



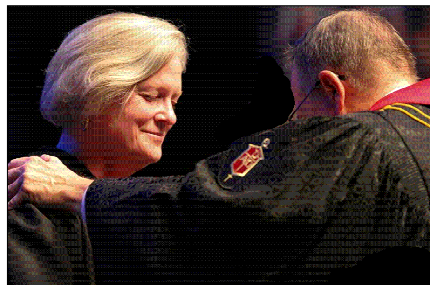
The Good News

July, 2016

ARUMC Annual Conference ~ 2016

Class of 14 Provisional Elders and Deacons at their Commissioning Ceremony

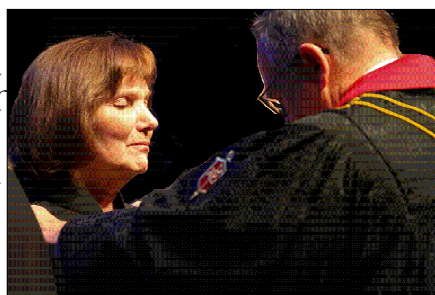
*Pastor Judy Rudd-Platt
is commissioned by Bishop Mueller
as Provisional Elder*



*Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander is
presented the
Harry Denman Evangelism
Award for Clergy
by Bishop Mueller*



*Pastor Brenda Wideman
is commissioned
by Bishop Mueller as
Provisional Deacon*



*You are cordially invited to a
Reception & Card Party honoring our three pastors
Sunday, July 3rd immediately following the one 10:00am service.
Please join us as we recognize these three for the honors
they have received, and show our appreciation for their
total dedication to our FUMCBV family.
We are blessed!*



FAITH WALK

Brother Jaimie Alexander, Senior Pastor

Our first Christmas Together...2011

July 2016 begins the 6th year I have had the privilege of being your Senior Pastor. It is hard to believe five years have passed so quickly.

When I arrived, I was welcomed with open arms by many, but there were a few people who put me on trial and accepted me within a few months. Since 2011, you have invited me into your lives in sad and joyous times. We have sadly been involved in many *celebration of life* services. We have also celebrated baptisms, weddings, transitions, and changes in lives. Over the years, I have had the privilege to work with 4 different of your associate pastors-Lee Myane, Zach Underwood, Brenda Wideman, and Judy Rudd Platt, as well as different staff members.

We celebrated the ministry of Jan Lowe upon her retirement in 2015. The youth and children's area have been redecorated, Becker Hall has had new carpet installed, and soon we will have new exterior doors. We have hosted parking lot outreach events like Super Charge and Trunk or Treat, more dinners than we can count, Unite Methodist Women and United Methodist Men events, and experienced the outpouring of God's presence in multitudes of ways. We have had many different pastors preach, shepherd groups meet, Every One In Ministry Commitment Campaigns and calls for prayer. Together, we have asked God to make us to be the church where ever we are whether on Sunday or a weekday. Thank you for the blessing of being one of your pastors. It is an honor. It has come with victories and challenges, sorrows and laughter, and opportunities to love, learn, and lead!



I sadly share with you that Kristen Crider has decided to step down as the Director of Children's Ministry. Kristen has served in ministry 3 years at FUMCBV. I am thankful for her role in ministry to children and families. Sunday July 17th will be her last Sunday. There will be a reception to honor her on that Sunday following the 9:30 service in Becker Hall. Please stop by and offer her your appreciation. The SPRC will be working on filling this important ministry position in the next few weeks.

2016 is the 40th anniversary of the ministry of First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista. What began as a group of believers gathering to discuss forming a church in 1976 has become who we are today. We thank our founding fathers and mothers for their dedication to ministry of Christ, and this fall we will celebrate this important milestone. Be looking for more details in further newsletters and emails!



God is Faithful!

Bro. Jaimie

Don't just come to church, *BE THE CHURCH!*

There will be one service only
Sunday, July 3rd - at 10:00am.
Monday, July 4th
the church will be closed.



Listening with Ears of the Heart

Associate Pastor Judy Rudd-Platt

Get Up and Get Out

As Brother Jaimie has been teaching us in his sermon series, “I Can Hear You Now! How to Recognize When God Speaks,” God does indeed speak to us in a myriad of ways. Sometimes the communications are direct, and sometimes they are through people or events in our lives. When Brother Jaimie recently preached that God has reassured him that he would recognize God’s voice just as he had recognized the voices of a phone operator, a fast food server and a newscaster, I realized that God had been using different ways to tell me to get up and encourage others to take our faith outside the walls of the church.

