

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

May 14, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Phyllis Eckelhoff has become a living legend here at First Church. Her resignation as our Facilities Manager has caused all of us to catch our collective breaths, recount the times Phyllis has come to our rescue and assistance, and thank the Lord we have had the pleasure and distinct blessing of having Phyllis as part of our church staff for 20 years. Phyllis has other responsibilities and life goals which have pulled on her long and hard and have now eventuated in her resignation. We all love and appreciate Phyllis and want the best for her; certainly, this pastor does.

The congregation is invited to a drop-in reception for Phyllis this Sunday, May 17th, @ noon in the Narthex. You can express your appreciation to Phyllis and fellowship following worship. Phyllis doesn't like the spotlight, but this is a way for the church to show our gratitude. Join us.

As Phyllis departs, the responsibilities of the custodial staff are being reorganized and we are in the search for a new custodian. We have a very good custodial staff and we will continue to be well served. Your patient understanding during this transition is appreciated.

On another matter, First Church has a ministry to our college students, providing scholarships for their educations. The amounts are not large, but every little bit helps when students put a finance package together for college. On Sunday, May 17th, you will be given an opportunity to give to this ministry. Whether your gift is \$10 or \$10,000, it will go 100% to assisting young people from our church in their pursuit of higher education. More than just a check, these scholarships make it vividly clear to them that their church family cares and wants the best for them.

First United Methodist Church cares about people, including you. As we love one another, we show the world that we can love one another because of the God's love in us. Be sure to invite people in your circle of influence to share Christ and the Church with you. There is too much good going on right here to keep to ourselves. Let's invite, encourage and include new faces every week to this wonderful family of faith. It is what the followers of Christ do.

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. Claire Hoffman will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. Her sermon is entitled, "Keep My Commandments" and her scripture text is John 15:9-17. Rev. David Orr will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. His sermon is entitled, "Jesus' Friends" and his sermon text will be John 15:9-17. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Stephen Dickinson will be Liturgists. Acolytes will be Ben Sudbrink and Alex Foree. The lay readers will be: 8:30, Ami Griggs, 11:00, Suzanne Swofford.

Sharon Chapman will be our soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Ringers will play at the 11:00 sanctuary service. The Chancel Choir's anthems will be "Sing We Triumphant Songs" by Healey Willan and "Come, Let Us Glorify the Lord" by Allen Pote.



As of Monday, May 11, 2009 the following members were known to be in the hospital:

St. Edward:
Jerry Carter

BY YOUR GIFTS. . .

A new reporting on the Finances of the church began in last week's issue of the Newsletter. Prior reporting was accurate, but we have found that it has been incomplete. In order to give you accurate and complete reporting, the information here will reflect all giving to date and a pro-rata portion of the annual budget to date. If you have any questions you are welcomed to contact the church office.

Rec'd this week.....	\$117,468
Rec'd to date.....	\$593,904
Budgeted to date.....	\$625,431

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

Foundation Information

The gift you make in your estate plan can carry on your charitable support after your death. Consider making a gift to the church in your estate plan.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch, May 21, 2009, Ben Reid will teach Luke 23.

Friday Morning Breakfast, May 22, 2009, Ben Reid will teach Luke 8.

The Rio Bravo Mission Team will have a post-mission team meeting, Sunday, May 17, at 5:00 p.m in the Fireside room. Please RSVP to Janice by phone, 782-5068, or email jsudbrink@fsfumc.org



The Altar Flowers

for Sunday, May 17, 2009, are placed in memory of Hazel and Charles Stosberg on the date of her birthday and their anniversary by their daughter, Suzy Stosberg.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **June 7, July 12, 19 & 26.** 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.



We welcome Tony and Danta Clyde to our church family by transfer from another UMC. They have two daughters, Tiffany 12 and Stephanie 10. Tony joined the FUMC staff in March as our Youth Pastor.



Mini-Clinic

this Sunday, May 17, from 8:45-10am. Stop by and have your Blood Pressure and glucose checked. May is National Stroke Awareness Month. Be sure to pick up information on the warning signs of a stroke and how to detect if someone is having a stroke.



Betty Vandergriff and family on the death of her brother, James Brant.

Janie Camardese and family on the death of her brother, Louis Klyne.

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.

Coming soon to a church library near you!

We are pleased to announce the summer reading program at FUMC for 1st through 6th graders (grade completed in May). The program will begin on May 31. There will be cool prizes, so be on the lookout for a sign up sheet in the weeks ahead.

United Methodist Women

will meet on Tuesday, May 19, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside room. Nell Barling will present a Racial Justice Program and Martha Boyd will have a memorial service. All women invited.



Ride with us on the church vans to

Ordination Service
Tuesday, June 16, 2009
Central UMC Rogers, AR
We will leave the church parking lot at 4:45 p.m. We will return at approximately 10:30 p.m. Bring your own snacks and supper! Only charge with be a small charge for fuel. Janice Sudbrink & JJ Galloway will be ordained. Sign up in the church office or call 782-5068.



FUMC will be taking a special offering this Sunday for our Higher Education Council.

All money collected will go into our fund to provide scholarships for our graduate and undergraduate students.

Scholarships are awarded on a semester basis for students who are active members of FUMC who are continuing their education above the high school level. Scholarships can be found on our website, under the forms tab, and in the church office.

To make a contribution for the Higher Education Fund simply make your check out to FUMC and in the memo write Higher Ed.

If you would like to donate cash, there are envelopes in our pews and in the back of the FLC, please write Higher Ed in the block marked "other".

You or your family may also make memorials or honor a loved one by donating to the Higher Education Fund.

Thank you for supporting this ministry to our students!

Habitat for Humanity

If you missed the opportunity to give to the West District Habitat for Humanity home building fund, it's not too late. Checks can be made out to the West District and in the memo add Habitat Home. We will be building a home for a single mother and her three children. Construction will begin in September and the home dedicated before Christmas. For more information, contact Janice Sudbrink, 782-5068, or James Orr, 629-3918.

**You are invited
to a
reception
in honor of**

PHYLLIS ECKELHOFF

**this Sunday in the Narthex
immediately following the
worship services.
We will be thanking Phyllis for
her 20 years of service
to our church.**



**Vacation Bible School
June 15-19
Camp
E.D.G.E.**

Discover God Everywhere

There are so many ways you can help with VBS! Prior to VBS we need:

_____ Help on Decorating Day (June 14)

_____ Art Prep Work

During VBS we need:

_____ Shepherding kids from station to station

_____ Kid's Art

_____ Drama

_____ Games and Playground

_____ Kid's Snacks

_____ Refreshments for our workers

_____ Nursery

_____ Anywhere I am needed!

Will you please check one or two of the above and help with VBS? Please put your name and phone number on this form and return it to the church office or call 782-5068, or call Elizabeth Thames at 629-4814 to volunteer. We need everyone to help to make VBS a huge success for the children!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Memorials

In Memory of Joan Looper - Lawrence & Anna Marie LaChance

In Memory of Thomas Culp - Kent & Nancy Blochberger
In Memory of Mary Russell - Senior Shakers; Joel & Sandy Parker; Joe & Mickey Irwin; John & Rose Mary Ayers; Gordon Jorden

