

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 Caldwell

Rev. William Cheyne

Rev. Herschel McClurkin

December 10, 2009

ACROSS DAVID'S DESK

Advent is moving rapidly to the climax of the Birth of the Savior! Don't miss the opportunities to worship and share with your church family as we faithfully move down the home stretch of Advent.

This Sunday, December 13th, Reverend Stephen Dickinson will preach in the Chapel and the Sanctuary, and Reverend Herschel McClurkin will preach in the FLC's Connexion service. These outstanding preachers will bring light for the journey of Advent and will be vehicles of God's grace to each of us. The sounds of the season's songs will add to the robust quality of worship. The Advent Wreath is a welcome and heart-warming component of worship this season. The Lord's Anointed is coming! Worship is our perfect response.

Sunday evening, December 13th, our Children's Music Ministry will present their gift of music and joy to the congregation at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The children learn and grow through their preparation and presentation of the evening's program. Every time I hear the children and experience their interpretation of the birth of Christ, I learn and I grow. So, I invite you, each and every one, to support the children and give yourselves the gift of experiencing the grace and wonder of Christmas through the joyful, loving lives of our children.

Sunday, December 20th, the Chancel Choir will lead our Chapel and Sanctuary worship with the Lessons and Carols. Our Chancel Choir blesses us each and every Sunday, and we know we are in for a treat and a blessing on December 20th.

On Christmas Eve we have three worship services: Noon in Roebuck Chapel, 5:30 in the Sanctuary, and 11:00 in Roebuck Chapel. Mark your calendar and prepare your family and invite your neighbors for Communion and Candle Lighting on Christmas Eve @ FUMC.

"O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord."

See you Sunday,
David Orr



-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Third Sunday of Advent

Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. His sermon is entitled, "The Joy Gene" and his scripture text is Zephaniah 3:14-20. Rev. Herschel McClurkin will preach at the 11:00 Connexion service. His sermon is entitled, "The Joy In Hot Chocolate" and his scripture text is Zephaniah 3:14-20. Rev. David Orr, Rev. Janice Sudbrink and Rev. Claire Caldwell will be Liturgists. Lay readers are: 8:30, Mike Boyd, 11:00, Janie Weber. Acolytes will be Kate Truitt and Stephanie Clyde. Lighting the Second Advent Candle will be: 8:30, Noé, Heather and Ruth Anne Aguilar; 11:00 Sanctuary, Angel Food Ministry; 11:00 Connexion, Joe and Jean Knox.

Jim Cheyne will be soloist at 8:30 and 11:00. The Chancel Ringers will play at the prelude time. The Chancel Choir's anthems will be "A Call to Christmas Joy" by J. Paul Williams and "Winds Through the Olive Trees" by Sandra K. Peter accompanied by Linda Dickson on the Oboe.



IN THE HOSPITAL
As of Monday, December 7, 2009, the following members were known to be in the hospital.

St. Edward:
Lisa Harms
Sudean Goodpaster
Tommie Hargrove

Sparks:
Rose Bethell
Dell Lyon
Bernard Brockman

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$35,343
Rec'd to date.....\$1,302,988
Budgeted to date.....\$1,612,955

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

There are reasons to update your Will or your estate planning documents. One good reason is to ensure a gift to your church has been included.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch/Bible Study, December 17, Rev. David Orr will teach Acts 4.

Friday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study, December 18, Bill Pitts will teach Luke 22:39-71

Destination Station Bible Verse for December
Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall name him Immanuel.



The Altar Flowers

for Sunday, December 13, 2009, are given to the Glory of God; and, in deep appreciation to the congregation of First United Methodist Church, our church family by Janie and David Orr.

Altar Flower Openings

We have the following openings for altar flowers: **December 27 and January 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31** . If you would like to put flowers on the altar call 782-5068.



FUMC Angel Tree

Please 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.



The Bridge College Ministry

needs a pool table for the new United Methodist Student Center at UA, Fort Smith beginning January 2010. If you have a pool table that you would be willing to donate, please contact Todd Vick, 782-5068 or tvick@fsfumc.org



We rejoice with

Lee Anna and Ankur Darji on the birth of a son, Evan Ankur Darji. Maternal grandparents are Louise Finney and Gary Finney.



Beginning

Ballroom Dancing

Join us on Tuesdays, beginning January 12, and ending February 9, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We will include more advanced study for those with experience. Learn the Triple time swing and basic dance. Cost: \$50.00 per couple. Contact Patrick Jacobs (479) 719-5385 or pjacobs@carcotrans.com to sign up or more information.

Our Prayers and Sympathy

are for:

Nancy Blochberger, Sue Cooley, Marilyn Gustafson, John Cooley, Elizabeth Paris, and their families on the death of their mother and grandmother, Mrs. Auda Faye McConnell.

To the family and friends of Mrs. Susan Smith.

From Cancer Support Group: If you ordered FUMC logo shirts and/or denim shirts, they are in and can be picked up at the church office during the week or Sunday mornings in the Narthex.

