FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELLA VISTA

The Good News

January, 2014



FAITH WALK with Brother Jaimie J. Alexander



In each our lives is a calling from God. God calls us to share His love in many different ways as His disciples. The word **disciple** means "a learner; one who is teachable and disciplined."

In John 17:18 we read that the Lord's disciples were sent out. . . .

- to preach the gospel and heal the sick
- to reveal the character and love of the Father
- to convince others of the divinity of Jesus
- to disciple people in their personal relationships with God and His Word

Our calling as the Lord's disciples is exactly the same as that of Jesus and His original disciples:

- 1. We are to minister to people in the empowered by the Holy Spirit through preaching, teaching and acts of service.
- 2. We are to disciple others in their relationship with the Lord and His Word.
- 3. We are to share Christ's love with the least, the last, and the lost.

Can you imagine what an impact we would make in 2014 if each us was to faithfully honor God's call on our lives. In January, we will experience a sermon series called "The Call". The purpose of the series is to inspire us as Disciples of Christ for the work of ministry in the new year. During the month, we will hear from different persons who have been called by God into ministry as pastors. Serving God as a pastor is just one way we can serve God. God calls us all to serve in the Kingdom thru the unique gifting and talents that we each has been given. How will you answer the call this year?

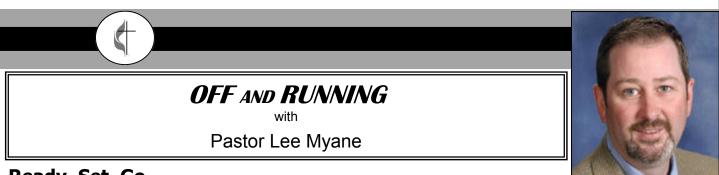
Thank you to the FUMCBV family from the Pastors and Staff:

We want to thank you for your generous Christmas love gift. Your appreciation means so much to each of us. God is doing exciting things in the life of the church and we are thankful for your partnership in ministry. We hope each of you had a very blessed Christmas and will have a wonderful year ahead!

God is faithful!

Bro. Jaimie, Pastor Lee, and the FUMCBV Staff

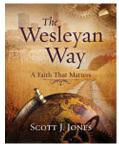
January, 2014



Ready, Set, Go

We have a several gatherings and classes that started this fall and will continue into the spring.

1. **Life After Church**: After "The Well" worship service each Sunday morning, everyone is invited to gather together and have some time to discuss the sermon and fellowship with one another. This is an informal gathering facilitated by Kristin Crider and others. Please consider taking a few moments, meet some new friends, put some names to faces and go a little deeper into the message. If you have children, there will be activities for them downstairs in our "Vista Kids" area or they are welcome to join in the conversation. "Life After Church" will typically meet in Becker Hall after worship. If Becker Hall is scheduled for another event, we will meet in the Chapel, just down the hallway from Becker Hall.



2. The Wesleyan Way: Eight weeks of Wesleyan theology and discipleship study developed by Bishop Jones of the Great Plains Conference. I'm teaching this class on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30pm. We were only able to meet one time in December. Therefore we will have seven more weeks together beginning Wednesday January 15th. Please consider joining our group whether you are a lifelong Methodist or just beginning in your faith. Workbooks are available in the church office. You can jump right in with week two. I can also schedule redo of week one if anyone is interested. Here is a link for more information on this curriculum. http://www.abingdonpress.com/thewesleyanway/

3. Confirmation: Please be in prayer for our eight confirmands. We have five boys and three girls. They are all in the sixth or seventh grade. We meet each Wednesday evening from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for 18 weeks. Over the fall they have been learning the story of our Christian heritage. Their studies will continue through the spring and through Easter.

4. Lent: Lent will begin this year on my Birthday, Wednesday March 5. I have not picked a book or devotional yet, so watch the February Newsletter for details on classes, and devotionals. We will definitely have some type of online study and discussions in preparation for Easter.

