FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELLA VISTA

The Good News

April. 2012



When April 7th at 2:00pm Where First United Methodist Church Bella Vista 20 Boyce Dr., Bella Vista, AR 72715 What Egg Hunt, Snacks, Stories, Pictures, Crafts Who 0 - 10 years old



In this Issue

Faith Walk & Children	2
Youth	3
Green Team	4
Finance	5
Our Family	6-7
Congregational	8
Care	
Missions	9
Fellowship	10
Calendar	11

April, 2012



FAITH WALK Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander



Our Vision Statement: "All for All in Christ"

Our Mission Statement: "To equip

generations to become spiritually maturing Christians" **Our Journey Statement:** "Love, Learn, Lead"

Love. Learn. Lead. These words have become words that I say quite often since coming to FUMC Bella Vista. These words describe how we believe we are to be a positive influence in ministry to people. These words also connect our vision statement and our mission statement together. Several years ago, the church thoughtfully developed a vision statement and a mission statement to help direct the church's ministry. The vision statement is "All for All in Christ". The Mission statement is "To equip generations to become Spiritually Maturing Christians". The vision statement states what we believe to be the ministry of the church and the mission statement states what we believe we must do to achieve this vision. Love, learn, lead has become our journey statement that connects the vision and mission statement together. I encourage you to commit to memory each of these statements and to help us live out these statements in all the areas of the church's ministry. I am so thankful for the many ways the congregation seeks to fulfill each of these statements. Daily, I witness examples of people loving, learning, and leading in our church. Whether it is delivering meals through Meals on Wheels, praying for those in need, sharing a word of encouragement through sharing a word of encouragement through scripture, supporting the Shoebox ministry, mentoring the youth, teaching the children, participating in worship, supporting missions, the list goes on. Often I say, "Do not just come to church, but be the Church". When we love people, learn more about faith in Jesus Christ, and lead with a convent's beart we are being the Church with a servant's heart we are being the Church. Recently, I was visiting with someone who is not a member of the church. That person said to me, " Your church has a lot of workers in it, doesn't it?" I replied "yes, it does". This person had witnessed persons in our church being the "Church" by loving, learning, and leading as Christ followers. Thank you for all the ways you demonstrate the vision, mission, and journey statements of the church in your lives and help us as a church family to live each of these statements out in ministry!

I pray you will have a joyous Easter celebrating the resurrection of our Lord! Bro. Jaimie

CHILDREN

As you read this article, Spring Break is already in the books and the end of school is getting closer. I look out my window and am amazed at the wonder and beauty of the world that God has given us.

You might have noticed signs for the summer mission trip and wondered "What this is?" Over the last 5 years Children from NW Arkansas having been going to different locations and serving the community. Last year we, as a church, joined this ever growing group. Last summer we took two children to Jonesboro and touched many, many lives.

This year, we will be going to Pine Bluff June 27-30. I have the paperwork and will need it back no later than May 1. Our mission trips are open to 3rd through 6th graders. Information packets will be going out this week to all children eligible to attend. I will have an informational meeting for interested parents soon. Watch the bulletin for dates and times.

I understand the concerns you might have sending your child so far away. The children are always supervised and we take very good care of them. The opportunity to experience things outside of our community is amazing, and the children that have gone on these mission trips, have reported being leaders in youth mission trips like OMP. We are not doing the heavy emotional things that the children could face on the youth mission trips. We are just going out and trying to prepare them for those trips.

VBS is right around the corner!! This year we are daring to go deep with God in *Operation Overboard*. The dates are July 22-26. Our goals are huge and with Gods help, I know that we can meet them! If you would like to volunteer to help, you can contact me or go to <u>http://overboard.cokesburyvbs.com/</u><u>FUMCBV</u> and click on the "volunteer" button. You can also register you child there as well. Just click on the "Register a Child" button. We will be gathering (as a family project) on Wednesday evenings to help get the decorations ready. Jon and Jessica Mendoza will be leading our efforts. Watch the bulletin for more information as it is available.

