



The Good News

March, 2014

FAITH WALK with Brother Jaimie J. Alexander

Dear FUMC BV Family,

Last Month, I shared with you in my newsletter article that we are a church and a denomination in change. Our congregation is changing, our worship styles are changing, our ministries are changing, and we are praying for a spiritual change called *spiritual revival*. I asked you to take a childhood photo of yourself or someone else and think about how that person has changed throughout the years. I also asked you to produce a mental image of FUMCBV and how it is changing. My first-grade school photograph was used in the article, but many people did not realize that was me because I have changed in 40-plus years. If you did not participate in that mental exercise, I want to give you another opportunity and will even make it easy by sharing with my own changes and the church's changes visually.



I ask you to share in praying for the spiritual revival changes in the ministries of our church and in your own lives.



Included in this newsletter (see page 14) you will see Bishop Gary Mueller's (Bishop of the Arkansas Conference) Mission Plan for churches. Please read over the list and pray about the spiritual changes that must take place in our lives in order for this mission plan to be fulfilled. Bishop Mueller will be our guest in worship on August 17, 2014. I look forward to him being able to visually see the spiritual revival taking place at FUMCBV.

Thank you for being "The Church" in so many different ways by reaching out to persons and for participating in the ministries of FUMC Bella Vista. I would like to share with you more ways you can help to "be The Church".

The "Reel" Jesus during Lent!

The Sermon Series for Lent will be *The "Reel" Jesus* and will be based on the Gospel of John. There will be many different special services and opportunities at FUMCBV to aid you in your encounters with Christ during this period. Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2 on Ash Wednesday and ends Saturday, April 19. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, penance, repentance, almsgiving, and self-denial. Its purpose is heightened in the annual commemoration of Holy Week, marking the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events of the Bible when Jesus is crucified on Good Friday, which then culminates in the celebration on Easter Sunday with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent is traditionally described as lasting for forty days, in commemoration of the forty days which, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus spent fasting in the desert before the beginning of his public ministry, where he endured temptation by the Devil. However, different Christian denominations calculate the forty days of Lent differently. In most Western traditions the Sundays are not counted as part of Lent; thus the period from Ash Wednesday until Easter consists of 40 days when the Sundays are excluded. However in the Roman Catholic Church Lent is now taken to end on Holy Thursday rather than Easter Eve, and hence lasts 38 days excluding Sundays, or 44 days in total.

(continued on page 2)



FAITH WALK (CONTINUED)

Important Lenten opportunities to guide you this season:

Each Sunday during Lent you will be able to pick-up a **weekly devotional** based on the theme of that week. The Lenten weekly themes are: 1. Who is Jesus 2. God in Flesh 3. Miracles of Jesus 4. "I am"... sayings of Jesus
5. Jesus' Departure Plans 6. Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion of Jesus 7. Easter-Love Revealed

Lenten Weekly Wednesday Mid-Day Services and Lunches will be held from March 5 thru April 16. Services will be in the Sanctuary from 11:45 -12:15 and lunch will be served in Becker Hall following, for a cost of \$3.00 per person. Some of this year's guest speakers will be Rev. Zach Underwood, Grace UMC, Rogers; Rev. Verle Shoemaker, retired UM pastor; Tim Van Allen, member FUMCBV; Brian Youngs, local pastor and vendor for a Wal-Mart supplier, and Kirsten Crider, Children's Director of FUMCBV.

Some of the special worship services and events will be:

- March 5 ~ Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary, at both 11:45am and 6:00pm
- March 5 thru April 16 ~ Wednesday Lenten services at 11:45am, followed by a luncheon
- April 12 ~ Children's Pancake Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt, Breakfast Begins at 8am and Hunt begins at 9:30am
- April 17 ~ Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00pm
- April 18 ~ Good Friday Service, 7:00pm
- April 19 ~ Bella Vista Combined Church Choirs Musical Performance of "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by T. Dubois with full orchestra and soloists, at Bella Vista Baptist Church, 7:00pm
- April 20 ~ Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, at Metfield Clubhouse, 7:00am
Easter Sunday Worship Services: 8:00am, 9:30 am, & 10:45 am

Help Prepare the Church for Easter!

You are invited to bring a cross to be displayed in the church during Lent. Crosses will be displayed on the altars in both the Sanctuary and Becker Hall. If we have a larger amount to display, then Crosses will also be displayed on the altar in the chapel. Please write your name on the bottom or back the cross you bring so that it can be returned to you. All shapes and sizes are welcome.

Thank you for your MEMORIAL GIFTS!

