



The Good News

February 2016

Worship Services and Activities through the Season of Lent

Each Wednesday from 11:45am to 12:15pm during Lent there will be a mid-day worship service, followed by a light lunch served and hosted by FUMCBV Staff and the various UMW Circles.

Lenten Sermon Series: "RESURRECTION FAITH"

2/10	Ash Wednesday ~ Pastor Judy Rudd-Platt preaching (11:45am & 6:00pm)
2/14	What Resurrection Meant to Matthew!
2/17	11:45am ~ Deaconess Kandi Mount preaching
2/21	What Resurrection Meant to Mark!
2/24	11:45am ~ Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander preaching
2/28	What Resurrection Meant to Luke!
3/2	11:45am ~ Rev. Verle Shumaker preaching
3/6	What Resurrection Meant to John!
3/9	11:45am ~ Deacon Linda Stewart preaching
3/12	Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast
3/13	What Resurrection Meant to Paul!
3/16	11:45am ~ Brenda Wideman preaching
3/20	Palm Sunday ~ What Resurrection Meant to Peter!
3/23	11:45am ~ Rev. Albert Fisher preaching
3/24	Maundy Thursday Worship Service ~ Lord's Last Supper will be celebrated (6:30pm)
3/25	Good Friday Worship Service ~ Musical presentation by Chancel Choir (6:30pm)
3/27	Easter Sunrise Service ~ 7:00am
3/27	Easter Sunday ~ What Resurrection Means to YOU! 8:00am, 9:30am, 10:45am services

Wednesday evenings begin with a light supper at 6:00pm for everyone. Classes and activities for all ages begin at 6:45pm and end about 8:00. (see the back page) There are also several Lenten Classes available at times other than Wednesday evenings. (see page 9). There will be NO MEAL, CLASSES, or ACTIVITIES Wednesday, February 10th. Please join us in the Sanctuary that evening at 6:00pm for Ash Wednesday services.



FAITH WALK

Brother Jaimie J. Alexander, Senior Pastor

“Resurrection Faith”!

The Season of Lent - Ash Wednesday, February 10th thru Easter Sunday, March 27th.

Resurrection is God’s personal response through Jesus Christ of who we are. Faith is a strong belief and trust. *Resurrection Faith* is a strong trust in God’s gift of restoration, redemption, and salvation through the life of Jesus Christ. Resurrection faith is believing that the witness of Christ’s love touches the loose ends of our lives to save and restore us. Christ has died for us so that we might know salvation and have resurrection faith. Resurrection is much more than a destiny; it is the fulfillment of love. Christ’s love of the Father, even to death on the cross, reveals to us the depth of God’s love and faithfulness.

During the Lenten season, we will journey through the 6 weeks of greater awareness of resurrection faith as we focus on the testimonies of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, and Peter. During these weeks, you are encouraged to attend the weekly midweek Lenten Services being held on Wednesdays from 11:45 to 12:15, followed by a light lunch prepared by the different United Methodist Women’s Circles and the staff. Different ministers in the church family will be offering the devotional messages weekly. I hope you will also use the weekly *Resurrection Faith* devotions written by various members of the Church family, as well as participate in 3 Lenten Bible studies that will be offered.



As you receive this newsletter, I will be on a 2 week trip to Uganda. I will once again visit Jinja, Uganda as I did in October of 2014, where our team will be working with Kibo International as this mission ministry focuses on reaching people with the love of Christ through water source development, women’s empowerment, and a project that helps villages prepare for the future by planting trees and raising goats, as well as offer the Gospel of Christ to help change people’s lives. I ask for your prayers of blessing, inspiration and safety. While there, I will be the overnight guest in a Ugandan family’s home, visit rural villages, and take part in staff development training. Thank you for supporting Pastor Judy, Pastor Brenda, and the staff in my absence. I look forward to sharing with you testimony of this trip when I return!

God is Faithful,

Bro. Jaimie

Don’t just come to church, Be the CHURCH!



Listening with Ears of the Heart

Pastor Judy Rudd-Platt, Associate Pastor

February evokes thoughts of cards and candy, hearts and arrows, or cupids and roses. Commercial enterprises ranging from retail stores to restaurants invite us to share tokens of affection with our spouses, friends, co-workers, fellow students or even ourselves. Although the celebration of Valentine’s Day is driven by our consumer culture, it can remind us of another, deeper love.

Jesus invites us into an agape kind of love that has loves for the sake of love. In the gospel of John, Jesus’ instructs us, “I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other” (John 13:34-35). Wow! That is a tall order! Jesus wants us to love everyone: family, friends, strangers and yes, even enemies. He wants us to love them with the love he had for us – a sacrificial love that will go to any lengths for the healing and welfare of the other person. He doesn’t want us to love with strings attached to our love. To love as Jesus loved us means that we love for *fun and for free*. Our love has no conditions or expectations that the other person will return or even deserve our love. When we choose to “love” with conditions or expectations, it is not really love. Conditional love is more of a barter system in which we get something when we give something. It is not the kind of love that Jesus shared with you and me.

