

# *First United Methodist News*

*First United Methodist Church  
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*Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield*

*District Superintendent:*

*Rev. Mike Morey*

*Rev. David P. Orr, Senior Minister*

*Rev. Janice Sudbrink*

*Rev. Stephen Dickinson*

*Rev. Claire Caldwell*

*Rev. William Cheyne*

*Rev. Herschel McClurkin*

*October 29, 2009*

## **ACROSS DAVID'S DESK**

It is hard to put into words the impact of this congregation on my life. You are a loving and sharing congregation. You are a visionary and risk-taking congregation. You are a congregation who loves one another, deeply. You are a congregation who wants to stretch and develop without losing the center of what makes First Church, First Church . . . You humble me and inspire me week after week.

Rethink Church, our annual campaign for the financial stewardship and the ministry commitments of Every Member In Ministry, moves this week to the commitment of "Witness". "Witness" is new to the membership vows of United Methodists, having been added at the General Conference of 2008 to the well-known vows of "Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service". Witness has been added because it is, indeed, basic to who we are as the people of Christ. Jesus' final words to His followers before ascending into heaven are recorded in Acts 1:8: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Good thing we've included this commissioning of Christ for each of our members!

I am recalling an old Bill Cosby comedy routine in which he described a Jehovah's Witness coming to his home trying to enlist him to become a Witness. Cosby said something to the extent that "he would consider becoming a Jehovah's observer if they needed one!" Well, as I thoroughly enjoy Mr. Cosby's comedy (for his intellect and insight as a comedian) I think he has hit the nail on the head. Given the option between being an observer or a witness for the Lord, my hunch is that we would have a goodly percentage opting for the role of observer. Well, we may seek the option, but our Lord didn't offer it. Looking upon his team he says, "You are my witnesses;" and then he rose into the clouds.

Walking into the Lord's house is a witness. Speaking the truth in love to a friend is a witness. Sharing one's conversion experience or one's journey in spiritual formation are witnesses. Standing beside one slandered and standing as quiet support for one whose heart is breaking are witnesses.

The skeptical and non-believing world is observing the witness we are making. We get to witness in love, the strongest power in all creation.

See you Sunday, Witnesses,  
David Orr

## **-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-**

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "Sleeping In Church" and his scripture text is Acts 20:7-13. 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, Gary Campbell, 11:00, Suzanne Swofford. Acolytes will be Alexandra Salamone and Catherine Ivey.

The Bayliss Hall Ringers and Singers will ring and sing at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthems will be "Shout, O Glory!" arranged by Lloyd Larson and "God Has Called Us" by Robert A. Hobby.



**IN THE HOSPITAL**

As of Monday, October 26, 2009, the following members were known to be in the hospital:

**Sparks:**  
Lois Ross

**St. Edward:**  
Debbie Hardgrave



**The Altar Flowers**

for Sunday, November 1, 2009, are given in loving memory of

Dibby Reutzel by Anne, David and Charles.

**Altar Flower Openings**

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **November 8, 15, 22 & 29.** If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one or for a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary, call 782-5068.



**FSFUMC  
Cancer  
Support  
Group  
has two**



**special offers:**

Blue polo and long sleeve denim FSFUMC logo shirts are now on sale. Orders are being taken Sunday mornings in the Narthex and in the FLC. Cost for each shirt is \$18, sizes Small-XL and \$20 for size XX for the polo and \$22 for the denim. Both of these shirts will make great Christmas gifts. All proceeds go toward the Relay for Life American Cancer Society.



**Fall Back**

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 1<sup>st</sup>, so don't forget to set your clocks **back** one hour before retiring on Saturday evening and you'll get to church at the right time.

**Health Kits for Ingathering 2009**

We are asking everyone to participate in collecting items for "Health Kits". We will have marked boxes in the narthex, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor stairwell and Family Life Center.

The following is a list of what to bring and what to include if you are making whole kits:

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large, not pocket size)
- 1 nail file (not emory board)
- 1 bar of soap
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 large tube of toothpaste
- 6 Band-aids

Seal all of the above in a Ziplock bag. The kits will be **taken to Little Rock on November 7**, for the Ingathering event.

This is a great way for all of us to help with missions! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.** Money donations are gladly accepted as well - please mark monetary donations "Ingathering".

**BY YOUR GIFTS . . .**

Rec'd this week.....	\$43,581
Rec'd to date.....	\$1,159,154
Budgeted to date.....	\$1,415,450

**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**

Who needs estate planning? Every adult who is legally competent, that owns anything and cares about who receives it at the time of their disability or death. In addition, estate planning is necessary for anyone who wants to leave a bequest for the church.

**Methodist Men's Clubs**

**Thursday, Noon Lunch/Bible Study, November 5**, Family Life Center. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will teach John 20.

**Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, November 6**, 6:30 a.m., Family Life Center. Ben Reid will teach Luke 18.

**Destination Station Bible Verse for October  
Proverbs 8:7-8**

I always speak the truth and refuse to tell a lie. Every word I speak is honest, not one is misleading or deceptive.



We welcome Everett Seaton to our church family. Everett joined in the Connexion service on October 25, 2009 by baptism and profession of faith.

**Infant Baptism**

Sara Kathryn Lane, daughter of Chad and Sara Lane, was baptized in our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service on Sunday, October 25, 2009. Grandparents are Kelly and Marilyn Newton and Alice Lane Rowe. Great grandmother is Martha Copeland.



Blood Drive mobile unit will be at First Church on Sunday morning, November 8. Make plans to give blood.

