

First United Methodist News

*First United Methodist Church
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Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield

District Superintendent:

Rev. Mike Morey

Rev. David P. Orr, Senior Minister

Rev. Janice Sudbrink

Rev. Stephen Dickinson

Rev. Claire Caldwell

Rev. William Cheyne

Rev. Herschel McClurkin

February 25, 2010

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Belinda was a single parent, trying to take care of herself and raise five-year-old Ryan. She was a single parent because when her husband learned that the requisite surgery for her cancer would leave her disfigured, he left. One evening, Belinda tucked Ryan into bed and was reading a book to him. He interrupted her to ask if she had bought that book for him.

"Yes," she said.

He then inquired if she had also bought the bed in which he slept.

Again, the answer was, "Yes."

Had she bought the house they called home?

Yes, she had.

And what about that new sweater he liked so much?

"Yes," she said, she had bought that too.

He thought about how good she had been to him, supplying all his needs, and finally he said, "Mommy, get my piggy bank. There are seven pennies in it. Take them and get something you really want for you."

As is so often the case, we have much to learn from our children. Ryan realized that everything he had was a gift from his mother. His response was to offer her his seven cents, everything he had. Our relationship to God is just like Ryan's relationship to his mother. Everything we have is a gift from God. Ryan offered his mother seven cents. It was not much, but it was all he had.

Our current Second Mile stewardship emphasis is another invitation to look into our lives, acknowledge the source of our blessings, and make a response from love. I believe in this Second Mile emphasis because I believe in you, because I believe in the ministries of First Church, and because I believe in God. Together in God's service, we will see a stronger, more unified and more determined First Church.

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 8:30 Roebuck Chapel and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "The Real Miracle" and his scripture text is Luke 13:31-35. Rev. David Orr will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. His sermon is entitled, "Going Somewhere?" and his scripture text will be Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Acolytes will be Bryson Porter and Dakota Gibson. Lay Readers are: 8:30, Judy Bradberry, 11:00, Kelly Rappeport.

A Chancel Choir ensemble will sing at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthems are "The Tree of Life" by K. Lee Scott and "If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments" by Thomas Tallis.



As of Monday, February 22, 2010, the following members were known to be in the hospital.

Health South:
Victor Manchaca

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$55,707
Rec'd to date.....\$232,145
Budgeted to date.....Data Pending

Please pray for the following who are serving in our U. S. Military:
Doug Wilderman, Robert Henley, Jack Dunn

Foundation Information

Anyone can make an endowment gift to the FUMC Foundation. Any size gift may be made as an endowment. You may do this now or as a part of your estate plan.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday Noon Lunch/Bible Study, March 4, 2010 - Rev. Herschel McClurkin will teach Acts 13.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, 6:30 a.m., March 5, 2010, Dr. David Phillips will teach Genesis 27.

**Destination Station Bible Verse for February
Genesis 1:28**

Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of the earth.



The Altar Flowers for Sunday, February 28, 2010 are in honor of Maxine

Eggensperger's 90th birthday on March 5, given by her family.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **March 14 & 21**. If you would like to put flowers on the altar, call 782-5068.

Rio Bravo Mission Trip 2010 is April 12-18

We are looking for a few good construction workers to complete our team. **No experience necessary!** We will be helping to build a Methodist church. Must have a current passport. Call Janice for further details, 782-5068.

Due to popular demand, the Rio Bravo mission team is asking those who knit and crochet to make dishcloths to give as gifts to the parents who visit the medical clinics. Patterns are available in the church office or on the church web site.



Sylvia Burks and family on the death of her father, James Edgar of Albertville, Alabama.



We rejoice with Keith and D'Ann Fimple on the birth of a son, Brock Dawson Fimple.



The Lenten Service and Lunch, Monday, March 1, will be held here at First Church in our sanctuary. Speaker: Chaplain of Sparks Medical Center, Rev. Don Hubbard.

Worship Time: 12:15-12:45 p.m.
Lunch served from 11:45-12:15 and 12:45-1:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room at a cost of \$4.00



CHANGE for CHANGE

Please support our own missionaries to Rio Bravo, Mexico. Bring in your loose change that is collecting in your car, your desk drawer, or in the sofa.

Collection cans are located throughout the church. Just look for the cans with the piggy bank.

Thanks for your support!

Free H1N1 Vaccine
First UMC will offer **free H1N1 (swine flu) vaccines** for ages 18 and older on: **Sunday, February 28, in the Family Life Center**
For more information contact Janice at the church, 782-5068

Cookie Time

We will deliver cookies to the Fort Smith Police this time. Please bring your homemade cookies to the kitchen on the 2nd floor, next to the Parlor. Your time and cookies are truly appreciated.



Do you have email?

Would you like to get the weekly Newsletter by email?

Just call the church office and let us know and we'll do the rest.



Be Blessed

You are invited to "A Day with the Girls"

March 6, 2010 - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
FUMC Narthex - Cost \$15

Come and ...be pampered, be nourished,
be creative
Come and Be Blessed
Lunch and childcare will be provided.