Following Jesus’ commandment to love each other as he loved us is not easy. I’m not even suggesting that I live up to this commandment. However, in this season reminding us of love, we can ask ourselves, “Am I loving like Jesus?” “Do I love for fun and for free?” “Does my love have a hidden motive or agenda?” “Are strings attached to my love?” “How can I love more like Jesus?”

Wednesday evening, January 20th, we celebrated a rebirth in our church. Sixty-five people attended the launch of our Wednesday night small groups. It was a glorious sight to see so many people gathered together for a meal and to participate in the small groups ranging from crafts to deep spiritual matters of the heart. The hands of the Shepherd Group members poured love into the preparation of the meal, and the hearts of the leaders poured love into the small groups. Kristin poured love into the children as they learned about missions and our nursery care worker poured love into our youngest attendees. Now it is our turn to pour love into each other. By participating in a small group, you are invited to pour love into others as Jesus pours love into you.

If you have not joined a small group, it is not too late! Groups will continue to meet and new groups will be forming. You are invited to join a small group where you can receive the love Christ commanded us to give to one another as well as share the love that Christ first shared with you. Through our small group experiences, let us love one another as Jesus loves each of us.

Pastor Judy



LOVED: The Farewell Tour * Women of Faith
Kansas City, MO * February 12-13, 2016 * Friday 7-10PM and Saturday 9-5PM



Come celebrate with Patsy Clairmont, Mary Graham, Jen Hatmaker, Nichole Nordeman, Anita Renfroe, Sheila Walsh, Thelma Wells and Point of Grace

Cost: Standard Seats: \$119.00 or **Group Discount \$82.95 (10 or more) + one night hotel stay**
If you are interested in attending this life-giving and life-changing conference, please contact Pastor Judy as soon as possible.



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Brenda Wideman, Minister of Congregational Care

Prayer: A Valentine to our God!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. Luke 10:27

Here we are in the month of valentines, flowers, and chocolates! February is the month of the heart, a month where a special day is devoted to telling people we love that we love them! Our culture is obsessed with being in relationship. Are we in relationship with our Lord? How do we express our love to our Lord? Do we ever send a valentine to God, do we tell Jesus of our love from the heart?

Prayer is the way that we do that. When we kneel in adoration and praise, when we lift the yearnings of our heart up in prayer, and when we rest in the Presence and find peace in the process, we are sending a valentine to Jesus. This communication is a form of communion with our Lord. How often do we pray by rote or by compulsion or with our "to do list" to God? And then when our "Amen!" is said, we rush off to the next item on our schedule. In our busy world, this is so easy to do! But what we need to do is to share the things that are most on our hearts and even more, we need to just spend time holding Jesus' hand without even saying a word, for it is in these things that we deepen our relationship with Him.

We can build this relationship with our Lord in community as well. We do this when we pray together in worship. We do this when we place prayer requests to be lifted up by our Wednesday evening Prayer Team, by our pastors, and by our email Prayer Team. When we pray in this fashion, the bonds of community are strengthened as we join **together** in prayer. Prayer requests which are submitted for community support in prayer are shared with a wide range of prayer partners or are kept in confidence as per the requestor's desire. We invite you to submit prayer requests which we can share in prayer, to Brenda Wideman at brenda@lovelearnlead.com or 855-1158 or to Peggy Stout, our Prayer Steward, at pegdewitt@yahoo.com or 531-3433. As we journey together in Christian fellowship, may we each individually and in community send a valentine to our Lord by praying from the heart. Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Heart Month!

Blessings, *Brenda*



Dear Jaimie,

I am grateful to you for paying 100% of your 2015 apportionments!

Your congregation's giving comprises a significant portion of our conference's apportionment payment. In other words, it is large churches like you that enable United Methodist Arkansas Christians to make a significant difference in people's lives; sometimes right in your community, but certainly throughout our state, nation and world. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

God bless you!

Grace and peace,

Gary E. Mueller, Bishop



VISTA KIDS

Kristin Crider,
Director Children's Ministries

One of my favorite Christmas gifts that will walk me through this year is an art calendar with paintings from Debi Hron. A message on February's image made me consider and smile at the same time, "Tell me what it is you plan to do with your one wild and precious life." says Mary Oliver. Is that not a question we should ask ourselves daily, or what? Oh, the possibilities that wait for us each morning as we open our eyes, only limited by the vision we allow ourselves to have! I also think this is a fitting thought for February...we've made some plans in January and now what? Shall we keep them a secret in case they don't happen, or shall we share it with the world and see what happens? Sharing our plans, whether they are wild or just wonderfully ordinary, is a great way to keep the momentum going throughout the year.

