



# The Good News

January, 2012



*a new morn,  
a new day,  
a  
new  
beginning.*

*Many blessings  
to  
you and yours  
in the  
NEW YEAR!*

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## FAITH WALK

With

Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander



It is always so exciting to get a new car. A new car is clean, runs well, has no scratches or dings, and smells so good.

When you buy a new car, you have no complete idea where you will travel in that car. You do not know exactly who will ride in that car with you. You also do not know if you will have an accident in the that car or how long you will drive the car. What you do know is that you have a new car and you have to wait and see where you will travel in the car in the future.

A new year is like a new car. It is unblemished and full of possibilities. You do not know exactly what will happen in the new year. You do not know if this will be the best year of your life, or if you will face new challenges and opportunities. What the new year holds will unfold for you as you travel through the year.

Together, we face a new year at the church, full of unknown possibilities and opportunities for growth. We do not know everything God will call us to do or where God will call us to go, but what we do know is that we are to be in ministry for Him. In Isaiah 43:19 we read " See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland". Since the beginning of creation, God has been doing new things. God even takes "what has been" and transforms it into "what will be" in our lives and in the church's ministry.

People in our church will serve in new ministries, will meet new people in our church, and will receive fresh revelations of God's provision and mercy for their lives in this new year. Because God is doing new things, people will come to know God's saving grace, will find hope in despair, and will encounter God's love in fresh ways. It is through the ministry of the church that we can all be involved in what God is doing in 2012.

Thank you for your openness to where the Holy Spirit will guide you personally, and where the Holy Spirit will lead us together in this year. I ask you to commit to be in prayer for persons in the church family and for the ministries of the church as you make New Year's resolutions. Together, we start a new journey and I cannot wait to see where God will take us!

*Rev. Jaimie Alexander  
Senior Pastor  
Bella Vista First UMC*



## *OFF and RUNNING*

with  
Pastor Lee Myane



Beginning January 18, our winter Lifeworks classes will start again on Wednesday nights at 6:30 following our 6:00pm prayer service. Get ready to Love, Learn and Lead. We will have 3 classes each Wednesday night for 5 weeks, January 18 to February 15. February 22 is Ash Wednesday. We will begin our Spring classes on February 29. Don't worry if you cannot attend a class every Wednesday. Our church schedule is often full on Wednesday nights with UMM and UMW events. Please take advantage of all the church has to offer. .

### **Love:**

Developing the Spiritual Life of Children -  
Christian Parenting Today  
Led by Carrie Drish

### **Learn:**

"When Christian's Get It Wrong"  
by Adam Hamilton  
Book study led by Jean Justice

### **Lead:**

"Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism"  
by Martha Grace Reese  
Book study led by Pastor Lee Myane

Books and resources will be available early 2012. Sign up sheets and more details available in the church office.

Remember, we are a multi-generational congregation that **Loves God**, continually works to **Learn more about God**, and we are a congregation that **Leads others to God** through our witness and our service to the community and the world.

*Blessings in our new year,  
Pastor Lee*

## STAFF UPDATE

The SPRC is pleased to announce that Jan Lowe has been appointed by the Arkansas Conference to First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista as a part-time local pastor. Jan will continue in her current ministry responsibilities. Pastor Jan Lowe is dedicated to the ministry of Christ, and we value her role in the church. Thank you Jan, for your service in ministry!

The SPRC is also pleased to announce to you that Kyle Elmore will be our permanent organist. Kyle has been interim organist in Roiselle Grim's absence. Due to health reasons, Roiselle has decided to step away from playing the organ at the present time. We are so grateful to Roiselle for her dedication to the music ministry, and will miss her musical artistry. We are excited that Kyle has accepted the position, and look forward to him sharing his gift of music with us. Kyle is 19 years old, and a pre-med student at the University of Arkansas.



## CHILDREN

On behalf of the children of FUMCBV I would like to say "thank you" to the following people:

Our Sunday School Teachers, you make learning about God so much fun!

Dixie Young, Thank you for another wonder year of VBS.

Crossword Youth, Thank you for always volunteering to help.

Pastor Lee, Thank you for putting on an awesome Trunk or Treat for us.

