



The Good News

OCTOBER 2023

HOPE ABOUND 2024!

God is Good - All the time!
All the Time - God is Good!

Ministries at FUMCBV



Building Materials List:
Prayers
Presence
Gifts
Service
Witness

The refreshing and renewing of our faith is a daily and personal challenge. As we witness a refreshing and renewing of God's Kingdom work in this church, this body of Christ, we are eager to share the hope of Christ with those around us. Leadership is planning the materials and work for the many ministries we will do together in 2024; hope abounds. Each of us will utilize and return a portion of the blessings we have received, and return it to God, for the growth of the Lord's Kingdom. We will recommit ourselves to our five-fold approach to discipleship with the church: we will uphold this body of Christ with our spiritual gifts: our fervent prayers, our ongoing presence, our tithes and offerings, our faithful service, and our witness as God has blessed us. Sunday, October 29, 2023, is our Stewardship financial commitment Sunday this year. God is good and Hope Abounds!

Peace and blessings - and thank you,
Pastor Ron



**TRUNK-OR-TREAT
HELP & CANDY
WANTED**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW HELPFUL SOULS WHO WANT TO ENSURE THE BOYS & GHOULS WHO ATTEND HAVE A SCARY GOOD TIME! SIGN UP ON EITHER SHEET IN THE NARTHEX OR ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE BECKER HALL. SEE DENA MAYES FOR MORE INFO. DEPOSIT YOUR CANDY DONATIONS IN THE BLACK BINS IN THE NARTHEX STARTING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1.



**VOLUNTEERS,
YOU'RE STILL
WANTED/NEEDED!**

We still need to have a NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY made, so we still need someone to work with the company that will snap the photos and make the directory. You will likely need to help schedule and coordinate the photo sessions, etc. See Amy for more info.



“Christ’s Love Always Wins”

Rev. Ron Hayes

I grew up in the 50’s and 60’s where role models came from Leave it to Beaver and Father Knows Best. Except my mom was not June Cleaver nor my dad Jim Anderson. My parents were so old (in my mind) and soooo old fashioned, and they even thought that Elvis Presley was almost the devil incarnate. I won’t even mention what they thought of dancing the twist and wearing mini-skirts (although by today’s standards those seem pretty tame!). I think my parents were not the only ones to think that my generation was doomed to certain damnation.

I must be living in a time-warp because now everything in my being wants to shriek, “Pull up your pants before they fall off!” and “Put on some leggings under that too-short skirt!” What is the world coming to? Sounds familiar, doesn’t it? It’s a generational past-time — ragging on the younger/next generation and complaining about their lack of this or that. I confess that my heart is stubborn. I want it to be the way I think it should be, adhering to social conformity and acceptance, following a set of rules (that I establish).

Then I read through Matthew, and Chapter 11 presents quite a challenge to those thoughts. I turned to William Barclay’s commentary on this chapter of Matthew which says: John (that would be the baptizer) came, living in the desert, fasting and despising food, isolated from society and they said of him, “The man is crazy to cut himself off from society that way.” Jesus came, mixing with all sorts of people, sharing their sorrows and their joys. And they said of him, “He’s a socialite and a partier. He’s friends with people no decent person would associate with.” Either way, they found grounds for criticism. Essentially, Jesus is described as “a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners”. We might be embarrassed or ashamed to be seen with those kinds of sinners. But here we have the Son of God associating with those considered outcasts...maybe even enjoying his time with them. I imagine Jesus being perfectly comfortable in those settings. So, it’s a bit of a challenge to some of us who’ve worked so hard crafting our reputations and building our resumes.

But in fact, to be a Christian is to be a Jesus-follower. To love deeply, widely, long enough, to live expansively enough, to have and to give so much grace and mercy that we are willing to put our reputation and our social standing on the line for others and for our relationship with them. I find Jesus’ words to be liberating and life-giving. They take us out of our guilt and the punishing glare of expectations and rules and put us, instead, fully

into the embrace of God, reminding us WHO we are and WHOSE we are.