On that note, I'd love to share some plans for our wild, precious and unpredictable children's ministry! We started our Wednesday night ministry! It's titled "Kids in Mission", and our kids will be exploring opportunities to serve others locally and globally throughout the year. Our first unit is Latin America. First, we worked on our mission notebooks, where we will keep info about our unit - maps, missionaries and ideas for how we could help others. And we had fun making piñatas for our celebration night a few weeks away. Kids don't need to be taught ABOUT missions, they need an opportunity to BE missions. Come join us!

CONGRATULATIONS to Jon & Jessica Mendoza! Jon and Jess have been faithful Sunday School teachers and Children's Ministry Leaders since they arrived at FUMC many years ago, and we welcome their newest addition to their family, Ryker Jon! We have other babies on the way, too, so keep an eye out for all the newest additions to our families. January brought another important step in the lives of those close to Children's Ministry - the goodbye to Trent Humphrey. It was a beautiful thing to share that with so many at the potluck celebration! Thank you all for sharing in the joys of our church together!

Kristin

YOUTH LIFE

David Hanson,
Director, Youth Ministries



Now that we have gotten through the holiday season I hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the 2016 year. I hope it's a wonderful year for everyone and I ask that you keep each and every individual out there in your prayers to have a wonderful 2016. *YouthLife* has a lot going to be happening here in the first six months. We have a couple adventures the next two months at Mt. Sequoia and Silver Dollar city for some young Christian gatherings. Right now I'm in the planning stage of trying to determine what the youth mission trip will be this year. Feel free to submit any ideas that you may have heard about that is outside of the state of Arkansas. The kids really like to see other areas and to see what they go through, which then helps them appreciate what they have and to bring back what they've learned to this area. As for some other things happening right now, the Youth are currently going through a short study dealing with temptation, which seems to be very interesting for them, especially with the current society we live in. As the spring starts to come I know I'm jumping ahead but if you have anything you need the youth to do, please don't hesitate to contact the church or myself and we will try to get over there and help out in anyway we can, *but* it's important that you give us a couple weeks notice so I can find some youth who can fit you into their schedule. I want to send out a huge "thank you" to all the church members who have given the youth meals on Wednesday nights. I also want to send out a huge "thanks" to all the other individuals for their constant support, whether it's through gifts or prayer.

David



OUR FAMILY

Each month this space is used to tell about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a graduation, 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 Brenda Wideman, Congregational Care Minister at brenda@lovelearnlead.com, or call 855-1158.

NEW MEMBERS

Clarence (Boots) and Joanne (Jo) Brehmer



have lived in Bella Vista for a number of years, having moved here from Madison, Wisconsin after retiring. Boots worked for Wonder Bread and Keebler in Wisconsin and still does merchandizing for Keebler a few hours

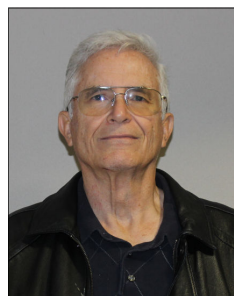
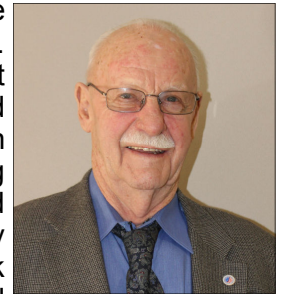
each week. Jo worked for Borman's Department Store in Wisconsin doing store displays for six stores in the area. Now that they are here in Bella Vista, Boots likes to golf, bowl and play Snooker. Jo enjoys golf, needlepoint and floral arranging. They were drawn to FUMC because of the friendliness of the congregation and pastors. We are delighted they have become a part of our church family! Be sure to introduce yourself when you see Boots and Jo at the 8:00 service.

Wayne and Joanne Hubbert were both born in Downers Grove, IL, but have lived in Arkansas for 37 years. They visited Joanne's dad who retired to Rogers and liked the area, especially the weather, so they moved here, too. Before retiring Wayne was a Corporate Safety Manager for Hudson Foods for 18 years and Joanne worked for Arkansas Department of Children and Family Services and as an



administrative assistant for pastors in the Rogers UMC. Now that they are retired Joanne volunteers at Northwest Medical Center and is a member of the Blue Bird Society. She loves reading, walking, keeping in touch with friends and family, flea markets, and thinking of "Honey-do" projects. Wayne spends his time golfing and reading. Look for him at Crystal Bridges, where he volunteers. Wayne and Jo attend the 10:45 service. We welcome them to FUMC!

James Dean retired from the railroad after 37 years of service. He has been a visitor here at FUMC for a while and decided this was the church for him. In his free time he enjoys working on the computer, outside yard work and sports. We heartily welcome James. Be sure to look for him at the 10:45 service and say hello.



