



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

# The Good News

APRIL 2026

*Worship & Fellowship with us this Noly Week:*  
OR WATCH ONLINE: [fumcbellavista.com](http://fumcbellavista.com)

- 6:00pm Maundy Thursday
- 6:00pm Good Friday Service
- 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service  
(Easter Breakfast after service)
- 9:00am/11:00am Easter Sunday  
Classic & Casual Services
- 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**  
**APRIL 2, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

APRIL 3, 2026  
*Good Friday*  
SERVICE  
6:00 PM IN THE  
SANCTUARY

*Sunrise* **EASTER** *Service*  
7:00 AM OUTSIDE ON  
THE BECKER HALL DECK  
(INSIDE IF WEATHER  
IS INCLEMENT)

**Easter Breakfast**  
**Sunday, 4/5,**  
**in Becker Hall right**  
**after Sunrise Service**  
Enjoy coffee, juice, breakfast  
casseroles. Bring breakfast  
bread or pastries to share.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 5**  
**10:00 AM IN ATRIUM**  
**BRING YOUR BASKET!**  
(OR BECKER HALL IF INCLEMENT WEATHER)

*Easter Flowering Cross*  
Don't forget to bring the flowers of  
your choice for our cross in the narthex  
on Easter Sunday, April 5. Just be sure  
the stems are sturdy enough to poke  
through the wire on the cross.



## *Pen from the Pulpit* by Rev. Allen Crum

Can you believe it? The journey of Lent is almost complete, and soon we will begin our Easter celebration. But as I like to remind folks, to fully celebrate Easter, we must first pass through Good Friday. It saddens me to see churches skip over this important day in the life of the church.

And yet, it honestly doesn't surprise me. Why? Because nobody likes the solemnity of the day. We don't like to sit with the darkness or talk about the suffering Christ endured for our sake. And in a world already filled with pain and tragedy, it can feel like too much to bear.

However, it is precisely because there is so much suffering in our world that Good Friday matters so deeply. It reminds us that Christ does not stand at a distance from human pain, but enters fully into it. There is no grief, no loss, no fear that is foreign to the heart of God.

But Good Friday is not the end of the story.

The cross is not the final word—love is. What feels like silence and defeat becomes, in God's hands, the very

ground where resurrection begins to take root. Easter joy is not a shallow happiness that ignores the world's pain; it is a deep and abiding hope that rises up in the midst of it.

As we move toward Easter morning, we carry both truths together: the sorrow of the cross and the promise of new life. And because of that, we can face the brokenness around us with courage—trusting that God is always at work bringing life out of death, light out of darkness, and hope where it once seemed impossible.

So, this year, don't rush past Good Friday on your way to Easter.

Come and walk the whole story.

I invite you to join us for our Holy Week services on Thursday and Friday at 6:00pm as we gather, remember, and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter morning.

*Easter Blessings,*  
*Pastor Allen*

## **Cynthia was in *The Weekly Vista*: Music inspires smiles and chuckles**

*by Cynthia Augspurger Andante Music Club*



Cynthia Augspurger plays a humorous song on her bassoon for residents of a local care facility.

Andante Music Club of Bella Vista invites the public to a program at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista, 20 Boyce Drive. As always, Andante's programs are free to the public.

"Music Is a Laughing Matter" is a program of music and poetry that will make the audience smile, chuckle, and maybe even have a good old belly laugh. With spring just around the corner, the program is intended to lighten your spirit. Andante performers will attempt to "strike a funny chord or two."

Leading off the program is Andante member, Cynthia Augspurger, who will prove that her instrument, the bassoon, is "the clown of the orchestra."

Barbara Miller, mezzo soprano, is the guest singer. In her retirement she sings in the SoNA Singers and is active in community theater. Barbara will join Arlene Biebesheimer, soprano, and Rebecca Harrold, voice and piano, in a humorous ar-

range of "The Girl in 14G."

Other Andante members performing fun-loving pieces are Lamar Puckett, voice/ piano and James Works, piano. Not only are lyrics amusing, but also notes from a piano can be surprisingly playful.

