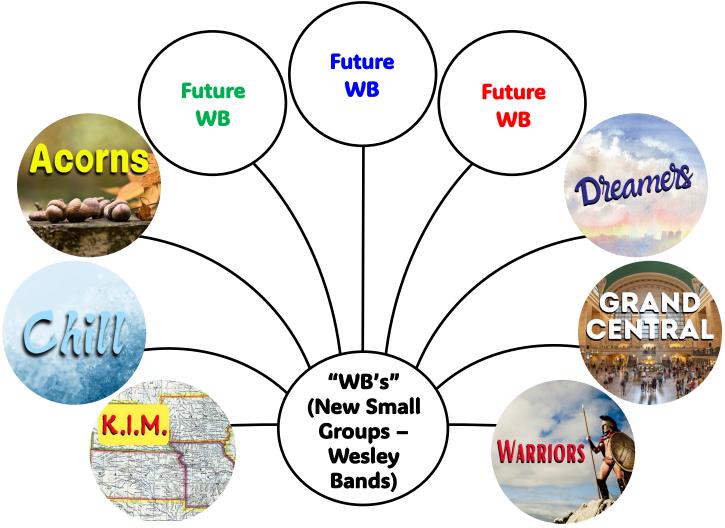


FEBRUARY 2025

We are adding to our existing Shepherd groups!



In addition to the healthy ongoing Shepherd groups, new "WB's" are forming. WB's will be the nickname for the new groups coming from the original "Wesley Bands" of the 18th century.

The newest groups are Acorns, Chill, Dreamers, Grand Central, K.I.M., and the Warriors. You may decide you would like to join one of these brand new groups. The details on when and where they are meeting in February can be found on our church calendar (pg. 6 of this newsletter). Look for the WB entries. Each group has 6-7 members now and can grow to +12 or so. You and a few friends may decide to start your own new "WB" group. Create a group and let the office know when and where you're meeting (and those in your new group). It's an exciting time to gather in Christian fellowship. Yes, you can belong to more than one WB!



From Rev. Ron Hayes "Sharing the Gospel" in Today's Bella Vista

A great group of more than 40 of our faithful wor- The clarity of whether we are to reach out into the shipers participated in the Envisioning session on Sat- community is beyond doubt. We are "commanded" urday, January 25th. We had an active and exciting to go and connect, to share, to love our neighbors; discussion on the great growth curve Bella Vista is the ones we know and the ones we have yet to meet. experiencing and the opportunities it creates to share It is not about opening the doors on Sunday morning the Gospel with others.

We did a quick review of the current statistics of the age demographics of First United Methodist Church as part of our year-end reporting to the Arkansas Conference. A longer review of the latest Bella Vista Now is the time! The biggest challenge in "going and Census data was also shared.

Here are a few of the key numbers from that review always simply getting started. Who can and will parof Bella Vista data:

- 50% of the population by age is between 18-64
- 30% of the population by age is above 66 years of age
- 74% of FUMC BV's population by age is above 66 years of age - a huge variance/opportunity
- 12, 894 households are now in Bella Vista!
- 32% of the current BV residents have moved here in the last 9 years

In the Scriptures, Jesus is constantly and consistently instructing us to share the Gospel. The Gospel is the The Son of God is shining brightly in this place with Word of God telling us about the love and grace of this group of Believers. We, the worshipers of FUMC Jesus. We share the Gospel by showing others the BV, are going to hear and heed the commandment of wondrous love meant for all. What we say and do is Christ and go out into Bella Vista to share the Gospel far more informative than quoting a verse or two. It is - even if it stretches us in new and amazing ways. often asked this way, "Will they know us by our Now is the time! love?" To quote John 13:35, "I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

and shouting, "Y'all are welcome here!" While we are to do that too, it is about what we go out and do beyond the campus that will be the key difference in answering the commandment of Christ.

doing" in new ways in new places with new friends is ticipate in the concept discussions? Then making the plans, gathering the support financially, and getting the actual hands and feet that might be needed together. Edmund Burke, a 19th Century Anglo-Irish statesman, said: "Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little."