One way to honor the memory and life of persons in the church family is through memorial gifts. Families of persons who have been given a gift in memory, are asked how they would like the memorial gifts to be used. The gifts are used in different ways. Some of those ways are to help improve the building, to the general budget, to a special project, to a missions, to youth, children's or music ministry, etc. Recently some of the ways gifts have been used are to help improve the children's area, to update the computers in the Finance Office, to improve the visual worship space of "The Well" Service, and a beautiful altar nativity has been purchased for the Sanctuary for use during Advent. Thank you for your gifts that not only honor the memory of a beloved person but also benefit the ministry of the church.

2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held in Rogers on June 19-22. The United Methodist Churches of Benton County are sharing in the hosting responsibilities. FUMCBV's responsibility is to provide golf cart shuttles for person in the John Q, Hammonds Convention Center Parking Lot. If you are able to volunteer to be a golf cart driver or furnish a golf cart for use during this time, please call the church office (479 855-1158) or contact Jim Prather or me.

God is faithful,
Bro. Jaimie





OFF AND RUNNING

with

Pastor Lee Myane



First United Methodist Church Bella Vista is hosting Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*. This is a class on financial responsibility and so much more. Dave Ramsey is a nationally recognized financial talk show host and personality who has written and developed a number of plans, books and processes to help people get out of debt, manage money, understand insurance and investing. To get a better idea of who Dave Ramsey is and what *Financial Peace University* has to offer please visit:

<http://www.daveramsey.com> and <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/home/>

Our classes here at FUMC Bella Vista will be led by Sean Crider CLU, ChFC. If you need more information on this class, Sean's e-mail address is seancrider76@gmail.com. Classes will meet on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30PM, beginning March 12 and running through May 14. There will be no class March 26 due to Spring Break.

Cost is \$93.00. Yes this class is a little expensive. But you will receive a large number of tools and resources with your class membership to help you follow through with the process to gain financial freedom. Class memberships are for couples or individuals. Only one membership is needed per family unit. See FPU membership below. If your family will struggle with the \$93 please contact Pastor Lee for a scholarship.

Pastor Lee Myane: 479-531-6065 or lee@lovelearnlead.com

Register online at <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/49713/class/253101>

What is *Financial Peace University*?

We all need a plan for our money. *Financial Peace University* (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!

What will you learn in *Financial Peace University*?

Financial Peace University (FPU) is a nine-week class on money taught by America's most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his [teaching team](#) will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more!

What is FPU membership?

When you purchase a *Financial Peace University* (FPU) membership, you receive all the class materials and access to the FPU online resources you need to succeed. Your membership means that you can attend the FPU class as often as you like. Spouses and engaged couples can attend together with a single membership, and teens living at home are welcome to attend with their parents.

Faithfully,

Pastor Lee



YOUTH LIFE

Contact info: David Hanson Youth Director 479-601-1028
dwhanso@gmail.com

Youth Needs

On Wednesday nights the youth need members to supply a light dinner or snack. Many of the youth are coming straight from school, practices or some other event that does not allow them time to eat and get to Youth meetings. If we can get members to supply anything for them to eat on these nights, it would be greatly appreciated. Sign up calendar is in the office for dinners or snacks. God Bless you!!

As always, any art supplies or school supplies are needed in the youth room.

Help Wanted ~ Adults: 1 male and 1 female to lead a 7-8 week book study (*Dare to Dream*) in April, and May. Please see David if you are interested helping.

Attention!!! Are there any Crafty men or women out there? Youth need 3 or 4-crochet/knit blankets or quilts for youth room. We also need 8 poster-sized frames made out of the Barn wood that was used in making the youth room. The youth have the wood ~ just need someone to build them. Thanks!

Mission Trip to San Antonio

June 21st to June 28th

Who can go? Anyone 8th grade to adult. (YES!! congregation members can join.)

\$100 Deposit due no later than March 31

(if this cannot happen by then, see David and he will work something out)

Mission Trip "Stock" Dinner May 31. BBQ will be served. More details later.

Members will be presented with 3 options on how they can help.

What will happen on the mission? A little of everything. Details are being finalized.

David Hanson, Director, Youth Ministries





VISTA KIDS

Everything is looking up, finally, as we begin to plan for spring! In our family, spring is the icing on the cake after fall hiking and a (normally) gentle winter. This year, spring will bring us two major events in Vista Kids: The annual Easter Egg Hunt and a new mission block.

The Easter Egg hunt will be on Saturday, April 12. We have a few details in the works still, so I don't want to print more than what I've been promised! We have several areas for volunteers this year, and sign ups will start the 2nd Sunday of March.