Faíthfully, Pastor Lee



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Vista Kids has had a fantastic 2013! Thank you to everyone who has participated in leadership, teaching, volunteering time and money to create and grow this exciting ministry of FUMCBV! A few highlights from our year include:

• A new director...me! Thank you all for the support and kind words of encouragement as I look for ways to lead our children to Love through worship, Learn God's Word and Lead others to Christ.

• A new logo and name -- Vista Kids was created to send the message that FUMC of Bella Vista is here to welcome and support children and their families.

• Continued growth and renovations downstairs -many of you have taken the time to visit our new and evolving décor and spaces downstairs -- from a new, welcoming nursery and information area to continuing improvements on a group worship area and classroom furniture.

• In November, we kicked off a new mission block dedicated to Orphans. Children have been praying for our local orphans, Malachi and Joshua, during Sunday School. Families gathered to learn about our international orphanage, St. Catherine's, in Mumbai, India and made change collection jars for fundraising. If you graciously picked up one of those jars and have filled it, **you may either return it to the church or dump it out at home and continue to collect change until our fundraising dinner held on January 25th.**

January 25th is shaping up to be a very fun evening for our church. The local Indian community has come together to plan a beautiful Indian dinner to raise money for St. Catherine's Orphanage. We will offer a full array of delicious Indian cuisine that will tempt any palate and offer **cultural décor and dance**. The event will occur from **2:00p.m.-5:00 p.m**. Please pencil this not-to-miss event into your calendar! The food cost for the dinner will run approximately \$5/plate, and all donations in excess of our food cost will go directly to the orphanage.

Kristin Crider, Children's Ministries Director

The FUMCBV Youth will make up any yard work for those that we didn't get to due to snow. Please let David know when you need it. Next year we will have a sign up sheet and days for yard work. This was a trial run and was successful. We were able to help out seven people with yard work. Snow kept us from reaching six others. The youth also thank everyone for the donations and gifts they generously gave. The youth are still in need of basics office and art supplies. If anyone needs help with things the youth are able to do, please let David know. He can arrange for youth to come help.

Have a blessed holiday and New Year. *David Hanson*, Youth Ministries Director

Scenes from the Children's Christmas Program

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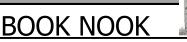






January, 2014





BOOKS IN SERIES:

DAUGHTERS OF BLESSING by Lauraine Snelling Book 2: Sophie's Dilemma Book 3: A Touch of Grace Book 4: Rebecca's Reward UNDER TEXAS STARS by Colleen Coble Book 1: Blue Moon Promise Book 2: Safe in His Arms THE DAYS OF REDEMPTION by Shelley Shepard Gray Book 1: Daybreak Book 2: Ray of Light Book 3: Eventide AMISH VINES AND ORCHARDS by Cindy Woodsmall Book 1: A Season for Tending Book 2: The Winnowing Season Book 3: For Every Season A MERCY FALLS by Colleen Coble Book 2: The Light keeper's Bride LANCASTER BURNING by Linda Byler Book 1: Fire in the Night BUTTERNUT CREEK by Jane Myers Perrine Book 3: The Wedding Planners of Butternut Creek

LARGE-PRINT FICTION:

LIVE WIRE by Harlan Coben

A sports agent, a very pregnant tennis player and the disappearance of her husband make for some interesting reading.

THE SUPREME'S AT EARL'S ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT by Edward Kelsey Moore

Sitting at the same table for almost 40 years this inseparable trio of best friends gossip and face the world together with humor, sorrow and much joy.

KING AND MAXWELL by David Baldacci

A Teenage boy learns his father was killed in action in Afghanistan...but soon communication comes from his father.

STELLA BAIN by Anita Shreve

In a narrative that takes us from London to America and back again, Shreve has created an engrossing and wrenching tale about love and the meaning of memory.

THE SIGNATURE OF ALL THINGS by Elizabeth Gilbert

An enthralling story of love, adventure and discovery.

THE ALL-GIRL FILLING STATION'S LAST REUNION by Fannie Flagg

A charming mystery novel about two women forced to reimagine who they are and what they are capable of.

A WEEK IN WINTER by Maeve Binchy

You will laugh and cry as you spend the week with this group who share their secrets and even have some of their dreams come true.

