



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

JULY 2026





Pen from the Pulpit

by Rev. Allen Crum

It hardly seems possible that just twelve months ago I stood in the pulpit of First United Methodist Church Bella Vista for the very first time. That day was filled with a wide range of emotions—excitement, anticipation, and even a little uncertainty. I honestly did not know exactly what to expect as I began this new chapter of ministry.

Looking back over the past year, I can say with complete confidence that I have been blessed beyond measure. What I have experienced from this congregation has been life-giving, ministry-affirming, and joy-filled. You welcomed me with open arms, encouraged me in countless ways, and partnered faithfully in the work God has called us to do together. For that, I am deeply grateful. Thank you for your prayers, your kindness, your support, and your commitment to the ministry of FUMC Bella Vista. As I begin my second year with you, I do so with a heart full of gratitude for all God has already accomplished among us and with eager anticipation for what lies ahead.

As I look toward the coming year, my hope is that we will continue building upon the many strengths that already exist within our church while also discovering new ways to connect with and serve our community. One of the guiding principles for our Annual Conference is our bishop's vision statement: ***"Working together to build vital faith communities by following Jesus, loving people, and sharing faith."*** This statement beautifully captures the mission to which we are called.

Using that vision as our guide, there are several areas I hope we can emphasize together in the months ahead. First, I would like to continue expanding opportunities for discipleship. Spiritual growth does not happen by accident; it happens as we intentionally seek Christ through worship, prayer, Bible study, service, and Christian fellowship. My prayer is that

every person who calls FUMC Bella Vista home will find meaningful opportunities to deepen their relationship with God.

Second, I hope we can increase engagement among our current members and friends. The church is at its strongest when each person shares their gifts, talents, and passions in ministry. Whether through worship leadership, outreach, hospitality, missions, music, teaching, or caring for one another, every person has an important role to play in the life of the church.

Finally, I would like to create more opportunities for fellowship and church-wide activities. Relationships are strengthened when we spend time together, and a healthy church is one where people genuinely know and care for one another. Shared meals, social gatherings, service projects, and special events can help us grow not only as members of a congregation but as a true community of faith.

As we move forward together, I am excited about what God has in store for FUMC Bella Vista. While we cannot always see where the journey will lead, we can trust the One who guides us. My prayer is that God will continue to use our congregation to make disciples, serve our neighbors, and share the love of Christ throughout our community.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your pastor. I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead as we follow Jesus, love people, and share our faith.

In Gratitude,
Pastor Allen



50TH

ANNIVERSARY

Celebration

America may be turning 250 this month, but FUMC BV turned 50 last month! Special thanks to the Anniversary Committee for making it all happen! Check out some photos from the celebration on Sunday, June 7, courtesy of Dave Broers & Conny Crum.





WB CHATTER BOX July Meetings



will meet at Rosita's
on Saturday, 7/11,
at 10:00 am.



will meet at BV
Country Club on
Monday, 7/13,
at 11:30 am.



meets Friday,
7/17, at 8:30am
at First Watch in
Bentonville.



will meet at Little
Sugar Bistro on
Thursday, 7/23,
at 11:00 am.

Lawn Mowing: Another "Bob thing"

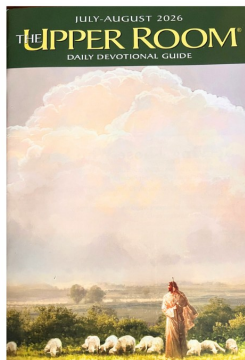


If you saw last month's newsletter,
you know Bob Vermett does Bob
things. Another of those is regularly
mowing the church lawn, but he's
going to have surgery mid-July, so
he needs some back-up. Call the
office or talk to Bob directly to
volunteer to help out.

Out with the Old

After replacing the Blessing
Box, flag box, and library box
with new ones he built, Bob also
demolished and removed the
old boxes. Thanks, Bob!





