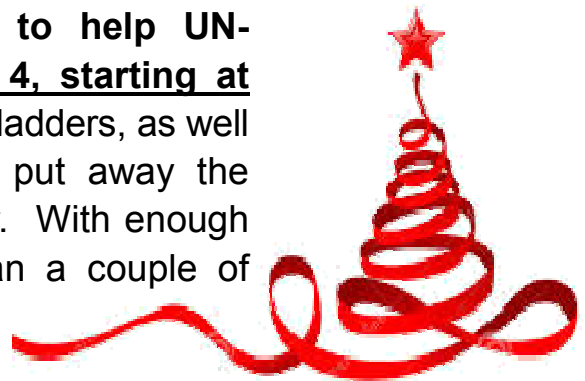




The Good News

January, 2016

MANY WILLING HANDS ARE NEEDED to help **UN-decorate** our church, **MONDAY, January 4, starting at 9:00am.** We can use fellows who can climb ladders, as well as anyone who can help take down and put away the Advent Season decorations for another year. With enough hands, this task should not take more than a couple of hours. Come join the "FUN"!



Start the New Year off right by joining your FUMCBV Church family Sunday, January 3rd at 10:00am in the Sanctuary.

Only one Worship Service will be held that morning.

Coffee & snacks & fellowship will follow the service in Becker Hall.

We will return to our normal 3 services on Sunday, January 10th.

Gather your quarters to feed the Goat Banks until January 30th, when we will hold our second annual PACK SHACK pack. We hope to pack 10,000 meals at 25¢ a meal to be distributed to local UMC food banks. Please plan on joining us Saturday, January 30th!! See page 11 for more information.





FAITH WALK

Brother Jaimie Alexander, Senior Pastor

Recently I came across a fourth grade school photo of myself. Brown curly thick hair, a leftover tan from the summer of '75, chubby cheeks, and the American flag in the background - what a heart throb! Then I looked in the mirror. I saw brown hair that was lighter and receding, chubby cheeks with the slightest hint of a summer leftover tan, and now glasses.

I felt good knowing that some things really don't change, like my chubby cheeks, though I wish they would. I realized how much other things had changed in my life in this time of high speed change we live in.

Do you remember a time when our world seemed to be changing so quickly? All we have to do is turn on the evening news or check yahoo news, and there it is—something else changing in our culture, our community, our world. It's unsettling, isn't it?

In swirling, transient times, as we face a new year it's good to remember the one unchangeable fact of our lives: Emmanuel, *God is with us* (Isaiah 7:14). God loves us, forgives us, cares for us, and has provided a way of eternal salvation for our souls. That simple, but essential truth is the reason for the ministry of the Body of Christ and the ministry of FUMCBV. Our purpose is to love, learn and lead, especially in these uncertain days and changing times. God continues to bless us so that we can provide inspiration and encouragement through mission and ministry. Thank you for your faithfulness in being a part of the ministry of First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista. You have a vital role to play in sharing the life-sustaining message of God's love. I am praying for you as the new year dawns and I ask that you pray for me and for the ministry of our church!

Bro. Jaimie



We have many new members and visitors to our church. Do you know who they are?? Do they know who you are?? Are you letting them know that you are a part of this church family and would welcome them to join us. PLEASE wear your name badge every week to identify yourself, not only to Sunday services, but to all church events. If you need a new name badge, come to the office and we will see that you receive one.



Listening with Ears of the Heart

Judy Rudd-Platt, Associate Pastor

If the advent season and Christmas have "taken" and the Holy Spirit has stirred the yearnings of your heart, you may find you have some open space to grow in holiness. Jesus' arrival often creates in us a desire to grow in holiness of heart and mind. "So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We become new creations when Christ is received anew in our lives. We are a new creation full of hope and promise.

But just as seeds planted in the ground must be nurtured and tended so that they grow, we must nurture and tend to the soil of our hearts to continue to grow in Christ. "But you need to remain well established and rooted in faith and not shift away from the hope given in the good news that you heard" (Colossians 1:23). Although there are many ways to tend the soil of our souls, one vitally important way is through the friendships and support of small groups. Small groups can provide the safe space to seek and grow in Christ. Even Jesus was a member of a small group. Recall that he traveled with his twelve faithful and loyal companions for three years preaching and teaching and supporting one another.