In May, my husband shared a conversation he had with a member of our church. In discussing the innovations developing in commerce, this person noted that our parents didn’t shop like our grandparents, we don’t shop like our parents and our children don’t shop like us. As soon as I heard this, I realized the implications this realization has for the mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church. We don’t worship and spread the good News of Jesus like our parents, our children, don’t worship and evangelize like we did and our grandchildren will not worship and reach others outside the church like their parents. I heard this as an invitation from God to be open to the new and exciting ways that the Holy Spirit is inviting us to participate in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

At Annual Conference, I heard the Director of the Center for Vitality challenge the churches and laity of the Arkansas Conference to partner in ministry differently than we have in the past. When polled, many churches affirmed that they participated in events such as Easter egg hunts and Trunk or Treat. When polled again, the vast majority of these churches acknowledged that they hosted these events at their churches. Each of us was challenged to take these events into the community to meet people where they are. We were encouraged to take the love, hands and feet of Christ into the neighborhood – just as Jesus did.

Last week, I had the opportunity to participate in a Bella Vista community event sponsored by a local church. Metfield movie night was held at the Metfield pavilion where 150-175 adults and children gathered to watch a movie and snack on free popcorn and water. NWA Community Church sponsored this event as a free outreach to the community. Dozens of families were blessed by the opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening of fun and relaxation with only an invitation to join the church for worship or vacation Bible school.

With Brother Jaimie’s sermon the next day on hearing and responding to God’s voice, I realized that God has been nudging, prodding and beckoning me to lead our congregation into the community to “be” the church outside our church walls. If God has been nudging, prodding or beckoning you too, I invite you to visit with me to see how we can all partner with God to “be” the church in our neighborhoods.

Pastor Judy



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Pastor Brenda Wideman, Minister of Congregational Care

A Way Out of No Way

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)

How many times have you thought your situation or that of a loved one was hopeless? That you had reached a brick wall; that there was nothing that could be done, nothing for you to do to rectify the problem, the only solution was to give up? Now reflect on how many times a way appeared when there seemed to be no way. God had made the path straight when it had seemed totally impassible.

The scripture tells us to Trust! In our “Show Me” culture, in the understanding we gather from the world, we have a hard time trusting in that which we cannot see and touch, or that which we cannot logically figure out. And yet in those matters which really count, those matters which reveal the Lord’s hand, letting go and letting God, trusting that God will provide, is what we are called to do. We have to trust with no expectation; to trust with a peace that whatever comes, it will be Good, for God is Good.

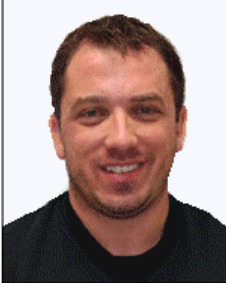
My call to ministry has been like that. I received an unmistakable call to ordained ministry rather than lay ministry. I had no money for seminary, no place to live. The path was crooked and filled with pot-holes. But God made a way, a reasonable apartment was found and I graduated debt-free. I was a math and computer science major prior to seminary; I had not taken courses in theology or religion, so I failed my first Christian Heritage reflection paper. But God made a way and provided a professor who showed me that my past coursework was a gift, not a stumbling block. I went on not only to succeed in my Christian Heritage course, but in all the other courses as well.

I remember the first time I met Bro. Jaimie. We had agreed to meet to discuss the possibility of an internship. The day turned out to be a terrible day for travel, a January snowstorm had the news telling everyone to stay home. But God made a way and Bro. Jaimie walked into Atlanta Bread Company, in his full-length overcoat, bigger than life, as if the roads were totally clear. As we talked, I remember him being non-committal, for he said “We don’t have any extra money.” And there I was not only asking him to agree to allow me to be in ministry with him, but also to pay me a stipend. But God provided a way; a ministry and the adequate funding were found.

Then the road to ordination turned out to be filled with extra twists and turns and bumps and bruises. And at the end of my internship, I could find no position where I could serve in ministry in northwest Arkansas. But God provided a way, and Jan’s retirement opened up a position and a need in ministry that had not been expected. And then the following year, this year, the Board of Ordained Ministry agreed and the Bishop commissioned me to the next step on the path toward ordination.

During the past 5 years, God has taught me to trust. In the trusting, God has straightened the path to ministry in ways that were beyond my wildest dreams. Many times I wondered as the road got rough whether the call to ministry was my imagination. Each time God said “Trust in me with all your heart – lean not on your own understanding. I will make your paths straight.” Where has God straightened the path for you? Remember, and give thanks. We are blessed to be on this journey together. I look forward to the coming years as we walk side-by-side to serve a Lord who makes our paths straight in ways more beautiful than we could ever imagine. God is Good – ALL the Time!

