

# ***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](mailto:fsfumc@fsfumc.org)  
Web Page: [www.fsfumc.org](http://www.fsfumc.org)***



***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***

***April 15, 2009***

## **ACROSS DAVID'S DESK**

As we continue to bask in the miracle of Easter and God's victory over the grave, listen to what God is teaching you, follow as God leads you. Easter is a way of life that is renewing every day.

Easter comes after Good Friday's sorrow and indignity and brutality. Easter redeemed the Cross. Last week our neighbors in Mena experienced tragedy and sorrow when a tornado ravaged their town. Three died and dozens were injured. Multi-millions in damages were experienced. Following the tornado, thousands of people have descended on Mena with love in the form of blankets, water, flashlights, chain saws, food, listening ears and compassionate spirits.

On Tuesday, twenty people from FUMC went to Mena and spent the day cleaning up debris and dispensing food, water, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products and love without end.

On Monday, FUMC helped organize a disaster relief effort for our community. With the ready participation of USA Truck, KISR radio, LaRaza radio, KFSM TV, and Central Mall, a collection trailer was in place on the Central Mall parking lot on Monday morning and the word was publicized all across the region. There have been dozens of volunteers working all week long to receive and pack donated items onto the trailer. The first trailer was filled and sent to Mena on Wednesday. The second trailer is on the parking lot and being filled. Thank you, all partners in mission, for making this response to the need in Mena so immediate and so impressive.

I owe it to our Latino neighbors to say to you, my church, that the Hispanic community responded in overwhelming numbers to this need. Those bringing goods to the trailer, 7 to 1, were Hispanic. We have had every race represented, but the Hispanics have poured out, easily, 7 to 1 as compared to all of the rest of us. We are all in this together!

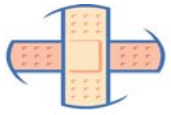
Sunday, April 19th, will be a grand Sunday continuing the celebration of Resurrection at FUMC. Our children from the Weekday School and Child Enrichment Center will be singing in the Sanctuary service @ 11:00. We have the added joy of the 62-voice Arkansas Tech Choir singing in the Sanctuary service. Add those elements to the best Chancel Choir and congregation in the state and it all adds up to a Sunday to be remembered. Bring your whole family and all your friends to worship and let's praise God.

See you Sunday,  
David Orr

## **-SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-**

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 and 11:00 services in our Sanctuary. His sermon is entitled, "Thomas Has A Question" and his scripture text is John 20:19-31. 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 Weekday School Director, Christie Jacobs and Children's Day Out Director, Tiffany Null. Lay readers will be 8:30, Carroll West, 11:00, Cassandra Arnhart.

Jonathan Karrant will be our soloist at the 8:30 service. The Arkansas Chamber Choir, the Chancel Choir, our Weekday School children and our Child Enrichment Center children will provide our music at the 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service.



**HOSPITALIZED**

As of Monday, April 13, 2009 the following members were in the hospital:

**Sparks:** Janice Jones  
**St. Edward:** Hilda Warren, Patrick Taylor, Will Cousins, Mary Edwards

**Prayer Pager** for Keri Cheyne Cousins and her family during their vigil at St. Edward's ICU waiting room for her husband Will Cousins is **441-1684**. Please call and let the family know we are praying for all of them.

**BY YOUR GIFTS. . .**

Rec'd this week.....\$28,633  
Rec'd to date.....\$406,961  
Budgeted to date.....\$386,475

**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, Dwalyne Clayborn, V. J. Devine, Darson Emery, Jacob Bolin, Luke Bouxsein.

**Foundation Information**

Consider naming the church as a beneficiary of your 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, April 23, 2009,** Todd Vick will teach Luke 19.

**Friday Morning Breakfast, April 24, 2009,** Jane Stauffer will teach Luke 4.

**Destination Station Bible Verse for April  
Matthew 28:19**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



**The Altar Flowers** for Sunday, April 29, 2009 are placed in memory of our spouses, Norris Byers and Betty Bolin by Pat and Jim Bolin.

**Altar Flower Openings**

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **May 31**. If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, call 782-5068.

**Vacation Bible School!  
Mark your Calendars!  
June 15-19!**

We would love for you to help. The week is always so much fun! If you would like to help, please contact Elizabeth Thames at 452-1684.

**United Methodist Women**

will meet on Tuesday, April 21, at 5:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Ann Goodman has planned three great book reviews. All women are welcome.