Don Denison calls Denver, CO home, but moved here from New Orleans, LA after hurricane Katrina, 10 years ago. He is a past Chief Petty Officer in the US Navy for 22 years and then was an Associate Professor at Delgado Community College in New Orleans. Now that he is retired he enjoys golfing, exercise, and travel. Don attends

the 8:00 service and we are delighted that Don has decided to call FUMC his new church home!

BIRTHS

We are excited to report new life in our church's immediate and extended families. We welcome:

Ryker Jon Mendoza — son of Jon and Jessica Mendoza and little brother of Isabelle and Zach, was born at Mercy Hospital at 8:18am on Thursday, January 21st. He weighed 9 lbs, 13 oz and was 21 1/2 inches at birth. Congratulations to our Mendoza family!

Jack Wilhite — eighth great-grandson of Millie Davidson was born Saturday, December 26th. We celebrate with Mill!



OUR FAMILY

BAPTISMS

Reagan Paige Wicker, daughter of Brian and Shannon Wicker, was baptized Sunday, January 17, in *The Well* service as her family looked on.



DEATHS

Please keep all of these families in your prayers as they journey through the grief of their loss.

Lucile Roberts—long-time member passed away Sunday, January 24th at Highlands Rehab after living a dedicated life in the nursing field. Her service was held Friday, January 29th in our sanctuary.



Ned Shively - former member, passed away in Dallas on Wednesday, January 20. Please keep his wife, Joan, and their family in prayer. Cards can be sent to Joan Shively, 4831 W. Lawther Drive, #322, Dallas, TX 75214.

Peggy Schuette — former member who had moved to Wisconsin to be close to her daughter, passed away September 22. A memorial service was held October 16. Cards can be sent to her daughter: Nell Nash, 5289 N. Lake Drive, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217.



Shirley Bostrom—longtime member, passed away November 9 in Rogers. Her ashes will be interred in Atlantic, IA, at a future date.

Elizabeth Thomas—mother of Allison Totten, passed away New Year’s Day in Memphis.

Edith Rodriguez—sister of Frances Temple, passed away Tuesday, January 5, in Franklinton, LA.

Matt Morgan’s grandfather passed away on Wednesday, January 6, in Lincoln, NE.

Lavina Ramey - Rose Taylor’s mother, passed away on Wednesday, January 27 at Legacy Village. Her service is at a later date in Danville, IL.

ACTIVITIES COMING in FEBRUARY

YOUNG at HEART Shepherd Group— will join together for a Mardi Gras supper on Fat Tuesday, February 9, at 5:30pm in the Chapel. Call Judie Packard 426-6211 for more details.

ABRAM Shepherd Group will gather at Shirley Hofmann’s home (13 Dunedin) Friday, February 12 at 1:00pm for Desserts & Valentine Card Exchange (please bring a valentine to share).

THE WELL Shepherd Group—a “Get to Know you Lunch”, Sunday, February 21st, noon, location TBD Call Gail Phillips 855-7578 or watch the bulletin for further details.

2 SERVE Shepherd Group—will join together to provide the Wednesday night meal on February 24.

SOARING SOLOS—

- 1) January 30—Pack Shack participation together and eat out at Papa Mikes afterwards.
- 2) February 14—Pot luck at 2:00pm hosted by Diane Cox in the Chapel. Come and bring valentines to share.

PRAYER REQUESTS

As a church family, we lift each other up in prayer for both our collective joys and our concerns. Prayer requests should be sent to Brenda Wideman at brenda@lovelearnlead.com or 855-1158 or to Peggy Stout at pegdewitt@yahoo.com or 531-3433. You may also complete a Prayer Request Card and drop it in the boxes in the Narthex or Becker Hall.



OUR FAMILY



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 ♥♥ Dick & Genie Schupp
- 10 ♥♥ Eldon & Joyce Cox
- 17 ♥♥ Gary & Delores Grosnickle

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 ♥ Glen Hogue
- 2 ♥ Bette Cummings
- 3 ♥ Lynn Dove
- 3 ♥ Bill Gagner
- 3 ♥ Keith Prueitt
- 4 ♥ David Patterson
- 4 ♥ Rose Taylor
- 5 ♥ Mabel Ashline
- 6 ♥ Mary Ann Tompkins
- 7 ♥ Chuck Hurl
- 8 ♥ Nita May
- 8 ♥ Dee Wresche
- 9 ♥ Leslie Magee
- 9 ♥ Bob McBride
- 10 ♥ Lynn Johns
- 10 ♥ Tiffany May
- 10 ♥ Diane Rolph
- 11 ♥ Charlene Rayburn
- 12 ♥ Joyce Cox

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS (cont.)