Blessings, *Pastor Brenda*



Youth Life

David Hanson,
Director - Youth Ministries

Some relaxation and time to reflect on a busy life was my last week as I took a family vacation to Orlando to witness the magical times that Walt Disney has to offer. While I was there it reminded me of the great time that our youth had at the Youth 2015 convention last year. I forgot how beautiful Orlando is and the memories that it created when we got to experience a fellowship of that size. It's amazing how a dream vacation to Walt Disney that is supposed to be filled with magic and memories can turn into a tragic time. My family and I were in Orlando and were there when the tragic shootings happened and when a young life was taken so soon by one of God's creatures while enjoying the wonders and beautiful times that Disney World has to offer. What I learned was your life can change so quickly that it's those little times and those wonderful moments that you have to hold onto and enjoy. Enjoy every last second you have with your loved ones because you never know what will come.

Our lives have seasons and that family that lost their little boy are going through one of the hardest seasons that they will ever face, and that none of us can ever comprehend. What I quickly realized was my time to reflect and relax turned into a time of prayer and love. Prayers for all those who got hurt, and love all those who are around us, and not hold onto hate but hold on to memories.

Our youth have a couple of young strong faithful, excited and adventurous individuals attending a camp that will focus on disaster relief. They will learn how to handle emotional tragedies that are caused by a disaster. They will learn how to help rebuild a community structurally and faithfully. This will be a great camp for them to really grow and mature into what it means to be a disciple of God and to go out and help individuals in time of need. They will need to become that individual who prays and who loves in those times when people are going through some of the worst seasons of their life. I want to thank all those in our church for the gifts prayers and support that continue to help grow our youth to becoming those disciples of God that will make this world a better place when tragedy or a disaster hits so close to home. God bless and thanks. *David*

Vista Kids

Kristin Crider,
Director - Children's Ministries



There is nothing that captures childhood more than the long summer days July brings us. Whether we take this time to escape with our family or take a few days off just to be at home, the hot days of July beg us to play in the water and have fun in the sun! In July, we are celebrating youth in Sunday School with our unit "The Fruit of the Spirit". Our bible verse is from Galatians 5:22-23—The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Vacation Bible School is soon upon us! Egypt will be held in Becker Hall with our special time with Joseph in the sanctuary. Our mission this session is Habitat for Humanity, and our marketplace layout is a neat way to bring God's Word to our children. We specifically need help on our missions team, kitchen crew, set up, registration and a few more teaching spots. Please consider donating your time to reach out to the children of the Bella Vista Community. Egypt VBS will be held July 10-14 from 6 pm - 8 pm. Please sign up as a volunteer or register your children either from the link on the website or by stopping by the church office.

How good it is to be part of the community of church! Our church is a place where you can be greater than your self - and recognize special gifts in a new friend. Through all the many opportunities God gives you to work in ministry, I pray for you a rich reward through your service.

With love, *Kristin*

VBS Wish List

These items will be used either for crafts or for decoration. With any items donated for decoration, please label your name clearly on the item and drop it off in the Sunday School room #20 downstairs:

- **Pop-up Event Tents** (Please consider bringing on Sunday, July 10th and setting it up after 2nd service)
- **Blankets/Sheets** (marketplace décor)
- **Baskets, real/fake plants, pots** (décor)
- **Empty water bottles** (need about 100)



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 855-1158.

BIRTHS

Grayson Edward Severson, was born May 29th. He is the first born of Hannah and Alex Severson, first grandson of Rod and his late wife Jan Severson, and second great-grandson of Richard and Shirley Severson. Congratulations to the Severson family on this wonderful bundle of joy!

RELOCATIONS



Juanita Dittmer — has moved closer to family in Illinois. She would love to hear from church family. You can send cards and letters to her at: Autumn Accolade, 13516 Townline Road, Green Valley, IL, 61534

John & Janie Koonce — have moved to be closer to grandchildren. Their new address is: 550 Stonebridge Dr. #B-204, Lawrence, KS 66049



Nathala Crooks - has moved to be closer to friends and family. Her new address is: 15631 Hedgeford Ct. #19, Chesterfield, MO 63017

DEATHS

Lois Bone—passed away Wednesday, June 15 here in Bella Vista. Lois had been a member since 1994, but had been unable to attend recently due to poor health. A graveside service was held Saturday, June 18 at Bella Vista Cemetery. Please keep Lois's family and friends in your prayers as they mourn her passing.



ACTIVITIES COMING in JULY

2 SERVE Shepherd Group will meet at Blowing Springs Park for the July 4th concert at 6:00 at a table they have reserved on the far left side where they have met in the past. You may bring your own picnic or buy something there from the Rotary Club. The concert begins at 7:00pm. Please let the Andersens know by July 1st if you are going.

