



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

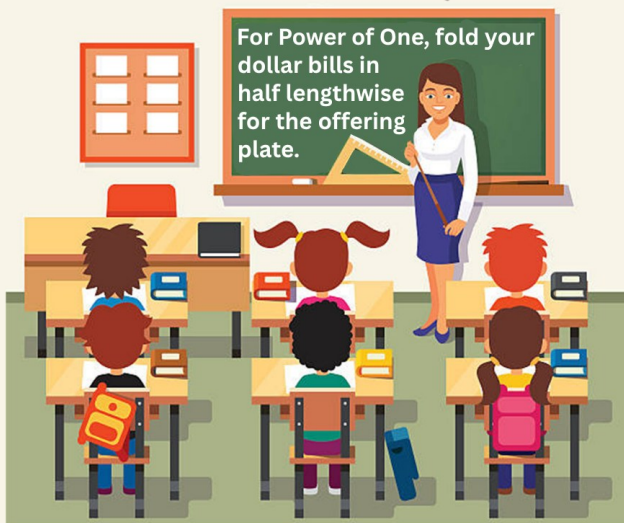
SEPTEMBER 2026

Children's Sabbath ~ August 9, 2026

On Sunday, August 9, we celebrated Children's Sabbath. Some of the children helped out as worship volunteers before and during Classic Service. See Max and Amelia Frederick greeting people in the first two photos. Judy Bilyeu presented Jon & Jessica Mendoza with UWF Special Recognition Awards for teaching Sunday School & Scouts. A Blessing of the Teachers & Children was performed. Several of our kids were presented with special Bibles by the UWF. See Pastor Allen and Judy Bilyeu handing them out to Maddie & Addie Beiter and Amelia & Max Frederick in the next two photos. In Casual Service, Judy gifted a Bible to Clara Ruth Echols (see the last photo).



September Power of One



Through September, all Power-of-One donations, will be divided equally between two Cooper Elementary funds. Cooper Student Support Fund-for assisting with student needs that their families cannot afford.

Teacher Classroom Fund-for compensating teachers for out-of-pocket purchases for supplies.



**COOPER ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**
The school supplies we collected during August were delivered Monday, August 10!



Pen from the Pulpit by Rev. Allen Crum

In many places, September is a time of transition. Summer is coming to an end, and fall will be here before we know it. All things considered, I am probably not alone in looking forward to cooler weather after the scorcher of a summer we have had!

This fall will be a busy time for me and, I know, for the church as well. So, I thought I would share a little about what I will be up to over the next couple of months.

On September 10 through the 17th, I will be headed to New York City and Washington, D.C., along with three other clergy to participate in the “pilgrimage” portion of our Compelling Preaching Initiative program. The focus of our travels is to immerse ourselves in different modes of storytelling and a variety of contexts. Our experiences will include everything from a Broadway show and an immersive dining experience to visits to some of the Smithsonian museums. We will also participate in a training session on developing a personal story through a nationally recognized organization called The Moth.

Our goal for this trip is not only to develop new skills but also to hone the skills we already have. We hope to use what we learn to continue crafting compelling sermons as we lead our respective congregations. I feel extremely fortunate to have been selected for this program, and I look forward to sharing more about the experience and its impact with you all.

There are also a couple of discipleship opportunities coming up in the life of the church. From

September 15-October 20, Amy Gilmore will be leading a daytime Bible study exploring the book, *The Secret Life*, which takes a deeper look at Paul’s letter to the Philippians.

Around the second week of October, I will be leading an evening Bible study using *The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament*. This wonderful eight-to-ten-week study seeks to help us better understand the Old Testament and how it connects to our lives.

More information about both studies will be coming soon, so watch for announcements.

One final note: we have something fun planned for Sunday, September 20! We will celebrate a “So Long to Summer” Sunday. We are encouraging everyone to wear a favorite summer shirt or outfit as we bid farewell to summer together.

