Congratulations to our Associate Director of Music, Tami Newsom for her selection as Outstanding Student in Judaic Studies at the University of Tennessee. The faculty of the Department of Religious Studies chose Tami for this award for her outstanding scholarship and leadership. Tami is pictured here with her professor and mentor, Dr. Gilya Gerda Schmidt, Director of The Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies and Professor in the Department of Religious Studies. We are so proud of Tami for her determination and tenacity in pursuit of her degree in Religious Studies. Our congregation is the beneficiary of her study!!!

Dr. Angela Batey, our Director of Music and Associate Dean for Diversity in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tennessee has been named to the 2014-15 class of the UTK Leadership Program. This initiative, which serves to open a pipeline of faculty and staff into UTK leadership positions, begins with a one-week leadership intensive retreat in May 2014 and continues with summer readings, reflection assignments, and monthly meetings during the academic year. Readings, speakers, and discussions will focus on personal development, leadership, and specific higher education concerns.

Applicants must have worked at UT for at least five years and be recommended by their dean or department head. Congratulations to Angie on being selected for this prestigious leadership program!

Call for Youth to Lead in Worship!!!!

Our youth are the future of the church! We believe it to be very important for our young people to be active leaders in our worship service at Farragut Presbyterian. For the past two years, we have offered our acolyte program which has afforded such opportunities.

The word acolyte is taken from an ancient Greek word meaning companion, attendant, or helper. Acolytes have a very long history in the church. They perform the very important function of bringing the light of God into the sanctuary at the beginning of the worship service and carrying the light of God out into the world at the end of the service.

Since ancient times, light has reminded people that God is here with us. The Farragut Presbyterian Church acolytes light and extinguish the candle on the chancel. When the acolytes bring the light into the sanctuary, they are reminding people that God is with us in our worship service. When the acolytes extinguish the candle and walk out of the sanctuary with their candle lighters, they are reminding the congregation that we take the light and scatter it out into the world remembering that God is with us everywhere. Acolyte ministry provides the youth of our church with a meaningful opportunity to be involved and serve in the worship service.

If you would like more information on how your young person can become an acolyte, please see Tami Newsom, our Assistant Director of Music, who is Acolyte Coordinator. We are putting together the new acolyte class that will begin in the fall. It is a very special responsibility to bring the light of Christ into the sanctuary for our services of worship. Youth in grades 2-7 are encouraged to participate in this wonderful ministry of light.