

THE WITNESS

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



Hospitality: It's More Than Just Filling Pews

Hospitality is a word we often hear, but what does it really mean to have hospitality?

First off, hospitality is not about filling pews, it is about loving our community like Jesus did with an "unceasingly invitational posture", even when it is slightly uncomfortable. This starts with a congregational commitment to constantly be reaching out to new people to share Christ's love with them.

Secondly, hospitality is all about the relationships that are being formed because it is only when we know people personally that we are truly able to understand what they need.

Finally, hospitality is creating a space that is open to new ideas. As we bring new people into our church family through God's love, we need to be open to the experiences and ideas they bring with them so that they too feel like they have found a home at FUMC. A hospitable church is a congregation that is centered in spreading God's love and truly knowing and valuing their fellow sisters and brothers in Christ.

If you're interested in learning more, visit www.resourceumc.org/en/content/what-is-hospitality.

Update from the Trustees Department

From Emily Walter, Trustees Chair:

There is so much to be thankful for from our Trustees department. First, we were graciously left an estate from Mr. Ronald Dickson after his passing. The sale of his items including real estate and personal property has been a huge blessing for our church. Our trustees have been working on this for the past two years. With the funds received, we were able to put them toward a new roof for our Trinity Building and new HVAC units!

Which brings us to our next blessing! Did you know our Trinity Building has 21 HVAC units? And every single one of those units are original to the building that was completed in 2008. On top of that, our roof has been leaking in multiple spots for years. Pastor Nathan, Pastor Miranda, Trustees, and Finance committee have met over the past several months to find a way to replace the roof in our Trinity Building as well as the 21 HVAC units without asking our congregation for additional funds.

It has taken months and months of planning, but with blessings through the sale of the Dickson estate, using a matured CD, and other various donations, we were able to



begin replacing 13 units and half of the roof of the Trinity Building this Spring as well as adding much needed gutters to the building to help keep the rain water moving

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Pedals, Pipes and Pizza Event

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, young people ages 8 through teen are invited to gather at First United Methodist Church to meet the pipe organ.

The day will begin at Conway First United Methodist for organ demonstrations, presentations, and an opportunity for participants to test drive the 33-rank FUMC organ. A pizza lunch will be served before a short walk to St. Peter's Episcopal Church where Pipes, Pedals, & Pizza participants will experience the church's mighty Wicks organ, try it out, and hear a mini recital by PPP leaders.

Throughout the day, participants will be able to interact and hear from organists from around Central Arkansas, what inspired them to start playing the organ and what role organ-playing has in their lives and careers.

The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is sponsoring this program. Participants are invited to gather between 9:15 and 10 a.m. in the main entrance lobby of First United Methodist for the program beginning at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. The program will end at 3 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal.

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza is a program designed to introduce youth to the pipe organ. Any person age 8 through teen who would like to take part in these activities is invited to email FUMC Director of Music Jason Saugey (jason@conwayfumc.org).

There is no cost or fee to attend Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza.



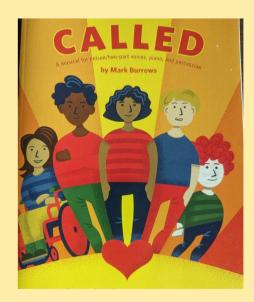


Hike to Sugarloaf Island Planned for April 27

The Outdoor Committee is planning a hike to Sugarloaf Island on Greers Ferry Lake at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 27.

There is no cost for the shuttle boat but you must register with Jeremy Walter at 501-269-8675 to reserve a spot. Spots are limited to 24 persons. The pontoon leaves Fairfield Bay Marina at 10 a.m. for a two-hour hike. Pack water and snacks and enjoy a boat ride, two-mile round trip hike and 360-degree views of Greers Ferry Lake!

Conway FUMC To Present ...



"Called"

A Children's Summer Musical!

Love to sing easy and fun songs? Want to try acting in a play?



Be in our summer children's musical!

Open to rising 3rd graders through high school age

Monday, June 10 through Thursday, June 13 8 a.m. to noon each day Performance on Thursday, June 13, at 7 p.m.

Contact Linda Ball for more information (lball@conwayfumc.org)

Please pre-register by Monday, June 3

It's open to all, so bring your friends!



Scan this QR code to sign up todav!



In Memorial and in Honor

In memory of Fred Tate by: Stuart & Colleen Holt, Martha Bumpers, Jamie Bird, Johnette Goldman, Beth Ruple, Skeet & Mary Jane Morse, Daniel, Melanie, Tucker, Nate & Landree Hinson, Kenneth & Madeline Bates, Centennial Bank, Margaret Davis, Janet Moseley, Donna Fleming, Tara Lingle, Derrick Vining, Tim & Mary Ann Freyaldenhoven & Family, Stan & Marilyn Ott, Pat & Beverly Bowles, Pam Wren, Todd & Misti Harvey, Don & Dell Toler, James & Vera Gilliam, Kim & Ellis Arnold, Larry & Hilda Malpica, Dean & Shari Hoover, Dick & Peggy Russ Famiy & Daughters: Jeanne Love, Cindy Hartman, Teri McMoran, and