FICTION:

THE GIFT by Nora Roberts Two books in one volume: ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

A CUP OF CHRISTMAS TEA by Tom Hegg

This book is a simple yet remarkable story of a true Christmas miracle, the triumph of a soul.

NON-FICTION:

THE INSPIRATIONAL WRITINGS OF ROBERT SCHULLER

BOOK REVIEWS FROM ONE OF OUR READERS: Jackie Evans

THE WONDER OF YOUR LOVE by Beth Wiseman Set in a small Amish community in Colorado, Katie Ann Stolzfus is facing a new challenge. Newly widowed and raising a baby Katie Ann wonders how she will survive. Little does she know that God is sending the perfect man to help her pick up the pieces and find love again.

HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER by Beth Wiseman At 18, Danielle Kent is pregnant and the father of the child wants nothing to do with her or the baby. Why did she have to fall in love with an Amish man? A man that doesn't plan on staying Amish. What does the future hold? How will her friendship with Levi affect her future? God's love never fails. OUR FAMILY

Page 5



Paul & Denise Healy joined our church at the 10:45am service on December 20, 2013. Paul was an avionics engineer for 40 years, worked for British Airways in London. England, Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids, IA and Honeywell in the Seattle area; he was

born in England, which you will no doubt figure out when you listen to him talk. Denise was a Marketing Manager at a nature center in Cedar Rapids, IA for many years; worked at a Real Estate Appraisal firm in the Seattle area, and was a paralegal with Wal-Mart Home Office before retirement.

Paul and Denise met in 1995 as they rode their bikes across Iowa during the 500 mile bike ride known as RAGBRAI. (6,000 participants and they still found each other!)

They retired to Bella Vista from the Cedar Rapids, IA in 2005. They love where they live and now love the church they have joined.

They both love Mountain Biking, and they can usually be found on one of the many off-road trails in the area. They are Kayakers affiliated with the Bella Vista Paddle Club. Paul is part of the same musical ministry group that Bill Miller belongs to, called the "Skunk Hollow Boys." They entertain at local Care Centers two or three days each week. Paul plays the banjo and harmonica.

Paul enjoys the great outdoors, fixing bikes, playing his banjo, writing music & Limericks and watching Turner Classic Movies. Denise enjoys playing the piano, quilting, knitting/crocheting and reading mystery novels. She also ran two halfmarathons last year.

Do they have free time? When they do, they will go in search out West for new off-road bike trails and visiting their children/grandchildren in California. Paul stays busy looking for his glasses. Denise stays busy helping him find them.

DEATHS



Pat Reid died on December 1, at Hospice, Circle of Life, in Bentonville. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary to celebrate her life on December 5. Pat left her mark on our church and on our community. She was on board from the beginning as the church began a contemporary service, and

loyally attended that service weekly. A major contribution in the community was her involvement on the board of the Single Parent Scholarship program. She will be greatly missed.

Bill Detlefsen died on December 2, at Hospice, Circle of Life, in Bentonville. His service was held on December 21 at our church. Bill used his skill at writing to record the first 25 years of history of FUMC in Bella Vista. He and Elaine were married for 60 years. Bill met everyone with a gentle smile.



Helen McKennedy, mom of Jan Lowe, died on December 2 after having lived in over seven years at Highlands Healthcare and Nursing Home. Services were held in her home town of Springfield, IL. on Friday, December 6.

Juanita Franklin's **mom'a** died on December 4, in California. Juanita and Greg were able to fly to California to be with the family for a traditional Spanish funeral service.



OUR FAMILY

Every Member in Ministry

Don't just come to church ~ Be the church!

Thanks to everyone who signed up to be in ministry during the 2014 year. If you overlooked choosing a ministry or you are just not sure what to sign up for, look over the catalog and/or see Jan Lowe to find out where people are especially needed.

204 members have signed up so far for the 81 ministries available for the 2014 year. That is less than last year, but we know some of the new ones have not been turned in yet.

Only one ministry with no one signing up so far is in the Worship area, "Creative Worship Team". Here we are seeking people who will help create an enhanced worship experience throughout the year, and especially during holiday seasons.

