

# *First United Methodist News*

*First United Methodist Church  
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*Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield*

*District Superintendent:*

*Dr. Robert C. Bell  
Rev. David P. Orr, Senior Minister  
Rev. Janice Sudbrink  
Rev. Stephen Dickinson  
Rev. Claire Hoffman  
Rev. William Cheyne  
Rev. Herschel McClurkin*

*March 5, 2009*

## **ACROSS DAVID'S DESK**

Daylight Saving Time: March 8th. Prepare to "spring forward".

A new roof is being installed on the sanctuary and the bell tower at First Church! Hail damage from the April 2008 storm so damaged the roofs that they are now being replaced. Our property and casualty insurance is paying for the repairs. The Board of Trustees has worked with the insurance carrier in filing the claim and seeing to it that the needs of the church are met. We will have scaffolding in place on the B Street side of the sanctuary first, and then you will see scaffolding on the lawn side of the sanctuary. Safety is paramount. The sidewalks will be closed on the sides of the sanctuary. You will be able to enter the front doors and you will have full access to church entries everywhere else. This is a friendly reminder to employ your good common sense.

Thank you for supporting the Rio Bravo Mission and team. This is a phenomenal church. When we are all pulling together to accomplish God's vision for the church, remarkable things happen. Whether you are praying or buying lunch or flipping pancakes or investing in mission stock or encouraging the team preparing to go: Thank you, one and all.

Ethnos, our youth group, is getting pumped about their fast-approaching ski-retreat to Copper Mountain, Colorado. Love, encourage, pray for, support the youth of First Church. They are "our kids" and we put our arms and hearts around them as they grow and go!

And Church League Baseball is organizing for the 2009 season! A live and silent auction will be held on March 11th in the Family Life Center for baseball. We want this to be a home run for the total baseball effort. This is a perfect place for people outside the church to discover the joy of the fellowship and the purpose supporting the church. Half of the players on this year's First Church teams are non-members. What other place do we have that rivals Baseball as such an entry point for our church? Let's support Church League Baseball and reach people for Christ.

Thank you for your attendance at Monday's Lenten Series kick-off. We worship at Immaculate Conception Church on March 9th, 12:15 service with lunch served before and after worship. First Church hosts on March 30th.

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8th. Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

See you "bright and early" this Sunday!

David Orr



## **-SUNDAY, March 8, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-**

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "Finding Life" and his scripture text is Mark 8:31-38. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Hoffman will be Liturgists. Acolytes will be Ashtyn Marshall and Sam Kimes. Lay Readers will be 8:30, Anna Brown, 11:00, Sandy Parker.

Rylee Norton will be the soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthems are "Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow" by Lynette Maynard and "Behold the Lamb of God!" by Mark Shepperd. The Ladybells will play the Prelude at the 11:00 Sanctuary service.



As of Monday, March 2, 2009 the following members were listed in the hospitals:

**St. Edward:**

Mazie Chesser

**Sparks:**

Virginia Birch

**UAMS - Little Rock:**

Becky Chancey

Debbie Hardgrave

Debbie's pager number is 441-1681. Dial the number and when prompted enter your zip code and then hang up and they will know you have prayed for them.

**BY YOUR GIFTS . . .**

Rec'd this week.....\$27,732  
 Rec'd to date..... \$243,399  
 Budgeted to date.....\$231,885

**Please pray for the following who are serving in our U. S. Military:** Ben Hurst, Patrick Hayes, Walt Scales, Cody Kennon, Brad Bost, Clint Wilson, , Ellen Driggers, Christopher Herrmann, Dwalyyn Clayborn, V. J. Devine, Darson Emery, Jacob Bolin, Luke Bouxsein.

**Foundation Information**

Consider naming the church as a beneficiary of our life insurance or retirement plan. If you have named other beneficiaries consider naming the church as a secondary or backup beneficiary in case the first beneficiary is deceased at the time of your death.

