FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News FEBRUARY 2021



METHODIST FAMILY HEALTH Our Mission Project during Lent February 17 ~ March 30

For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart. (Matthew 6:21)

This Lenten season, shift your focus to where your treasure is and what you can do to change someone's life. This year, our mission focus will be on Methodist Family Health, a holistic health facility that depends on donations. Methodist Family Health offers inpatient psychiatric hospitalization for children ages 3 to 17, outpatient counseling clinics, grief counseling services, therapeutic day treatment programs for kindergarten to 12^{th} grade, and more. During their *Get Up & Give* Drive, they ask for necessities to keep their facilities running. Each of the last 2 years, we have collected over 600 items for Methodist Family Health's *Get Up & Give* Drive! Let's See what can we do THIS year!? We have divided their shopping list into the 6 weeks of Lent. If you choose to donate, please bring your items during your specified week and deposit them in the bins in the Portico. Methodist Family Health requests that all donations be new items. Thank you for your generosity and provision!

Methodist Family Health Shopping List

Household Items (Week 1 ~ Feb. 17-23)

Paper towels and napkins Small laundry baskets Laundry hampers with lids Plastic hangers and bins (shoebox size)

- Baby Care (Week 2 ~ Feb. 24-Mar. 2) Diapers for all sizes Baby wash Baby Tylenol Thermometers A&D ointment and Vaseline (small jars) Infant nail clippers and nasal aspirators
- Feminine Hygiene (Week 2 ~ Feb. 24-Mar. 2) Tampons and pads (all sizes) Panty liners

Bath Items (Week 2 ~ Feb. 24-Mar. 2) White towels and wash cloths Individual shower caddies Body wash, shampoo and conditioner Shaving cream and disposable razors Deodorant (solid or non-aerosol spray) Toilet tissue and facial tissue (like Kleenex)

Bedding (white/TWIN-SIZE only) (Week 3 ~ Mar. 3-9) Sheets, pillows and pillow cases Mattress pads Comforter sets and bedspreads

School Supplies (Week 4 ~ Mar. 10-16)

Backpacks in clear and solid colors Pens, pencils, pencil boxes, crayons Non-spiral and composition notebooks & journals Canvases, paintbrushes and art sets Perler bead supplies and kits

Books and Toys (Week 5 ~ Mar. 17-23)

Paperback books for young adults (book series are particularly needed) Paperback Bibles and devotionals – Please visit

- <u>MethodistFamily.org/Ways-to-Give</u> for a list of those we use most often in our locations Coloring books for adults Cards and board games
- Xbox and Playstation games
- Hot wheels cars and road mats
- Building blocks of all kinds (Legos, etc.)
- Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, volleyballs

Clothing (Week 6 ~ Mar. 24-30)

- Men and boys boxers and briefs in all sizes
- Women's panties in size 7-14
- Non-underwire bras in size 24-40, cups B, C, D, DD
- Socks in all adult sizes
- Sweatpants, sweatshirts (no hoods), t-shirts, pajamas, jackets and shorts for men and women in sizes small to 4XL
- Khaki pants and hunter green polo shirts in all child and adult sizes (used for school uniforms)
- Slip-on and Velcro tennis shoes (no laces) in adult sizes 5-14

Gift Cards

Walmart, Visa, and Amazon in any amount

Donate Monetary Funds

Write a check to FUMCBV and put MFH on the memo line. All donations will be forwarded to them.

For questions or concerns, please call 501-906-4201 or email <u>CMcCreight@MethodistFamily.org</u>.

THE GOOD NEWS



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Glimpses of Grace Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor



"... and the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

Happy Love Month! February is that month where we are reminded to tell the ones we love how we feel. So, I want to be sure you know that I love YOU! I miss you all so very much

and I'm holding onto the hope of seeing everyone soon! Cases are going down and vaccines are being administered. I am so proud of our church for loving our neighbor by staying safe, wearing masks, and continuing to serve in numerous ways while we're still living in this pandemic world. As always, if the church can assist you in any way, please let us know. If you wish to monitor whether or not we will be open, go to https://arumc.org/covid19/dashboard/. Enter our county and if it is yellow, we will likely be sending out notice that we'll be in-person soon!