THE NEW
JULY/AUGUST
2026 UPPER
ROOM
DEVOTIONALS
HAVE ARRIVED
& ARE OUT IN
THE NARTHEX.
PICK ONE UP
TODAY!



DID YOU GET A 50TH ANNIVERSARY ORNAMENT?

We gave the ornaments to guests of the 50th Anniversary celebration in June as keepsakes. If you were unable to attend, there are a few in red boxes on the narthex cabinet while supplies last.



Blessing Box Food Collection

School is still out, so there is a great need for food: **PROTEINS: PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED CHICKEN, VIENNA SAUSAGES, SPAM, etc., SHELF-STABLE MILK (like Parmalat), CEREAL, POP TARTS, HOR-MEL COMPLEATS.** (Please get the medium-sized jars of peanut butter and boxes of cereal so they fit in the Blessing Box.) We can also use some **SMALL BOTTLES OF LAUNDRY DETERGENT.** Please drop off your donations in Room 5 (the Blessing Box Room) or the office. **AND, AS ALWAYS, NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, OR UNLABELED CANS.**



SHOEBOX MINISTRY

WE NEED PACKERS FOR THE NEXT
PACKING DAY: TUESDAY, 7/14, 2:00 PM
IN THE QUILT ROOM. KEEP THE
SHOEBOXES & DONATIONS COMING!

MISSIONS TEAM MEETING

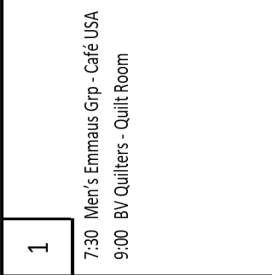
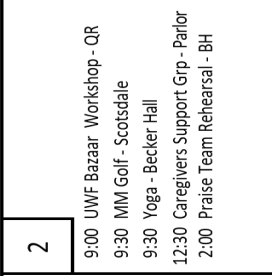
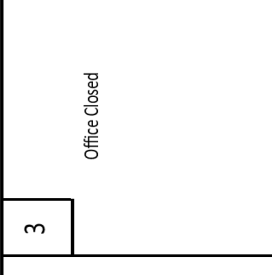
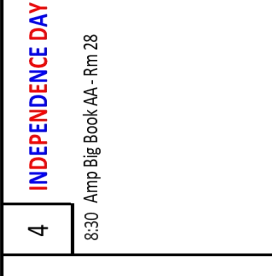


TUESDAY,
JULY 14,
AT 3:00PM
IN ROOM 6

SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS

Even during the summer, we provide sacks of food 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. The tubes have been empty lately more often than not.



SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
													
5	9:00 Unified Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun School-LL/QR	6	OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 Men's Golf - Kingswood 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	7	9:00 Men's Golf - Dogwood 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 3:00 MAPS Officers Mtg - Parlor 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm 7:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28	8	7:30 Men's Emmaus Grp - Café USA 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 10:00 Caring Friends Respite Care -BH 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28	9	8:00 MM Golf - BV Ctry Club (Shotgun) 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	10	Office Closed 8:00 BVPS Playground Playdate 11:00 SOLO's - Café USA 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 7:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28	11	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 9:30 MAPS Meeting - Becker Hall 10:00 Agape Shepherd - Rosita's
12	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun School-LL/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 12:15 Finance Meeting - Parlor 5:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28	13	8:00 TOPS - Room 28 10:00 MM Golf - BV Ctry Club 10:30 Staff Meeting - Room 6 11:30 WB Acorns - BV Country Club 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	14	8:25 Men's Golf - Berktsdale 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 2:00 Shoebox Packing - QR 3:00 Missions Team Meeting - Rm 6 5:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 6 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	15	7:30 Men's Emmaus Grp - Café USA 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Mtg - Parlor 6:30 Scouts Troop Mtg - Rm 28/LL	16	8:00 Men's Golf - Dogwood (Shotgun) 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	17	Office Closed 8:30 WB Grand Central - 1st Watch	18	8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28 12:00 Helping Hands Workday - HH 4:00 AA Anniversary Dinner - BH
19	9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Child/Adult Sun School-LL/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 CCM Meeting - Parlor	20	CARE & SHARE TRAILER 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 9:20 Men's Golf - Scotsdale 10:30 Staff Meeting - Room 6 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	21	9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 10:30 Men's Golf - BVCC 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 5:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 6 6:30 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	22	7:30 Men's Emmaus Grp - Café USA 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room	23	8:00 Men's Golf - Dogwood (Shotgun) 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:00 WB Dreamers - Little Sugar Bistro 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	24	Office Closed	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-LL/QR 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Trustees Meeting - Parlor 12:15 Rummage Table Setup (Men)	27	UWFF RUMMAGE SALE SETUP 7:20 Men's Golf - BV Ctry Club 8:00 BVPS Bridges Program - LL 8:00 TOPS - Room 28 10:00 Calico Cut-ups - BH 10:30 Staff Meeting - Room 6 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp - Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28	28	UWFF RUMMAGE SALE SETUP 8:00 BVPS Bridges Program - LL 10:00 Women's Reunion Grp-Hyslops 10:10 Men's Golf - Scotsdale 12:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 28 3:00 MAPS Officers Mtg - Parlor 5:00 We Are Not Saints AA - Rm 6 6:00 Scouts - QR, BH, Rm 28, LL 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Rm	29	UWFF RUMMAGE SALE SETUP 7:30 Men's Emmaus Grp - Café USA 8:00 BVPS Bridges Program - LL 9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Room	30	UWFF RUMMAGE SALE SETUP 8:00 BVPS Bridges Program - LL 8:00 MM Golf - Scotsdale (Shotgun) 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop - QR 2:00 Praise Team Rehearsal - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor	31	Office Closed		



JULY ANNIVERSARIES



7/01 Mike Roth & Cathy Luck

7/08 Bill & Jane Potts

7/22 Jack & Kay Dunn

7/02 Jon & Jessica Mendoza

7/17 Maci & Rick Echols

7/25 Ed & Barb Jenner

7/06 John & Mary Hixson

7/22 Sean & Kristin Crider

7/30 Rick & Dena Mayes



JULY BIRTHDAYS



7/01 Sue Nebrig

7/09 Carmen Phillips (94!) 🎉

7/17 Carol Zurn

7/03 Mary Ann Kennedy

7/09 Mike Roth

7/18 Verle Shoemaker (93!) 🎉

7/05 Sandy Fitch

7/10 Layne Anderson

7/19 John Hixson

7/05 Pat Fox

7/10 Carol Pennington

7/19 Noah Pittman

7/05 Lou Kaufmann (92!) 🎉

7/11 Leota Rowlison

7/20 Teri Thiele

7/05 Vicki Schroeder

7/14 Richard Starr (90!) 🎉

7/27 Brad Leisinger

7/07 La Von Fryer (94!) 🎉

7/15 Merle Lantz (90!) 🎉

7/31 Pamela Pittman

7/08 Chet Campbell

7/16 Ken Hammarstrom

July 2026 Newsletter Financial Data information as of May 31, 2026

	2026 Actual	2026 Budget
Month of May Contributions (Income*)	\$ 40,334.71	\$ 48,333.34
Month of May Expenses	\$ 38,008.38	\$ 48,368.34
Difference	\$ 2,326.33	\$ (35.00)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 432,480.06	\$ 483,333.40
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 424,002.26	\$ 483,683.40
Difference	\$ 8,477.80	\$ (350.00)

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



**United
Women
in Faith**

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

We hope you are enjoying the summertime. We are so blessed to receive the nice gentle rains the past two weeks. Get ready for the heat coming our way.

UWF bazaar workshops will continue every Thursday from 9:00-2:00 downstairs in the quilt room through August. There is still time to come and join in and help make items. If you have a project you would like to share with the group, please come join us on Thursdays.