Nursery Moms, thank you for holding and helping our littlest ones.

All of the members of the congregation, thank you for praying for us, loving us, and helping us grow.



If I did not mention you by name, please know that we thank you and need you.

*Carrie Drish,  
Director, Children's Ministry*

## YOUTH

CrossWord Youth has had a great year-end in 2011. We really enjoyed being a part of Trunk or Treat, with our decorated golf cart, passing out candy, and dressing up in costume. We have fun each year. In November, we helped during our church's work day at Helping Hands. Devon Presley, Madi Hamrin, Kamryn and Kaci Baker, all worked that day helping fold children's clothes, decorating trees, and setting up their Christmas store. The Youth Choir sang beautifully during the services on Children's Sabbath on November 20<sup>th</sup>, under the direction of Larry Zehring and Pam Olson. We wrapped up the first part of our study on Life of Paul and began Advent studies. In December, the youth with Pastor Lee and Angie Radar, went Angel Tree shopping for a preteen boy and girl. They also decorated the youth room for Christmas. Thanks to Sandy Lamberty and Robin Scheiderer for helping the kids do that. We were asked to help serve at the UMM dinner as well. Devon Presley, Kaci Baker, Carly Engle, Bradley Evans, and Kamryn Baker helped out there. The youth and I appreciate Eldon Cox for being Sunday School teacher this month, teaching Advent lessons while I am home with my newborn son. The kids have had a more than normal busy life schedule this year and there were some activities that were cancelled due to lack of participation - not related to not wanting to do them, but not able to do the activities because of school,



work and family obligations. We have rescheduled our Christmas dinner to be a New Year's Bash in the first week of January.

This is my third Christmas here at FUMCBV. I am so thankful to be here, and to enjoy my life with these kids and all the wonderful people I have come to know here. My family appreciates all the gifts, cards, hosts for our baby shower, visits and food during our first week home with our son, Kaden. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a fabulous church family. Kaden and I are doing great. Yes, Eric and I are definitely sleep deprived and probably look it when you see us. However, it is always worth the sacrifice. I hope that all had a wonderful Christmas and safe and healthy New Year. I am so much looking forward to 2012 with the kids. We have our first graduate this year and next fall have several seniors in high school. Where has the time gone?

In Christ,

*Danette Baker, Director, Youth Ministries*



## RIO BRAVO MISSION TRIP

### The Northwest and West District Mission Trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico



Rio Bravo has been the site of an ongoing United Methodist mission for many years and is sponsored and operated by The United Methodist Church of Mexico. It is located near the larger city of Reynosa just across the border from McAllen, TX. Our contact in Mexico is Guillermo Berman, a GBGM Missionary (#3019612) and the trip is being organized through the VIM office of the Arkansas Annual Conference and the South Central Jurisdiction. This trip is planned over Spring Break 2012.

This is the timeline for the Mission Trip:

**Sunday, March 18: Leave Arkansas early in the morning and arrive in McAllen that night**

**March 19: Cross into Mexico for orientation and the first day of work**

**March 20-22: Work on assigned projects in Rio Bravo and Reynosa**

**March 23: Finish work and stay the night in McAllen**

**Saturday, March 24: Arrive back in NW Arkansas**

Anyone, regardless of skill, over the age of 18 (sorry, no exceptions) is welcome to come on what is sure to be an incredible mission experience. This trip is as much about building relationships as it is about construction. Projects will be decided by the Rio Bravo church leadership but may include building houses, schools, churches, and playground equipment. There is a hard cap at 50 people on this trip and it is first come, first serve. The cost is \$200 per person and that covers everything except food on the drive to and from McAllen. In order to reserve a spot, an application must be completed AND a deposit of \$50 must be received no later than January 15. **A CURRENT US PASSPORT IS MANDATORY** so if you don't have one, you need to make sure you have completed an application at the post office by mid January to ensure you will have received it by March 18.