The Methodist Church, which began as a movement within the Church of England, exploded in part, because of the support and nurture of small groups. Since the pastors rode circuits and were gone for weeks at a time, it was up to the members to meet regularly and support one another in their daily walk with Christ. John Wesley felt so strongly about the power of small group participation in undergirding a person's conversion and transformation that he made attendance of small groups mandatory for inclusion in the Methodist movement! He knew it was much more difficult to take a wrong turn in one's faith journey if a person regularly enjoyed the company of other faithful brothers and sisters on the way.

Today, vital congregations who are thriving both in numbers and in the depth of their love for Christ offer small group opportunities for their members. Small groups provide space for people to grow meaningful relationships and to explore God's calling to love and service in their lives.

Beginning Wednesday, January 20th, you will have a variety of opportunities to join a small group on Wednesday evenings. Groups will be available for children and adults. YouthLife will also continue for all interested youth in Jr. Hi and High School..

Some small groups will meet from 4-6 weeks, others longer, depending on the topic and material being utilized. As some small groups come to a conclusion, others will begin. The adult small groups will range from craft-oriented interests to life application discussion topics to Bible studies. We are finalizing the small groups that will be offered, so keep an eye out for the list of opportunities you have to grow in your faith. It is an exciting time in the life of our church! I am eager to see where the Holy Spirit will lead us as we seek to grow in our faithfulness.

Pastor Judy

Watch for new events coming on Wednesday nights involving all ages ~ see pages 5 & 9 for more information



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Brenda Wideman, Minister of Congregational Care & Grief Support

The Cycle of the Seasons

My husband and I moved to Tucson, Arizona to live for three years just before our oldest son was born. I must admit I did love the 70-degree weather in January, but I really missed the cycle of the four seasons. I missed the variety of colors and temperatures we experience in nature with the cycle of the seasons. That full-range of cold to hot, of dead and brown to alive and green, could not be seen or experienced within us or in how we lived each day. Living there, I felt the pressure of having to go at full throttle on each and every day in that Arizona climate of days which were always bright and sunny.

I think our spirits need a variety, days to be sunny and bright - days spent doing lots of things, and yet days to be quiet and restful-days spent 'being' instead of 'doing'. I think God gave us night and day, winter and summer, so that our spirits could have this variety, could have this cycle of 'doing' and 'being'. The writer of Ecclesiastes spoke of this, as well. (Eccl 3:1-8)

As we start this January 2016, don't just make resolutions to do things – lose weight, travel more, spend less, but make a resolution to set aside time to just be, time to be with God. Time spent to be in quiet reflection, time spent to be in prayer, time spent to be in worship, time being in nature on a gentle walk in the snow, or being by the fire with a hot cup of tea, or being engrossed in that reflective book you have been putting off since last January. Let winter be your time of soul-making. Don't hurry it; take your time with it. As you do this, when spring starts to bud deep within you, you will be amazed at the new life which your spirit has found as a result of this quiet time in God's Presence. The psalmist wrote: "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) Let the winter of 2016 be the time you journeyed together with God into a new understanding of the cycle of the seasons.

Blessings, *Brenda*

YOUTH LIFE David Hanson, Youth Ministries Director

School is out for Christmas Break and the youth had several activities planned for this time. They traveled to Silver Dollar City for some time of fun and fellowship, and went caroling at Highlands Rehab before Christmas. The youth held their Christmas party on December 16. Much fun was had by all! The youth really enjoy spending time with Ms. Mickey (as you can see!) and especially enjoy her home cooked meals.

Youth Life will begin meeting again in the new year on Wednesday, January 13th. at 7:00pm in the Youth Room. All Jr. Hi & High School ages are Welcome to join us!

Wishing you all the Joys and Blessings of Our Lord Jesus during this season, and in the year to come!

David



Delivering poinsettias & caroling at Highlands Rehab ↑





VISTA KIDS

Kristen Crider, Director of Children's Ministries

At the Advent Night celebration we had in December, I spent some time at the station that had the crimson tree in the Narthex - the beautiful tree filled with symbols from our Christian faith. I watched my daughter scroll through the symbols from the key and choose one that spoke to her. She chose the triquetra (pictured to the right), and sketched it to hang on our own tree. The symbol fuses the Trinity with the circle, for eternity, into one cohesive representation of the Christian faith. The circle ties each part of the Trinity together, forming a whole combination of the three forces. To me, it represents a balanced life and one with limitless possibilities.