Halfway through this month, Feb. 17, we will begin the Lenten season. I hope you'll join us online for Ash Wednesday, if you are able. If you are unable to join us online and regularly receive our mailings, we'll mail out an at-home service for you to do. We will not be imposing ashes this year. Instead, we will be focusing on the "from dust you came and to dust you will return" phrase. I invite you to prepare for this service by getting a flower pot, bowl, or small container of some kind and putting some dirt into it! We're going to do something with that dirt – whether or not you can worship with us online!

Our Lenten worship series focuses on the theme of, "Give It Up." We often give material things up for Lent in order to enrich our relationship with God. However, maybe we aren't giving up the "right" things, or the things that will truly challenge us and help us to lean more on God. We'll have six sermons to learn how to give up things like control, popularity, and expectations.

We are hopeful that we might actually get to begin in-person worship this spring. Easter is April 4. I remember circling Easter on the calendar last year and promising all of us that we would have a huge Easter celebration when we were able to return to the church. And that gave way to Pentecost, and back to school, and, and, and... I never thought it would be a year later when we would hold that celebration. Even if we aren't able to gather inside for worship on Easter Sunday, we are planning a parking lot, socially distant worship service for Easter Sunrise! Stay tuned in March for more details!

My prayer for all of us is that in this month of love, and as we embark on re-hearing the greatest love story ever told, that we may all remember and know that God loves us. Every single one of us just as we are! With Love and Blessings,

Rev. Jeanne

Going outdoors is not cancelled, listening to music is not cancelled, quality time with our families is not cancelled, reading a book is not cancelled, sharing with friends is not cancelled, singing out loud is not cancelled, laughing has not been cancelled, sharing HOPE with others has not been cancelled. Let's EMBRACE what we have!



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor

Love: The Universal Spiritual Gift

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a langing gong or a clashing cymbal. Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage....it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. It trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.... Now faith, hope, and love remain – these three things – and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13 (CEB)

February is the month of love, the month of valentines, flowers, and chocolates. February is the month of the heart, a month where a special day is devoted to telling the people we love that we love them! What things have you been doing during the pandemic to take care of your heart? Have you reached out to those you love to stay in touch with them? Have you reached out to those who need to hear a kind word, those who are hurting, those who need to have their heart fortified with love? Have you reached out to someone who is totally different than you, someone who is fearful of you because of your differences? Have you reached out to someone who is of your relationship? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself? (Mark 12:31) Sometimes we love our neighbor but lose sight of how to love ourselves.

One way to love ourselves is to do things which heal the spiritual brokenness in our hearts. There are so many ways to build that spiritual gift within ourselves: prayer, worship, quiet time alone in devotion, reading scripture, singing songs of faith, reaching out to others. Is it possible that during the pandemic, you have slipped into brokenness in your spirit, maybe into grief? Maybe grief has entered your life because of deaths of those dear to you. Maybe grief has entered your life because of loneliness, because of illness, because of the loss of your job, because of a divorce or another broken relationship. In any of these situations, you need to love yourself and find a way to strengthen the spiritual gift of love within you. If any of these describe you, then I encourage you to attend "When Mourning Dawns: Living your Way through the Seasons of your Grief." This 9-week group study allows us to understand our grief, gives us encouraging ways to work through our grief, and gives us permission to love ourselves in healthy ways The study begins on Thursday evening, February 4 from 5:30-7:00. It will be held once again. electronically via Zoom. Give yourself a gift this Valentine's Day, a gift of healing your heart, of reintroducing the gift of love within yourself. Just call the church office at 855-1158 and asked to register for this small-group study. Please come be with us as we join in the journey together. Blessings, Pastor Brenda

When Mourning Dawns – Living your Way through the Seasons of Your Grief

Thursdays, beginning February 4, 5:30-7:00pm ~ 9 weeks Gathering by Zoom ~ Registration Required Register by calling the church office or online at www.fumcbellavista.com/grief



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, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at 479-855-1158 or brenda@fumcbellavista.com

JOYS

Doris Selley – our sweet Doris Selley, who has been a faithful member with us since 1980, turned 100 years old on Sunday, January 17. When asked the secret to reaching this milestone. she said.



