FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

FEBRUARY 2024



Caring Friends is a new respite ministry to help caregivers, most especially caregivers of loved ones with dementia. It is the passion of Noreen Poor and Pastor Ron Hayes. Respite care is a lifeline for caregivers who often have little opportunity to take care of themselves. Statistics show that caregivers are more likely to pass away before their affected loved ones because of the physical and emotional stress of the load they carry. This

ministry will ensure the caregiver has time to recharge themselves and attend to their own wellbeing.

Caring Friends will be an adult day care offered monthly in Becker Hall here at First United Methodist Bella Vista, as well as at the Grace United Methodist Church in Rogers. It will provide high quality care in a safe environment for loved ones while allowing caregivers a few hours of free time. This is a joint mission to be offered by several cooperating United Methodist churches here in Bella Vista and in Rogers. We pray this ministry will grow in ways that over time will be available in more locations and eventually on each day of the week throughout the month. This is a deep, unmet need of many families who are affected by this debilitating illness and who often do not ask for help.

Can we count on you? Maybe you have had a family member, or a neighbor go through this, or you have once been that caregiver who was at the end of your strength with nowhere to turn. Please, prayerfully consider helping us to get this respite ministry off the ground. To successfully get started, we are in need of volunteers offering one day of their time a month, supplies, and general support of many types. For more information, contact Pastor Ron at 479-366-9725; please leave a message if he does not immediately answer.

Below is a list of various supplies we are in need of to help get Caring Friends off the ground. You may drop your donated items off in the office Monday-Thursday between the hours of 9:00-4:00pm.

ACTIVITIES: Puzzles (100 pieces or less), Acrylic Paint (primary colors / 8 oz jars), Art Paper, Craft

Supplies: Paint Brushes, Stickers, Woodcraft, Twine, Popsicle Sticks, Cotton Balls, Elmer's Glue, Tape, Scissors, Sponges, Paper Plates etc. Decks of Cards, Dominoes (set of 6 dots), Uno Deck, Board games: Checkers, Backgammon, Scrabble, etc., Set of Markers (non-permanent), Pencils (regular and colored).

MISCELLANEOUS: Plastic Tablecloths (large round), Clean Wipes, Copy Paper (8-1/2 x 11), Thank You Notes, Coffee, Creamer, Sweeteners, Tea Bags.

EXERCISE: 45-in Yoga Balls (2), Regular Balls (4), Physical Therapy Exercise Bands (24 5 ft. bands in assorted colors), Bean bag toss or similar indoor games.



Respite Ministry Volunteer Training Wednesday, 2/7 9:00am-1:00pm at the Schmieding Center Call the office if you would like to carpool!



"Preparing for Lent" **Rev. Ron Hayes**

"Don't blink. Lent will be here before I know it. Isn't that how it always feels? The Christmas season is behind me and it produces humility (Psalm 69:10). It shows our sorrow for our feels like Ordinary Time has only just begun — But suddenly it's sins (1 Samuel 7:6). It clears a path to God (Daniel 9:3). It is a Ash Wednesday, and I'm scrambling to decide what I'm doing means of discerning God's will (Ezra 8:21) and a powerful methfor Lent and wondering whether my choice of penance is too od of prayer (8:23). It's a mark of true conversion (Joel 2:12). I hard or too easy." That's the way Genevieve Netherton put it a have discovered that it's amazing what the human mind and few years ago as she shared her thoughts on Lent when it was body is capable of when it comes to fasting — and the benefits only a couple of weeks away.

This year, I don't want to let Lent take me by surprise — I want to have my plan in place. What about you? Here are some fasting and giving things up, almsgiving is often forgotten. Yet suggestions on how we can prepare individually and collectively. Before Ash Wednesday catches us unaware, let's make a point of sitting down—at the kitchen table, or in the chapel—and give some thought to how we want to spend this Lent. If you have no reminds us that faith should go hand-in-hand with good works, idea where to begin, rest assured there is a solid foundation from which to work. The Church doesn't leave us to figure things out ourselves.

category—and you're set for a grace-filled journey to Easter.

