

First United Methodist News

***First United Methodist Church
200 North 15 & Roebuck Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901
Phone: (479)782-5068
Fax: (479) 784-9474
E-mail: fsfumc@fsfumc.org
Web Page: www.fsfumc.org***



Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield

District Superintendent:

Rev. Mackey Yokem

Rev. David P. Orr, Senior Minister

Rev. Janice Sudbrink

Rev. Claire Caldwell

Rev. Robert Cloninger

Rev. William Cheyne

Rev. Herschel McClurkin

January 19, 2012

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

In the Family of God, we need God and we need each other. One of the reasons God called the Church into being is that we find strength and nourishment in the relationships we have within the Church. Together, we are connected to God.

An article I read explained that when the roots of trees touch, there is a substance present that reduces competition. In fact, this unknown fungus helps link roots of different trees - even dissimilar species. A whole forest may be linked together. If one tree has access to water, another to nutrients, and a third to sunlight, the trees have the means to share with one another. Like trees in a forest, Christians in the Church need and support one another.

An old story about the evangelist D.L. Moody tells of a visit he once made to a prominent Chicago citizen when the idea of church membership and involvement came up. The man told Moody, "I believe I can be just as good a Christian outside the church as I can be inside it." Moody said nothing. Rather, he moved to the fireplace (blazing against the winter cold outside) removed one burning coal, and placed it on the hearth. . . The two men sat together and watched the ember die out. . . "I see," the other man said.

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." Romans 12:4-5

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. His sermon is entitled, "God's Vision" and his scripture text will be Jonah 3:1-5, 10. Rev. Robert Cloninger will preach at the 11:00 Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Lay readers will be 8:30, Cheryl Powell, 11:00, Jim Cheyne. Acolytes will be: Jaeli Miller and Jenna Hunter.

Randy O'Kelley will be soloist at the 8:30 Chapel service. The Chancel Choir's anthems will be "Eternal Light, Shine in My Heart" by K. Lee Scott and "God is the Light of the World" by Haydn Morgan.



As of Monday, January 16, 2012, the following members were listed in the hospital.

SPARKS:

J. P. Chancey

ST. EDWARD:

Stormy Jenkins
Clifford Bell

BY YOUR GIFTS. . .

Rec'd this week.....Pending
Rec'd to date.....\$1,546,162
Budgeted to date.....\$1,730,847

Foundation Information

Did you know that an estimated 70% of all people who die do not have a Will or Living Trust? Without proper estate planning, no charity can receive gifts from your estate. Be sure your estate planning is up-to-date. Do you know who your heirs will be? Is your church a beneficiary of your estate?



Open Dates for Altar Flowers

We have the following dates open for altar flowers, **January 29, February 5, 12, and**

26. If you would like to put flowers on the altar just call the church office, 782-5068.

Pictorial Directory

If you were unable to schedule a date to have your picture taken for our new pictorial directory and you have a picture you would like to submit for the directory, please send it to Rev. Claire Caldwell

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday Noon Lunch and Bible Study. Rev. Herschel McClurkin will teach II Thessalonians, chapters 1 and 2, on January 26, in the Fireside room.

Friday morning Breakfast and Bible Study will be in the Fireside room at 6:30 a.m.

Attention Parents of Youth

There will be a meeting of all parents of youth and adult leaders for youth on Sunday, January 22, at 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, 3rd floor. We will be discussing plans for 2012.



Sleep Mats for the Homeless

Come learn how to make mats for the homeless out of plastic bags. on **Saturday, February 4, from 10:00 a.m. to noon OR 1:00-3:00 p.m.,** in the Family Life Center Fireside room

We are also in need of your help in collecting recycle plastic shopping bags. There are designated containers in the Narthex and by the "Horseshoe" in the Family Life Center.

If you plan on attending, please bring a 10mm size crochet needle, sharp scissors, and, of course, lots of plastic shopping bags.



We welcome Ronnie Blasingame to our church family by transfer from another denomination. Ronnie joined on January 11, 2012.

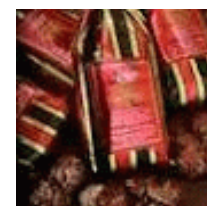
We welcome Phil Pruett to our church family by transfer from another United Methodist Church in Jonesboro. Phil joined in our 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service on January 15, 2012.



Louise Finney and family send deep appreciation to FUMC for supporting our mother, Melba Owens, and all of us during the five years of her illness and recent death. Prayers, cards, kind words, visits, and food were shared continuously.

Stephen Ministers, Rev. Bill Cheyne, and Rev. David Orr visited her in the nursing center. Rev. Orr, Nancy Vernon, Scott Monroe, and Jim Cheyne contributed gloriously to her Celebration of Life service.

May God Bless each of you and continue to uplift you through your ministries.



The Bridge Campus Ministry still has some pecans left. . .

