



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

NOVEMBER 2023

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks



Local Donors. Local Patients.

We want you to join us for a Blood Drive at First United Methodist Church!

Before we can schedule a drive we need to know that we can count on enough donors for the blood center to supply the people and equipment needed. If we had a blood drive on a weekday from mid-morning to afternoon, would you try to donate if your schedule permits?

There is a sign-up sheet in the office for potential donors to indicate their interest. When we know that we have enough interest in this very important service to our area, then we will set a date and provide registration instructions. Stop by today or call to sign up.

Our Blood Bank Team Lead: Mark Richardson



“Seeking God’s Goodness”

Rev. Ron Hayes

“All these things are for your benefit. As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God’s glory.” 2 Corinthians 4:15 (CEB)

The clocks have mostly been reset (those we can reach and know how to reset) and we realize November is here and Thanksgiving is fast approaching. Thanksgiving is a season of thankfulness and gratitude. A disciple works to recognize every day is one of gratitude. On the days with glorious sunrises, it is easy to see the wonder of God’s Creation and be thankful. But when the morning light makes us aware of the damage of a storm overnight, it can be hard to be grateful.



“Morning Glory” an original oil painting by Julie Gowing Hayes.

One of the wonderful gifts of a life of faith is the increasing desire to seek the good, to work to find the goodness, and then see the blessings in each day and each person. A day that begins and ends with thoughts of gratitude is a day filled with God’s Holy Spirit. God is in every day but as we seek God in the day, we become more aware of just how bright and beautiful the sunrises are every day. Blessings abound just as our hope abounds in God’s love.

Peace and blessings,



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 apportionment 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.



Lay Leader's Message

Dave Broers, Lay Leader



As we enter the month of November, many of us take some time to pause and give thanks for the gifts in our life, gifts like friendship, family, and health. This year, I am giving pause, asking myself how do I show thankfulness and gratitude throughout the year and not give special attention just around the Thanksgiving holiday? We can all create an attitude of gratitude that extends beyond the month of November. If we would pause daily or weekly, we can identify persons, places, and things to which we should extend our thanks. To have an attitude of gratitude means to examine our awareness of the love God extends to us and then to demonstrate our thanks and praise.

John Wesley writes, "Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it." Is a time of thanksgiving a part of your regular prayer time? Do you acknowledge to God your thanks and praise on a daily basis for the gifts you receive, like the gift of sight or the gift of employment, the gift of the bright fall colors or the gift of laughter with a friend, the blessing of God's presence in our lives during difficult times and joyful times. Take time in your prayer life to give God thanks and praise. Be specific in your acknowledgement of the blessings God has provided in your life. The time spent in prayer deepens your relationship with God.

People create a church. People provide the energy and time behind the ministries of the church. Within your church is there someone that you are grateful for? Consider remembering this person in your prayer time. Consider sending a note of thanks and encouragement.

An attitude of gratitude should extend beyond our personal sanctuary and the walls of our church. I encourage you to be thankful this month for the blessings in your life. I encourage you to consider ways to actively demonstrate your thanks and praise. I encourage you to live into an attitude of gratitude that extends beyond November and becomes a part of your daily life.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Dave Broers,
Lay Leader

We will adorn the Sanctuary again with Poinsettias this Christmas season. Call or come by the office and sign up to dedicate one in honor or memory of a loved one or dear friend. They are \$12 each.



Did You Know We Have a Medical Supply Closet with Items for Loan in It?

Well, we do. In fact, we have several wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, raised toilet seats, canes, crutches, and other miscellaneous items to lend. So if you're having surgery or are just in need of a medical device, let the office know and we can loan something out to you.



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

We are going to take a bit of a detour this month. It's November. What do we think of in November (besides Black Friday sales!)? Thanksgiving, of course. At First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista, we have so much for which to be thankful.

When I think of giving thanks, I think of prayer and of service. We have so much of both here in this wonderful congregation. Congregants and friends serve this church and the local community in more ways than could ever be listed. There is behind-the-scenes service, such as keeping the grounds so beautiful, decorating for special events, providing meals and Sunday coffee and cookies, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Shoe Box Ministry, just to name a few. There is all the work the members of the administrative committees do, such as Board of Trustees and SPRC, mostly without thanks. Both United Methodist Men and United Women in Faith are ready at any moment to help out in numerous ways within the church and to provide funds to assist many missions outside of the church. The Congregational Care Ministers and many others provide assistance, prayers, cards, and visits to those in need. There is the more visible service of choir, hand bells, praise team music, and other musicians, along with those who serve as acolytes, greeters, ushers, and in serving Communion. And let's not forget those who serve at local shelters, in prison ministry, or in other ways out in the community. I could go on and on, but you know this, don't you? To all who serve this church in every single capacity, big or small, thank you, thank you!