If you are unable to come on this trip, don't worry, you will have other opportunities. This will be the start of an ongoing relationship with our brothers and sisters in Reynosa and Rio Bravo, and subsequent trips are planned. If you are interested in going but cannot afford the \$200 cost, financial assistance is available. If you would like to support the trip but are unable to go, contributions are welcome and will go towards those who need financial assistance. For an application or more information please contact Paul Bjornen at [paulbjornen@hotmail.com](mailto:paulbjornen@hotmail.com) (preferred) or (479) 575 9500. Please, also sign up in our church office so that we know who is interested in going.



## MISSIONS

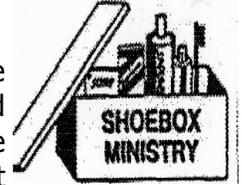
### PAK A SAK

Habitat for Humanity will be the recipient of our collection of food on January 15. The families they serve are clients who have received homes thru Habitat, and at times need assistance with food. Their pantry is in need of all types of non-perishable food items. Make sure that all items have not passed the "Best used by" date. Your generosity is appreciated by ALL the agencies we serve in our area.



### SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Santa's "Shoebox Elves" have been so busy sorting, packing and delivering shoe boxes to the shelters that we could not meet the deadline for the January newsletter.



A full report will appear in the February newsletter.

God Bless all of those who made it possible for so many to be served in December.

*As always in His service,  
The Shoebox Ministry Team Leaders*

### SPECIAL MISSION PROJECTS



The **Goat Bank** is full! Thank you to everyone who shared your quarters to allow us to purchase a sheep this Christmas season. Bless you for your generosity and faithfulness to the project.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Angel Tree** project this year. We were able to help 40 families have a brighter Christmas through your generous giving. A special thank you to Cathy Luck for her help on this project!



Many thanks to all of you who donated shoes for our first Soles4Souls shoe collection. Thanks to Sandy Fitch for delivering **447 pairs** of shoes to the collection center in Dallas, Texas the Monday before Thanksgiving. They were thrilled to receive all 17 boxes of shoes, as we were able to complete the load they had ready to ship on to the primary warehouse in Alabama. Next year will be even more successful!



### Mission of the Month: NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S SHELTER

The Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter is a private, nonprofit organization that provides 24-hour emergency residential care to children who are victims of family violence, neglect, and physical and sexual abuse.

The Children's Shelter is designed to meet the needs of these children by providing them with a safe and loving environment to reduce their trauma, through support and nurturing.

We are staffed and ready, day and night, taking in and caring for children in crisis. Children may stay with us for up to 45 days in a six-month period, before being placed in another foster-care setting or returning to their families.

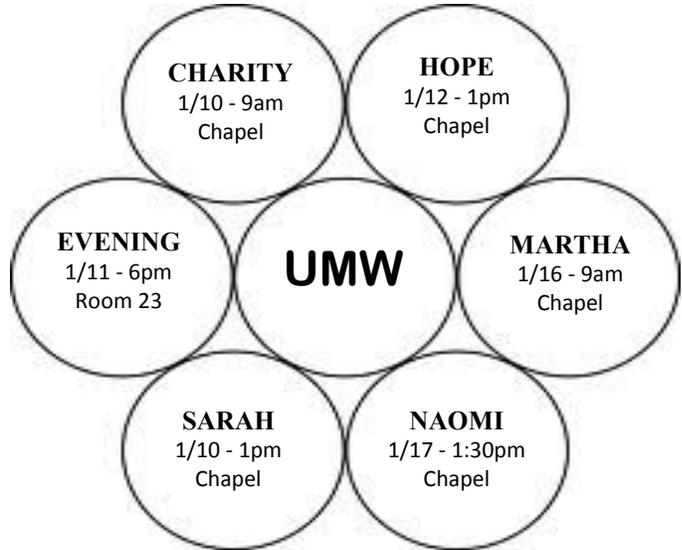
Since opening in 1993, the Children's Shelter has cared for more than 5,500 children from throughout the state of Arkansas. Our capacity of 48 beds, state-of-the-art complex, on-site school and on-site counseling services make us unique among children's emergency shelters in Arkansas and our region. The combination of these features creates a stable, secure and loving environment where the hurts that children have experienced can begin to heal.