**Finals Care Packages**

If you have a college student in your family, please send his or her address to Todd Vick so that we might send them a finals care package from the church. All addresses must be turned in no later than Monday, April 20. You may call Todd at 782-5068, or email him at [tvick@fsfumc.org](mailto:tvick@fsfumc.org)



The church will honor all babies born since April 2008, on Sunday, April 26, 2009, in the 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service. A special "Baby Bible" will be presented to each baby. If you did not receive a letter regarding Baby Bible Sunday and you have a baby that was born after March 2008 and are a member of First Church, please call Sally Ware, 782-5068.



Sue Cooley, Marilyn Gustafson, Elizabeth Paris, John Cooley, and their families on the death of their husband and father, Tom Cooley.

Betty McGee and family on the death of her sister, Mary Talburt.

**We rejoice with**

Todd and Melissa Fretheim on the birth of a son, Connor Jack Fretheim. Paternal Grandparents are Marlin and Janet Fretheim.

**Infant Baptism**

Sophie Grace Weiler, daughter of Blake and Kim Weiler, was baptized in our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009.

**Down Home Singin' on April 26**

will be spectacular. The Barber Shop Quartet will be here with their wonderful blend of music. Jim Cheyne will be our guest leader. Make plans to come and hear this wonderful music. Singing starts at 6:00 p.m. We will serve strawberry shortcake in the Narthex, after the singin'.

**Heading to College?  
Need financial help?**



Apply for a First Church scholarship. Applications can be found in the church office or on our web site [www.fsfumc.org](http://www.fsfumc.org) under the forms tab on the home page. Scholarship are due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. For more info, contact Rev. Claire Hoffman, 782-5068.

**"Ordinary Women"** will meet Sunday, April 19 at 5:00 p.m. in the Narthex Conference room.

## Relay for Life

Mark your calendars now to participate in the Relay for Life, April 24, 6:00 p.m., on the campus of UAFS, to help fund cancer research and caring for those who have cancer. FUMC Cancer support group will be in the Narthex and FLC this Sunday, April 19, for people to sign up to walk and purchase luminaries. Each luminary will be lit and each name announced at 9:00 p.m. on April 24. All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Association. For more information, contact Marlene Brown, 452-1231 or Sandra Adams, 782-3376.

### *Annual Gathering*

**April 25, 2009 - First United Methodist Church  
Family Life Center**

**United Methodist Historical Society, Inc.  
West District, Arkansas Conference  
Annual meeting will begin at 11:15 a.m.**

**Reservations will need to be called or mailed to Doris  
Beaty (479) 484-1217 by deadline**

**Monday, April 20, 2009**

**Cost for lunch and program will be \$10.00**

**Local church exhibits wanted!!**

**Program leaders: Terry Gosnell, Pastor of Trinity,  
Fayetteville and David Freeman, Associate Pastor,  
FUMC, Springdale.**



**Sometimes. . . The Sunday  
after Easter is a little 'down'.**

**Not this year!!!!**

**Come help us welcome:**

**The FUMC Weekday School and  
the FUMC Child Enrichment  
Center SINGERS— many, many  
young beautiful faces and  
voices singing with gusto!**

**AND**

**The Arkansas Tech Chamber Choir, 62 voices  
strong singing by themselves and with our  
Chancel Choir!!!! You don't want to miss it.  
April 19th, 11 a.m., Sanctuary.**

**It's GOOD that we have a new roof because these  
voices MIGHT just raise it up!!**

## Memorials

**In Memory of Katie Keating** - Fran & Sam Bateman;  
Katherine Croom; Mr. & Mrs. David Shaw; Finley &  
Evelyn Turner; Myra Ward; Gladys Ware

**In Memory of Conley Horton O'Kelley** - Lou  
Moreland & family

**In Memory of Joey Ragsdale** - Mike, Kandis & Joey  
Croom

**In Memory of Irene Taylor** - Myrna Sue Lough

**In Memory of John G. Ayers** - Don Flanders;  
George & Carole Beattie

**In Memory of Thomas Culp** - Bill & Toka Beall;  
Annette & Pat Phillips; Tony & Lynnell Leraris

**In Memory of Frank Ford** - Bill & Toka Beall

**In Memory of Becky Kimbrough** - Steve & Betty  
Boone; Dana & David Craig, Lauren & Erin Craig;

Emma Jo & Paul Giuffre; Perry & Karen Malone;  
Gene & Teija Nelson; Mr. & Mrs. Doug Parker, Sr.;