There is a story told by a Rabbi: It is not that the burden is easy to carry; but it is laid on us in love; it is meant to be carried in love; and love makes even the heaviest burden light. When we remember the love of God, when we know that our burden is to love God and to love people, then the burden becomes a song. There is an old story which tells how a man came upon a little boy carrying a still smaller boy, who was lame, upon his back. ‘That’s a heavy burden for you to carry’, said the man. ‘That’s not a burden,’ came the answer. “That’s my wee brother.” The burden which is given in love and carried in love is always light. We share the yoke with Christ and His love.

Our lives needn’t be about conforming to what people expect or want from us. Our faith isn’t about a set of rules we fail to follow. It’s about following Jesus, who was a radical, justice-seeking, law-breaking, lavish-love-giving person of ill repute. He shook up the authorities, challenged unfair systems, and death-dealing policies. This Jesus-following life means to question what we take for granted, to wince at how we live. Jesus’ early followers didn’t turn the world upside down by sharing simple platitudes and common sense.

So here we are, wanting to be like Jesus yet carrying this burden of myself, my failures, my missteps and misdeeds, nothing right, nothing pleasing. And this man, this Christ, walks up to me and says, “Come to me and learn from me; take my yoke; my burden is light. Our gospel is for all who are defeated, who have reached the end of their rope. We are to be like him, to imitate what he was, to heal the sick, to give sight to the blind, to liberate the oppressed, and to invite others to fuller lives.

That’s why he simply bids us to come. Nothing more. Come! For all things are now ready. Come! For I have emptied myself for you. Come! Transform the world. Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, for the time of justice is at hand and the day of peace is near. Come! Again and again. We simply respond, trusting in the One who is gentle and humble in heart.

We are loved. We forget it and we judge. But love, LOVE, will always have the last word.

Peace and blessings,



Lay Leader's Message

Dave Broers, Lay Leader



Mark 1:16-17:

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake for they were fishermen. 17 "come, follow me." Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."



First fishing trip, summer 1969.



Last fishing trip, May 2023.



11-lb Northern Pike caught 9/27 on his current fishing trip.

GONE FISHING!!!

Peace and Blessings,
Dave Broers, Lay Leader



We have a **Potluck & Games Night** every **Monday evening at 5:00pm** in the Parlor/Chapel. Join us for cards, board games, dominoes, etc. We will find a game for you or teach you a new one. Bring a dish to share and your table service. For info, call Mabel Ashline: (563)505-6975.



Friends of Christ will not meet again until November 9.

Acts of the Apostles

COME JOIN US!

Mondays at 5:30pm in Room 6 near the office.

Bible Study: led by Pastor Ron Hayes



COFFEE CUP WASHERS WANTED

We're glad so many of you love our Coffee Fellowship Hour between services on Sunday. We do too! Sadly, our new paper cups are a little hot to handle, so we're switching to REAL cups. We need just a few of you to volunteer to wash the cups after the second service on Sunday or on Monday morning. See Amy for more info or to sign up.



What's the (Hi)Story? Jill Hale, FUMC Historian

Last month, I invited memories of September 22, 2001. Only one person responded. Here is Wanda Williams' memory of that tragic day: "My grandson's mother worked in New York City. When I heard about the planes, I tried calling her several times. I always got a busy signal. Finally, I remembered that she had a Blackberry, the first of the smart phones. I called and found out that the company she worked for had moved everyone out of the building and into another location they had in NYC. I later found out that she was one of those who walked over the bridge and had to stay with a co-worker for several days. Her parents, who babysat my grandson, kept Craig Jr. until she could get home. (He was three years old at the time.)" Thank you, Wanda. If anyone else would like to share a memory, we will be happy to include that next month.

Now, on to happier thoughts. September was Dr. Larry Zehring's 30-year anniversary as Director of Music Ministries at FUMC Bella Vista. Here is his story:

Dr. Larry Zehring was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and grew up in Vinita, Oklahoma. He attended the University of the Ozarks, where he received his BA in Music. He received his Master's Degree at University of Tulsa. He entered the military in 1964, serving in the Coast Guard, and was stationed at Sabine Pass, Texas.

