

First United Methodist News

*First United Methodist Church
200 North 15 & Roebuck Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901
Phone: (479)782-5068
Fax: (479) 784-9474
E-mail: fsfumc@fsfumc.org
Web Page: www.fsfumc.org*



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 14, 2008

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

The Neighborhood Block Party is scheduled for Sunday, August 24th, 5:00 p.m. I hope everyone receiving this newsletter will be present! This is a church-wide fellowship event everyone is invited to attend. Part of being the church is that we care about one another through illnesses, deaths and hurts. Part of being the church is that we spend time together with some fun. Yep, I said it. Methodists can have fun together and God's not upset! God has ordained it.

We are inviting our Neighborhood to join us at this party. As you know, we have taken as a mission outreach the providing of back-to-school supplies for students at Tilles Elementary and Darby Jr. High. Thank you for loving these students so generously! The students will receive an invitation to come with their parents to the August 24th Block Party cookout at the church.

So, we want hundreds of First Church members of all ages to be here to enjoy one another's company and to be loving hosts to our guests. I believe this is one of those days and places and events that we are invited to by no one less than the Holy Spirit. Let's come and make the most of our fellowship and the most of meeting new friends and letting the Spirit of God teach us all something wonderful about Life.

Then, be sure to mark your calendars for September 7th & 8th and Dr. Jim Fleming's teachings here at First Church. Dr. Fleming is as good as there is in the field of Biblical archeology and applying his findings to unfolding the message of Christ in the scriptures. He is a committed Christian, a world-class scholar/teacher, and just a delightful individual you will be glad you've met. He will preach on Sunday morning, Sept. 7th, and then present lessons on Sunday and Monday evenings.

The following Sunday, September 14th, we are having Homecoming at First UMC! You know Homecomings: Old friends, new friends, back to the home-place, rah-rah for the place and people we have loved the longest and the deepest. Call your friends and family and help us celebrate all the joys and memories of our Church Home as we dive into the ministry our Lord has for us to be engaged in for today and tomorrow.

-SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2008, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary services. His sermon is entitled, "I Am the Resurrection and Life", and his scripture text is John 11:25. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 Family Life Center service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Hoffman will be Liturgists. Lay Readers are: 8:30, Gary Newton, 11:00, Kelly Rappeport. Acolytes are Taylor Dooly and Kameron Morton.

Suzanne Adrion will be soloist for the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's offertory will be, "Call To Praise", by Raymond Haan. Soloists for the anthem, "Song at the Seaside" by Allen Pote, will be Eve Jagers and Erin Coffman.



As of Monday, August 11, 2008, the following members were listed in the hospitals:

Sparks:

Helen Brown
Kathryn Englehart

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week \$18,930
Rec'd to date \$858,847
Budgeted to date \$1,066,848

FOUNDATION INFORMATION:

Did you know that an estimated 70% of all people who die do not have a Will or Living Trust? Without proper estate planning, no charity can receive gifts from your estate. Be sure your estate planning is up-to-date! Do you know who your heirs will be? Is your church a beneficiary of your estate?

**Chapel Class Teachers
For August:**

17th Rev. Dickinson

24th Rev. Orr

Please Join Us!!

**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."

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, and Darson Emery.



**Altar
Flowers**

The Altar Flowers for Sunday, August 17, 2008, are given in loving memory of Ben Core: a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and brother from his loving family - Polly Anna; Michelle and Austin; Grady and Heidi, Taylor Ben, Jared, and Graham; Patrick, Caitlin, and Briana; Kathleen, Rob, Robert, and Heather; and his sister, Martha Rickman.

Open Dates for Altar Flowers:

We have the following dates available for Altar Flowers: **August 24 and September 7.** If you would like to place flowers on the altar in honor or in memory of a loved one, please call the church office **782-5068** for further information.

**Christmas in July
and August:**

Sunday, August 17 is the **LAST** day to get your school supplies to the church!! We are still in need of supplies and/or money for both schools, Darby and Tilles.

Make plans to attend our **Neighborhood Block Party** on **Sunday, August 24** at **5:00 PM.** This is a church-wide event and we need for **all** to attend! Good food, bounce-arounds for the children, and music will be on the agenda! The royal command as found in James 2 given by Jesus is, "love your neighbor as yourself". Through this party and the donations of school supplies, FSFUMC is reaching out to love our neighbors! Pray our neighbors will respond and attend and our hearts will be open and loving. **Bring a lawn chair and join the fun!!**



Nancy Scott, Vince Scott, Jennifer Spence and families on the death of their mother and grandmother, Juanita Mayberry.

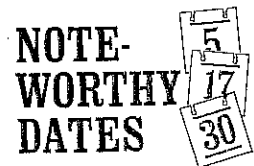
Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday Noon Bible Study and Lunch (\$4.00) - Dr. Bobby Bell teaching Mark 3 on August 21.

Friday Morning Bible Study and Breakfast (\$4.00) - Bill Pitts teaching Hebr. 8:1-9:15 on August 22.

THANK YOU!

I can't tell you how much your cards, visits, food and prayers meant to me during my encounter with a surgeon! You are all so dear to me and I love being back! My left foot is still a little numb, but is improving every day. Love, Nancy V.



"Women of Faith Infinite Grace Conference 2008", held in Oklahoma City November 14-15 will allow 24 women to learn why we can stop trying so hard!! Join Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Hoffman on this two-day, one night trip for \$160, including travel, hotel stay, and conference package with T-shirt. Signups begin August 17. Call 782-5068 for more information!



THANK YOU!

