

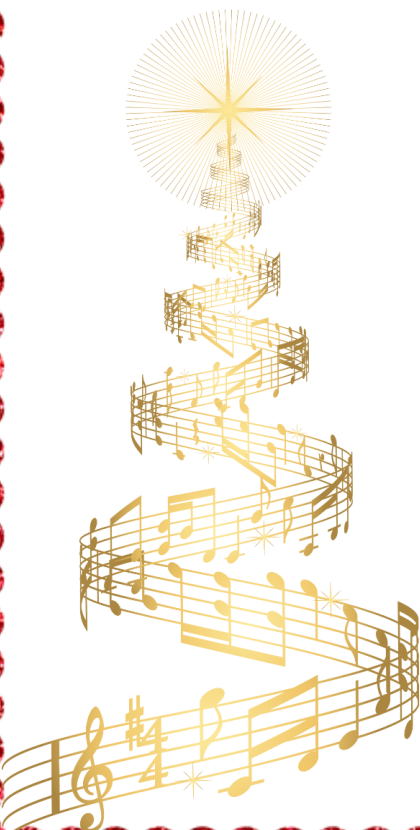


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

DECEMBER 2023

Sounds of the Season



12/03-7:00pm: AR Musicworks Brass Concert in the Sanctuary

12/10-9:00am: "A Wesley Christmas Cantata" in the Classic Service

12/17-11:00am: "Songs of Christmas" in the Casual Service

12/17-2:00pm: Carols for All meet to go caroling to our homebound members

12/17-7:00pm: "A Sacred Christmas" Concert Garth Smith & Co, Sanctuary

12/24-10:00am: Carols & Candlelight Classic Service in the Sanctuary

12/24-5:00pm: PJ's & Storytime Casual Service in Becker Hall

12/24-7:00pm: Carols & Candlelight Classic Service in the Sanctuary



COME A-CAROLING WITH US!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, AT 2:00PM

HELP US SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER TO SOME OF OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS.

SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE. MEET IN NARTHEX.

APPETIZER POTLUCK AT 4:30PM

BRING YOUR FAVORITE APP TO SHARE.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Bella Vista

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight & Carols**

10:00 am & 7:00 pm
Classic Services in Sanctuary

5:00 pm Casual Service
PJ's & Storytime

KIDS WELCOME
AT ALL SERVICES!

20 Boyce Dr
Bella Vista, 72715
fumbellavista.com



**Christmas
Day Potluck**

December 25 at 12:00pm

**"Bring a festive dish to share!"
Sign up in the office
to attend.**



“Making a List & Checking It Twice”

Rev. Ron Hayes

I am a person of lists. I recognize that is to no one’s surprise. The past couple of months I have been thinking about, reviewing, and evaluating my work through my first year and a half here at FUMC-Bella Vista. Before my appointed ministry started in July of 2019, the corporate structures I worked in provided all of the goals and metrics from which I was to be measured. I have found in ministry it is harder to define ‘successes’. I know success has to be more than attendance figures and finances. Those two metrics are to be noted and valued, but they should not be the end-goal to successful ministry in our community. Then I ran across a great set of metrics which I share with you. I think they not only apply to me as a pastor but to us as a body of Christ. It is from a book by Rev. Michael Mather. He was the lead pastor of Broadway United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, and is now at First UMC Boulder in Boulder, Colorado.

Mike Mather’s: 12 Things Worth Counting Every Week (Pastor Ron’s edit: or Month)

- 1) People whose homes we visit, to lay hands on and bless them, offering a prayer of celebration and praise for their ministry: in their life, their home, their workplace.
- 2) People we introduce to each other because "we see in each of you that you seem to have the same call and claim of God upon your life, and it seemed like it would be great for you to know that about each other."
- 3) People we pray with in hospital rooms, on street corners, in alleys, in living rooms, in offices, and in car repair shops.
- 4) People to whom we write letters, celebrating their discipleship in the life of the world.