We have lots of milk chocolate covered and a few pecan caramel chocolate clusters. They are on sale for \$7.00 a bag. If you would like to purchase some, please contact Rev. Clare Caldwell.



Mom's Day of Prayer

On Saturday, January 21, 2012, the 14th Annual Mom's Day of Prayer will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Host church this year is Immaculate Conception Church, located at the head of Garrison Avenue.

We ask that all praying mothers, grandmothers, aunts, teachers, sisters, and all "prayer warriors", join us to pray for children of all ages.

Please come and pray as short or long a time as you can. Thank you.

John Stott's "Revelation: The Triumph of Christ" Bible Study

**February 1 - April 18
(Wednesday evenings)**

**Fireside Room of
the Family Life Center
6:10-7:30 p.m.**

**Led by
Robert Cloninger**

**Call 782-5068
or email
rcloninger@sfumc.org
to sign up**

We thought you would like to see this letter from the DHS regarding your gifts for the Angel Tree.

"Dear Reverend Orr:

Suzanne Stephens sent me a copy of your newsletter regarding the Angel Tree and the Christmas gifts that were bought for our angels here at child welfare. Sebastian county has over 500 children in foster care and as you might guess Christmas here is a lot of logistics nightmares, blood, sweat, tears and hard work; but I just stand at home Christmas morning and soak in all the smiles that are being sent from our kids to hundreds of wonderful people like you and your church members up to the heavens and back again.

Unfortunately we do not get to see those smiles directly but like so much good work done by our local churches, their staffs, church members, volunteers and community organizations it's not what we get directly but what we receive indirectly that makes our lives richer, fuller and overloaded with blessings. Please let all in your church know how much they mean to us on behalf of thousands of little smiles sent upwards towards heaven, tell them to look up and they are bound to see one ☺

With much appreciation,

The Staff of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS-DHS)

Bobbie J. Newsom

Sebastian County Supervisor"



**Do you have a new email address?
If so, will you please call the church office and let us know so that you will continue to get your emails from us.**



**Have you changed from a land line to cell phones?
Do you have a new cell phone number?
Have you given your church your new phone numbers?
Please call and let us know if you have new phone numbers.**

Thank you for helping us to keep our records up-to-date.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
 ATTENDANCE
 January 15, 2012**

Class	Attendance
Infants	5
Toddlers	7
2 yr. olds	
3 yr. olds	
4 yr. olds	
Kindergarten	11
Grade 1 and	
Grade 2	11
Grade 3 and	
Grade 4	12
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	16
CHILDREN'S DIV.	62
Grade 7, 8 (Confirmation)	
Grade 9, 10, 11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	-
Aldersgate (Room M105)	21
Believers (Room M302)	5
Builders (Room M209)	10
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	42
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	21
Disciples(Room M301)	11
Discussion*Room M312)	52
Encouragers (Room M303)	12
Friends (Room M103)	8
Gleaners (Room M201)	21
Good News (Room M202)	3
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable (Room M213)	21
Seekers*(Room M107)	14
Uplifters*(Room M205)	15
ADULT TOTALS	261
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	327
Worship:	
8:30	73
11:00 Connexion FLC	187
11:00 Sanctuary	232
Wed. Communion	48
TOTALS	540

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, January 22

- 8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
- 8:30 - Food @ First, FLC & Narthex
- 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
- 9:45 - Sunday School
- 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:00 - Connexion Worship, FLC
- 4:30 - Youth Parents' Mtg., Loft
- 5:00 - Youth Singers, Choir Rm.
- 6:00 - Youth Meet, Loft
- 6:30 - Confirmation Class, M308

Monday, January 23

- 11:30 - Intro to New Test., FLC102
- 5:15 - Foundation, Conf. Rm.
- 6:00 - Bible Study, Fireside Rm.

Tuesday, January 24

- 10:00 - Dorcas Meets, Fireside Rm.

Wednesday, January 25

- 9:15 - Women's Bible Study, Fireside Rm.
- 10:00 - Kinder Concert, Gym
- 10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
- 12:00 - General Staff, Fireside Rm.
- 3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall
- 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
- 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
- 6:00 - Jr. High Life Group, Loft
- 7:00 - Sr. High Life Group, Loft
- 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 26

- 10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
- 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
- 5:30 - Praise Team, Gym

Friday, January 27

- 6:30am - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FL

Saturday, January 28

- 9:15 - Food @ First Pick-up, Gym

Our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service is broadcast over KFPW 1230 AM.

Vision:

A complete church – always under construction.

Mission:

Fort Smith First United Methodist Church is here to follow the Shepherd, to seek the lost, to feed the sheep, all to the glory of God.

**Rev. Claire Caldwell
 Emergency
 on call Minister for
 January 20-22
 Phone: 459-5060**

email articles for the Newsletter to: nscott@fsfumc.org
 Deadline is noon on Monday.