



# The Good News

NOVEMBER 2021

## The Angel Tree is Coming

Christmas is coming, and as we have for many years, we will have Angel Trees set up in the Narthex and Becker Hall. This year, we have 45 names of needy children from Caring and Sharing from which to choose to purchase Christmas gifts. The card you select will contain the child's wish list and

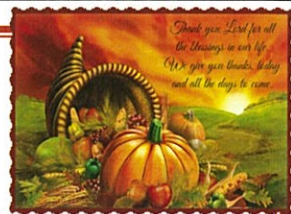


detailed instructions for your use. **PLEASE**, you must sign your name by the appropriate number on the clip board for each card you take. This is a terrific project for your Circle, Shepherd Group, Sunday School, Manna class, or Family. We sincerely thank you for your past loving participation.

PLEASE return your items to the tree where you got the name -  
no later than Monday, November 29th  
by 3:00pm.

Update...

## THANKSGIVING – yes it is coming!



Last year our church was able to prepare over 150 meals and hand them out for free to people in our community. This was so well received and everyone who helped prepare, serve, donate – all felt truly blessed. We are going to do the same thing this year, but we still need *donations* and *help*. Help in preparing the meal, help in filling the containers, and help in handing out the meals Wednesday evening. The two days that will be the busiest will be Tuesday and Wednesday. It is just around the corner, so please let us know in the church office if you are available and willing to help with this ministry. Please call the office or email [amy@funcbellavista.com](mailto:amy@funcbellavista.com) and let us know when and where you are willing to serve.

## Only 3 more weeks of Midweek Manna

Last night before winter break -  
November 17th

Wednesdays: Meal ~ 5:30 & Classes ~ 6:30

### Adult Studies

- Proverbs—living through righteousness
- For His Glory—women's Bible Study
- Disciple I Fast-Track
- The Walk—an Adam Hamilton study

### Children & Youth

- Infants 7 Toddlers
- K—6th Grade
- Youth (7th –12th grade)

Sign-up in the Office and on our website for classes and dinner reservations!



Daylight Savings Time  
ENDS Sunday,

November 7 at 2:00am.  
On Saturday night,  
November 6, set your  
clock back one hour  
before you go to bed.

ALSO -

Change your smoke  
detector batteries!





## *Glimpses of Grace*

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor

*Enter his gates with thanks; enter his courtyards with praise! Thank him! Bless his name!*  
(Psalm 100:4)

November is the month we often remember to give thanks because of that holiday towards the end of the month. One of the sweetest sounds to my ears is when one of my kiddos says, “Thank you,” without prompting from an adult. They remind me of the purity and necessity of gratitude.

I have had a few conversations lately where the topic has become centered around how 2021 has been far more difficult than 2020. I think partly because we all thought this pandemic and all that goes with it would be far behind us by now. Instead, we are still in the middle of it. Now, more than ever, there seems to be hope and light that we may be coming out of the deep of it, but as my doctors and other medical friends keep saying, “We’ll move from an active pandemic to a maintenance mode... but we aren’t going to ever truly be rid of it.”

So, here we are. Number of cases and deaths are decreasing again. The hope of being able to vaccinate elementary age children is within reach. Yet... the reality is that there isn’t going to be a huge ticker tape moment where we throw open the doors and hold a bonfire for masks. There won’t be a single moment that we can point to and say, “the world opened again,” or “things are normal now.” We will slowly peel back restrictions and protocols in all of the places we frequent (church, government offices, doctor offices), and we’ll continue to be flexible and adaptable.

But here’s the thing. I can be thankful and grateful for this relief and hope on the horizon. But I still find myself in the middle of the mess and murkiness of this pandemic. It’s hard to give thanks. It’s hard to be joyful about the light breaking through. And I believe I’m not alone in these sentiments. Now, certainly, I know we have some who are not in this space, that are genuinely good with where we are in this pandemic and what that means for them. So this is one of those moments where we need to be graceful with each other.

However, research shows that people who practice gratitude also report a higher level of contentedness in life. The phrase, “give thanks,” appears 79 times in the Bible. So perhaps we would do well to remember some gratitude throughout our day, both to others and to God. And maybe if we practice being thankful for this entire month, we’ll feel more content as we head into the busy Christmas season!

I’m thankful for each of you every day!

Blessings, *Rev. Jeanne*

### **ARUMC NW District-Wide Charge Conference ~ November 14 ~ 3:00pm**

Please join us via Zoom as we celebrate our connection and combined ministries that will include the installation of our new district superintendent, Dr. Blake Bradford, approval of the business of your local church charge conference, and a word from Bishop Gary Mueller.

This online gathering of the members of every local church’s Charge Conference is a public meeting open to all to register, although only those members of the local Church Charge Conference may vote. Zoom instructions to join the meeting are available in our office. This is an important part of the infrastructure and connectionism between our church and the District and State levels. We hope you will be able to join us.



Bishop Mueller





## JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor

*And again Jesus said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." And Jesus replied, "Tend my sheep." (John 21:16 NRSV)*

### Tending the Lord's Sheep by Giving a Ride

We live in a mobile society, one in which the need for transportation to and from activities is just a part of how we live. Pre-pandemic, our church for many years had a ministry known as the 'Auto Angels'. Their purpose was to "provide rides to members who are unable to get themselves to doctor's appointments, to pick up medicines, or to worship or other church activities." Folks who have been a part of this ministry in the past believe one strength of this ministry is in building relationships within the church family. This ministry makes the church family stronger by growing caring relationships between more and more folks.