- 5) People we anoint with oil for the challenge set before them.
- 6) People we journey with to visit with someone else: at home, at the hospital, in the workplace.
- 7) People we visit to remind them of their baptism (perhaps an anniversary of their baptism, or the baptismal anniversary of someone in their household).
- 8) Times we eat with someone and remind them of the communion that Jesus shared with his friends on Maundy Thursday, reminding all of Christ's presence at the table.
- 9) Times we go and offer forgiveness to someone who is laboring under guilt and shame.
- 10) Times during a month we throw a party to celebrate the presence and power of the love of God in the people and parish around us.
- 11) Times we take the Bible and read a story to someone whose life we see in that particular story.
- 12) Times we post on social media, celebrating the discipleship of the people in our parish in concrete and joyful ways.

As with most evaluations, some scores could be considered okay, and others show room for improvement. With the start of a new Christian year, Advent brings a new focus on how to share the story, the life, the purpose of the birth of the Christ child. I hope, I know, that together we will make 2024 a year of ‘meaningful and productive’ ministry with the sharing of the Gospel and Christ’s Love.

Peace and blessings,

¹Mather, Michael. *Having Nothing, Possessing Everything*. Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 2018.



SILENT ARTWORK AUCTION

WE ARE AUCTIONING OFF THE 4 PAINTINGS IN THE NARTHEX BY OUR OWN GERALD “SCOUT” HATLEY TO BENEFIT METHODIST FAMILY HEALTH FOUNDATION. THE MINIMUM BID FOR EACH PAINTING IS \$50. PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE SHEET IN FRONT OF THE APPROPRIATE PAINTING AND ENTER YOUR BID.



Lay Leader's Message

Dave Broers, Lay Leader



How time flies! Is it really Advent, the season of waiting and preparing for Christmas already? There is so much to do at this time of year: decorating, baking, visiting, and feasting, choosing the right gifts and wondering what gifts might be received.

In the midst of this flurry of activity, simple questions might pop into our heads: "Is this what it's all about?" or, "Is there something more?" Perhaps after the food is eaten and the gifts unwrapped, you ask yourself, "Is there a gift out there somewhere that would really satisfy me?" If we are honest with ourselves, that is what we want in life—something that can meet our needs, help us with our problems and decisions, bring comfort, happiness, and peace.

The good news is that there is such a gift. It is custom-made just for you and is given by someone who knows exactly what you need right now. It gives you more than anything money can buy. And it comes from someone special, who knows you and loves you deeply, and who wants only the best for you.

Does that sound like a great gift? Does it sound too good to be true? God, who created each one of us individually, perfectly, and without any conditions attached, sent His only Son, Jesus, to live as an ordinary human being on earth. We celebrate His birth at Christmas.

In the bible, the four gospels wrote the good news. They wrote about his life and what He did, his biography essentially. What is not normal is they went on to tell how He was alive after He died! The event which Christians call the resurrection changed the world, the course of history, and can also change us if we accept the gift He offers.

Jesus is God's gift to us. As the Son of God, He can give us freedom from our fears and worries, forgiveness of our past, healing of our bodies, minds and relationships, and the assurance of God's unconditional love for us. We can be free, safe, and fully alive like never before. We don't need to do anything special to receive this gift from God; we simply must accept this Gift. Unwrapping it involves learning about Jesus and learning how to follow Him. We call that "church" where we hang out with a bunch of people who are also in various stages of their learning.

As we learn to trust Jesus, we will come to the point where we want to give Him a gift—that is our lives as obedient followers.

I pray for each of you as you begin and continue following our Savior whose birth we are about to celebrate.

My Lay Leader responsibilities and three-year term will come to an end on December 31, 2023. I will be passing the baton to Jim Phillips. I want to thank you, the pastors, the staff, the members and friends of First United Methodist Church, for the love and support you have shown me while I have been a Lay Leader. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. Wishing our church and everyone the best.

Peace and Blessings,
Dave Broers,
Lay Leader

SHINE December 12/10 & 12/17: Share the Light Christmas Offering
METHODIST FAMILY HEALTH FOUNDATION Your financial gift to Methodist Family Health Foundation supports the Arkansas children and families who receive care from Methodist Family Health's programs and services. Because Methodist Family Health Foundation receives no appropriation support from the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church, we rely heavily on donations made through our Share the Light special offering at Christmas. Contributions from you and other Arkansans help us in our mission to provide the best possible care to those who may need our help. Would you help us by giving as you are able? You will be sharing YOUR light with an Arkansas child and family in need to help them shine.



What's the (Hi)Story?