Last week 50 MUSIC CAMPERS and almost as many adults learned a lot about Moses and the Exodus from Egypt! We also laughed, sang, ate and played! Then on Friday night, we presented Moses' story to a large, appreciate audience and raised

\$1,080+ for China Earthquake Relief through the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

A BURNING BUSH Thank You to: Kelly, Brandon & Don DeSoto, Nancy Turner, Phyllis Eckelhoff, Rhonda & Scott Monroe, Kathryn Orlor, Ann Crabtree, Pat Little, Becky Trahan, Marcie Salamone, Dave Whiteis, CeeCee Mings, Leigh Norton, Dawn Cindle, Eileen Parham, Melissa Udouj, Ann Maestri, Ashley Riley, Renee Parker, Howard & Rowland Vernon, Nancy Ashwood, Gail Oakes, Nancy Scott, Jackie Streeter, Debbie Hicks, Larry Nelson, Jeremy Turner and Music Camp Assistants: Blakeley Knox, Lauren Nancarrow, Bethany Matlock, Madeline Henson, Mary Frances Roebuck and Suzanne Adrion.

Our advice: watch carefully for YOUR call from God. It just MIGHT be a BURNING BUSH!!!!



SINGERS NEEDED!

What a wonderful time it would be for you to join Chancel Choir!!!! We are just starting the fall music and sooner than you expect, we will begin our beautiful Advent music! We always welcome AND need new singers. We need all voice parts, but especially **TENORS!**

Just come and try it on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the choir room. Enter off B Street by the alley. If you let us know you're coming, we'll have a folder and a seat ready for you!

There are no better seats in the house than those in the choir loft! Try choir—you'll like it!!!

BIBLE STUDIES AT FIRST CHURCH!!

The signup sheets for upcoming Bible Studies will be on display beginning August 17. There are several studies offered this fall:

DISCIPLE Bible Study

Disciple is a weekly one to one-and-a-half hour Bible study that generally follows the school year. Anyone can sign up for Disciple I ("Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study"-Overview of the Bible) and the only prerequisite for Disciple II ("Into the Word Into the World"-Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts), Disciple III ("Remember Who You Are"—New Testament and Letters of Paul), or Disciple IV ("Under the Tree of Life"- OT Prophets and Writings, John and Revelation) is that you have already completed Disciple I. Tom Ashwood will teach Disciple I; Ben Reid will teach Disciple II; David Staggs will teach Disciple III; and Jerry Carter will teach Disciple IV. All times and dates are to be announced. If you want a better working knowledge of the Bible, Disciple is the right class for you!

Jesus In The Gospels

Study the names, places, and people and encounter the Jesus who is both hard to ignore and hard to control—an attractive, commanding, morally compelling figure as portrayed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. David Phillips will lead this 30-week study.

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. This course will be offered at two different times during the week: Wednesdays at 9:15 AM and Mondays at 6:00 PM beginning September 17 and 22, respectively.

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. The course will be led by Rev. Stephen Dickinson and will be offered on Wednesday mornings at 6:00 beginning September 14. A light breakfast will be offered including doughnuts, fruit, and coffee.

Young Adult Study

"If You Want to Walk On Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat" by John Ortberg is a six-session study that includes 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. Led by Rev. Stephen Dickinson, this study invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone and will be offered once a week to career-age adults on Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM beginning September 14.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE

August 10, 2008

Class	Attendance
Infants	--
Toddlers	6
2-yr. olds	--
3's & 4's	12
Kindergarten	7
Grades 1-6	26
CHILDREN'S DIV.	51
Grades 7-12	13
YOUTH DIV.	13
Aldersgate (M105)	+
Believers (M302)	6
Builders (M209)	22
Chapel (Roebuck)	88
Cornerstones (M311)	+
Disciples (M312)	+
Discussion (M301)*	37
Encouragers (M310)	+
Friends (M103)	+
Gleaners (M201)	23
Good News (M202)	5
Le Menage (M306)	2
Roundtable (M213)	9
Seekers (M107)*	10
Uplifters (M205)*	28
ADULT TOTALS	230
General Officers	4
+Met with Chapel Class	
*Made their Quota	
TOTALS	298
Worship:	
8:30	70
11:00 FLC	130
11:00 Sanct.	229
Wed. Comm.	51
TOTALS	480

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, August 17

8:30 –Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 8:30 – Holy Grounds Café Open
 9:45 – Sunday School
 11:00 – Worship, Sanctuary
 11:00 – Worship, FLC
 3:00-5:00 – Dist. Conf., FLC
 6:30-8:00 – Youth, Loft & Gym

Wednesday, August 20

9:00 – Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm.
 Noon – CEC Board, FLC102
 5:30 – Communion, Roebuck
 6:00 – Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.
 6:00 – Praise Team, Gym
 6:00 – Children's Council, Cafe
 7:00 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 – Knitwits, Narthex

Monday, August 18

Noon – Finance, FLC102
 5:00 – Nominations, Conf. Rm.

Thursday, August 21

10:00 – Prayer Shawl, Narthex
 Noon – UMM, Fireside
 5:30 – WDS Meeting, Roebuck
 6:30 – Angel Food Mtg., FLC101

Tuesday, August 19

1:30 – Archives Open

Friday, August 22

6:30 – UMM Breakfast, FLC

Saturday, August 23

9:30 – Angel Food Dist., FLC

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and 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. Stephen Dickinson
Emergency
On call Minister for
August 15-17
Phone: 459-5060

FIRST UNITED METHODIST NEWS (USPS 919-320) published weekly except the last week of the year by First United Methodist Church, 200 North 15th Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901. PERIODICALS postage paid at Fort Smith, Ar 72903. Postmaster send address changes to First United Methodist News, FUMC, 200 N. 15th St., Fort Smith, AR 72901-3284 (Vol. 7, No. 33)

Publisher...Rev. David P. Orr

Editor... Nancy Scott