

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

April 30, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK



First United Methodist Church welcomes Dr. Bobby Bell, Superintendent of the West District, to the pulpit on Sunday, May 3rd. Dr. Bell is completing his seventh year as our D.S. At the June session of Annual Conference he will be placed on Incapacity Leave due to health. Bobby has served our congregation and District with enthusiasm and conviction. Every pastor and every lay member of the District has known they have a friend and a source of encouragement in Bobby Bell.

It is a joy and an honor to have Dr. Bell lead us in worship. He is a great preacher, a dedicated communicator of the Gospel. His love for Christ and the Church are written into everything he says and does as a Minister of the Gospel. Bobby is a graduate of UCA, Conway; and, Vanderbilt School of Divinity, Nashville. His prior appointments include Central UMC, Rogers; St. Paul, Ft. Smith; Bull Shoals, Manila, and Christ/Pruitt's Chapel, Paragould. In his ministry, congregations have grown in number and in faith.

Bobby and his wife, Londie, are the parents of three adult children, Maiga, married to Jason and expecting their first baby in October, Johnny, married to Shelly, with grandson Connor and Alec, who is at Oklahoma City University.

Save this date: May 31, 2009. First Church will host a District event honoring the Bell family for their ministry among us these seven years. We will be in the Family Life Center, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. In addition to thanking the Bell's, we will be welcoming our incoming D.S., Reverend and Mrs. (Charlotte) Mike Morey. Mike is presently the pastor of Christ of the Hills UMC, Hot Springs Village. Mike and Charlotte will be welcomed into the District at the May 31st event. You will want to be present and participating in this great event for the West District.

AND

The Southside High School Choir, Gaye McClure, Director, will lead us in worship in the sanctuary this Sunday, May 3rd.

AND

We will honor the graduating high school seniors of First Church in worship this Sunday, May 3rd.

See you Sunday!
David Orr

-SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Dr. Bobby Bell will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. His sermon is entitled, "They've Been with Jesus" and his scripture text is Acts 4:5-12. Rev. Claire Hoffman will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Stephen Dickinson will be Liturgists. Acolytes will be Elizabeth Hinshaw and Alexandra Salamone. Our lay readers will be 8:30, Mike Boyd, 11:00, Billy Dooly.

Faith Rossi and Francesca Rossi will be our soloists at the 8:30 service. The Southside High School Choir and Johnny Reb Singers will provide our music for the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service.



As of Monday, April 27, 2009 the following members were known to be in the hospital:

St. Edward:
Mary Edwards
Connie Clement
Patricia Carshall

BY YOUR GIFTS. . .

Rec'd this week.....\$13,163
Rec'd to date..... \$449,738
Budgeted to date.....\$438,005

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

Did you know that you can name the church as a beneficiary of your estate in several ways? Consider gifting the church a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, the remainder of the estate after other gifts are made, or gift whose beneficiaries predecease you.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch, May 7, 2009, Carol Matlock will teach Luke 21.

Friday Morning Breakfast, May 8, 2009, Ted Goodman will teach Luke 6.

**Destination Station Bible Verse for May
Luke 17:15**

Then one of the lepers, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.

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



The Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 3, 2009 are given in honor of Northside High School's

Baccalaureate by the 2009 Senior Class.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **June 7 & 14.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, call 782-5068.



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 under the forms tab on the home page. Scholarship are due by July 1st. For more info, contact Rev. Claire Hoffman, 782-5068.

Relay for Life

On April 24, the FUMC Cancer Support Group hosted a booth at the Relay for Life held on the UAFS campus. Over 32 organizations participated and raised a total of **\$52,053.64!** First Church placed first in the raising of money by the selling of Lenten crosses, luminaries and selling nacho's during the Relay for Life event. **Our total was \$4,780.**

Thank you First Church for your support of the Cancer Support Group and for your monetary contributions.

Our prayer is that one day soon there will be a cure for cancer!