- 13 ♥ Amy Gilmore
- 13 ♥ Jill Hale
- 14 ♥ Marilyn Frisby
- 15 ♥ Kelly Brooks
- 15 ♥ Kaela Hickman
- 16 ♥ Alva DeMarais
- 16 ♥ Tom Humphreville
- 17 ♥ Bee Johnson
- 17 ♥ Gretchen Magee
- 17 ♥ Hunter Roath
- 19 ♥ Laney Baker
- 19 ♥ Paula Carter
- 19 ♥ Jurl Hickey
- 21 ♥ Matthew Sandusky
- 22 ♥ Mary Tague
- 23 ♥ Phoebe Bader
- 24 ♥ Marcus Dale
- 24 ♥ Ted Ivy
- 25 ♥ J.R. Anderson
- 25 ♥ F. Jay Van Fleet
- 26 ♥ Peg (Margaret) Johnson
- 27 ♥ Rod Alford
- 27 ♥ Kathy Ayres
- 28 ♥ Sean Crider



Studies for the Season of Lent

Lent is a time when we search for those callused or wounded places in the center of our being that block us from God's love, mercy and grace. It is a time when we find our way through the wilderness of life and back to the One who created us. If you would like to take this journey with brothers and sisters in Christ, we have several opportunities available.

Why? Making Sense of God's Will (based on studies of Adam Hamilton)

Why do bad things happen to good people? Why do innocent people suffer? If you have ever found yourself asking these questions or heard others pondering them, this class is for you. Come join us as we seek to understand God's will in our lives.

Sundays, January 31st – February 21st 10:50am Maryann Johnson

John: The Gospel of Light and Love (based on studies of Adam Hamilton)

Travel through the gospel of John with Adam Hamilton and experience a season of spiritual growth and life-changing renewal while exploring the major themes of John. As you read the gospel, you will be encouraged to place yourself into the pages of the Scripture and ponder how the words are revealing the meaning of Jesus in your life.

Wednesdays, February 10th – March 16th 9:30am Larry Rolph

The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus (based on studies of Adam Hamilton)

During the 6 weeks of Lent, walk with Adam Hamilton as he explores the life of Jesus from his baptism and temptation until he takes his final steps to the Cross. An accompanying video takes to the Holy Land where Jesus actually lived, taught, died and rose again. Through Hamilton's insights drawn from history, archaeology and geography, this study promises to give you a fresh encounter with Jesus the Christ.

Wednesdays, February 17th – March 16th 6:30pm Brenda Wideman

ReLent: Preparing for Spiritual Revival

Holy Spirit, Come! Join an online Facebook group, as we explore the meaning of spiritual revival in our personal lives, the life of our church and our community. Share your thoughts of what it means to *ReLease*, *ReCeive*, *ReLate*, *ReNew*, and *ReSpond*. Through prayer, Scripture reading, reflection and action, together, we will experience the movement and power of the Holy Spirit as we grow deeper in our relationships with our Lord and Savior and are empowered to take his love into the world.

February 15th - March 20th FB (facebook) Friend Pastor Judy @ Judy Rudd-Platt

For Lent . . .

Give up temper: *Substitute a forgiving spirit.* Give up complaining: *Substitute thanks for your home, family, job, health.* Give up worry: *Substitute total trust in the Almighty.* Give up gossip: *Substitute kind words and understanding action.* Give up TV one night a week: *Substitute a visit to a shut-in or someone in the hospital.* Give up animosity toward a neighbor or fellow worker: *Substitute an attitude of love.* Give up envy: *Substitute a compliment.* Give up an extra 15 minutes in bed: *Substitute prayer and Bible reading.* Give up an hour on Sunday of fun and personal gratification: *Substitute that time in church.* Give up fear for a loved one: *Substitute a visual image of the way God would have them live.* Give up "giving up" on yourself when you slip ~ *start over again.*



MISSIONS



Sager Brown

What is Sager Brown you may ask? It is an UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) sponsored depot in Baldwin, Louisiana that is the headquarters for their relief supply operations. Approximately \$4 million in supplies are shipped each year from the depot to people in need around the world and across the US. They also reach out to the local Baldwin community through housing rehabilitation and food distribution programs. The more than 2,000 volunteers who come through Sager Brown each year make this all happen.

Our church has been sending VIM (Volunteer in Missions) teams of around 12 members for many years. It does involve some personal expenses but lodging and meals are provided on the 23 acre campus. Work consists primarily of assembling relief kits but there is also a wide range of work opportunities allowing for all kinds of physical abilities.

Our church has not scheduled a time to go until April of 2017 but if anyone is interested in participating in this mission work this year, we have received an invitation from the Highlands Church to accompany them for their dates of April 3 – 8. If interested, contact Carolyn Standridge at 268-4713. There is a slight possibility of joining another group for the first week of November. If you have any questions, call Verna Bottjen 876-1392.



Mark Your Calendars for Helping Hands

The dates for our volunteer working Saturdays for this year are: March 12, July 23 and December 10. Keep those days open!