Jill Hale, FUMC Historian

We took some detours down memory lane the past couple of months. We paused in September to remember the tragedy of 9/11. We took time in October to honor Dr. Larry Zehring's 30 years of service to FUMC Bella Vista. Then, in November, we expressed our thanks to all of those who have served our church over the years in any way, with highlights on United Women in Faith (United Methodist Women) and United Methodist Men. Now that we are feeling properly thankful, we will return to the past with recounting our history.

In the September narrative, we ended with some activities and achievements in 1997. What happened next? Let's see. I did find one more item of interest for 1997. Bill Detlefsen reported the following in his history of the church: "UMW member Sharon Golaway and family presented the program for the United Methodist Women's 25th Anniversary Tea on December 3." We have now passed the 50th year. How time flies!

Moving on to 1998, here are some other quotes from Bill's history that highlight service and progress that year:

"The Library board reported that the UMW books are catalogued and the list will be distributed in February." (This is a good time for a reminder that there are excellent books in the UWF library and in the library in general. Happy reading!)

"Rod Alford's assignment in March was to visit new members at their homes, and give them information about the church, then write a short biography for the newsletter." (Visits and biographies continue all these years later.)

"In December, the sixth pictorial roster was distributed. The opening pages included a brief history of the church, photographs of the sanctuary and ministers Teague, Whitfield, Wilkerson, Hammett and Senior Pastor Wendell Dorman."



**Sanctuary
Photos
1998**



There were some changes in staff during 1998. In June, Thomas S. Stone joined the staff as an Associate Minister, and Joy Bernholdt was ordained a deacon in full connection. In addition, Rev. Paul Johnson had some health issues, so Rev. Dick Ihne replaced him as an Associate Minister.

In reviewing and researching our history, I have found that there are a number of nonprofits in NW Arkansas that we have been supporting for a long time. In 1998, Mountains of Food monies were distributed to Soul's Harbour, Arkansas Rice Depot, Helping Hands, and Care and Share. Other mission assistance included sending a vehicle to missionaries in Bolivia, Pennies from Heaven funds to Habitat for Humanity building in Third World countries, participating in Habitat for Humanity projects locally, collecting donations for relief of tornado victims in Manila, AR, and for hurricane victims in Honduras, declaring the Oklahoma Indian Mission as one of the "Missions of the Month," and supporting the PAK-A-SAK program.

Some fun activities in 1998 included a Christmas dinner theater program called "Nautical but Nice," produced and directed by Sharon, Mark, and Miki Golaway, a music department dinner, the annual Watermelon and Cantaloupe Feed, a Memorial Day informal worship service at Tanyard Creek Pavilion, and Thursday Night Alive services.

Enough history for December. Have a truly blessed Christmas. As my Aunt Shirley likes to say, "Remember that Jesus is the Reason for the Season."

We are always looking for more church memories and stories. Please share with me by phone at 479-344-6074 or 928-710-3612 or by email to rjhale68@cox.net.

Jill Hale,
Historian



Willard Lewis at the Watermelon Feast



“Advent: Symbols of the Second Coming”

Ret. Rev. Cathy Luck



We know the biblical story of Christ’s first coming among us: how he was born in a stable, to the young maiden, Mary, and her betrothed husband, Joseph. We know how she rode on a donkey on the way to report for the census in Bethlehem, ultimately giving birth in a stable (or cave). We know how the shepherds heard the angels sing, “Glory to God in the highest,” and the wise men followed the Star. This Advent, let’s learn about symbols that have assured Christians that Christ will come again in glory. Most information about these symbols will be found in “The Book of Revelation to John,” the prophecy of Daniel, in the letters of Paul and Hebrews, and the Jewish books of Enoch.

These symbols lurk in the background of our Advent Celebration. They include trumpets, the scroll, the two-edged sword, the number seven (seven assemblies, seven stars, seven seals, etc.), the tree of life, first fruits, golden bowl. and

What about the wreath, the Christmas banquet, colorful Christmas blooms? When Jesus died and was resurrected without a seemingly fulfillment of all physical reality, believers looked for a deeper “universal” understanding to his life and ministry. In the words of Father Richard Rohr, “Resurrection is about the whole of creation, it is about history...everything that has been changed, over great expanses of time.” (p. 186 The Universal Christ)

Join The Mystic Hearts Adult Sunday School group 10 a.m. Sundays in Room 6. The current Bible study is on Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience. For more information, call Cathy Luck at 479-619-6063 or email caluck88@gmail.com.