Two areas of service that have been around a long time are UMM and UWF, formerly United Methodist Women. On August 12, 1976, "the men of the new church held a prayer breakfast." They decided to hold a

prayer breakfast every month. Those members became the founders of United Methodist Men.

On August 23 of that year, an organizational meeting was held by what would become the United Methodist Women. That meeting was attended by 51 women. Ann Basore was elected to serve as the first UMW president at a meeting held on September 27. The Women met again on November 22, with 38 members present, and they chose the first Wednesday of each month for their meetings.

March 6, 1977, was UMW Charter Membership Sunday, with 104 charter members. They held a fashion show on April 6 and were off and running with their many activities. The first UMW "Holiday Bazaar" was held on December 1, 1977, so you can see that our Bazaar has a long history. Approximately \$4,500 was netted from the first one.

As mentioned previously, Bill Detlefsen wrote "A History of First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista from 1976 to 2003." In 1979, he reports that the United Methodist Men earned \$800 from their first Pancake Breakfast, and that the first Crafts Fair earned \$1,000. I searched for photographs of early activities. A few are included with this article. In spite of a couple of years crippled by the pandemic, activities continued in limited ways. That shows the perseverance of our dedicated women and men!

Again, thank you to everyone who contributes in any way to the activities and missions of FUMCBV. You add to our history every day.

As always, historical information and stories are welcomed. Please share with me by phone at 479-344-6074 or 928-710-3612 or by email to rjhale68@cox.net.

Jill Hale,
Historian



What's the (Hi)Story? (continued in pictures)



**UMW Bazaar
1978**



**Check out those
prices at the 1978
UMW Bazaar!**



**Serving pancakes,
UMM 1979**



**UMM Pancake
Breakfast, 2002**



The 8th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT sponsored by WESLEY SHEPHERD GROUP for our homebound members has begun! The cards will be delivered the first week of December.

Each Sunday in November, cards will be open on card tables in the Narthex and Becker Hall for you to sign. Feel free to express greetings along with your signatures.

We ask each family member to sign every card in a box of Christmas cards they supply. **DO NOT** insert the cards in the envelopes or seal them. Leave the envelopes in the bottom of the box with the signed cards on top. The Christmas box(es) may be left in the labeled bin in the narthex. They will be collected every day. If you have extra single cards from last year, you are invited to sign those and drop them in the tub, too.

Our hope is that our homebound members will enjoy viewing many cards from their church family during the holiday season.

Thank you for your participation in this much-needed ministry for our homebound members during this Christmas Season!