"just keep breathing"! She attributes her positive attitude to good health, wonderful parents, a good upbringing, and great friends along the way. A card-shower, drive-by celebration to honor her was held Sunday afternoon, January 17th at 2:30pm You can still wish her well by sending cards to 403 Concordia Dr., BV 72715. Keep Doris in prayers for the joy of this blessed milestone!!

RETIREMENT

Dawn Thompson – our wonderful Handbell Director for almost 20 years has decided to retire. We honored her during Sunday worship, January 17th. We will honor her formally when we can gather for in-person worship in the future. Please wish her well and keep her in prayers that this will be



a blessed transition. Cards can be sent to: 37 Penrith Dr., BV 72714

Love Your Neighbor

In this time of divisiveness, we know we are a church family who spreads Christ's love as He has called us to do. Purchase a sign in the office for \$10 and display it in your yard, and encourage your neighborhood to love each other.



IN MEMORIUM

Lloyd Muirhead – passed away on Tuesday, January 12 at Village on the Park in Bentonville after testing positive for COVID. Lloyd and his wife, Lynn, had been members with us since March of 1993. Lloyd was 97 years old and died on Lynn's birthday. A private memorial service



will be held on February 3rd at the National Cemetery in Fayetteville. Please keep Lynn, their children Deb and Jeff, and all the family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Lloyd.

<u>Elizabeth</u> 'Betty' Sterner – passed away on October 10 in Oklahoma. She was a member with us from 1982 until 2018 when she moved to Oklahoma to be close to her daughter. Please keep her family in your prayers.



<u>Mark Janssen</u> – son of Allen and Phyllis Janssen, passed away late Tuesday night, January 19th, of COVID related complications. He had just begun to exhibit symptoms the weekend before. Please keep Allen, Phyllis, and their daughter-in-law in prayers as they mourn the unexpected passing of Mark.

Barbara Jean Nabholz – mother of Marisa Nabholz, passed away on Tuesday, January 12 at her home in Conway. Marisa had just visited her the day before, for which she gives thanks! Please keep Marisa and her family in prayers as they mourn the loss of Barbara Jean.

OUR FAMILY

<u>Jeff Movick</u> – brother of Anne Miner, our childcare worker, passed away recently. Anne's brother, Dave, passed away about 6 months ago. Please keep Anne and her family in prayers as they go through these multiple losses.

Karen Warner - mother of Patti Foss, recently passed away in Huntsville, Alabama of COPD. She was 79 years old and had been ill for some time. Patti was a primary caregiver and is grateful for the time she was able to spend with her Mom during these last few months. Please lift up prayers for Karen's family and Patti and her siblings during this difficult time.

Debbie Hammond – long-time friend of Cathy Luck, passed away Sunday, December 20, after a long battle with health issues. Please be in prayer for Debbie's daughter Krista, who had been her full-time caregiver, and the rest of the family in the loss of Debbie.

<u>Samuel Newtz</u> - a close cousin of Shelby Spears, (husband of Kacy, our Communications Director) recently passed away unexpectedly in Arizona. Please keep this family in your prayers during their difficult loss.

1st UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BUSINESS REFERRAL PROGRAM



There are various businesses and individuals who are members of our

church who would like to offer their services to our congregation. For referrals to them, and completed business from church members, they will contribute up to 25% of their profits back to the church. In some cases, this can be quite significant. We have some Realtors who are members: Carolyn Sutton \sim Doug Grant \sim Lou Kaufmann. They will donate 25% back to the church, on any commission earned. Also, Dr. Gretchen Magee is a business owner who also gives back to the church.

