



# THE WITNESS

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

## FUMC Team Builds Stoves in Guatemala

From Bonnie Laycock:

Nine people from Conway First were on the Guatemala work team that traveled to Guatemala in early January to build fuel-efficient stoves for Mayan families who were still cooking on the ground in their very small homes. Twenty stoves were built during the week and the team had a wonderful time getting to know the Mayan families.

The team took lots of Spanish books for young children as well as jump ropes made by members of FUMC from old T-shirts, and bottles of bubbles. The children loved their books, loved jumping rope and loved the bubbles!

See GUATEMALA on Page 2



### Who did we serve?

December 2024

**CHURCH & SOCIETY**  
The United Methodist Church  
Living WITHIN Seeking JUSTICE Pursuing PEACE

Individuals:  
**216**

Seniors:  
**74**

Kids:  
**114**

Veterans:  
**19**

Homeless:  
**11**

Did You Know?  
Arkansas has the worst food insecurity in the United States with a prevalence rate of 18.9%.

**Food Pantry Drive Thru:**  
**1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursdays**  
**Indoor Food Pantry**  
**& Amazing Grace Cafe:**  
**2nd & 4th Thursdays**  
**4:30-5:30pm**

Items Needed:

- Socks
- Soap
- Tampons/Pads

**Volunteer to Serve:**  
Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 12-2pm; Thursday 1:30 or 3-6:00pm

# FOOD PANTRY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONWAY, AR

Want More Information? Email: [FoodPantry@ConwayFUMC.org](mailto:FoodPantry@ConwayFUMC.org)

## Trustees Report: Dickson Estate Sales Results

The Trustees would like to send a huge THANK YOU to David Adcock, who graciously gave his time and energy to help us organize the items for our recent sale from the Ron Dickson Estate. We ended up raising almost \$1,000 from that sale and online auctions.

We are so grateful to Ron Dickson for leaving his estate to our Church. We have continued to use the proceeds for maintenance items in our Church, including the new roof and HVAC units over half of the Trinity Building.

The Trustees also had their first meeting for 2025 and have lots planned and many goals were set. We look forward to serving our Church over the next year.





**GUATEMALA** from Page 1

The women who received stoves were so grateful and many were in tears because "God had answered their prayers". The entire family knew their lives would be healthier now and there would be fewer burns from fires on the ground.



Thank you to all for your prayers and for the financial donations towards the team to help build the stoves. We were humbled to be helping these families and knew we were exactly where God wanted us to be as we shared the love of God with the Mayan families we met.

PHOTOS FROM BONNIE LAYCOCK



## Join Us on Wednesdays for MidWeek Activities

MidWeek Wednesday activities are back in full swing! There are activities for all ages, with opportunities for fellowship, learning, and a meal for all ages.

A catered meal and worship anchors the activities. Dinner starts at 6 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person/\$28 max per family. There are two Adult Classes being offered this semester: a Pastor's Book Study and a Podcast Discussion. Check out our Facebook page and the weekly E-Witness email for more information.





## Save the Date (And your stuff!)

The Wesley Foundation is having a yard sale on **Feb 22** to help students pay for our mission trip!

If you are Spring cleaning/have any items you'd like to part with, we ask that you consider donating them to help!

Contact Amy Shores for more info!  
(501-733-7870); [ashores@conwayfumc.org](mailto:ashores@conwayfumc.org)



## 5th Sundays

Invite a friend or your Sunday School class to join us on 5th Sundays this year to learn how you can make a difference by living out your faith!

### CONWAY FUMC GREAT HALL

Each program will begin at 10am and conclude before 11am worship.

### SUNDAYS IN 2025

- MARCH 30TH
- JUNE 29TH
- AUGUST 31ST
- NOVEMBER 30TH



**CHURCH & SOCIETY**

The United Methodist Church

Living FAITH Seeking JUSTICE Pursuing PEACE



Play-based learning

Developmentally appropriate curriculum

Outdoor play

Our experienced teachers and engaging curriculum offer children the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe, nurturing environment.