Please continue to pray for our Children's Ministry and our children, and together with God we will do awesome things!

Carrie J. Drish, Director of Children's Ministry



CROSSWORD YOUTH

Happy Spring to All! February was a good month to be a part of CrossWord Youth. On February 5th, we had our annual Souper Bowl of Caring collection and held a successful Soup Lunch! We collected over our goal of \$750 and netted \$729 to be donated to seven local charities to help fight hunger in NWA. On February 15th, we held our first Youth Sweetheart Dinner. It was catered by Papa Mike's and we had fourteen in attendance. It was a nice candlelit dinner for the youth to be able to treat their 'sweeties' for Valentine's Day. The Youth Choir sang beautifully in service on February 19th. They will

be singing again the first Sunday in April, and then again on Youth Sunday on April 15th.

We took nine youth to attend Veritas the weekend of February 24th through 26th. Janelle Engle, Kirina Kelley, and I chaperoned for the weekend. Thank you to both of these ladies for giving up most of their weekend to be with us at the conference. It was the second largest UMC Youth gathering EVER in the country. There were 1500 youth from all over the state in attendance. From Friday night's concert and fun, through Saturday's speakers and workshops, to Sunday's moving final worship service we celebrated our faith in the Lord.

We have been preparing to co-host the 2nd Annual Spring Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 31st. Please make plans to attend. You can either purchase tickets in the church office, or at the door. Tickets are \$5 per person. We are planning right now and preparing for Youth Sunday on April 15th. We have a lot planned and the kids are putting a lot of effort again into making it a wonderful, moving, and funny service for everyone. Please plan on attending or watching online.

Please be praying for the nineteen teenagers we have in our youth group. They are going to be headed into standardized testing in April and ACT testing.

We have several youth who need to recognized for their accomplishments. Kolby Williams made All State orchestra for BHS, Kaci Baker made All Region band for Lincoln Jr. High, Josh Patterson placed 2nd out of 198 boys in the Pepsi Challenge bowling tournament in Jonesboro, AR. Josh won a \$500 college scholarship and bowled his highest game ever with a 222. Madi Hamrin was cast in the Freshmen Play at BHS in which each act is directed by a different Senior. Kamryn Baker is directing one of the acts. Congrats to all of these youth!

Hope everyone has a wonderful month of April and Easter!

In Christ, *Danette Baker*, Director of Youth Ministries







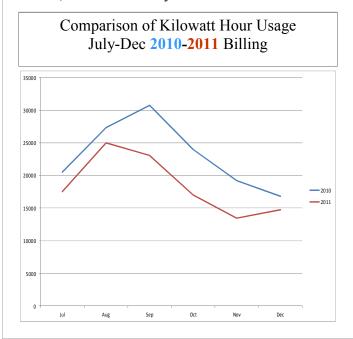
April, 2012



The Green Church Project

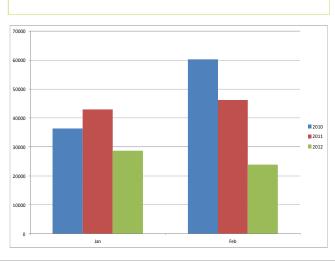
Finding ways to be better stewards of all of our resources

The Green Team has taken on a number of projects around the church in its efforts to be better stewards of resources. Many of you have noticed Keith Sterwald. Ed Fischer and others on ladders putting in insulation and making other changes to our heating and cooling systems. Their efforts are showing clear results. The following graph shows the difference between Kilowatt hours billed from July-December 2010 and the same time period in 2011 when the enhancements to our systems first became effective. 2010 is shown in blue. 2011 is shown We used 21% fewer Kilowatt hours in red during the billing period shown which represents a financial savings of \$1,572 for that time period and \$1,931 for the full year in 2011.