Auto Angels often feel a strong calling to assist folks to be able to stay in their own home for a longer period of time in their lives. Utilizing the Auto Angel ministry may be appropriate for an individual who is fully able to stay in their home with the only exception being the inability to drive. Although all transportation needs cannot be met by this team, their ability to help with some of the most crucial needs, trips to doctors, trips to pick up medication, and trips to worship, is part of their calling. When transportation needs are more extensive, other means, such as the Bella Vista Courtesy Van, neighbors, Shepherd Groups, and moving into assisted living communities may become necessary.

With the hope of the continued lessening of the danger of the pandemic, we are re-vitalizing this ministry. In addition to those who help with the transportation, there is a person who is the team leader, the overseer. That person's role is to be the recipient of requests for help with transportation needs, and then to find a member of the team who can help. Sue Nebrig, a long-time Auto Angel, will be our new team leader as we re-vitalize this ministry. The Auto Angels have a calling to tend the Lord's sheep by providing transportation. They strongly feel this calling as they extend the love of Jesus in this way. If you would like to become an Auto Angel or you find yourself in need of this type of assistance, even if only for a short time, please contact me. I would be happy to talk to you about this.

Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" and then after Peter responded from his heart, "Yes, Lord, you **know** that I love you." Jesus said, "Then tend my sheep." Jesus is asking each of us the same question. As disciples, our answer should be like Peter's "Yes, Lord, you **know** that I love you". Each of us tend in a way that uses our own gifts. Maybe your gift is to provide companionship and a ride. I encourage you to take another step in discipleship: put the love of Jesus in your heart and put it into action! Join in the Journey with us as we tend the Lord's sheep together.

Blessings, *Pastor Brenda*

### All-Saints Services ~ Sunday, November 7, 2021

#### A TIME of REMEMBRANCE

*Let us give thanks for these brothers and sisters in Christ to whom God has granted rest from their labors.*

Sonnie Andersen	Connie Danielson	Lloyd Muirhead	*Lillian Timmons
J.R. Anderson	Bruce Fleming	William Pranke	*Christa Uttecht
Boyce Billingsley	Charles Hill	Keith Prueitt	Katherine Watts
Juanita Clark	*Joyce Horle	*Elizabeth Sterner	
Bill Danenhauer	*Mark Krysl	Lorraine Swanson	*indicates former member





## COMMUNITY LIFE

## OUR FAMILY

Each month this space is used to tell about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a graduation, community recognition, someone moving away or moving in, whatever the rest of the church might like to know to keep up with folks, let me know so I can include the information in these pages. Send your information to Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at 479-855-1158 or [brenda@fumcbellavista.com](mailto:brenda@fumcbellavista.com)

## JOYS

**Nancy Veach** - welcomes her 6th great-grandbaby, Ky Lee Wagand, son of Ryan and Kara of Forreston, IL. We give praise and blessings for this new life in Nancy's family.

## RELOCATIONS

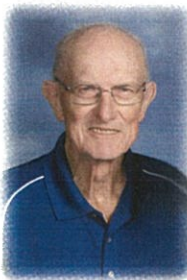


**Helen McBride** - has moved to be closer to family. She and her husband Bob joined our church in August 1988, and she has been very active in most church activities ever since. Helen will be greatly missed! We wish her peace as she settles into her new home, makes new friends, and enjoys having family close. Her new address is:

c/o Benton House, 22000 Prairie Star Prkwy, #216, Lenexa, KS 66220.

## IN MEMORIUM

**Keith Prueitt** - passed away the evening of Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> after suffering a debilitating fall the previous Sunday. His memorial service was held Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> in our sanctuary with many friends and family in attendance. Keith and his wife Lynn have been very active members of our church family since 1996. Please be in prayer for Lynn and their family as they mourn the loss of Keith.



**Lance Holman** - a co-worker of Sandy Fitch, was hospitalized at the beginning of the month with Covid. He passed away Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. He leaves his wife, 2 sons, 2 daughters, and a new grandbaby. Please be in prayer for the Holman family and friends as they mourn the passing of Lance.

**Henry** - brother-in-law of Marisa Nabholz, recently passed away as a result of Agent Orange effects. Marisa asks for prayers for her sister, Michelle, and all of the family as they mourn the passing of Henry.

**Vernie Cason** - passed away Monday, October 18, in Springdale, after a struggle with cancer. She was a beloved caregiver of Faye Brewer, Pastor Brenda's mother. Please keep Vernie's family in your prayers.

**Johnny McWilliams** - passed away Sunday, October 3, in Baltimore, Maryland, also from cancer. Johnny was married to Pastor Brenda's cousin, Gloria. Please keep Gloria and her family in your prayers.



## SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS

is our on-going mission to provide 30 snack packs per week for students of Cooper Elementary who are in need of food for the week-end. Two "Goat Banks" are out in the Narthex and the west Becker Hall entrance. Your quarters are needed for us to successfully continue this much needed program. If you would like to "adopt" a Back Pack to be filled every week, your donation of \$5.00 per month will be used for this purpose. Please make out a check to FUMCBV and in the memo write "Back Pack monthly donation". Thank you for your continued generosity for this school year as we fill the banks with quarters.



**Bring your quarters !**

**Fill the Banks !**

**Feed a Child !**

**Please remember to wear your name tags at all church events and activities. This will give our newer members an easier time of learning your name, and you theirs. If you see someone you do not know, introduce yourself and welcome them to FUMCBV!**



## COMMUNITY LIFE

*Nextgen Newscast*

Renee van Dyke, Nextgen Director

I've always struggled with the holiday season. It starts in August, for what reason? Candy and ghosties and goblins galore. Shouldn't the holidays mean something more? "Traditional" Thanksgiving is oft overlooked. Our busy schedules become overbooked. Amazon shopping is now our good friend as we search and we search for the latest of trends. Ships in the harbor, the docks are a mess. Truck drivers are tired, they loudly profess. Where's the thanks in Thanksgiving? Do we need something more? We could always ask Santa. He's already in stores! We've heard of the Grinch whose heart grew 3 sizes, perhaps though he holds just a few more surprises. We'll study his tactics. We'll study his greed. Maybe he has the answer for what we all need.



