



# The Good News

SEPTEMBER 2021

## Midweek Manna Returns!!

Classes begin on Wednesday, September 1st

Dinner ~ 5:30 - 6:15

(suggested cost: \$5 adult, \$3 Child, \$15 Family/maximum)

Groups 6:30 -7:45

- **Proverbs** - seeks to teach us wise living through righteousness and justice, wants us to learn wisdom in family life and how to relate wisely to all people. Jean Meadows will lead this study through the book of Proverbs. Bring your Bible.
- **For His Glory**—Women's Bible Study— This is an in-depth, six week, verse by verse study of Ephesians to help us dismantle the lies we've believed about ourselves and replace them with a new identity built on God's Word
- **Disciple Fast Track**— Led by Rev. Heath Williams; this adaptation provides a viable option for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement over time with the entire biblical text. This session will cover the Old Testament.
- **The Walk**—an **Adam Hamilton** study which will examine five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God. Andrew Smith will lead this study.

*For His Glory, Disciple Fast Track, and The Walk*  
all require a book. We will have a small number available for purchase in the office,  
or you may purchase one on your own.

Please register for classes on line through the website: [funcbellavista.com](http://funcbellavista.com)

You can also register to just have dinner.

You must register for dinner so we know how many to plan for.

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### Children & Youth Opportunities:

- **Infants & Toddlers**      **Nursery Available**
- **K - 6th Grade**            **Rev Jeanne will lead the children in lessons and games**
- **Youth (7th-12th grade)**    **Join us every week for a time of open mindedness, food, fellowship, games, Bible study, and discussion.**



## *Glimpses of Grace*

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor

*I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11*

Perhaps an over-used verse, Jeremiah 29:11 does come to my mind a lot recently. Everywhere I turn, I am asked, “what are your plans for \_\_\_\_\_?” And you can fill in the blank with a number of things! What are my plans? I’ve started turning the question to, “what are God’s plans? Have you done any listening to God about this?” It’s hard to listen to God when we like to talk so much and ask God for so much, isn’t it? When I stop and take the time to listen to God, it seems like God does have an idea of what “my plans” are.

So I’m inviting you to stop and listen to God. Listen to God for what your plans should be and what OUR plans should be. God has a plan for us, God’s church, if we but stop and listen. A plan for peace and a future filled with hope.

We also need to share with one another how God is speaking to us. So mark your calendars to attend one of four sessions (In-person: 9/12 at 10:00 AM or 9/14 at 10:00 AM; via Zoom 9/12 at 7:00 PM or 9/16 at 12:00 PM—you will find the link on our website as the date draws closer). If we need more options, we will happily create them. If you can’t make one of these times and wish to share how God is speaking to you, then please call the office and make an appointment to speak with me.

I have already heard from a few people of how God is speaking to them, and wouldn’t you know it? They all have similar ideas! This is how the Holy Spirit works, my beloveds! Planting seeds of plans and ideas into all of us at the same time so that we may all realize God is leading us in the same way.

By the time you read this, you will have also received a letter outlining some fairly stark realities within our church. As I converse with my colleagues, I am realizing that our church is not unique in this way. We do have the unique opportunity to change our course and be witnesses of Christ in Bella Vista. Please continue to pray for our church and community at 12:30 PM daily.

Blessings,

*Rev. Jeanne*

### **Worship Services for the Month of September:**

- August 29 – September 19: ROOTS

John Wesley, an Anglican priest, regularly wrote to “The People Called Methodist” as the movement gained momentum and grew. He never intended to start a new denomination, but here we are! Over the course of 4 weeks, we will explore a few of the basic tenets of our denomination that are our roots. These include: Connection, Grace, Healing and Hope, and Seeking Growth.

- September 26 — Renee van Dyke, Guest Preacher

Renee is our NextGen Director, but she’s also a Retired Lay Pastor for the Presbyterian Church. We look forward to hearing God’s Word through Renee.