1. EGG-xellent filler- -- we will provided bags of empty eggs for you to stuff and return
2. EGG-straordinary donator -- purchase and fill eggs
3. CrEGGtive Activities: Involving your church group (Shepherd group, Ministry team, Sunday School group) to plan, create and staff an activity in the back of Becker Hall for a target age group (below)
 - a. 4 and under
 - b. 5-7 year olds
 - c. 8-9 year olds

Be on the lookout for signups and let's get this popular community event on a roll! (get it? haha)

Also, I'm so happy to finally be able to let everyone know that our January dinner for St. Catherine's orphanage raised over \$1800! With that, plus the change jars that are still coming in, we will have well over \$2200 to present to this beautiful ministry that cares for and loves God's children so very far away from our own. Our children will present these gifts to the church on Palm Sunday. What a very special way to involve our children in missions!

Our next mission block will be in May and June and is dedicated to Children with Special Needs. We will be working with the children to be aware and celebrate diversity within children. Also, we will talk about compassion and Jesus' examples of compassion that he shared with our world. We will have a family event in May at the Ark, and the children will be working on a special treat for the congregation in June, both of which will tie in with special needs.

Thank you for your support of children's ministry and Vista Kids. Please feel free to contact me anytime or find me on Sunday mornings outside of Becker Hall.

Kristin Crider

Director of Children's Ministries

khcrider@gmail.com

**Cooper School 1st Graders
Sing for Pizza**
On February 27, approximately 140 Cooper School 1st graders sang before an audience of family and friends in our Sanctuary, and then were fed pizza, fruit, and brownies in Becker Hall. A good time was had by all!





OUR FAMILY



Each month, this section will be used to tell you about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a graduation, a hole in one, community involvement or 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 Jan Lowe, jan@lovelearnlead.com, or call me at the church, 855-1158 or 531-0381.

Elizabeth "Liz" Scarff died suddenly on February 13, 2014. Liz was very active in the church and in the community. She enjoyed playing golf and bridge. In the church, she served in various ministries over the years. A memorial service was held on February 17 to celebrate her life. Liz will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Please pray for Ewart, his children, Mary Gorman, Liz' sister, and all of his family during this time of grief.



PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer Shawls were given to six people who suffered illness, tragedy, or other life interruption during the month of February.

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*.

James Lavelly "Jim" Shannon

died suddenly in his home on February 19. Jim had been hospitalized numerous times over the past few years. He had held the recognition as a Master Gardener, and as a member of the United Methodist Men's Organization, he was active



before becoming ill. A memorial service was held for Jim at the church on February 28. Please be in prayer for Judi and the family as they learn to live without Jim.

Others Who Lost a Loved One:

Shannon Wicker, Praise Band Director, is grieving the loss of her grandmother, Nancy Leverett, who died in Houston, TX, after suffering with stage 4 cancer for over a year. Pray for Shannon, her mom and family as they grieve the loss of their mother and grandmother.

Mary Gorman was the sister of Liz Scarff. Remember Mary and Leon Fordham as they grieve the loss Liz.

CHURCH BUS AVAILABLE for CONCORDIA DURING LENT

If you live at Concordia, you will have an opportunity to take the bus to the Lenten services, followed by a lunch each Wednesday beginning at 11:45am. Post cards were sent to each of our church members living at Concordia.

You only need to notify the bus driver on Sunday, or call the office by Monday, before the Wednesday service, to have someone pick you up and take you back home again.

For additional questions, please contact Jan Lowe at 855-1158 or at 531-0381.



OUR FAMILY

EVERY MEMBER IN MINISTRY

Last month we told you about a Focus Group that will be established to study our Every Member in Ministry program. In addition to the Focus group we will also try to meet with as many Shepherd Groups, and Circles to seek input from members within those groups. We'll be asking questions such as , "What do you like best about the EMIM program established at our church?" "If you could change anything in the program, what would it be?" "What are some effective ways you have seen members be involved in the life of the church in other places you have lived?" Hopefully, these are the kinds of questions you have an opinion about. We hope to hear from you.

VOLUNTEER SUNDAY RECEPTIONIST STILL NEEDED

Could you give one or two hours before or after your service to volunteer at the church office reception desk on Sunday mornings? Ideally, we'd like to have someone there from 7:45am till about noon to answer phones, take messages, and sign people up for various events at the church. Sharing the job with one other person would be great. Contact Jan Lowe or Janet Walton to discuss your availability.

Thank You

I would like to thank those who prayed, sent cards and called during my last procedure. I would also like to thank Brother Jamie for visiting Jill during her surgeries, and all the phone calls, prayers and cards that we received for her. Dixie Young deserves special thanks for fulfilling my Martha Circle duties during all this time. We have such a wonderful Church family.

Layne Anderson

Thank you so much to the Evening Circle for the goodies on Valentine's Day that were brought to our place here at the Plaza. Happy Day!

Bill & Mickey Shank

SHEPHERD GROUP LEADER'S ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON

The annual meeting of Shepherd Group leaders will take place on Tuesday, March 25. The lunch will be served at 11:30am, followed by our annual meeting.

Please RSVP to the office (855-1158) by March 20.