As I look to the new year, the circle reminds me that I have a renewed opportunity to fulfill my destiny by using the gifts God has granted me. In some ways, that opportunity is exciting and humbling - the knowledge that I was created with purpose and that is alive and growing no matter my circumstance, age or state of mind. In other ways, it is overwhelming and somewhat fearsome! The balance from the circle in the triquetra helps me to remember that when I look at a new year of opportunity it is okay to feel both optimistic and fearful at the same time, as long as I move forward in honoring the life of which I have been granted to live.

My heart in the ministry of this church continues to lie with the families and children of our church and community. I know that we, as an organized church people, have a responsibility to touch peoples' lives in a way that is meaningful and enriching. As such, that desire requires new ideas, trying new things and involving more people, from all walks and all stages of life. Our community starts where we build it. If we build it at school, then it lies in the school. If we build it around sports, then we will find it at the events. If we build it at church, then it grows within our walls. Building a community of faith takes time, trust, optimism and leadership! All of those things are available to us as a church, already in the rosters of our members and friends. Whether it is with your time, leadership or use of your gifts, if building a community for families to grow and thrive at our church is part of your heart, I invite your involvement in 2016 in this ministry!

January will be our kick-off month for Wednesday night programming of food, faith and fellowship at FUMC! We will be offering a dinner, followed by opportunity for adults and children to learn and grow together in small groups. Small groups need all kinds of people to thrive and children need all types of teachers to learn! Whether you want to participate or lead, this is truly a new adventure for our church! **We are looking for people with the gift of music, art, literature and missions to work with our children and families.** It will truly take a community of people to allow this opportunity the support it will need to get off the ground! Will you be a part of the first group of volunteers to spend a few hours each week with our children?

Whatever the new year has in store for you, my best wishes and prayers are with you each day! *Kristin*





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

Richard and Linda Stewart moved to Bella Vista about a year ago from Wichita, KS after they both retired. They chose this area to be closer to their daughter and family who live outside of Fayetteville. Richard was a comptroller/accountant for 35 years before doing full-time disaster response and Habitat



for Humanity as a construction director. He enjoys golf and eating out.

Linda spent 25 years in information technology software development before being ordained as a Deacon in the UMC. She served for 15 years in nonprofit leadership and disaster response. She enjoys sewing and renovating houses.

Now that they are retired, they enjoy time with family and friends, travel, reading, and Volunteer in Mission team ministry. They were drawn to this church because of the worship and mission opportunities. We are delighted to have Richard and Linda as part of our active church family.



Herb and Kathy Ayres moved to Bella Vista to escape the harsh winters of Illinois. They have fallen in love with the beautiful lakes, golf courses, and walking trails.

In Illinois Herb was in sales at a small hometown appliance store and Kathy





OUR FAMILY

RELOCATION

Janet McIntosh has moved to Minnesota to be close to her daughter. She welcomes your cards at: c/o Cheryl Hanson, 3689 Widgeon Way, Eagan, MN 55123

DEATHS

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

Arlen Ewy—brother of Shirley Wenger, died Monday, December 21.

Bill Fort—father of Cherie Fort died Saturday, December 12

Susan Wellbourn—niece of Karen Roenfeld, lost her husband and father of her children in early December.

Martha Reeves—mother of Martha Grant, passed away in November.

Dixie Norris—friend of Jan Boblantz, died November 21.

Frannie—friend of Suzann and Jan passed away in November.

Dennis McKennedy- brother of Jan Lowe, died Noember 1 in Springfield IL.

Mary Louise Ryherd—mother of Sandra Beverage, died in late October.

Billy Spencer—son-in-law of Carolyn Sutton died in late October.

Peggy Schuette—we recently learned of the death of former member Peggy Schuette on September 22. She had moved to Wisconsin in April to be closer to family.

