

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

April 15, 2010

A Word from Claire

I was reading a daily devotional for today from "My utmost for His Highest" and was really touched. It was based on Psalm 55:22 that says "cast your burden on the Lord". Oswald Chambers wrote this devotional to encourage those who read it to know that there is relief from our burdens if we only cast them, or "roll" them back to the Lord. Chambers says that there are some burdens that God does not intend to lift off of us, but that we must cast it back to the Lord. He says that when we seek out to do the work of the Lord, we sometimes forget to stay connected to God and the responsibility of the work can become too much; this can lead to feeling overwhelmed and defeated. But if we will only roll back on God the burdens He has placed on us, He will take away that immense feeling of responsibility, replacing it with an awareness and understanding of Himself and His presence. Many servants set out to serve God with great courage and with the right motives. But with no intimate fellowship with Jesus Christ, they are soon defeated. They do not know what to do with their burden, and it produces weariness in their lives. Others will see this and say, "What a sad end to something that had such a great beginning!"

There are so many ways that we can serve our Lord in our community, our church and our schools. We just have to continue to remember that the burdens that He places on us are meant to be cast off. We cannot separate ourselves from our burdens, but with God's help we can get through them together. Let's not have any sad endings in our work to glorify the Lord. The best way to develop a more intimate fellowship with God is through the Bible. If you are currently dealing with a lot of burdens, I encourage you to open a Bible to Psalms and read it like you mean it. Go through the motions of the psalmist and reconnect to God. Get involved in a Sunday school class. Take a Bible study (more will be starting soon), or just pray.

Our lives are so full of activities sometimes we forget to nurture and tend to our relationship with Christ. During this Easter season, reconnect, cast your burdens, and stay in the Word. There is a great opportunity this week to reconnect with Christ through music. The Arkansas Tech University Chamber Choir will be making a stop on their tour at our church this Sunday night April 18th at 7pm. The concert is free and should be wonderful. I hope to see you there!

The Peace of Christ,
Claire Caldwell

-SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2010, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. Claire Caldwell will preach at the 8:30 a.m. Roebuck and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary services. Her sermon is entitled, "You will be told what you must do." and her scripture text is Acts 9:1-6. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. Rev. David Orr will be Liturgist. Acolytes will be Bryson Porter and Kelsey Vickery. Lay Readers are: 8:30, Kaye Ichniowski, 11:00, Billy Dooly.

Suzanne Adrion will be the soloist at 8:30. The Chancel Choir's anthems will be "Arise My Soul, Arise!" by Robert Leaf and "Beautiful Savior" arranged by F. M. Christiansen.



As of Monday, April 12, 2010, the following members were known to be in the hospital.

St.Edward:
Florice Kranc

Sparks:
Jane Hartfield

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$16,841
Rec'd to date.....\$492,170
Budgeted to date.....\$498,780

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

Foundation Information

Retirement funds present new opportunities for giving to the church. You may want to name the church as the beneficiary of your individual retirement account or other retirement funds, in the event that you or other family members die before receiving all of the funds.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday Noon Lunch/Bible Study, April 22, 2010 - Rev. Paul Strang will teach Acts 20.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, 6:30 a.m., April 23, 2010 - Dr. Boyd Saviers will teach Acts 4.

Destination Station Bible Verse for April
Luke 24:31-34

At once they knew who he was. The Lord has risen indeed!



The Altar Flowers

for Sunday, April 18, 2010 are placed in loving memory of Paul F. Hoffman on his birthday from his daughter and son-in-law Claire and John Caldwell and in honor of the congregation at First United Methodist Church, who have continued to support and love us.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for Altar Flowers, **May 2, June 6 & 27.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of someone, just call the church office, 782-5068.



Lucia Chancey, Dr. J.P. and Becky Chancey and their families on the death of their husband and son-in-law, Andrew S. Core.

Catherine Young and family on the death of her father, Richard Owen.

Welcome New Member

We welcome Gail Brown to our church family. Gail joined by Profession of Faith on March 21, 2010 in Roebuck Chapel.

Attention All

United Methodist Women

Our next meeting will be on April 20, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room of the Family Life Center. Dr. Pat Phillips will speak to us on the Methodist Nursing Home and its relationship to the United Methodist Church.

Come hear this informative program and enjoy fellowship and lunch afterward.

College Ministry Intern Needed

We are seeking a bright, enthusiastic, responsible individual to serve in a 10 month college ministry internship from August 1 - May 31. The intern will work closely with The Bridge UM Campus Ministry, an outreach ministry of First UMC to the UAFS campus. The position requires a minimum of 20 hours, that include Sunday mornings. Applicants should have completed at least their freshman year of college and live in the Fort Smith area. Contact Todd Vick @ tvick@fsfumc.org for more information or call 782-5068.