For those of you who are not acquainted with how our church helps support the Helping Hands Resale Shop, it's a great hands-on mission. We supply guys (or strong women & teens?) in the morning to carry in donations. Then in the afternoon, we again have outside folks as well as others to work inside to cashier, bag items and maintain/tidy the sales floor. It is a great fellowship time as well as support for a worthy organization. Any questions, see Verna Bottjen or Shirley Wenger.

PAK A SAK

Restoration Village will be the recipient of our collection of food on Sunday February 14. This is a home for women and their children in crisis. Restoration Village provides a Christian environment to help get their lives back to a better place. The home RECEIVES NO FEDERAL FUNDS and depends on the generosity of supporters in Benton County. They are in need of all types of pantry food. Make sure all items are within "USE BY DATE"



UNITED METHODIST MEN There will be **NO FEBRUARY MEETING** of UMM. We invite you instead, to join your church family at the evening Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:00pm. The next UMM meeting will be Wednesday, March 9th at 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing all the men of the church there!



MISSION of the MONTH

UMW



Habitat for Humanity of Benton County, Inc. is a non-denominational Christian housing ministry with the objective of eliminating poverty housing from within Benton County and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience as well as action. In addition to building houses, Habitat for Humanity helps to build relationships with families and the community that result in a sense of belonging to the community for the new homeowner.

In 2013 Habitat saw its biggest change in recent years through its transition into a 14,000 sq. ft. facility that houses both the Habitat offices and ReStore! This new facility has been instrumental in helping Habitat to build more homes in the years to come and impact more lives in Benton County.

By the end of 2015, Benton County Habitat has built 68 homes in Benton County and refurbished several others.

Our FUMCBV family has a dedicated group of volunteers who are involved in nearly every Benton County Habitat project. Their specialty is building a shed for each family. All skill levels are needed for a Habitat build. If you can run a paint brush, a hammer or saw or shovel, cook a meal – you can be involved with a build. If you have a few hours available, you can volunteer at the Habitat ReStore or in the office, located at 1212 N. Walton Blvd (across from the “new” Harps).

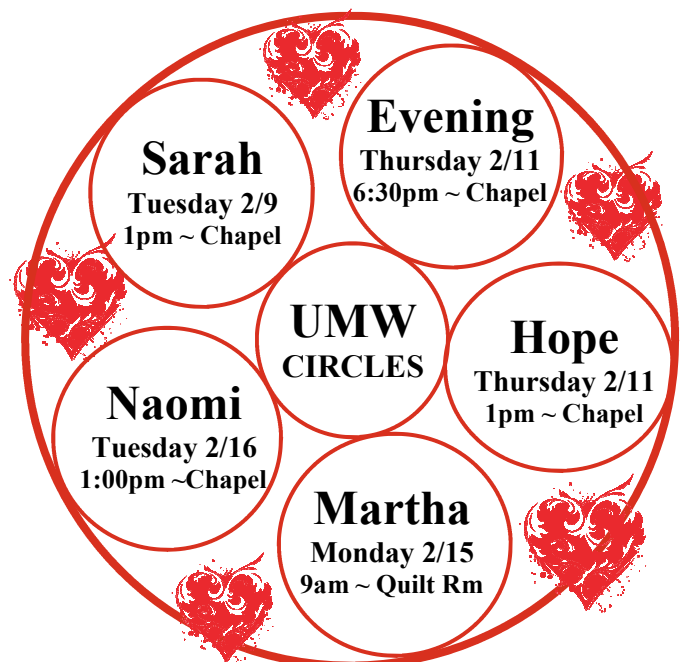
Your support of this Mission of the Month will allow a family to move from dependence to independence.

BAZAAR NEWS

Just a note to remind members of the Church that the UMW Bazaar Workshops will begin Thursday, March 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will meet every Thursday until Bazaar (Saturday, October 1st). Please bring along your ideas for crafts, sewing projects, etc. If there are some ladies who like to crochet or knit and can't come on Thursdays, please let Verna know as she has found some patterns that you could work on at home. We have knit hats and scarves from this past year so would like to have some new ideas. Bring a sack lunch along if you can stay past the noon hour. We have lots of fun and fellowship. Hope to see lots of you on March 3rd.

CARDS FOR SALE

Miscellaneous homemade greeting cards are in the Library, but have been moved to the wall above the computer desk - also there are some mixes of hot cocoa, spiced tea, bean soup and 1 Chocolate Nut Pie left from December. There is a container by the cards for your donations.





SANCTIFIED CLASSIFIEDS

BOOK NOOK

Sunday Tape Delivery Person(s)

One or two folks are needed to work together to deliver the tape to the cable TV station each Sunday morning.

Do you enjoy watching our 10am Sunday morning broadcast on cable TV? Others do, as well! We have a ministry opportunity to help see this broadcast can be viewed by all those folks who cannot physically be with us on Sunday morning.