ACTIVITIES COMING IN JANUARY

Young at Heart Shepherd Group—will meet at Acropolis for Breakfast at 8:30, Saturday, January 9. Call Judie Packard 426-6211 for more details.

Soaring Solos—

1) January 7—"Oh the Places we'll Go!"- activity planning for 2016. 2:30 pm in the Chapel.

2) January 21—8:30am Breakfast at Acropolis

Abrams Shepherd Group - will meet for a "Winter Picnic" in the Chapel at 11:30am on Wednesday, January 13th.

Introducing Prayer Squares

Prayer Squares, a smaller version of the Prayer Cloth are being made, prayed over and blessed and put in baskets in the Narthex. These are lovingly made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry Team to give you comfort in prayer. These Prayer Squares are prayer companions and reminders. They can be kept in your pocket or purse and be held and touched at any point during the day when prayer is needed. You are invited to take one for yourself and share one with a friend.

Prayer Shawls provide warmth and comfort for those in distress or hurting. You can request that a prayer shawl be given to a church or family member, or a friend who is dealing with the death of a loved one, or a serious illness or injury. Contact any clergy member, or Jeneda Mickelson, the Prayer Shawl Team Leader.

SANCTIFIED CLASSIFIEDS

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 be physically with us on Sunday morning...

~ **Tape Delivery Person or Team** ~
One or two folks to work together to see that the tape is delivered to the cable TV station each week.

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, even when someone must be out of town.



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Joe & Margie Bowen
- 1 Heath & Jennifer Lehmann
- 1 Joe & Kim McGee
- 3 David & Andrea Hanson
- 5 Jack & Donna Etheredge
- 10 Don & Kathy Jones
- 12 Keith & Co Ellen Sterwald
- 13 Bill & Terra Gagner
- 17 Clyde & Carol Cheek
- 19 Mark & Sarah Lucht
- 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
- 4 Oliver Harper
- 4 Molly Harris
- 6 Gladys Jutte
- 6 Chris Murphy
- 8 Keith Sterwald
- 9 Kay Dale
- 9 Duane Hertel
- 10 Marlene Clapp
- 10 Carroll Prior

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS (con't)

- 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
- 20 Co Ellen Sterwald
- 21 Hannah Hanson
- 21 Delores Rakow
- 22 Duane Pommerenke
- 23 Juanita Franklin
- 23 Marion Kornis
- 25 Erica Baldwin
- 25 Ivan Lantz
- 25 R.D. Shoulders
- 25 Nita Wallace
- 27 James Forrest
- 28 Vicki Hoye
- 28 Lee Moore
- 30 Tom Walton
- 31 Gary Grosnickle



Book Nook

2016 UMW Reading Program List

- Education For Missions (Category I)
Chasing The Divine in The Holy Land - Ruth Everhart
The Underground Girls of Kabul - Jenny Nordberg
Uprising - Sally Armstrong
Twenty-Two Cents - Paula Yoo
Our Rights - Janet Wilson
- Nurturing For Community (Category II)
Lend A Hand - John Frank
Miss Brenda And The Loveladies - Brenda Spahn
Dreamers - Eileen Truax
Dreaming In Indian - Lisa Charleyboy
Crazy - Linda Vigen Phillips
A Waist Is a Terrible Thing To Mind - Karen S. Linamen
- Social Action (Category III)
Just Mercy - Bryan Stevenson
The White Umbrella - Mary Frances Bowley
In Defense of Food - Michael Pollan
Blue Gold - Elizabeth Stewart
The Soda Bottle School - Laura Kutner
- Spiritual Growth (Category IV)
Before We Eat - Pat Brisson
Coaltown Jesus - Ron Koertge
Tilly - Monique Gray Smith
Key United Methodist Beliefs - William J Abraham
- Leadership Development (Category V)
I Am Malala - Malala Yousafzai
Nature Girl - Karen Whiting
Because I Am a Girl - Rosemary McCarney
The Weight of Mercy - Deb Richardson

Fiction:

A Secret Affair - Barbara Taylor Bradford
 A dramatic and inspiring page-turner that illuminates the power of love.

A Sudden Change of Heart - Barbara Taylor Bradford
 This book revolves around overcoming adversity as well as celebrating life's joys.

Rose - 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 - 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.