Blessings, Cathy Luck

Volunteer Adult Spiritual Formation Coordinator

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



REX & DENISE WALLER:

We welcomed Rex and Denise into the FUMCBV family on November 5. The Wallers hale from central Nebraska having lived in Omaha for 40 years. Rex worked as an independent industrial sales rep while Denise taught business classes in high school for 34 years. They have two sons, one daughter-in-law, one soon-to-be daughter-in-law, and 4 grandchildren. Rex likes to fish, golf, and is an avid reader. Denise also likes to read, and she enjoys hand sewing. She would like to learn to knit or crochet. She also likes to bake and they both like to travel. They are lifelong Methodists and just knew they would find a Methodist church home in BV. They are eager to be involved in many aspects of

FUMCBV life including UMM, UWF, the kitchen crew, and they would particularly like to read to, run errands, shop, and clean for the elderly. We are very lucky to have Rex & Denise join us and we look forward to getting to know them both better.

***PLEASE NOTE: THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, 12/12!***

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY																																															
																																																											
3	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 UWF New Mbr Tea 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-L/Rm6 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Trustees Meeting - Parlor 3:00 BV Men's Chorus Concert - BV Community Church	4	10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	5	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:30 BVPS Lunch n' Learn - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor	6	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 11:30 UWF Unit Meeting/Lunch - BH 2:00 Grief Support Group - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	7	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 12:30 Caregivers Support Grp - Parlor 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	8	Office Closed 9:00 Chancel Bells at St. Bernard's	9	8:15 Young@Heart 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 10:30 Agape Shepherd Group	10	9:00 Classic Service - Cantata 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-L/Rm6 11:00 Casual Service - BH	11	9:00 DAR - Parlor 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	12	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:30 Staff Christmas Lunch 12:30 Sarah Circle - Lunch out 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor	13	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mtg - Parlor 2:00 Grief Support Group - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 SPRC Meeting - Rm 6	14	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 1:30 Friends of Christ - Parlor 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Evening Circle - Parlor	15	Office Closed	16	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28	17	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-L/Rm6 11:00 Casual Service - BH 2:00 Caroling for All - Narthex 4:30 Caroling Potluck - BH 7:00 A Sacred Christmas Concert	18	8:00 BVPS Coffee & Carols-Parlor 9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 11:00 Women's Chorus Party-MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	19	8:00 BVPS Coffee & Carols-Parlor 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:30 Naomi Circle Potluck - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor	20	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 5:30 UMM Meeting/Meal - BH	21	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 6:30 Longest Night Service	22	Office Closed	23	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28	24	 10:00 Classic Candlelight Service 5:00 Casual Candlelight Service 7:00 Christmas Eve Classic Candlelight Service	25	 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 Christmas Potluck 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	26	OFFICE CLOSED	27	OFFICE CLOSED	28	OFFICE CLOSED	29	OFFICE CLOSED	30	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28	31	10:00 Unified Worship Service - Sanctuary		



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/10 John & Carol Zurn

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 12/01 Joann Handel | 12/17 Jon Mendoza |
| 12/02 Brittany May | 12/17 Marilyn Pommerenke |
| 12/03 Curtis Willoughby | 12/21 Emma Kell |
| 12/05 Lynne Penner | 12/22 Madison Klein |
| 12/06 Isabelle Mendoza | 12/22 Gil Temple |
| 12/09 Chris Klein | 12/24 Cherise George |
| 12/09 Heath Lehmann | 12/24 Betty Starr |
| 12/12 Frances Holman | 12/25 Julie Hayes |
| 12/16 Shari Vermett | 12/27 Ruth Ireland |
| 12/28 Ruth Richardson | |



As of mid-November, 93 pledge cards have been returned by you, our members! This is a far greater number than we received in the last few years, and we thank you wholeheartedly for your generosity. There's still time if you haven't yet returned yours.