**Methodist Men's Clubs**

**Thursday, Noon Lunch, March 12, 2009,** Bob Hawkins will teach Luke 13.

**Friday Morning Breakfast, March 13, 2009,** Bill Pitts will teach Genesis 9:1-29.



Rev. Bobby Bell and family on the death of his father, Rev. Virgil Bell.

Floy Looper and family on the death of her sister-in-law, Joan Looper.

Bob Weiler, Jr., Blake Weiler, Creed Weiler, Kerri Burris and their families on the death of their father and grandfather, Bob Weiler, Sr.

Bob Swofford and family on the death of his brother-in-law, Phil Childress.



**You, Your Family and Friends are invited**

to celebrate **St. Patrick's Day**

on Tuesday, March 17, at the Kibler UMC, with Mardell and Herschel McClurkin. Come between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., or 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to their Family Life Center. The church van will leave "C" Street parking lot at 10:30 a.m. and if you would like to ride the van, please call the church office, 782-5068.

Kibler UMC is four miles south of Alma on Hwy. 162, from the Alma Exit on I-40. We'll have Irish Stew (soup), bread sticks, pickles, cheese, dessert and good 'ole IRISH FELLOWSHIP.



**Daylight Saving Time**

begins, March 8, so don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before retiring on Saturday evening.



**The Altar Flowers**

for Sunday, March 8, 2009, are in loving memory of Mary Beth

Kirkpatrick. Given by her husband, Fred and her children, Beth, Lynn and Fred III.



A construction crew will begin putting up scaffolding around the sanctuary and bell tower area in early March. This is in preparation for replacing our copper roof that was damaged in the storm. There will also be some parking spaces marked off for their equipment that will need to stay here until they are finished.

**Please be careful and use caution around this area. Thank you.**

**What major memorial project would you like to see happen at First Church?**

The Board of Trustees would like to have a list of major memorial projects that members of our church would be interested in seeing happen. If you have some ideas, please call Ida Howell at 452-4831 or write her at 7007 S. T St. 72903.

Your input is important to us.

**Attention, Rio Bravo Participants**

There will be a meeting of all Rio Bravo missionaries on March 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Narthex to finalize our plans. Please plan to attend.



**Lunches on**

**Mondays**

The Lenten Service and Lunch, Monday, March 9, will be held at Immaculate Conception Church, Garrison and 13<sup>th</sup> Street. **Speaker: Rev. Bill Galbraith of First Presbyterian**

**Worship Time: 12:15-12:45 p.m.**

**Lunch served from 11:45-12:15 and 12:45-1:15 at a cost of \$3.00 or \$4.00**

**March 16** - First Presbyterian will host and Central Presbyterian will preach.

**March 23** - Central Presbyterian will host and St. John's will preach.

**March 30** - First United Methodist will host and Immaculate Conception will preach.

**We rejoice with:**

Dr. Shelby and Shannon Smith on the birth of a son, Owen Chesser Smith. Paternal grandparents are Dick and Donna Smith.

Ashley and Mike Bieker on the birth of a daughter, Lilah Jane Bieker. Maternal grandparents are Lynn and Buddy Coleman.

**Confirmation Class 2009**



One of the ways we teach our children about "The Faith" is by having them attend a class called Confirmation. During Confirmation one can expect to learn about Jesus

Christ, our Christian tradition, the sacraments, the songs we sing, affirmations of faith, our Wesleyan heritage and much, much more.

In the past we have offered this class to interested sixth graders from January until Easter Sunday. This year we have decided to offer the class to individuals transitioning from the sixth grade into the seventh grade. We will meet each Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 a.m. in room M313. The class will begin August 16 and conclude by confirming the seventh graders in the worship service on November 22.

If your sixth grader has not received a letter or if your youth has not been through Confirmation and would like to, please call Stephen at 782-5068 or email him at [sdickinson@fsfumc.org](mailto:sdickinson@fsfumc.org)

**UMW Sub-groups to meet in March**

**March 8:**

"Ordinary Women" will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Narthex Conference room.