Any business member or individual of the church who would like to participate, please let Jan Walton (in the Office) know to get on the list.

New Faces Around the Church

<u>Kaitie Bewley</u>

Kaitie is our incoming Communications Director watching over all communication from our church out to the community, as well as AV/IT responsibilities. She



was born in Amarillo, TX and raised in Rogers, AR. She has spent much of her adolescent life involved in different denominations, but this is her first time in the United Methodist Church. She has an English Degree from the University of Arkansas, and was previously involved in broadcasting/media.

In her spare time you can find her with her nose stuck in a book. She enjoys salty snacks, anything chocolate, and blasting Celtic music in her car. She also enjoys going for long walks and listening to peoples stories. History is something that fascinates her and she likes to hear firsthand accounts.

Please welcome Kaitie, and wish her well as she keeps us connected and our technology up and running.

You can catch Kaitie in the church office, or you can send her an email at <u>kaitie@fumcbellavista.com</u>.

Renee van Dyke and **David Williams** were introduced in the January newsletter. You can read all about them there.



<u>Renee van Dyke</u> is our new NextGen Director, watching over our Children and Youth programs. Her e-mail is renee@fumcbellavista.com

<u>Davíd Wílliams</u> is our new Contemporary Worship Director watching over Wednesday night worship. He can be reached at <u>david@fumcbellavista.com</u>





LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE Dave Broers, Lay Leader

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalms 51:10

(KJV)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ve present vour bodies a living sacrifice. holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1 (KJV)

February is a special month with significance touching the secular, romantic and spiritual realms. First, it is the shortest month of the year. The year's span is only 28 days. Also, Valentine's Day falls on the 14th of this month. Most of us will forget this romantic day until it is upon us a week or two before the 14th, remembering just in time to send candy, roses and cards filled with human expressions of love and devotion to our true loves.

However, the deepest expression of love is more than candy, roses, and cards; it is remembering what Jesus did for us by presenting himself as a living sacrifice for our salvation. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16 (KJV)

We commemorate this period of reflection on Ash Wednesday, the 17th, the 1st Day of Lent. It is commonplace to get caught up in the Lenten practice of giving up desserts or giving up something we like to eat; this gives us another chance to lose weight after the first of the year. The Lenten season should be viewed as a penitential period of prayer and fasting. Let us duplicate David's exclamation in Psalm 51:10 where he beseeched the Lord on bended knees, with hands clasped, pounding his chest in all sincerity crying out, "create in me a clean heart". Envision and claim his emotion this month.

Peace and blessings. . . . Dave

Do you feel called to organize missions? Your church is in need of a Missions Coordinator! Contact Rev. Jeanne at jeanne@fumcbellavista.com or 479-855-1158.



Artie Lawless, **UMM** President



Friends. **Continue to Check on Friends**

Hello Methodist Men!

Ah, February...We start thinking about the things we love, Our Spouses and Family, Spring (not too far away), Warmer Weather, Baseball... Valentine's day is right around the corner. We look forward to giving our sweethearts a gift to express our love for them.

I'm a traditionalist when it comes to Valentine's Day and will look for a sentimental card, some flowers, and of course, that box of soft center Russell Stover's chocolates that Marian will always share. Well, most of the time. Ok, I might get one...

This is our time to shine, guys. Whether it's Jewelry, Candy, Flowers or just a simple "I love you" whispered over that morning cup of coffee. Our loved ones need to know we care, we love them, and we appreciate all they do.

I want you to know, God gives us a Valentine card every day. It's the Bible. In the most loving verse, he says to us: John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave us his only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life".

Wow, what a gift, and all we need to do is love and believe in him...but that's God's way for those he loves, abundance, more than you expected, more than enough, and here's how you can send Him a Valentine.