**December 2023 Newsletter Financial Data
information as of October 31, 2023**

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
Month of October Contributions (Income*)	\$ 35,400.14	\$ 32,586.17
Month of October Expenses	\$ 35,232.23	\$ 35,345.01
Difference	\$ 167.91	\$ (2,758.84)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 143,687.41	\$ 130,344.68
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 130,412.53	\$ 142,980.04
Difference	\$ 13,274.88	\$ (12,635.36)

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



OUR FAMILY

Thank You

Thank you, church family, for the prayers, cards, calls and concerns you shared during my recovery from surgery. You are all very much appreciated.

Marion Korras



A BIG THANK YOU

TO DAVE WEBER FOR SHARING HIS BINGO WINNINGS WITH FUMCBV. HE'S BEEN PRETTY LUCKY LATELY, SO HE DECIDED TO DONATE THE BULK OF IT TO THE CHURCH. THANKS, DAVE!

AND THANK YOU, AL & MAXINE WARD, FOR DELIVERING THEM!

Thank you

Once again, I am reminded of how blessed we are to be part of the FUMCBV family. Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, calls, texts & messages before and after my surgery.

~Shari Vermett

Dear FUMCBV Family,

Thank you for all of the care, kindness, support, & love you showed me during the time of my father's death. The number of cards, kind words, & hugs I have received is just staggering. I can't tell you all how much it means to me, my mother, and my brother that so many of you attended my dad's funeral, a man whom you had never even met. That kind of compassion and respect is rarely shown, and I am humbled by the gesture. Thank you all for making such a difficult time a little easier through your understanding and grace. I'm so appreciative for all of you and the parts you played in helping us truly celebrate his life.

In Christ's Love, Andrea Fobes

Through the generosity of our church family, 25 Benton county children will experience the blessings of Christmas.

Thank you!

~Jim & Sue Prather
Angel Tree Ministry



**Come hear the
Songs of
Christmas
Sunday, 12/17,
in the Casual
Service at
11:00AM**





A Sacred Christmas

a multimedia musical Christmas presentation

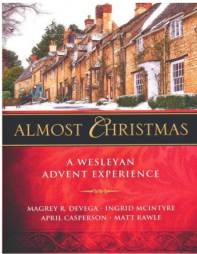
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista, AR 72715

DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 7:00pm



Celebrate this Christmas season with award-winning pianist Garth Smith. Garth will share his original arrangements of Christmas carols, accompanied by a 20-voice choir, string quartet, and other musicians. Featuring fine art generously donated by Havenlight Art, this inspiring program will explore the historical background of favorite Christmas carols as well as share some of the spiritual experiences the composers had when creating them.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

10 AM
IN ROOM 6

Facilitated by
Cathy Luck

A Wesley Christmas Cantata

NEXT SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 10
CLASSIC SERVICE

Staff Love Offering

During this Holiday Season, please consider giving to our Staff Love Offering. We have an outstanding Staff that frequently perform well beyond their job descriptions and this is a way for us to show our appreciation. Please put "Staff Love Offering" on the memo line of your check and include it with your regular offering. Thank you for your generosity.

Jim Prather,
SPRC
Chairman





United Women in Faith

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

As we approach December and the Celebration of the Birth of Christ on Christmas Day, the United Women of Faith of FUMCBV are very thankful for the OUTSTANDING year we have had, and for being able to help many of our non-profit organizations in Benton County thereby hopefully making the lives of women, children and youth of these organizations better.

Our December 6th unit meeting will be held in Becker Hall beginning at 11:30 with quiet time. Entertainment by the BV Men’s Chorus will follow lunch. We will also be installing our officers for 2024. There will be many Christmas items available for sale to help with everyone’s gift shopping.

Don’t forget we have many new books in the Library so take a moment and check them out!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec. 3rd Welcome Tea/Coffee in the Library following Classic Service for all new women in the church

Dec. 6th Unit Luncheon at 11:30 in Becker Hall

Jan. 3rd Board meeting

Jan. 6th Local Unit Update/Officer Training 10:00am-12:30 pm

January in all circles is Pledge Month.

