



# Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church



*June 2024 Newsletter*

*From Our Pastor*

*Reverend Parker Benson*

Friends,

I recently read the following and wanted to share it with you:

When error is admitted into the Church, it will be found that the stages of its progress are always three. It begins with toleration. Its friends say to the majority: You need not be afraid of us; we are few, and weak; only let us alone; we shall not disturb the faith of others. The Church has her standards of doctrine; of course we shall never interfere with them; we only ask for ourselves to be spared interference with our private opinions. Indulged in this for a time, error goes on to assert equal rights. Truth and error are two balancing forces. The Church shall do nothing which looks like deciding between them; that would be partiality. It is bigotry to assert any superior right for the truth. We agree to differ, and favoring of the truth, because it is truth, is partisanship. What the friends of truth and error hold in common is fundamental. Anything on which they differ is ipso facto non-essential. Anybody who makes account of such a thing is a disturber of the peace of the Church. Truth and error are two co-ordinate powers, and the great secret of church-statesmanship is to preserve the balance between them.

From this point of view error soon goes on to its natural end, which is to assert supremacy. Truth started with tolerating, it comes to be merely tolerated, and that only for a time. Error claims a preference for its judgments on all disputed points. It puts men into positions, not as at first in spite of their departures from the Church's faith but in consequence of it. Their recommendation is that they repudiate the faith, and position is given them to teach others to repudiate it, and making them skillful in combating it.

Charles Porterfield Krauth, *The Conservative  
Reformation and Its Theology* (1913)



*Excuse me, what's your name again?*



Please locate your name tags and start wearing them on your Sunday wares!!

Since we are continuing to grow in membership, it would be a great help to everybody if we could put a name to a face!



Repetition works! Thanks!



**JOYFUL NOISE NOTICE**

The Joyful 'Noise's' will not be making 'noises' at the retirement homes this summer.

We will regroup in the fall.  
Thank you.

*George S.*

# Prayer by a Layman

Our Heavenly Father,

We gather in your name and delight in your presence among us.

Lord, you have blessed this country since it was formed.

Our government structure is based on the Scriptures.

**“You are our Lawgiver, Judge and King and you can save us”.** Isaiah 33:22.

This has been incorporated into the Constitution of the United States of America.

Our forefathers have fought and died for this blessed country and the principles for which it stands.

Now, many of our fellow countrymen are denying the Life, the Way, and the Light of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. They have abandoned the Church and are now indifferent and rebellious and no longer believe in your Holy guidance. Our government is corrupt, the people are at odds, the world is polarized, and violence and threats of war abound. Many members of your church have fallen to the ways of this world and for the first-time “proclaimed” Christians in the United States are less than 50%.

Without your intervention we fear for our lives, our children and our Christian churches.

***Jesus, we pray for your intervention.***

We want to be your hands and feet on Earth but please give us strength and wisdom to carry out Your Will.

We pray for You God, to give us Your directed revival.

Lead us to witness, evangelize and contribute our time and energy to protect Your Kingdom on Earth.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit we pray.

Amen

L.C.



## **Would you like to be a Certified Lay Minister in the Global Methodist Church?**

“A certified lay minister is a professing member of a local congregation who has received special training in Wesleyan doctrine and our denominational polity, and endorsement by the church in order to serve the church as laity.” (§ 402 Transitional Book of Discipline).

A certified lay minister serves in a variety of ways. Some work in teaching ministries, some in evangelism, some in caring ministries, some in outreach ministries, some in administration, and some in worship or preaching.

A beginning course is being offered at **Alcoa First GMC** on **Saturday, June 22, from 9:00 – 4:00.**

**Cost is \$30** plus a modest cost for two required textbooks. ***Please see Rev. Benson to register.***

# Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

## MONTHLY MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT



### Meet Pat Cherry



**1. Where were you born and raised?** *I was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama*

**1A. How long have you lived in Tennessee?** *My father was transferred to Knoxville in 1960.*

**2. Name something unique about you that very few people know.** *My two front teeth never developed, so I had a rather large space between them. This problem was not resolved until I was twenty.*

**3. What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today?** *The hobby that I cherish is reading. This is what only the written word (in my mind's eye) can provide. I delight in going to different places, meeting different people, and entertaining different ideas.*

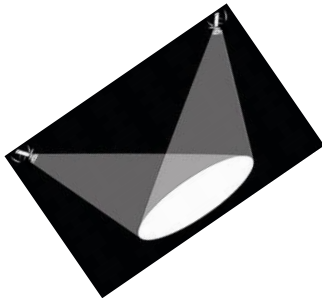
**4. What qualities do you admire most in others?** *I admire people who have/had a goal and worked toward achieving it.*



# Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

## MONTHLY MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

### Meet Cheryl Murray Simonis



**1. Where were you born and raised?** North Dakota. On a farm. About 1 hr. from Bismarck, 2 hrs. from Fargo, and 3 hrs. from the Canadian border. (Manitoba)

**1.a. How long have you lived in Tennessee?** 50+ years

**2. Name something unique about you that very few people know.** I was born at the Geographical Center of the North American continent. And, during winter months, Dad used to take me to school via horseback!