### **Servants Needed!**

As you are exploring your Discipleship Pathway, are you someone who is gifted with leadership qualities? Do you enjoy looking at spreadsheets? Are you Matthan or Lukan and enjoy meetings? It is time to look at our Ministry Teams (Finance, Trustees, Staff-Pastor Parish Relations, Nominations, Church Council) and find the people who are called to serve in these roles. Please contact Rev. Jeanne or the church office if you are feeling called.



## *JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER*

Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor



### The Deep Waters of Grief

*But now thus says the LORD, the one who created you, O Jacob,  
the one who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.*

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;*

*when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (Isaiah 43:1-3 NRSV)*

How often do we feel overwhelmed; how often do we feel as if we are drowning in the deep waters of life? We all have struggles, Goliaths that we face. One of those giants is called Grief. Grief can be an emotional roller coaster, a deep abyss where escape seems impossible, a whirlpool of raging water that will not let us go. Scriptures like the Isaiah 43 verses tell us that God is with us. But often we need a physical paddle to get us through the torrent; we need to talk through our feelings with another person; we need a listening ear; we need to hear a human voice; we need to feel a human hug; we need “God with skin on.”

Beginning Tuesday, September 7th, the grief support study, “When Mourning Dawns: Living your Way through the Seasons of Your Grief” will be offered from 5:30-7pm in the Chapel. We will meet each Tuesday for nine weeks, where we will explore the characteristics of grief, what grief is, how our culture views it, how it affects us, and how to journey through it. We will finish the 9-week session before the time changes back to Standard Time for the winter. In that way, no one will have to drive in the dark. By sharing our stories and joining together in this journey, we discover that we are not alone in those rising floods. We discover that God is there as we pass through the waters; we find the current becomes easier to navigate; and we feel the healing hand of the God who created us begin to work in your lives.

The COVID pandemic has brought many losses to our lives, loss of loved ones, loss of jobs, loss of security, loss of companionship. And the list goes on and on. If you are grieving a loss, whether it be a recent one or one from a long time ago, I invite you to prayerfully consider joining in the journey with us in this grief support group. In our shared story, we will grow closer to God and to each other, and we will all find healing because of the experience, each in our own unique way. Feel free to call me at 855-1158, if you have any questions or would like to talk to me about this. I pray you will join us!

Blessings, **Pastor Brenda**

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### ***When Mourning Dawns: Living Your Way Fully through the Seasons of Your Grief***

We invite you to travel a 9-week journey through the experiences of grief from the withering of Autumn to the hopeful new growth of Summer. Our group journey will begin Tuesday, September 7th and continue through November 2nd. It will be held from 5:30-7:00pm in the Chapel. Come join us and bring a friend who would also benefit from this. A donation of \$10 for the materials is welcomed. Please sign up in the church office.





## 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)

## BIRTHS

**Florence Hill** – proudly welcomed her 10<sup>th</sup> great-grand child. Henry Thomas Hill was born to Andy and Helen Hill and big sister Lucy (14 months old) in Leawood, KS. on August 17<sup>th</sup>. We give praise and prayers for the life of this young man!



**Blake Bradford**—NWARUMC District Superintendent, visited our church Sunday, August 29 and met with several leaders to help strategize ways to maneuver through these pandemic and post-pandemic times in which we find ourselves.



## NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Friday, September 3rd, the church offices will be closed every Friday. If you need to reach a pastor or have other church business, you are welcome to leave a message on the phone—the phones will be checked periodically during the day. Thank you to everyone for your understanding during these trying times.

## CCM NEWS

We were privileged to host a 2-day Congregational Care Ministers Seminar on August 27-28 in Becker Hall. The seminar was led by the Rev. Karen Lampe, who is the developer of this powerful ministry which originated at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. Nineteen new CCM ministers, including four from our church, eight from other parts of Arkansas, and seven from Plano, TX, were trained and commissioned as a result of this gathering.