Infant Baptism

Katherine Ann Schmidt, daughter of Howell and Stacie Schmidt was baptized in our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service on Sunday, April 26, 2009.



Mari dee Schoenfeld and family on the death of her aunt, Charlotte Stephens of Buchanan, Michigan.

Ruth Matthews and family on the death of her sister, Patsy Modean Smith of Alma.

Cassandra Arnhart and family on the death of her cousin Denzil Ott of Crabtree, AR and her cousin, Jerry Rivas of Siloam Springs, AR.

Thank You

To all who called while I was in Phoenix and to all who have sent cards and words of comfort, please accept my heartfelt gratitude.

Sincerely with love,
Margaret Forbes



We welcome the White family to our church family. Chris and Kelly joined by transfer from other denominations at the

11:00 a.m. Connexion service on April 26, 2009. Their children, Reaghan Skylar and Spencer Preston were also baptized on Sunday.

Early Response Teams Needed

The West District is sponsoring a "Disaster Response Training" here at First Church on Saturday, May 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the Fireside Room of the Family Life Center. If you are interested in being a member of an early response team, please sign up by May 6, by calling the West District office, 783-0385 or email westdistrictbecky@yahoo.com. Team members need to be at least 18 years old and able to do physical labor.



Meal Prices to Increase May 4, 2009

Due to the increase in food costs over the past few years, without adjusting our prices any, we are increasing the price of our meals as follows:

Lunch meals will be \$5.00
Evening meals will be \$6.00*
(*or as posted for special order menus)

These prices were established by the church administration and the Finance Committee.

District-Wide Mother's Day Offering, May 10, to benefit our West District Habitat Home

Habitat for Humanity is a BIG DEAL. There are few programs that have changed the way people live like Habitat for Humanity. It gives people a hope that didn't have it before and teaches them to work and appreciate it rather than to see it as charity, because it is not.. The West District has committed to building a house for a family this fall and we need to raise \$55,000 for the local house and an international house. Each of these will be a family having a house that otherwise wouldn't be able to have a house.

On May 10, we are asking that all of the churches in the West District receive an offering for the West District Habitat Home. We ask that each of you prayerfully consider what you would like to give to this wonderful cause. Please make checks payable to the West District with "Habitat" in the memo section. Also, you can make your donation in honor or in memory of your mom. What better way to honor our mothers than to help a single mom realize her dream of owning her own home. We have a chance to change the lives of the Ngo family!

We will begin the build this fall and every church will receive information about the schedule and what is needed in volunteers. This can be an exciting way for the United Methodists to work together and to be a public witness to those outside our church of how we can work together and do a greater work than alone. Thanks in advance for your support. Bobby Bell

Angel Food Ministry Notes

We are getting excited about things to come and want to share the excitement with you!! On June 13, the Angel Food Ministry will host a fund-raising auction. You ask, why? To raise funds to heed the call when we are asked for help, such as the block party, fall festival, and other events. We also want to donate a portion of our proceeds to the West District Habitat for Humanity houses. And, as always, our calls increase for more help with food to the members of our community. We can't do it by ourselves - we need help from you

We will begin accepting NEW items after May 4. Call Steve Thomas, 785-2206 or Pat Creson, 629-3379 to schedule a pick up. We will announce at a later date when you can drop things off at church. This event promises fun for all so mark your calendars now!

We are saddened to print the following letter of resignation:

"To: Rev. David Orr and Jerry Hartfield
27 April 2009
Sirs

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of my decision to end my employment at First United Methodist church. May 17, 2009 will be my last day.

I cannot say enough wonderful things about FUMC, about all the people I've encountered in my years of service here, and especially, about you and all the staff.

I have thought and prayed about this decision for some time and I feel it is time to begin a new chapter in my life.

Love and Prayers, Phyllis Eckelhoff"

We are planning an appropriate farewell for Phyllis, so please watch the newsletter for details.