What a busy time of year! By the time you see this we'll have adventured to the Pumpkin Patch. Watch for photos! Trunk or treat is just days away and we welcome more trunks and more treats. What a fun way to offer a safe trick or treat experience to the families of our community. The long-range weather forecast is for lovely fall weather on October 31<sup>st</sup>. November seems a little slower time to catch our breath; however lots of behind-the-scenes work will be happening church-wide preparing for Advent. Here are the NextGen events you'll want to know about:

- Advent begins on November 28. Youth and children will begin an Advent study entitled "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes – Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch."
- Parents/Grandparents Day Out is scheduled for Saturday December 11 from 10am-2PM. Pre-registration information will be available soon. We need this to be prepared with lunch and craft supplies. We will also be rehearsing the Christmas Play at this time.
- Christmas Play will be Sunday December 12 during the 11:00 service – as a part of our Grinch experience the play for this year will be "How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas." What a joy to hold our program in-person again! Caretakers: Please note that all of the Who's in Whoville will need some Who-ish attire. Nothing fancy, just something fun. Again, more information coming soon.

Please watch your inboxes for more information regarding Advent and Christmas activities. As for me, I need to stay in the present thinking about pumpkins -- Halloween pumpkins and Thanksgiving pumpkins. May you all enjoy a safe and festive Halloween. Even more so, may you be blessed this Thanksgiving with an abundance of faith, family and love. *Ms. Renee*

**Maci Echols ~ NextGen Staff, Nursery Care**

Maci was born and raised in Mississippi until she was 12. At that time, she and her family moved to Springdale. She graduated from Springdale High in 2004. Following her graduation she spent a short time in the military only to be discharged due to injury. Maci has held various employment positions from radio to casino work to childcare, which is her passion. She has 10+ years experience working in childcare with children of all developmental stages. She was previously employed at Mary's Little Lamb as a lead teacher. She left that position to be a stay-at-home mom to her daughter, Clara Ruth, who was born in Feb. 2009. Following the birth of Clara, Maci and her husband welcomed a son, Ricky, in March 2020. Maci and her husband, Rick, met in 2017 and were married later that year. Rick and Maci also have 3 daughters from Rick's previous marriage.

When Maci isn't at home with the kids you can find her volunteering at the Bella Vista Museum where she is a docent and a Board member. She also serves on a committee for the local Civil War Roundtable. As if this isn't enough she also volunteers on the Recreation Committee for the POA.







## COMMUNITY LIFE



### *Amy's Anecdotes*

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator

It has been so good to be back in a place of fellowship and study during Midweek Manna. With just a few short weeks left there is still time for you to join on Wednesday evenings. Two new classes are scheduled to begin on Oct 27<sup>th</sup> and will continue to go through November 17<sup>th</sup>. One of the new ones is facilitated by Cathy Luck and Allan & Naomi Hagan. In case you missed the description in the church wide email, it is a class to explore gratitude and grace in scripture. It's okay if you have missed the first one or two classes, you are still invited to join this study which is being adapted from the SoulCollage program. It is new, it is different, give it a try! The other study is on the book "The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom and Elizabeth and John Sherrill. It is about how Corrie and her family survived concentration camps and saved many of God's chosen people. In this class, we are just reading and discussing the book, so feel free to join at any time. Thank you to Kathy and her crew for feeding us and for those who are helping to clean up. You are all appreciated so much!

As we are navigating the Covid world and praying that our numbers stay low, we are slowly introducing programs and events back into our church life. In order to do this, we need our ministry volunteers. Greeters, acolytes, scripture readers, coffee servers, etc. If you are willing to be a part of any of these ministries, please sign up at [amy@fumcbellavista.com](mailto:amy@fumcbellavista.com).

Blessings, *Amy*

### PRAYER REQUESTS

As a church family we lift each other up in prayer for both our collective joys and our concerns. Prayer requests should be sent to Rev. Brenda Wideman at [brenda@lovelearnlead.com](mailto:brenda@lovelearnlead.com) or 855-1158. You may also complete a Prayer Request Card in the Narthex or Becker Hall and drop it in the Prayer Boxes there. They are checked daily.



### Helping Hands Work Day Saturday, December 4th 8-12 and/or 12-4

Our church's turn for working at the Helping Hands Resale Shop is this month. We like to have 4 men (or teens & gals) for the morning shift from 8:00 a.m. till noon to help carry in donations and move furniture. Then at least 4 other guys for the afternoon shift from noon till 4:00 p.m. Then we can use ladies for the same shifts in the store for cashiering, bagging and tidying up the sales floor. Come join us in this "hands on" project helping others. You can sign up in the church office. Any questions, call Verna Bottjen 876-1392.



### DECK THE HALLS of FUMCBV

will be Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:30am. We can use all the help we can get, so put on your work clothes and join us as we transform FUMCBV for the Advent Season. We need ladder-climbers and lifters and carriers and puter-uppers and hangers and anyone else who wants to join in this fellowship. And, if you would like, you can bring a snack to share.



