

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

March 11, 2010

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Here is one of my favorite illustrations, used in a sermon a couple of years ago. It is worth repeating:

"Giacomo Puccini was one of the greatest composers of Italian opera. He began his last opera, *Turandot*, as he was dying of cancer, and he died before it was completed. There is a legend that one of his last words to a student was "Remember Turandot." After his death, the opera was completed, and its premiere performance was on April 25, 1926, at LaScala in Milan. Arthur Toscanini, the greatest conductor of the time and one of Puccini's students, was on the podium. At the end of the first scene in the third act, Toscanini abruptly halted the performance, laid down his baton, turned to the audience with tears streaming down his face, and said, 'At this point the maestro died.' There was a moment of stunned silence. Then, triumphantly, he picked up the baton and said, 'But his students have completed his work.' And the opera went on."

We dare to believe that we, you and I, are called to complete the work of our risen Lord in this world. While we journey through this season of Lent, we keep our courage and we keep our hope by believing that we are completing the work of Jesus in the world. When you get weary with the study of scripture, with the feeding of the hungry, with the support of grieving friends, with the offer of Christ's forgiveness to someone under the burden of guilt, with housing the homeless, with the encouraging of a teenager, with the encouraging of a nursing home resident, or with any of the works of Christ in this world; be refreshed knowing that our Lord was weary while doing those works; be renewed knowing that it is Christ alive in you that gives you the strength you need. "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." There is no higher way of living than to live under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

We are his disciples, not of our goodness, but of his mercy. We can tell the world that the work of Jesus will be completed for Jesus lives in us; and through us, his work will be completed.

Your *Second Mile* commitments are helping FUMC complete the work of Christ. God is faithful to us. You are being faithful to the Kingdom of God. Thank you, one and all, for your generous and faithful commitments to work of Christ. The work is not complete, but it is being completed through loving disciples like you. God bless you, every one.

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Roebuck Chapel and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "God's Heart" and his scripture text is Luke 15. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Acolytes will be Isabella Udouj and Gabby Wright. Lay Readers are: 8:30, Louise Finney, 11:00, Ruth Pitts.

Rylee Norton will be soloist at the 8:30 service, accompanied by Meg Norton and Kelly DeSoto on handbells. The Chancel Choir's anthems are "Calvary" a spiritual arranged by John Behnke and "Eternal Life" by Craig Courtney.



As of Monday, March 8, 2010, the following members were known to be in the hospital.

Sparks:
Lou Moreland

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$28,147
Rec'd to date.....\$349,018
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

Our church's lay leadership and pastors enthusiastically support planned giving to our Church. Contact them for more information.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday Noon Lunch/Bible Study, March 18, 2010 - Rev. Aaron Barling will teach Acts 15.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, 6:30 a.m., March 19, 2010, Charles Reutzell will teach Genesis 29.

Destination Station Bible Verse for March
Luke 10:27

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your strength, and all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.

Sub-group "Ordinary Women" will meet on Sunday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. in Room M103.



Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **March 21, April 11, 18 & 25.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar, call 782-5068.

Rio Bravo Mission

Trip 2010 is April 12-18

We are in need of the following items to take on our trip:

- Fast food toys still in the packages
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Adult vitamins
- Children's Chewable vitamins (not gummie ones)
- Chewable Tums
- Motrin or Ibuprofen
- Knitted or crocheted dishcloths made with cotton yarn.

Any questions, call Janice at the church, 782-5068.



The Lenten Service and Lunch, Monday, March 15, will be at Immaculate Conception Church, Garrison & N. 15th Streets. Speaker: Pastor from First Presbyterian Church

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



Set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday. Daylight Saving time begins at 2am on Sunday, March 14.



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.



Kathy Dickey, Paige Ingram and their families on the death of their uncle and great uncle, David Hicks.

Kriss Marshall, Ramey, Brendan, Johnathan and Ashtyn Marshall, Joann Redding and their families on the death of their mother, grandmother, and sister, Mary Donna Kelly Ramey.

Tory Rogers, Tim, Ben & Caitlin Rogers and their family on the death of their father and grandfather, John Ernest Fox, Sr.

Tom Ashwood, Brian and Amy Ashwood and their family on the death of their mother and grandmother, Bettye Ashwood.

Rev. Claire Caldwell and family on the death of her father, Paul Hoffman.

New Members

We welcome Gail and Virginia Cowart to our church family by transfer from another denomination.

We welcome Mable Serpa to our church family by transfer from another UMC.

**Children in Mission Group Forming:
TOUCH: Teaching Our United Children to Help!**

Our goal is to educate and involve our children on local and world missions. (i.e. assembling health kits, creating items to send to Rio Bravo).