The savings in 2012 are even more dramatic. The following chart compares Kilowatt hours used in January and February of 2010 (blue), 2011 (red) and 2012 (green). The trend is definitely down. In fact, for the first two billing months of 2012, our Kilowatt usage is down 45.7% and our charges are down 39% compared to our benchmark year of 2010. That is Temperature variations in the amazing! February billing period account for some of the difference but definitely not all of it. We are using less energy because our heating and airconditioning systems are running more efficiently and our church is better insulated.

The Green Team will continue to look for ways to be better stewards of God's world. Thank you for your support.



Comparison of Kilowatt Hour Usage Jan-Feb 2010-2011-2012 Billing

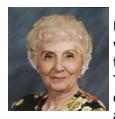
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FINANCE Month-to-date (as of 2/29/12) Budgeted Expenses. Receipts. Year-to-date Budgeted Expenses. Receipts. Actual Expenses. If you are interested in having your contribution automa checking or savings account, you can complete the form below AUTHORIZATION AGREE	
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OUR FAMILY

Beginning this month, we will use this space to tell you about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a birthday, anniversary, graduation, hole in one, community recognition, someone moving away or moving in, whatever the rest of the church might like to know to keep up with folks, let me know so I can include the information in these pages. Send your information to me, Jan Lowe at jan@lovelearnlead.com, or call me at the church, 855-1158 or 531-0381.



into Marion Dewyze moved Brookfield Assisted Living a few weeks ago. She would love to hear from her friends at the church. Thanks to good friends, she is able to continue to come to church and attend Abram Shepherd Group get-

togethers. It wasn't easy at first, but Marion seems to be doing very well adjusting to life without a vehicle and without a lot of her "stuff."

Pat Jenkins, shown here with husband Cliff, who died in July 2011, attended her last service at our church on Sunday, February 19. Senior pastor, Bro. Jaimie Alexander gave Pat a "going away" Prayer Marlene Clapp, UMW Shawl. President, presented Pat with an



inscribed Bible. She has moved to Tulsa, OK, so we are hoping we will continue to see her often as Bazaar's and Pancake Days come and go.



Don and Katie Noland's last Sunday was also February 19. They waited patiently for their home to sell, while they all but moved their belongings up near Kansas City where family will welcome them. Don and Katie

have been a part of this church since 1990. Bro. Jaimie gave them a "prayer shawl" to remember us by. They have both been involved in the life of the church, particularly in areas of children and youth ministry.

Don volunteered to be a leader for Vacation Bible School the past couple of years. He was always present at Pancake Days, and was active in UMM. We will really miss Don and Katie, but we won't forget them.



Betty Garcia's son, Steven, died very unexpectedly on February 14. Steven, in his 40's, had moved home several years ago to help his mom with the care of her husband and his father, who died about a year ago. We need to especially keep Betty in our prayers as she grieves the loss of

her only child. She attends the 9:30 worship service.

Minta Johnson, died at the age of 98 on March 19 at

Concordia Care Center. She had been doing fairly well until she had a fall about two weeks ago. She is the mother of the twins, Jan (Janet) Boblenz and Jan (Janice) Lang. Minta was a lifelong Methodist, serving her church in many leadership roles throughout



her life. Both daughters spent time every day with their mom. Please pray for them as they grieve her loss. A memorial service will be scheduled later when other family members can get here.



Pat Reid is home! She is at Concordia Care Center in Room 102 for additional rehab, with plans to move back to her home at Concordia sometime in the future. Pat is in great spirits, and will come to church after completing rehab.

She has been through a long ordeal, having been admitted to the hospital in Jefferson City, MO on Christmas Day, for pneumonia. After months of convalescing, she is finally back home. To celebrate her April 4 birthday, Diane Miller made a beautiful card for Pat – one that will be signed by her many friends and admirers in the church. For now, keep visits to a minimum, and cards to a maximum.