Immediately following the 8am service, pick up the tape from the AV desk at the back of the sanctuary; drive the approximate 3.5 miles to the intersection of Lancashire and Forest Hills to give it to the technician at the TV station. The broadcast happens at 10am so this must be done quickly after our 8am service has finished. This takes about 15-20 minutes each week. A team of two could be sure all Sundays are covered. Please contact Amy Gilmore in the church office for more information.

Sunday Morning Office Angel 10am—Noon

Help us stay connected with a warm smile and a willing attitude by answering questions and phone calls while our pastors and staff are leading our third service on Sunday mornings. Please contact Amy Gilmore in the church office for more information.

Children's Sunday School Helpers 9:30-10:30

Our children's Sunday School classes are growing and the teachers could use an extra hand with the children during class time. The only requirement is a love of children and helping them learn that Jesus Loves Them! Please contact Pastor Judy for more information.

Sunday Audio-Visual Assistance

HELP NEEDED! Volunteers knowledgeable (or trainable) for Sunday mornings, operating the audio visual equipment (soundboard, computers and video camera) in all worship services. Don't be intimidated—you can be taught!! Please contact Troy, Alan Yount, or the church office.

LARGE-PRINT FICTION:

TWICE IN A LIFETIME by Dorothy Garlock

Clara and Drake are definite opposites attracted to each other but an unseen enemy throws their fragile future into a tailspin.

CHRISTMAS BELLS by Jennifer Chiaverini

Music director, Sophia, tries to forget her cares as she leads the children's choir in rehearsal for a Christmas Eve concert based on a poem by Longfellow.

THE MAGIC STRINGS by Mitch Albom

Nine year old Frankie Presto, a Spanish war orphan, raised by a blind music teacher, is sent to America in the bottom of a boat. His only possession is an old guitar and six magical strings.

FICTION:

A SECRET AFFAIR by Barbara Taylor Bradford

A dramatic and inspiring page-turner that illuminates the power of love.

A SUDDEN CHANGE OF HEART by Barbara Taylor Bradford

This book revolves around overcoming adversity as well as celebrating life's joys.

ROSE by Martin Cruz Smith

Gin-soaked and shaking from malaria, Jonathan Blair must travel to a town in the darkest part of England to solve the mysterious disappearance of a young cleric.

HAVANA BAY by Martin Cruz Smith

Arkady received a message from the Russian Embassy in Havana saying his friend was missing and asking that he come to Havana.



Looking back at 2015. . . Where did it go???





THANK YOU



Thank you to all of the church family at FUMCBV for having a hand in raising our son, Trent Humphrey. Your constant love and care of Trent from the time he came to Bella Vista with Sandy and Hal Fitch in March of 2010 to the wonderful good-bye party on January 17th is evident in his personality every day. We are thankful for you all stepping up to "Be the Church". We promise to share pictures and stories through Grandma Sandy and we'll visit, too! Thank you again for all you have done for us. *Gram & April Humphrey & Trent!*

Thank you. . . Thank you. Yes that is two "thank you"s. One is just not enough for all the prayers, cards, visits and meals! Jaimie, your visit at the hospital was so appreciated, the timing was perfect! The walker bag from the bazaar ladies IS SO HANDY! All the "You Do's" are so kind, generous and very appreciated! What a loving church! Again, Thank you so much,
Sandy Larsen

THANKS BE TO YOU. . .

. . . Your cards, calls, and delicious food are lifesavers. I wish I could write each of you a personal note, but altho' I have learned to eat and brush my teeth with my left hand, when I try to write with it, all I can produce is a miserable scribble.

This fall has been a learning experience for me and one thing I've learned is how important spiritually and physically is our family of faith. Thank you.
Annette Zehring

Jaimie and Church,
I just wanted to thank you for letting us sing for you in December. A special thanks also for providing our lunch! That was nice of you and we appreciate it. Thanks for all you do for our kids at Cooper, and for the teachers at Cooper. God bless you all,
Gary Leslie, Music Director 🎵 "Mr. L" 🎵




DECEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL DATA

		*= -Endowment	2015 Budget	Compare 2014
Month to date (as of 12/31/15)	Actual Receipts	*\$55,656	*\$54,317	*\$55,786
Month to date (as of 12/31/15)	Actual Expenses	\$57,092	\$54,317	\$51,761
	Month of DEC	(\$ 1,436)		\$ 4,025
Year to date	Actual Receipts	*\$679,403	*\$651,803	*\$598,211
Year to date	Actual Expenses	\$645,945	\$651,803	\$588,737
	YTD	\$ 33,458		\$ 9,474