Larry and his wife, Annette, met at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville and were married in Vinita in 1965. After his discharge from the Coast Guard, Larry and Annette moved to Saranac Lake, New York, where he taught high school music and she taught junior high music. After leaving public teaching, Larry toured the United States and Europe for several years, singing professionally with the Gregg Smith Singers. They made

many recordings and won five Grammy awards. He sang baritone with the group.

The next step in Larry's career was teaching music at the college level, first at Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Virginia, and vocal and choral music at Tarkio College in Tarkio, in northwest Missouri. His last college teaching position was at Ft. Hayes State in western Kansas. In 1990, he received his PhD in Conducting and Musicology from the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He is a member of the Academic Honor Fraternity Pi Kappa Lambda and the Professional Music Fraternity Phi Mu Alpha.

Larry and his family moved from Kansas City to Rogers, Arkansas, in 1985. While there, Larry served as Music Director for the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In September of 1993, he was hired as Director of Music Ministries for FUMC-Bella Vista. Larry currently directs the Chancel Choir and Chancel Bells and arranges for and performs special music for church services and other occasions. He has also directed the NWA Women's Chorus for many years.

Larry and Annette have one son, Jared, who lives in Ralston, Nebraska. Jared and his wife, Tessa, who is pastor of the First Methodist Church in Ralston, have one son, Greyson, who is in eighth grade this year.

Larry enjoys and is grateful for the opportunity to serve as Director of Music Ministries to the congregation of FUMC and to the community of Bella Vista.

That's enough for this month. As always, historical information and stories are welcomed. Just let me know by phone at 479-344-6074 or 928-710-3612 or by email to rjhale68@cox.net.

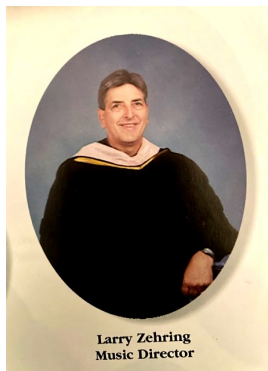
Jill Hale, Historian



THEN & NOW: LARRY ZEHRING IN PHOTOS



Even the church sign was excited to be able to celebrate Larry's 30 years at FUMCBV!



Larry's staff photo circa 1995



Larry in his element in 1995



Directing the Chancel Choir



Directing the Chancel Bells

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR
CATHERINE LUCK

IN THE ONLINE COURSE
'DREAMS: UNOPENED LETTERS FROM GOD'

Everyone dreams! Many believe that God's forgotten language for speaking to humanity comes in the form of dreams. Fourteen Biblical dreams will be reviewed along with their messages to the original dreamers. Course participants will identify the meaning of dream images, examine dreams as a group, and make journal reflections. Alternative activities are provided to dream recall and recording as needed. You will discover the voice of divine image within, God longing to take shape in the world, and a healing balm needed in this chaotic world.


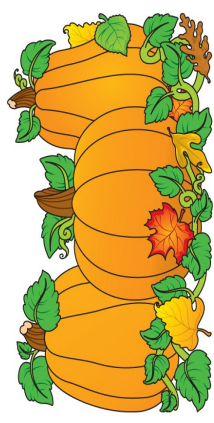
October 2, 2023 | \$100 | 3 CEU FOR MATERIALS

BeADisciple.com

\$80 REFUND FOR FUMCBV

SNACK PACKS for BACKPACKS
Needs Your Quarters!!!

As school ramps up again, we want to be able to provide 40 sacks of food per week for Cooper Elementary kids in need. Your quarters make it possible. Deposit them in the big, clear Snack Packs tube located on the little table in the Becker Hall hallway.