Two of Andante's theatrical members will delight listeners with amusing poetry. Jill Hale, known as Shakespeare's "Portia" from last month's program, will share the poem of the month, "Do Not Exaggerate." Nancy Noyes, an accomplished poet, will recite original poetry certain to bring a smile to listeners.

Much of the familiar and entertaining music is from composers and lyricists including Rodgers and Hart, Cole Porter, PDQ Bach, Gounod, Rossini, Alan Menken and Tim Rice.

The Andante Music Club of Bella Vista was founded

March 14, 1985. Membership is open to all music lovers. The club is an affiliate of the National Federation of Music Clubs, founded in 1898, and the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs founded in 1915.



# LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!



### CONNIE CRUM

On Sunday, February 22, Pastor Allen's wife, made it official and joined the church! She hales from Columbia and frequently returns there to visit family. Conny was a lawyer there and her passion is mission work. We love her!



### BERNIE LANTZ

Bernie joined the FUMCBV family on February 22 too. Originally from Van Buren, he has called Bella Vista home for some time. Bernie keeps busy teaching at NWACC. He enjoys travel, computer games, & collecting sports memorabilia. Welcome to the family!



### SUSAN BOYLES & FRANKIE RANKIN

February 22 saw 2 more new members join us. Susan is Frankie's mom. Originally from Little Rock, she and Frankie are part of a 3-generation household in BV. Susan keeps busy with her hubby, 4 kids, 11 grands, & 7 great-grands! Meanwhile, Frankie is CEO of Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA, a wife, and a mother of two boys, all of which keeps her super busy. Susan & Frankie were discussing getting back into church and decided to visit FUMCBV since Frankie & her husband, Pete (below), both grew up Methodist. We're so glad to have both of you!



### PETE & MAX RANKIN

Sunday, March 8, was a very EXCITING DAY as well! Two more new members joined and were baptized! Pete & Max Rankin, husband and son of Frankie (above), made confessions of faith. A U of A grad like his wife, Pete, is now an Amazon delivery driver. He is also interested in philosophy, history, and politics. You might catch him listening to a podcast on medieval Europe in his spare time. Max is a senior at Haas Hall and will continue the family legacy by going to U of A in the fall to study architecture. We are so excited to have your whole family be a part of our church family!



In March, some of us got to attend their annual Butterflies & Blooms Luncheon.



And, some of the Missions Team were invited to tour Grace Farms in Centerton, Saving Grace's resident campus.



# WB CHATTER BOX April Meetings



will meet at Rosita's on Saturday, 4/11, at 10:00 am.



## Chill

meets Thursday, 4/16, to serve MOB lunch at 11:00am in the Parlor.



## GRAND CENTRAL

meets Friday, 4/17, at 8:30am at First Watch in Bentonville.



## Acorns

will meet at Little Sugar Bistro on Monday, 4/20, at 11:30 am.



## K.I.M.

(Keepers in Mission)

meet at the church for a picnic on the deck on Monday, 4/20, at 5:30 pm and will play games after.



## SEARCHERS

meet for dinner and rounds at Top Golf in Rogers on Thursday, 4/23, at 6:00 pm.



## Dreamers



WB Dreamers met Wednesday, March 18, for lunch and to help Diane Verville out in the church library. In the photos are, Carmen Phillips, Sue Nebrig, Diane, Terry & Linda Davis, Bob & Shari Vermett, Artie & Marian Lawless, and last but certainly not least, Suzanne Miltich. Thank you for your service!



## K.I.M.

WB KIM met on Saturday, March 21, for dinner at the Country Club. Everyone brought towels and blankets they donated to the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. What a great idea!



IF YOUR WB OR SHEPHERD GROUP ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO, STEVE LARSEN COULD USE SOME HELP WITH THE MEN OF BELLA VISTA LUNCHEES ONCE A MONTH. GIVE HIM A CALL IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP OUT: 479-367-0934.



**50<sup>TH</sup>** ANNIVERSARY Celebration  
*Save the Date: Sunday, 6/7*

**WE NEED MORE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS!**  
**NEXT PLANNING MEETING:**  
**WEDNESDAY, 4/22, AT 1:00PM IN ROOM 6**



"My name is Nancy Noyes, and I lost my beloved husband, Kevin, several years ago. I was consumed with grief, and I knew I needed help. I began a series of grief support classes and the most effective one I found was the GriefShare program. Eventually, I went on to facilitate two GriefShare programs and one 'Surviving the Holidays' GriefShare program.

