

THE WAY

"I am the way..."

John 14:6

October 2019

Through the United Church of Cookeville, together we share a particular way of being Christian and being church. We are not alone. The early Christian movement was known internally as well as to its persecutors as **the Way** (Acts 9). The life of faith is **a way** of being human, **a way** of interpreting, **a way** of practicing, **a way** of living.

- The wisdom tradition of the faith often spoke of the Way. God watches over the way of the righteous. *Psalms 1:6*
- The prophetic tradition of the faith also refers to faith as a Way. Prepare the way of our God, make straight in the desert a highway for our God... *Isaiah 40*
- Jesus refers to himself and his commitment to a cruciform Way of life as, "I am the way..." *John 14:6*
- Paul advising the early church in Corinth being torn asunder with division counsels that in the way of love, he would show them "a more excellent way." *I Corinthians 12:31*

Individually and collectively, we are stewards of this way. Our participation is the opportunity for us, the community, and our faith to evolve and remain vibrant. The United Church of Cookeville represents:

a **way** of being church,
a **way** of practicing one's faith,
a **way** of interpreting received texts and the times in which we live,
a **way** of articulating "the hope that is within us,"
a **way** of intellectual honesty and courage,
a **way** of creating a new eco-system for the church,
a **way** of sustaining a movement not a moment,
a **way** of doing justice, seeking peace and building community.

Join us in giving to create and maintain this distinctive way of being faithful, of being the Church.

LIVING INTO THE WAY

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

My 2020 Commitment to the United Church of Cookeville

Specifically, I would like to bring MY way of helping BE THE CHURCH in Cookeville and beyond:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acolyte | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry / VBS | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter / Usher | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir / Music Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality / Welcome Team | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Learning Communities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgist / Lay Reader | <input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship / Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Missions and Outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Team |
| I would like to be nominated for: | <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon (elected position) | <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee (elected position) |

Other (please share your gifts here) _____

My Money: I commit \$ _____ weekly monthly quarterly other

2020 Annual Total \$ _____

With trust, faith and gratitude...

I'm bringing what I can to God's works and ministry at the United Church of Cookeville.

Signed _____ Date _____

Commitments will be kept confidential