#### ENROLLMENT DATES

FEBRUARY 3RD - CURRENT FAMILIES/CHURCH MEMBERS

FEBRUARY 10TH - NEW FAMILIES

7:30 AM-4:30 PM

[WWW.FUMCEARLYCHILDHOODCENTER.COM](http://WWW.FUMCEARLYCHILDHOODCENTER.COM)

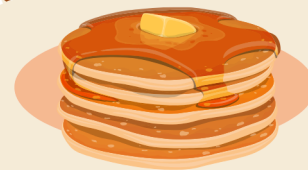


501-329-1467

[ahogue.ecc@conwayfumc.org](mailto:ahogue.ecc@conwayfumc.org)



## Ash Wednesday PANCAKE SUPPER



WED, MARCH 5 ; 5:30-6:30 PM;  
GREAT HALL  
(ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE TO FOLLOW!)

Meal includes pancakes, sausage, milk and juice.

All proceeds go toward Wesley Foundation Mission Trip;  
Suggested donation of \$7/person or \$28 max per family

## Share the Love Through Our Valentine Day Card Ministry

It will be Valentine's Day very soon and we want to share God's love with our church family that cannot attend on a regular basis through our Valentine's Day Card ministry.

Create your own cards or buy some at the store, it does not matter. What matters is that we reach out to others and connect.

Name lists are available in our church lobbies and at the receptionist desk. You do not even have to personalize them if you choose to bring 32 Valentines. Get a group of friends together and make this a fun outreach project.

From school classrooms, Scout groups, Sunday School classes, or simply your family, all can participate.

Drop your cards in the Valentine Box by the receptionist desk in the Hospitality Area of the Sanctuary building by Sunday, Feb. 9. That area is open during church hours on Sundays or from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Porter at [brendadudleyporter@outlook.com](mailto:brendadudleyporter@outlook.com). If you are willing to help deliver the Valentine Bags, please let Brenda know.



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## December Financials

### Year to date (YTD) Income:

\$1,190,373.12

### Year to date Expenses:

\$1,218,777.96

**Difference:**     -\$ 28,404.84

### Amount paid on the debt by the close of December:

\$437,026.13!

## In Memory and In Honor

**In memory of Allan Bruner by:** Jeremy Bruner

**In memory of Ben Bakker by:** Betsey Bakker

**In memory of Mike Shock by:** Bill & Mary Dunaway, Linda & Roger Mills, Cliff & Maribeth Garrison, Peggy Arrigo, Rebecca Mills, Rex & Martha Ross, Bill & Cecilia Patterson, Chris & Kathy Cooper, Dinah & Danny Reed, Jamie Bird, Stan & Sheila Willis, Richard & Carol Clark, Martha Bumpers, Gene & Meredith Wilbourn, Philip Moore, Dan, Kaye & Jeff Clanton, Larry Graddy & Marolyn Lee, Jackie Robinette, Pat & Beverly Bowles, Ritchie & Adair Howell, Pam Wren

**In memory of Samuel T. (Ros) Smith & Carolyn C. Smith by:** The Ketcheside Family

**In memory of Jackie Downs by:** Carolyn Nelson, Jody Wein & Family, Jim & Susan Green "The Beach Girls", Bill & Mary Kay Dunaway

**In memory of Greg Copley by:** Rebecca Mills, Bill & Cecilia Patterson, Chris & Kathy Cooper, Jamie Bird, Martha Bumpers, Jackie Robinette, Pam Wren

**In honor of Kish Jones by:** Charles Pittman

**In honor of Rev. Nathan Kilbourne by:** The Copley Family

**In honor of Rev. Miranda Hornsby by:** The Copley Family

## First United Methodist Church Staff Directory

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

Assoc. Dir., Music (Praise Band) -- Stuart Holt  
Assoc. Dir., Music (Children) -- Linda Ball  
Church Administrator -- Jill Hankins  
Supervisor, Hospitality Ministries -- Ed Spears  
Custodian -- Tim Tarpley  
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