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY					
1	WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult S. Sch-LL/Rm 6 11:00 Casual Service - BH	2	10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	3	9:00 Meth. Men Golf-Berkstdale 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:30 Gospel of Mark Study - Parlor 11:30 BVPS Lunch 'n' Learn - Rm 28 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	4	9:00 Bazaar Set-up - Church 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 Grief Support Group - Parlor	5	9:00 Bazaar Set-up - Church 12:30 Caregivers' Suppt. - Room 6 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Room 28	6	Office Closed 9:00 Baked Goods Drop-off til 2:00 11:30 BVPS Board Meeting - Rm 28	7	7:30 Bazaar Set-up - Church 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 9:00 UWF Holiday Bazaar 2:00 Bazaar Teardown				
8	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult S. Sch-LL/Rm 6 11:00 Casual Service - BH	9	9:30 DAR - Parlor 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	10	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Methodist Men Golf--Berkstdale 10:30 Gospel of Mark Study - Parlor 1:00 Sarah Circle - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	11	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mig - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	12	9:00 Bazaar Wkshop - Quilt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Evening Circle - Youth Rm	13	Office Closed	14	7:30 UMM Fall Pancake Day - BH 8:15 Young@Heart - Papa Mike's 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 10:30 Agape Shepherd-Papa Mike's 12:00 Bluebird Society Potluck - BH				
15	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult S. Sch-LL/Rm 6 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Pizza with the Pastor-Parlor 1:30 CCM Meeting - Parlor 4:00 Annual Conference	16	8:00 Care & Share Trailer 9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	17	9:00 Meth. Men Golf-Highland 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:30 Gospel of Mark Study - Parlor 1:30 Naomi Circle - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	18	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 9:30 UWF Finance Meeting - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 5:30 UMM Meeting/Meal - BH 6:30 Grief Support Group - Parlor	19	9:00 Bazaar Wkshop - Quilt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:30 Cancer Suppt Group - Parlor	20	Office Closed	21	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28				
22	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's S. Sch-Lower Level 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Trustees Meeting - Parlor	23	10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	24	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Methodist Men Golf--Berkstdale 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	25	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	26	9:00 Bazaar Wkshop - Quilt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:30 Cancer Suppt Group - Parlor	27	Office Closed	28	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 12:00 Helping Hands Workday-HH				
29	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's S. Sch-Lower Level 11:00 Casual Service - BH	30	10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	31	TRUNK-OR-TREAT!!! 9:00 Methodist Men Golf--Berkstdale 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 5:30 Trunk-or-Treat--Parking Lot 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm												



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



10/02 Ivan & Merle Lantz 10/12 Ken & Mary Jane Hammarstrom
 10/05 Terry & Linda Davis 10/30 Lynn & Karen Dove



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



10/02 Jean Swanson	10/13 Dick Bacon	10/24 Bobby Billingsley
10/03 Evelynn Antoine	10/13 Kristin Crider	10/24 Michelle Forst
10/04 Andrea Fobes	10/16 G. Billingsley	10/24 Weldon Hyde
10/05 Darleen O'Brien	10/20 Arlene Alford	10/24 Lamar Puckett
10/06 Allan Hagan	10/20 Drew Baker	10/25 Dennis Reed
10/09 Bob Kennedy	10/20 Dennis Eckard	10/25 Maxine Ward
10/10 Peggy Crabtree	10/20 Carolyn Howard-Small	10/28 Rich Abbott
10/11 Stephen Larsen	10/20 Kyle Murphy	10/30 Jack Storck
10/11 Jim Prather	10/21 Dave Broers	10/31 Laraine Smirl
10/12 Sandra Beverage	10/21 Bedetta Valentine	

Oct0ber 2023 Newsletter Financial Data
information as of August 31, 2023

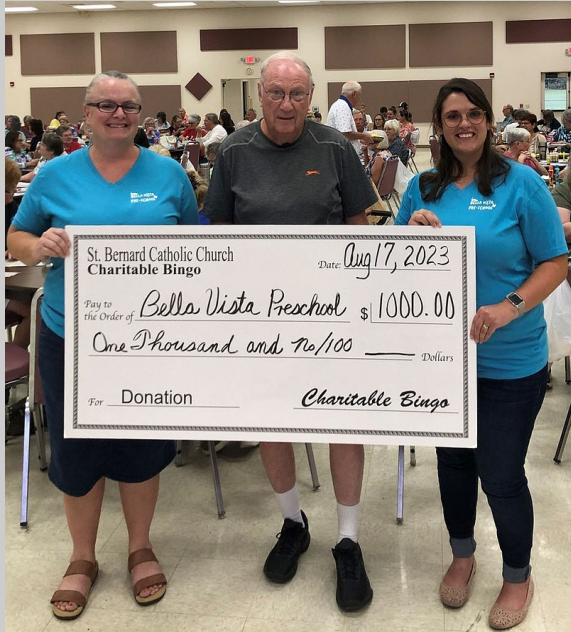
	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
Month of June Contributions (Income*)	\$ 37,346.31	\$ 32,586.17
Month of June Expenses	\$ 31,867.06	\$ 35,695.01
Difference	\$ 5,479.25	\$ (3,108.84)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 72,600.02	\$ 65,172.34
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 63,499.71	\$ 71,990.02
Difference	\$ 9,100.31	\$ (6,817.68)

**Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest (Fiscal Year started July 1.)*



OUR FAMILY

Bingo! (Look who made the paper!)



Bella Vista Preschool receives a \$1,000 donation from St. Bernard Charity Bingo, representing proceeds from the month of August. Presenting the check is Tom Jurgens (center) of St. Bernard; accepting the donation for Bella Vista Preschool are Melanie Nichols (left) and Holly Penny (right).



Lovely Joyce Connell and her beautiful birthday cake decorated with her favorite things! We celebrated with her on Sunday, Sept. 17, during Coffee Fellowship. Joyce just moved to Ciel of Fayetteville Assisted Living.

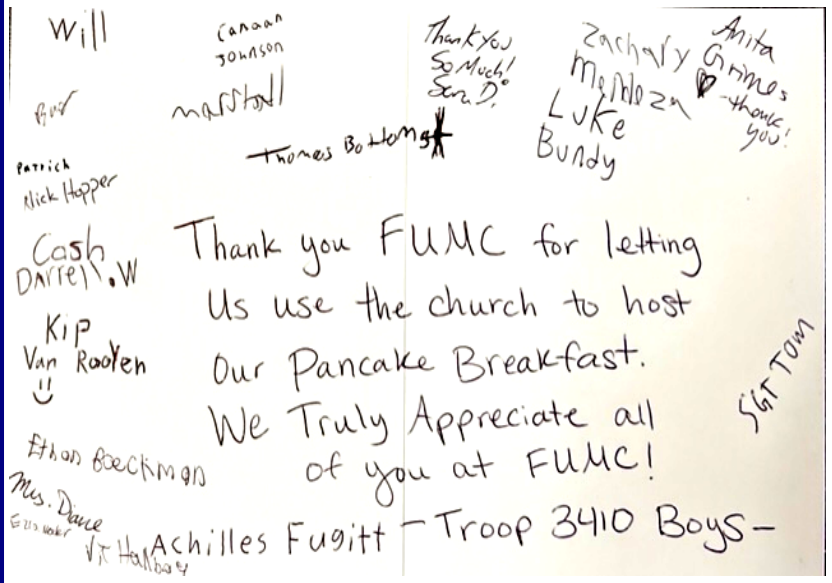
Thank You

My thanks for Rev. Ron, Amy, and church staff. Also, a special thanks for the Prayer Shawl Ladies. The shawl is beautiful. Finally, my thanks to the congregation for their prayers and well wishes.

Dee Wresche



We received a very nice card from the boys in Scout Troop 3410 thanking us for allowing them to have their pancake breakfast here on Saturday, September 16th!





MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



LAMAR PUCKETT:

Lamar Puckett joined the FUMCBV Staff as our Organist/ Accompanist way back in March. On September 3rd, he officially joined our church family as a member too! If he looks familiar, then you've probably seen him behind the organ in the Classic service or singing along on stage in the Casual service. He is also employed as a Sales Associate at Belk Department Store in Rogers. He has a daughter, Leslie, who resides in Camarillo, CA, with her husband, Ryan, and their daughter, Maxine. His musical hobby at present is learning to play the lever harp.



CAROLYN HOWARD-SMALL:

We welcomed Carolyn to the FUMCBV family on September 3rd when she joined the church. She retired after working 20 years in the Walmart and Sam's Club general offices. Carolyn transferred to our church thanks to Pastor Ron whom she has known for many years. She likes to spend her time working in the yard, and cooking for her family and friends. Be sure to give her the great big welcome we're famous for around here!