What to expect:
Prayers, Devotionals, Crafts, Cooking
Demonstration with Taste Tests and Recipes,
Lunch, Paraffin Hand Bath

Call 782-5068 to sign up NOW
Spaces is limited to the first 30!
Please call Melissa Udouj (785-2540) or
Elizabeth Paris (785-4655)
for more information

S. O. S. S. SAVERS OF STRANGE STUFF



The Children's Department will be creating the Holy Land Market Place, as in Bible times, for a family Easter Event. We need to borrow the following items to help make our city of Jerusalem authentic: a free standing canopy tent, woven rugs and blankets, pottery, baskets, and any other type of decoration that would lend itself to the occasion. If you have any of these items for us to have or borrow please contact Kelly or Sally at 782-5068 or drop them by Sally's office by March 10th. Thank You!

The Bridge Student Center Blessing

You're invited to the blessing of our new United Methodist Student Center at UA Fort Smith, home of The Bridge. The blessing is Wednesday, March 10, 7:00 p.m., at the student center, 605 N. 47th Street. For more information, contact Todd Vick at 782-5068 or tvick@sfumc.org.



Downhome Singin' February 28, 6:00 p.m., Roebuck Chapel

Kelly DeSoto will bring the kids to sing and entertain us. When the singin' is over join us in the narthex for cake, red punch, and wonderful fellowship at 7:00. Join us for a great time.

Join us for breakfast in the Family Life Center this Sunday, February 28 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Breakfast is free and all donations will be given to the Community Clearinghouse.



MEXICAN FIESTA

Churchwide Fund
Raiser Luncheon
for the



Rio Bravo Mission Trip
Sunday, March 2, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
in the Family Life Center
Dine in or Take Out
Tickets \$10 adults \$5 children
Proceeds will go toward building a
Methodist church and medicines

Holy Land Marketplace 2010
Sunday, March 14th
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
Meet in the Narthex

The Children's Ministry Council invites you to join us for a family evening full of spiritual inspiration. Our Holy Land Marketplace will provide fun and memorable Bible learning activities for children ages 4 to 11 years old and their families.

Registration forms are available in the children's area, church office, or on line.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
 ATTENDANCE
 February 22, 2010**

| Class | Attendance |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Infants | 10 |
| Toddlers | |
| 2 yr. olds | |
| 3 yr. olds | |
| 4 yr. olds | 3 |
| Kindergarten | 7 |
| Grade 1 | |
| Grade 2 | 13 |
| Grade 3and | |
| Grade 4 | 16 |
| Grade 5 and | |
| Grade 6 | 10 |
| CHILDREN'S DIV. | 59 |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Grade 7, 8, 9, | |
| Grade 10,11, & 12 | |
| YOUTH DIV. | 16 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Aldersgate(Room M105) | 20 |
| Believers (Room M302) | 5 |
| Builders (RoomM209) | 17 |
| Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel) | 40 |
| Cornerstones*(Room M311) | 17 |
| Disciples Room M312) | 10 |
| Discussion*(Room M301) | 42 |
| Encouragers (Room M303) | 11 |
| Friends (Room M103) | 10 |
| Gleaners (Room M201) | 27 |
| Good News (Room M202) | 9 |
| Le Menage (Room M306) | 6 |
| Roundtable*(Room M213) | 22 |
| Seekers*(Room M107) | 10 |
| Uplifters*(Room M205) | 28 |
| ADULT TOTALS | 274 |

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| General Officers | 4 |
| *Made their quota | |
| TOTALS | 353 |
| Ethnos Youth | 30 |

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Worship: | |
| 8:30 | 93 |
| 11:00 FLC | 160 |
| 11:00 Sanctuary | 247 |
| Ash Wed. Communion | 131 |
| TOTALS | 611 |

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, February 28

8:30 - Breakfast, Family Life Center
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 8:45 - Flu Shots, Family Life
 9:45 - Sunday School
 9:45 - Bible Study, Fireside Rm.
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 5:00 - Cancer Support Group, M201
 6-8 - All Youth
 6:00 - Down Home Singin' with reception in Narthex

Wednesday, March 3

9:15 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.
 10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
 10:00 - Children's Directors, Conf. Rm.
 12:00 - Psalms Bible Study, M200
 1:30 - Matter of Balance, M105
 3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall
 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
 6:00 - Praise Team, Gym
 6:00 - Bible Study, Fireside Rm.
 6:00 - Sign Language, M200
 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
 6:15 - First Place 4 Health, M105
 6:30 - Bridge Gathering, UAFS
 7:00 - Core Bible Study, Narthex
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, March 1

12:15 - Lenten Service, Sanctuary w/lunch @ 11:45 & 12:45, Fireside Rm.
 1:00 - Intro to New Test., FLC102.
 1:30 - Matter of Balance, M105
 6:00 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.
 6:00 - Cub Scouts, 3rd Floor
 6:30 - Psalms Bible Study, M200
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3rd Floor

Thursday, March 4

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FL102
 5:00 - Foundation Trustees, Conf. Rm.
 6:00 - Girl Scouts, 3rd Floor

Tuesday, March 2

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 6:00 - Disciple III, M200

Friday, March 5

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
 10:00 - Pacesetters, Fireside Rm.

Saturday, March 6

9-1 - Be Blessed, M105, Narthex, & Rotation Sunday School Rooms

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service are 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
 February 26-28
 Phone: 459-5060**