gives us the grace to tackle what we couldn't otherwise. Since cautious about where our funds go. Some organizations support daily prayer is often difficult for anyone, now is the time to things that contradict Church teaching and harm souls — and counter this by developing consistent habits of prayer. Start by asking yourself: what are my prayer habits now? As faithful Christians, we ought to pray every day. Prayer is conversation and communion with the God who made us and loves us. No relationship would flourish if we failed to spend time in the presence of a loved one, conversing with them and offering them genuine attention. If you are praying once a week at Sunday head to work, make a simple commitment to daily prayer — and don't overdo it, in case you set yourself up for failures and guilt trips. How much time should we set aside for daily prayer? Most clergy and spiritual advisors say that fifteen minutes is the absolute minimum. That's a solid goal for all of us.

tians think that fasting is a broad category of abstinence that helpful for you? Don't hold back — share them with me! includes giving up social media, music while driving, Netflix, and so on. That's not really fasting, however. Now, don't get me wrong: it's important to practice discipline and self-control over the things mentioned above. When you do, you are strengthening your will and overcoming the desire for instant gratification and constant mind-numbing pleasure. Absolutely be encouraged to incorporate such disciplines into your life!

The Bible spells out specific spiritual benefits of fasting. It are truly God-given.

3. Almsgiving (tithes & offerings): In all the excitement over almsgiving is a crucial work of charity that we Christians are called to participate in. Jesus praised the poor widow who gave "all she had" to the temple treasury (Luke 21:1-4). James' epistle such as caring for the poor. Lent is an important time for almsgiving, and each of us should give according to our situation. I was reminded by my mentor that almsgiving is not the tithing There are three holy practices which all Christians are called you're already doing-it's giving above and beyond what you to embrace in penitential seasons such as Lent and Advent. normally give. It is a true penance. This isn't easy to say, but These three practices are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. When when we give alms, we are supposed to give not merely from we make our Lenten plan, choose something specific from each our "plenty," but enough to make it hurt — or at least a small pinch. But who to give to? Do you have trouble finding trustwor-1. Prayer: Lent is the perfect time to build virtuous habits. It thy causes? When it comes to monetary gifts, we do have to be some are not transparent about their use of funds. For those who can't give money, we can seek to give our talent (making prayer shawls or other crafts as many do) or our time (volunteering at a school, visiting the homebound, or sending greeting cards for various reasons - or no reason but to say "Thinking of You").

Be encouraged: It's going to be a fruitful Lent. When we're Worship or saying only a quick "Good morning, God!" as you mentally and spiritually prepared, it's easier to stick with our resolutions. We will do the things that help. If we need visual reminders, we will consider making some for ourselves. Many people benefit from the "note-on-the-bathroom-mirror" tactic. Choose a Bible verse for Lent and stay inspired that way. And let's pray for each other. Finally, I'd love to know — do you have 2. Fasting: Fasting is largely misunderstood today. Many Chris- suggestions for Lent? Have you found particular things to be

Peace and blessings,

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Disciple Fast Track I

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Many members of our congregation have completed four years of Disciple Bible study. The rewards are immeasurable! Have you always wanted to know more? As the Psalm says, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path."

Adapted from the original DISCIPLE I study,

this twenty-four-week study was developed in response to the time demands of busy lives. Revised and updated for the *BeADisciple* Study App, the digital version of *Disciple* Fast Track I offers a sweeping survey of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, with readings that cover the equivalent of about half the Bible.

The *Disciple* Fast Track I App include commentary, Bible reading, and scholar videos all on your choice of digital media. Weekly meetings are 75 minutes each.



All materials needed can be accessed through your smart phone, tablet, or computer. <u>Once a week group session will be conducted early Tuesday evenings</u> <u>on Zoom</u>. Do you have a friend or family member who would like to participate with us? Using the digital app and zoom classroom, we can have participants from all over the world including our snowbirds! Please contact Cathy Luck by Feb 10 at

479-619-6063 or <u>caluck88@gmail.com</u> if you would like to be in this incredible study group. Registration fee to purchase the app (used all 24 weeks) is \$45. This class runs for 12 weeks this spring and 12 weeks next fall.





Natural Healing Education and Support Groups

Empowered by:



Are you ready to seek wisdom and gain understanding about your health?

Are you healing from cancer or any other disease?

Do you need encouragement and hope?

This group provides life-giving information on natural, non-toxic strategies to heal strong and stay strong.

