

***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:

*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*

December 24, 2008

***Merry Christmas
First United Methodist Church
From
Your Pastors and Staff***

The kindnesses and love you show us all year are deeply appreciated. Most especially at the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, we thank you for the blessing we experience in sharing life, service and faith with you, our church family. Joy and blessing at Christmas are our prayers for each of you.

David Orr, Stephen Dickinson, Janice Sudbrink, Claire Hoffman, Sally Ware, Nancy Vernon, Todd Vick, Jerry Hartfield, Nancy Scott, Gail Oakes, Jean Pence, Nancy Ashwood, Ben Rogers, Gaye McClure, Jeremy Turner, Kelly DeSoto, Cassandra Arnhart, Phyllis Eckelhoff, Debbie Hicks, Janne Standifird, Wesley Clark, Robert LaPearle, Brian Ashwood, Christie Jacobs, Valerie Hubbard, Tiffany Null, Bill Cheyne and Herschel McClurkin.

-SUNDAY, December 28, 2008, AT FIRST CHURCH-

Rev. Claire Hoffman will preach at the 8:30 Chapel and 11:00 Sanctuary service. Her sermon is entitled, "A Light of Revelation" and her scripture text is Luke 2:22-40. Rev. Stephen Dickinson will preach at the 11:00 a.m. Connexion service. Rev. David Orr will be Liturgist. Acolytes will be Brynn Trahan and Kate Truitt. Lay Readers are 8:30, David Farris, 11:00, Billy Dooly.

Linda Dickson will be soloist at the 11:00 Sanctuary service and the Chancel Choir's anthem will be "This Christmastide" by Donald Fraser.

No Newsletter next week. See you again in 2009!



As of Monday, December 22, 2008 the following members were listed in the hospitals:

Sparks: Katie Keating

St. Edward: Doris Thornton, Tony Beattie

BY YOUR GIFTS . . .

Rec'd this week.....\$38,662
 Rec'd to date.....\$1,535,580
 Budgeted to date.....\$1,700,389

Please pray for the following who are serving in our U. S. Military: Ben Hurst, Patrick Hayes, Walt Scales, Jeff Nester, Cody Kennon, Brad Bost, Brandon Hattabaugh, Clint Wilson, Michael Parker, Ellen Driggers, Christopher Herrmann, Dwalyn Clayborn, V. J. Devine, Darson Emery, Jacob Bolin, Luke Bouxsein.

Our Prayer and Sympathy are for:

Beth Wilson and family on the death of her father, Thomas "T.J." Davis of Hope, AR.

Elvin Frick and family on the death of his sister, Gertrude Burke of New Orleans.

Foundation Information

We have a beautiful church campus that serves us well. Consider making an estate gift to the Church Foundation for the future care of the campus.

Methodist Men's Clubs

Thursday, Noon Lunch, January 8, 2009, Rev. Herschel McClurkin will teach Luke 4.

Friday Morning Breakfast, January 9, 2009, Dr. Boyd Saviers will be teaching from Daniel 11:36-45 & 12:1-13.

Open Dates for Altar Flowers

January 4, 11, 18, 25.

Call the church office if you would like to put flowers on the altar, 782-5068.

Beth Moore Bible Study

"Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman" begins in January. Sign up this Sunday, in the Narthex. Cost of the book is \$15 and childcare available upon request. This is a 10 week study, beginning Wednesday, January 7 at 9:15 a.m. and Monday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Beth Moore explains how God places a young Jewish woman who fulfilled her destiny "for such a time as this" and saved the Jews living in a pagan culture from certain destruction. She provides a faithful example for today's woman.

Destination Station's Bible Verse for December Matthew 2:11

When they saw the child with Mary, his mother; they knelt down to worship him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



Introduction to Ballroom Dancing

Introduction to Ballroom Dancing class begins January 13 @ 6:30 p.m. for five weeks. Cost is \$50. per couple. There are a few spots left. Contact Patrick Jacobs for more information at 478-6320 or pjacobs@carcotrans.com to sign up.

Getting a new cell phone for Christmas

Why not donate your old one. Just drop it (with the chargers) in one of the marked baskets here at the church and they will be given to the Women's Crisis Center.