Take a minute on Valentine's day. Put your hands together, close your eyes and look to heaven. Whisper to God (He'll hear you) "Father, thank you for your love and caring for us. Thank you for the Valentine message you have given us in the Bible. I believe in you and look forward to everlasting life with you in Heaven. Amen.

Many Blessings, Happy Valentine's Day, First United...Artie



			2020 Actual		2020 Budget	
Month of December	*Income	\$	49,146.33	\$	36,709.84	
Month of December	Expenses	\$	45,625.53	\$	47,430.83	
	Difference	\$	3,520.80	\$	(10,721.07)	
Year to Date (as of 12/31/20)	*Income	\$	485,390.31	\$	440,518.00	
Year to Date (as of 12/31/20)	Expenses	\$	512,748.53	\$	565,770.00	
	Difference	\$	(27,358.22)	\$	(125,252.00	
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Year to Date Income including PPP loan		\$	551,490.31			
Year to Date Expenses		\$	512,748.53			
Difference		\$	38,741.78			

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator

Stewardship Corner

How Generosity Reveals Your Heart

Have you ever given a financial gift to your church or a ministry and then regretted it? You're not alone. Giving is one of the most challenging disciplines and can reveal our hearts better than most things. Giving is one of God's ways of helping us become more like Him, and often the most significant personal growth comes when we get it wrong.

Attitude matters when giving. We all know that giving is not supposed to be about us, yet we can often make it about us. Two heart attitudes must be understood whenever we face a giving decision.

Selfishness is the first attitude we encounter when we consider giving. A selfish heart is triggered whenever we believe giving will somehow diminish what we have. This is usually based purely on emotion and rarely accurate. It's the excuses we tell ourselves; that we won't have enough for ourselves if we give. According to God, when we give, His protection, favor, and blessing are unleashed. The Scripture practically guarantees that when we give with the right heart, we receive back often more than we give. (Luke 6:38)

A grieving heart is the second attitude we encounter, and it happens after we give. Because we are not magically relieved from our selfishness when we give, and there's still some residual selfishness involved, we may encounter grief over our gift.

In Deuteronomy 15:10, the Israelites were told, "You shall surely give to him, and your heart should not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord you God will bless you in all your works and in all to which you put your hand." The way we deal with a grieving heart is to recognize our condition and repent. We must reject thoughts that we will not have enough for ourselves, believing that God sees our giving and will faithfully bless the work of our hands and ensure our future provision.

Adapted from an article on Christian Stewardship Network Ken Swanson, Finance Committee Chair

Amy's Anecdotes Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator

Three New Bible Studies just for YOU!



Cathy Luck is leading *Immersion Bible* Study – Mark over the next few weeks. This study is inspired by the CEB translation and stands firmly on scripture. It will help you explore the

emotional, spiritual, and intellectual needs of your personal faith. You don't have to use the CEB translation, this study will offer new insights into God's word, your own life, and your life with God no matter what translation you use.

This study will be offered via Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 9:00, beginning February 3rd. If you would like to participate in this study, please sign up with the link provided. We have books available in the church office.

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The Women's Group will be doing a study on Adam Hamilton's Simon Peter. This will be a six week journey that takes an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter. The class will take place via Zoom Sunday evenings at 7:00 beginning February



21st. Please sign up. There is a book for this class; you may order it at Cokesbury or through Smile. Amazon.com. If you would like the church to order it, please contact Amy Gilmore at 855-1158 or amy@fumcbellavista.com.