We focus on food, detoxification, supplements, affirmations and prayers based on God's promises in His Word.

> WHEN: Monday, February 19 LOCATION: FUMCBV Room 6 TIME: 6:00PM-7:00PM

This is an education and connection group of like-minded people desiring to heal strong and stay strong!

Absolutely no goods or services are sold at these meetings.

We are an independent group of volunteers empowered by HealingStrong curriculum and resources. Our mission is to educate, connect, and encourage those seeking comprehensive natural strategies to heal strong and stay strong. Please consult your healthcare provider for diagnosis, medical advice, or treatment.

> Questions? Please contact: Lorre Faszholz - 682-234-1645

> > www.healingstrong.org



Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

UMCOR operates a supply depot, located at Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana. UMCOR Sager Brown collaborates with affiliate warehouses within the United Methodist Relief Supply Network in AL, IL, MO, PA & TX.

From 2/4-2/9, a Mission Team from Bentonville will be going to Sager Brown as volunteers. *There are 2 slots still open*. For more info, go here: <u>https://umcmission.org/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2023/04/UMCOR-Sager-</u> <u>Brown-Know-Before-You-Go 2023v1.pdf</u>

Please remember the team and their mission in your prayers in the coming weeks.



We again need protein: **PEANUT BUTTER** & **CANNED MEATS (chicken, tuna, etc.)**. We also need **CEREAL, SHELF-STABLE MILK (Parmalat), RAMEN NOODLES, & ALSO CANNED FRUIT** this month. *WE DO NOT NEED ANYMORE CANNED VEGETABLES OR BOXED MACARONI.* Be sure to get the medium-sized jars of peanut butter and boxes of cereal so they fit in the Blessing Box. 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 UN-LABELED cans.*





到hat's the (狗i)多tory? Jill Hale, FUMC Historian

We took a month off from researching and writing history. Visiting with family over the holidays and getting Christmas cards sent moved to the top of the to-do-list. Now we are back to continue with FUMC Bella Vista history from the early years. We have gotten through the seventies and the eighties and most of the nineties. We continue our journey with a few final items from 1998.

The Board of Trustees provided a year-end report that listed the following accomplishments in 1998: (1) larger gutters and an additional downspout were added to prevent flooding of the lower stairwell in heavy rains; (2) purchased a meat slicer, ice maker, and freezer chest for the kitchen, and a vacuum cleaner for the custodian to use; (3) a hearing aid system was installed in Becker Hall to assist the hearing impaired.

Now, we continue our historical journey by moving to 1999. The first item of note that comes up for that year in Bill Detlefsen's "A History of First United Methodist Church, Bella Vista" is that the church was designated as a sheltering site to be used by the community during a disaster. The Red Cross asked for volunteers to be available to assist them in running the shelter.

Chef Bruce Main was hired as Kitchen Manager (a new position). The church purchased 300 Bella Vista church license plates with the cross and flame to be sold for \$5 each. These were for the fronts of members' cars. Do any of those still exist? Kandi Mount was hired to replace Carmen Heck as the new church secretary. Thank you to both of these ladies for their long-time service to our church.

In July, the Salvation Army delivered 156 boxes from our Shoebox Ministry to Oklahoma tornado victims. We also sent funds, and Harold and Tibbie Fitch went from our church to Moore, Oklahoma, for three weeks to work with Moore UMC in helping with tornado recovery.

Activities for youngsters included a Sunday school class called "Bible Bloomers" and Vacation Bible School.

The Church & Society & Christian Unity Committee purchased a finger-type blood pressure machine. Lucile Roberts conducted the first tests on it on August 1, and plans were made to offer blood pressure tests on the first Sunday of each month. Rev. Carryl Ziettlow and the Endowment Committee placed plaques on the wall by the sanctuary doors above the Memorial Gifts cabinets to honor donors to the Endowment Fund. The committee had prepared a Donor Book to include the names of all donors who make gifts of any amount. It was also at this time, in November 1999, that this committee set up a plan of recognizing cash gifts to the Endowment Fund on four levels: Builder, Founder, Patron, and Benefactor.

The Worship Committee purchased channel units for the ministers, so that a mic could be adjusted to each minister's voice.