Frazer Memorial UMC Trip

We will be taking a team to the Every Member in Ministry (EMIM) Conference at Frazer Memorial UMC in Montgomery, Alabama, March 6-8, 2009. The cost of the trip is \$385.00 per person, which includes lodging, conference fees, and travel by bus to and from Montgomery.

For more information or to register, contact Todd Vick at 782-5068 or tvick@fsfumc.org There are only 50 spots available so act soon!

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program

(for people 55 and older)

Come join this FREE eight week program. It involves a series of gentle movements and activities designed to increase mobility and range-of-motion, which helps keep joints flexible and manage pain.

When: Wednesdays 1:30-2:20 p.m. Classes to start **January 21** and end March 11.

Where: First UMC, Room 105, Aldersgate SS class room.

How: Call **478-8635** to register for classes or for more information. (Class enrollment is limited to 20)

The Bridge College Ministry

Thank you to those who have helped us be successful in 2008. If you would like to volunteer next semester, call Todd Vick or Cassandra Arnhart, 782-5068.

U.M.W. Silent Auction

Thank you to all of the enthusiastic bidders for the framed prints of FUMC 1921 and the afghan. We received \$550. for the three items, which will be used for mission projects.

Infant Baptism

Riley Cooper Vick, son of Todd and Carrie Vick was baptized in our 11:00 a.m. sanctuary service on December 21, 2008.

Come for Breakfast!



Join us in the Family Life Center this Sunday, December 28, for a free breakfast from 8:30-9:30 a.m. The breakfast will be cooked and served by the Chapel Class and any donations will be given to the "Backpack for Kids" program at the

Clearinghouse.



Down Home Singin'

Come ready to rest and enjoy some Cokesbury hymns on Sunday, December 28, 4:30 p.m. Roebuck Chapel. After the hustle and bustle of Christmas, what a way to relax. Then, join us after the singing in the Narthex for wassail and cookies. Don't forget - start time is 4:30 p.m. See you there!

What's Your Name????

We have several commitment cards without names on them. If you have not received a 2008 service commitment report with a list of the ministries you signed up for in 2008, but you turned in a commitment card, please contact Todd Vick, 782-5068 or tvick@fsfumc.org to claim your card and get your commitments registered.

Thanks, Todd Vick, Minister of Lay Involvement.

Memorials

In Memory of Joe "Joey" Ragsdale, Jr. - Bob & Nadine Miller

In Memory of Gladys Charlton - Builders Class; Col. & Mrs. Joe Knox; Gladys Ware; Barbara Lee

In Memory of Libby Edwards - Bob & Ann Dawson

In Memory of Tom Fleri - Mr. & Mrs. David Farris

In Memory of Betty Gaines - Jane & Randy Bittle; Polly Anna Core; Mr. & Mrs. David Farris; Dr. & Mrs. R. C. Goodman; Bernie Forsgren Houser; Victor & Freda Manchaca; Pam & Randy O'Kelley; Fern Taylor; Janice & Mike McCain

In Memory of Gary Huggins - Bill & Toka Beall; Mr. & Mrs. David Farris; Jim & Wanda Foster; Jack & JoAnn Gedosh; Warren & Cynthia Giss; Louanna & Jack Green; Janice Powell; Mattie & David Brownfield; Annette & Pat Phillips; Al & Ila Sass; Charles & Sherron Shuffield; Doris Ford Harris; Fran & Sam Bateman; Doye & Nancy Cochran; Cornerstones Class; Cole Goodman; Eldon & Betty Pence; Dusti Miller Standridge; Ted & Ginger Taylor; Carolyn Jenkins; Linda Pinkston Meacham

In Memory of King Collier - Ewell & Nancy Lee

In Memory of Zoe Ann Newton - Prentiss Ware Family; John & Harriet Beasley; Randy Bittle; Cole Goodman; Ronald & Rebecca Yates