August 1st is the UWF Annual Rummage Sale. If you have items for the sale, please bring them to the church the last week in July during setup.

The proceeds from the Rummage Sale and Bazaar go to help organizations in the Community. Below is a list of the donations UWF gave to this past year.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR BAZAAR:

Regular and 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:

July 27th Rummage Sale table set up

July 28-31st Rummage Sale set up/Bring items for the Rummage Sale to the church.

August 1st Annual Rummage Sale 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

 **NO
July/August
UWF Circle
Meetings**

2025 UWF Contributions

Aldersgate Camp	\$ 800.00	Oasis Food Pantry	\$ 500.00
Bella Vista Courtesy Van	\$ 500.00	Oasis Shelter	\$ 500.00
Bella Vista Pre-School	\$ 1,000.00	Open Avenues	\$ 500.00
Blessing Box	\$ 2,000.00	Ozark Mission Project	\$ 750.00
Boys & Girl's Club	\$ 1,750.00	Redbird School	\$ 250.00
Children's Advocacy	\$ 1,000.00	Restoration Village	\$ 1,000.00
Days for Girls	\$ 100.00	Saving Grace	\$ 750.00
Elizabeth Thornburg Scholarship	\$ 85.00	Shoebox Ministry	\$ 600.00
Gravette Care and Share	\$ 250.00	Single Parent Scholarship	\$ 1,000.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 100.00	Souls Harbor	\$ 500.00
Havenwood	\$ 500.00	Teen Action & Support	\$ 500.00
Helping Hands	\$ 500.00	Wesley Foundation	\$ 500.00
Hub of Hope	\$ 750.00	FUMCBV	\$ 3,000.00
Mi-Watch	\$ 200.00	UWF Reading Program	\$ 300.00
NWA Women's Shelter	\$ 500.00	TOTAL	\$20,685.00



*The Rummage Sale is almost here!
But first, we need HELP with a few
things like setting up, sorting,
pricing, & tearing down.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 8:00AM-1:00PM

*Cash and checks accepted. Credit cards accepted thru PayPal (you must have a PayPal account). All proceeds go to UWF mission efforts.

**MEN NEEDED TO SET UP TABLES AT 12:15PM
AFTER CASUAL SERVICE ON SUNDAY, JULY 26.**

**RUMMAGE SALE SET-UP IS
MONDAY, JULY 27-THURSDAY, JULY 30!**

*Sorters/Pricers needed on those days. Just show
up between 9am-4pm & we'll put you to work.*

****BRING IN YOUR SAVED ITEMS FOR THE
SALE JULY 27-30 FROM 9AM-4PM.****

**MEN NEEDED TO TEAR-DOWN TABLES & PUT THE CHURCH
BACK TOGETHER AFTER THE AUGUST 1 SALE AT 1:30.**

Call Verna Bottjen 640-7851 for info (if you're willing to help out).



United Women of Faith Mile of Coins
Pennies are hard to come by these days, so we now accept
ALL COINS! The change you put in the jug in the narthex
helps women and children of Benton County.



SO MANY NEW MEMBERS! YAY!



RICHIE & SCARLET MOORE

On Sunday, June 21, Richie & Scarlet Moore joined our family. They live in Bentonville but hope to move to BV soon. Scarlet is a Dental Hygienist and Richie works for the City of Bentonville. They both love to be outdoors as Scarlet enjoys hiking and Richie plays golf and mountain biking. They have expressed their interest in serving in several areas of the church. We look forward to getting to know them better! Welcome, Richie & Scarlet!



NEAL & KATHY NICHOLS

On the same day, Neal & Kathy Nichols also became members of our church family. Both of them are retired and they call Bella Vista home. Neal enjoys golfing and Kathy teaches water aerobics twice a week at the Branchwood pool. We're so happy to have the Nichols' as members! Welcome to the family, Neal & Kathy!