HAPPYS Shepherd Group will meet Wednesday, July 6 at 1:30 at the Native American History Museum in Bentonville, followed by dinner at the Flying Fish at 4:30pm.

METFIELD METHODIST Shepherd Group will be going to dinner at JJ's by the Lake Thursday, July 7th. Meet at Metfield Clubhouse Parking lot at 5:15pm to carpool and let Vicki know if you are going so you don't get left behind!

SOARING SOLOS will meet July 10 at the Highland Park Clubhouse at 2:00pm. Bring a joke or a fun story to share. Nancy Spangler is the hostess and is planning to serve ice cream sundaes. Please let her know if you will be coming.

AVALON Shepherd Group will meet at Monte Ne at 5:30pm on Wednesday, July 20 for dinner and fellowship.



OUR FAMILY

SHEPHERD GROUP ONE will attend the NW AR Naturals baseball game on July 13th. The tickets are \$4 each and first pitch is at 7:00pm. We have been promised 3rd base-line tickets that should be in the shade at game time or soon after. Please contact Judy Bilyeu at 876-2345 for tickets or car pool information.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

A special Angel's help is needed - Glenn and Martha Hogue are currently living in The Meadows in Bentonville and are no longer able to drive. They very much would like to attend worship on a regular basis, but need help with transportation. If you might be able to assist in this act of kindness, please call Amy Gilmore or Pastor Brenda at the church office.



A CUP with a PURPOSE

Our sisters in Christ at the **Oasis** community have opened a new coffee shop, *The Oasis*, on the Northwest Arkansas Community College campus. It is located in the Global Business Building on Eagle Avenue, which is EZ-off, EZ-on of exit 86 of I49. This is a great location to meet with friends or small groups of up to 15 to enjoy wonderful coffee, espressos, lattes and the like, and all at a reasonable price. What a great way to support the Oasis women as they grow their lives and their community into the wholeness God created them to be!

~ WOMEN'S RETREAT ~

Being, Becoming and Living as the Beloved

Based on Henri Nouwen's book,
Life of the Beloved

In our fast-paced world of work, responsibilities, families, commitments, and "do more," it is often difficult to live in the knowledge and love that we are *God's beloved*. Technology, accomplishments and being enough distract us from God's love that beholds and embraces us exactly where we are with a cluttered home or car, to-do lists that keep growing, and exhaustion that consumes us at the end of the day with tasks left unfinished. The last thing that makes sense at times like these is to slip away to be with God and reconnect with our Creator who calls us the Beloved; and yet, the rekindling of the connection is exactly what God wants most for us.

If you need a time to be in the presence of God and to become reacquainted with your belovedness, please consider joining us on July 30th at Christview Retreat Center overlooking the beautiful Ozark Mountains in Eureka Springs. We will experience God's abiding love and desire for our hearts through fellowship, food, laughter, prayer, creativity and more.

We will leave at 8:00 am and hope to return by 8:00 pm. The \$30 registration fee includes meals, supplies and books. Please remember to pick up your book when you pay your registration. We only have room for 7 more women, so reserve your space for this special time of retreat with your sisters in Christ soon! If you plan to ride the bus, please reserve your seat. If you need scholarship assistance or have any other questions, please contact Pastor Judy. Come be the beloved!

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jon & Jessica Mendoza
- 8 Bill & Jane Potts
- 11 Dale & Nancy Veach
- 13 Rev. Jim & Mary Verkest
- 14 Charles & Florence Hill
- 20 Stan & Melodee Neukircher
- 22 Sean & Kristin Crider
- 22 Jack & Kay Dunn
- 23 Roger & Bonita Vrieze
- 25 Ed & Barbara Jenner
- 26 Bob & Jan Shaw
- 27 Dick & Karen Bacon

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sue Nebrig
- 1 Allan Ward
- 3 Archie Birkner
- 3 Wanda Holliday
- 3 Mary Kennedy
- 4 Earl Kennedy
- 5 Selena Smith-Rodrigues
- 5 Sandy Fitch
- 5 Pat Fox
- 6 Eunice Albers
- 6 Judith McVickers
- 7 LaVon Fryer
- 7 Javier Sampson
- 7 Allison Totten
- 8 Chet Campbell
- 8 Helen McBride