**3. What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today?** Probably reading, NO...for sure, reading!!!

**4. What qualities do you admire most in others?** Honesty, Integrity (Christian values)

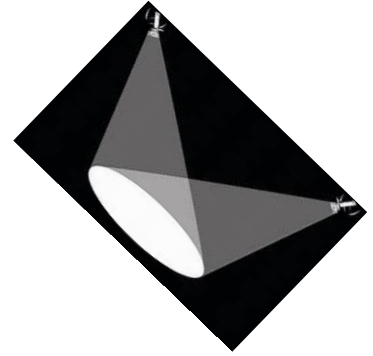




# Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church

## MONTHLY MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

### Meet George Simonis



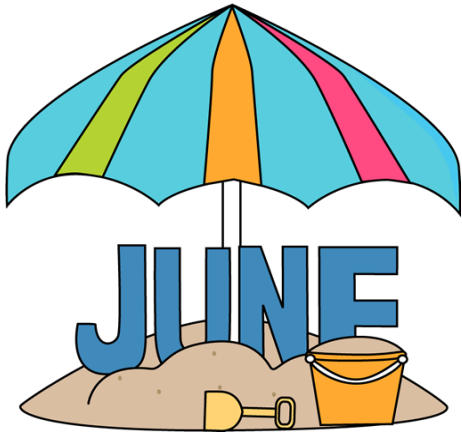
**1. Where were you born and raised?** *I was born in Chicago, Illinois, raised in Mundelein, IL, a suburb of Chicago.*

**1.a. How long have you lived in Tennessee?** *Almost 30 years!*

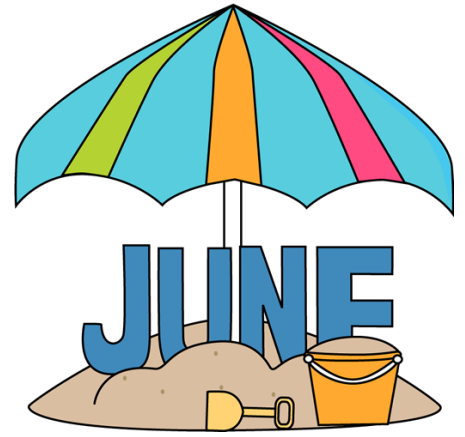
**2. Name something unique about you that very few people know.** *I wanted to be a lawyer at one time.*

**3. What is the hobby that you are most passionate about today?** *Music and Cowboy movies!  
(not together) lol*

**4. What qualities do you admire most in others?** *Honesty and friendliness, willingness to persevere with a smile.*



1st Don McPherson  
1st Cheryl Simonis  
9th Tim Kresica



15th Sue Marston  
20th Karen Martin  
24th Gary Teper  
29th Kathy McWilliams

### 44 Prophecies Fulfilled by Jesus

#### #18 Called a Nazarene

O.T. Isaiah 11:1  
N.T. Matthew 2:23

#### #19 Ministry in Galilee

O.T. Isaiah 9:1-2  
N.T. Matthew 4:13-16

#### #20 Taught in Parables

O.T. Isaiah 6:9-10  
N.T. Matthew 13:10-15,34-35

#### #21 Healed The Broken-Hearted

O.T. Isaiah 61:1-2  
N.T. Luke 4:18-19







**Men's Luncheon**  
**Thursday, June 20th @ 11**  
**Calhouns**



**Having a passion for anything  
is reason enough to live.**

## *Smoky Mountain Global Methodist Church* **Council Meeting May 2, 2024**

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Financials as of April 30, 2024:**

- \*Operating expenses continue to be below budget
- \*Tithes and donations were higher than the plan
- \*The church has \$538,355 cash in its building fund

Rev Benson announced the availability for individuals to become ***Certified Lay Minister*** for the Global Methodist Church; a class will be held on **June 22, 2024** at **Alcoa Global Methodist Church**, and the cost is **\$30**. Individuals can serve in a variety of ways. If you're interested, please contact Rev Benson for more information.

The position for the ***SMGMC Assistant Pastor*** will be posted with Asbury Seminary. G Lybrand, Rev Benson, and Rev Buck will shepherd the search process.

Debbie Cummings provided a list of **nine organizations** slated to receive benevolent expenditures in 2024, totaling **\$16,000**. Additionally, the committee will spearhead a twice-yearly effort to provide welcome kits to residents of ***True Purpose***. The kits will contain personal and hygiene items such as soap, wash clothes/towels, toothbrushes/paste, etc.

Council voted unanimously to acquire and install **noise-reducing soundboards** in the large meeting room of Trinity House, where Bible Study is usually held. The cost is **\$600** for each board; the boards will be covered with a tapestry to improve aesthetics.





Keep me safe , Oh God,  
for in You I take refuge.  
Psalm 16:1

Beye's Eye



*Light is sweet,  
and it pleases the eyes  
to see the sun.*

*Ecclesiastes 11:7*

Beye's Eye