

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

August 7, 2008

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Today it is my place to announce to you that Craig Stutzman has submitted his resignation. For the past two years we have been blessed with Craig's leadership in Youth Ministry at First UMC. He has served the needs of our congregation and our youth with great faith and care. His resignation brings a great need for our church to be responsive to the youth as they navigate the process of transition, and all of us will be there for the youth. Craig, Leah and Caleb feel the need to return to their home state of Kansas. He is pursuing ministry opportunities there that will keep them more directly connected to their families. First Church, and certainly I, fully respect their needs and support their choices. Craig and Leah are wonderful, delightful and capable children of God. We all want the very best for them as they continue their journey with and for God.

First Church will honor the Stutzman's with a farewell reception in the Narthex on Sunday, August 10th, immediately following 11:00 worship. Make your plans to come through and express your appreciation to Craig and Leah. The youth will have their own event for the Stutzman's on Sunday evening. His final Sunday with the youth is August 17th.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Bob Miller, Chairperson, is working with the youth counselors, the youth and the congregation to fill the vacancy in the youth department. The SPRC wants to work thoroughly, prayerfully, and wisely. The congregation is asked to be in prayer about this matter. We believe that God has someone to come in and lead the youth ministry of First Church. Our prayer is to be open and attentive through the process so we receive the right person. God is good.

And, remember to come out on Friday evening to hear the children of Music Camp! They will present their musical, "Are We There Yet?" on the Israelite journey through the wilderness. Spaghetti Dinner starts @ 6:00 p.m. Show starts @ 7:00.

Let me thank you for the support you give, as a congregation, to the several family needs currently being experienced by members of the staff. You are served well by your staff. You are a blessing to each staff member and your gracious support is appreciated.

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2008, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "Bread For Life" and his scripture text is John 6:25-35. Rev. Claire Hoffman will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Family Life Center service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink will be Liturgist. Lay Readers are, 8:30, David Farris, 11:00, Drucilla Hughart. Acolytes are Sam Kimes and Kameron Morton.

Jim Cheyne will be the soloist at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Take It To the Lord In Prayer" by John Helgen.



As of Monday, August 4, 2008 the following members were listed in the hospitals:

Sparks:
Helen Brown

St. Edward:
Lillie Aguilar

Health South:
Annalee Felton

BY YOUR GIFTS ...

Rec'd this week.....\$22,511
Rec'd to date.....\$939,917
Budgeted to date.....\$1,033,509

Please pray for the following who are serving in our U. S. Military:

Ben Hurst, Patrick Hayes, Walt Scales, Jeff Nester, Chuck Bowen, Richard McKinnie, Cody Kennon, Brad Bost, Heath Peters, Brandon Hattabaugh, Clint Wilson, Michael Parker, Christina Bargiel, Patrick Ellis, Ellen Driggers, Rick Whittaker, Christopher Herrmann, Timothy Gean, Dwalyn Clayborn, V. J. Devine, Darson Emery.

**Destination Station's Bible Verse for August
I Corinthians 12:5-6**

There are different ways to serve the Lord. We can each do different things, yet God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

Foundation Information

It is an act of loving stewardship to remember your Church in your Will and Living Trust.

Methodist Men's Clubs
Thursday Noon Bible Study and Lunch (\$4.00) - Rev. Claire Hoffman teaching Mark 2 on August 14.
Friday Morning Bible Study and Breakfast (\$4.00) - Rev. Aaron Barling teaching Hebrews 7:1-7:28 on August 15.



The Altar Flowers for Sunday, August 10, 2008, are from the wedding of Jessica Waack and Chris Palmer.

Open Dates for Altar Flowers

We have the following dates open for Altar Flowers: **August 24.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of someone, just call the church office for more information, 782-5068.

Chapel Class
Rev. Janice Sudbrink teaching August 10.
Rev. Stephen Dickinson, teaching August 17.
Rev. David Orr, teaching August 24.

Please join us!

Teacher's Aide Needed

Children's Day Out is looking for an aide for our 2-year olds to work Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 8:45-2:15. Contact Tiffany Null, 462-2771 (cell) or 782-0310 (work).

WELCOME!

We welcome Jim Bolin to our church family. Jim joined at the 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service on July 27, 2008.

We welcome Mike and Pam Searcy and their three children, Madeline, Michael, and Matthew to our church family. The Searcy family joined at the 11:00 a.m. Family Life Center service on August 4.



The family and friends of Mrs. Mary Laverne Hennessy.

Pat Fleri, Susan Fleri, Tommy Fleri, Gladys Walz and their families on the death of their husband, father, and son-in-law, Tom Fleri.

Jean Knox and family on the death of her sister, Eva Graham of Plainview, Texas.

Marie Smith and family on the death of her uncle, Lino Bianchi.

Leslie Brixey, Jeff Rickard, and their families on the death of their grandmother, Kathleen Owen of Ozark.

Traeanne Brisendine and family on the death of her father, Joel Talley of Poteau, Oklahoma.

Paul Beran and family on the death of his mother, Doris Beran of Shiner, Texas.



Scout News!!

July 20, 10:30 a.m.:

After a prayer and a safe travel blessing from Rev. Orr, 15 Scouts, of which nine were first year scouts, and two leaders left for a week at Tom Hale Scout Reservation near Talihina.

During the week 37 merit badges were earned and partial completions of ten others. These merit badges will result in nine rank advancements. Three scouts earned the mile swim award. One of the older scouts in the "Outbound" program was presented a different challenge each day, such as Mountain Biking, Kayaking on the Broken Bow river and other activities.