### LOVE OFFERING

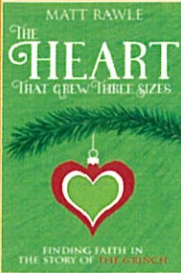
We Are so blessed as a Church Congregation. As you reflect on the wonder of this Holiday Season, please consider giving to our Staff Love Offering. We have an incredible Staff who give so much to us. Let them know how much they mean to you. Put "Staff Love Offering" in the memo of your check and include it with your regular offering. The Staff and your SPRC Committee thank you for your generosity.

*SPRC Committee*





## FAITH FORMATION



### Advent Study

Rev Jeanne and Pastor Brenda will be leading an Advent Study this year called "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes." It is a Matt Rawle study and he will explore faith themes in the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!"

This Advent season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture. Classes begin Sunday mornings at 10:05 with Pastor Brenda, starting on November 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday evenings, 7:00 via Zoom with Rev Jeanne, starting December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### BLESSING BOX Fund

A fund to make sure our Blessing Box is never empty has been started by Barbara Ihne, her daughter Karen Davis, and granddaughter, Abbie. They have made a generous donation in memory of Rev. Richard Ihne who was a pastor here at the turn of the century. Barbara's good friend Flo Dickinson has also made a donation in memory of her parents, Douglas and Elsie Story, who were founding members of FUMCBV. Although these folks are not currently members of our congregation, they have historical ties to this church and have seen the tremendous need our Blessing Box is meeting in the community. They continue to contribute on a regular basis. The box is emptied almost as fast as it is filled. Do you have someone you would like to honor in this way? If so, please consider making a donation in their name.

### Congregational Care Ministry

If you are in need of a little extra TLC, there is a program in the church that may be able to meet your needs. There are those who have been trained to assist the Pastors. Contact Pastor Brenda for more information.



### Midweek Manna

"Gratitude and Grace" Spiritual exercises and Creative Expression October 27 – November 17 with Naomi and Allan Hagan, Cathy Luck

Join this group to explore gratitude and grace in Scripture along with an opportunity to make "Prayer collages" with images of your gratitude and experiences of grace. Individual, authentic expression using torn or cut magazine pictures will be created upon which you can later meditate and/or otherwise focus your prayers. Our method is being adapted from the copyrighted *SoulCollage* program. Attend when you are available.

### Mystic Hearts Sunday School Class

October 31<sup>st</sup> 10 a.m. Mystic Hearts Adult Sunday School Class welcomes guest Judith Bernstein to tell her faith story (Judaism). On November 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> we will have guests from other faiths, including Imam Hamed from Bentonville Islamic Center. New participants are always welcome. This class is hybrid, usually meeting in room 28 and on Zoom at 10 a.m. If you find yourself asking questions about the mystery of the divine, the purpose of life, the Universal Christ, or spiritual journeying inward to journey outward, this class is for you. Little or no homework necessary to participate. NO Class October 24, November 21, and December 26 and January 2. During Advent, our topic will be "Born of A Woman" – what is the significance of this phrase symbolically and metaphorically in the stories of Jesus' birth and the anticipated second coming of Christ? For more information, contact facilitator Cathy Luck 479-619-6063 caluck88@gmail.com

**VETERAN'S PHOTOS** - If you are a veteran and have not previously turned in a military photo, please bring one to the church office no later than Wednesday November 3rd so we can include you in our video salute to veterans on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure we have your name, branch of military, service dates, and which service you attend on the back. Your photo will be returned.







## COMMUNITY LIFE

**LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE**

Dave Broers, Lay Leader

As we enter the month of November, many of us take some time to pause and give thanks for the gifts in our life. Gifts like friendship, family, and health. This year I am giving pause, asking myself how do I show thankfulness and gratitude throughout the year and not give special attention just around the Thanksgiving holiday? We can all create an attitude of gratitude that extends beyond the month of November. If we would pause daily or weekly we can identify persons, places and things to which we should extend our thanks. To have an attitude of gratitude means to examine our awareness of the love God extends to us and then to demonstrate our thanks and praise.

John Wesley writes, "Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it." Is a time of thanksgiving a part of your regular prayer time? Do you acknowledge to God your thanks and praise on a daily basis for the gifts you receive? The gift of sight or the gift of employment. The gift of the bright fall colors or the gift of laughter with a friend. The blessing of God's presence in our lives during difficult times and joyful times. Take time in your prayer life to give God thanks and praise. Be specific in your acknowledgement of the blessings God has provided in your life. The time spent in prayer deepens your relationship with God.

People create a church. People provide the energy and time behind the ministries of the church. Within your church is there someone that you are grateful for? Consider remembering this person in your prayer time. Consider sending a note of thanks and encouragement.

An attitude of gratitude should extend beyond our personal sanctuary and the walls of our church. I encourage you to be thankful this month for the blessings in your life. I encourage you to consider ways to actively demonstrate your thanks and praise. I encourage you to live into an attitude of gratitude that extends beyond November and becomes a part of your daily life.

Happy Thanksgiving

Peace and Blessings, *Dave*Artie Lawless,  
UMM President

**Be Thankful for all God's Gifts~  
What are you thankful for?**

Hello Methodist Men,

As we enter November, we may be echoing the title of this article above. What should we be thankful for this year? Well, if you think about it, probably quite a lot. 1 year ago, things were pretty dark, but the light, God's light, is starting to shine through.

We can walk into a lot of places now not looking like we're headed for surgery. You're not required to sanitize anything that moves. One of the drug companies is close to having a Covid Vaccination Pill in the works, so, you won't have to watch them stick you as if you were a dart board.

You're not as afraid to cross the border into another state to go to Walmart without showing your vaccination card at the door. You're thankful you don't have to shower in industrial strength hand sanitizer because you shook your neighbor's hand. Yep, things are definitely better.