GriefShare is a support group to help you move through the grief process.

This support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with it, in all its unpredictability—and to gain solid support each step of the way.

I particularly found the encouraging videos, the supportive discussions, and the helpful books extremely worthwhile.

It doesn't matter whether you have lost your loved one recently, or many years ago. Although this course is spiritually-based, it is not necessary to be a member of any church to participate.

You may find it difficult to speak of your grief, and that is fine. You will never be compelled to share. However you may find comfort in the testimonies of others, and the video components composed of experts and people just like us who have experienced similar losses.

***It is not too late to join. We meet every Sunday afternoon at the Bella Vista First United Methodist Church in the room 6 conference room from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.***

This is an extremely worthwhile program, not only for the content and group discussions, but also for the tremendous resources available on the GriefShare website. Please come to the group to at least take advantage of those resources. You don't have to go this alone."

## **SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS**



**Help us provide sacks of food each month 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 table in the Becker Hall hallway or the one in the narthex. Tube have been empty lately!**



SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY																																									
																																																					
5	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service - Deck 7:30 Easter Breakfast - BH 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt - Atrium 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:15 Adult Sunday School - QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH	6	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 8:00 Men's Golf - Kingswood 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 12:30 NWA Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	7	9:20 Men's Golf - Scotsdale 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 12:30 Andante Board Meeting-Parlor 2:00 Andante Concert - Sanctuary 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	8	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 10:00 Caring Friends Respite Care - BH 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 6:00 SPRC Meeting - Room 6	9	9:00 MM Golf - Scotsdale 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Evening Circle - Room 6	10	8:00 Men's Emmaus Grp - Cafe USA	11	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 <b>10:00 Agape Shepherd - Rositas</b>	12	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun.School-LU/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 1:30 GriefShare - Room 6	13	8:00 Men's Golf - Highlands 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 9:00 DAR - Parlor 12:30 NWA Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	14	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 11:00 Men's Golf - Dogwood 1:00 Sarah Circle - Parlor 2:00 Shoebox Ministry Packing - QR 3:00 Missions Meeting - Room 6 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	15	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mtg - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 5:30 UMM Meeting & Meal - BH	16	9:00 Men's Golf - Dogwood 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:00 MOB Lunch - Parlor <b>11:00 WB Chill - feeding MOB/Parlor</b> 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	17	8:00 Men's Emmaus Grp - Cafe USA <b>8:30 WB Grand Central - First Watch Bentonville</b>	18	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 1:00 Scouts Event - Becker Hall	19	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun.School-LU/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 1:30 GriefShare - Room 6	20	7:30 Men's Golf - Scotsdale 8:00 Care & Share Trailer 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 9:30 Martha Circle - QR <b>11:30 WB Acorns - Little Sugar Bistro</b> 12:30 NWA Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor <b>5:30 WB KIM - Picnic &amp; games</b> 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	21	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 10:10 Men's Golf - Berksdale 1:30 Naomi Circle - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL, Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	22	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 9:30 SOLOS - Hiwassee Hilton 1:00 50th Anniversary Mtg - Room 6 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	23	8:00 Men's Golf - BVCC 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor <b>6:00 WB Searchers - Top Golf</b>	24	8:00 Men's Emmaus Grp - Cafe USA	25	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28	26	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun.School-LU/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 CCM Meeting - Parlor 1:30 GriefShare - Room 6	27	7:30 Men's Golf - BVCC 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 NWA Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	28	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 9:40 Men's Golf - Brittany 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 3:00 MAPS Officers Meeting - Rm 6 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	29	9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Room 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary	30	8:00 MM Golf - Kingswood 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor		



 **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES** 

- 4/20 James & Vicki Forrest      4/21 Jeremy & Verla Shafman
- 4/20 Joe & Diane Verville      4/22 Galen & Teri Thiele
- 4/26 Gary & Carol Tomlinson