JULY BIRTHDAYS *(continued)*

- 9 Jennifer Lehmann
- 9 Carmen Phillips
- 10 Layne Anderson
- 11 Leota Rowlison
- 13 Stan Neukircher
- 13 Juanita Prior
- 14 Bergie Dyson
- 14 Albert Fisher
- 14 Katie Hickman
- 15 Merle Lantz
- 16 Kenneth Hammerstrom
- 17 Dorothy Phillips
- 17 Carol Zurn
- 18 Verle Shoemaker
- 18 Alan Yount
- 19 Noah Pittman
- 22 Donald Gersema
- 25 M.J. Rhein
- 26 Austin Hanna
- 27 Jack Kolbe
- 27 Katrina Sparlin
- 29 Connor Gurganus
- 30 Jacqueline Goff-Beahm
- 30 Melodee Neukircher
- 30 Ivaleen Seward
- 31 Kenneth Fisher
- 31 Pamela Pittman

First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista

UMW Rummage Sale

Saturday, August 6th

8:00am ~ 1:00pm-Becker Hall

Knickknacks ~ Linens ~ Sporting Goods

Kitchenware ~ Electronics

Tools ~ Toys ~ Books

Something for Everyone!

Food is available

Proceeds benefit local charities

Please drop off your donated items

the week of August 1st - 3rd

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday - 8:00am to 4:30pm

Carts available in the parking lot near Becker Hall

Please make sure your items are clean,
in good condition, and in working order!

(NO TV's, Furniture or Clothing, PLEASE)

Any questions, contact Co Ellen 721-2902



Buy a Door Campaign

FUMCBV has 38 exterior doors which are approximately 40 years old. Twenty-seven of these doors are wood and have deteriorated to the point where they need to be replaced. Fortunately, most of the existing hardware will be usable on the new doors. The cost for commercial, steel, energy efficient doors is approximately \$1,000 per door.



A pledge drive is starting to raise funds to replace these doors. The drive will allow individuals or groups to purchase doors or portions of a door to replace the deteriorating doors. Pledge forms are available in the church office, and on the desks in the Narthex and Becker Hall. The goal is to raise \$27,000 to replace all of the defective doors.

Please remember donations to the *Buy a Door* Campaign should be in addition to your regular giving to the church.

Steve Larsen – Chairman, Board of Trustees



MISSIONS

Helping Hands Work Day

Saturday, July 23

For those of you who are not acquainted with how our church helps support the Helping Hands Resale Shop, it's a great hands-on mission. In the morning, we work only outside carrying in donations. Then in the afternoon, we again have the outside folks as well as others to work inside to cashier, bag items and maintain/tidy the sales floor. There will be a sign-up sheet for each shift in the church office starting the first of July. It is a great fellowship time as well as support for a worthy organization. All of the proceeds go back into our local Benton County community. Any questions, please see us!

Verna Bottjen & Shirley Wenger

Harvest Table is coming Soon!



The Harvest Table will be back beginning July 10. If you have excess produce to share from your garden – please consider sharing your garden bounty at the

Harvest Table. All proceeds go to our Mission Ministry.

The Missions Team is looking for Leaders!

If you have been hearing the call to be more active and involved in building God's Kingdom - the Missions Team has a place for you!

We are looking for folks to step up to leadership roles in several of our vital mission areas. We are happy to train you to take on new responsibilities and you will have a great support network to rely upon.

Please contact Sandy Fitch at 426-5361 or Amy Gilmore in the church office, 855-1158.



Mission of the Month

Youth Bridge is a non-profit agency that serves over 3,000 youths and their families each year in the areas of abuse, neglect, addiction, homelessness, mental health issues and behavioral problems. Our services range anywhere from providing an immediate safe haven, to individualized treatment plans, aftercare and support, prevention programs to offering 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 northern 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.

Values are the foundation of our organization.

In everything we do, we believe that all youth should have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The work we do is to serve those youth that are impacted by circumstances that may have an adverse effect on their well-being. Our goal is to provide safe, supportive, and empowering services to teens and their families that will give them the tools and inspiration to resolve their crisis and prepare them to achieve lasting personal changes that will allow them to lead healthy and productive lives. From prevention to aftercare services, Youth Bridge is there every step of the way by providing the best care and therapeutic support, innovative services and activities, guidance and hope to each and every youth we encounter.



UMW and UMM

HEAR YE HEAR YE!

UMW Annual Rummage Sale is fast approaching!

The date is August 6th, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
in Becker Hall.

We need your **CLEAN & IN WORKING ORDER**
items for the following departments:

Linens, Kitchenware, Toys, Books, Knickknacks,
Holiday Items, Tools & yard items, Electronics
(with the manuals please...)

DROP-OFFs can be made in Becker Hall
during church office hours (8am-4:30pm)
Monday thru Wednesday, August 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.

PLEASE - NO TV'S.

Also no clothing or large pieces of furniture.

All donations are greatly appreciated as they help
the women continue to support our church and
local charities.