CCMs from FUMCBV who attended the seminar included Amy Gilmore\*, Pat Fox, Maryann Johnson, Jim\* & Paula\* Phillips, Rev. Brenda Wideman, Dave Broers, Jan Walton\*, Connie Knauss, Judy Kaufmann, Kandi Mount, and Kim Bert. They are shown here with Rev. Karen Lampe. (\*newly commissioned CCMs)



Yes!! We did wear our masks!

COMMUNITY LIFE

FAITH FORMATION

MISSIONS



## *Nextgen Newscast*

Renee van Dyke, Nextgen Director

I'd like to send out a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been praying for me during my recent cancer diagnosis, surgery and recovery. The visits, calls, cards, and help around the house definitely brightened my days as the Son was shining through.

For the near-term weeks, I will be in the office for reduced hours and restricted activity. You can usually find me there Sunday morning and Mon–Thursday, 10AM–1PM. If you need to contact me outside those hours, please email or contact the church office.

### NextGen News

In-person Sunday School has been temporarily suspended until September 12<sup>th</sup>. Effective immediately, we will be pivoting to Zoom Sunday School. Children grades K-6 will meet Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:00 and Youth will meet from 10:15 – 10:45. Zoom invite links have been sent out via email. If you have not received your invite, please contact me at [renee@fumcbellavista.com](mailto:renee@fumcbellavista.com).

Youth Group will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 1 in the Youth Room!! We will meet during Mid-week Manna from 6:30 – 7:45PM. Dinner will be available from 5:30 – 6:15PM. Opportunities will also be available during this time for family members.

Speaking of Mid-week Manna, look for information that gives you a good idea of what will be happening on Wednesday evenings. There will be a meal offered at minimum cost for families beginning at 5:30. Small groups meet from 6:30 – 7:45 for a variety of classes. There will be adult classes as well as youth and children opportunities. Nursery care will be available also.

### NextGen Needs:

\*Our Nursery Care position is currently open. If you, or someone you know is interested please contact Ms. Renee as soon as possible.

\*Volunteers needed for Mid-week Manna, specifically the Grades K-6 room at this time.

\*Substitute Sunday School leaders to fill in occasionally.

\*I'd like to develop a list of persons who are willing to share their gifts with our youth on Wednesday evenings. Come to youth group for a few minutes, get to know our youth and share your story or passion. Are you willing to chaperone outings? Are you willing to lead us in a segment of music? Are you an artist who could share your gift and perhaps help us find a way to use our artistic gifts for the glory of God? Do you love to cook? Do you volunteer with the homeless? Are you a planner, a mover, a shaker? We need your wisdom to help us find unique ways to be the hands and feet of Christ. Friends, come inspire our youth! Share your story. Share yourself. Again, please contact Ms. Renee with your interest so we can schedule a date for you to join us.

*Ms. Renee*

### Best Choice.



Did you know that UMW can support local charities with money earned from saving **BEST CHOICE** bar code labels?

This past year has made it difficult to gather labels from UMW members because of few in-person meetings.

This is such an easy way to participate in mission giving so we're asking EVERYONE to help. Please consider choosing *Best Choice* products, clipping off the bar codes, and either hold on to them until things open up, or if you visit the church now and then, drop them in the **RED BOX** located on the UMW shelf in the Library.



Please don't forget about our ongoing mission project! **SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS...**

is our on-going commitment to provide 30 snack packs per week for students of Cooper Elementary who are in need of food for the week-end. We need your help!

**Bring your quarters!**

**Write a check!**

**Feed a Child!**



## COMMUNITY LIFE

## LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE

Dave Broers, Lay Leader



This summer has almost gotten away and school has started again. Where has the time gone? I came across one of John Wesley's distinctive emphases that I've known about and thought I would share with you: Christian Perfection. And to be honest, I struggle with what that really means for me, a lay person, in this complicated life. Here's some background:

Jesus once told his followers to "be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matt 5:48). He was talking about loving enemies, which went against conventional thinking. Jesus later summarized the Law and prophetic teaching in two Great Commandments: "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind" and "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt 22:36-40).