The United Methodist Men's annual Pancake Day made over \$6,000, and the United Methodist Women's Holiday Bazaar brought in over \$16,000. At that time, UMM was struggling and considered decertifying with the General Commission.

After a considerable amount of negotiation with the Keyboard Unlimited firm, the church made an agreement to pay a certain amount in cash and trade in three used pianos in order to purchase an Estonia grand piano with artist bench.

One last note for 1999 states that the Commission on Missions was advised that Helping Hands would have an open house at their new facility on Airport Road in Bentonville. We were advised that our church was the only one that donated food monthly. We have a long history with Helping Hands that continues today with volunteers from our church working regularly to assist at the loading dock and in the store. Way to go, FUMC Bella Vista volunteers!

That's it for February. There is much more to come, so "stay tuned." 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 <u>rjhale68@cox.net</u>.



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 19 9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 	6:30 Ash Wednesday Service			
9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR	21	22	23	24
10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall	Office Closed	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28
12:30 Women's Chorus - MR	2:00 Grief Support Group - Parlor	1:30 Friends of Christ - Parlor		9:00 Andante Junior Festival-BH
	3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm	2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH		
1:30 CCM Meeting - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary	4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor		
6:00 HealingStrong-Room 6 6:30 Men's Chorus – Music Room	:Room 5:30 UMM Meeting/Meal - BH			
6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28				
26 27	28	29	1	3
9-00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:30 Staff Mtz - Rm 6 9-30 Yoga - Becker Hall	9:00 BV Ouilters - Ouilt Bm	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall		
12:30 Women's Chorus - MR		2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH		
10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary	ry 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm	5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor		2
11:00 Casual Service - BH 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus – Music Room	Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary			
6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28				



🕖 FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES 🍕

- 2/02 Dick & Genie Schupp
- 2/12 Steve & Therese Bivins
- 2/17 Gary & Dolores Grosnickle
- 2/22 Ralph & Nita Wallace

💓 FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS 🍯

2/01	Jane Potts	2/09	Leslie Magee	2/17	Gretchen Magee
2/02	Bette Cummings	2/10	Landree Hight	2/19	Laney Baker
2/03	Lynn Dove	2/10	Tiffany May	2/21	Matthew Sandusky
2/04	Rose Taylor	2/11	Judy Kaufmann	2/23	Phoebe Bader
2/05	Mabel Ashline	2/11	Charlene Rayburn	2/25	Kathy Eckard
2/08	Clara Ruth Echols	2/13	Amy Gilmore	2/26	Rex Waller
2/08	Juanita May	2/13	Jill Hale	2/27	Rod Alford
2/08	Ella Pittman	2/14	Marilyn Frisby	2/28	Sean Crider
2/08	Dee Wresche	2/16	Mike Meyers		



February 2024 Newsletter Financial Data						
information as of December 31, 2023		2023			2023	
			Actual		Budget	
Month of December Contributions (Income*)		\$	51,839.35	\$	32,586.17	
Month of December Expenses		\$	37,085.81	\$	35,645.01	
	Difference	\$	14,753.54	\$	(3,058.54)	
Year to Date Income Contributions Only		\$	232,316.05	\$	195,517.02	
Year to Date Expenses		\$	202,934.33	\$	213,970.06	
	Difference	\$	29,381.72	\$	(18,453.04)	
*Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest (Fiscal Year started July 1.)						





Dear Pastor Ron and Bella Vista friends,

Your outstanding gift has touched our hearts here at Methodist Family Health Foundation because it has enabled us to lift up and bless our hurting children in our care. We pray you will have a prosperous and blessed New Year!

Michael Mattox, Church Relations Coordinator



Dearest Church Family,

I want to thank you for all of the generous gifts, snacks, flowers, cards, and prayers during my hospitalization and rehab. Your well wishes and prayers were a big part of my progress. My sincere thanks to everyone.

Vicki L. Schroeder



Friends of Christ meet this month on Thursday, 2/8 & 2/22, at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Come explore and discuss different media about Jesus Christ with friends.

ARE YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS WE HAVE ON FILE STILL GOOD? IF IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU FILLED OUT PAPERWORK, GIVE THE OFFICE A CALL SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS.