In Memory of J. Fred Patton - Ewell & Nancy Lee; Suzanne McCord; Carolyn Peer

In Memory of Wanda Van Horn - Kathryn Englehart

In Memory of John G. Ayers - Frank & Rosie Anderson; Ark-Okla Regional Education & Promotion Association; Harry G. Barr Co.; John & Harriet Beasley; Clifford & Ruth Davis; Pat Fleri; Jim & Wanda Foster; Jack E. Grober; B.G. Hendrix Family; Stormy & Pat Jenkins; Mr. & Mrs. Howard McMahon; Gene & Teija Nelson; Kyle & Renee Parker; David & Joanne Phillips; Sharon & Sam Sicard; Charles & Karen Still; Tom & Mary Kay Teeter; Finley & Evelyn Turner; Robert & Martha Williams; Marilyn Barr; Dixie Geren; Cole Goodman; Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Lewis, Jr.; Mrs. Donald Peer; Jim & Marilyn Rauser; Mary Edwards; Bob & Nadine Miller

In Memory of Bill Boyd, Sr. - Earline Satterfield

In Memory of Violet Phillips - Ralph A. Downs

In Memory of Marion Tuteral - Kyle & Renee Parker

In Memory of Pat & Bernice Gillespie - Lindy Cotner

In Memory of Thell Buell - Lindy Cotner; Suzanne McCord; Eldon & Betty Pence; Dr. & Mrs. James B. Saviers

In Memory of Tom & Glynna Clark - Lindy Cotner

In Memory of Tom Condren - Lindy Cotner; Dr. & Mrs. James B. Saviers

In Memory of Rev. Bob Ditterline - Builders Class

In Memory of James Dyer - James Orr & Neta Williams

In Memory of Dan Little - Eldon & Betty Pence

In Memory of Rachael McDonald - Jack & Louanna Green

In Memory of J. Fred & Bernice Patton - Lindy Cotner

In Memory of Donald Peer - Lindy Cotner

In Memory of John Lemley - John & Harriet Beasley; Carolyn Jenkins; Charles & Karen Still

In Memory of Marty Reed - Builders Class

In Memory of Mary Frances Beasley - Dr. & Mrs. James B. Saviers

In Memory of Frank Birch - Dr. & Mrs. James B. Saviers

In Memory of Pearl Brooks - Janice & Bob Powell

Honorariums

In Honor of Dr. George Ivey's 92nd Birthday - Gleaners Class; Finley & Evelyn Turner

In Honor of Dave Whiteis - Jack & JoAnn Gedosh; Cindy Robinson

In Honor of Darrin Hutcheson, Kenneth LeValley, Darline LeValley - David & Karen Hutcheson

In Honor of Bob & Nadine Miller - Bill & Toka Beall

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE**

December 21, 2008

Class	Attendance
Infants	3
Toddlers	
2 yr. olds	5
3 yr. olds	6
4 yr. olds	9
Kindergarten	7
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3and	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	45
CHILDREN'S DIV.	75
Grade 7, 8, 9,	
Grade 10,11, & 12	2
Youth Trip	67
YOUTH DIV.	69
Aldersgate(Room M105)	20
Believers (Room M302)	-
Builders (RoomM209)	24
Chapel Class (Roebuck Chapel)	60
Cornerstones (Room M311)	-
Disciples*(Room M312)	19
Discussion*(Room M301)	45
Encouragers*(Room M310)	18
Friends (Room M103)	12
Gleaners (Room M201)	27
Good News (Room M202)	-
Le Menage (Room M306)	-
Roundtable*(Room M213)	25
Seekers*(Room M107)	10
Uplifters*(Room M205)	33
ADULT TOTALS	293
General Officers	4
*Made their quota	
TOTALS	374
Worship:	
8:30	100
11:00 Family Life	307
11:00 Sanctuary	407
Wed. Communion	41
Youth Trip	67
TOTALS	922

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, December 28

8:30 - Breakfast, Fireside Rm.
 8:30 - Worship, Roebuck Chapel
 9:30-10:45 - Library Open, M211
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship, Family Life Center
 11:00 - Worship, Sanctuary
 4:30 - Down Home Singin, Roebuck Chapel w/ reception in Narthex
 6:30 - Combined Youth, Loft & Gym

Wednesday, December 31

5:30 - Communion, Roebuck Chapel

Monday, December 29

11:30 - Intro to Old Test. FLC102
 6:30 - Disciple I, Conf. Rm.

Thursday, January 1

Church Offices
Closed in observance of Holiday

Tuesday, December 30

1:30 - Archives Room Open, M204

Friday, January 2

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 services 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. Claire Hoffman
Emergency
on call Minister for
December 25-28
Phone: 459-5060

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