Large-Print Fiction:

Twice in A Lifetime - 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 - 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 - 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.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday nights, beginning January 20th will be a time of fellowship and growth. Some of the topics and interests we hope to be offering include:

- *Spiritual gifts
- *Financial Planning
- *Paper card Embroidery
- *Adam Hamilton's *John*
- *Parenting in a Hectic World
- *Adult Coloring Books
- *Marriage
- *Bible Study 101

If you have other suggestions or areas of interest for small groups, please let Pastor Judy know by calling the church or emailing her at judy@lovelearnlead.com.

Make sure to check your bulletin and email for the small groups that will be offered!

It Is All In A Word!

We have racked our collective brains for a name for our Wednesday night gatherings, and nothing is resonating. We need your help! What do we call our Wednesday night event? It will consist of a meal, connecting fellowship and small groups. Please, put your creative juices to work and help us discover a name for our Wednesday nights beginning January 20th. Maybe you'll win a prize for the best name! Please submit your suggestions to Pastor Judy by calling the church or emailing her at judy@lovelearnlead.com.



MISSIONS

Shoebox Ministry

We received 219 Christmas wrapped men's and women's shoeboxes. Each had a Christmas card attached. Delivery of all types of boxes including children's and babies were delivered to Salvation Army Bentonville, Seven Hills, Soul's Harbor, Women's Shelter of Benton County, Havenwood, Noel, and Pea Ridge. Our thanks to the Bible study group led by JoAnn Kratsky who gave us 15 children's backpacks filled with puddings snacks. They were given to Women's Shelter of Benton County whose children were in the age group for these young children's backpacks.

Thanks to all of your donations, five large priority boxes were sent overseas to the troops. They included Christmas cards made by our children's ministry. We received 61 lovingly decorated construction paper cards with hand written notes on them. Santa came early and when I arrived at church on Sunday I was told that one of our church members donated a check to cover the cost for postage on the boxes. God Bless our church members who have such caring hearts for others. We will be sending boxes with the leftover money as items in troop box fills again. Thank you so much.

We will be giving out children's gloves and hats starting this month and continuing through the next couple of months. Also tarps are being collected along with men's dark brown work gloves to distribute to homeless shelters such as Seven Hills. Thank you to Judy Knadle for the giant bag of stuffed animals that were delivered to children in Noel, Missouri and Pea Ridge .

We are in need of men's cotton gloves, quart size zip lock bags, and as always men's and women's socks.



As always in His service,
The Shoebox Ministry Team

Pak A Sak

Our January collection of food on January 17th, will be for Habitat for Humanity. All types of non-perishable food items are needed. (PLEASE, no out-of-date donations!)



The families who have received homes from Habitat are, at times, in need of assistance with food to help make ends meet. Items needed are soups, peanut butter, pasta, sauce, canned fruits, and meats.

The PAK A SAK program for 2015 has been successful. Thanks to the generosity of our church members we collected and delivered to non-profits in Benton County 3,381 items of non-perishable food items. The estimated value of all the items is \$6,004. We also delivered 8 ready-to-prepare Thanksgiving Dinners to Baker School in Bentonville, and 12 canned hams to Glen Duffy school in Gravette, for their Christmas boxes for families in need. Let me take this opportunity to say **"THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO FAITHFULLY BRING THEIR SACKS OF GROCERIES EACH MONTH"**

Sue Nebrig, PAK-A-SAK Chairman

The entire Mission Team looks forward to a rewarding 2016 year with all our ministries.

The Mission team THANKS all who participated in the **ANGEL TREE**. We helped provided 45 children with a Happy Christmas. A special "Thank You" to Chet Campbell and Ewart Scarff for helping to deliver the gifts to the BC Fairgrounds.





MISSION OF MONTH

THE PACK SHACK

It's time to put on your party hats (as in hair nets) and your snazzy gloves (food handling type) and have some fun! Bang the Gong! Feed the Funnel!



January 30, we will be holding a Feed the Funnel Party with the Pack Shack. Our goal this year is to pack 10,000 freeze dried meals. Each meal costs 25 cents.

The Goat Banks are out and conveniently hold, you guessed it— QUARTERS! We want you to feed the Goat Banks so we can feed the funnels to feed the hungry!