**March 10:**

"Naomi" will meet with Betty McLendon, 6319 Bolton Rd. at 10:00 a.m.

"Elizabeth" will meet with Carole Beattie in Room M105.

"Deborah" will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Narthex.

"Hannah" will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Willowbrook.

"Mary" will meet with Anne Gaines, 7404 Red Pine at 7:00 p.m.

"Rebekah" will meet with Renee Parker, 4701 Cliff Drive at 10:00 a.m.

**We welcome Jill Crowell**

to our church staff. As the church receptionist, she will be the voice you hear when you call the church office. Jill and her husband David are members of First Church and have two children, Nicholas, 12, and Victoria, 8, and if you have any questions about Scouting, this is the family to ask. Welcome, Jill.

**EASTER LILIES**



It's time for Easter Lilies. If you would like to donate one in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form below and mail it with a check for \$15.00 per Lily (Lilies). I

would like to order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Lily (Lilies) In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lily (Lilies) In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Your name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE for Ordering , Monday, March 30.**

**No Phone Orders, please.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ATTENDANCE**

**March 1, 2009**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Infants	5
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	6
3 yr. olds	5
4 yr. olds	17
Kindergarten	
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	51
<b>CHILDREN'S DIV.</b>	<b>84</b>

Grade 7, 8, 9,  
Grade 10,11, & 12

<b>YOUTH DIV.</b>	<b>5</b>
College (M315)	5
Aldersgate(Room M105)	18
Believers (Room M302)	4
Builders (RoomM209)	27
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	43
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	19
Disciples (Room M312)	13
Discussion*(Room M301)	47
Encouragers*(Room M303)	26
Friends (Room M103)	14
Gleaners (Room M201)	27
Good News (Room M202)	7
Le Menage (Room M306)	4
Roundtable (Room M213)	--
Seekers*(Room M107)	12
Uplifters*(Room M205)	34

<b>ADULT TOTALS</b>	<b>300</b>
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>393</b>

**Worship:**

8:30	94
11:00 Family Life	228
11:00 Sanctuary	248
Ash Wed. Communion	135
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>705</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK**

**Sunday, March 8**

8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open  
8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel  
8:45-10 - Mini Clinic, Conf. Rm.  
9:45 - Sunday School  
11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary  
11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center  
12:00 - Discussion Class, Fireside  
6:30 - Combined Youth, Loft

**Monday, March 9**

12:15 - Lenten Service at  
Immaculate Conception Church  
1:00 - Intro to New Test., FLC102  
6:00 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.  
6:00 - Disciple II, M103  
6:30 - Disciple I, Conf. Rm.  
6:30 - Jesus/Gospels, M200  
6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Tuesday, March 10**

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.  
1:30 - Archives Room Open  
5:15 - Foundation Trustees, Conf. Rm.  
5:30 - Stephen Min., FLC101 & 102  
6:30 - Rio Bravo Mtg., Narthex

**Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and  
our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service  
are broadcast over KFPW 1230AM**

**Wednesday, March 11**

6 a.m. - Men's Fraternity, Gym  
9:15 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.  
10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall  
12:00 - Christian Learn. Council, Conf. Rm.  
12:00 - Memorial Cmte., M103  
3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall  
3:30 - Baseball Auction Preview, Gym  
5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel  
6:00 - Baseball Fundraiser, Gym  
6:00 - Disciple IV, M200  
6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.  
6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall  
7:00 - Knitwits, Narthex  
7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 - Youth Study, Loft

**Thursday, March 12**

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Conf. Rm.  
12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC  
5:30 - CEC & CDO Staff, Fireside Rm.  
6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.

**Friday, March 13**

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC  
4-6 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC  
6pm - Parents' Night Out, FLC

**Saturday, March 14**

9-11 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC  
5:30 - Roundtable Class, Fireside Rm.

**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 Hoffman**  
**Emergency**  
**on call Minister for**  
**March 6-8**  
**Phone: 459-5060**

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