Until then, blessings for the journey,
Pastor Allen





Altrusa Int'l. of Bentonville/Bella Vista, AR

Spaghetti Dinner

Thursday September 24, 2026

Adults -- \$12.00 Children 10 & under -- \$6.00

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

Dine in: 5 pm – 7 pm

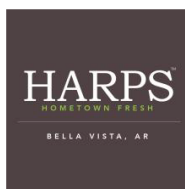
Curbside Pick-Up: 4 pm – 7 pm

For tickets, contact an Altrusa member you know or

susannelsterling@gmail.com

Altrusa International, Inc. of Bentonville/Bella Vista is a unique and innovative service organization that works to get books in children's hands and aspires to be visible and recognizable in the community to make a difference in the lives of others.

Sponsors:





WB CHATTER BOX September Meetings



will meet at Rosita's
on Saturday, 9/12,
at 10:00 am.



will meet at BV
Country Club on
Monday, 9/14,
at 11:30 am.



meets at Hiwasse
Hilton on Wednesday,
9/16, at 11:30 am.
Call Loretta
to RSVP: 586-9418.



meets Thursday,
9/17, at 11:30 am at
Longhorn Steakhouse
in Rogers this month.
Bring items for Ronald
McDonald House.



will meet on
Thursday, 9/24,
at 1:00 pm in
the Parlor.

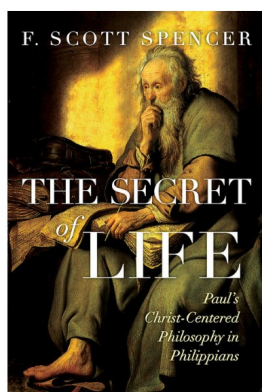


meet at Tiger Stadium
to watch a Bentonville
High School football
game on Friday,
9/25, at 6:00pm.

A new book study led by Amy
Gilmore, The Secret of Life, will
be held each Tuesday at 10:00am

in Room 6 from
9/15-10/20. Sign
up in the office.

The book is on
Amazon, Kindle,
or Cokesbury. A
limited # will be
available for \$15.



SHOEBOX MINISTRY

**NO SHOEBOX PACKING
DAY THIS MONTH, BUT
MARTHA CIRCLE IS
PACKING 50 SHOEBOXES
AT THEIR MONTHLY
MEETING ON 9/21 AT 9:30.**



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



PAM HEROLD

Pam Herold joined us on Sunday, July 19. She & her husband, John, live in Bella Vista. Pam relocated here after retiring from FMC Corp. in Chicago. She keeps busy raising her adopted daughter, Shayna, volunteering at Circle of Life, doing puzzles, and being outdoors. Pam would like to serve in any community service area. When you see Pam around, give her a big FUMCBV welcome!



CHRIS BECK & KASEY WALKER

On Sunday, August 16, mother & daughter, Chris Beck & Kasey Walker joined our family. They live in Pineville with Chris' husband, Glenn. Chris is retired & keeps busy with her 4 grands & 10 greats. She likes quilting & doing genealogy. Kasey is a professor of Communications at U of A. She likes to spend time with her family & dogs, reading, going to concerts/sporting events. Kasey plans to join a UWF Circle. Welcome, ladies!

The Nominations
Committee will meet
Tuesday, 9/22,
at 2:00pm in Room 6.



Church Council Meeting



Wednesday, 9/23, at
6:00pm in Becker Hall

Council Members, please attend so we can address important Charge Conference issues. Also, Andrea needs your Charge Conference reports no later than Wednesday, 9/23.

SPRC MEETING



**TUESDAY, 9/22,
AT 6:00 PM
IN ROOM 6**



**Blessing
Box
Food
Collection**

Kids are back in school, so we can use: CREAMY PEANUT BUTTER, HORMEL COMPLEATS, CANNED CHICKEN, VIENNA SAUSAGES, SPAM, MAC & CHEESE IN A CUP, SHELF-STABLE MILK (like Parmalat), CEREAL, POP TARTS.