Perfection—loving God and others, even enemies, as purely and fully as Christ. That's a primary theme in John Wesley's Methodist teaching. Wesley believed that it was possible for people to actually be perfect in love—so filled with Christ, with God at the center of life (rather than self), as to be truly full of life and love as God intended. Perfection didn't mean we could be free from ignorance, mistakes, infirmities, or temptation. And we may never reach full perfection in our earthly lives. But Wesley wrote that Christians should always seek to grow deeper in love, following Christ so closely as to have "the mind that was in Christ."

I wonder—is that possible? Really? Especially today with all the distractions and "stuff" in our lives and our world? I'm a lay person who deals with a lot of earthly issues, not a deep-thinking theologian, so I need truth that's practical. Is Christian perfection just a nice theory with little practical reality? Well, Wesley acknowledged that Jesus called us to a pretty tough way, but His way of love was truly life. Ok. So whether it's practical or not, the pursuit of perfection does make us better, more loving of God and neighbor, more like Christ, than we otherwise would be. And something called "sanctifying grace" means that God is helping us in that pursuit.

Are we going on to perfection as United Methodist Christians today? As leaders in our congregations? Let's acknowledge, as Paul wrote in Philippians 3:12-15, that we haven't yet reached the goal but press on to become mature, even perfect, in love for God and all of God's people.

What does Christian Perfection mean for you?

Peace & Blessings, *Dave*

Artie Lawless,  
UMM President

## Friends, Check on Friends

Hello Methodist Men!

Welcome to September! I will not be unhappy to see this extreme summer heat cool down a bit. This is one of Marian's and my favorite times of the year. Fall begins on the 22<sup>nd</sup> as God's gift of Nature showers us in vibrant color.

It still amazes me how fast this year has gone by. Our thoughts start to change. We slow down and relax a bit. September is also a good month to look forward to the happy times fall brings.

Maybe you will take that last vacation trip to see "the kids", or just a simple weekend getaway. You might decide to do that one small project before the holidays roll in, or finally finish that book you started in June.

I always considered fall God's way of saying "Take a breath my children. Relax and reflect on the beauty of the world I have given you". There is so much joy and happiness out there that we don't see. Now, fall gives us that chance to realize what "God" sees as *Important*.

Take these few precious months, that are before us, that show God's display of love for his earthly family, find the Joy, embrace the happiness, share that with your family and friends. Enjoy this fall and God's reminder of his caring for us. I'll end this message with a quote from a very brilliant man:

"Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better". Albert Einstein

Many blessings, *Artie*

## JOB BOOK

Have you seen a burned-out bulb somewhere, or a faucet leaking, or any other "something that needs to be fixed"? There is a JOB BOOK in the office where you can fill out a job request form. The Trustees check this book frequently, and try to fix whatever needs to be fixed—but if they don't know about it, it won't get done! Everyone can be the eyes and ears of the church. Thanks!



**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Frank & Marilyn Kostal (60)
- 15 Dave & Anny Weber (65)
- 17 Dave & Lynn Broers



**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Marilyn Kostal
- 2 Verla Shafman
- 3 Karen Dove
- 4 Dawn Thompson
- 8 Herb Ayres
- 10 Wayne Horner
- 12 Connie Clark
- 12 Wayne Hubbert
- 12 Nona Storck
- 13 Donna Gaudet
- 14 Nathan Forst
- 15 Joyce Connell



**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS (CONT'D)**

- 16 Karen Bacon
- 16 Johnny Rayburn
- 18 Gary Tomlinson
- 19 Harry Mount
- 20 Connie Knauss
- 22 Shirley Davenport
- 22 Bob Vermett
- 23 Julia Crider
- 23 Aggie Danenhauer
- 24 Kitty Polich
- 25 Diane Verville
- 26 Piper Engle
- 26 Stan Robinson
- 26 Karen Roenfeld
- 27 Natalie Williams
- 30 Carol Cheek