## FELLOWSHIP

### UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men will have their next dinner meeting Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 6:30 in Becker Hall. Papa Mike will be serving Herb Rubbed Seasoned Roast, vegetable, salad, desert and drinks. Our speaker will be Bill Crawford, manager of Helping Hands. They are one of the largest non-profits in Benton County, serving over 1000 people each month with their financial and dietary needs. We will also have the nomination and installation of officers. The Phone Tree message will be made January 4. Please plan now to make a reservation.



The MM Shepherd Group's first meeting for 2012 will be on Monday, February 13. Mark your calendar and save the date. Please read the February Newsletter and Church bulletins for more information.

### FINANCE CORNER

Month-to-date (as of 11/30/11)	Budgeted Expenses.....	\$54,038
Month-to-date (as of 11/30/11)	Receipts.....	\$43,915
Year-to-date	Budgeted Expenses.....	\$577,176
Year-to-date	Receipts.....	\$527,912
Year-to-date	Actual Expenses.....	\$539,721

*If you are interested in having your contribution automatically deducted from your checking or savings account, please let Amy or the office know. We hope to have this available after the first of the year.*

### Pledge Update

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity to the 2012 budget by returning your commitment card! 219 families have pledge out of 367 families as of December 19, 2011. Nine commitment cards were turned in with no amount which totals 228 commitment cards which have been returned to date. A total of 59% of the giving families have pledge 63.4% of next year's budget. **If you have not returned your commitment card there is still time to turn it in to the office.** Special giving and loose plate offerings have historically completed the budget needs. The proposed budget will be presented to the Church Council for approval in the new year. The finance committee has worked very diligently to present a conservative budget. Again, thank you for your faithfulness and generosity. Your giving makes a difference in the Kingdom of God!



## THANK YOU

I would like to give a BIG THANKS to all who came out to help decorate the church for Christmas. We had a relatively small group, but they worked heartily and did a fine job!

And because of having my first opportunity to snoop through the storage room, I came upon some boxes of old decorations that I'm sure some church ladies spent many hours making, perhaps around the 70's? I think it is a shame to get rid of them, so I've been throwing out the idea of having a "Retro" or "Vintage" tree next year. I've had good reaction to it so far, so I will ask you all to be on the lookout as you're putting your personal decorations away, to see if you have any strings of those old multi-colored, almond shaped lights in good working order that we could use, and maybe even any other vintage decorations that you're willing to part with. Just leave them in the quilting room with my name on them or call me at 876-1392.

*Thanks in advance,  
Verna Bottjen*

**PS.**

Unfortunately, what goes up,  
must come down!

Monday, January 2 is our work-day to remove the Christmas decorations and store them away for another year. We can use all the help we can get from 9:00am till it's done. Please join us!!

To Our FUMCBV Congregation,

Thank you so much for honoring the church staff with your very kind love offering. Your generosity is such a blessing. It is a pleasure to share in ministry and mission with you. We pray that you and your family have a very blessed and healthy New Year.

*Your Pastors and Staff*

A great big Thank You to all the wonderful people in our congregation who have been helping me during this time. Jack Collins, Sue Nebrig, Judy Bilyeu and Earl Cummings for driving me to and from my appointments and surgeries. Thank you Jan Lowe and Rev. Lee Myane for the hospital visits. Peggy Gamble for staying with me. And to everyone for all the prayers! I don't know what anyone would do without such a wonderful congregation to care for them!

*Shirley Hofmann*

Congregation:

Thank you for all your generous acts of love towards Havenwood during November and throughout the year. I have been truly blessed personally and professionally by First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista. On behalf of Havenwood, Thank You! *Janice Schuedler*  
*Executive Director, Havenwood*

Dear FUMCBV:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter, we want to thank you for your generous donation.

It is because of the generosity of people like you that these children have a safe haven, a loving environment, and can begin to smile again.

Thank you again for your kindness, generosity and support.

*Sincerely,  
Kae Boweoman*



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### Grief Support Group

A new support group ministry, led by Rev. Doris Schlessman, will get under way beginning Thursday, January 5 from 10:00am to 11:30 am in the Chapel.