Our needs are:

- ◆ Clean grocery or Walmart bags for purchases.
- ◆ Men and Youth to help with set-up on Sunday evening July 31st at 6:00 pm.
- ◆ Women to help price and organize items, Monday August 1st thru Thursday August 4th anytime between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.
- ◆ Day of sale, workers beginning at 7:30 am on Saturday the 6th.
- ◆ Men and Youth to help with tear down and clean-up beginning at 1:00 pm. Becker Hall needs to be ready for Sunday morning worship at the end of the day.

Questions, suggestions or to volunteer,
please call Co Ellen Sterwald at 721-2902.



The Work Shop Ladies are working hard coming up with ideas for our upcoming Bazaar. We always

welcome some new faces to join us on Thursday mornings anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

If any of the ladies who enjoy plants and need some plastic pots you can find them in Room 12.

Another need is some WOOL yarn for a project one of our ladies would like to do. Talk to Verna Bottjen on this please.

Verna also has some do-it-at-home projects - so if you would enjoy doing that in your home give her a call.

Hope to see you on Thursday mornings.



UNITED METHODIST

MEN

UMM invites all men of the church to their monthly dinner meeting on Wednesday, July 13th at 6:30pm in Becker Hall. The

menu will be catered by Papa Mike's. The program will be presented by Tom Judson, the newly hired Chief Operating Officer of the Bella Vista Property Owners Association (POA). Your reservation needs to be made no later than Sunday, June 10th. If you miss the Phone Tree, please call Jim Belcoff at 616-6738 for reservations or more information about UMM.

Attention all (male) golfers!

Our summer leagues are going strong, and we are always looking for more golfers! Our three leagues consist of two 18-hole leagues, Mondays & Thursdays, and one 9-hole league on Tuesdays. All three leagues are "play by the week" leagues. You are not required to commit the entire summer, or find a substitute if you have to miss a week. Please contact Alan Packard, Chet Campbell, Darrell Bottjen, or James Forrest.



BASEBALL! We have flyers posted around the church, but in case you haven't seen one...there are several opportunities for Shepherd Groups or just a group of friends to go to a baseball game with discounted tickets this summer.

Friday, July 15th Rev. Stephen Coburn, ARUMC NW District Superintendent, invites you to join him for a "Meet and Greet" at the Naturals Ballpark. Game time is 7:05pm with fireworks following the game. They have reserved the Home Plate Party Deck for our UMC group. All clergy, retirees, and laity are encouraged to attend the game and meet our incoming clergy for the NW District.

Monday, August 1st is "Fellowship Night" and with a minimum of 10 people, you can pay \$7 per ticket and hot dogs are only \$1. From 5:45pm to 6:05pm, two Naturals players will share the importance of sports and Christ in their lives. At 6:05 each group in attendance can take a photo on the field. First pitch is at 7:05.

Friday, August 19th is "Faith and Family Night" featuring a Jason Gray concert at 6:00pm, first pitch at 7:15, and post-game fireworks. Groups of 20 or more get discounted food combos and entrance group rates.

Also, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in July and August they have \$4 "Group Night Church & Ministry" outings with a minimum of 20 tickets.

If you have a group and are interested in tickets, please contact me in the office and I will give you the specifics and we can make one reservation.

Amy Gilmore

DISCIPLE

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

It's that time of year again, Disciple Bible Study groups are forming and plans are being made to invite new participants to the program. Disciple Bible Study is an opportunity to begin, or renew, your study of our Christian scripture. It is a series of the sequential studies of the Bible and begins with an overview of the Old and New Testaments and ends with a study of Revelation. This study takes four years to complete, but leaves you with a new and exciting understanding of what the Holy Scripture holds for you as an individual.

For the 2016-2017 year, there are many opportunities for you to take part. A Disciple 1 class will be available for those who are interested. This class is the foundation for all of the other Disciple classes, as it provides each learner with a sound knowledge of the Old and New Testaments – the basis for the other three studies. This class must be taken before you can enroll in any of the other Disciple classes. The day and time for this class will be determined by those who are interested in this study.

The second opportunity for study is for those who have completed Disciple 2 and would like to continue their studies. A Disciple 3 class will be offered on Wednesday, the time to be determined. Disciple 3 is a sixteen week study of the OT Prophets and a sixteen week study of Paul's letters.

Two other opportunities could be offered if there is enough interest – a Disciple 2 class is one possibility, as we have a number of persons who would like to continue their study, but are restricted by numbers and a time to meet. Another opportunity is a continuation of Bible study from the Disciple program – Jesus in the Gospels which will meet on Friday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30.

Other opportunities are available if there is enough interest. Evening class are always available – the only requirement is that we need to secure a group of at least six people to participate.

