

# ***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***

***September 4, 2008***

## **ACROSS DAVID'S DESK**

Dr. Jim Fleming is our preacher in the chapel and sanctuary this Sunday. Dr. Fleming is coming as our guest preacher and teacher for a series developed by the Christian Learning Council of First Church. He will preach in the morning and then deliver lectures on Sunday and Monday evenings in the Family Life Center.

I am thrilled that Dr. Fleming is coming. He is qualified through his earned degrees and his lifetime of study, archeological digs, and life experience in Israel. He is brilliant. The fantastic part of this brilliant professor is that he is humble, cares about people and he is able to unfold his world-class knowledge in a way that everyone "gets it". He will stimulate the thinking of our best minds and he will be understandable to the most common among us. He makes scripture come alive for everyone.

Make worship and the lectures your priority commitment this week. This is one experience you will find to be a benefit to you for literally years to come. He is as good as there is.

Dr. Fleming's series is "Turning Points in the Life of Jesus". I pray this series will be a turning point in the lives of every person in attendance.

## **THEN**

Sunday, September 14, is Homecoming Sunday here at First United Methodist Church. We have folks calling and writing folks. We have folks praying and preparing. We are looking for the Homecoming event to get us up and moving for the fall. First Church is the best church in town. One reality is that we can take our church for granted just as we can our families or jobs or friends. We want to be proactive in saying the membership of First Church is not taking the church for granted and we want to have everyone rallied together so we are united in our mission and ministry.

I believe in First Church. I believe the Lord is at work in our congregation. I believe the best years of First Church are ahead of us. I believe that there is no better place to worship the Lord, study the scriptures, be supported by friends, participate in meaningful service and mission and experience the fullness of God's grace than right here at First Church. Homecoming Sunday is a day for all of us to come, bring along a friend, and celebrate that the Lord is alive among us.

See you, Sunday,  
David Orr

## **-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2008, AT FIRST CHURCH-**

Dr. Jim Fleming will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary services. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Family Life Center service. Rev. David Orr, Rev. Janice Sudbrink, and Rev. Claire Hoffman will be Liturgists. Lay Readers are: 8:30, Cheryl Powell, 11:00, David Staggs. Acolytes at 11:00 will be Brynn Trahan and Kate Truitt.

Janie Weber will be the soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "O Clap Your Hands" by John Rutter. Eve Jagers and Erin Coffman will be soloists at the 11:00 Sanctuary service.



As of Monday, Sept. 1, 2008 the following members were listed in the hospitals:

**Sparks:**

Richard Griffin  
Betty Gaines

**BY YOUR GIFTS . . .**

Rec'd this week.....\$16,138  
Rec'd to date.....\$1,025,418  
Budgeted to date.....\$1,166,865

**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, Ellen Driggers, Rick Whittaker, Christopher Herrmann, Timothy Gean, Dwalyn Clayborn, V. J. Devine, Darson Emery.

**Destination Station's Bible Verse for September Exodus 5:1**

Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, "Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness".

**Foundation Information**

The gifts 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 Bible Study and Lunch** (\$4.00) - Scott Price teaching Mark 6 on September 11.

**Friday Morning Bible Study and Breakfast** (\$4.00) - Rev. Herschel McClurkin will teach Hebrews 11:1 - 11:40 on September 12.



**Open Dates for Altar Flowers**

We have the following dates open for Altar Flowers: **September 21, October 12, 19 and 26.**

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.

**Financial Peace University**

is a life-changing program that teaches you how to make the right decisions with your money.

**When:** Wednesdays, Sept. 17-Dec. 17.  
**Time:** 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$93. for membership kit. The class is taught by Dave Ramsey, via DVD. Dave Ramsey is a popular radio personality and author.

For more info, contact Scott Price, 452-5692.



**Hungry for Fresh Cinnamon Rolls?**

The Child Enrichment Center will be selling coupons for a large box (6) of fresh Cinnabons for \$12.00. If you purchase them at the mall without a coupon you would pay \$14.50 a box, plus tax. These coupons do not expire. You may purchase your coupons on **Sept. 7 & 14** in the church narthex. These coupons would be good to have on hand as the holiday season approaches.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**UMW AUCTION !!**

**More info to come.**  
**Watch the newsletter.**



Pat Ragsdale, Joe Ragsdale, Tricia Ragsdale and their families on the death of their son and brother, Joseph "Joey" Ragsdale, Jr.