I thought, maybe this is God's way of letting us know how much we had, how much he gave us that we took for granted, how much he loves us, cares for us, and has given us. So, slowly he is giving it back to us that we may appreciate it all the more.

We now can gather at services, actually see our friends in person, shake a hand, pat a shoulder, maybe even a hug...it's the little things that matter. At the UMM we've been golfing together and very soon bowling together. Manna meal has begun again and Trunk or Treat. We have started our UMM meetings again...The house of the Lord, our house, is opening again.

Yes, I think we all have a lot to be thankful for this November. Regardless of where you plan to spend this Thanksgiving, whether it be with friends, or family, remember you're never alone, so, set an extra plate because Jesus will be enjoying his meal with you.

As president of the UMM I'm thankful for all the support you've given and continue to give me during some pretty tough times. I'll end this by saying, I'm thankful for YOU.

Blessings, *Artie*



# OUR FAMILY



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jack & Nona Storck
- 3 Gil & Frances Temple
- 6 Dennis & Marilyn Cox
- 22 Marc & Janelle Engle
- 22 Bob & Shari Vermett
- 25 Ken & Jean Swanson



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS (CONT'D)

- 9 Sue Smith
- 10 Connor Klein
- 13 LeRoy Handel
- 13 Donna Belle Shumaker
- 13 Nancy Veach
- 16 Eli Williams
- 18 Elaine Klein
- 22 Dick Schupp
- 25 Catherine Luck
- 26 Rene Bladon
- 26 Sharon Lindsey
- 27 Verna Bottjen
- 29 Theresa Bowers
- 30 Charlie Crider



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Maryann Johnson
- 4 Iona Baxter
- 5 Darrell Bottjen
- 6 Vicki Forrest
- 7 Jerilyn Gemberling
- 7 Jeremy Shafman
- 8 Paul Healy



### November 2021 Newsletter ~ September 2021 Financial Data

Information as of September 30, 2021		2021 Actual	2021 Budget
Month of September Contributions	Income*	\$ 36,144.08	\$ 36,709.84
Month of September	Expenses	\$ 41,066.14	\$ 47,059.66
	Difference	<b>(\$ 4,922.06)</b>	<b>(\$ 10,349.82)</b>
Year to Date Contributions	Income	\$ 304,854.53	\$ 330,388.56
Year to Date	Expenses	\$ 368,425.06	\$ 423,536.94
	Difference	<b>(\$ 63,570.53)</b>	<b>(\$ 93,148.38)</b>
Special/Extra Gifts received to date		\$ 3,900.00	
Transferred from Restricted Fund		\$ 9,250.84	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$ 50,419.69)</b>	

\*Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



### Bedtime Books and Blessings

Join Ms. Renee and her dog, Angel, on Facebook at **FUMC Bella Vista Families & Children** ~ Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM for storytime! Put on your jammies, grab your favorite stuffed animal and meet her on Facebook as she does a live reading from a wonderful book each week.

**We hope you'll join us!**







## GENEROSITY

## WORSHIP

## Stewardship Corner



IS STEWARDSHIP A

The symbol for our stewardship campaign is a puzzle, but is stewardship a puzzle? I think not; all we have is given to us by God. We are to be stewards of all of the gifts He has given to us; our bodies, environment, finances, and relationships. *“This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”* 1 Corinthians 4:1-2.

Scott Maderer of Inspired Stewardship says, “Stewardship is humility. Recognizing that all gifts, resources, blessings, challenges, and all things are not yours but rather a great gift you’ve been blessed to manage. For one reason and one reason only; so you can use your unique gifts to serve God, serve others, and live out your unique calling.”

Yes, I believe stewardship is straightforward. *“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”* Colossians 3:23-24

**Ken Swanson**, Finance Committee Chair

## Worship Series ~ A Life That Matters, Nov. 7-21

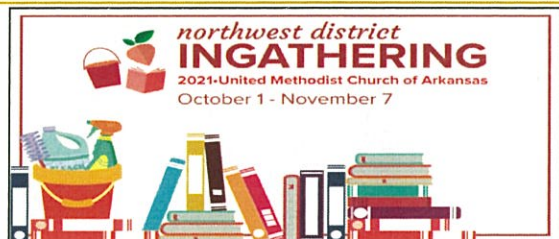
We end this liturgical year with a short series from the gospels. We’ve covered a lot of ground in this cycle and 2020-21. And rightly so; it has been a tumultuous time. Even here, as the liturgical year comes to an end and the calendar year is almost done as well, we still feel that unsettledness of a world reeling and everything changing. Our call has been to get back to normal, though we knew normal is not our true goal. At least the normal of the way the world had been. There is too much that we needed to leave behind, too much that we needed to overcome – and still do. It has always been the mission of the church to bring transformation, so being unsettled shouldn’t be odd to us.

But it was odd, and it is odd. We get in our routines and our habits just like everyone else. Maybe it has been good for us to be so shaken. Maybe it has been useful for us to reexamine our practices and our patterns in order to move into the new world that is coming into being around us. Maybe the church that has been isn’t the church that is needed today. And our task is to discern that new community and new disciples and how we live into that new promise and new hope.

So, what would this new understanding of the life of discipleship look like? What are some of the markers that help us grow into a life that matters, as individuals and as a community of faith and transformation? This series is designed to give some answers to these questions. It is not, however, supposed to be exhaustive; there are a lot of other markers that might be included in such a list. But, guided by the lectionary-assigned gospel texts for these three Sundays in November 2021, we discover three elements out of many that go to make up “A Life that Matters.”

## Journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem – Advent Series

We join Mary and Joseph during Advent season as they travel from Bethlehem to Nazareth. Advent is a journey for us 2000 plus years later, too. It is a season of preparation, of looking back and looking forward, as we anticipate the birth of Christ once again. We begin our travels with the prophetic call to look to the end of our journey. We then travel to the wilderness to hear John the Baptist foretell of Jesus’ birth and greatness. The third week we will hear from Mary as she rejoices in the gift she’s been given. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Blake Bradford, will join us this Sunday to preach. The last Sunday of Advent will find us travelling with Mary to visit Elizabeth. We will also enjoy our annual Advent music Sunday with special music from the choir in Traditional Service and the Praise Band in The Well. We conclude our journey to Bethlehem on Christmas Eve by joining Mary and Joseph at the manger in Bethlehem with carols, candlelight, and communion at 12:00, 5:00, or 7:00 P.M.



We are continuing to collect items for our October/November Mission of the Month,

### Ingathering.

You can pick up a list of needed items on the table in the Narthex.

We also will be collecting donations for our Community Thanksgiving dinner. Both projects are an outreach allowing us to be the hands and feet of Christ.

Thank you for all you do!



## WORSHIP



## Musical Chairs

Dr. Larry Zehring, Director of Music Ministries

We've all heard the saying, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." The truth of that old saw has been proved by the plans that we made several months ago to resume Choir and Handbell practices. Sadly, COVID had other plans and we postponed all those good intentions as the virus infections "spiked" throughout the country. That was the "If at first" part. Now, thankfully, comes the "try, try again" part.

The pandemic appears to be winding down; more people are fully vaccinated (and "boosted" where necessary) and it looks like we can plan for a return to something like a "normal" routine. So I believe it's time for the Choir and the Handbells to begin our post-pandemic practices. We're going to have to make some adjustments from what we used to do to accommodate Broc's piano teaching schedule and the Arkansas Conference's COVID protocols, so here are my proposals for our practices beginning Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup> running through the end of the year.

### Handbells:

Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.: As before, and plan to play for one worship service each month. We'll practice masked in the Choir Room. Hand sanitizer will be available and the handles of all the bells will be wiped down with disinfectant cloths after each rehearsal. Wearing gloves will be encouraged.

### Chancel Choir:

Thursday afternoons from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.: This is a new day and time. This change is necessary because Broc teaches private piano lessons in Rogers until late on Wednesday evenings. We'll practice masked in the sanctuary, but we'll sit in the congregational pews and stay 6 feet apart. I know this will be a challenge, but I believe we're up to it. On Sundays we'll sing our anthem masked from the choir loft, but will return to the pews as soon as we're done.

I sincerely hope that these restrictions and inconveniences won't last too long, but in the meantime, we can make the best of a less-than ideal situation and once again help lead our friends and families in worship with our music. I look forward to seeing you on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings, *Larry*



## Keys and Pedals

Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist

As I write this column, Chancel Choir is scheduled restart in 2 weeks, after more than 19 months break! The only remotely choral event we held during that time was the Pergolesi Stabat Mater, presented with just four musicians - conductor, pianist, and two singers. During the pandemic, this piece was widely performed by other churches looking to celebrate singing while minimizing risk.

Risk is part of life, pandemic or not. You don't know if something will be liked or not unless you try it. Even then, something that some think is highly successful won't be liked by some others. One of my main criteria is whether my programming choice supports the worship experience or celebrates the wonder of life?

Planning harvest-based preludes and Halloween postludes in October met each of those goals respectively. In November, it's another Piano Postludes month, so I'll be presenting the last four Spanish Dances of Enrique Granados. I began with this series of 12 pieces in May and continued with them in August. I've recorded several of them separately from the worship service and you'll easily find them on my social media and Website. I will play hymn-based organ preludes similar in style to the harvest-themed ones you heard in October.

I'm thinking about what I should do on piano and organ for Christmas. Are you looking for a Christmas piano recital similar to what I gave in 2019? Do you want to hear chamber music with violin, cello, and piano? Would you attend a short organ recital prior to a Christmas eve service as I've given in the past? Let me know.

Also, Please join me online!

On the Web: <https://brochite.com>

On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals

*Broc*





## COMMUNITY LIFE



### What's the (Hi)Story?

Jill Hale, FUMC Historian

Come with me as we revisit the Sanctuary this month. You may have figured out by now that I love stained-glass windows: the vibrant colors, the beautiful designs, the stories the windows tell, the artistic creations in glass that depict the heart of our Christian faith.

We previously looked at the "dove" window in the Sanctuary. Now let's take a look at the side windows. According to information I found in one of the history books, these windows are made of faceted art glass. Chunks of glass about one inch thick are held together by a strong epoxy substance. The windows are durable and will last for many years without need of repair. They add to the beauty of the worship service each week and are constant reminders of the story we tell over and over of God's great gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

The first side window is built around the theme of the Nativity. Three different symbols have been used. At the top is the star that guided the wise men to the place of Jesus' birth. In the center is the manger that cradled the new-born King. The daisy at the bottom has been used through the centuries to stand for the innocence of the Christ child.

The theme of the second window is the miracles of Jesus. It represents the time Jesus fed the multitude with the loaves and fishes. If you look closely at the top, you can see the fish. In the middle are the loaves, and, at the bottom, are the baskets of food that remained after the multitude had eaten.