Early in January, Stewards will make sure that all of their Team Leaders have contacted those who signed up for ministry under their area. They will also be asked to provide training for their ministry, especially for anyone who is new to a ministry, or has recently joined our church. Many of the things we do seem pretty routine to those who have been here a while, but people feel much more comfortable taking on a task when the guidelines are clear, and they know what is expected of them. Team Leaders should strive to have all training completed before the end of January.

The January-June schedule for those who have volunteered for Sunday morning ministries were sent out in mid December. Please contact Jan Lowe or Barbara Jenner if you have concerns or questions.

NEW VOLUNTEER SUNDAY RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

Ideally, we'd like to have someone at the reception desk in the office on Sunday mornings from 7:45am till about noon to answer phones, take messages, and sign people up for various events at the church. Contact Jan Lowe or Janet Walton to discuss your availability.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer Shawls had previously been given to those who suffered illness or tragedy in November. The Prayer Shawls are given in the event of major illness, injury, or death. Please do not hesitate to call the church to ask if someone has or should receive a prayer shawl.

The cost of materials for each prayer shawl is from \$15 to \$20. You can help defray the costs with a donation of any amount. Make checks payable to the church. In the Memo section, write Prayer Shawl Ministry.

This group will start meeting again on Tuesday, January 7 at 10:00am in Room 5. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join in the yarnwork and fellowship. If you would like to learn, they will be glad to give you instruction. The yarn and pattern are provided to you. You are also welcome to work on your projects at home.

Everyone at the **Staff Christmas Party** tried to be Bro. Jaimie J. by wearing a Jaimie J. face for at least part of the party. We shared a lot of fun and many laughs—something that just doesn't happen very much with our senior pastor. NOT!!!



The staff was excited to "roast" him and Pastor Lee, but they turned the tables on us and got their own "roast" in by hosting the 2013 Golden Christmas Ball Awards, recognizing staffers for outstanding "bloopers" during the year.

OUR FAMILY

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Joe & Margie Bowen
- 1 Joe & Kim McGee
- 3 David & Andrea Hanson
- 5 Jack & Donna Etheredge
- 7 Jim & Pat Fox
- 12 Keith & Co Ellen Sterwald
- 17 Clyde & Carol Cheek
- 20 Earl & Bette Cummings
- 23 Rod & Arlene Alford
- 24 Richard & Janice Abbott
- 26 Walt & Shirley Wenger
- 27 David & Marilyn Frisby

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Don Marietta
- 1 Carol Stanley
- 2 Gary Davis
- 3 Albert Snider
- 4 Tyler Gurganus (13)
- 4 Molly Harris
- 6 Gladys Jutte
- 6 Chris Murphy
- 8 Keith Sterwald
- 9 Kay Dale
- 10 Marlene Clapp
- 10 Carroll Prior

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS (con't)

4

- 11 Betty Lange
- 11 Susann Wresche
- 14 George Brannon
- 14 Ed Jenner
- 15 Mary Jane Hammarstrom
- 16 Carlene Jerman
- 17 Andrea Hanson
- 17 Doris Selley
- 19 Troy Jorgensen
- 20 Jan Kolbe
- 21 Hannah Hanson (6)
- 23 Juanita Franklin
- 23 Marion Korns
- 23 Will Scheiderer
- 25 Erica Baldwin
- 25 Harold Fitch
- 25 Ivan Lantz
- 25 R.D. Shoulders
- 25 Nita Wallace
- 27 James Forrest
- 28 Vicki Hoye
- 29 James Rusterholz
- 30 Tom Walton
- 31 Gary Grosnickle

January, 2014



MISSIONS

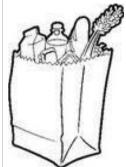
HELPING HANDS 2014

Our church has been scheduled to work at Helping Hands three times this year. As in the past, we will need men to help unload donations in the morning and



afternoon and then ladies are needed to help work the front desk and maintain the display floor in the afternoon only. Our designated work days for 2014 are: **February 8**, **June 28** and **November 15**. Mark your calendars so you will be ready to help out at this important mission. Also, watch for bulletin announcements letting you know when to sign up in the office. Any questions, talk to Verna Bottjen or Julie Fischer.