 **APRIL BIRTHDAYS** 

- 4/02 Sue Prather      4/16 Emmery Antoine (13!) 🎉
- 4/03 Jim Bilyeu      4/16 John Zurn
- 4/11 Ken Swanson      4/17 Marilyn Adams (90!) 🎉
- 4/12 Jan Boblenz      4/24 Zach Lehmann (18!) 🎉
- 4/12 Janice Lang      4/27 Gerald Hatley
- 4/28 Mark Richardson
- 4/29 Jan Abbott
- 4/30 Delores Grosnickle (92!) 🎉

**April 2026 Newsletter Financial Data**  
*information as of February 28, 2026*

	2026 Actual	2026 Budget
Month of February Contributions (Income*)	\$ 32,850.73	\$ 48,333.34
Month of February Expenses	\$ 38,345.64	\$ 48,368.34
Difference	\$ (5,494.91)	\$ (35.00)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 314,823.06	\$ 386,666.72
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 306,925.45	\$ 386,946.72
Difference	\$ 7,897.61	\$ (280.00)

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



**Blessing Box Food Collection**

This month, we are in need of **MILK, CEREAL, PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED CHICKEN, VIENNA SAUSAGES CEREAL, CANNED VEGGIES, CANNED FRUIT OR FRUIT COCKTAIL.** We can also use more **SMALL BOTTLES OF LAUNDRY DETERGENT & PAPER PRODUCTS.** Please drop off your donations in Room 5 (the Blessing Box Room) or the office. **AND, AS ALWAYS, PLEASE NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, OR UNLABELED CANS.**



On Palm Sunday, Jessica Mendoza and Judy Bilyeu helped Ricky & Clara Ruth Echols make Holy Week pillowcases depicting each event using the palms of their hands in Children's Sunday School. They did such an **AMAZING** job on them! 🎉



United  
Women  
in Faith

**GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!**

Spring has come and flowers and trees are struggling to keep their color from the warm temperatures when it's followed by freezing weather.

Hope you are preparing for the events leading up to Easter Sunday, April 5th.

The Bazaar Workshops meet every Thursday from 9:00-2:00 downstairs at the church. Come join in and help make items to be sold at the Bazaar. All are welcome and there are jobs for everyone from pressing material, to cutting out items and sewing. There is a great need for ladies who enjoy sewing. Come when you can, stay as long as you can, bring a sandwich, and have lunch with the group. It's a great time to meet new friends.

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR BAZAAR:**

Large-mouth quart and pint jars

½-pint jars

Lids and rings for the jars

For questions or comments, call President Judy Bilyeu at 479-876-2345 or 721-9460.

**Dates to Remember:**

April 1<sup>st</sup> UWF Board Meeting 9:30 am in Parlor

April 18<sup>th</sup> "Practicing Hope" Spiritual Growth Study 9:30-2:00 Fort Smith UMC - Deadline: April 11 - Cost: \$15  
Let Judy Bilyeu know if you're interested in attending.



April  
UWF Circle  
Meetings

Evening  
Thursday, 4/9,  
at 6:00pm in  
Room 6  
TBA

Sarah  
Thursday, 4/14,  
at 1:00pm in  
the Parlor  
Food Pyramid

Martha  
Monday, 4/20,  
at 9:30am in  
the Quilt Room  
"Where Our  
\$ Goes"

Naomi  
Tuesday, 4/21,  
at 1:30pm in  
the Parlor  
TBA



**Saturday, AUGUST 1,  
8:00am-1:00pm**

**DO YOU HAVE TOO MUCH STUFF ?**

**Begin Now To Set Aside Your Usable Discards for the Rummage Sale.  
If you don't have room to store your donations, call Verna Bottjen  
876-1392 to see if we have space available. No Clothes, TV's, or  
heavy furniture, and please have it in clean and working order.**



THE UWF PUT TOGETHER EASTER BASKETS FOR THE 29 CHILDREN AT OASIS. THEY ALSO DONATED FUNDS SO THE GROUP CAN PURCHASE AND MAKE A REALLY NICE EASTER DINNER THIS YEAR! THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE EFFORT, LADIES!



**HELPING HANDS WORK DAY COMING UP: SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 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.

*Thank You*

The cards, kind thoughts, and prayers were certainly appreciated and felt at a time I needed it with the loss of my sweet and loving sister, Cansata Arnold.