The next time you are in the sanctuary, please take some time to look at these and the other beautiful stained-glass windows. Let me know if you have any information or memories about the selection and installation of the side stained-glass windows by leaving items in the historian box in the church office or by contacting me at [rjhale68@cox.net](mailto:rjhale68@cox.net) or 479-344-6074. *Jill*



### UMW

#### Faith – Hope – Love in Action

We are so happy to announce that our Annual Bazaar was a success. Even with all we have been dealing with handed to us via COVID, we will be able to help our local charities this year.

I wish to say "THANK YOU" to all who made items to sell, setting up everything and working the day of the Bazaar. Also, for those who helped pack and clean up afterwards. A special "Thank You" to the men who helped move the heavy things for us, too.

Our UMW unit will be working with OASIS to sell Christmas décor items made for our Bazaar. Oasis of Hope 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Shop is located at 115 N. Dixieland Road in Rogers. The thrift shop will re-open in November, and we hope you will visit their location to support UMW as well as the OASIS group. As always, proceeds from the sale of bazaar items go to local charities.

Our Evening Circle ladies will be helping with the Snack Pack for Back Packs program. We will be helping to fill the backpacks each month with snack pack items to be distributed to Cooper Elementary School.

Information to remember:

- November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Board Meeting @ 9:30am
- November is our World Thank Offering month
- Donations for Afghani Refugees to Cathy Luck
- Any Missions ideas, please contact Patti Foss

Our UMW unit is always looking for new members, and you don't have to be a member of our church to be a member of UMW. If you are interested, please contact Jerilyn Gemberling at 772-545-9461 or Linda Hyde at 316-680-0311.

Prayers for each of you and your families to have a Wonderfully Blessed and a Thankful Thanksgiving.

#### Ladies of UMW

UMW will have their quarterly unit meeting on Wednesday, December 1st in Becker Hall with a musical program. Please contact your circle for further information.

**Midweek Manna - Wednesdays**  
**5:30 Dinner ~ 6:30 Classes**  
**Something for everyone ~**  
**Please join us!**





COMMUNITY LIFE



**An Opportunity to Help**

The focus of UMW has always been to support women and children. Currently we are emphasizing the struggles of children and the justice system. We are writing to our legislators to encourage equal funding for student counselors as with police in the schools. But we want to do something more concrete in Bella Vista. We would like to provide a scholarship for a child from a low income family to attend the Boys and Girls Club after school, instead of being at home alone waiting for a parent to get home from work.

At an entry level job, a single parent may only take home \$400 - \$500 each week. The cost of one week after school is \$100 per week. Often a parent must choose between paying the rent on time or keeping her child safe. There are about 30 weeks left in the school year. Can you help us raise the funds to provide a scholarship for at least one child here in Bella Vista? You can send your donation to the UMW or to the church. Please put "After school scholarship" in the memo line. Thanks for helping keep a child safe and out of trouble.

*Judy Bilyeu*

# Bella Vista PreSchool Now Enrolling!!

BVPS is a non-denominational Christian preschool serving students ages 3-5 for over 40 years. At BVPS, children work and learn in an environment of creativity and play that also challenges them to new levels of accomplishment.

The Caterpillar class is a for students who are 3 or 4 on August 1st, and meets from 8:30-11:30 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

The Butterfly class is for students who turn 4 on or before August 1st of the current school year and will be attending Kindergarten the following year. This class meets from 8:30-12:00 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We currently have openings in both classes. If you have any questions or if you would like to arrange a time to visit the classrooms, please contact me. Also, we love volunteers who like to work with the little ones!

*Melanie Nichols*, Director  
Bella Vista Preschool  
479-531-1149

[BVpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:BVpreschool@gmail.com)  
[www.bvpreschool.wix.com/bvps](http://www.bvpreschool.wix.com/bvps)



BAZAAR 2021



**Sarah**  
Tuesday 11/9  
1pm

**Evening**  
Thursday 11/11  
6:00pm

**UMW CIRCLES**

**Naomi**  
Tuesday 11/16  
1:00pm

**Martha**  
Monday 11/15  
9:00am





## MISSIONS

## COMMUNITY LIFE



Shoe Box Ministry recently filled an order of 100 boxes of personal hygiene products for both men and women for the Bentonville Salvation Army. They will need more in December. The Catholic Church always packs their Christmas Boxes at that time of the year and we will distribute them. We are always in need of travel-size shampoo, lotions, toothpaste, soaps, Readers Digest and other books and magazines of that type. We just had to place a order for supplies to meet these needs. Thank you for any support you can give this ministry. We also continue to supply Sunshine Packs monthly to students of Cooper School. *Shoebox Team~Karen, Maryann & Cheryl*



## Blessing Box Food Collection

Next time you are in the grocery store, please think about picking up an extra can or two or a box of something like Mac 'n Cheese that can be put in our Community Blessing Box. It is a wonderful service to the needy of our community, and if we all contributed a can or two a week, the box would rarely be empty and it would not be too much of a strain on our own budgets. "There, but for the grace of God, go I". At any time, any one of us could be one of the needy.

## THANK YOU

Many thanks for all the loving people of this church who sent cards and prayers for me as I have been recovering from my surgery on September 24.

*Marisa Nabholz*

Dear SPRC, Staff, and Church Family,

Thank you so much for the gift basket, the flowers, cards, and wishes of appreciation. It is my joy to serve with you here in our community of Bella Vista. I am deeply humbled by these expressions of appreciation and gratitude. Thank you, church family!

Blessings, *Rev. Jeanne*

To all of you who expressed your appreciation, in hugs, in encouraging words, in cards, in gifts, and by being faithful members of this church family, I want to say 'Thank you so very much!' I can tell you that I have been uplifted by all of these acts of kindness and love! Blessings on all of you.

