

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:

Rev. Mike Morey

Rev. David P. Orr, Senior Minister

Rev. Janice Sudbrink

Rev. Stephen Dickinson

Rev. Claire Hoffman

Rev. William Cheyne

Rev. Herschel McClurkin

September 3, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Thank you, First United Methodist Church! Thank you, neighbors of First United Methodist Church!
Thank you God for First UMC and our neighbors.

Sunday was a marvelous day in the Kingdom of God. Wonderful, uplifting worship and joyous, authentic fellowship put the day in motion. The Neighborhood Block Party, Back To School Bash and Down Home Singing made for a very full and most rewarding day. At every stage of the day, the graceful presence of the Lord was in full evidence. Breakfast to benefit Backpack for Kids was delicious. New members joined FUMC. Confirmation Class for our 7th Graders was strong. Members of the church were receiving guests in the Sunday School and in worship services. FUMC servants were all over the campus preparing food and games and a warm welcome for everyone at the Block Party. Down Home Singing was a revival experience. The Kingdom was breaking out.

When folks get together in the name and love of Jesus Christ, Kingdom happenings happen. I saw the hungry fed. I saw the lonely embraced. I saw the skeptical trust. I witnessed and experienced joy. I saw the Church be the Church. I was, and am, humbled. All I know to say is, "Thank You".

The challenge before us as Kingdom of God people is greater than we can accomplish on our own. The challenge is not, however, too great for God. If we try to minister to this entire community we love and call home in our own strength, we will help a bit and then fall exhausted. If we give ourselves to God, depend upon God's strength and let God's Spirit dwell in and flow through us, God will accomplish everything God wills. . .Eagle's Wings, remember?

Don't neglect the assembling together of yourselves. Don't neglect the study of the Scriptures. Don't cheat yourself from the fellowship of God through prayer and meditation. Let the joy of the Lord fill your life and lead you on. I know that God is not finished with us. I know that God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts. Rest yourself in the capacity of God.

See you Sunday,
David Orr

-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "Give Me a Break from Distractions" and his scripture text is Matthew 8:19-24. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Lay readers are: 8:30, Cheryl Powell, 11:00, Ruth Pitts.

Faith Rossi will be the soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Let Us Arise and Sing" by Philip Young and Francesca Rossi will sing "Lilies in the Field" by Allen Pote.



IN THE HOSPITAL

As of Monday, August 31, 2009, the following members were known to be in the hospital:

Sparks:

- Harold Owens
Clifford Davis
Carmen Fleck
Glynn Shults

St. Edward:

- Nancy Gately
Mark Sparkman
Chris VanAsche

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Rec'd this week (\$13,868), Rec'd to date (\$966,334), and Budgeted to date (\$1,152,111).

Please pray for the following who are serving in our U. S. Military: Ellen Driggers, Darson Emery, Luke Bouxsein, Shaun Sorensen, Richard Johnson, Terry Blanton.

Foundation Information

Your Church will consider gifts of jewelry, art, coin collections, antiques, mineral rights and related items. These gifts can be made during your lifetime or through your estate. Contact your tax advisor for more information about how to calculate your tax deduction.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch/Bible Study, September 10, Todd Vick will teach John 12:27-50, Family Life Center.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, Sept. 11, 2009, 6:30 a.m., Family Life Center.

The Altar Flowers



for Sunday, September 6, 2009, are in honor of Zuma Dooly's 87th birthday.

Given by her family, Gary and Gail Dooly, Darrell and Linda Dooly, and Bryant and Louann Dooly.



welcome the Boren family to our church family. Misty and Jason Boren joined by transfer at the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service on August 30, 2009.



Arthritis Exercise Program to begin classes Wednesday, September 23, 1:30 p.m., in Room M105 and ending on October 29.

Spaces are limited so call Rosemary Alcon at West Central Center on Aging, 478-8819, to sign up today.

Job Opportunity at First Church

Our Kindergarten Sunday School class is in need of an energetic and dependable teacher. The ideal candidate must be available each week for Sunday School and the 11:00 o'clock services.

If you love to work with young children and are interested in this job opportunity, please contact Alison Underwood, 782-0378 or Sally Ware, 782-5068.



M a urine Slates and family on the death of her grandson, Bill Craig of Senatobia, Mississippi.

Flossie Gossett and family on the death of her sister Mary Benegar.

Pray All the Way

"Pray up" before heading into the classroom. My own prayer is something like this, "God, as I prepare to spend another hour with the children you've entrusted to my care, I ask for strength, guidance, and grace. Help me to see each precious child through your eyes, and my words and actions be a reflection of your love."

In His Service, Sally Ware

United Methodist Women Sub-groups to meet September 8th

"Mary" will meet with Margaret Thompson, 1211 North 58th Terrace at 7:00 p.m.

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

"Rebekah" will meet with Judy Staggs, 1504 Oak Knolls Circle at 10:00 a.m.

"Hannah" will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Willow Brook.

Destination Station Bible Verse for September

Luke 6:37

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.

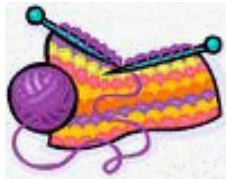
Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: September 27, October 11 & 25. If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, call 782-5068.