HELPING HANDS WORK DAY COMING UP: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 12:00 PM

If you've been looking for a charity where you can give your time instead of just donating money, this is the place for you! This organization has been around over 45 years serving Benton County with a food pantry and

Resale shop. It takes no special skills to work at the back dock accepting donations, just some muscle and determination. If you like the feel of money, try cashiering! If you like talking to people, be a bagger. If you like straightening things and shopping at the same time, work on the sales floor. Please call Verna Bottjen 876-1392 if you would like to help out.



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



TEX FOSTER & NOREEN POOR:

We welcomed Tex Foster and Noreen into the FUMCBV family on January 21. They came to the church by way of our Caregivers' Support Group which they have been attending for some time. It is there they got to know some of our members, and began to attend worship services as a result. Noreen is a retired environmental engineering professor and engineer. Tex is a retired airline pilot and aircraft mechanic. Noreen now takes courses at the University of Arkansas for fun. She also enjoys gardening, while Tex enjoys birdwatching and "putzing" around his workshop. They have jumped in and are help-

ing to start the Caring Friends Respite Ministry of Bella Vista. Noreen will be co-leading the group with Pastor Ron. They are thrilled to be part of our church community, & we are thrilled to have them!

Once we get their photo taken, we'll meet Steve & Amy Terry who joined 1/28!

SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS



Help us provide 40 sacks of food per week for Cooper Elementary kids in need. Your quarters help us accomplish that goal. Deposit them in the big, clear plastic Snack Packs tube located on the little table in the Becker Hall hallway.



In the event of closure or cancellation of Sunday services due to winter weather, notices will be posted on our website, Facebook page, & on local TV stations. During the week, if Bentonville schools close, the church office will be closed & activities cancelled.



GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

United Since Mother Nature graced us all with some frigid weather in Women January, three of our circles will have their Pledge Services at their February meetings. With our pledges, we are able to help women, in Faith children, and youth in our area, state, country, and the world.

As we are now into February, we as a unit are anticipating Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14th. Our first Unit meeting for the year will be March 27th, and our speaker will be LaDonna Humphrey, Executive Director of Oasis of NWA, who will present information regarding their "Share the Love" initiative.

We have received many new books in our library, so stop by and check out the many great books that are available for anyone.

Anyone having photographs of any of our circles or unit, Mary Ann Johnson would like a copy to put into a UWF photo collage.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Feb. 7th Executive Board Meeting 9:30am in the Chapel

Feb. 14th Ash Wednesday

March 7th Bazaar Workshop from 9:00am-2:00pm every Thursday in the Quilt Room

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!



UWF UNIT MEETING & QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

The UWF Unit Meeting & Quarterly Luncheon will be Wednesday, March 27, at 11:30 am in Becker Hall. LaDonna Humphrey, Executive Director of Oasis NWA, will be here to tell us about their Share the Love program. More details will be published in the March newsletter.



The next **UMM** meeting is **Wednesday**, 2/21. Dinner is at 5:30pm in Becker Hall. The meeting will follow at 6:00pm.



The United Methodist Men presented Rod Alford and Weldon Hyde with Life Achievement Awards in appreciation of their tireless efforts on behalf of the church on Sunday, January 7th.



Let's get the MISSIONS TEAM back together! The timing is right for this flourishing congregation to stretch and flex its muscles in mission work. The rich mission history here shines the way as we reestablish several mission projects and create visions for new ones in the months and years to come. For example, regular blood drives are now back on the calendar. Semi-annual UMM Pancake Breakfasts join the UWF Holiday Bazaar and Rummage Sales.

UMCOR, Sager Brown, and OMP Projects can be considered. A leadership team is needed to review, plan, recruit and implement Missions Work for FUMCBV. Please come be a part of it. Sign up in the office today!



We have **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 & your table service. For questions, call Mabel Ashline: (563)505-6975.

A NEW, UPDATED DIRECTORY is available for pick up in the office. Get yours today!





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

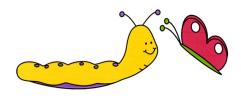
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

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!!



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: <u>ron.hayes@arumc.org</u> or call him: (479) 366-9725. You can also call the church office (479) 855-1158, email our secretary, Andrea, at: <u>andrea@fumcbellavista.com</u> 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.