

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 21, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

This is the time of year for completing. Congratulations to all of those who are graduating from High School! Congratulations to our college graduates! Congratulations to the parents, families and friends of the Class of 2009! Completing one's goals is worth celebrating!

We congratulated those who completed the several long, short and intermediate term Bible Studies provided through our church in worship on Sunday. We are grateful for the leaders of the studies (mostly lay members teaching lay members). FUMC is stronger as members study the Bible, deepen friendships and grow in their faith. Watch for the classes we will offer in the fall!

This Sunday, May 24, we will commemorate the members of FUMC who have died in the last year. Memorial Weekend, our nation honors those who have given their lives in the defense of our country. It is a good time for the church to commemorate the lives of the soldiers of Christ who have fought the good fight, run the race and kept the faith. Be part of this holy thanksgiving on Sunday.

A week away is the May 31st West District event we are hosting at FUMC to honor our outgoing District Superintendent, Dr. Bobby Bell and to welcome our incoming Superintendent, Reverend Mike Morey. The event is scheduled for 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Narthex. We will have friends from around the District, so let's be loving hosts as we extend thanks to the Bell's and welcome to the Morey's.

Vacation Bible School is June 15 - 19 @ First Church. We have a need for additional volunteers to complete the slate of leaders and helpers for the week. It is going to be a week of love, laughter, song, learning, friendships and good times in the Lord. If you can volunteer, contact Elizabeth Thames at 452-1684 or email elizabeth.thames@yahoo.com. If you have a child to register, we can do it! Go VBS!!

A growing number of our youth are preparing for their trip to Wilmore, KY for a Christian concert experience called ICHTHUS, June 9 - 14. The youth are wonderful and ICHTHUS will be a powerful week for everyone present!

Find your place and be involved. Find someone who needs a church home and become a friend who can invite them to worship with you. Pray for the whole mission of First Church, not just your area of personal involvement. Thank God, praise God, for a church alive!

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. His sermon is entitled, "Lord, Who Fills the Vacancy?" and his scripture text is Acts 1:15-17, 21-26. 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 Kate Truitt and Sam Kimes. The lay reader for 8:30 will be Ginger Taylor.

Gaye McClure will be our soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Peace I Give to You" by Craig Courtney. Eric Samuelson will play the violin.



As of Monday, May 18, 2009 the following members were known to be in the hospital:

Sparks:
Jayne May
Rachel Dixon

BY YOUR GIFTS. . .

Rec'd this week.....\$24,439
Rec'd to date.....\$618,343
Budgeted to date.....\$658,349

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

Good stewardship requires us to think of the future. Have your estate plan prepared now and include a gift to your church.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch, May 28, 2009, Rev. Herschel McClurkin will teach Luke 24.

Friday Morning Breakfast, May 29, 2009, Ben Reid will teach Luke 8.

**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.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **June 7, July 19 & 26.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, call 782-5068.



The Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 24, 2009, are from the wedding of Jacqueline Forsgren and Benjamin Cronkhite. Given to our church family in appreciation for their love and support.

Jackie Forsgren and Benjamin Cronkhite would like to invite their church family to join with them as they are united in marriage
**Saturday, May 23, 2009
7:00 p.m., Roebuck Chapel**

All are cordially invited to attend the reception in the church Narthex immediately following the ceremony.



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 need help on Monday mornings for about an hour to fix bud vases to be taken to our hospitalized members. You do not have to deliver the bud vases, just help prepare them for delivery and we will be happy to train you.

This is fun and gratifying! Call Carol Matlock, 646-9585.



Donna Shipley, Caitlin and Alex Shipley, Abbie Reed, Cathey White, Greg Shipley, Joanne Phillips, John Mailer, and their families on the death of their husband, father, son, brother and nephew, Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Shipley.

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.



Sub-group "Lydia" will meet with Mary Shipley, 15 Berry Hill, on Tuesday, May 26 at 1:00 p.m.

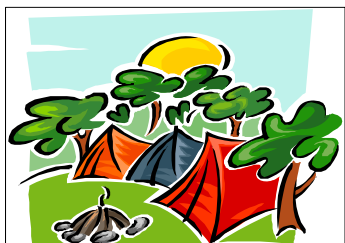
Memorials

In Memory of Wanda Lucy, Wanda Sickman, Tom Lawrence, Jane Schleiff, Irene Taylor, J. Fred Patton, Edna Mae Roberts - by Uplifters Class



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.



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

and 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: _____

Dear Friends at FUMC Ft. Smith,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of your time in our time of need. Mena will never be the same ... but as we rebuild with your prayers and support we will be stronger. Thank you and thank God for the wonderful connection we share in Methodism!

With you in His service,
 Gary Harrison, Pastor of First UMC, Mena

Angel Food Ministry Notes



We are still accepting items for our auction on June 6th - and would welcome your donations. If you have an item to donate for the auction, please call Steve Thomas at 785-2206 or Pat Creson at 629-3379 and we will make arrangements to pick them up. We only have a few weeks before the auction date and are hoping to be able to raise funds to help with outreach this summer in many different ways. We need your help and we appreciate it !! Make plans to attend this fun upcoming event on June 6 - we look forward to seeing you there !!



The Pacesetters will be taking a spring trip on Friday, June 5, leaving at 9:00 a.m. and returning at approximately 4:00 p.m. We will leave from the "C" Street parking lot.

Cost of the trip is \$10.00, which includes lunch at Arkansas Tech cafeteria and gas for the van. We'll visit Mt. Nebo, Lake Dardanelle State Park Center and points between and along the way. Call the church office to sign up. You do not have to be a Pacesetter to go on this trip.



Club 56 is on a Mission!

We are collecting dog and cat food for the Sebastian County Humane Society. They rely heavily on donations for supplies to better the care and treatment of animals in our shelter. They need our help and the children of Club 56 have chosen this as their mission project. Please bring the food to Sally's office, located on the second floor above the Narthex.

**Down Home Singin'
 Sunday, May 31 at 6:00 p.m.**

Leader: Reggie Moore
 Guest Pianist: Anita Gibson

Join us in Roebuck Chapel for fun, fellowship, and, of course, singing. Pie will be served in the Narthex area after the singing.

Memorials

In Memory of Tom Cooley - Phil and Louise Barling; Ind. Insurance Agents Association; Kent & Nancy Blochberger; Melinda McManus; Shirley Yeager; Dr. Boyd Saviers