Operating Account Balance 12/31/15 **\$2,173**

FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA	2 11:40 Golf-Kingswood	3 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 9:30 UMW Brd Meeting 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:00 Supper/Classes 7:00 Youth Life	4 11:06 Golf-Dogwood 4:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Living Sober AA	5 8:30 Believers Disciple 11:30 PreSchool Brd Mtng	6 9:00 Amp Big Book
7 BP ✓ between services 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service 2:00 Oasis child Educ	8 9:00 Caregiver Support 9:30 DAR 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Calico Cut-ups Brd 12:45 Women's Chorus 4:00 Guest Follow-up 6:00 By the Book AA 7:30 Big Band	9 9:00 PEO-BR 11:40 Golf-Brittany 1:00 Sarah Circle 1:30 Member Mtg 5:30 Young at Heart	10 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 9:30 Missions Mtg 11:45 Service/Lunch 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:00 Worship Service	11 11:06 Golf-Scotsdale 1:00 Hope Circle 4:00 Chancel Choir 6:30 Evening Circle 7:00 Living Sober AA	12 8:30 Believers Disciple	13 9:00 Amp Big Book 11:00 Avalon SG
14 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service 2:00 Oasis child Educ	15 9:00 Martha Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 PEO-CD 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA	16 11:30 Movng Frwr Lch 11:40 Golf-Dogwood 1:00 Naomi Circle 1:00 BV Book Club	17 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 11:45 Service/Lunch 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:00 Supper/Classes 7:00 Youth Life	18 11:06 Golf-Dogwood 4:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Living Sober AA	19 8:30 Believers Disciple	20 9:00 Amp Big Book
21 7:05 Handbls Practice 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service 2:00 Oasis child Educ	22 9:00 Caregiver Support 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:30 Calico Cut-ups 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA	23 11:40 Golf-Scotsdale 3:00 BV Library Board	24 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 11:45 Service/Lunch 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:00 Supper/Classes 7:00 Youth Life	25 11:06 Golf-Berksdale 4:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Living Sober AA	26 8:30 Believers Disciple	27 9:00 Amp Big Book
28 7:30 Praise Team 8:00 Trad. Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service 2:00 Oasis child Educ	29 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA					

First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista
20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista, AR 72715
(479)855-1158 fax (479-855-0850)

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT NO. 176
BENTONVILLE, AR 72712



We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor ~ Rev. Jaimie J. Alexander

Associate Pastor ~ Rev. Judy Rudd-Platt

Minister Congregational Care/Grief Support~Brenda Wideman

Church Secretary ~ Janet Walton

Church Treasurer ~ Patsy Attaway

Financial Secretary ~ Marge Smith

Director of Community Life & Connections ~ Amy Gilmore

Director of Music Ministries ~ Dr. Lawrence Zehring

Director of Media Ministries ~ Troy Jorgensen

Coordinator of Sound/Visual Arts - Alan Yount

Director of Youth Ministries ~ Dave Hanson

Director of Children's Ministries ~ Kristin Crider

Director of Childcare Ministries~ Angie Rader

Organist / Pianist ~ Broc Hite

Handbell Director ~ Dawn Thompson

Praise Team Director ~ Shannon Wicker

Worship Leader ~ Garrett Greer

www.lovelearnlead.com

[facebook@fumcbv.com](https://www.facebook.com/fumcbv.com)

Newsletter Deadline: 15th of the month

Return Receipt Requested

To the Home of ...

Let's Come Together on Wednesdays

Meal (for everyone) ~ **6-6:30pm** **Break/Transition ~ 6:30-6:45pm**

(Suggested Meal Donation: \$5/adult & \$3/child under 10 & Family maximum \$15)

(Reservations recommended but not required)

Groups ~ 6:45-7:45/8:00pm

Small Groups

- Financial Peace University (5:30pm) Stan Robinson
- Spiritual Gifts Sandy Fitch
- Embracing Forgiveness Kandi Mount
- Parenting in a Hurried Home David & Andrea Hanson and Rob & Cheryl Whiteside
- *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus* (see page 9) (Feb 17-Mar 16) Brenda Wideman

Small Craft Groups

- 50 Shades of Color: Coloring Your Way to Calm Darleen O'Brien
- 3D Cut Out Cards (Feb 3-Valentine Cards ~ March 16-Easter Cards) Sandy Larsen/Marlene Clapp
- Floral Design (Feb 17 - March 9) Gail Phillips

Childcare available for infants and toddlers

Pre K - 6th grade ~ Led by Kristin Crider, Director of Children's Ministry

Kids in Mission: Exploring Missions in Our Church, Community and Beyond. Children will explore topics such as: People with Disabilities, Disaster Relief, Native America & Latin America through song, crafts & missionary lives.

A quiet time for study and homework will also be provided, if needed.

Youth (7th-12th grade) Dinner 6-6:30 ~ *YouthLife* in Youth Room 6:45-8:00

You may register for groups by calling or emailing the church or by signing up in the Narthex or Becker Hall.

If Wednesday Nights are calling you to FUMCBV but you need transportation assistance, please call the Church Office at (855-1158)