Those in attendance agreed to "get started". Ideas were shared and possible goals were stated out loud. Now is the time! We need to connect to the Scouts in our building and make deeper and more meaningful connections with Cooper Elementary programs. Creative community efforts were also bounced around. Now is the time!

Peace and blessings,





CARRENTIED METHODISTS OF "Neighboring is not a way to grow your church, it is a dare to faithfulness." – Tim Sorens, Parish Collective



One More Question is an initiative to support local churches in being better neighbors and partners in their communities. The goal is to teach, train, and resource congregations who want to design outreach ministries WITH their community. There is specific support for smaller churches (those who worship with fewer than 200) so that all ARUMC congregations can step out in faith to ask One More Question.

Much of the training offered through One More Question will focus on asking churches questions about themselves, their neighborhood, neighbors, and their communities. As churches take action, relationships with their neighbors and community will strengthen, ultimately creating ministries and programs that make room for OTHERS to join with the congregation, and vice versa, in order to build stronger communi-

ties. Get more info at: arumc.org/our-ministries/one-more-question. Local **One More Question Training** is at **Elm Springs UMC** on **Sunday**, **2/16**, from **2:00-5:00pm**.

HOW TO JOIN US IN ONE MORE QUESTION

Where to Start: Stronger Community Outreach Ministries

Start Conversations Within
 Ask "Who are we now?"
 Commit to being a Stronger Community Partner

Identify Gifts, Passions & Strengths of Members & the Church

 Get to Know Your Neighbors
Participate in the Good Neighbor Experiment
Create opportunities to ask the community "Who are we to you?" Identify Gifts, Passions & Strengths of your Neighbors

Bring Everyone to the Table
Create community discussions around neighborhood needs
Do Asset Mapping – identify assets in your neighborhood and community
Connect around common gifts, core values, passions, and strengths

4. Let the Spirit (and Partners) Be Your GuideDiscern the answer to "What are we called to next?"Ask the the community where it needs you to partnerStart small yet focused on your common mission

5. Practice Radical Hospitality Believe that every neighbor you meet has gifts to give, strengths to share. Commit to the relationships you have formed; it's a journey. Identify and break down barriers to being a strong community together.





For the BLESSING BOX this month, we could use SHELF-STABLE MILK (like Parmalat), PEANUT BUTTER, MEATY SOUPS, CHILI, STEW, & CANNED FRUIT. Medium-sized jars of peanut butter are best so they fit in the Blessing Box. Please drop off your donations in Room 5, the Blessing Box Room, or the office. AS ALWAYS, PLEASE NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, OR UNLABELED CANS. IF YOU WOULDN'T EAT IT, WE DON'T NEED IT.

A special THANK YOU goes to BARBARA BROOKS for the 15 HANDMADE SCARVES and the carload of food she donated for people in need. And a BIG THANK YOU to SANDY FITCH who donated HANDMADE KNIT CAPS. We also thank all of you who continue to bring in food and other contributions for the BLESSING BOX. Your donations are all helping people out at a time of year that can be really trying for some.

AN EXAMPLE OF HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP: A gentleman who lives in the neighborhood stopped by the office and said he uses the Blessing Box regularly because he only has Social Security. He also mentioned he has cancer. He said he enjoys giving the Pokemon cards in the library box to his grandkids & asked if we put them in there or if it was someone in the community. I didn't have an answer for that. So, if you're the one donating Pokemon cards, they are greatly appreciated! The food in the Blessing Box is too!





ACK PACKS for BAC



With colder temperatures comes higher heating bills leaving less in the budget for food so kids could be missing out on important meals. These snacks help keep growing bodies going. Help us provide 40 sacks of food per week for Cooper Elementary School 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 or in the one in the narthex.