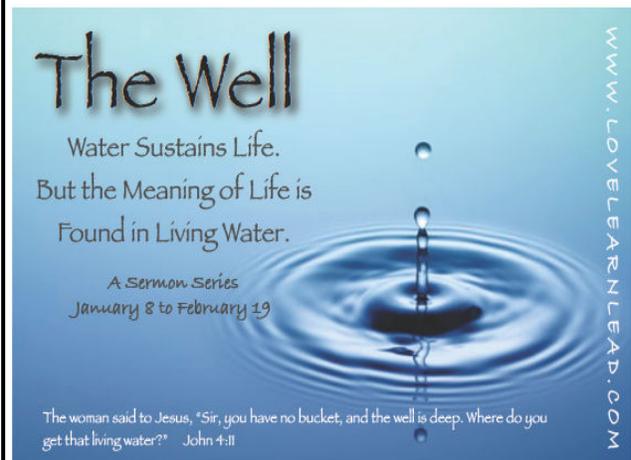
If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, or if you are experiencing pain from loss or change, or fear, come to this weekly group gathering.

The group will be made up of a time of Greeting, Education, Sharing, and Discussing. In the educational component, information will be provided on some aspect of the grief/ loss/ or fear process. The Sharing time will allow each person to experience and express their feelings in a way that will help them to begin to understand and accept the changes in their life. And lastly, the time set aside for discussion will be in an environment where each person can begin to live again, talking with each other, finding common ground, and even laughing a little.

Please call the church at 855-1158 to let us know you will be at the January 5 gathering. This program is open to anyone.

### *The Well Sermon Series*

"The Well" sermon series will kick off the new year. We will be exploring how different person's lives in the Old and New Testament were impacted by God when they were beside a water well or a source of water. A water well is a spring or natural source of water that freshens life. We will be thinking about why spiritual wells are important to freshen our lives and how God refreshes our lives in powerful ways.



### Notes from Chaplain Kandi Mount

During Chaplain Kandi Mount's message of Hope in our *Service of Hope and Healing* on Wednesday, December 7, she suggested that these are seven stages of grief that most go through. It is only normal to feel each one of these in different times of the healing process.

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Shock and Denial     | 5. Reflection     |
| 2. Pain and Guilt       | 6. Reconstruction |
| 3. Anger and Bargaining | 7. (a) Acceptance |
| 4. Depression           | (b) Hope          |



## The Green Church Project

Finding ways to be better stewards of all of our resources

From the Green Bible:

"Humanity is part of all creation. We are meant to live in an interconnected, interdependent relationship with God and the whole of creation, acting as stewards of creation. And as we care for the earth, the earth cares for us."

In 2012 The Green Team wants to continue to be conscious of our responsibility of working with the congregation in being better stewards. One of the efforts will be in the elimination of the use of Styrofoam, and reduction of other paper kitchen goods. Please share your ideas. We have already received some ideas and a valuable offer of help in achieving these goals. We will continue to work with the Board of Directors in maintaining our building and to address more economical energy saving lighting.

Suggestions of appropriate ideas and actions to achieve these goals are welcomed by all of us on the Team. Our meetings are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Please feel free to join us.

- ENERGY STAR® products cost a bit more front, but they use 25-60% less energy, which in turn is better for the environment AND saves you money.
- ◆ Contrary to what you might have heard before, the EPA says computers can last up to 10 times longer by turning them off when not in use.
- ◆ Televisions, computers and other electronics draw electricity even when they are turned off. When you plan to be gone from home any length of time, unplug them.
- ◆ 22% of your home energy costs are for space heating. Setting the thermostat one degree lower will lower your energy consumption and save you between \$14 and \$26 a year in Arkansas. And you probably won't notice the one degree difference.
- ◆ 13% of your home energy costs are for heating water. Set the temperature of your water heater between 110°F and 120°. (Measure temp at the faucet with a candy thermometer.) Save energy, money and reduce risk of scalding.