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Pastor Brenda Wideman will be leading a new Bible study, Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross by Susan Robb. This study looks at Christ's final words from a biblical and historical perspective, showing how we

can find life and hope in them. The class will meet Tuesday mornings at 11am via Zoom, beginning February 23rd for 6 weeks (March 30, Tuesday of Holy Week is last one)

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Book Nook



2021 UMW READING PROGRAM BOOKS

* EDUCATION for MISSION: CATEGORY I GUM MOON by Jeffrey L. Staley A ROAD CALLED DOWN ON BOTH SIDES by Caroline Kurtz THE UNSTOPPABLE GARRETT MORGAN by Joan DiCicco

- * NURTURING for COMMUNITY: CATEGORY II BABBIT & JOAN by Denise Turu THE HATE U GIVE by Angie Thomas DANGLING by Amy Carr A LIVING GOSPEL by Robert Ellsberg THE BIRD BOYS by Lisa Sandlin
- * SOCIAL ACTION: CATEGORY III FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS by Sharon Risher REST IN POWER by Sabrina Fulton WOMEN RISE UP by Katey Zeh GIRL GONE MISSING by Marcie R. Rendon
- * SPIRITUAL GROWTH: CATEGORY IV *FAITHFUL FAMILIES* by Traci Smith *SLEEP, PRAY, HEAL* by Donna Fado Ivery
- * LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT: CATEGORY V *RISE* by Maya Angelou *CINDERELLA LIBERAT*OR by Rebecca Solnit # NOT YOUR PRINCESS by Lisa Charleyboy



VETERANS WALL of HONOR

The Veterans Council of NWA, who maintains and upgrades the Veterans Wall of Honor in Bella Vista, is

now expanding space in order to accommodate additional memorializing and the recording of veteran names. If you have not yet visited the wall, please make a point to do so in the near future. It is a tribute to all veterans (either living or deceased) who have given so much for the freedoms we enjoy today.



From the Organ Console Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist

I'm excited to get started on a new series of Piano Postludes, with España of Isaac Albéniz. This short suite contains six pieces, but February only has four Sundays. I've decided to peel away two of the pieces to offer online. I've already offered the Tango on a recent Music Monday. I'll soon record the Capricho Catalan for that same program. I will play the other four on consecutive Sundays.

Back on the organ, you'll hear more music by Flor Peeters and Alexandre Guilmant. We will be in Lent for the second half of February, which will bring a change in the tone of the preludes you will hear. It will affect the postludes, too, but not until March, due to Piano Postludes.

I was excited to rescue my recording of the Widor Toccata in Easter 2016 from the old LoveLearnLead Website. I will re-release it on YouTube before Lent as a Music Monday Extra. Many folks were sad that I skipped playing it last Easter, which occurred not long after our pandemic isolation began. I expect to bring it back this Easter, as long as it fits the tone of this year's service.

Larry and I are starting to prepare the Pergolesi Stabat Mater for Good Friday. It is not a choral piece. Rather, it features a soprano and a mezzo-soprano soloist performing with a small chamber ensemble.

We have had a lack of interest in soloists volunteering to sing or play at the offertory. We were only able to fill solo slots from the volunteer ranks twice during January. If you enjoy performing in church, please contact me so we can get you on the schedule.

Thank you for your support of the music program as always!

Broc

Please join me online! On the Web: <u>https://brochite.com</u> On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals THE GOOD NEWS

Please don't forget about our ongoing mission project ! SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS...

is our on-going commitment to provide 20 snack packs per week for students of

Cooper Elementary who are in need of food for the week-end. We need your help!

Bring your quarters ! Write a check ! Feed a Child !



We thought we would let you see what we packed and took to the school yesterday, January 5th. There are 120 bags, snack-packs for the month of January. Bob & Shari Vermett



OUR AUTO ANGEL MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!!