(Please get the medium-sized jars of peanut butter and boxes of cereal so they fit in the Blessing Box.) Also, folks

can always use **SMALL BOTTLES OF LAUNDRY DETERGENT**, so keep those coming! **BODY WASH OR SOAP, PAPER TOWELS, & TOILET PAPER** are also appreciated. Please drop off your donations in Room 5 (the Blessing Box Room) or the office. **NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, OR UNLABELED CANS, PLEASE.**



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



9/02 Frank & Marilyn Kostal 9/06 Richard & Betty Starr

9/02 Diane & Joe Warren 9/17 Dave & Lynn Broers

9/22 Drew & Nancy Beisswenger



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



9/02 Marilyn Kostal

9/15 Julie Lasher

9/23 Max Crider

9/10 Wayne Horner (93) 🎉

9/16 Johnny Rayburn

9/23 Maci Echols

9/12 Connie Clark (95) 🎉

9/18 Gary Tomlinson

9/25 Diane Verville

9/13 Jane Lewellen

9/19 Harry Mount

9/26 Karen Roenfeld

9/15 Barbara Brooks

9/22 Shirley Davenport

9/30 Carol Cheek

9/15 Deb Dakken

9/22 Bob Vermett

9/30 Noreen Poor

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

	2027 Actual	2027 Budget
Month of July Contributions (Income*)	\$ 34,064.89	\$ 47,083.33
Month of July Expenses	\$ 38,204.68	\$ 46,428.84
Difference	\$ (4,139.79)	\$ 654.49
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 34,064.89	\$ 47,083.33
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 38,204.68	\$ 46,428.84
Difference	\$ (4,139.79)	\$ 654.49

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

THANK YOU

Once again, we are reminded how blessed we are to be part of the FUMC family. Thank you so much for all your prayers, cards, calls and visits after my hip replacement surgery. Special thanks to Billy Beverage for keeping our yard work done.

~ **BOB & SHARI VERMETT**



United Women in Faith

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

I know everyone is tired of the hot temperatures and very little rain. We all will be glad to see September come and bring cooler weather.

I hope you have been catching up on your reading and visiting our church Library which has a lot of good books for you to check out and read.

Good news in September means Circle groups will start meeting again. UWF has a lot of activities this fall for everyone to attend. This would be a perfect time to visit a Circle from the list below. All are welcome to come and enjoy meeting new friends and be part of a Christian group of women who are busy in the church helping others.

The UWF Fall Unit Luncheon is September 23rd at 11:30 in Becker Hall. See more information on the next page.

The 48th Annual Holiday Bazaar will be Saturday, October 3rd, from 9:00 am- 2:00 pm. Be sure to fill out the HELP WANTED insert in upcoming Bulletins. Bazaar workshops continue Thursdays at 9:00 am in the Quilt Room downstairs. If you have something you have made at home for the Bazaar, please bring them to church by September 24th so they can be priced and made ready for sale.

Our UWF is committed to helping local non-profits. You, too, can become a member of UWF and make a difference in someone's life. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!!

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

Dates to Remember:

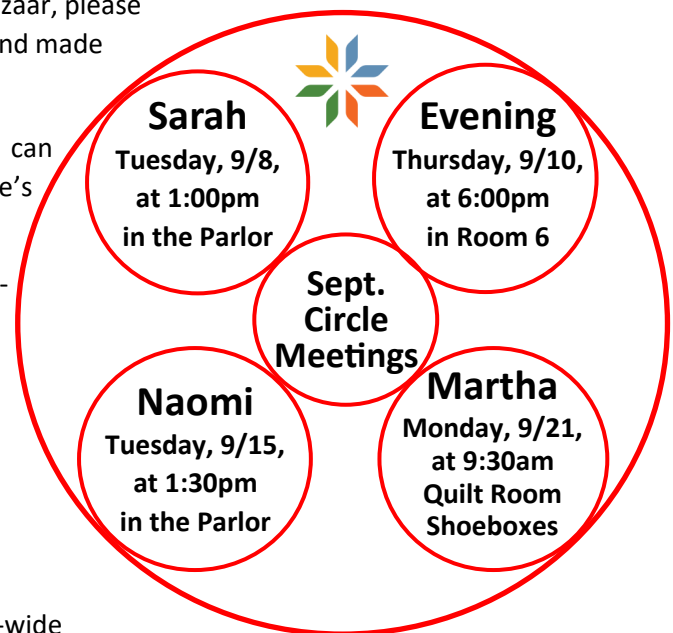
September 2nd 9:30 am UWF Board Meeting in the Parlor

September 23rd 11:30 am UWF Luncheon in Becker Hall

September 26th UWF District Meeting in Fort Smith

(Reservations need to be in by September 19th.)