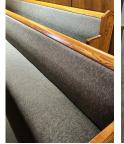


Power of One

The concept is really quite simple. Fold a one-dollar bill lengthwise like in the pics at left and place it in the offering plate. The bill's unique fold will signal the Finance team that it is meant to be used for local missions only. Because \$1 is just \$1 until it's added to a bunch of others, then it becomes a tool for local missions.











On behalf of the FUMCBV Missions Team, John & Mary Hixson delivered a \$2,000 check to Saving Grace on Wed, 1/29, which was very much appreciated. Pictured with John & Mary is their Director Candice Castillo. This was made possible by you!

Pews Newly Reupholstered

The pews in the Sanctuary have been reupholstered. At left are photos taken outdoors of the lovely, new fabric so you can really see the colors. The lighting in the Sanctuary didn't allow the camera to do it justice. As you can see in the bottom photos, they look grey. While the bulk of the project has been completed, there are a few benches and pews outside of the Sanctuary that still need to be done. Also, because the upholstery company no longer upholsters metal chairs (that was a surprise to us), we'll have to either purchase new Chancellery chairs for the choir or find another company to cover them. The last photo is of a pew next to the new carpet. Speaking of carpet, since there are production issues



SATURDAY	1 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28	8:15 Young@Heart - Acropolis 8:15 Young@Heart - Acropolis 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 10:00 Agape Shepherd Grp - Rosita's 10:00 WB K.I.M Leroy's Café, Sulphur Springs	15 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 9:30 MAPS Meeting - BH 9:30 WB Acorns - Rosita's	22 8:00 Andante Junior Music Festival 8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 10:00 WB Warriors - Table Au Pain 12:00 Helping Hands	
FRIDAY	100 000	7 Office Closed 11:30 BVPS Board Meeting - Rm 28	Diffice Closed	Office Closed	Office Closed
THURSDAY		6 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:45 BVPS Lunch 'n' Learn - Rm 28 12:30 Caregivers Support GrpParlor 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	13 14 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:30 SOLOS - Bella's Table 11:30 WB Chill - BV Country Club 11:30 WB Chill - BV Country Club 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Evening Circle Mtg - Room 6	20 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	27 8:30 WB Grand Central - Phillips 66 Grand Central (Gas) Station 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor
WEDNESDAY	houard	5 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 9:30 UWF Board Mtg - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Music Room	12 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 10:00 Caring Friends - Becker Hall 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Music Room 6:00 Church Council Mtg - BH	19 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mtg - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Music Room 5:30 UMM Meeting & Meal - BH	26 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Music Room
TUESDAY	Felse	4 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 6, LL 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus- Music Rm	11 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 1:00 Sarah Circle Mtg - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - OR, BH, Rm 6, LL 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus- Music Rm	18 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 1:30 Naomi Circle Mtg - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 6, LL 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus- Music Rm	25 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 6, LL 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus- Music Rm
MONDAY		3 12:30 Women's Chorus- Music Rm 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	10 9:00 DAR - Parlor 12:30 Women's Chorus - Music Rm 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	17 OFFICE CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY 12:30 Women's Chorus- Music Rm 6:00 HealingStrong - Room 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	24 9:30 Martha Circle - Quilt Rm 11:00 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - Music Rm 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 1:00 WB Dreamers - Rm 6 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28
SUNDAY		2 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH	16 9:00 Classic Service 9:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 CCM Meeting - Parlor 2:00 1 More Question - Elm Spr. UMC	23 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH

EBRUARY 2025	THE GOOD NEWS		Page	
• •		-		
	E bruary anniver	Saries		
/02 Dick & Genie Schupp	2/12 Steve & Therese Bivir	ns 2/17 Gary	& Del	ores Grosnick
	FEBRUARY BIRTHD			
2/01 Jane Potts	2/08 Nita May	2/21	Kay	Aclin
2/02 Bette Cummings	2/08 Dee Wresche	2/21	Lane	ey Baker
2/02 Dale Morisett	2/11 Judy Kaufmann	2/23	Phoe	ebe Bader
2/03 Lynn Dove	2/11 Charlene Raybur	n 2/25	Kath	iy Eckard
2/03 Tex Foster	2/13 Amy Gilmore	2/26	Nan	cy Noyes
2/04 Rose Taylor	2/13 Jill Hale	2/26	Rex	Waller
2/05 Mabel Ashline	2/14 Marilyn Frisby	2/27	Rod Alford	
2/08 Clara Ruth Echols			Sean Crider	
February 2025 Newsletter Fi	nancial Data			
information as of December 3	1, 2024	2024		2024
		Actual		Budget
Month of December Contribu	•	51,302.63	\$	45,916.66
Month of December Expenses	<u>\$</u> Difference \$	38,035.61 13,267.02	<u>\$</u> \$	45,377.50 539.16
	y y	10,207.02	7	233.10
Year to Date Income Contribu	tions Only \$	246,967.57	\$	275,499.96
Year to Date Expenses	\$	215,333.31	\$	272,265.00
	Difference \$	31,634.26	\$	3,234.96
*Income does not include Missions of	r Endowment Interest (Fiscal Year started	July 1.)		









WE NEED YOU!

FOR CHOIR & HAND BELL CHOIR

See Larry Zehring if you'd like to help us make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



Thank You

Thank you to all the members of my church family who have sent cards or visited me in my new "home". A special thank you goes to Weldon Hyde and Jim Bilyeu for putting my wardrobe together. It is so good to see everyone when I do get to attend a service.

~ Wanda Williams



HELPING HANDS HAS BEEN SERVING BENTON COUNTY FOR OVER 45 YEARS. THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS TO HELP: YOU CAN WORK AT THE BACK DOCK ACCEPTING DONATIONS, BE A CASHIER OR A BAGGER, OR STRAIGHTEN THINGS UP \$ WORK ON THE SALES FLOOR. CALL VERNA BOTTJEN (479)876-1392 TO HELP OUT.



The BV Rotary Club delivered a <u>Very Large</u> Gift Basket for Christmas. They stated that the church was a sponsor of the gift also!

I want to say <u>Thank You</u> for the very large gift!! All kinds of food-juices, cheese, crackers, and so much more of every kind of goodie! A pretty kitchen towel was included with a \$20 gift card for Wal-Mart! I have enjoyed the food and still have enough for a few more weeks.

I thank the church for this gift-many blessings to everyone and I miss you all. Have a good 2025.



Winter Weather Cancellation Reminder:

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.





Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SET UP FOR & CLEAN UP AFTER COMMUNION. WE ALSO NEED FOLKS TO CHECK THE CANDLES & CHANGE THE PARAMENTS IN THE SANCTUARY BEFORE SUNDAY'S SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR ARE WILLING TO ASSIST WITH ANY OF THESE, PLEASE SEE AMY IN THE OFFICE.

"After Valentine's Day Gathering"

Wesley Shepherd Group Saturday, February 15 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Ted and Julie Lasher Home 12 Pentland Drive (off Glasgow Rd west of Branchwood Recreation Center)



Soup, Salad, Dessert Served

RSVP by Saturday, February 8 Call or text 810-360-7433





THANK YOU, W&J PAINTING!

Weldon Hyde & Jim Bilyeu were at it again, and, boy, am I glad! They painted my office and the Office Angel office. The old shade of pink was replaced with a bright white-grey. It is such an improvement and it even matches the new carpet. I didn't catch them in action because they worked after hours, but you can see the color difference and the fantastic job they did in the photos. Thanks again, guys! $\sim Audrea$

COMING SOON: St. Patrick's Day Potluck Dinner Thursday, 3/13, at 5:30pm in Becker Hall *Entertainment provided by The Sophisticated Ladies Dance Troupe of BV

Sign up in the office today!







United Women in Faith

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

Women 10, to a Winter Wonderland. It was God's hand that placed the beautiful flakes in the trees, bushes, and landscape.

> The Executive Board of UWF met Wednesday the 8th of January with several new board members present to plan the activities for the coming year.

Diane Verville, Program Resources Chairman, encouraged all of us to read the new books in the library.