If you are able and willing, please consider becoming an Auto Angel. There are many in our church family who do not drive, or may be temporarily unable to drive. Taking them to local doctor visits or grocery shopping or other necessary trips would lighten their worry load. There are very few times during the year that you would be called upon, but our current Angel list is becoming short.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Hertel at 479-250-5888 (or) emjhertel@cox.net. UMW would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

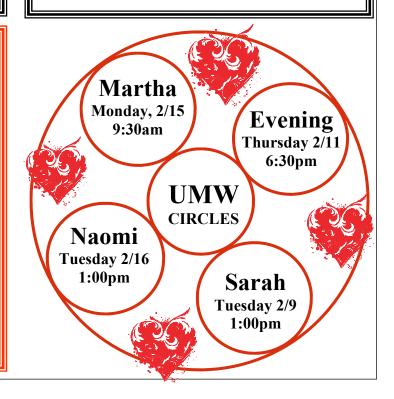
After this past year, I think everyone is ready to take away the mask and get on with our lives without worrying about getting sick. As much as we want this to happen, it is not in the cards right now. With that said, we would like everyone to know that the UMW Circles will continue to meet via ZOOM meetings, or even outside if weather permits.

So, if you are in a UMW circle or would like to join one, please don't let this pandemic hold you back. You can call Barbara Brooks, UMW President, or the church office, or look in the church newsletter for upcoming information. We welcome all women.

January is our Pledge month; make sure you get your pledge monies to your circle treasurer so she can have the information for her records. She will then pass it on to the UMW Treasurer, Verna Bottjen. Your pledge is very important to our organization. It helps more people in need than we can do alone. So look in your heart and give what you can.

Thank you from all the UMW members!

UMW will have a board meeting Wednesday, February 3rd at 9:30 AM via Zoom.



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SHOEBOX

Martha Circle cancelled their January meeting due to restrictions and

caution. Marion, Becky, and Karen met in the Shoebox Room on the 19th and packed the Sunshine Sacks for Cooper School, and Becky did her delivery of them. Hopefully we will be able to meet in February - we miss seeing one another.

Shoebox is still continuing, but slowly - we had several deliveries in December and are doing the Cooper School hygiene packs during the school year. Once we are able to be out and about again, we know it will pick up - Prayers for safety to all our friends.

Karen Roenfeld, Cheryl Campbell, and Maryann Johnson. Your Shoebox Team



Students will spend time reading with senior citizens through "Novels with Neighbors."

+ Students in 3rd-8th grades will be paired with a senior citizen in your community (referred to as your "Neighbor").

+ Students and Neighbors will each receive a book to keep. Books will be on the student's reading level.

+ The pair will connect with one another each Sunday in February from 2-3pm to read the book together.

For more information or to sign up, call 501-664-3232 or visit ozarkmissionproject.org/novels-with-neighbors



THANK YOU

After six I-o-n-g months David has finally been released from Mercy wound care and infectious disease. After many appointments and much hard work he is officially "healed". Praise God!! We want to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and encouragement during this uncertain time of rehabilitation.

Blessings, David & Vicki Schroeder

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I want to thank all my church friends for all their cards and prayers.

Thank You! LeRoy Handel



THANK YOU to my church family for your many cards, calls, care, and concern during my recent unexpected illness. It is good to be back at work, and I look forward to the days when we can all meet in person again. As I start into my eleventh year as your church secretary, I am so blessed to know each and every one of you. I watch how you care for one another in the good times and the bad, and how you step up to the plate when asked to fill in anywhere there is a need. I especially thank Darleen O'Brien and the office staff for sitting in for me during my absence. I also thank you so very much for your generous love offering this year. May you and yours stay well and at peace as together we muddle through the uncertain months ahead.

Blessings, Jan Walton

PRAYER REQUESTS

As a church family we lift each other up in prayer for both our collective joys and our concerns. Prayer requests and joys should be sent to Brenda Wideman at brenda@fumcbellavista.com or 855-1158.



First United Methodist Church 20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista, AR 72715

Return Service requested

We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Rev. Jeanne Williams Associate Pastor - Rev. Brenda Wideman Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore Church Secretary - Janet Walton Communications Director - Kaitie Bewley NextGen Director - Renee van Dyke NextGen Children's Staff - Anne Miner Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring Organist/Pianist - Broc Hite Contemporary Worship Leader - David Williams

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Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month

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