If you've done the math 10,000 meals means we need \$2500 before January 30. We have a portion of that money on hand from some generous donations, but we still need your contribution to this Mission of the Month at the Goat Banks to meet our goal.

We also need your manpower on January 30. There is something for everyone from 3 to 103 to do. This is a great Shepherd Group, Bible Study or family activity. Don't be shy!

Our meals will go to Methodist Food Pantries in area:

- H2O Pantry at Living Waters UMC Centerton
- Decatur UMC
- 2nd Street Pantry in Bentonville
- Grace UMC in Rogers



FELLOWSHIP

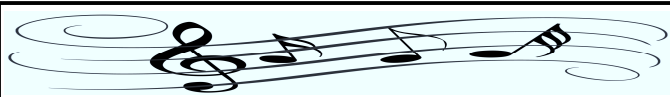


The Metfield Methodist Shepherd Group held it's tenth annual Farkle night in November with two groups competing. At Table One, Hal Shope was the winner and John Justice and Marianne Zotti tied as Farkle King and Queen (those having the most Farkles). At Table Two, Kay Dunn was the winner and Co Ellen Sterwald was the Farkle Queen. The next competition will be in November 2016.



Members and friends of the Metfield Methodist and Sunrise Shepherd Groups enjoyed a Nativity Walk and soup supper on December 7. Becker Hall was lined with tables holding nativity sets from FUMCBV homes made of ceramic, wood, coal, coconut shells, metal, glass, pottery, fabric and ven cardboard. This beautiful display included sets from around the world and some made by our own hands. A freewill offering made it possible to pay some expenses and give \$160 to Habitat for Humanity and \$160 to Oasis of Northwest Arkansas. Thank you to everyone who participated!





Musical Notes

with Broc Hite



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Larry Zehring has been the music director at First Methodist for 22 years, but it's not often we celebrate him in the way he deserves. And since this year also marks his 50th wedding anniversary to Annette, we wanted to get him some presents that would be meaningful to both. Larry enjoys the local restaurant Tavola Trattoria, so we purchased a gift card that he can use there, or at Table Mesa, should his mood switch to Latin cuisine. Since there was some money left over, the choir also added some Euros to the gift, which Annette and Larry can use during their week-long trip to Paris, France this month.

Though Larry's biography is on the church Web site, I wanted to ask some questions that aren't addressed in a bare-bones summary. As one indication of how long Larry has served in his role, he was hired by Wendell Dorman in 1993, and has served under four subsequent senior pastors. One of Larry's most notable legacies was beginning the Wesley Series of concerts in 1995. We don't know precisely how many concerts have been presented over the years, but there have been many opportunities for both performers and audiences to enjoy quality performances.

There certainly were many musical memories made over the years, so I asked Larry to name some of his favorites. His proudest achievement was the world premiere of Dan Knight's Christmas cantata, "We Have Seen Him." Others are Vivaldi's "Gloria", performed with orchestra, Dubois's "Seven Last Words," Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," Stainer's "The Crucifixion," Schutz's "Christmas Oratorio", Distler's "A Little Advent Music," and a couple of sing-alongs of Handel's "Messiah".

There was a lot of change in the church music program over this long stretch of time. Certainly the most notable changes are in the sanctuary instruments: both the Steinway D concert grand and Casavant 30-rank pipe organ were installed. The contemporary service was added to enrich the lives of young families and children, as Bella Vista transitioned from a retirement community to a municipality.

When asked what stayed the same, or constant, Larry said it was the positive spirit, a can-do attitude. The church had ups and downs, including the arrival and departure of many good and faithful people, but it is this attitude that endured.

Let's toast Larry on his life and his many professional accomplishments in Bella Vista!

Adieu, Broc

While the **Wesley Series** is on hiatus during Advent, Christmas, and during the season of weather cancellations, we have already announced four concerts in 2016. The first is Lyrique Quintette, a woodwind quintet from the University of Arkansas that visits us on Sunday, April 10th. For much more, visit us on Facebook "WesleySeries" or on the Web at WesleySeries.org.