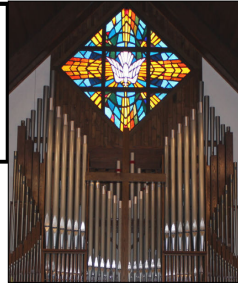
All classes would begin in mid-September and end in mid-May. For those of you who are interested in beginning or continuing Disciple Bible Study, contact me at 426-6211 or the church office for more specific information.

Alan Packard



From the Organ Console

Broc Hite, Organist/
Associate Director of Music



This month there will be two major themes to my selections. Christmas in July is always fun, and so this year, it will run two weeks, on the 10th and 17th. During Christmas, I typically play from my many volumes dedicated just to Christmas music. However, there are many composer collections where there are a couple of Christmas pieces included in the mix. This allows me to share those gems.

For the last two Sundays of the month, on the 24th and 31st, I'm going to switch to the piano to transcriptions of sacred chorales, as well as those by contemporary Christian musicians. It will be a bit different for me, but I hope you like it! In August, the theme will be organ masterworks, but I'm getting ahead of myself! *Broc*

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

A severe thunderstorm warning of March 16, 2016 was followed by an 11" downpour that flooded McGehee, Arkansas. For the majority of those in the flooded area, it was the first time to see flood waters pouring into the homes they had worked hard to own. Many of those homeowners are at a point in life where they are living on fixed incomes and without a FEMA declaration to help homeowners, the cost of flood repairs is out of reach. As a community of faith, FUMCBV is taking part in this mission project as together we offer tangible hope and love to those who really need our help. Our 13-member FUMC volunteer-in-mission team will be serving in McGehee from July 17-23 Your gifts from the June Mission of the Month will be used to purchase building materials and, when combined with volunteer labor, it has the ability to restore lives following a disaster. Through your contributions and prayers, you have become a vital part of this ministry as together we love, learn and lead in witness to others in McGehee in Christ's name.

Richard & Linda Stewart

CARE & SHARE TRAILER
will be in the upper parking lot
Monday, July 18th
7:00am ~ 1:00pm

Shoebox Ministry is on Vacation
for the month of July.
We'll be back in August!

MAY 2016 FINANCIAL DATA				
		* = -Endowment	2016 Budget	Compare 2015
Month to date (as of 5/31/16)	Actual Receipts	*\$57,088	*\$54,326	
Month to date (as of 5/31/16)	Actual Expenses	\$52,831	\$54,326	\$53,924
	Month of MAY	\$ 4,257		\$ 6,940
Year to date	Actual Receipts	*\$260,986	*\$271,630	*\$301,109
Year to date	Actual Expenses	\$259,339	\$271,630	\$264,529
	YTD	\$ 1,647		\$ 36,580

Operating Account Balance 5/31/2016 -\$7,798



THANK YOU

What a fabulous congregation we have!! THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the CTCYM (also known as the "Texas Youth") trip a success. They appreciated our amazing hospitality, our donations, and of course, the clean towels. The potluck was a bonus for them and I heard more than once how happy they were to be eating off of real plates! The food was plentiful and enjoyed by all. We were definitely "being the church!"

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your concern and your prayers for my sister, Bonnie, during her battle with cancer. She lost the battle on Wed. June 15, but she won the war on Friday June 10 when she accepted Jesus as her Savior. Thank you again for your prayers which made this possible. May God Bless each of you. *Chet Campbell*

1st FUMC, It is not possible to put into word the gratitude we have to FUMC staff and members, and especially to Shepherd Group One, for the shower of love and concern you have shown to the Henke and Kropp families. You all went above and beyond. It was sad to leave Bella Vista behind. I will always remember BV and your wonderful church. You *are* walking your talk! Love to all. . . *Judy Borgeson* & families

Meals on Wheels ~ FUMC successfully completed delivering meals during May 2016. While there were a couple of small bumps, hats off to the many people who pitched in to make the effort a real pleasure. So, I extend a huge "thank you" to all the very generous and patient volunteers who made deliveries to the MOW clients. I especially want to thank Sue Nebrig for volunteering to be our Meals on Wheels assistant coordinator.

As a reminder, FUMC will be delivering meals in December this year but for now, let's just enjoy a warm-fuzzy feeling for a job well done.

Thankfully, *Darrell Bottjen*

May was the month we focused our attention specifically on the people in our area who need food. The month was concentrated on building a "Mountain of Food"! The generous members in our congregation were so generous we raised over \$7,000.00. Marion Korns and Maryann Johnson the co-chairs for this mission, were so excited they were jumping with joy!

The following pantries were given a share of our bountiful cases of food:

Oasis Food Pantry, Living Waters UMC, Decatur UMC, Grace UMC, Souls Harbor, Helping Hands, Good Shepherd & Coalition of Churches.