April Anniversaries

04/19 James & Patricia Rusterholz

April Birthdays

04/01	Catherine Hollan
04/03	Jim Bilyeu
	Pat Reid
04/05	Katherine Kiesel
	Yvonne Wright
04/06	Mary Carkeek (Kansas City)
	Jean Gard
	Sybil Martin
04/08	Harmony Ford
04/09	Pat Barber
04/10	Keith Albers
04/12	Jan Boblenz
	Janice Lang
04/13	Jack Collins
04/14	Garrett Greer
04/19	Sonnie Andersen
04/21	•
04/23	Emma Rose Jennings
04/26	
04/27	Reid Horle

04/30 Kimberly (Kim) Dale



Geraldine (Jeri) Kalister died on Feb 29, 2012. She and husband, Dave (deceased in 2005), were long time members of this church. А Celebration of Life Service was held at

the FUMC in Ardmore on Saturday, March 24.

Roger Evans joined our church at the Contemporary Service on March 4, 2012. Roger's wife, Barbara, died in February after suffering a stroke, and following a battle with cancer. Roger lives at 14 Country Club Circle and is a neighbor to Suzanne and Bob Webb and Arlene and Rod Alford. who are their "First Friends."



Roger is retired and enjoys golfing and just getting together with friends. He is transferring his membership from Mena, Arkansas UMC.



Pat Potts joined our church at the 8am service on March 4, 2012. Pat, recently widowed, will be a while before she is ready to get involved. She does love painting, crafting, and other creative activities. Son Steve,

wife Dedra, and grandchildren Brett and Tatum are also members here. Pat lives at 41 Wentworth Drive. Her "First Friend" is Lavon Fryer.

Jon & Sarah Baker and children, Drew and Lainey joined our church at the Contemporary Service on March 4, 2012. They have been active in our church for about two years, so many of you know them. Their "First Friends" Marcus and Kim are Dale. Whether it's Vacation Bible School or Thanksgiving Dinner, you will



often find them working somewhere in the church.



We are glad to welcome Rod Alford back from hip replacement surgery. He was away from church for about five weeks, and no one missed him more than the 25 – 30 kids who've come to call him the "Candy Man", and a well deserved title as kids run to greet him each Sunday morning to get their

peppermint candy. Oh, by the way, he is doing much better.

Our own Josh Patterson, 15 year old son of Jill Patterson, and grandson of J.R. and Layne Anderson, was honored for his achievement in bowling. Last weekend, he walked away with a beautiful trophy and a \$500 college scholarship, for coming in second place out of 198 boys age 14-18 in the Arkansas State Pepsi YBC Tournament held at Jonesboro, AR. This was a USBC event. His last three games in



the finals were 187, 187, and 220. We are so proud of Josh for this accomplishment.

April, 2012

GIVE

MF

MISSIONS, RADICAL HOSPITALITY, EVANGELISM, CONGREGATIONAL CARE, AND ON AND ON.....

Central Texas Conference Youth Mission Trip Comes to Bella Vista

From June 10 - 16 (Sun through Saturday), our church will host 50 youth plus adult chaperones from the Central Texas Conference Youth Mission Trip. We are just one of the Methodist churches in Northwest Arkansas that will serve as hosts for over 300 youth in all. Our guests will be self sufficient, providing their own food and meal prep for breakfast and dinner at the church. They will shower at Riordan and Branchwood, courtesy of the POA.

For the youth, it is an opportunity to reach out to neighbors in other states who need a helping hand. Examples of the kind of things they will tackle include indoor or outdoor odd jobs, clean-up, changing light bulbs or batteries, small painting or carpentry tasks, etc.

For our church it is an opportunity to encourage and support the youth in their outreach mission.

If you have any jobs that you just can't get to as easily as you used to, and they can wait till that week in June, please call Jan Lowe at the church or at 531-0381, or email her at jan@lovelearnled.com, stating what your needs are. They will come with a list of people to serve, but they also want to serve the people of our church. There is no guarantee they will be able to get all tasks done, but they will do as much as they can.