Stephanie Brown, Carol Means In memory of Bud Hines by: Laurie & Ted Smith

In memory of Pat Ross by: Martha Bumpers, Jamie Bird

In memory of Thomas McFalls by: Martha Bumpers, Beth Ruple, Pam Wren

In memory of Joy Cross by: Beth Ruple, Pat & Beverly Bowles In memory of Clay Cross by: Pam

Wren, Pat & Beverly Bowles, Kim & Ellis Arnold, Larry & Hilda Malpica, David & Pebble Sutherland

In memory of Sada & Wilson Vandiver by: Skeet & Mary Jane Morse

In memory of Frank Shaw by: Pam Wren

In memory of Don Robbins by:

Richard & Carol Clark

In memory of Allan Bruner by:

Jeremy Bruner

In memory of Benjamin

Montgomery by: Kim & Ellis Arnold In memory of Pat Hudson by: David

& Pebble Sutherland

In honor of Paul & Shirley Taber's 60th Wedding Anniversary by:

Sherry Owen

In honor of FUMC Food Pantry Workers by: Men's Prayer Breakfast In honor of Kish Jones by: Charles Pittman

The Easter Bunny Visited!



Children and adults alike enjoyed our annual Easter egg hunt, held March 29 at Laurel Park.





Photos courtesy of Jules Koen and Nathan Kilbourne









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He is Risen!

Easter at FUMC







Save the Date for the 2024 Trivia Night

Trivia Night is early this year, so mark your calendars for Friday, June 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. This year, all funds raised will go to support the church's summer lunch ministry and partnership with the Faulkner County Library. Watch church communications in early May for more details and team registration information.

Caregiving Collaboration Ministry Forming

Save-the-Date! Those who are serving, or have served as a caregiver in the past, and those who want to learn more about this journey, are invited to connect with our FUMC Caregiving Collaboration ministry event!

Join caregivers and ministry organizers for fellowship, food and an informal workshop to help inform how a caregiver church ministry can be helpful. Those being cared for are welcome to attend and participate in specialized activities.

Mark your calendar to attend and contribute your questions and suggestions on Wednesday, May 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP and forward questions to Barbara Satterfield, <u>barbarabdesign@yahoo.com</u>

TRUSTEES from Page 1

away from the building in the future. We have plans, and are saving up to finish the remaining part of the roof and HVAC units, hopefully by end of this year or first part of next year. So, when you see workers on the roof, please stop



Ron Dickson

and say a prayer of thanksgiving!

Finally, our trailer has been upgraded! Thanks to a lot of work from Steve Laycock, David Adcock, and Todd Johnson. They have been working diligently on getting our transportation items running safely and efficiently. But our 20+ year old trailer was deemed to be not safe to use. With the hard work of these three men, they helped handle the sale of our old trailer and non-working van and use the funds to purchase a new and improved trailer AND there were still some funds left over! This trailer is 1 foot taller and has a v nose. Now our youth, food pantry, and many others will be able to enjoy long distance trips in comfort.

I am so grateful for those who serve on Trustees both past and present. It takes a village to keep this historic campus running each week!



APRIL 2024

An Update from The Wesley

PLEASE JOIN US IN
PRAYER FOR OUR
STUDENTS
(NEAR AND FAR) WHO
ARE IN FINAL EXAM
SEASON!

This spring, The Wesley took 15 students to Mount Eagle for a weekend-long retreat. They focused on Colossians 3:12 that calls us to put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. This was a great weekend of faith building and fellowship!







*VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Conway FUMC is hosting OMP June 9-14! We are set to have over 100 campers, so we need help extended hospitality to those coming to share the love of God in our community!



Our 3 biggest needs are:

- Snacks
- Meal Help
- Work-Day Help

Scan the QR Codes for more information or to sign up.









Snack Signup

Workday Help

Kitchen Help

If you have questions or want to help in a different way, please contact Amy Shores at (501)733-7870 or ashores@conwayfumc.org

Homebound Ministry Seeking Volunteers

Do you know any members that are not able to Worship and Fellowship with our church community? The Homebound Ministry would love to connect and bring the church to them.

At this time we minister to more than 32 members on a monthly basis. We have a great group of volunteers, but if you would like to be involved or know of members we are missing, please email Brenda Porter at

brendadudleyporter@outlook.com or call her at 214-868-3951.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 23 - MAY 3, 2024

GENERAL CONFERENCE

AND APRIL 23 - MAY 3, 2024

CONFERENCE

AND APRIL 23 - MAY 3, 2024

AND APRIL 24 - MAY 3, 2024

AND APRIL

PRAY WITH US

Join us in praying for the United Methodist
General Conference. Though we invite you to pray
for the conference daily as they gather from April
23rd - May 3rd, join us in the chapel from
9am-8pm on Wednesday, May 1st. We invite you
to stop by, light a candle, and say a prayer for
those who travel, gather, learn, and vote on the
future of the United Methodist Church.

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Worship

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

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 Director, MidYouth Ministries -- Christy Lemmer 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