*Thanks so much,  
Jane & Bill Potts*

## METHODIST MEN'S GOLF

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY THRU SUMMER

CALL ARTIE LAWLESS TO PLAY MONDAYS 479-212-4995

CALL JIM DOBEY TO PLAY TUESDAYS 402-651-9479

CALL DARRELL BOTTJEN TO PLAY THURSDAYS 479-876-1392



### APRIL TEE TIMES

THURSDAY, 4/2 9:00 AM KINGSWOOD	MONDAY, 4/20 7:30 AM SCOTSDALE
MONDAY, 4/6 8:00 AM KINGSWOOD	TUESDAY, 4/21 10:10 AM BERKSDALE
TUESDAY, 4/7 9:20 AM SCOTSDALE	THURSDAY, 4/23 8:00 AM BV CTRY CLUB
THURSDAY, 4/9 9:00 AM SCOTSDALE	MONDAY, 4/27 7:30 AM BV CTRY CLUB
MONDAY, 4/13 8:00 AM HIGHLANDS	TUESDAY, 4/28 9:40 AM BRITTANY
TUESDAY, 4/14 11:00 AM DOGWOOD	THURSDAY, 4/30 8:00 AM KINGSWOOD
THURSDAY, 4/16 9:00 AM DOGWOOD	(ALL THURSDAY TEE TIMES ARE SHOTGUN)

## SOLOS April Meeting

**SOLOS** gives single ladies the opportunity to go out to eat and socialize with each other. This month, SOLOS will meet for breakfast at Hiwasse Hilton on Thursday, 4/22, at 9:30am. RSVP by Sunday, 4/21, to either Sue Nebrig at 372-7247 or Nancy Spangler at 876-6751 so they can ensure everyone has a seat. All single (widowed, divorced, etc.) ladies are welcome! You don't have to be a church member to participate.





## A Congregational Care Ministry Letter from Dave Broers, CCM Coordinator

FUMC Congregational Care Ministry is modeled after the ministry of Jesus, who offered compassion, understanding, healing, and wholeness as a way of offering God's redemptive gift of grace.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." -Jesus (John 13:34-35) We seek to respond to the needs of our members and their families and offer support for all aspects of life. We endeavor to walk with people through life's many changes due to relationships, parenthood, illness, aging, grief, and loss. Caring for each other helps us to have wholeness and shalom with God. It then strengthens and empowers us to reach out and care for others in our community and in our world. "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

### Get to know the Congregational Care Ministry

Congregational Care is the "beyond-the-four-walls" ministry of First United Methodist Church Bella Vista. It extends our connection into the lives of members of the congregation when circumstances in their lives interfere with, or prevent, an in-person worship and fellowship experience. It is an assurance that they are not forgotten. They are still CARED about.

In John 13:34-35, Jesus tells his disciples: "I give you a new commandment that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should love one another. Jesus' ministry, His acts of love, is the model for our Congregational Care Ministry. We love not only those in the pews, but those who would like to be in the pews. The essence of our response to the needs of our members and their families is to follow this commandment through caring, compassion, Communion, understanding, and healing. It encompasses a variety of programs all with the goal of addressing the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of older adults.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20 (NIV) The best-known program of the Congregational Care ministry is that of the "Visitation and Communion Team." Currently, that team is made up of individuals from the congregation, staff, plus the pastor. They are responsible for personal contact with one or more designated members of the congregation who are either unable to attend worship services in-person or are limited by their care and mobility circumstances. These members might be residents in assisted care facilities, nursing homes, or home bound. The Team members are also responsible for administering the Sacrament of Holy Communion to them.

This is a personal outreach that maintains a spiritual and caring relationship with members who find they can no longer be actively involved because of health, age, or mobility. Rather than being completely shut out from the church family, there is still a connection. They will be visited by someone who "brings church to them." They will be able to share their memories, cares, and ideas along with prayer, Bible readings and Communion as an integral part of the "beyond-the-walls First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista." Congregational Care at First United Methodist Church is more than a visitation team. Members are involved in other aspects of our outreach.