UMM

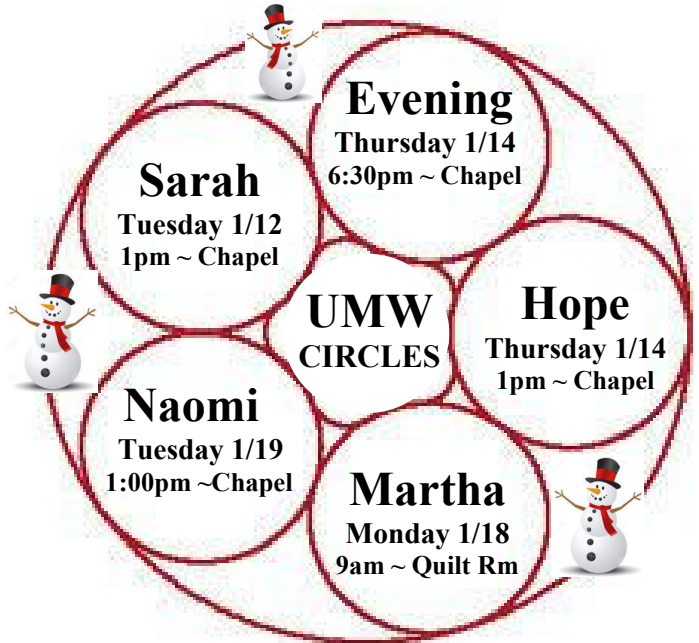
UMW



The guest speaker for our January meeting will be Linda Brown from *Horses for Healing*. We invite all UMM members (all men of the church) to attend our January 13th meeting at 6:30pm in Becker Hall and hear how these special horses give their days to the children of Northwest Arkansas who have physical, emotional and mental disabilities. Hear how riding a horse can have a therapeutic benefit to both body and brain.

The menu, catered by Papa Mike's, will consist of the following: Center Cut Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, and Salad.

Reservations need to be made either by phone tree or with Jim Belcoff (616-6738) no later than Sunday, January 10. Hope to see you there.



Cards for All Occasions

The UMW have for sale beautiful handmade cards. They can be found in the Library and prices are marked on each one. The selection includes birthday, thinking of you, anniversary and others. A container is on the card table with the cards for you to put your money when you purchase a card. We thank you for your support of our mission work.



Bazaar Workshops. . .

. . . will be starting again before you know it !!!! Be thinking about some new and different projects we can work on once we get going again in March.



Do you need room in your closet and drawers for the new clothes and gadgets you received for Christmas?

Care & Share trailer will be in our upper parking lot Monday, January 18, from 7:00am-1:00pm.

Anything you donate to them goes to their Thrift Store in Gravette, and the profits of the store go directly to benefit those less fortunate in western Benton County.



THANK YOU

I want to thank all the church members who kept me in their prayers and sent me cards during my cancer treatments. I know it helped me get through this! Thank you!
Keith Sterwald

*Thank you for welcoming us when we came to sing for you. Thanks so much for feeding us, too! The pizza, fruit & cookies were just what we needed after a morning of singing. Thank You!

*Rev. Jaimie, Thank you so much for inviting us to perform for your church. We truly appreciate you! We Loved the church and your members so much
1st Grade Cooper Elementary School

Bud and I would like to thank our church family for their prayers and visits to Bud during his stay in the hospital. A special thanks goes to Bro. Jaimie, Jan Lowe, and Brenda for their visits. Also, a special thanks to Pastor Judy who stayed with me and kept me company during Bud's surgery. Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all.

Dottie Kropp-Henke & Bud

Thanks 1st UMC so much for your donation from the Nativity soup supper. This will be a huge blessing to Chelsea, to have a new storage shed built with these funds. We are blessed by your generosity and willingness to partner with us on her home. God Bless you all!
Habitat for Humanity of Benton Co, Inc

Dear Friends, I know that when something comes together in our church, it is rarely one person who makes it happen. So, for each of you who contributed in food prep, room set-up or take-down, kitchen clean-up, decorations, kind words, DVD, gathering cards, Thank You! A Lot!

For each of you who helped in one way or another to change me, who provided the sandpaper to smooth out the rough edges, and who loved me in spite of my faults, Thank you, and God Bless you!

I like the person I am today, better than the person who arrived at FUMCBV with all the answers almost 12 years ago. I used to worry that when I retired, I might be nobody, without a hat or title that defined me. I'm not worried anymore. I am loved by God and by people who love God. That's all I need.