*Pastor Brenda*



### The 6th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT sponsored by WESLEY SHEPHERD GROUP

for our homebound members has begun!

The cards will be delivered the 1st week of December.



Again, this year we are having to do things a little differently. Cards WILL NOT BE on card tables in the Narthex and Becker Hall for you to sign.

**We ask each family member to please sign every card in a box of Christmas cards you supply. DO NOT put the cards in the envelopes or seal them. Leave the envelopes in the bottom of the box with the signed cards on top. The Christmas box(es) may be left in the labeled bin in the Portico. They will be collected every day. Our hope is that our homebound members will enjoy viewing several cards from their church family during the holiday season.**

Thank you for your participation in this much-needed mission for our homebound members during this time of isolation for many of them.



# November 2021

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
31	 <p><b>Trunk or Treat</b> 2:00 - 4:00pm</p>	1	10:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Disciple IV 6:30 By the Book AA	2	9:00 Yoga - BH 5:30 Grief Support 6:00 Scouts	3	9:00 BV Quilters 9:30 UMW Board 4:00 Chancel Bells 5:30 Manna Dinner 6:30 Manna Classes 6:30 YouthLife 7:00 Broc rehearse	4	9:00 Yoga - BH 11:00 Concordia Service 12:00 Caregivers Supprt 7:00 Chancel Choir	5	Offices closed 10:00 The Well - rehearse	6	8:30 Amp Big Book <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> "Fall Back" your clock tonight before you go to bed! & Change Batteries
7	<p><b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> <b>VETERANS SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Traditional Service 9:30 Zoom Sundry School 10:00 All SS classes 11:00 Well Wrshp- cntmp 12:10 Broc Organ Rehearsal</p>	8	9:30 DAR - BH 10:30 Staff Meeting 5:30 Abram Shep Grp 6:00 Disciple IV 6:30 By the Book AA	9	9:00 Yoga - BH 1:00 Sarah Circle 6:00 Scouts	10	8:00 BV Quilters 4:00 Chancel Bells 5:30 Manna Dinner 6:30 Manna Classes 6:30 YouthLife 7:00 Broc rehearse	11	9:00 Yoga - BH 11:00 Concordia Service 6:00 Evening Circle 7:00 Chancel Choir	12	Offices closed 10:00 The Well - rehearse 11:30 PreSchool Brd	13	8:30 Amp Big Book
14	<p>9:00 Traditional Service 9:30 Zoom Sundry School 10:00 All SS classes 11:00 Well Wrshp- cntmp 12:10 Broc Organ Rehearsal 2:30 Finance Team 3:00 CHRGE CONF- zoom</p>	15	9:30 Martha Circle 10:30 Staff Mtng 12:00 Trustees 6:00 Disciple IV 6:30 By the Book AA	16	9:00 Yoga - BH 1:00 Naomi Circle 6:00 Scouts	17	8:00 BV Quilters 4:00 Chancel Bells 5:30 last Manna Dinner 6:30 last Manna Classes 6:30 YouthLife 7:00 Broc rehearse	18	9:00 Yoga - BH 11:00 Concordia Service 2:30 Emmaus Btfl Clrs 7:00 Chancel Choir	19	Offices closed 10:00 The Well - rehearse	20	8:30 Amp Big Book
21	<p>9:00 Traditional Service 9:30 Zoom Sundry School 10:00 All SS classes 11:00 Well Wrshp- cntmp 12:10 Broc Organ Rehearsal 1:30 CCM meeting</p>	22	10:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Disciple IV 6:30 By the Book AA	23	9:00 Yoga - BH 6:00 Scouts	24	8:00 BV Quilters  CHURCH CLOSSES AT NOON	25	<b>THANKSGIVING</b> 	26	<b>CHURCH CLOSED</b>	27	8:30 Amp Big Book
28	<p>9:00 Traditional Service 9:30 Zoom Sundry School 10:00 All SS classes 11:00 Well Wrshp- cntmp 12:10 Broc Organ Rehearsal</p>	29	8:30 DECORATE CHURCH 10:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Disciple IV 6:30 By the Book AA	30	9:00 Yoga - BH 11:00 <b>RC BLOOD DRIVE</b> 6:00 Scouts	1	9:00 BV Quilters 9:30 UMW Board 4:00 Chancel Bells 6:30 YouthLife 7:00 Broc rehearse	2	9:00 Yoga - BH 11:00 Concordia Service 12:00 Caregivers Supprt 7:00 Chancel Choir	3	Offices closed 10:00 The Well - rehearse	4	8:30 Amp Big Book





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

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***We're Here to Serve You***

Senior Pastor - Rev. Jeanne Williams  
 Associate Pastor - Rev. Brenda Wideman  
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore  
 Church Secretary - Jan Walton  
 Communications Director - Kaitie Bewley  
 NextGen Director - Renee van Dyke  
 Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring  
 Organist/Pianist - Broc Hite  
 Contemporary Worship Leader - David Williams

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

**Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month**

***To the Home of ...***

**Trunk  
 or  
 Treat**



**Drive-Thru**

**First United Methodist Church**  
 20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista  
 west Parking Lot

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31**  
**2:00pm ~ 4:00pm**

See the many decorated trunks hosted  
 by folks dressed for the occasion,  
 ready to fill your *Trunk or Treat* bag!



**RED CROSS  
 BLOOD  
 DRIVE**



**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**FUMC BELLA VISTA**  
 20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista  
 Becker Hall

**Tuesday, November 30, 2021**  
 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Please call 1-800-REDCROSS  
 (1-800-733-2767)  
 or visit RedCrossBlood.org  
 and enter: FUMCBV  
 to schedule an appointment