September 30th-October 2nd UWF Holiday Bazaar Set-up church-wide



THANK YOU from Verna

What a Rummage Sale we had this year! It was a bit hectic at times but well worth all the hours, sore muscles, organizing and hassles. What a good feeling to know that we have raised so much money for our local charities as well as our leftovers going to Gravette's Care and Share so they can benefit also. So, a big THANK YOU, not only to all the men & women who worked but to everyone who donated their unwanted goods! We couldn't have a sale without both of you! I would like to make a special Thank You to the 3 ladies who help me all year long; Cheryl Campbell, Mabel Ashline and Becky Collier. They are always ready to join me with picking up, organizing and pre-pricing whenever someone lets us come get their donations in the months before the sale. Rest up everyone and get ready for the Bazaar in October!

~ Verna Bottjen



UWF 48th Annual Holiday Bazaar Help Needed & Bring Items in Now



The UWF needs your help again this year for the Holiday Bazaar happening Saturday, October 3. You can bake pies, bake goodies, donate plants to sell, help make cinnamon rolls, help out in the kitchen, or just generally help out. Men are needed to set up tables before and tear down after. There will be an insert in the next few Sundays' bulletins with more info. Please fill one out and place it in the designated UWF basket (next to the bulletins) in the narthex and also near the Becker Hall entrance. **Please bring your craft or sale items in now so they can be priced.** For questions or to volunteer directly, call Judy Bilyeu at 721-9460.

JOIN US FOR THE



UWF MEETING & QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 23, 11:30am in Becker Hall

Kwami Abdul-Bey, Director of the Washita Foothills Youth Media Arts and Literacy Collective, will speak on, "Our Past Is Our Present Is Our Past," as racial justice is our theme. The menu will be spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert for \$7.50. Childcare is available with prior notification. ***Please RSVP by Sunday, 9/20***, through your Circle.

Childcare is available with prior notification.

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SOLOS gives single ladies the opportunity to go out to eat and socialize with one another. This month, SOLOS will meet for lunch at BV Country Club on Monday, 9/21, at 11:00am. RSVP by 9/19, 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.





**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8,
3:00PM IN RM 6**



**TRUSTEES MEETING
SUNDAY, 9/20,
AT 12:15PM PARLOR**



UMM Meal & Meeting is back!

This month's is **Wednesday, 9/16**. Dinner is at **5:30pm** in **Becker Hall**. The meeting will follow at **6:00pm**. ****This month's speaker is***

Matt Zimmerman, Director of A Club & Former Student-Athlete Engagement in the Razorback Foundation.

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
479-295-0187

SEPTEMBER TEE TIMES

TUESDAY, 9/1
8:25 AM HIGHLANDS

THURSDAY, 9/10
8:00 AM BV CTRY CLUB

MONDAY, 9/21
7:30 AM DOGWOOD

TUESDAY, 9/29
9:00 AM KINGSWOOD

THURSDAY, 9/3
8:00 AM KINGSWOOD

MONDAY, 9/14
7:25 AM BV CTRY CLUB

TUESDAY, 9/22
9:50 AM HIGHLANDS

MONDAY, 9/7
LABOR DAY - NO GOLF

TUESDAY, 9/15
8:15 AM BERKSDALE

THURSDAY, 9/24
8:00 AM HIGHLANDS

TUESDAY, 9/8
8:10 AM BRITTANY

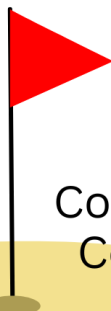
THURSDAY, 9/17
8:00 AM KINGSWOOD

MONDAY, 9/28
9:00 AM BERKSDALE



WANTED: Assistant Coordinator for Thursday Methodist Men 18-Hole Golf

Need to have someone fill in only when Group Coordinator is away/ill/has a conflicting appointment. Contact Darrell Bottjen at 479-295-0187. Thank you.