Parents and their children K-6th grade are invited to a brief informative meeting, Sunday, March 14, at 12:15 p.m. in the Narthex Conference Room.

Contact Leslie Brixey at 649-8099 or email brixey1@prodigy.net for more information.



YOU and your family and friends are invited to celebrate **ST. PATRICK'S DAY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**, at the KIBLER UMC with Mardell and Herschel McClurkin.

Come eat free (Irish stew and all the fixins!), between 11am & 2pm, OR 5-7:30 pm. Kibler UMC is 4 miles South of Alma on Hwy. 162 or take Hwy. 162/Kibler Rd. East out of Van Buren, apx. 6 miles. Phone 479-461-5209 or 479-632-5822 for more info. Hollye Dickinson, Harpist, will be there from 11am-1pm and the McCafferty School Irish Dancers at 6:00 p.m.



United Methodist Women of First Church invite you to an EASTER BRUNCH Tuesday, March 16, 2010 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room

You will not want to miss this very special program of drama and song

"Mary Magdalene Speaks"
by

Nancy Moon, Nancy Vernon and Linda Dickson

Senior Recognition Day set for May 16, 2010

We will be recognizing our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 16, 2010, in a very special way and we don't want to miss anyone. If you are a senior or you know of a senior, please call the church office and give us your name. More information will be sent out soon. Thank you.

One Great Hour of Sharing

offering will be taken this Sunday. There will be special envelopes in your bulletins or you may mail in your gift marked "One Great Hour". Thank you.

Memorials

In Memory of Mary Minta Thompson - Dr. & Mrs. R. C. Goodman; Sam & Fran Bateman; Sue Cooley; Mary Lee Kulin; Linda Winford; Mary Ellen Fraser; Fern Taylor; Sabra Jaber; Tom & Nancy Robertson; Mary Adams; Marjorie Boer; Lillian Gibson; Gladys Ware; P.E.O. Chapter BD; Liz Winford; Bernie Houser

In Memory of Brandon & Keely Trusell - Cole & Stacy Goodman

In Memory of Becky Kimbrough - Lori Hardin & Mike Willis

In Memory of Mary Copeland, In Memory of Clifford Davis, In Memory of Dorothy Wilkins - Mary & Harry Shipley

In Memory of J. B. Hanson - Mike Willis & Lori Hardin; Rick & Ann Haggard

In Memory of Janie Camardese - Kelly & Marilyn Newton

In Memory of Leslie Horton - Ann Scott Winters

In Memory of Auda Faye McConnell - Jill & John MacKenzie; Mary & Harry Shipley; Cecilia Hopkins; Charles & Jeanne Ledbetter; Ann & Bob Dawson; Bill & Betty Klusmeier



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 22

No Phone Orders, please.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE
March 7, 2010**

Class	Attendance
Infants	7
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	
3 yr. olds	
4 yr. olds	4
Kindergarten	10
Grade 1	
Grade 2	10
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	12
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	12
CHILDREN'S DIV.	45
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	14
Aldersgate(Room M105)	23
Believers (Room M302)	7
Builders (RoomM209)	23
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	--
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	21
Disciples Room M312)	10
Discussion*(Room M301)	51
Encouragers (Room M303)	9
Friends (Room M103)	10
Gleaners (Room M201)	25
Good News (Room M202)	-
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	23
Seekers (Room M107)	8
Uplifters*(Room M205)	34
ADULT TOTALS	249
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	308
Ethnos Youth	28
Worship:	
8:30	119
11:00 FLC	178
11:00 Sanctuary	218
Communion	55
TOTALS	570

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, March 14

8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 8:30-12:30 - Angel Food Signup, FLC
 9:45 - Sunday School
 9:45 - Bible Study, Fireside Rm.
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 12:00 - EMIM Evaluation, Fireside
 12:15 - Child Mission Mtg., Narthex
 4:30 - 6 - Holy Land Marketplace, Narthex and Loft
 6-8 - All Youth

Wednesday, March 17

9:15 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.
 10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
 12:00 - Children's Ministry Board, Fireside
 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, 605 N. 47th
 7:00 - Core Bible Study, Narthex
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, March 15

12:00 - Finance Meets, FLC101
 12:15 - Lenten Service @ I.C.
 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 18

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
 6:30 - Girl Scouts, 3rd Floor

Tuesday, March 16

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 9:30 - UMW Brunch, Fireside w/ program in Roebuck Chapel
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 6:00 - Disciple III, M200

Friday, March 19

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

Saturday, March 20

9:30 - Angel Food Pick-up, Gym

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. David Orr
Emergency
on call Minister for
March 12-14
Phone: 459-5060