**September 2021 Newsletter ~ July 2021 Financial Data**

		<b>2021 Actual</b>	<b>2021 Budget</b>
Month of July Contributions	*Income	\$30,530.33	\$36,709.76
Month of July	Expenses	\$40,551.39	\$47,059.66
	Difference	<b>(\$10,021.06)</b>	<b>(\$10,349.90)</b>
Year to Date (as of 7/31/21)	*Income	\$235,359.12	\$256,968.88
Year to Date (as of 7/31/21)	Expenses	\$289,957.00	\$329,417.62
	Difference	<b>(\$54,597.88)</b>	<b>(\$72,448.74)</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

## MISSIONS

### Stewardship Corner

#### Four Principles of Biblical Stewardship (continued from last month)

*Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already.*

C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Bill Peel wrote an essay entitled Leadership Is Stewardship. His essay can help us build a framework to begin unpacking this biblical idea of stewardship.

- Principle number one we learned, was—The principle of OWNERSHIP.
- Principle number two we learned, was—The principle of RESPONSIBILITY.
- Principle number three is – The principle of ACCOUNTABILITY.

A steward is one who manages the possessions of another. We are all stewards of the resources, abilities and opportunities that God has entrusted to our care, and one day each one of us will be called to give an account for how we have managed what the Master has given us. This is maxim taught by the Parable of the Talents. God has entrusted authority over the creation of us and we are not called to rule over it as we see fit. We are called to exercise our dominion under the watchful eye of the Creator managing his creation in accord with the principles he has established.

Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents, we will be called to give an account of how we have administered everything we have been given, including our time, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships and authority.

We will all give account the rightful owner as to how well we managed the things he has entrusted to us.

Adapted from Four Principles of Biblical Steward by Hugh Whelchel.

*Ken Swanson*, Finance Committee Chair



Please be in prayer for, and in support of, our church administrative leaders as they lead us from week to week....

### COOPER SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Thank you! Thank you! . . . to everyone who contributed to the Cooper Elementary “Back to School Supplies” campaign. They have been delivered, and the school was so excited to have these to distribute to the students. Cooper Elementary School serves approximately 600 students in grades k-4, and below is a list of supplies you have so generously donated:

- 307 Individual erasers
- 198 Individual glue sticks
- 91 Lined composition books/notebooks
- 89 Boxes colored pencils
- 77 Folders
- 69 Boxes of crayons
- 50 Boxes of markers
- 47 Boxes of #2 pencils (784 pencils)
- 45 Bic pens
- 38 Pairs of scissors
- 20 Pencil boxes
- 19 Bottled glue
- 10 Rulers
- 6 Pkgs notebook paper
- 5 Pkgs pencil topper erasers-25 toppers
- 3 Watercolors
- 2 Back packs
- 2 3-ring binders
- 1 Box dry eraserz
- 1 Pkg of 8 blank books
- 1 Pkg of construction paper

Thanks, again!! *Roger & Allison Totten*

Please help keep our BLESSING BOX filled with non-perishable food items, so that those in our community who are in need can replenish themselves here. If you are unable to shop yourself, we do have a Blessing Box fund and we have volunteers who will do the shopping. 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 one-time or monthly donation in their name. The Blessing Box really is a blessing to those in need.



## WORSHIP



### *Come Learn about our Roots*

We have begun a new worship series called *Roots*. The focus is on a few of our basic tenets of belief based in the roots of the Methodist movement. We will cover grace, connectionalism, healing and hope, and evangelism. Our founder, John Wesley, was actually an Anglican priest in The Church of England. He saw that the Church regularly pushed out the people who lived on the margins and that those who did attend had a “low view” of grace and of the church as whole. He started to preach a more compelling message and regularly was kicked out of pulpits. He then started to preach in the fields, outside of factories, and in bars (maybe I should say pubs!). It was here that the Methodist movement started.