"LORD, GIVE ME PATIENCE"

GOLDEN LINKS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Golden Links Sunday School class now meets in the Chapel at 9:30 a.m. We will start a new study April 1st. This is something all Bella Vista people could learn from. *"Lord Give Me Patience! And Give it to me Right Now."*

We want everything done in a hurry these days. We are impatient people looking for instant gratification, so much so that sometimes we don't understand God's patient ways. This study will help us follow God's example so we can become spiritually mature Christians who see that the things that matter most take time, effort, commitment, and lots of patience. The authors of this study book are James W. Moore and Bob J. Moore.

Cathy Luck is looking for a tutor for clients of OASIS who are working on their GED. If you have a few hours a week to give, please call her at 855-1460 or e-mail <u>caluck@sbcglobal.net</u>

If you have a wheel chair (in good condition) gathering dust in a corner of your attic or basement, you could donate it to the church. We quite often need one or two on Sunday mornings. We also have a loaner program for members to borrow equipment for short periods of time while they are in need of something they may not want to, or be able to, purchase. It is nice to have a supply of needed equipment on hand for these situations.



MISSIONS

Shoebox

Deliveries: A total of 271 shoe boxes were delivered in February. The boxes were delivered to NWA Children's Shelter, Salvation Army-Bentonville and Fayetteville, Seven Hills-



Fayetteville, Oasis Food Pantry, Legacy Village, Youth Bridge-Centerton and 50 Sunshine Sacks were sent to Cooper Elementary School. Additional supplies were bought with designated funds and delivered to Havenwood & Restoration Village by Cheryl Campbell and Karen Roenfeld.

Volunteers: We finished compiling our volunteer list information in March. We will have contacted volunteers for a work day to be held after the newsletter deadline. Look for more information in next month's issue.

Needs: Large cosmetic type bags for Mother's Day giveaway; white socks especially women's and men's; feminine products or gift cards to purchase these items; dusting powder; more crossword books, and items for men's boxes going to Legacy Village.

We thank all of you who donate items for these shoe boxes. God Bless each and every one of you. In HIS service,

The Shoebox Team Leaders

Pak a Sak

In April we will be delivering our collection of food to the Northwest Arkansas Women's Shelter in Rogers. This is a safe house for women and their children in crisis situations. The shelter always needs canned fruits, cereal, juice, coffee, pasta products, soup and canned meats. All our recipients greatly appreciate what our church does to help them. **JUST A REMINDER;** ITEMS MUST BE UNOPENED AND NOT OUT OF "**BEST USED BY**" DATE.

MISSION OF THE MONTH Shoebox Ministry

The Shoebox Ministry is a non-profit organization established for the collection of toiletry items that are packed into shoe-

boxes and distributed to the homeless. The contents are intended to help the self-esteem and health of those who receive them. Boxes are packed for babies, children, men and women and are taken to shelters in Benton and Washington Counties.

Our Shoebox Ministry is also reaching out to the needy in nursing homes through our Legacy Village Green House Elder program, youngsters though our Cooper School Sunshine Sacks and Gravette Schools Health programs and others through food banks and disaster relief projects.

As the face of homelessness changes in Northwest Arkansas, we will continue to meet the needs of those who need our help. Your contribution to Shoebox Ministry will help us continue to reach the least among us.

Many thanks to all who prayed, visited, brought food, cards, and flowers during Bill's 3 procedures and my surgery. Visits were the high point of my day, especially at Highlands.

Special thanks to Bro. Jaimie, Jan & Pastor Lee for all their loving care. Bill & Vicki Hoye

Many thanks to my church family for your prayers, cards, and calls during my sinus and medication problems. Special thanks to Mil Davidson and Lynn Prueitt for taking my place a few times! FUMCBV is a very caring church and it's great to be a part of it!