Thanks for all you gave and gave and gave to me.
God bless.
Jan Lowe

Christmas Potluck was a joyous feast of Turkey, Ham, dressing, gravy and hot rolls cooked up by Marlene and her crew of dedicated workers. Many delicious dishes were brought to round out the meal. A total of 82 people came to eat and visit. Several meals were take-outs. Too many people to name helped to set up, serve, clean up and do the things that needed to be done. To each and every one, "THANK YOU" from the bottom of our hearts!

Chet & Cheryl Campbell

NOVEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL DATA

		* = -Endowment	2015 Budget	Compare 2014
Month to date (as of 11/30/15)	Actual Receipts	*\$63,801	*\$54,317	*\$56,880
Month to date (as of 11/30/15)	Actual Expenses	\$52,269	\$54,317	\$52,236
	Month of OCT	\$11,532		\$ 4,644
Year to date	Actual Receipts	*\$622,884	*\$597,317	*\$598,211
Year to date	Actual Expenses	\$590,563	\$597,487	\$588,737
	YTD	\$ 32,321		\$ 9,474

Operating Account Balance 11/30/15 **(\$19,141)**

JANUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 NEW YEARS DAY Church Closed	2 9:00 Amp Big Book
3 10:00 Combined Service Sanctuary	4 9:00 Undecorate church 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA	5 11:40 Golf-Scotsdale 4:30 Oasis Grief Grp	6 7:30 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 6:30 Chancel Choir	7 11:06 Golf-Dogwood 2:30 Soaring Solos 7:00 Living Sober AA	8 8:30 Believers Disciple 11:30 PreSchool Brd Mtng 2:00 Reception Set-up for Sat. (BH) 5:00 Rehersal Dinner	9 8:30 Young @ Heart 9:00 Amp Big Book 10:00 Wedding Setup
10 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:00 Blood Pressure ✓ 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service	11 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 6:00 Finance Committee	12 9:00 PEO-BR 11:40 Golf-Berksdale 1:00 Sarah Circle 1:30 Member Mtg 4:30 Oasis Grief Grp	13 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 9:30 Missions Mtg 11:30 Abrams S G 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:30 UMM Dinner 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Youth Life	14 11:06 Golf-Scotsdale 1:00 Hope Circle 6:30 Evening Circle 7:00 Living Sober AA	15 8:30 Believers Disciple	16 9:00 Amp Big Book
17 7:05 Handbls Practice 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30/10:45 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service	18 8:00 Care&Share Trailr 9:00 Martha Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 PEO-CD 12:45 Women's Chorus 5:30 Board of Directors 6:00 By the Book AA	19 11:30 Movng Frwr LncH 11:40 Golf-BVCC 1:00 Naomi Circle 1:00 BV Book Club 4:30 Oasis Grief Grp	20 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Disciple IV 9:00 Quilters 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Prayer Meeting 5:00 Meal/Small Groups 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Youth Life	21 11:06 Golf-Berksdale 6:30 SPRC 7:00 Living Sober AA	22 8:30 Believers Disciple	23 9:00 Amp Big Book
24 7:30 Praise Team 8:00 Trad. Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30/10:45 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service	25 9:00 Blood Drive 9:00 Caregiver Support 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:45 Women's Chorus 6:00 By the Book AA	26 11:40 Golf-Dogwood 3:00 BV Library Board 4:30 Military Officers	27 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Disciple IV 2:30 Disciple II 3:15 Chancel Bells 5:00 Meal/Small Groups 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Youth Life	28 11:06 Golf-Highlands 7:00 Living Sober AA	29 8:30 Believers Disciple	30 9:00 Amp Big Book 9:00 Pack Shack
31 7:30 Praise Tm rehrsl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30/10:45 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service						



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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 176
 BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

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

To the Home of ...

Give 
because every drop tells a story

Please help make a difference in OUR community
 by GIVING BLOOD if you are able.



Monday, January 25, 2016

9:00am ~ 1:00pm

Becker Hall

Free Cholesterol Screening

Please bring photo identification

Eat well and drink plenty of fluids prior to the blood drive

COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER
 OF THE OZARKS