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY			
<h1>November</h1>															
5 ALL-SAINTS SUNDAY		6		7		8		9		10		11			
9:00 Classic Service		10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		Office Closed		8:15 Young@Heart			
10:00 Fellowship Time -Parlor		12:30 Women's Chorus -MR		6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH		9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mtg - Parlor		1:30 Friends of Christ - Parlor		11:30 BVPS Board Meeting - Rm 28		8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28			
10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL		5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor		6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor		1:30 Girlf Support Group - Parlor		2:00 Praise Team Practice		Office Closed		10:00 Wayne Lee Service-BH			
11:00 Casual Service - BH		5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6		6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm		3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm		5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor		Office Closed		11:00 Wayne Lee Reception-Parlor			
12:15 Finance Meeting - Parlor		6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28		6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm		4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary		6:00 Potluck—Gospel Sing		Office Closed		4:30 Avalon Shepherd-BVC Club			
12		13		14		15		16		14		18			
9:00 Classic Service		10:30 DAR - Parlor		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		Office Closed		8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28			
10:00 Fellowship Time -Parlor		10:30 CoC Lunch - BH		11:30 BVPS Lunch 'n' Learn - Rm 28		3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm		1:30 Grief Support Group - Parlor		Office Closed					
10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-LL/Rm6		10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6		1:00 Sarah Circle - Parlor		4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary		2:00 Praise Team Practice							
11:00 Casual Service - BH		12:30 Women's Chorus - MR		1:30 Naomi Circle -Room 6		5:30 UMM Meeting/Meal - BH		5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor							
2:00 Charge Conference-Oakley Chapel in Rogers		5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor		6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH				6:30 Cancer Suppt Group - Parlor							
2:00 Charge Conference-Oakley Chapel in Rogers		5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6		6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor											
2:00 Charge Conference-Oakley Chapel in Rogers		6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28		6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm											
19		20		21		22		23		24		25			
9:00 Classic Service		9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		OFFICE CLOSED		OFFICE CLOSED		OFFICE CLOSED		8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28			
10:00 Fellowship Time -Parlor		10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6		6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH											
10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-LL/Rm6		12:30 Women's Chorus - MR		6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor											
11:00 Casual Service - BH		5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor		6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm											
12:15 Council Meeting -Parlor		5:30 Book of Acts Study - Rm 6													
1:30 CCM Meeting -Parlor		6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28													
26		27		28		29		30							
9:00 Classic Service		9:00 Hanging of the Greens		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm		9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall							
10:00 Fellowship Time -Parlor		10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6		6:00 Scouts - Quilt Rm & BH		1:30 Girlf Support Group - Parlor		1:30 Friends of Christ - Parlor							
10:00 Child/Adult Sun Sch-LL/Rm6		12:30 Women's Chorus - MR		6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor		3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm		2:00 Praise Team Practice							
11:00 Casual Service - BH		5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor		6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm		4:30 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary		5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor							



 **NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES** 

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 11/02 Jack & Nona Storck | 11/22 Bob & Shari Vermett |
| 11/03 Gil & Frances Temple | 11/23 Cherise & David George |
| 11/06 Dennis & Marilyn Cox | 11/25 Ken & Jean Swanson |

 **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS** 

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 11/01 Maryann Johnson | 11/16 Eli Williams |
| 11/05 Darrell Bottjen | 11/18 Elaine Klein |
| 11/06 Vicki Forrest | 11/22 Pamela Palasty |
| 11/07 Jeremy Shafman | 11/22 Dick Schupp |
| 11/08 Paul Healy | 11/25 Cathy Luck |
| 11/10 Connor Klein | 11/26 Rene Bladon |
| 11/13 Leroy Handel | 11/26 Sharon Lindsay |
| 11/13 Donna Belle Shumaker | 11/27 Verna Bottjen |
| 11/13 Nancy Veach | 11/30 Drew Beisswenger |
| | 11/30 Charles Crider |

November 2023 Newsletter Financial Data
information as of September 30, 2023

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
Month of September Contributions (Income*)	\$ 35,687.15	\$ 32,586.17
Month of September Expenses	\$ 31,680.59	\$ 35,345.01
Difference	\$ 4,006.56	\$ (2,758.84)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 108,287.17	\$ 97,758.51
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 95,180.30	\$ 107,335.03
Difference	\$ 13,106.87	\$ (9,576.52)

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



OUR FAMILY

Look who made the local papers recently:



PEO Chapter CX 30th Anniversary Celebration
*as seen in The Weekly Vista/NWA Media



UWF Holiday Bazaar Workshop
Volunteers (from left to right): Therese Bivins, Norma Schneider, Sue Nebrig, Judy Bilyeu, Connie Knauss, Barbara Brooks, Mabel Ashline, Barbara Machelmel, Becky Collier, & Jane Potts
*Rachel Dickerson/The Weekly Vista



SWEET CHURCH TREATS: Sandy Larsen (left) and Jill Hale serve home-baked cinnamon rolls on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, during the First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista holiday bazaar. In addition to rolls and other treats, sale items also included art, books, clothing and more. Profits are distributed to nonprofit organizations in Benton County, organizers said. (*NWA Democrat-Gazette/Flip Putthoff)



BOOKS AT THE BAZAAR: This is a photo from the NW Arkansas Democrat Gazette showing Mabel Ashline in the background as a BV woman browses through books during the UWF Holiday Bazaar. (*NWA Democrat-Gazette/Flip Putthoff)

Thank You

JACK & NONA STORCK WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR ALL THE PHONE CALLS, CARDS, & PRAYERS THEY HAVE RECEIVED FROM EVERYONE. THEY SINCERELY APPRECIATE ALL THE SUPPORT.



MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



JAMES & VICKI FORREST:

We re-welcomed James and Vicki back to the FUMCBV family in August. James is a retired manufacturing manager, and Vicki retired as a public school teacher. If they look familiar, it's because they were previously members of the church. Be sure to welcome them again and let them know how glad we are to have them back!



MARK & RUTH RICHARDSON:

Mark and Ruth officially transferred to the FUMCBV family in October. Ruth retired as a Congressional Caseworker from the US House of Representatives, and now substitute teaches in Gravette. Mark worked in IT for the printing industry and McDonald's Corporate Headquarters. They live in Bella Vista and are extremely active. Some of the hobbies that keep Mark busy are: the Bluebird Society board, constructing bluebird houses, reading, kayaking, pickleball, & fishing. Ruth also kayaks, plays pickleball, and reads. She enjoys yoga, gardening, and boating as well. We're glad you're both here!



GAIL STORM:

We happily welcomed Gail to the FUMCBV family in October when she joined the church. She was familiar with the church because her folks were previously members in the 90's. Gail retired from running her own mail order business before moving to AR from Nebraska. She enjoys music, playing golf, quilting, birdwatching, and taking her two dogs, Gracie and Morly, to the dog park. Gail is excited about the Chancel Choir. When you see her, make her feel most welcome!



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. Keep in mind the holidays begin later this month which means providing basic food items for families in

need can be a real gift when they have to spend more on food than an average month. 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.**



United Women in Faith

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

As we are enjoying the changing of the fall colors and looking forward to the Celebration of our many blessings at Thanksgiving, the United Women of Faith feel very blessed and thankful that our 2023 Holiday Bazaar was such a success. Between our Bakeless Bake Sale, Rummage Sale, and the Bazaar, we will be able to

distribute over \$20,000.00 to non-profits in Benton County. ***THIS SUCCESS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT ALL THE HELP OF THE MEN & WOMEN OF OUR CHURCH! WE THANK ALL OF YOU***

In November, all the circles will be collecting for WORLD THANK OFFERING which is an opportunity to help women, children, and youth worldwide.

HAVE A BLESSED AND SAFE THANKSGIVING!

THINGS WE NEED:

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

DATES TO REMEMBER: Nov. 8th UWF Arkansas Meeting at Conway FUMC.

Dec. 3rd New Member coffee in the Library following Classic Service .

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

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!**

Nov. Circle Meetings



Evening
Thursday,
11/9, at 6:00pm
in the Youth Room

Sarah
Tuesday, 11/14,
at 1:00pm
in the Parlor

Naomi
Tuesday,
11/14, at 1:30pm
in Room 6

Martha
Monday,
11/20, at 9:30am
in the Quilt Room

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.



The next **UMM** meeting is **Wednesday, 11/16**. Dinner is at **5:30pm** in **Becker Hall**. The meeting will follow at **6:00pm**.

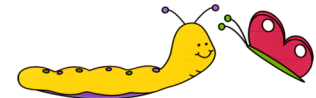


Friends of Christ are meeting this month on **Thursday, 11/9** and **11/30**, at **1:30pm** in the Parlor. Friends, come explore & discuss media about Jesus Christ.

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!!

Hanging of the Greens
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, AT 9:00 AM

We can use all the help we can get, so put on your work clothes and join us as we transform FUMCBV for the Advent Season. We need ladder-climbers, wreath-lifters, carriers, decorators and hangers. Anyone else who wants to join in the fellowship is welcome. If you would like, bring a snack to share.

Wesley Christmas Cantata
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
AT THE 9:00 AM SERVICE

Sharing & Caring
OF BENTON COUNTY

We're partnering with Sharing & Caring for our **Angel Tree** program this year. The tree will be up soon. FUMCBV will provide gifts for 25 kids in need in Benton County this year. There will be one bag for each child with a suggested donation amount of \$150. The deadline for turning the bags in is 11/27. If you'd like to donate a whole bag or partner with someone else to do one, see Amy Gilmore or email her at: amy@fumcbellavista.com



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

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, 11/1 & 11/8, Thursday, 11/16, & Wednesday, 11/29, at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Facilitated by Pastor Ron.



CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

THURSDAY, NOV. 2, AT 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR
 *NO RESPITE CARE THIS TIME



CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 11/16, 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.