PAK-A-SAK



January our collection of food on the 19th will be delivered to Habitat for Humanity. The families they serve have been recipient of a Habitat-Built Home and at times need assistance with food. All types of nonperishable food items are needed. Make sure all items have not passed the **BEST USED**

generosity to all of the agencies we serve.



SHOEBOX MINISTRY

We were blessed to be able to serve 10 shelters in December. A total of 304 ← shoeboxes were



delivered along with six men's coats, gloves for all ages, miscellaneous toiletries and gift items.

Gift bags for 23 children at Havenwood in Bentonville, and 12 children at Restoration Village in Little Flock were delivered. Both agencies provide transitional housing for those residents who are beginning a new way of life for themselves and their children.

A big thank you to Ralph Johnson, Karen Dove, Karen Roenfeld, and Cheryl Campbell for delivering last month.

Thank you to St. Bernard's Shepherd groups for wrapping and filling 115 men's and 127 women's shoeboxes with Christmas paper after filling them with toiletry items as well as special gift items. This is a project they do each Christmas and means so much to those in need and homeless. God is good!

Also each year an evening Bible study group that meets in the home of JoAnn Kratsky delivers wrapped gifts that include such items as hand knitted gloves, caps, and clothing to be given to children in need in our area. You ladies are truly s p e c i a l a n d w e t h a n k y o u. A Happy New Year and blessing to all of you who made donations, packed boxes and delivered items to make the less fortunate and those in need have a gft for Christmas.

As always in His service, The Shoebox Ministry Team Leaders

> The Children's Ministry is in need of empty Jello boxes for Sunday, December 29th.

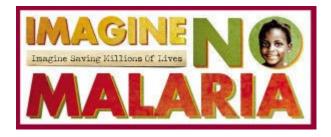


January MISSION of the MONTH

Youth Bridge is a non-profit agency that serves youths

and their families in the areas of abuse, neglect, addiction, homelessness, mental health issues and behavioral problems. Its services range anywhere from providing an immediate safe haven, to individualized treatment plans, aftercare and prevention programs to offerina support, transitional living. Youth related substance abuse, homelessness, and behavioral problems are not limited to select zip codes, social economic groups or certain geographic areas of Central and Northwest Arkansas. These are our neighbors and our children's friends that need help. Youth Bridge is there to help turn the lives of troubled youth around and guide them back to a productive life. It is a community problem that requires a community solution.

Youth Bridge is the only agency in the state of Arkansas that runs a runaway/homeless youth transitional living program for youth and is the only not-for-profit agency for court referred community based services; is 1 of 3 agencies in the State that provides substance abuse treatment and services to youth and is the only Arkansas Division of Youth Services (DYS) agency that has a Residential Substance Abuse program for vouth. It is acclaimed as one of the leading providers of residential and outpatient treatment programs in the State for substance abuse.



Mark Your Calendar!



Blood Drive Monday, January 6, 2014 9:00AM ~ 1:00PM Becker Hall

Care and Share Trailer January, 20, 2014 7:00am ~ 1:00pm Upper Parking Lot



Wesley Series The next event in the Wesley Series

is a piano recital by Cole Burger on Friday, February 7th at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Burger is professor of piano at Bowling Green State



University in Ohio. He will be playing a Beethoven sonata, three Intermezzi of Brahms, a prelude and fugue by J.S. Bach, and two movements of a Messiaen composition. This will be Dr. Burger's 3rd visit to FUMCBV. Admission to the recital is free, although contributions are always welcomed to support the continuation of this series.

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir resumes rehearsing on Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 p.m. All are welcomed!

A kindergarten teacher asked her class members to bring an object to class the next day for "Show and Tell" which represented their religion.

The next day Benjamin stood up and said, "I am Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David ", and sat down.