Blood products help those with cancer, those having surgery and those involved in accidents.

## **The Women's Ministry is going shopping!!!**

Join us for a day trip to the Day Springs Outlet in Siloam Springs on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Gather at 8:00 a.m., travel to Pinnacle Mall via bus, then on to Siloam Springs and home by 5:30 p.m.  
Sign-up Sunday in the Narthex or call 782-5068



**The Child Enrichment Center** will be selling Cinnabon Cinnamon Rolls from Central Mall as our fall fund raiser. These would make wonderful gifts or use the coupons as stocking stuffers and last minute gifts! Each six pack sells for \$13.00. A table will be set up in the Narthex on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> for your convenience. Thank you for your support.

### **Commitment Packet Child and Youth Mix Ups**

It has come to our attention that some families received the wrong commitment card for their children (i.e. a child card when they should have received a youth card or the opposite). If this happened to you you are incredibly sorry for the error that occurred during packet processing. To correct the situation please inform Todd Vick at 782-5068 or [tvick@fsfumc.org](mailto:tvick@fsfumc.org) to receive the appropriate commitment card.



The family and friends of Mr. Leslie G. Horton.

Amanda Turner and family on the death of her father, Charles Turner.

### **Honorariums**

**In Honor of Ruth and Ernest Bartlett on their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary** - Janice & Bob Powell

### **Memorials**

**In Memory of Clifford Davis** - Sub-group Ruth; Dr. R.C. & Dorothy Goodman; Mary Ann Jacobs; Finley & Evelyn Turner; Herb & Helen Couvillion; Richard & Jaunice Griffin; Chapel Class; Bettye Fields & Don Sangster; Mary Edwards

**You're invited to join us for a Young Adult (age 25-32) Ministry Dinner on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside room**

**Menu:**  
**Pulled Pork or Chicken**  
**Baked Beans Cole Slaw**  
**Cheesecake and Drinks**  
*(from Art's BBQ)*

**Come join the discussion as we dream of a new young adult ministry!!**  
**Childcare available upon request**

**Please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, November 4, 2009**

**to**  
**Todd Vick or Rev. Claire Caldwell**  
**at (479) 782-5068 or for more information and childcare.**



### **Angel Food Notes:**

- The Angel Food Committee would like to thank each and everyone for their help and support of the Fall Festival. It was an evening enjoyed by all and a blessing to all that took part. Thank you.
- If you had your picture made at the Fall Festival on Sunday and didn't get to pick it up, they are by the information desk behind Roebuck Chapel.

Don't forget to place your Angel Food order for November. Here are the dates you can order:

Fri., Nov. 6 - 4-6 p.m.  
Sat., Nov. 7 - 9-11 a.m.  
Sun., Nov. 8 - 8:30a.m-12:30p.m.

**Sunday is the final day for ordering.**

If you know someone in need for the holidays, buy a unit for them. Ask Pat Creson how.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE  
October 25, 2009**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Infants	2
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	2
3 yr. olds	1
4 yr. olds	6
Kindergarten	4
Grade 1	
Grade 2	12
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	14
<b>CHILDREN'S DIV.</b>	<b>41</b>
Grade 7, 8, 9, (Confirmation)	14
Grade 10,11, & 12	11
<b>YOUTH DIV.</b>	<b>25</b>
College	3
Aldersgate(Room M105)	18
Believers (Room M302)	4
Builders (RoomM209)	18
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	38
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	14
Disciples*Room M312)	16
Discussion*(Room M301)	38
Encouragers*(Room M303)	15
Friends (Room M103) w/Chapel	
Gleaners (Room M201)	38
Good News (Room M202)	9
Le Menage (Room M306)	3
Roundtable*(Room M213)	25
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	33
<b>ADULT TOTALS</b>	<b>296</b>
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>Ethnos Youth</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Worship:</b>	
8:30	62
11:00 FLC	156
11:00 Sanctuary	276
Communion	53
Down Home Singin	37
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>584</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK**

<b>Sunday, November 1</b>	<b>Wednesday, November 4</b>
8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open	9:15 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.
8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel	10:00 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
9:45 - Confirmation Class, Rm. 313	10:00 - Children Directors, Conf. Rm.
9:45 - Sunday School	3:30 - Children's Choirs, Bayliss Hall
11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center	5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary	6:00 - Sign Language, FLC101
5:30 - Jr. High Youth, Loft	6:00 - Praise Team, Gym
6:00 - Commitment Rally, Roebuck C.	6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
6:30 - Sr. High Youth, Loft	6:15 - First Place 4 Health, Fireside
	7:00 - Bridge Bible Study, Goodsons
	7:00 - Core Youth Bible Study, M310
	7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Monday, November 2</b>	<b>Thursday, November 5</b>
11:30 - Intro to Old Test., FLC102	6am - Men's Fraternity Bible Study, Gym
12:00 - Bridge Meal, UAFS Campus	10:00 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Narthex
6:00 - Beth Moore, Fireside Rm.	12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	6:30 - Intro to Genesis, M103
<b>Tuesday, November 3</b>	<b>Friday, November 6</b>
9:00 - Staff Meets, Conference Rm.	6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204	10:00 - Pacesetters, Fireside Rm.
6:00 - Disciple III, M200	4-6 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC
	<b>Saturday, November 7</b>
	9-11 - Angel Food Sign-up, FLC
<b>Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and our 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service are broadcast over KFPW 1230AM.</b>	

**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  
Oct. 30-Nov. 1  
Phone: 459-5060