Thanks to all who supported the Mountain of Food this year! You gave us a chance to help so many people in need! God Bless each one of you!

Dear Sisters & Brothers at FUMC, Thank you for your donation to the food pantry at Grace UMC in Rogers. Last year we provided food for almost 20,000 people - seeing over 400 families a month. We are fortunate to have a person who speaks Spanish and is a retired social worker. She assists families with their resources in the area according to their needs. Again, "Thank You" and many blessings. Your sister in Jesus, *Ella McGee*

First United Methodist, Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. We so appreciate your help organizing the memorial service for my mother, Marcie Mershon - all the best to the members of Bella Vista FUMC.


Sincerely, *Suzanne Bell and family*

To my FUMCBV Family ~ The care center that is my home now is a lovely place, beautifully decorated, and the people who are in charge are caring, which makes it a nice place to live. And the fact that one daughter lives only 5 miles away is a big plus! I especially enjoy the flower gardens and patio where we can sit in the sunshine and fresh air. I have been going to 1st Baptist Church with my daughter and feel right at home there. Family activity is concentrated on preparation for our upcoming wedding. All my children plan to attend, so it will be a family reunion.

Your friend, *Juanita Dittmer*

(see page 6 for Juanita's new address)

JULY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 9:00 Amp Big Book
3 Combined Worship Service 10:00am 11:15 Pastors' Reception	4 Church Closed 	5 11:23 Golf-BVCC 6:30 Men's Chorus	6 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Fisher Bible Study 1:30 HappyS SG 2:00 McGehee Planning 5:00 Prayer Meeting	7 8:00 PEO-CD Planning 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 9:00 Old Sew & Sews 9:07 Golf-Kingswood 5:15 Metfld Methdst SG	8	9 9:00 Amp Big Book
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ~ 6:00pm-8:00pm ~ Sunday, July 10th thru Thursday, July 14th						
10 BP✓ between services 7:30 Praise Tm rehrl 8:00 Traditional Srvice 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvice 2:00 Soaring Solos	11 9:00 Caregivers Support 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:32 Golf-Dogwood 12:00 Calico Board 6:00 Finance Committee 6:30 By the Book AA 6:30 Men's Chorus	12 9:00 PEO-BR 9:50 Golf-Highlands	13 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Calico Special Pro. 12:00 Fisher Bible Study 5:00 Prayer Meeting 6:30 UMM Dinner 7:00 Youth Life	14 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 9:07 Golf -BVCC	15	16 9:00 Amp Big Book
McGEHEE MISSION TRIP ~ Sunday, July 17th thru Saturday, July 23rd						
17 PAK-A-SAK 7:30 Praise Tm rehrl 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service	18 CARE & SHARE 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:58 Golf - BVCC 11:00 PEO-CD 5:30 Brd of Directors 6:30 By the Book AA 6:30 Men's Chorus	19 10:00 Golf-Brittany 10:00 Village House info 11:30 Moving Frwrld Lunch 1:00 BV Book Club	20 8:00 Calico Spec Projects 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Fisher Bible Study 5:00 Prayer Meeting 5:30 Avalon SG-Monte Ne 7:00 Youth Life	21 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 9:07 Golf-Berksdale 6:30 SPRC	22	23 9:00 Amp Big Book 9:00 Helping Hands
24 7:30 Praise Team 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service	25 9:00 Caregivers 9:58 Golf -Kingswood 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:30 Calico Cutups 6:30 By the Book AA 6:30 Men's Chorus	26 9:41 Golf - Highlands 3:00 BV Library Board	27 8:00 Calico Dog Beds 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Fisher Bible Study 5:00 Prayer Meeting 7:00 Youth Life	28 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 9:07 Golf-Kingswood	29	30 7:00 Women's retrt 9:00 Amp Big Book 2:00 Melhorn Service
31 7:30 Praise Team 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Service 3:00 Pittman Concert						

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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Brother Jaimie J. Alexander
Associate Pastor - Judy Rudd-Platt
Congregational Care Pastor - Brenda Wideman
Chaplain - Kandi Mount
Dir. of Community Life/Connections - Amy Gilmore
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
Church Secretary - Jan Walton

Phone: (479) 855-1158
Fax: (479) 855-0850
www.LoveLearnLead.com

Return receipt requested

To the Home of ...



2016 VBS

**Sunday, July 10th thru
Thursday, July 14th**

6:00pm ~ 8:00pm

age 3 through 6th grade

Music ~ Crafts ~ Snacks Games ~ Mission ~ Marketplace Bazaar

**To enroll your child or to volunteer, please sign up in the Office
or online at www.lovelearnlead.com**

First United Methodist Church, 20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista 479-855-1158