Those who are currently serving as leaders are invited, and those who are involved in a transition of leadership may come as well.

The most current list of Shepherd Group members will be sent to each leader at the beginning of March to allow plenty of time to compare names.

SHEPHERD GROUP LEADERS ARE NEEDED

Many of our Shepherd Groups have considerably more than 24 members, the ideal max size for a Shepherd Group. If you are willing to consider serving as a leader of a Shepherd Group, please join the leaders who will be meeting on March 25 at the church so that you can learn more about what the responsibility would involve. Please call the church office to reserve your attendance. Feel free to call Jan Lowe (531-0381) if you have questions about Shepherd Group leadership.

CONCORDIA CHURCH MEMBERS

Spring is here

And we are ready to get together with our friends from Concordia

*Mark your calendar for Tuesday,
March 18, 1:30pm in the All Purpose Room*

Plan for a time of food and fun as we reminisce about our ancestors, sing a few songs, and fellowship with one another.

Your hosts are:

Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander

Pastor Lee Myane

Jan Lowe



OUR FAMILY

March Anniversaries

- 10 Steve & Sandy Larsen
- 13 Don & Lois McMahon
- 14 LeRoy & Jo Ann Handel
- 17 Ron & Delores Rakow
- 18 Bob & Helen McBride
- 21 Ken & Carrie Drish
- 21 Bud & Dorothy Henke
- 22 Bobby & Diane Cox
- 28 Hal Shope & Marianne Zotti
- 29 Carmen & Dorothy Phillips
- 30 Brian & Cathy Wilmoth

March Birthdays

- 1 Juanita Dittmer
- 1 Heather Sweeney
- 2 Linda Davis
- 2 Trent Humphrey (4)
- 3 Dale Dalton (14)
- 4 Dana Rhodes
- 5 Pastor Lee Myane
- 5 Tatum Potts (6)
- 7 Frank Kostal
- 8 Shirley Bostrom
- 11 Claude Bradley

March Birthdays (continued)

- 12 Brandt May
- 14 Ara Mae Calhoun
- 14 Kim McGee
- 15 Roy Lange
- 16 Patricia Rusterholz
- 17 Ralph Wallace
- 18 Cynthia Bonds
- 18 Devon Presley (17)
- 20 Terry Davis
- 22 Dylen Lehmann (8)
- 23 Carmen Heck
- 24 Marge Smith
- 25 Ron Caldwell
- 25 Mil Davidson
- 25 Lucas Hollan (4)
- 27 Tim Smith
- 28 Janelle Engle
- 28 Judy Knadle
- 28 Mike Patrick
- 28 Lillian Timmons
- 29 Marsha Deichman
- 29 Phyllis Robinson
- 29 Kim Williams
- 30 Marilyn Cox
- 30 Mona Johnson



OUR FAMILY

FAMILY POTLUCK FOR MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN 2013





UMW

Ready, Set, GO!

BAZAAR WORKSHOPS are ready to start once more, beginning the second week of March, the 13th. We will meet every Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. in the Quilting Room downstairs. Drinks and snacks are available and bring a sack lunch if you can stay the whole time. We have projects for all ranges of talent, but the best part is the fellowship.

If you cannot make the workshop, there are some kits, tea towels to embroider or pattern ideas on a table in Becker Hall by the UMW Bulletin Board. Many supplies are available if you have something of your own you would like to make. We appreciate all the help we can get because it takes many hands for a successful Bazaar.

As in the past, we appreciate everyone's help in collecting supplies. We will need largemouth quart jars, pint jars and miscellaneous small items for our gift baskets. Also, we can use any glass bottles from 5 to 16oz in size appropriate to hold salad dressing and decorative buttons. Just label them "for Bazaar" and leave in the Quilting Room or Office. Thanks!

We're looking forward to getting back to work and enjoying many good hours of work to support our local charities. Any questions, call Verna Bottjen 876-1392

Remember you don't have to attend the workshops to make things for the Bazaar. If you knit, crochet, paint, bead, make cards or stained glass, sew or quilt, grow plants, woodwork, needlework, love photography, make pottery.... Well... you get the idea. Please consider making a few items for the Bazaar!

THE SPRING LUNCHEON of the UMW will be held on Wednesday, March 26. We will be combining our Luncheon with the Lenten Noon Service at 11:45 in the sanctuary. Soup, dessert and drink will be served in Becker Hall immediately following the service at 12:15. Cost will be free will offering. The program will be presented by Ana Aguayo with the Northwest Arkansas Workers Justice Center.

Everyone in our church and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend the Lenten Service, then join us for lunch and a very interesting program

UMM

Methodist Men SUMMER GOLF LEAGUES

Attention all (male) golfers!

Summer is just around the corner and our golf leagues are always looking for more golfers!