Hey, First Kids,

Are you interested in going to camp this summer?

Have your parents stop by Ms. Sally's office and pick up some information about New Life Ranch, Camp Tanako and Shoal Creek Camp.

Have fun trying new things and meeting new friends along the way.
Summer can be a blast at Camp!!



Senior Recognition Day set for May 16, 2010

We will be recognizing our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 16, 2010, 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.



We rejoice with Noè and Heather Aguilar on the birth of a daughter, Neva Abigail Aguilar.



The Arkansas Tech University Concert Chorale and Chamber Choir
Sunday, April 18 7 p.m. Free admission Sanctuary

The choirs, representing the finest vocal talent at Arkansas Tech University, are featuring music of East European composers as well as contemporary music including spirituals and hymn arrangements, including *Ain'a That Good News*, *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* and Brazilian folk song *Sambalele*.

Come enjoy this wonderful choir!

Relay for Life

Come walk with us at the Relay for Life on April 23, 2010, at the U of A campus. Your relay for life team wants you to walk with us to raise money for cancer research. Sign up tables will be in the Narthex this Sunday for your convenience. We are asking for a small \$1.00 donation and your time.

The Relay for Life team will also be selling Hanging Flower Baskets for delivery on Wednesday, May 5th and Sunday, May 9th. There is a variety of sun and shade baskets for \$13 per 10" basket.



We will be placing vases of **red** roses on the altar in memory and in honor of mothers for Mother's Day, May 9th.

If you would like to purchase one, please fill out the form below and mail it with a check for \$5.00 **per rose, per name.**

Deadline for ordering is Friday, April 30. No phone orders, please.

Honorariums

- In Honor of Rev. David Orr** - William Culp
- In Honor of Rev. David Orr & Ministerial Staff** - Harold Keating
- In Honor of Nancy and Rowland Vernon** - The Trusell Family

Memorials

- In Memory of J.B. Hanson** - Larry & Elizabeth Godfrey; Mr. & Mrs. Tommie Wheeler
- In Memory of Richard Fry** - J.R. Acord; Stephen & Nancy White; Dr. & Mrs. Gary W. Ardison; Jane & Randy Bittle; Phyllis Benton; Wanda Doyle; Buddy Davenport & Nancy Evans; Johnny & Donna Parker; John & Harriet Beasley; Byron Ware; Trina & Chock Walden; Mary A. Jacobs; Bob & Betty Vandergriff

of roses: _____
 _____ In Memory of: _____

_____ In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____
 _____ Phone # _____

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
 ATTENDANCE
 April 11, 2010**

Class	Attendance
Infants	9
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	
3 yr. olds	
4 yr. olds	8
Kindergarten	3
Grade 1	
Grade 2	9
Grade 3 and	
Grade 4	16
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	8
CHILDREN'S DIV.	53
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	10
Aldersgate(Room M105)	18
Believers (Room M302)	4
Builders (RoomM209)	21
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	35
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	18
Disciples Room M312)	12
Discussion*(Room M301)	47
Encouragers (Room M303)	13
Friends (Room M103)	11
Gleaners (Room M201)	31
Good News (Room M202)	5
Le Menage (Room M306)	4
Roundtable*(Room M213)	25
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	30
ADULT TOTALS	284
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	351
Ethnos Youth	18
Worship:	
8:30	64
11:00 FLC	287
11:00 Sanctuary	272
Wed. Communion	49
TOTALS	672

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, April 18

8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:45 - Bible Study, Fireside Rm.
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 12:00 - Ethnos Leaders, Fireside Rm.
 6-8 - Youth, Loft
 7:00 - Arkansas Tech Concert
 Chorale and Chamber Choir,
 Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 21

10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
 12:00 - Children's Ministry Board, Fireside
 3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall
 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
 6:00 - Bible Study, FLC101
 6:00 - Sign Language, M200
 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
 6:30 - Bridge Gathering, 605 N. 47th
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 - Core Bible Study, Narthex

Monday, April 19

11:30 - Intro to N.T., FLC102
 12:00 - Finance Meets, FLC101
 6:00 - Campus Ministry, Conf. Rm.
 6:00 - Cub Scouts, 3rd Floor
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3rd Floor
 6:30 - Psalms Bible Study, M200

Thursday, April 22

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
 6:30 - Young Adult Group
 7:30 - Chorale Concert, Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 20

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 10:00 - UMW Meets, Fireside Rm.
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 6:00 - Disciple III, M200

Friday, April 23

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC

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
 April 16-18
 Phone: 459-5060**