Happy Easter to Everyone! Phoebe Bader



FELLOWSHIP

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Bazaar Workshops are off to a good start. We are meeting every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We also have projects for those who like to work at home. You can find those in a basket in Becker Hall. So far, the only supplies we need help with are some empty Pringles cans. Just put them in the quilting room. Keep your eyes open for new ideas for us and keep the week of October 6 open for helping with all the activities. This is such a great money maker for the charities we support, but it requires a lot of help and we couldn't do it without you. Thanks!

Verna Bottjen and Mabel Ashline

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The next meeting of the United Methodist Men will be on Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Becker Hall. Join us for dinner and an informative program from our guest speaker, Mayor Frank Anderson of Bella Vista. Reservations can be made through the phone tree or by calling Stan Tague at 876-2301 no later than Sunday, April 8.

METFIELD METHODISTS

The MM Shepherd Group will be going to Grove OK on Wednesday, April 11 to tour Har-Ber Village. The cost will be \$ 7.50 for admission. The Village has over 90 collectible and antique exhibits in different buildings (wear comfortable shoes!) After touring the Village we will eat at the Lazy Parrot. Most meals start around \$10.00. We will leave from the Church parking lot at noon. If you want to ride the bus please call Cheryl at 855-5172. Anyone is welcome to join us!

SOARING SOLOS

The Soaring Solos had a fun packed March, going to the St. Patrick's Dinner at the Highlands Mulligans' Restaurant on March 17. Nine Solos' attended and enjoyed both

the corned beef & cabbage, and the group singing of good ole Irish tunes.

On Sunday, March 18, 2012 we attended the Wesley Concert at our church, and then went to Lavon Fryer's home for a great supper and lots of good talking.

At the time of this writing, we have yet to go to Eleven at Crystal Bridges for lunch followed by a guided tour of the museum in the afternoon.

April activities are tentative so watch for information in the Sunday bulletins. If you are single, from fifty something to seventy something, (or connect with this group), give Jan Lowe your e-mail address so you can receive notices.

My heartfelt thanks for all the cards, prayers and well wishes I received after my recent hip surgery. And all the calls from Bro. Jamie and our wonderful church family. A special thanks to Pastor Lee for his visits and bringing me the beautiful prayer shawl. Knitters....you are wonderful. It was truly a heaven-sent gift. It hardly left my shoulders, day or night, and I'm still using it at home. I feel so truly blessed to be part of such a caring church family. Again, many thanks! Nancy DeVan

Many thanks to the members of the church. Thank you Bro. Alexander for visiting with our daughter during my shoulder surgery. Judy Bilyeu has earned many stars in her crown for all she did with trips to appointments, staying with me, arranging for Sue Nebrig to also drive me, and organizing Shepherd group One to bring in meals. I had no idea what a wonderful blessing that would be Thanks also to Kitty Polich for a very early drive. This is a truly loving and caring church. God bless all of you. **Esther & Bill Youngman**

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Return Service Requested

To the Home of ...

We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Brother Jaimie Alexander Associate Pastor - Rev. Lee Myane Dir. of Lay Ministries - Jan Lowe Director of Children's Ministry - Carrie Drish Director of Youth Ministry - Danette Baker Dir. of Music Ministries - Dr. Lawrence Zehring Director of Media Ministries - Troy Jorgensen Handbell Director - Dawn Thompson Organist/Pianist - Kyle Elmore Praise Team Leader - Shannon Wicker Worship Leader - Garrett Greer Financial Secretary - Marge Smith Treasurer - Amy Gilmore Secretary - Janet Walton

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Newsletter Deadline: 15th of the month

Easter Lilies In honor or in memory of a Loved One... Orders for a live lily plant can be placed in the Church Office for \$12.50 each. Deadline for placing orders is Tuesday. April 3rd. There will be a memorial listing those givers and their loved ones, in the Easter Worship Service bulletin. After last service on Easter, you may take your lily home, or ask the church to deliver it to someone who is homebound or in a nursing home.