**We have a few other new members whom we don't have photos of yet. As soon as we do, we'll update the page with them!*

Dear FUMCBV members,

I'd like to thank you for the immense support and love you have shown me and Oasis of NWA in supporting my Eagle project. Your donations truly made a difference! Together with the Bella Vista community, we raised enough supplies and money to create over 120 Welcome baskets!

*Sincerely,
Max Crider*

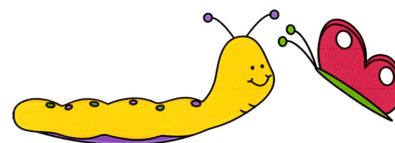


Bella Vista PreSchool

Seeking Volunteers!!

Help prepare students for lifelong success!

Volunteers spend 1-2 mornings a month playing, reading, and interacting with 3-5 year olds as well as assisting the classroom teacher



Interested? Call or text

Melanie Nichols at 479-531-1149

bvpreschool@gmail.com

Look for us on FaceBook!!



United Women in Faith

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

As we all look forward to Fall and all the beautiful colors of leaves, the women are also looking forward to our 45th Holiday Bazaar on Sat., Oct. 7th, from 9 AM to 2 PM. Many willing hands have been busy for months making beautiful items for the holidays. We will also have Baked goods again in our Country Kitchen

as well as our Orange and Cinnamon Rolls. Lunch will be served with a choice of Sloppy Joe's, Stuffed Baked Potatoes, Chicken Salad, and Homemade pies. Our Dignified Discards area will have MANY unusual and unique items available.

In September, the Circle programs were on Ingathering, with all donations going to UMCOR. As you may know, all donations that UMCOR receive go directly to helping cities and communities in the US, as well as countries around the world with natural disasters, such as the fire in Hawaii and the hurricane on the South-east Coast of the US.

The guest speaker at our September Unit meeting from the Arkansas Interfaith Power and Light spoke on their work in CLIMATE JUSTICE.

THINGS WE NEED:

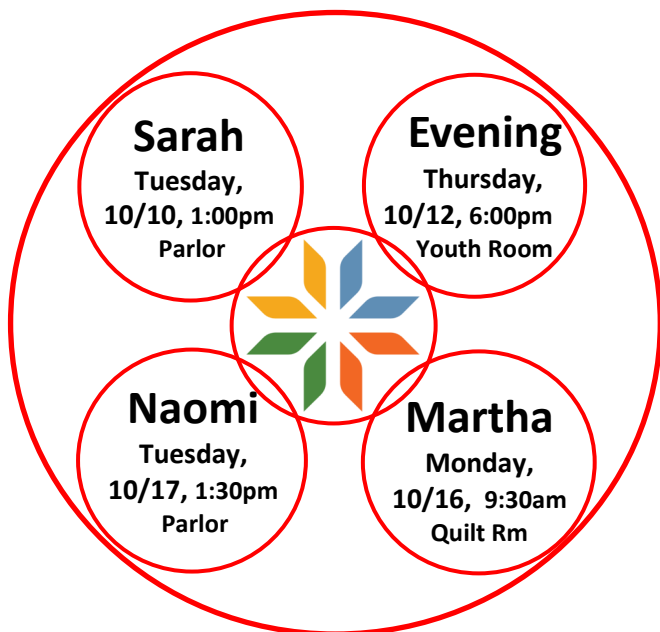
BEST CHOICE COUPONS — for every 1000 we collect, we receive \$60.00. Drop yours off in the library.

DATES TO REMEMBER: Oct. 7th UWF Bazaar 9:00am-2:00pm; Oct. 7th UWF NW District Meeting; Oct. 18th UWF Board Meeting (finance/budget); Nov. 8th UWF Arkansas Meeting at Conway FUMC.

Call President, Barbara Brooks at 876-5353 for questions or comments.

All ladies are welcome to join one of our Circles and help make a difference in the lives of children, youth and ladies In our area, as well as in the country. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

October Circle Meetings



UWF 45th Annual Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, October 7
9:00 am-2:00 pm

Orange & Cinnamon Rolls \$2 ea
Lunch \$7 served after 10:30 am

Handmade crafts, baked goods, jams, jellies, sauces, salsas, our special seasoning salt, more dignified discards, & even plants. Proceeds go to support local ministries.
 (To pre-order rolls, call (479) 855-1158.)