There were 39 troops in camp and Troop 2 was one of the four to present a skit at the closing camp fire. Hoo Raa for Troop 2 Scouts - Well done !!

David Matlock
Scouting Coordinator



Our Blood Drive is **this Sunday, August 10**. First Baptist Church will also have a blood drive in friendly competition with us on the same day. You must be 18 years of age or older to give blood.

Christmas in July or August

This next Sunday and over the next several weeks, there will be Christmas trees located in the Narthex and in the FLC. FFSUMC is being called by God and is taking a huge leap of faith to provide school supplies for our neighbors, Tilles Elementary and Darby Junior High. On each of the Christmas trees, there will be ornaments that will have the supplies that are needed for our congregation to purchase or to donate money. **On Sunday, August 24 at 5:00 p.m. (mark this important date), we will have a Neighborhood Block Party** for our neighbors and for our congregation that will include supper, games, music, and fun!!

Don't miss the opportunity

to train for **International Missions** and for **Disaster Training**. This one day combined class will allow us to lead teams at home and abroad. You will need to take this class to be able for further training that will be offered in late Fall. Cost is \$20 and includes all training materials and lunch. For more info and to register, call Becky Neighbors at the district office, 783-0385 or register on the district web site www.district.org

Dr. and Mrs. Timothy C. Waack

request the honour of your presence

at the marriage of their daughter

Jessica Dianne

to

Mr. Christopher Lee Palmer

on Saturday, the ninth of August

Two thousand eight

at six o'clock in the evening

in our Sanctuary

The Library has collected several new titles, including the Interpretation commentary series. There are many resources for teachers, Bible studies and children. If you haven't been to the church library lately, check it out any Sunday morning from 9:30-10:45 in room M211.

BIBLE STUDIES at FIRST CHURCH

The sign up sheets for upcoming Bible Studies will be on display starting August 17, There are several studies offered this fall:

DISCIPLE Bible Study

Disciple is a weekly 1½ to 2 hour Bible study that generally follows the school year. Anyone can sign up for Disciple I and the only pre-requisite for Disciple II, III, and IV is that you have already completed Disciple I. If you want a better working knowledge of the Bible, Disciple is the right class for you.

Women's Studies

"Living Your Life as a Beautiful Offering" by Angela Thomas, is a seven week study. It encourages women to rekindle their hearts by returning their lives to God. Offered twice a week on Mondays at 9:15 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning September 17 and 22.

Men's Studies

"Men's fraternity: Quest for Authentic Manhood" developed by Robert Lewis. A captivating journey comprised of 25 sessions. This series helps men understand their masculine identity and shows them how to make the pursuit of authentic manhood a lifelong priority. Offered on Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m., beginning September 17.

Young Adult Study

"If You Want to Walk on Water, You've got to Get Out of the Boat" by John Ortberg. Through six sessions that include video clips and group discussions you will discover how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure and trust God. Relating the story in Matthew 14 to life today; this study invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone. Offered once a week on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m., starting September 14.

UMYF Planning Retreat/ Grades 7-12

Date: Friday, August 15, 7 p.m. - Saturday, August 16, 1 p.m.

Cost: \$75 per group (first eight groups to register will receive a \$25 scholarship)

Director: Rod Hocott, Conference Minister of Youth and Young Adults - Call toll free 877-646-1816

To register: Call Lori Harrison (479) 394-3051 or email mslori61@yahoo.com

Conference leadership will guide your group with games, music and activities to plan a full year of Youth Ministry. Groups of any size are welcome - one adult per group. The retreat will close with lunch and communion. Bring your school calendar - eat supper before you arrive.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE

August 3, 2008

Class	Attendance
Infants	4
Toddlers	6
2 yr. olds	6
3 yr. olds	
4 yr. olds	13
Kindergarten	6
Grade 1and	
Grade 2	13
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	8
Grade 5	
Grade 6	8
CHILDREN'S DIV.	64

Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	21
YOUTH DIV.	21

Aldersgate(Room M105) w/Chapel	
Believers (Room M302)	4
Builders*(RoomM209)	30
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	102
Cornerstones*(Room M311) w/Chapel	
Disciples*(Room M312) w/Chapel	
Discussion*(Room M301)	40
Encouragers*(Room M310) w/Chapel	
Friends (Room M103) w/Chapel	
Gleaners (Room M201)	29
Good News (Room M202)	7
Le Menage*(Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	27
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	32
ADULT TOTALS	286
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	375

Worship:

8:30	81
11:00 Family Life	146
11:00 Sanctuary	287
Wed. Communion	49
TOTALS	563

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, August 10

7:30-12:00 - Blood Drive, Fireside
 8:30- Angel Food Sign-up, FLC
 8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:30-10:45 - Library Open, M211
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 6:30-8 - Combined Youth, Loft & Gym

Wednesday, August 13

5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
 6:00 - Praise Team, Gym
 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.
 6:00 - Children's Council, Café
 7:00 - Knitwits, Narthex
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, August 11

12:00 - Christian Learning, Conf. Rm.
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3rd Floor

Thursday, August 14

10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC

Tuesday, August 12

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 12:00 - Exec. Cmte., Pastor's Office
 1:30 - Archives Open, M204
 6:00 - Golf Mtg., M103
 6:00 - CEC Parents, Fireside
 6:30 - Camp. Food Cmte., Conf. Rm.

Friday, August 15

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
 10:00 - Pacesetters, Fireside Rm.

Saturday, August 16

9:00-4:00 - VIM Training Event, FLC

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class 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. Janice Sudbrink
Emergency
on call Minister for
August 8-10
Phone: 459-5060

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