HOLLY TAYLOR

June 21 also saw Holly Taylor join the church. Holly & her husband, Donn, are both retired from Walmart Distribution Centers. Holly says she's busier in retirement than when she worked! When she does have some free time, she enjoys reading, walking, and baking. Donn likes to read, bike and hike. They reside here in Bella Vista. Holly looks forward to being part of UWF. We're so happy to have you here! Welcome, Holly!

METHODIST MEN'S GOLF

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY THRU OCTOBER

MONDAYS:
ARTIE LAWLESS
479-212-4995

TUESDAYS:
JIM DOBEY
402-651-9479

THURSDAYS:
DARRELL BOTTJEN
479-876-1392

JULY TEE TIMES

THURSDAY, 7/2 9:30 AM SCOTSDALE	MONDAY, 7/13 10:00 AM BV CTRY CLUB	TUESDAY, 7/21 10:30 AM BV CTRY CLUB	THURSDAY, 7/30 8:00 AM SCOTSDALE
MONDAY, 7/6 7:30 AM KINGSWOOD	TUESDAY, 7/14 8:25 AM BERKSDALE	THURSDAY, 7/23 8:00 AM DOGWOOD	
TUESDAY, 7/7 9:00 AM DOGWOOD	THURSDAY, 7/16 8:00 AM KINGSWOOD	MONDAY, 7/27 7:20 AM BV CTRY CLUB	
THURSDAY, 7/9 8:00 AM BV CTRY CLUB	MONDAY, 7/20 9:20 AM SCOTSDALE	TUESDAY, 7/28 10:10 AM SCOTSDALE	





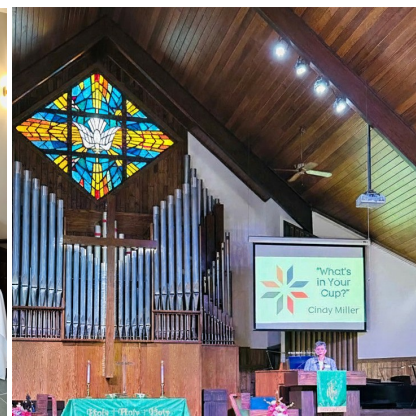
SOLOS

SOLOS gives single ladies the opportunity to go out to eat and socialize with one another. This month, SOLOS will meet for lunch at Café USA on Friday, 7/10, at 11:00am. RSVP by 7/08, to either Carol Cheek at 268-4991 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.



United
Women
in Faith

Sunday, June 14, was UWF Sunday. District President, Cindy Miller delivered the message for us, as seen in the photo on the right. On the left are Cindy & Judy Bilyeu.



LOST & FOUND

Is this lovely journaling Bible in a box yours? There's no inscription inside. It was left behind after worship in the sanctuary a few weeks ago. It's in the office.



**~ UMM is on hiatus ~
NO MEETINGS
until September.**

*Our Dearest
Church Friends,*

Thank you so very
much for all the
prayers, cards, &
also phone calls.

*Love & Blessings,
Leroy &
Joann Handel*

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you all for your
recent cards, calls, texts
and prayers. Your
thoughtfulness and
kindness are appreciated.
Thank you, Sue Nebrig*

Thank You

Thank you all for
the get-well
wishes, cards,
prayers, calls,
and messages
following my
surgery. It was
truly wonderful
and appreciated.

*Thanks,
Artie & Marian Lawless*



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

Office Phone: (479) 855-1158
www.fumcbellavista.com
facebook.com/fumcbv

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

*****NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**
MONDAY, 7/20***



A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:



CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

**MEET THIS MONTH
 ON THURSDAY, 7/2,
 AT 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR
 *NO RESPITE CARE THIS WEEK**



HELPING HANDS WORKDAY

**SATURDAY, 7/18
 12:00-4:00PM**

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 VERA BOTTJEN (479)876-1392 TO HELP OUT.

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 or call him: **(479) 445-0968.**

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.