 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Bella Vista
 20 BOYCE DR
 BELLA VISTA, AR 72715
 (479) 855-1158
 FUMCBELLAVIDA.COM

We take Cash & Checks. Credit Cards accepted thru PayPal.



The next UMM meeting is **Wednesday, 10/18**. Dinner is at **5:30pm** in **Becker Hall**. The meeting will follow at **6:00pm**.



Helping Hands Work Day Schedule for 2023

Next work day: **Saturday, October 28**

Are you looking for a "hands-on" mission project? Our church is scheduled to work next at the **Helping Hands Resale Shop** on **Saturday, October 28**. The indoor work is from noon to 4pm and includes cashiering, bagging the customer's purchases, or roaming the sales floor to clean and tidy or perhaps put items out. (It's a great way to do a little shopping at the same time - at half price!) If you're feeling strong, they can always use help out back receiving donations either in the morning or afternoon. For questions, speak to Verna Bottjen, 876-1392. They also need volunteers throughout the week.



In case you haven't heard, we had an unwelcome visitor a couple of weeks ago, the **Blessing Box Bandit!** He was discovered when a woman opened the door and found a hefty raccoon sitting upright inside. He had spent a long night of gorging himself on everything he could open. Needless to say, the furry thief didn't clean up after himself. The box had to be sanitized which is why it sat empty for a little while. The door also needed repairing. We are in need of **READY-MADE MEALS & CANNED MEATS (chicken, tuna, etc.)** most right now. Please drop off your donation to the church office or in Room 5, the Blessing Box Room. As always, *please NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, or UNLABELED cans.*



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

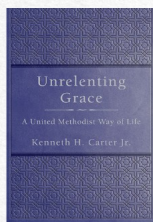
We're Here to Serve You

Lead Pastor - Rev. Ron Hayes
 ron.hayes@arumc.org (479) 366-9725
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore
 Church Secretary - Andrea Fobes
 Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring
 Organist/Accompanist - Lamar Puckett
 Praise Band Leaders - Rick & Gloria Atha

Phone: (479) 855-1158
www.fumcbellavista.com
facebook.com/fumcbv

Office Hours:
 Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

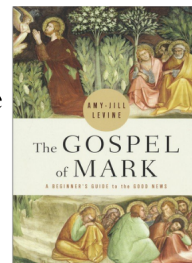
Newsletter Submission Deadline: 20th of the month



The Adult Sunday School class led by Cathy Luck on the study of **Unrelenting Grace: A United Methodist Way of Life** by Bishop Kenneth Carter will run through Sunday, 10/15.

Class is at 10:00 am in Rm 6. Traditional & e-book versions of the book are available through Cokesbury.

The Gospel of Mark Bible Study led by Amy Gilmore continues each Tuesday at 10:30am in the Parlor through 10/17. The book is available on Amazon, Kindle, and Cokesbury. (Not required, but helpful.)



A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:



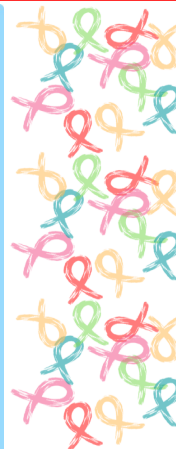
GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP (GSG)

Grief isn't a journey you have to make alone. GSG meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The October meetings are at 6:30pm on 10/4 in Room 6 & 10/18 in the Parlor. Facilitated by Pastor Ron.



CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

THURSDAY, OCT. 5, AT 12:30 PM IN ROOM 6
RESPITE CARE PROVIDED



CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 10/19, at 6:30pm
in the Parlor

PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

As a church family, we lift each other up in prayer for both our joys and our concerns. **Send your Praises and Prayer requests to Pastor Ron** at his email: **ron.hayes@arumc.org** or call him: **(479) 366-9725**.

You can also call the church office **(479) 855-1158**, email our secretary, Andrea, at: **andrea@fumcbellavista.com** or stop by **20 Boyce Dr.**

You may also complete a **Prayer Request Card** in the Narthex or Becker Hall and drop them in the Prayer Boxes there. They are checked during office hours.