Starting week of April 1 our three leagues begin play - two 18 hole leagues, Monday and Thursday; 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. You tell us each week if you can play the next week and that's it. Score cards with handicaps are prepared for each week, so there is no need for the Captain to get handicaps and make out scorecards. Rosters are prepared each week and e-mailed to you before we play. All you have to do is show up and have a good time.

As stated earlier, the Monday and Thursday leagues play 18 holes, moving around the six courses in Bella Vista. A detailed schedule will be distributed to all players later in March. You do not have to play both Monday and Thursday, the choice is yours. You can choose to play only Mondays or only Thursdays, or play in either of the 18 hole leagues and join the group on Tuesdays to get in a more relaxed 9 holes. We are extremely flexible in regard to helping you fit some fun and exercise into your schedule.

If any of this sounds interesting (or is too confusing), contact: Alan Packard 855-1168, Chet Campbell 876-5172, or Eldon Cox 268-5319 to get more information.

The **UMM MONTHLY DINNER** and meeting will be held Wednesday, March 12 at 6:30pm. The menu of Lasagna, garlic toast, green beans and salad will be catered by Papa Mike's, and the speaker will be a representative from the Golf Ambassadors to talk about their program to entice more seniors to Bella Vista.

If you have don't make reservations through the phone tree and need to make, change, or cancel, please call Alan Packard.



WESLEY CONCERT SERIES

On Sunday, March 16th, at 3 p.m., the Cherokee National Youth Choir will perform on the Wesley Series. This group, led by Mary Kay Henderson, is composed of 30 Cherokee youth from northeast Oklahoma, from the 6th through 12th grades. The group is an important part of the cultural and linguistic life of the Cherokee Nation, based in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. They have recorded many CDs and sung across the United States. We are blessed to be able to present them, and hope you will come to enjoy this concert.



THE WALK TO EMMAUS EXPERIENCE

begins with a 72-hour short course in Christianity, comprised of fifteen talks by lay and clergy on the themes of God's grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. The course is wrapped in prayer and meditation, special times of worship and daily celebration of Holy Communion. The "Emmaus community," made up of those who have attended an Emmaus weekend, support the 72-hour experience with a prayer vigil, by preparing and serving meals, and other acts of love and self-giving. The Emmaus Walk typically begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday evening. Men and women attend separate weekends.

Contact Peggy DeWitt, Sandy Fitch, Pastor Lee or Jan Lowe for more information.

Men's & Women's Spring Walks #83 & #84 Camp Siloam, Siloam Springs, AR

Men's Date: April 24-27, 2014
Women's Date: May 1-4, 2014

We've got dates for Chrysalis this summer!
Girls' Flight #21 July 9-12 at Harrison FUMC
Boys' Flight #22 July 30-Aug 2 at Harrison FUMC

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All youth from entering sophomores to graduating seniors are invited to these special spiritual retreats. A Chrysalis weekend is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.



DON'T FORGET!!!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



SUNDAY, MARCH 9



MISSIONS

SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Report for 2013

During 2013 2,524 shoe boxes were delivered to a total of 15 shelters with an estimated value of **\$30,306.43**. Sunshine Sacks were given to Cooper Elementary School with an estimated value of \$603.40. Emergency hospital packs were given to Jan Lowe for use when needed with a value of \$112.50. Miscellaneous items such as 37 Christmas gift bags, 48 pair of men's shoes, 2 pair of men's boots, large box holding 25-30 stuffed animals, 2 large boot boxes delivered each month to the Vista office for troops overseas, 33 Mother's Day gift bags, 744 pair of children's undergarments collected from "Undie Sunday", toiletry items to supply the new Ronald McDonald family room at Mercy Hospital, gloves & hats for women and children, 100 pairs of brown cotton work gloves and 14 tarps to Seven Hills Day Center. 393 children grades K thru 2 were given toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo for the Hygiene Weeks program at Glen Duffy Elementary School in Gravette. Total guesstimated value of all of the miscellaneous items is \$6,500.00. **Total of all items for 2013 is \$37,521.00 give or take a few items and a few dollars.** All that can't be placed are sent to either Helping Hands or the AARP recycling center.



Thank You!

We cannot thank all of our church members, various community groups, churches and non-members who donated these items or provided the donations to purchase any of the above items. It is your commitment to this ministry that makes all of this possible! Shoebox just made sure it was taken where it was needed. Thank you and God Bless each and every one of you!

Volunteers

Thank you to Sue VanHook for wrapping wash cloths. Cheryl Campbell, Barbara Brooks, Donna and Jack Etherage, Anny Weber, and Mabel Ashline who gathered to pack boy's and girl's boxes.

Needs

Wash cloths, pens, small cosmetic bags (no purses please.)

As always in His service,

The Shoebox Team Leaders.

