



THE WITNESS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1610 PRINCE ST., CONWAY, ARKANSAS, 72034

New MidYouth Director Hired at FUMC

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, we are excited to announce the hire of our new MidYouth Director, Christy Lemmer.

Christy comes to us with a great deal of experience in ministry as well as working with children. She is currently the director and owner of the Turquoise Squirrel Learning Center in Morrilton, Arkansas. In regards to ministry, she served most recently as the Ministry Program Director for children and youth from September 2012 to November 2022 at First United Methodist Church of Morrilton. In this position, she oversaw all programming of children ages birth to 12th grade, recruited and trained volunteers, taught Confirmation, oversaw special events and more. In total, Christy comes to us with more than 12 years of ministry experience in Children and Youth Ministries. Even beyond her ministry experience, she has worked many years in Early Childhood education in a variety of preschools and schools. All to say, we are excited to have her come on board and join us as we encourage God's love to grow here. Moreover, as you can tell, she is well qualified to minister with our MidYouth as they seek to

grow in their knowledge and love of God!

If you'd like to welcome Christy, you can welcome her via email at christinalemmer@gmail.com. Her first day at Conway FUMC will be Jan. 2.

Lastly, we want to thank all the parents who filled in, stepped up, and helped over the past 12 months as we searched for a new MidYouth Director. Your hard work and dedication are inspiring.

Also, we want to thank Rev. Miranda Hornsby for voluntarily leading the MidYouth in the interim when she arrived. Words cannot express our gratitude to you all for your labor of love.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Guynes
Staff Parish Relations Chair
Conway FUMC

Rev. Nathan Kilbourne
Senior Pastor
Conway FUMC



'You Asked For It!' Series Set for January

On Sunday, Jan. 14, we will kick off a new worship series, "You Asked For It!"

The series will be questions we have heard asked by ... you! We all have questions about faith and the Bible, no matter how old we are or how long we have been a part of the Church.

As United Methodists, we will celebrate and wrestle with our questions together this month in worship as we begin the new year and approach Confirmation.

In addition, mark your calendars to celebrate our confirmands on Sunday, Jan. 28!

Please scan the QR code to submit your questions for possible use in the worship series.



Worship at 10 a.m.
Dec. 31 in the
Great Hall



Wednesday Programming Resumes Jan. 17

Wednesday afternoon and evening activities will resume Jan. 17. Offerings will include small groups and a meal for the whole church family. Please watch your E-Witness for more information and for ways to sign up. Not receiving our weekly emailed newsletter? Sign up by emailing cholt@conwayfumc.org.

Fun at the Advent Extravaganza



Spreading Christmas Cheer Through Song

A group of church members went caroling on Sunday, Dec. 17, to various senior facilities in the area. “We had so much fun spreading Christmas cheer for all to hear,” said organizer Ashley Lyon. “The best part was seeing the faces of the residents at the various facilities we visited light up! Then having them join us to sing along and make requests was the cherry on top!”



In Memory and In Honor

In memory of Carolyn Bruce by: Linda Tyler, Sam & Carole Teague, Martha Bumpers, Jo Lynn Warbritton, John & Betty Pickett, Roger & Linda Mills, Ann Gregg, James & Karen Foust, Bill & Elizabeth Humphrey, PEO Chapter E, Round Table Sunday School Class, Cox & Creswell, Stan & Marilyn Ott, Brit & Linda Ball

In memory of Chris Spatz by: Bill & Denise Bethea, Sam & Carole Teague, John & Betty Pickett, Kathy & Chris Cooper, Stan & Marilyn Ott, Margaret Taverner, Nancy Williams & Bob Dornblaser

In memory of Aaron Purtee by: Sam & Carole Teague

In memory of Melissa Williams John by: Sam & Carole Teague, Martha Bumpers, Claudia Davis

In memory of David Teague by: Sam & Carole Teague, Margaret Taverner

In memory of Allan Bruner by: Jeremy Bruner

In memory of Norma Kelley by: Kathy & Chris Cooper

In memory of Barbara Means by: Jerry & Cherry White

In memory of Joel Lane by: Nancy Williams & Bob Dornblaser

In honor of Nancy Williams Dornblaser by: John & Betty Pickett

In honor of Pastoral Staff by: Bill & Cecilia Patterson

In honor of Steve & Bonnie Laycock & Guatemala Stove Builders by: Rick & Becky Rasnick

In honor of Jason Saugey by: Bill & Cecilia Patterson

In honor of Nathan & Lynn Kilbourne by: Nancy Williams & Bob Dornblaser

In honor of Michael & Dede Roberts by: Nancy Williams & Bob Dornblaser



Join college students/young adults from across the state for a dedicated time of rest and renewal before the semester starts!

- Free time for hikes, disc golf, board games, watching movies, and building relationships
- Scheduled times of worship
- Lodging and meals provided
- Hear from Ozark Mission Project, Camp Tanako, and Project Transformation about summer job opportunities



Register here \$55

For more info, reach out to Amy Shores (amy.shores@arumc.org)



End-of-Year Giving and Church Hours

For gifts to be deductible for the 2023 tax year, they must be in the church office by Sunday, Dec. 31, or postmarked by that date.

Office hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, and Thursday, Dec. 28, and 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 29. The office will also be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

Sunday Worship

In-person:

8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
9:05 a.m. in the Great Hall
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

9:05 and 11 a.m. services are livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for supporting us! We have the BEST church family - our pastors and staff are so great. Our Parents and Caregivers helped so much. Church friends went above and beyond to help.

Words cannot describe the feeling that washed over us when we saw and heard your love and delight at our performances. Someone once said "What cannot be spoken can be sung.... what cannot be sung, can be danced." We danced with joy all the way home on Sunday night ! Thank you, thank you.

From Ruthann Curry Browne, Linda Ball, Janie Heffington and the Entire Cast & Crew

Thanks From 'Blue Angel' Cast



First United Methodist Church Staff Directory

Senior Pastor -- Nathan Kilbourne
Associate Pastor -- Miranda Hornsby
Dir., Music/Worship Ministries -- Jason Saugey
Co-Dir., Children's Ministries -- Catherine Gatlin
Co-Dir., Children's Ministries -- Jules Koen
Director, Lay Ministries -- Kisha Bumpers
Director, Youth Ministries -- Zach Schrick
Campus Dir., Wesley Foundation -- Amy Shores

Assoc. Dir., Music (Praise Band) -- Stuart Holt
Assoc. Dir., Music (Children) -- Linda Ball
Church Administrator -- Jill Hankins
Business Assistant -- Todd Burris
Supervisor, Hospitality Ministries -- Ed Spears
Financial Assistant -- Laura Bounds
Communications Assistant -- Colleen Holt

Contact staff by email at:
first initial of first name plus
last name
@conwayfumc.org

Example: nkilbourne@
conwayfumc.org