

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

November 19, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Sunday, November 22nd is a day of blessing upon blessings for First Church. We will celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday! Thanksgiving Day is our nation's day to return thanks to our maker. For our nation to stop and give thanks is a positive sign of the soul of our nation. Yes, we have jobs to do and chores to accomplish and bills to pay. Yes, it says something deep about our nation's soul when we agree that giving thanks is an opportunity we will not pass up; it is in our DNA.

Sunday, November 22nd, we will confirm those members of our Confirmation Class who are ready to make their profession of faith and become full members of First United Methodist Church. Confirmation will take place as part of the sanctuary worship service at 11:00 a.m. Each of the pastors has taught the class, and we loved it. Tony Clyde is to be commended for his leadership in the Confirmation process. Hold these young people in your prayers as they take this sacred step. Support them with your hugs and your personal congratulations as they say "Yes" to Christ's invitation to Abundant Life.

We continue to receive commitments from our membership for the ministries and financial support of First Church in 2010. For those who have made their commitments, thank you. For those who have not turned in their commitments, please help your church by making this a priority this week. Every member matters. Every commitment makes a difference. Again, we have a strong and encouraging start to this commitment campaign. Help us complete the campaign as we prepare, together, for 2010.

Finances for 2009 are tight, as any of us would guess. Because you are faithful to your church through this economically harsh season, we are in descent, though not great, financial shape. In order for us to complete this year with all apportionments paid in full, all salaries met and all current operating expenses met, let's all examine our giving to First Church. As each gives as we are able to the Lord's work, we will complete the year in "the black". God is leading and we are blessed as we follow.

See you Sunday,
David Orr



-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. David Orr will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "King of My Life" and his scripture text is John 18:33-37. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 Connexion service. Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Lay reader for the 8:30 service is Norris Creson. Acolytes will be Kelsey Vickery and Jenna Hunter.

Heather Carter will be the soloist at the 8:30 service. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Praise, O Praise Our God and King" by Raymond Haan and accompanied by the Chancel Ringers and John Ayers on trumpet. We will be receiving our Confirmation Class into full membership at the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service.



IN THE HOSPITAL

As of Monday, November 16, 2009, the following members were known to be in the hospital.

St. Edward:
Carol Poague

Sparks:
Robert Klock



Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **Nov 29.**

& December 13, 20, & 27. 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.



FUMC Angel Tree

There are over 500 children in foster care in the Fort Smith area. The Children's Ministry Council has taken this need to heart. In our annual FUMC Angel Tree, we have sponsored 50 children, and we need your help.

There are two trees, one located in the Family Life Center and the other on the second floor by the children's wing. Each ornament on our Angel Tree represents a Christmas wish from a child in foster care.

Please take an ornament from the tree and help a child's Christmas wish come true. Return your gift - UNWRAPPED - with the tag you took, to the cart outside Sally's office on the second floor, by December 13.

These gifts will be delivered to the children in foster care through the Department of Human Services.

THANK YOU

Our prayers and sympathy are for:

James Copeland, Julia Copeland, and family on the death of their mother, Mary Copeland.



With the holidays soon to be here, the opportunity to help out a family at Christmas time is here also. We have a list of families and people who could use a little extra help at Christmas time.

If you would like to "sponsor" one of them, whether it be purchasing some Angel Food for Christmas or helping in another way, please let it be known.

Ordering dates for food purchase are a week earlier than usual because of the holidays - so we will need to know your desire to help BEFORE **December 6.**

As always, thank you for your faithful support of the Angel Food Ministry. If you could help someone, please let Janice Sudbrink (782-5068) or Pat Creson (629-3379) know and they will be happy to get you more information.

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$14,189
Rec'd to date.....\$1,218,968
Budgeted to date.....\$1,514,203

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

Have you written and signed a Will or Living Trust? The state will do it for you, if you don't. These state intestacy laws do not include any gift to the church.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch/Bible Study, November 26, No Thursday Noon Men's Club due to Thanksgiving Holiday. See you again on December 3.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, November 27, No Friday Morning Men's Club due to Thanksgiving Holiday. See you again on December 4.

Destination Station Bible Verse for November

I Corinthians 16:13-14

Keep alert. Be brave and strong. Show love in everything you do.

You are invited to the dedication of

Thank Ngo's home on Saturday, December 12 at 2:00 p.m. at 618 North 13th Street Fort Smith

There will be a brief dedication ceremony followed by an open house and refreshments.

Come celebrate with Thank and her children.



If you have a new email address please notify the church office, 782-5068, so that we may keep our records up-to-date.

Thank you.



UMW BAKE SALE THIS SUNDAY!!!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 22, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Narthex for the annual UMW Bake Sale. Lots of goodies. You won't want to miss it!