PAK-A-SAK

We will deliver our collection of non-perishable food items to the Bentonville Salvation Army Shelter on March 17. This is a shelter for men, women, and children. With all the bitter cold weather we have had, they have more clients using their services. The shelter is in need of all types of food - especially canned fruit, juice, cereal, peanut butter, pasta, soup, spaghetti sauce and coffee. Thank you for your generosity to the less fortunate in Benton County.



MEALS ON WHEELS

April is our delivery month and it is fast approaching! If you have signed up to be a driver/delivery person for Meals on Wheels, Darrell Bottjen will be contacting you soon. If you are interested in volunteering a few hours one or two days a week to this vital community ministry - it's not too late to sign up! Contact Darrell Bottjen at 876-1392 !

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR
THE GOAT BANK!
WE'LL FILL IT ONCE DURING
LENT AND BUY SOME BUNNIES





MISSIONS

VOLUNTERS IN MISSION (VIM)

Mission Opportunity! Manos Juntas mission in Rio Bravo. The trip will be June 1-8, 2014. You will need a passport!

Jim Benfer, pastor at Dardanelle FUMC will again lead a mission trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico this year. He is looking for people to staff a medical team, a construction team, people to teach carpentry work, people to teach sewing, and VBS volunteers. For sure, they will be gathering Spanish language books for the stocking of an elementary school library that currently does not have any. Even if you have no professional skills, we can find a use for you on mission.

The team fee is \$275 per person. This covers the van transportation while in Mexico, food, tips and fees for hired help, and our stay at the Mission. Now, that does not cover the mission materials, pharmaceuticals, books, and other items we will use in mission. To make this fair we ask that each participating church/person raise an additional \$300/person to cover this cost.

You can find team forms here: http://www.okumcministries.org/VIM/VIM_Files/Section6_TeamMemberForms.pdf **You will not, however be signed up until you return it completed, with a copy of your passport photo page and your \$275 team fee made out to Dardanelle FUMC.** The deadline for sign-up is March 31. You will be expected to raise and send your other \$300 no later than April 30.

For more information, contact Sandy Fitch or Jan Lowe.

MISSION of the MONTH

The WESLEY FOUNDATION at
The UNIVERSITY of ARKANSAS

The nature of campus ministry has changed over the decades since our Chapel was built. At the end of the 2012 school year, the staff and students of Wesley prayerfully sought to better define our calling on campus by asking, **“Why is the Methodist Church at the University of Arkansas?”** The answer was simple: **We are here to love the Razorback Nation with the heart of Christ.**

Our mission needed to serve the Razorback community without expecting anything in return. Our discipleship needed to be a deeper teaching of Scripture and the theology of our faith with those who became more involved with us.

We started free dinners on Tuesday nights before worship services. We also had prayer meetings, small groups, service projects and untold one-on-one discussions with students.

But to share our call to love the Razorback Nation with the heart of Christ to a new generation, we took our name and made it our mission statement.



And so, while standing on the history and legacy of our past, **we believe we are called to begin a new ministry mission on campus.** Where the Chapel of the Cross was built as a “landing pad” for Methodist students, we now desire to become a “launching pad” of the Gospel to the greater campus community. We are proud to present the next chapter in our story, and invite you to be a part of it with us.

JANUARY 2014 FINANCIAL DATA			Compare 2013
		*= Less Endowment	
Month to date (as of 1/31/14)	Actual Receipts	* \$55,739	*\$41,251
Month to date (as of 1/31/14)	Actual Expenses	\$52,202	\$45,542
	Total	\$ 3,537	-\$1,291
Year to date	Actual Receipts	* \$55,739	*\$41,251
Year to date	Actual Expenses	\$52,202	\$45,542
	Total	\$ 3,537	-\$1,291

A Message from Bishop Gary Mueller, Arkansas Conference

Since being assigned as your bishop a year ago, I have spent a great deal of time observing, asking questions, learning, consulting, reflecting and praying in order to answer the question, "What's next?" It is now clear to me that we are ready for Phase Four of our journey together: embarking passionately and intentionally on a trajectory that focuses fully on the only place that actually can do what God is calling us to do: the local church.

Our Trajectory for the coming years:

Creating vital congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped to transform lives, communities and the world. I believe the churches, laity and pastors of the United Methodist Church in Arkansas need to embrace the 10 "Next Steps" in order for us to move ahead on this trajectory God has charted for us. However, there are two important things to remember about these next steps. First, they have been shaped by the previous phases of the Imagine Ministry journey. Second, we will only be able to see the fruit of these next steps as we fully utilize the resources provided through the Center for Clergy and Laity Excellence in Leadership, the Center for Technology and the Network for Discipleship and Mission.