This month we recognize Keith Sterwald for his many hours spent identifying areas of the church which need revamping. He began working with the Green Team in identifying these areas, and as a result, cost-saving projects such as installing new thermostats and light switches, adding more insulation in many ceiling areas, connecting and re-routing heating and cooling ducts, and installing air vents in walls and doors, have saved the church many hundreds of dollars in the past six months. Much of the labor for these projects was done by Keith alone, but for a few tasks he has been assisted by members of the Board of Directors and others. If you have been to Becker Hall lately, you have seen his latest project - building a camera platform for the new equipment Troy Jorgensen will be using to record the Contemporary services and other events there. There are unfinished and new projects in the works which will continue to be cost-effective for us all. Kudos and much appreciation to Keith for a job well done!!





# January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR to YOU and YOURS!!</b> 10:00 1 Worship Service	<b>2</b> 10:00 Staff Mtng 12:45 Women's Chorus	<b>3</b> 9:30 Concordia Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Shawl 6:30 Bd of Directors	<b>4</b> 8:30-Bible Study 9:00-Quilters 9:00 UMW Brd 9:00 Disciples I 1:00 Guest Follow-up 3:30 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Youth Choir/Mtg 7:00 SALT	<b>5</b> 10:00 Grief Support 11:00 Men's Golf 3:30 Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 9:00 Disciples III	<b>7</b> 10:00 Lulu Hunter Memorial Serv
<b>8</b> 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 OT Study 10:45 Traditional Service	<b>9</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 9:00 Alzheimer's Sprt 9:00 BLOOD DRIVE 12:00 Calico Cut-ups 12:45 Women's Chorus 5:30 Abrams SG	<b>10</b> 9:00 Charity Circle 9:30 Concordia Bible Prayer Shawl 1:00 Sarah Circle 5:30 Agape SG	<b>11</b> 8:30-Bible Study 9:00-Quilters 9:00 Member Mtng 9:00 Disciples I 9:30 Mission Mtng 3:30 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Youth Choir/Mtg 6:00 Evening Circle 6:30 UMM Dinner	<b>12</b> 10:00 Grief Support 11:00 Men's Golf 1:00 HOPE Circle 3:30 Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 9:00 Disciples III 11:30 Pre-School Board Mtng 6:00 First Friday	<b>14</b> 10:00 Dorothy Maxwell Memorial Serv
<b>15</b> <b>PAK-A-SAK</b> 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 OT Study 10:45 Traditional Service	<b>16</b> 8:00 CARE & SHARE TRLR 9:00 Martha Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:30 Church Council	<b>17</b> 9:30 Concordia Bible 1:00 BV Book Club 1:00 Prayer Shawl 1:30 Naomi Circle	<b>18</b> 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Disciples I 3:30 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Youth Choir/Mtg 6:30 Green Team 7:00 S.A.L.T	<b>19</b> 10:00 Grief Support 11:00 Men's Golf 2:00 Sons of Rev 3:30 Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 9:00 Disciples III	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 OT Study 10:45 Traditional Service 2:30 Concordia Worshp	<b>23</b> 9:00 Alzheimer's Sprt 10:00 Staff Mtng 10:00 Village House 10:30 Calico Cut-ups 12:45 Women's Chorus	<b>24</b> 9:30 Concordia Bible 1:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>25</b> 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Disciples I 3:30 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Youth Choir/Mtg	<b>26</b> 10:00 Grief Support 11:00 Men's Golf 3:30 Choir Practice	<b>27</b> 9:00 Disciples III	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 OT Study 10:45 Traditional Service	<b>30</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus	<b>31</b> 9:30 Concordia Bible 1:00 Prayer Shawl				

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

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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BENTONVILLE, AR 72712**



## ***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

**Phone: (479) 855-1158**

**Fax: (479) 855-0850**

**[www.LoveLearnLead.com](http://www.LoveLearnLead.com)**

**Newsletter Deadline: 15th of the month**

Return Service Requested

***To the Home of ...***



**JANUARY IS  
NATIONAL  
Blood  
Donor  
MONTH**

**MAKE  
LIFESAVING  
A HABIT**



**COMMUNITY  
BLOOD  
CENTER  
OF THE OZARKS**  
not-for-profit organization

# **GIVE BLOOD**

## **First United Methodist Church**

### **Monday, January 9, 2012**

### **9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Free Cholesterol Screening!**

**Please bring photo identification.**

**Please eat well and drink plenty of fluids prior to the blood drive!**