First Place 4 Health

is a 12 week curriculum led by Rev. Janice that is centered around achieving balance in 4 essential areas of our lives: emotional (prayer), spiritual (Scripture reading and Bible study), mental (daily food record), and physical (eating well and exercising). Class time will include weigh in's (confidential), health, nutrition and exercise information, Bible study discussion, and prayer requests and prayer time.

Classes are for ages 16 and older, men and women, and will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. beginning September 23. Childcare available upon request. A commitment to the 12 week program is highly encouraged. Cost is \$20 for Bible study book. For more info, call Janice. Sign-up now on Sundays in the Narthex or through the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry will begin September 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Narthex. This will be a planning meeting for the upcoming year and we need everyone to attend. Refreshments will be served.

All those who knit and crochet and those who want to learn, please come for a wonderful time of fellowship! Call Janice, 782-5068, for more information.



Adopt a Student

Adopt a College Student Ministry

Would you like to bless someone and be blessed at the same time? If so, be a part of our "Adopt a College Student Ministry". This ministry helps promote a connection between First United Methodist and our college students, with care packages, thoughtful notes, baked goods, etc. An individual family, or church group, can sponsor a student.

If you are interested or are looking for more details, contact Todd Vick or Cassandra Arnhart, 782-5068.

2009 Fall Bible Studies at FUMC

It's time to get into the word! FUMC has nine different Bible studies that will begin this fall! There is something for everyone. Come check them out in the Narthex or at the info table in the Family Life Center.

Some of the studies have already started, but you could still join this week and there is still time to join "First Place 4 Health" and two short term (10-11 weeks) Bible Studies. If you have any questions, call Claire at 782-5068.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT



is back from their summer break. Join us on Friday, September 11, from 6:00-9:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center for Parents' Night Out/Fun Friday.

Parents' Night Out is a fun, safe place for parents to leave their children for an affordable evening out. Cost is \$3.00 for members and \$6.00 for non-members, per child. Members of FUMC are required to volunteer and non-members are encouraged to volunteer.

Registration forms are located by the PNO drop boxes in the nursery hall, children's building and the church office. Registration forms must be turned in by the Monday prior to Parents' Night Out on Friday.

Hospice Volunteers Needed

Mercy Hospice has a need for Hospice volunteers in our area to go into patients' homes and help them with needs such as sitting with them, ministering to them and running errands.

Mercy Hospice is offering classes for new Hospice volunteers starting Thursday, October 1, 2009 at the Donald W. Reynolds Cancer Support House, 3324 South "M" Street. The classes will be each Thursday through October 29, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. For more information or to reserve a place in the class, please call Dianne Kitchen at (479) 314-1156 or (800) 225-9743.

Memorials

In Memory of Tom Cooley - Mr. & Mrs. Doug Parker; Dr. & Mrs. James Saviers

In Memory of Gordon Brown - Helen Forbes; Larry & Sandra Clark; Builders Class; Bill & Ann Harper; Herbert & Helen Couvillion; Dr. Boyd Saviers

In Memory of Tom Fleri - Mr. & Mrs. Doug Parker

In Memory of Leona Muzzle - Builders Class

In Memory of Shelby McGrew - Mack & Norma Burton; Mary Edwards

In Memory of John Vogle - Janice & Bob Powell

In Memory of Lt. Col. Marvin Mumme, Sr. - Janice & Bob Powell; Mary Edwards

In Memory of Caroline Blochberger - Chip & Elizabeth Paris; Janice & Bob Powell

In Memory of Edward Bedwell - Dr. Boyd Saviers

In Memory of Eleanor Kane - Janice & Bob Powell

In Memory of Rev. Bob Robertson - The Willcoxon Family

Honorarium

In celebration of the birth of Thomas A. Culp - William C. Culp

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE
August 30, 2009**

Class	Attendance
Infants	3
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	3
3 yr. olds	3
4 yr. olds	11
Kindergarten	
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	13
Grade 5	
Grade 6	15
CHILDREN'S DIV.	48
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	11
College	
Aldersgate(Room M105)	22
Believers (Room M302)	6
Builders*(RoomM209)	31
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	43
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	16
Disciples*Room M312)	19
Discussion*(Room M301)	51
Encouragers (Room M303)	10
Friends (Room M103)	--
Gleaners (Room M201)	35
Good News (Room M202)	8
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	23
Seekers*(Room M107)	12
Uplifters*(Room M205)	32
ADULT TOTALS	313
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	376

Worship:

8:30	76
11:00 FLC	167
11:00 Sanctuary	285
Communion	51
TOTALS	579

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, September 6

8:15 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:45 - Confirmation Class, M313
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 6:30 - Youth Movie Night, Loft

Wednesday, September 9

9:00 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.
 12:00 - Christian Learn. Counc., Conf. Rm.
 12:00 - Memorial Cmte., M103
 5:30 Communion, Roebuck Chapel
 6:00 - Praise Team., Gym
 6:30 - Disciple II, Conf. Rm.
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, September 7

Offices Closed in observance of
 Labor Day Holiday

Thursday, September 10

6am - Men's Fraternity Bible Study, Gym
 10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC

Tuesday, September 8

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conf. Rm.
 12:00 - Exec. Cmte., Pastor's office
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 5:30 - Stephen Min., M103
 6:00 - Disciple III, M200

Friday, September 11

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
 5:30pm - Parents' Night Out, FLC

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and our 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
 September 4-7
 Phone: 459-5060**