Next Steps for the Arkansas Annual Conference

1. *The churches, laity and pastors of the Annual Conference must experience spiritual revival.* We need to experience in deeper ways how Jesus' love is so unconditional he accepts us just the way we are, so transforming he is unwilling to leave us the way we are and so powerful he gives us what we absolutely need but can never get on our own—reconciliation with God, healing and a new way of living that is eternal in every sense of the word. This revival is foundational for everything we do, because we can only passionately share Jesus' love that brings healing, hope, justice and transformation in lives, communities and the world when we first have been transformed ourselves.

2. *The Annual Conference will tell Phase Four of the Imagine Ministry story as it communicates how the 10 "Next Steps" are bearing fruit in local congregations.* The Annual Conference will communicate intentionally, consistently and in a variety of ways the story of how local congregations are becoming vital in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped to transform lives, communities and the world.

Next Steps for District Superintendents

3. *District Superintendents will become skilled in developing District Mission Plans that align with the Bishop's Mission Plan.* This is a major new role for District Superintendents. Often it will involve working with existing churches to reach out in mission to their community in new ways. Sometimes it will mean finding new ways to reach new people. But the goal is always the same: to create and develop vital congregations who are ready and willing to make new disciples in new mission fields.

4. *The Appointive Cabinet will become proficient in making mission-field appointments.* This may be one of our most challenging undertakings, because we have spent so much energy over the years trying to keep churches and pastors content rather than focusing primarily on the people outside our doors in the mission field surrounding every congregation. The Appointive Cabinet will need to work harder, smarter and more prayerfully to match the right pastor with the right gifts in the right mission field at the right time, instead of paying primary attention to salary, tenure and age.

Next Steps for Congregations

5. *More congregations will increasingly begin to look like their neighborhoods. A church's neighborhood is the heart and soul of its mission field.* A church that looks like its neighborhood has taken the time to develop relationships with the people there, reach out in ways that make a real difference in their lives and begin being in ministry with—and not just to—them.

6. *More churches will continue to grow every year by at least one new adult profession of faith, at least one more person in worship, at least one additional small group and at least one more ministry that reaches into the mission field.* Only 310 of our 683 churches had a profession of faith in 2012. Sadly, this statistic indicates a lack of vitality and readiness to face the mission field of too many churches in the Annual Conference. Every single church—regardless of its size—can be vital and reach its mission field with excellence and passion.

Next Step for Laity

7. *Laity will be coached and mentored so they increasingly demonstrate passion, boldness and excellence in faith sharing, servant ministry, stewardship and using their spiritual gifts.* Disciples make other disciples. Increasing the number of new disciples who are equipped to contribute to the vitality of their congregations so they can make disciples who make disciples will enable churches to reach their mission fields with excellence and passion.

Next Step for Pastors

8. *Pastors will be coached and mentored so they increasingly demonstrate passion, boldness and excellence as spiritual leaders through personal discipleship, preaching, evangelism, mission-field engagement, stewardship and equipping laity for ministry.* Our clergy leaders must demonstrate these basic competencies if they are going to lead vital churches that successfully engage the mission field.

Next Step for the Arkansas Context

9. *The Arkansas Annual Conference will create vital, self-sustaining and growing African-American churches.* There are nearly 450,000 African-Americans in Arkansas, and only a handful of vital, self-sustaining and growing African-American United Methodist congregations. Strong churches must be developed in order to reach the mission field for which God has given us responsibility. This is not just an issue for African-Americans; it is vitally important for the entire Arkansas Annual Conference.

Next Step for a Changing Culture

10. *The churches of the Arkansas Annual Conference will connect with the previously church, de-churched and never church, especially the "nones."* Twenty percent of adults in America—including more than one-third of those under 30—identify themselves as religiously unaffiliated. Many of these "nones" consider themselves spiritual in some way, but reject traditional congregational life. Laity are in positions to build relationships and share Jesus' love through local churches. Clergy need to be committed to training, nurturing and supporting laity in this work.

Taking the Next Steps


These next steps will take time, involve ongoing adaptive learning and send us on some unexpected detours, because there is never an easy shortcut to deep and lasting change. The rigors of this journey over the next several years, however, are worth it because it is Jesus himself who is inviting us to join him.

How will we move from theory to these 10 "Next Steps" becoming realities that move us along God's trajectory for our future? First, the Extended Cabinet and I will convene Launch Teams to begin the work of each initiative. These Launch Teams will be responsible for the creation, development, implementation, review and re-calibration of the team's plans, including involving more people in their work. Second, Launch Teams will be accountable to the Extended Cabinet. Third, the Center for Technology will provide regular updates concerning the progress of the 10 "Next Steps" and seek appropriate feedback.

What You Can Do

You can play an essential role in these next 10 steps as you join in fervent, sustained and corporate prayer; focus more on the future than the past; challenge your local church to reach out into your mission field; share your joy at being part of Jesus' mission; and long for our church to become a Spirit-led movement again!