In Memory of Karen Pennington - John & Linda Catron; James & Patricia Cox; Donna Pape; Jean Williams; Richard & Jan Beauchamp

ADVENTure 2009 Wednesday, December 2nd 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Family Life Center



To kick off the joyful Christmas season, the Children's Ministry Council invites families of children ages 4 years old through 6th grade to join us for a evening full of dinner, crafts, singing and spiritual inspiration.

The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. with a chili supper. We will start story time at 6:00 with craft time and a cookie station to follow. The evening will end with a candlelit sing-along with some of our favorite Christmas carols.

Dinner will be \$5 per adults, \$4 per child, not to exceed \$15 per family. The craft supply fee is \$15 per family.

Reservations are a must! The reservation deadline is Monday, November 30th. Please return this form along with payment to the church office.

Childcare provided for children under the age of 4.

Reservation form for ADVENTure 2009

Family name: _____

Names of Adults in group: _____

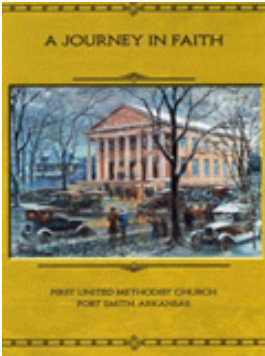
Names and ages of Children in group: _____

Names of children under 4 to attend nursery: _____

Dinner \$5 per adult x _____ + \$4 per child x _____
= \$ _____
(not to exceed \$15 per family)

Crafts \$ 15

Total payment = \$ _____



(Continued for you - a rare book indeed-)

Archives continue the sale of this amazing book "A Journey of Faith" our book about FUMC and its ministries in the first 200 years of life and service. This book is a rare one at a reduced price of only \$10.00 for your home, for others as a Christmas gift, or for any time. On sale November 22nd and following Sundays.

Archivists are at sale tables before and after worship services, in the hall near Sanctuary, the Family Life Center and Sunday School Information Desk behind Roebuck Chapel.

Check it out. Buy this rare source at a bargain price. This sale helps Archives do its work at FUMC, Fort Smith.

Need a ride to Sunday School and Church?



Our church van picks up at Methodist Village, Butterfield Place, Willow Brook, and Gorman Towers. We pick up

between 8:30 and 9:30 and return you home after the 11:00 a.m. services. We also pick up for Pacesetters on the first and third Fridays of each month. If you would like a ride to church or to Pacesetters, please call 782-5068.

Memorials

In Memory of Caroline Blochberger - Dr. & Mrs. James Saviers; Dr. Boyd Saviers; Richard & Jan Beauchamp

In Memory of Clifford Davis - Dr. Boyd Saviers; Dr. & Mrs. James Saviers

In Memory of Gordon Brown - Maurine Slates

In Memory of Jack Grober - Dr. Boyd Saviers

Memorials (cont.)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE
November 15, 2009**

Class	Attendance
Infants	4
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	3
3 yr. olds	2
4 yr. olds	5
Kindergarten	9
Grade 1	
Grade 2	5
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	13
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	10
CHILDREN'S DIV.	51
Grade 7, 8, 9, (Confirmation)	15
Grade 10,11, & 12	11
YOUTH DIV.	26
College	3
Aldersgate(Room M105)	20
Believers (Room M302)	-
Builders (RoomM209)	24
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	33
Cornerstones*(Room M311)	15
Disciples*Room M312)	17
Discussion*(Room M301)	52
Encouragers (Room M303)	12
Friends (Room M103)	9
Gleaners (Room M201)	30
Good News (Room M202)	8
Le Menage (Room M306)	6
Roundtable (Room M213)	19
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	35
ADULT TOTALS	293
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	374
Ethnos Youth	32
Worship:	
8:30	67
11:00 FLC	175
11:00 Sanctuary	256
Communion	58
TOTALS	556

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, November 22

8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:00 - UMW Bake Sale, Narthex
 9:45 - Confirmation Class, M313
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 12:15 - Adm. Board, Parlor (M201)
 5:00 - Jr. High Youth, Loft
 6:30 - Sr. High Youth, Loft

Wednesday, November 25

6am; - Men's Fraternity, Gym
 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel

Monday, November 23

11:30 - Intro to Old Test., FLC102
 12:00 - Bridge Meal, UAFS Campus
 6:30 - Cub Scouts, 3rd Floor
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, 3rd Floor
 7-10 - Chorale Practice, Sanctuary

Thursday, November 26

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tuesday, November 24

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conference Rm.
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 27

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Our 10:00 a.m. Uplifters Class and our 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. Claire Caldwell
 Emergency
 on call Minister for
 November 20-22
 Phone: 459-5060**