At the same time, expansion to America started to really take off and so he sent missionaries to America to evangelize. The term “Methodist” came from these missionary trips and since the settlers were trying to distance themselves from the home country and The Church of England, they took up the name Methodist. Eventually, they formed a new denomination instead of staying with The Church of England. From these early roots, come some of the foundational beliefs we hold. Beyond John Wesley’s letters, sermons, and journals, we also claim his brother, Charles Wesley’s, hymns as our theology, too. Many of Charles’s hymn texts are included in our Hymnal still.

Why do we believe what we do? Do you know? Please join us Sunday mornings for an interesting lesson in the history of Methodism!

August 29th ~ A People of Grace

September 5 ~ A People Woven Together

September 12 ~ A People of Healing and Hope

September 19 ~ A People Seeking to Grow

#### **NURSERY ATTENDANT NEEDED!**

We have a paid position available immediately as our lead Nursery attendant. Childcare experience is necessary. Teaching experience is helpful. This position is for Sunday mornings from 8am - 12:15 and Wednesday evenings from 5:30-8:00pm. For more information or to apply for the position, please contact Ms. Renee at 479-855-1158 or [renee@fumcbellavista.com](mailto:renee@fumcbellavista.com).



### From the OC and the PB Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist

Time to pivot! My pivot was to change the name of my column. Now that I have been in the Praise Band for over a year, it's about time to include a reference to both the Organ Console (OC) and the Piano Bench (PB). If you attend worship, either in person or online, you can't really avoid me now that I'm playing for Traditional and Contemporary Worship!

Yes, that's quite a pivot, one I was happy to make. While my pivot was to pick up a new service, others on staff also pivoted. I point to Kacy Spears, our then Communications director, who became the most important person inside the building when we were only worshipping online. It reminds me of the philosophical thought experiment: Does a tree falling in the forest make a sound if no one is around? For us, there was a real danger that if we couldn't get our services reliably and consistently online, truly no one would hear them!

I made a pivot, too, in my piano teaching business. I went totally online for several months in spring 2020 until most of my families came back in person in fall 2020. If you don't know that I offer piano and organ lessons, that's understandable. My studio is based at Central UMC in Rogers. I've wanted to start offering lessons one day a week at First UMC, but I haven't yet found any serious interest.

There's a strong connection between being a teacher and a church musician. Some of my students will play in church. It might be as a volunteer, substitute, or part-time like me. I got started playing piano for a mid-week service at my home church when I was 10. By age 12, I was playing for occasional church services. By age 15, I began a steady Sunday job playing for a tiny Methodist church until I attended music school three years later.

What is your connection to music in the church? Or what's the importance of music in your life? Let me know!

Meanwhile, we are heading to the semi-finals of the Praise Song Countdown. Stay tuned on Facebook and in our mid-week email newsletter to participate in the final rounds of this fun poll. Hopefully, you've had a chance to hear some new music along the way

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

#### A Brief History of Casavant – Temple Op. #3046 courtesy of Dr. Larry Zehring

The organ in the First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista was built by the firm of Casavant Frères of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada, and given the Opus number 3046. It was designed by the now legendary Lawrence Phelps, who was Tonal Director for Casavant at that time. The instrument was originally built for the congregation of All Saints Lutheran Church of Kansas City, Kansas, and was installed there in 1971.

In 2001, All Saints Lutheran sold their building and the organ to the True Victory Worship Center. The True Victory congregation practices a contemporary style of worship, and instead of the organ, they use a praise band and worship team to provide music for their services. As a result, the organ stood unused for several years.

In the early spring of 2007, we learned that the organ was for sale. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Roger Hatlestad and Dr. Larry Zehring from our music staff traveled to Kansas City to visit the True Victory Worship Center and audition the instrument. They were so impressed by what they saw and heard that upon returning to Bella Vista, they urged our Board of Trustees to authorize a fundraising campaign to buy it. The Trustees agreed and appointed a committee made up of Kitty Toney, Sandy Andrews, Jim Prather, and Dr. Zehring to coordinate the project. So great was our congregation's interest and response, that in less than six months enough money was raised not only to purchase the organ, but to have it dismantled and moved from Kansas City to the shop of Temple Organ Co. in St. Joseph, Missouri, where it was converted from electro-pneumatic to direct electric action, given updated circuitry, and enlarged. It was installed in our sanctuary in July 2008 by a crew from Temple Organ Co. consisting of David Cool, Steven Cool, and Jon Bertschinger. →→→→→

In its present configuration, the organ consists of nearly 2000 pipes arranged in 30 ranks. These are all controlled from a two-manual stop tab console with a radiating pedal board built to American Guild of Organists specifications. The organ has 25 levels of memory, a digital transposer, a bass-assist feature that allows the organist to play pedal stops from the manuals, and midi capability.