We have a very active Card Ministry which is overseen by Pamela Palasty. Pamela sends greeting cards on occasions such as birthdays, special days, holidays, words of encouragement or expressions of care about an illness or surgery. She sends an average of 35-40 cards a month. Members of the congregation who have received them often



acknowledge these and the other cards that they receive. They are grateful to know they are not forgotten, and they have commented on how it lifts their spirits.

Prayer shawls, knitted by members of the congregation, and overseen by Pat Fox, are available for congregants as a reminder of God's love and care for them when they are sick, bereaved, or having difficult times.

### **Prayer Ministry**

- Prayer Request List: receive, compile, print, and disseminate the current list of prayer joys and concerns.
- In-person prayers: be present in sanctuary at pre-designated hours to pray with those who need this. Prayers are according to the needs of those who attend.
- Prayer Phone Contact: call those on the current prayer list to pray with/for them.

**Facilitate Support Groups:** Support in whatever capacity is needed.

**Worship Assistance:** The CCM's help as ushers, greeters, communion, etc. when needed.

**Auto Angels:** provide rides to doctors, worship, and other critical needs to those who no longer drive. Contact Sue Nebrig.

**MIA Calls:** call and check on folks who have not been in Worship for some time to see if they need caring for in any ministry way.

**Provide Meals:** coordination with UWF to assist with food. This is for short-term needs only.

**Special Events:** Longest Night, Caring Ministry Training, other events that provide annual ministries to the community at large.

If you or someone you know could use care and support, or if you would like to volunteer to serve in one of the areas above, please contact the church office at 479-855-1158 or Dave Broers at 479-387-6027.

*Blessings, Dave Broers  
CCM Coordinator*

## ***Look Who Was in The Weekly Vista: Linda Davis!***

### **Perfect Harmony Women's Barbershop Chorus**



Submitted photo/ Every year the Perfect Harmony Women's Barbershop Chorus donates to local organizations that help people in need. This year the choir donated \$200 these NW Arkansas organizations: BV Courtesy Van, BV Animal Shelter and the NWA Food Bank. Perfect Harmony Women's Barbershop Chorus meets every Monday 3-4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Highland Christian Church, 1500 Forest Hills Blvd, Bella Vista. Women of all ages and voice ranges are invited to visit rehearsals. For more information or to schedule the chorus for your entertainment, call Director Karen Frankenfled at 479-876-7204.



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

**We're Here to Serve You**

Senior Pastor - Rev. Allen Crum  
 allen.crum@arumc.org (479) 445-0968  
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore  
 Church Secretary - Andrea Fobes  
 Music Ministries Director - Lamar Puckett

**Phone: (479) 855-1158**  
[www.fumcbellavista.com](http://www.fumcbellavista.com)  
[facebook.com/fumcbv](https://facebook.com/fumcbv)

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

**\*\*\*NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
**MONDAY, 4/20\*\*\***

**CARE & SHARE TRAILER**  
 Donate ANY used goods on  
 Monday, 4/20, starting at  
 8:00am in the parking lot.



Volunteers are needed to  
 drive those unable to drive  
 themselves to appointments,  
 to the store, & to worship  
 on an as-needed basis.  
 If interested, call Sue  
 Nebrig at 372-7247.



UMM meets on **Wednesday, 4/15**, this month. Dinner is at 5:30pm in Becker Hall. The meeting is at 6:00pm.

*\*Topic: To Be Announced*

**A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:**



**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

MEET THIS MONTH  
 ON THURSDAY, 4/2,  
 AT 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR  
 \*NO RESPITE CARE THIS WEEK



meets this month  
 on Wednesday, 4/8,  
 from 10:00am-2:00pm  
 in Becker Hall.



**BRING A FRIEND!**

COME JOIN OUR  
**SINGLE MEN'S GROUP**  
**(WIDOWED/DIVORCED/ETC.)**  
**FOR LUNCH IN THE PARLOR**  
**THIS MONTH ON THURSDAY,**  
**4/16, AT 11:00AM.**

**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 Allen** at his email: [allen.crum@arumc.org](mailto:allen.crum@arumc.org) or call him: **(479) 445-0968**.

You can also call the church office **(479) 855-1158**, email our secretary,

Andrea, at: [andrea@fumcbellavista.com](mailto: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.