Mary stood up and said, "My name is Mary and I am Catholic and this is my rosary ", and sat down. JayJay stood up and said, "My name is JayJay and I am Methodist and this is a casserole dish ", and sat down. And you know the rest of the story!



THANK YOU

Thank you all who sent cards and called during Juanita's hospital stays and after. Especially our thanks to Jaimie, Lee and Jan for their love and caring. What a blessing to be a member of such a wonderful congregation.

Dennis Reed and Family

It's been a very eventful year for me and my family. I'm overwhelmed by the loving kindness of our pastors and members. Pastors Jaimie and Lee and Jan, thank you for being with me during Bill's final illness. Such a comfort you are. And other faithful friends from UMW, Sarah Circle, and the Faith Five Shepherd group: Nona and Judy B. you are always so helpful in time of need. Lynn, Jean and Dianne, you were there when I became ill last May. And thanks to everyone for the many cards of sympathy. I thank God for blessing our church family and helping us realize what being followers of Christ means in our daily lives.

Gratefully, Elaíne Detlefsen

The Crooks Shepherd group shared a potluck dinner at Paula & Vernon Walker's home for their Christmas gathering. Vernon has been unable to attend our meetings and this was great way for them to join us for fellowship and fun! A great time was had by all.

The Crooks Shepherd Group

Thank you so much for supporting our youth. We appreciate your generosity with your donations of food and toiletries. *Youth Bridge*

Thanks to the children of this church who performed the really good Christmas program on Wednesday, Dec 18. It was also exciting to see so many church and family members here to enjoy their performance. And a special thanks to the leaders who worked with the kids in helping them shine. Our church just gets better every year! *Grateful member, Jan Lowe*

Daily I am amazed at the transformation of the church I love. What joy and life abound there as families are added to its membership...so many little ones never before seen there are contributing so much to its vitality. I view the pictures and realize there are so many new family faces of Bella Vista's life that I don't recognize. Jaimie and Lee...you are leading the church in a dynamic way!!! You make a great team. The church is at its best. I am so proud of it!!!! *Mrs. Marjorie Plunk* Saw the above message from Marjorie Plunk on our church's facebook page and wanted to share it. Take advantage of yet another great way to stay in touch with our church family.

To everyone who made the Christmas Day Potluck a meaningful meal: A big "Thank You" to Verna & Darrell for setting up the room and making the lovely center pieces. For the many who came and helped with all the jobs that must be done before and after the meal. To Lyn Poplin, minister at Wiggin UMC, Fayetteville, for giving the invocation. To everyone who brought a dish to share - once again we can say some of the best cooks in NWA attend our church. To our church family that support and encourage activities like this. We feel blessed to be a part of this caring church family. Thank you and New Year blessings to you all. *Chet and Cheryl Campbell*

NOVE	EMBER 2013 FINANCIAL DA	TA		Compare
		*=	- Endowment	2012
Month to date (as of 11/30/13)	Actual Receipts	*	\$50,515	*\$47,532
Month to date (as of 11/30/13)	Actual Expenses		\$ <u>49,031</u>	\$45,214
			\$1,484	\$2,318
Year to date	Actual Receipts	*	\$514,224	*\$527,314
Year to date	Actual Expenses		\$ <u>542,436</u>	<u>\$539,422</u>
			-\$28,212	-\$12,108

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We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Brother Jaimie Alexander Associate Pastor - Rev. Lee Myane Minister of Congregational Care - Jan Lowe Director of Children's Ministry - Kristin Crider Director of Youth Ministry - David Hansen Dir. of Music Ministries - Dr. Lawrence Zehring Director of Media Ministries - Troy Jorgensen Handbell Director - Dawn Thompson Organist/Pianist - Broc Hite Praise Team Leader - Shannon Wicker Worship Leader - Garrett Greer Financial Secretary - Marge Smith Treasurer - Patsy Attaway Secretary - Janet Walton

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FUNDRAISING MEAL Benefiting ST. CATHERINE'S ORPHANAGE (see article on page 3)

Saturday, January 25 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Becker Hall Authentic Indian Food, Music and Dance Presented by the local Indian Community and Vista Kids and Youth Life!