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> birthday to our beautiful Casavant organ! Take time to listen and treasure every note.

If you have FUMCBV history you would like to share, items can be left in the historian box in the church office or contact me at [rjhale68@cox.net](mailto:rjhale68@cox.net) or 479-344-6074.

*Jill*



### Book Hook



Please look around your home for any FUMCBV Library books you may have checked out. We have many that were checked out as long as two years ago. If you are through reading, please return them to the Library or the tub under the Portico, so that others may check them out to enjoy .

**Covid Rapid Tests** are available at Rapid Test Diagnostics, 400 N. Walton Blvd., Bentonville. Their phone number is 479-553-7223. If you feel you need to be tested, this is one option for you.

**The Number of COVID Delta Variant cases and hospitalizations** - are rising among those who have not been vaccinated. Please pray that more will be **able** to, and will **choose** to, seek vaccination, for their own protection and the protection of others, especially the protection of the children who are unable to receive the vaccine at this time.

**Our  
organ  
is being  
installed!**



COMMUNITY LIFE



Hello Everyone,

We here at UMW hope the summer was enjoyable for ALL !!!!

September has arrived & our Circles will start gathering again each month. Should your Circle have any information to share, please send an email to Jan and she can share it with the church.

First, I would like to say "Thank You" to all the ladies who have been working so hard on items for the Bazaar. We are still working on all the details for being able to have a Fall Bazaar. We will keep you posted on updates.

Second, We would also like to say " THANK YOU" to Verna and her Rummage Sale Team!!! They have been working hard to get items priced and ready to be sold. There will be some Garage Sales held at a few of the ladies' homes who have been storing items for over a year. Verna will be passing on information as she gets it for future dates and locations of the sales. So, be sure to read the flyers and church emails.

The quarterly meeting for the UMW will be September 22nd at 1:00pm in Becker Hall. Brenda Gullett, the Social Action chair for our conference, will be the speaker. She has served on the state legislature and school board, and will present an interesting program about the school-to-prison pipeline and other issues. Please check with your circle chairman for further information. Child care will be provided with prior notification.

May GOD send Blessings to All UMW Ladies and your families.

*Darleen & Mabel*

**Blessing Box**

UMW helped sponsor the Blessing Box in the East parking lot. Please remember to help keep it stocked with non-perishables ~ canned goods, cereal, boxed foods, etc. It seems to be emptied quickly.

**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.

**YOUNG AT HEART Shepherd Group** met at Papa Mikes on August 14 for breakfast with 9 members enjoying one another's company, good breakfast, and conversation. Our next meeting will be September 11th at 8:30am at Papa Mike's. If anyone would like to join us, please let Karen Roenfeld know.

**MARTHA CIRCLE** will return to meeting on Monday, September 20th at 9:00AM. We will contact members when the location is determined. Hopefully, we will be able to fill hygiene sacks for Cooper School then. Enjoy the rest of your summer as we begin the transition into fall.

**SARAH CIRCLE** will meet on September 14 at 1:00 PM in the church parlor. We will collect our in-gathering gifts and also have a program from the Bluebird Society.



**SHOEBOX MINISTRY** has been at a standstill lately. Hopefully things will return to a somewhat normal before long. We will let you know the status next month. The Shoebox team. . .

*Maryann, Cheryl & Karen*



**First United Methodist Church**  
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Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring  
Organist/Pianist - Broc Hite  
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**Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month**

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