Look Who Was in The Weekly Vista!

Quilts of Valor presented to vets

August 5, 2026 by Steve Andrews



American pride was in the air, as 13 military veterans received a Quilt of Valor from the local chapter, Calico Cut-ups, at a ceremony held at Crystal Bridges.

Each of the veterans was given an

ovation at the July 25 ceremony, as they were wrapped in their new quilt.

"It's just a very unique ceremony all the way around," said Lisa Meier, the group director. "And it's even more special to see so many of the veterans getting presented their quilts by a loved one."

The Quilts of Valor organization started with a dream, according to the website, qovf.org. Founder Catherine Roberts' son was serving in Iraq when she dreamed of a young man sitting on the side of his bed, hunched over in despair. Then she dreamed of the same young man wrapped in a quilt and a feeling of well-being. Quilts, she believes, equal healing.

The Calico Cut-ups is a quilt guild and one of hundreds of chapters nationwide and is unique to Northwest Arkansas. With 167 current members, it is the largest member organization in Bella Vista.

"We have been very, very active in giving away quilts," said Meier. "Last year we gave 17 quilts to veterans. This year we have given away 26 already and we still have three more ceremonies planned."

"The mission of Quilts of Valor is to wrap veterans with love and warmth, by awarding them a quilt."

Each quilt is unique. The same pattern might be reused, but the fabric is always different. They are most all red, white, and blue and most have stars.

Besides fabric, there are other costs as well including the batting, the binding and sometimes the fee for a machine quilter. All those costs are covered by donations.

The quilts are made by Calico Cut-ups with about 10 members regularly coming in and making kits for the quilts and pillowcases. The guild then turns the kits into a quilt. Members go through the entire process of piecing the top, layering it, and having it quilted, so they can award them to the veterans.

"We have a two-pronged mission," said Meier. "One, is mem-

ber education. We teach ourselves and we bring in nationally known speakers to teach us. We learn in a variety of ways; however, our greater mission is giving, community giving."

The group also supports nearly 14 other area organizations with donations of items. For example, they make small lap quilts for Circle of Life Hospice, twin size quilts for recovery and treatment centers, and they give tote bags to kids.

Last year they gave away 970 items that were made by the group to these organizations. This year the goal is to do over 1,000.

"There is just a variety of things we are involved in," said Meier. "And we really are trying to expand that outreach."

Veterans are nominated by friends or family. It is estimated that in 2027 the national organization will give away it's 500,000th quilt.

The qualification to receive a Quilt of Valor is that you are a veteran with an honorable discharge and have been touched by war.

"As long as you meet that criteria, regardless of age, regardless of area of activity, regardless of anything, you can receive a Quilt of Valor," Meier said.

The veterans who received their Quilts of Valor were James Bobbitt (Army), Charles Dudley (Navy), Gregory Helle (Army), John Justice (Air Force), David Olson (Army), Steven Marshall (Navy), Jeffrey McFarland (Army), Leslie McFarland (Navy), Gary Prince (Marines), Donald Schmelzer (Army), Richard Stewart (Marines) and Lawrence Winslow (Navy).

For more information on Calico Cut-ups, go to calico-cutups.com. For more information on Quilts of Valor, go to qovf.org.





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, 9/21***



**THE CHURCH
 WILL BE
 CLOSED FOR
 LABOR DAY
 ON MONDAY,
 SEPTEMBER 7.**

Finance Meeting
Sunday, 9/13, at 12:15pm
in the Parlor

**Congregational Care
 Ministry Meeting**
Sunday, 9/13, at 12:45pm
in the Parlor



A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:



**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT
 GROUP MEETING**
**MEET THIS MONTH
 ON THURSDAY, 9/3, AT
 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR**
***NO RESPITE CARE**



**meets this month
 on Wednesday, 9/9,
 from 10:00am-2:00pm
 in Becker Hall.**



**HELPING HANDS
 WORKDAY**

**SATURDAY, 9/19
 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) 640-7851 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.