Jeremy Partin; Robert & Chloe Tedder

**In Memory of Mildred Lively** - Gene & Teija Nelson

**In Memory of Harold Oakes** - Buddy & Kathy Austin;  
Janice & Bob Powell; Marlin & Janet Fretheim

**In Memory of Sue Vernon** - Bill Batchelor; Dwight  
Curry; Johnnie Dickey; Bill & Jane Holder; Mickey &

Joseph Irwin; The Lunch Bunch Girls; Janice & Bob  
Powell; Prentiss Ware Family; Bob & Nadine Miller;

David & Judy Staggs

**In Memory of John C. Baker** - Builders Class

**In Memory of Chesolene Brown** - Fran & Sam  
Bateman; David & Donna Jamell; Mike & Carol  
Thomas; Virginia Tiemann

**In Memory of Johnnie Brown** - Finley & Evelyn  
Turner; Becky & J.P. Chancey



**Make plans to attend  
the  
Rio Bravo Mission  
Trip**



Slide Show and Report

to the Church on Sunday, **April 26**, during the  
Sunday School Hour at 9:45 a.m., in the Family Life  
Center.

## Job Opening for College Ministry Intern

First Church is seeking a bright, enthusiastic, responsible individual to serve in a ten month college ministry internship from Aug.1-May 31. You will work closely with the college minister to fulfill the mission of The Bridge United Methodist Campus Ministry, an outreach to the U of A, Fort Smith. You will work a minimum of 20 hours that include Sunday mornings and applicants should have completed their freshman year of college. For more information and a complete job description, contact Todd Vick at [tvick@fsfumc.org](mailto:tvick@fsfumc.org) or check out our web site at [www.fsfumc.org](http://www.fsfumc.org).

If interested send resume and cover letter to Todd Vick, 200 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Fort Smith, AR 72901.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE  
April 12, 2009**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Infants	4
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	9
3 yr. olds	3
4 yr. olds	7
Kindergarten	6
Grade 1	
Grade 2	14
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	15
Grade 5	
Grade 6	10
<b>CHILDREN'S DIV.</b>	<b>68</b>
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	
<b>YOUTH DIV.</b>	<b>8</b>
College (M315)	1
Aldersgate(Room M105)	21
Believers (Room M302)	5
Builders (RoomM209)	25
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	46
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	23
Disciples (Room M312)	9
Discussion*(Room M301)	38
Encouragers (Room M303)	--
Friends (Room M103)	10
Gleaners (Room M201)	22
Good News (Room M202)	8
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	25
Seekers (Room M107)	9
Uplifters*(Room M205)	26
<b>ADULT TOTALS</b>	<b>273</b>
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>353</b>
<b>Worship:</b>	
Sunrise Service	30
8:30	239
11:00 Family Life	305
11:00 Sanctuary	582
Communion	60
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,216</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK**

**Sunday, April 19**

8:15 - Holy Grounds Café Open  
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel  
 8:45-10 - Mini Clinic, Conf. Rm.  
 9:45 - Sunday School  
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center  
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary  
 12:00 - Children's Council, Café  
 12:15 - AR Tech Choir Fireside Rm.  
 2:00 - Shoal Creek Mtg., Conf. Rm.  
 5:00 - Chick Flicks, M219  
 6:30 - Youth @ Ben Geren Park

**Wednesday, April 22**

6am - Men's Fraternity, Gym  
 9:15 - Angela Thomas Study, Fireside Rm.  
 10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall  
 3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall  
 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel  
 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conference Room  
 6:00 - Disciple IV, M200  
 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall  
 6:00 - Praise Team, Gym  
 7:00 - Knitwits, Narthex  
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Monday, April 20**

11:30 - Intro to New Test., FLC102  
 12:00 Finance Meets, Conf. Rm.  
 6:00 - Disciple II, M103  
 6:00 - Angela Thomas Study, Fireside  
 6:30 - Disciple I, Conf. Rm.  
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 6:30 - Jesus/Gospels, M200

**Thursday, April 23**

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Conf. Rm.  
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC  
 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.  
 6:30 - Claire's Covenant Group, Narthex

**Friday, April 24**

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC  
 10:00 - Historical Society to decorate, FLC

**Tuesday, April 21**

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.  
 5:45 - UMW Meets, Fireside Rm.  
 6:30 Down Home Mtg., M103

**Saturday, April 25.**

10:30 - Historical Society Board, FLC102  
 11:15 - Historical Society Mtg., Fireside Rm.

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

**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. Stephen Dickinson  
 Emergency  
 on call Minister for  
 April 17-19  
 Phone: 459-5060**

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