Bob Brooks and family on the death of his mother, Pearl Brooks.

To the family and friends of Mrs. Maxine Cassat.

Chris Lipscomb and family on the death of his great aunt, Lucille Weis.

**UMW Sub-groups meeting on September 9 . . .**

"Elizabeth" will meet at 1:30 p.m. in room M105.

"Ruth" will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center room 101.

"Naomi" will meet with Joanne Swafford, 9908 Hanover St. at 10:00 a.m.

"Deborah" will meet with Ginger Taylor, 2810 Enid at 10:00 a.m.

"Hannah" will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Willowbrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor 'Shakers' room.



**FUMC - Fort Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament Friday, September 26, 2008 8:00 a.m. Shotgun**

**Eagle Crest Golf Course, Alma, Arkansas**

Entry fees: \$400 per team or half price \$200 per team, with 25 mailed donation cards per player. Proceeds to benefit the Community Clearinghouse Backpack for Kids program and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Registration forms on line and throughout the church, or call 782-5068 for more info.

**Arkansas Conference Director of Ministries  
to visit Fort Smith . . .**

You are cordially invited to a listening session for laity and clergy in the West District, led by Roy P. Smith, Arkansas Conference Director of Ministries, on Sunday, September 14 from 3-5 p.m. at St. Paul UMC.

At Annual Conference in June the Conference Vision team announced a thorough review of the vision plan and strategic initiatives will be conducted this year. Now is the time to revisit it and renew our focus as a Conference to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

It is very important to hear the voices of as many laity and clergy across the Conference as we can. Please come share your needs, hopes and dreams with us on Sunday, September 14, 3-5 p.m., at St. Paul UMC, 4100 Grand Avenue.

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**Local Missions**

**Thank you** to FSFUMC for your generous response to supplying Darby and Tilles with school supplies. We also thank all those who supported the Neighborhood Block Party with your presence, your gifts, your prayers and your service. God blessed and empowered FSFUMC with both of these outreach projects and we thank you for stepping out in faith to serve Christ.

The response of our neighbors to the Neighborhood Block Party on August 24, was humbling and exciting. Now that God has opened the door for FSFUMC to serve our neighbors, your local mission team would like to hear your ideas, hopes and dreams for future projects for our congregation to pray about and to pursue.

**When: Sunday September 7 @ 9:45am in Roebuck Chapel.**

**Who should attend?** All those who are interested in reaching out to our neighbors!

**Can't attend this session?** Pick up a questionnaire/suggestion sheet at the horseshoe outside Roebuck Chapel, or the information table on 2nd floor next to Sanctuary, or on the information table in the FLC. Drop off boxes will be located at each of the sites listed.

**Your input is very important!**

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**Honorariums**

**In Honor of the Program Staff, Ministry Staff, Administrative Staff, Custodial Staff** - Rev. Beth Turner



**There's still time to sign-up  
for Bible Studies!!**

We are offering:

**Disciple I - Tom Ashwood  
teaching**

**Disciple II - Ben Reid  
teaching**

**Disciple III - David Staggs teaching**

**Disciple IV - Jerry Carter teaching**

**Jesus and the Gospels - David Phillips teaching**

**Women's Studies - Rev. Janice Sudbrink, Rev.  
Claire Hoffman, Connie Adrion teaching**

**Men's Studies - Rev. Stephen Dickinson  
teaching**

**Young Adult Study - Rev. Stephen Dickinson  
teaching**

If you are interested in any of the above Bible Studies, you can sign up at the table in the Narthex this Sunday, call Rev. Claire Hoffman, 782-5068, or email her at [choffman@fsfumc.org](mailto:choffman@fsfumc.org)

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**Memorials**

**In Memory of Thell Buell** - Kenneth & Linda Schmidt; Jane Williams; Carole & George Beattie & Family; Anna & Philip Brown; Dee & Patty Carroll; Helen Forbes; Lynnell & Tony Leraris