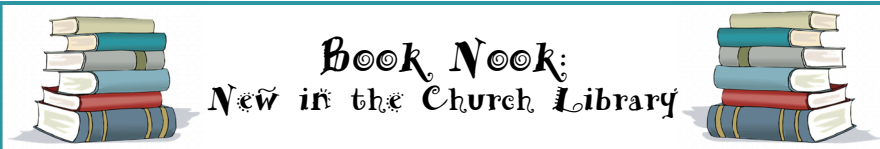
Call President, Barbara Brooks at 876-5353 for questions or comments. You, too, can become a member and make a difference someone’s life. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Dec. Circle Meetings		Sarah Tuesday, 12/12, at 12:30pm Lunch out at BV Country Club	Evening Thursday, 12/14, at 6:00pm Potluck in the Youth Room	Naomi Tuesday, 12/19, at 11:30am Potluck in the Parlor	Martha Monday, 12/12, at 11:30am Lunch out at The Silver Spur
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UWF UNIT MEETING & QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

The UWF Unit Meeting & Quarterly Luncheon will be Wednesday, December 6, at 11:30 am in Becker Hall. We will have a musical program. The menu will be hot chicken salad pie, spinach salad, rolls, and dessert for \$7.50. Reservations and cancellations need to be made by by Sunday, December 3, either through your circle or call the church office at 855-1158. Childcare will be available with prior notification.



Book Nook: New in the Church Library

BOOKS IN SERIES:

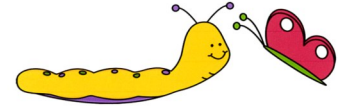
EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

- BOOK 1. HIGHLY FAVORED (Mary) by Ginger Garrett
- BOOK 2. SINS AS SCARLET (Rahab) by Beth Adams
- BOOK 3. A HARVEST OF GRAPES (Ruth and Naomi) by Jenelle Hovde
- BOOK 4. AT HIS FEET (Mary Magdalene) by Roseanna M White
- BOOK 5. TENDER MERCIES (Elizabeth) by Texie Susan Gregory
- BOOK 6. WOMAN OF REDEMPTION (Bathsheba) by Ginger Garrett
- BOOK 7. JEWEL OF PERSIA (Esther) by Tricia Goyer
- BOOK 8. A HEART RESTORED (Michal) by Beth Adams

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!!



The Shoebox Ministry Team delivered 200 boxes to Seven Hills in Fayetteville, as well as to both the Bentonville Salvation Army and the Fayetteville Salvation Army. Their next mission will be to deliver Christmas boxes to them in December. Thank you for making this possible through your toiletry and shoebox donations. Keep 'em coming!



This month, we are especially in need of **PEANUT BUTTER** and **CANNED MEATS** (chicken, tuna, etc.). We can also use **CEREAL & SHELF-STABLE MILK** (like Parmalat). Be sure to get the medium-sized jars of peanut butter and boxes of cereal so they fit in the Blessing Box. Since the holidays have begun, providing basic food items for families in need can be a real gift when they have to spend more than usual on food and have to buy gifts. Please drop off your donations to the church office or in Room 5, the Blessing Box Room. As always, **please NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, or UNLABELED cans.**

Especially for 12/24

Worship Volunteers Needed

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO DO THE CALL TO WORSHIP, READ THE SCRIPTURE, & ASSIST WITH COMMUNION IN OUR CLASSIC WORSHIP SERVICES. IF YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE IN ANY OF THESE WAYS, PLEASE SEE AMY IN THE OFFICE.



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

**BE AWARE: THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER
 DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, 12/12!**

**Congregational
 Care Ministry**



The holidays are right around the corner, and while that's exciting for some, it can make others feel blue. If you are in need of a little extra TLC right now, there are those in the church who are trained to assist the pastor in helping you meet your need. Speak to someone with a blue nametag, or contact Judy Kaufmann for more info. You may also send a private message through the CCM email address to: ccm@fumcbellavista.com. Messages are confidential & are answered as soon as possible.



**Longest Night Service
 Thursday, 12/21, at 6:30pm**

A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:



**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
 (GSG)**

Grief isn't a journey you have to make alone. This month, GSG meets **Wednesdays, 12/6, & 12/13, at 2:00pm in the Parlor.** The group will break for the holidays & meet again on 1/10. Facilitated by Pastor Ron.



**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT
 GROUP MEETING**

**THURSDAY, DEC. 7, AT
 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR
 *RESPITE CARE PROVIDED**



Friends of Christ will meet this month on Thursday, 12/14, at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Friends, come explore & discuss media about Jesus Christ.

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.