If winter has you looking for a way to keep busy, boy, do we have a deal for you! The holiday bazaar workshops will start up again on Thursday, March 6th, from 9am to 2pm in the Quilt room downstairs. We'd like to personally extend an invitation to the new members at church to come and be part of the fellowship. It is a great way to meet new friends. Everyone is welcome. Come with your own project ideas or come help cut out items, press material being used, or even sew items. We *can* find a job for you.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 5th UWF Board Meeting 9:30am in the Parlor

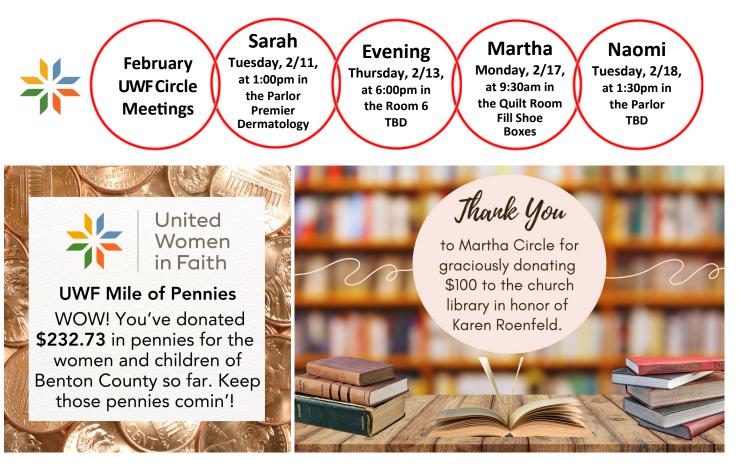
March 5th Ash Wednesday

March 6th Holiday Bazaar Workshop starts up 9am to 2pm in the Quilt Room

March 26th Unit Meeting & Luncheon 11:30am in Becker Hall

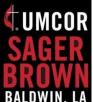
April 20th Easter Sunday

For questions or comments, call Judy Bilyeu 876-2345 or 721-9460. You too can become a member. *All Are Welcome!*





Register for October Sager Brown Trip by 2/28



We are planning a trip to volunteer at Sager Brown the week of October 26. We would **UMCOR** leave from the church on Saturday, October 25. To attend, you must register and pay a \$40 registration fee by the end of February. If you are interested, see Verna Bottjen. You can call her at 876-1392 for questions.

The trip does involve some personal expenses for lodging and meals provided on the 25-acre campus. Work consists primarily of assembling the 3 different supply kits, but there is also a wide variety of work opportunities allowing for different physical abilities on campus and in the community. You can check out more info here: https://umcmission.org/umcor-supplydepots.

Sager Brown is an UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) sponsored depot in Baldwin, LA, that is a center for relief supply operations. After being shut down for a few years because of COVID, they are up and operating again, shipping out approximately \$4 million in supplies in re-sponse to disasters in the US. They also reach out to the local Baldwin community through housing rehabilitation, food distribution, and educational programs. The many volunteers who come to Sager Brown each year make this all possible. It is a mission experience for all ages, capabilities, skill sets, and desires to support God's children who have undergone a disaster in their lives.



5.O.L.O.5. February Meeting

SOLOS gives single ladies the opportunity to go out to eat and socialize. The next lunch meeting will be on Thursday, 2/13, at 11:30am at Bella's Table. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP by Sunday, 2/09, to Nancy Spangler at 479-876 -6751, Ann Kelley at 479-367-9609, or Loretta Tidwell at 479



-586-9418 so they can ensure everyone has a seat. If you're a single lady (widowed, divorced, etc.) & would like to join this group, let them know. You don't have to be a church member to participate!



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: TUESDAY, 2/18

LOST & FOUND

Have you lost a **GIANT COFFEE POT?** A 100-cup coffee urn turned up in the kitchen we think just before Christmas. None of the groups we reached out to claimed



it. If it belongs to you or your club or you know who its rightful owner is, please remove it from the kitchen. Thank You!



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.