MARCH 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 BP ✓ between services 7:30 Praise Tm rehrs! 8:00 Traditional Srvce 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvce 3:00 Barbershop Concert	3 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:30 PEO-CD 12:45 Women's Chorus 1:00 Disciple I 6:00 Children's Advisory	4 9:00 SS/SALT Bible Stdy 10:00 Handbell Trio 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:00 Ministerial Alliance 7:00 Evangelism Mtng	5 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 8:30 Disciple II 9:30 UMW Board 11:45 Lent Service & Lunch 3:40 Chancel Bells 6:00 Ash Wed Service 6:30 Choir Practice 7:00 Youth Life 7:00 Wesleyan Way	6 8:00 Men's Chorus 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshop 10:30 Concordia Bible 11:00 Golf-Kingswood 4:00 Revelation Study	7 9:00 Disciple IV	1 8:30 Old Faithfl SG
9 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 7:30 Praise Tm rehrs! 8:00 Traditional Srvce 9:30 "The Well" Service 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvce	10 9:00 Caregiver Support 9:00 DAR 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Calico Cut-ups Brd 12:45 Women's Chorus 1:00 Disciple I 6:30 Finance Committee	11 8:30 PEO-BR 9:00 SS/SALT Bible Stdy 10:00 Handbell Trio 10:00 Prayer Shawl 1:00 Sarah Circle 1:30 Member Meeting 5:30 4 God SG 5:30 Brd of Directors	12 7:30-Men's Emmaus 8:30-Bible Study 8:30 Disciple II 9:00 Quilters 9:30 Missions Meeting 11:45 Lent Service & Lunch 2:00 Guest Followup 3:40 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 UMM Dinner 6:30 Evening Circle 6:30 Choir Practice 7:00 Youth Life 7:00 Financial Peace	13 8:00 Men's Chorus 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshop 10:30 Concordia Bible 11:00 Golf-Dogwood 1:00 HOPE Circle 4:00 Revelation Study	14 9:00 Disciple IV 11:30 Pre-school Brd Mtg	15 3:00 Davis Wedding
16 PAK A SAK 7:05 Handbl Prtct 7:30 Praise Tm rehrs! 8:00 Traditional Srvce 9:30 "The Well" Srvce 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvce 3:00 Cherokee Concert	17 9:00 Martha Circle 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 PEO-CD 12:45 Women's Chorus 1:00 Disciple I 	18 9:00 SS/SALT Bible Stdy 10:00 Handbell Trio 10:00 Prayer Shawl 1:00 BV Book Club 1:30 Naomi Circle 1:30 Concordia Party 4:00 Meals on Wheels Bd	19 7:30-Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 8:30 Disciple II 9:00 Quilters 11:45 Lent Service & Lunch 3:40 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice 7:00 Youth Life 7:00 Financial Peace	20 8:00 Men's Chorus 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshop 10:00 Golf-Highlands 10:30 Concordia Bible 4:00 Revelation Study	21 9:00 Disciple IV	22
23 7:30-Praise Tm rehrs! 8:00 Traditional Srvce 9:30 "The Well" Srvce 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvce	24 9:00-Caregiver Sprt 10:00-Staff Meeting 12:00 Calico Cut-ups 12:45 Women's Chorus 1:00 Disciple I	25 9:00 SS/SALT Bible Stdy 10:00 Handbell Trio 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:30 SG Leaders Lunch 12:30 VR Homeowners 3:00 BV Library Board	26 Men's Emmaus 8:30 Bible Study 8:30 Disciple II 9:00 Quilters 11:45 Lent Service & Lunch 3:40 Chancel Bells 6:00 Prayer Service 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice 7:00 Youth Life 7:00 Financial Peace	27 8:00 Men's Chorus 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshop 10:00 Golf-Scotsdale 10:30 Concordia Bible 4:00 Revelation Study	28 9:00 Disciple IV	29
30 7:30-Praise Tm rehrs! 8:00 Traditional Srvce 9:30 "The Well" Srvce 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Traditional Srvce	31 10:00 Staff Mtng 12:45 Women's Chorus					

**First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista
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To the Home of ...

Be a Booster

*If you think your church the best, tell 'em so!
If you'd have it lead the rest, help it grow!
Where there's anything to do, let them always count on you.
You'll feel good when it is through.
If you're used to giving knocks, change your style:
Throw bouquets instead of rocks for a while.
Let the other fellow roast. Shun him as you would a ghost;
Meet his banter with a boast.
When a stranger from afar comes along,
Tell him who and what you are -
Make it strong.
Tell the truth, for that's enough.
Be a Booster, that's the stuff.
Don't just belong.*

Contributed by Marjorie Plunk, from her Father's pastoral files