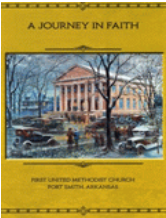
Rio Bravo, Mexico Mission Trip

is planned for April 12-18, 2010. We will need 36-40 people to work on construction and medical teams. No experience necessary except a servant heart! Those interested in participating contact Rev. Janice at the church or email jsudbrink@fsfumc.org

"Ordinary Women" will meet on Sunday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m. in the Narthex Conference room.

Did you find a gold necklace?

One of our members lost a gold necklace on Sunday. Please call the church office, 782-5068, if you have found it and we will give you the name and number of the person to contact. Thank you.



Last Sunday in this Series of Sales

“A Journey of Faith” the first 200 years of life and ministries of FUMC. This excellent book at a reduced price of only \$10.00, will bless you, your family and friends. Before and after worship services this Sunday is the

day! Many have bought one personally and others as gifts. Places - near the sanctuary, Narthex, Family Life hallway, and behind Roebuck Chapel at the information desk.

A rare book.....a great source of the first 200 years of FUMC....come by one of the tables and see for yourself. All proceeds of this sale will be used for work of Archives of your church. Thank you.



The Bridge College Ministry is selling Schermer Pecans in the Narthex. We are offering milk chocolate and dark chocolate covered pecans for \$8 a bag. The proceeds will lower the cost for the Bridge members attending the Passion Conference in Atlanta, GA. This conference is a national conference for

college aged youth.

Good Samaritan Fund Report

January 1, 2009, Beginning Balance.....	\$3,451.31
Contributions & gifts received 11/22/09.....	\$3,036.00
Less assistance payment for:	
Rent, 34 individual families.....	\$2,812.84
Utilities, 43 individual families.....	\$2,357.80
Transportation, 10 individual families.....	\$ 193.94
Other/food, 19 individual families.....	\$ 970.54
Ending 11/22/2009 Balance.....	\$ 152.19

The Good Samaritan Fund received no income from FUMC's operating budget. If you would like to contribute to this outreach, mark "Good Samaritan" on your check or envelope. Thank you.



Family and Friends are invited to the Weekday School Christmas Program Wednesday, December 16, 2009 10:45 a.m., in the Sanctuary

"Merry Christmas!" From the Weekday School Teachers

If you would like to order a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form below and mail it, along with your check, made out to the church for \$17.00 for each poinsettia, to Nancy Scott. (No phone calls, please)



How many poinsettias are you ordering? _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

By: _____

Phone: _____

Deadline for ordering, Wednesday, December 16.



12:00 noon - Communion in Roebuck Chapel, followed by lunch in the Family Life Center

5:30 p.m. - Candlelight Communion, Sanctuary

11: p.m. - Candlelight Communion, Roebuck Chapel



LADIES, SAVE THE DATE

for
a Christmas Drop-in
at
Janie Orr's home
3417 Ramsgate Way
on
Friday, December 18,
from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE
December 6, 2009**

Class	Attendance
Infants	3
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	5
3 yr. olds	2
4 yr. olds	
Kindergarten	12
Grade 1	9
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5 and	
Grade 6	8
CHILDREN'S DIV.	39
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	
YOUTH DIV.	11
College	5
Aldersgate(Room M105)	19
Believers (Room M302)	6
Builders (RoomM209)	21
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	43
Cornerstones (Room M311)	31
Disciples Room M312)	12
Discussion*(Room M301)	56
Encouragers*(Room M303)	14
Friends (Room M103)	10
Gleaners (Room M201)	32
Good News (Room M202)	10
Le Menage (Room M306)	5
Roundtable*(Room M213)	24
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	31
ADULT TOTALS	329
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	383
Ethnos Youth	27
Worship:	
8:30	84
11:00 FLC	160
11:00 Sanctuary	251
Communion	48
TOTALS	543

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, December 13

8:30 - Holy Grounds Café Open
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 12:00 - Chapel Class, Fireside Rm.
 5:00 - Youth Leaders, Loft
 5:45 - All Youth, Loft
 6:00 - Children's Choir Program, Sanctuary w/reception, Narthex

Wednesday, December 16

10:30 - WDS Christmas Program, Sanct.
 11:30 - Ladybells, Bayliss Hall
 12:00 - Finance Meets, FLC101
 5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel
 6:00 - Praise Team, Gym
 6:00 - Chancel Ringers, Bayliss Hall
 6:00 - Sign Language, FLC101
 6:15 - First Place 4 Health, Fireside Rm.
 7:00 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 14

11:30 - Intro to Old Test., FLC102
 6:00 - Choir Christmas Party, Fireside
 6:00 - Cub Scouts, 3rd Floor
 6:30 - Boy Scouts, Loft

Thursday, December 17

6am - Men's Fraternity, Gym
 10:00 - Prayer Shawl, Narthex
 12:00 - UMM Lunch/Bible Study, FLC
 12:00 - CEC Christmas Program, Gym
 6:30 - Intro to Genesis, M103

Tuesday, December 15

9:00 - Staff Meets, Conference Rm.
 12:00 - CEC Staff Christmas, Fireside
 1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204
 6:00 - Disciple III, M200
 6:30 - Down Home Mtg., Narthex

Friday, December 18

6:30 - UMM Breakfast/Bible Study, FLC
 10:00 - Pacesetters, Fireside Rm.

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
 December 11-13
 Phone: 459-5060**