**In Memory of Glyn Clark** - Aldersgate Class; Clifford & Ruth Davis; Auda Faye McConnell

**In Memory of King Collier** - Jerry Hartfield; Maxine Eggensperger

**In Memory of Tom Condren** - Susan Chesshire; Richard Moore; June & Jim Alexander; Larry & Sandra Clark; Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Quinn; Byron Ware

**In Memory of Charlie Jones** - J.P. & Becky Chancey; Adelene Neislar; Gladys Ware; Mickey & Joseph Irwin; John & Harriet Beasley; Betty Stanfield

**In Memory of J. Fred Patton** - Kay & Richard Aclin; John & Rose Mary Ayers; John & Harriet Beasley; Richard & Jan Beauchamp; Anna & Philip Brown; Maurice & Thelma Carter; Jane & Taylor Clark; Tom & Sue Cooley; Carl D. Corley; Katherine Croom; David & Teryl Curry; Dwight Curry; Clifford & Ruth Davis; Milt Earnhart; Michael & Laura Farrell; Warren & Cynthia Giss; Thomas Godwin; Cole & Staci Goodman; Jack & Louanna Green; Robert & Naomi Gregg; Mickey & Joseph Irwin; Mary Jacobs; Stormy & Pat Jenkins; Larry & Sandra McGowan; Betty Ruth Morris; Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Parker, Sr.; Chip & Elizabeth Paris; Janice & Bob Powell; Pat & Dave Shaw; Maurine Slates; Mr. & Mrs. Douglas O. Smith, Jr.; Nancy & Bill Stell; Charles & Karen Still; Gladys Ware; Lynn & Terry Weidman, Robert David & Matthew; Gladys Whittenberg; Robert & Martha Williams; Ruth Wolfe; Alan & Carol Sue Wooten

**In Memory of Dr. Dennis R. Fecher** - Dr. Boyd Saviers

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ATTENDANCE**

**August 31, 2008**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Infants	3
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	7
3 yr. olds	3
4 yr. olds	6
Kindergarten	4
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	29
<b>CHILDREN'S DIV.</b>	<b>52</b>
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	11
<b>YOUTH DIV.</b>	<b>11</b>
Aldersgate(Room M105)	16
Believers (Room M302)	1
Builders (RoomM209)	23
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	35
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	19
Disciples*(Room M312)	16
Discussion*(Room M301)	44
Encouragers (Room M310)	5
Friends (Room M103)	--
Gleaners (Room M201)	32
Good News (Room M202)	9
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	29
Seekers*(Room M107)	13
Uplifters*(Room M205)	34
<b>ADULT TOTALS</b>	<b>279</b>
General Officers	3
*Made their quota	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>345</b>
<b>Worship:</b>	
8:30	78
11:00 Family Life	132
11:00 Sanctuary	237
Wed. Communion	61
Down Home Singin'	75
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>583</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK**

**Sunday, September 7**

- 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
- 4:30 - Cancer Support Group, M200
- 6-8 - Dr. Fleming Lecture, Gym
- 6:30 - Combined Youth, Loft

**Wednesday, September 10**

- 10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
- 12:00 - Memorial Cmte., Conf. Rm.
- 3:30 - Children's Choirs
- 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
- 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
- 6:00 - Joy of Signing, Conf. Rm.
- 6:00 - Disciple IV, M200
- 6:00 - Praise Team, Gym
- 6:00 - Phone Cmte., FLC
- 7:00 - Knitwits, Narthex
- 7:00 - Chancel Choir Reheasal

**Monday, September 8**

- 11:30 - Intro to Old. Test., FLC102
- 5:00 - Nominations, Conf. Rm.
- 6-8 - Dr. Fleming Lecture, Gym
- 6:00 - Cub Scouts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Thursday, September 11**

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

**Tuesday, September 9**

- 9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
- 11:00 - CEC Speech Thrp., FLC101
- 1:30 - Archives Open, M204
- 5:30 - Stephen Ministry, FLC101
- 6:00 - Golf Cmte. Mtg., M103

**Friday, September 12**

- 6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
- 4-6 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC
- 6-9 - Parents' Night Out, FLC

**Saturday, September 13**

- 9-11 - Angel Food Sign-up, 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. David Orr**  
**Emergency**  
**on call Minister for**  
**September 5-7**  
**Phone: 459-5060**

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