Memorials

In Memory of Gary Huggins - Discussion Class; George & Carole Beattie

In Memory of Katie Keating - Mary Ellen Thompson; Jacquelyne Haynie; Frank & Rosie Anderson; E.F. & Irma Crites; Lanie Karick; George Gaines

In Memory of Becky Kimbrough - W. M. Conatser

In Memory of James Mills - Builders Class

In Memory of Maudie Read - Robert & Nadine Miller

In Memory of Edward Thomas Lichty - Catherine Crosland; Jeanne Jamell

In Memory of Jack Ross - Mr. & Mrs. Patric Brosh; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Harkins; Jim & Sissy Jowers; Paul & Pam Latture; Priscilla Gray; Pat Ross Davis and Family

In Memory of John Smith - Builders Class

In Memory of David Forbes - Robert & Wanda Blanchfill; Patti Hill

In Memory of Jack Parker - Lavonne & Jim Hayes

In Memory of Tom Cooley - Wayne & Sandra Swofford; JMR/PFP Insurance; Beth & Bobby Knox; W. J. Dillon, III; Mr. & Mrs. Lunsford Bridges; Terry & Christy Smith; Ione S. Ney; Pat & Charlotte McGowan; Wm. & Mary Cooper; Stephens, Inc.; Ernest & Ruth Bartlett; J.E. Moseley; Howard B. McMahon; Jason & Kim Green; Allison D. Pickell; Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Lohse; Jane & Tommy Foltz; Kay & Richard Acin; the Prentiss Ware Family; Richard & Jan Beauchamp; Janie Glover, Eddie & Sara Christian; Robert and Nadine Miller; Dr. & Mrs. Hugh Lewing; Kathryn Englehart; Daugherty & Lowe, CPA; Bradley & Mary Ellen Jesson; Bob & Ann Dawson; Conley & Alex Golden; Gladys Whittenberg; Betty Burt; Beall, Barclay & Co. PLC; Doug & Kathy Babb; Brad & Ann Truitt; Larry & Sandra Clark; Carolyn Crouch; Carol Sue & Alan Wooten;

SUNDAY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE

April 26, 2009

Class	Attendance
Infants	7
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	5
3 yr. olds	4
4 yr. olds	2
Kindergarten	7
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	8
CHILDREN'S DIV.	33
Grade 7, 8, 9, Grade 10,11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	
Mission Report in FLC	250
Aldersgate(Room M105)	FLC
Believers (Room M302)	3
Builders (RoomM209)	22
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	FLC
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	FLC
Disciples (Room M312)	11
Discussion*(Room M301)	FLC
Encouragers*(Room M303)	FLC
Friends (Room M103)	FLC
Gleaners (Room M201)	29
Good News (Room M202)	FLC
Le Menage (Room M306)	FLC
Roundtable*(Room M213)	22
Seekers*(Room M107)	7
Uplifters*(Room M205)	38
ADULT TOTALS	382
General Officers	3
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	418
Worship:	
8:30	72
11:00 Family Life	215
11:00 Sanctuary	280
Communion	52
Down Home Singin'	55
TOTALS	674

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, May 3

8:15 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 12:00 Sr. Students Lunch, Fireside
 2:00 - Northside High School
 Baccalaureate, Sanctuary
 2:00-6:00 - Youth at Youth
 Rally @ Grace UMC

Wednesday, May 6

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 - Praise Team, Gym
 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conference Room
 6:00 - Disciple IV, M200
 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
 7:00 - Knitwits, Narthex
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 4

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

Thursday, May 7

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Conf. Rm.
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.

Tuesday, May 5

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 5:00 - Higher Ed. Mtg., Conf. Rm.
 7:00 - Council on Min., FLC102

Friday, May 8

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

Saturday, May 9

8-5 - Disaster ER Team, Fireside Rm.
 9-11 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and our 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. Claire Hoffman
Emergency
on call Minister for
May 1-3
Phone: 459-5060

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