seasons. 2021 was the first year for this mission and volunteers helped harvest and deliver 100% of the harvest, over 150 pounds of "just harvested" vegetables, to Networks, our neighboring food pantry. Vegetables donated in 2021 included a variety of tomatoes, cucumbers, green beans, squash, Swiss chard, sweet potatoes, broccoli and cabbage. An added benefit of the Mission Garden is the meditation/relaxation area centrally located among flowers and flowering vines.

The initial cost to build the garden in 2021 was approximately \$5000, supported by our Church members and garden enthusiasts through a special/separate giving fund. The annual recurring cost to maintain just the garden is estimated to be approximately \$500, mainly for new seedlings and soil amendments.

In the current garden, weather determines our planting and growing seasons. With the addition of a 12x16 foot greenhouse adjacent to the garden, we will allow year-round production of fresh vegetables. This will allow year-round fresh vegetable donations to Networks, our nearby food pantry. And, the type of crops grown will be expanded to mushrooms, microgreens and other leafy vegetables that thrive in a protected/controlled greenhouse environment and cooler temperatures. The greenhouse could nearly double the annual production of vegetables by using organic hydroponic methods. Additionally, seedlings for all seasons can be started from seed in the greenhouse reducing those annual recurring costs. The annual recurring costs of the greenhouse are also offset by the reduced costs of seedlings and spring plant sales to the community. Furthermore, Neil Duggan has offered to use the greenhouse as a teaching opportunity for hydroponics and other growing skills.

To facilitate this mission, our Finance Committee has approved a one-time fundraising effort for up to \$2500 to add this greenhouse to the Tucker Mission Garden. It will be located adjacent to the garden in a couple of parking spaces behind the Wesley Center. Neil Duggan will provide the design and labor at no cost. The City of Tucker Permits/Zoning has reviewed and approved the design and location.

Please consider making a one time donation to support this valuable local mission. Donations can be made to the Church. Please write "Mission Greenhouse" in the check memo line or include with your contribution.

## **Finding Our Path: Conversations On the Future of The UMC & What it Means for Our Congregation**

Tucker First UMC is hosting a series of five conversations focused on how our congregation will prepare for decisions to be made by the General Conference regarding the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy and congregants. These sessions are intended to help us navigate the tension and divisiveness surrounding this issue and to create space for listening deeply, sharing respectfully, and discerning our path together. The sessions are facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker, an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church who is on faculty at Candler School of Theology. She is an expert in congregational development and building healthy, trusting church cultures.

Sessions will take place in-person only on Thursdays 7:00-8:30 PM in the Chapel. The remaining sessions are: May 19, 26 & June 9. No reservations are required. Each session will focus on a different topic. We encourage you to attend as many sessions as possible. Questions? Contact Stephanie Shanholtzer at [sshanholtzer@tfumc.org](mailto:sshanholtzer@tfumc.org) or 770- 938-3030.

**Women's Bible Study** You are invited to join our Women's Bible Study as they study Sharon Jaynes' book *Never Less Than: Empowered, Esteemed, and Equipped When the World Tells You Otherwise*. Classes are held Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in Room 202 (Zoom option is available). Participants should purchase their own books. If you have any questions or want to RSVP, please contact Becky Burnett at [rsb1950@gmail.com](mailto:rsb1950@gmail.com).

**Good Grief Class** This class is designed for anyone going through grief or anyone who would like to learn how to support their loved ones who are grieving. Over the course of six weeks, participants will gain an understanding of the grief process and learn strategies for coping and processing experiences and emotions associated with loss. The class will be taught by Rev. Paul Yeun, a retired chaplain and pastoral counselor, and Norman Burkett, a retired funeral director.

Classes are held Sundays at 5:00 PM in Jenkins Hall. If you have questions, please contact Stephanie in the church office at 770-938-3030 or [sshanholtzer@tfumc.org](mailto:sshanholtzer@tfumc.org).

**All Current and Former Youth Are Invited. Spread the Word!** On Sunday, June 5 our Celebration Singers will perform their 2022 Home Tour Concert during our 11:00 am worship service. As previously announced, Lynn Urda will be retiring after fourteen years as Director of Youth Choirs. All former Celebration and Jubilee Singers (including adult chaperones) are invited to join the choir in singing the last song of the program (Psalm 139). After worship, we will honor Lynn with a reception in the Wesley Center. All are welcome to attend. Please spread the word to all former youth and chaperone singers!

## **TUCKER FIRST YOUTH**

**Sunday Night (6:00-7:30 pm)** Join us each week in the Wesley Center for dinner, games, Bible study and fellowship!

**Coffee with Chris @The Corner Cup** Every Wednesday, 3:30-5:00 pm, you will find Chris at the Corner Cup on Main Street. Come hang out, talk, maybe even have some coffee or pastry. If you need some prayer or to talk about something going on in your life, don't be shy; let Chris know! He's here for you... and the coffee.

## **TUCKER FIRST CHILDREN**

**Sunday Mornings (9:45 am In-Person; 10:00 am on Facebook Live)** *We're Digging Into...The Heart of God* and learning how we can reflect God in our everyday life.

**VBS Registration is Open** You can now register for Vacation Bible School 2022! This year VBS will be held June 20-24, 9:00 am- 12:00 pm. Registration is available for rising Pre-K through rising 6th grade children. The cost is \$20 per child.

- VBS Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/TFUMC-VBS22>

**Preschool Teachers Needed for 2022 -2023 School Year** Our Weekday Preschool has several paid teacher positions open for the upcoming school year. If you or someone you know would consider serving, please get in touch with Marti Coleman at 770-938-3030 or [preschool@tfumc.org](mailto:preschool@tfumc.org) or Mimi Sanders at [mimi\\_sanders@tfumc.org](mailto:mimi_sanders@tfumc.org).

**Preschool Registering for 2022-2023** The Tucker First UMC Weekday Preschool is enrolling children ages six months to 4-5 years Pre-K for the 2022-2023 school year. You can find more information and registration forms at <http://www.tuckerfirst.org/weekday-preschool.html/>. Please contact the Preschool Director, Marti Coleman, at [preschool@tfumc.org](mailto:preschool@tfumc.org) or 678-325-4020 to schedule a tour or if you have any questions.