



# THE WITNESS

Our calling is to make Disciples of Jesus Christ through fellowship, worship, outreach, and nurture.

www.conwayfumc.org

First United Methodist Church  
1610 Prince Street  
Conway, AR 72034  
(501)329-3801  
(501) 733-3577  
(pastoral care emergency #)



Worship This Sunday  
8:45 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.

Volume XXXXIII

August 11, 2010

Number 31

## Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, Aug. 15

**Blessings given at  
all three  
worship services:**

Traditional Worship:  
8:45 a.m. & 11 a.m., Sanctuary

Good News Celebration:  
9 a.m., Great Hall

Students of all ages, along with school faculty, staff and administrators, are invited to bring their backpacks, binders, grade books, water bottles, etc., to receive a blessing for a successful school year ahead.

***The public is invited!***

“For I know the plans I have for you,  
plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”



— Jeremiah 29:11

### Where Will You Serve?

Each year, every United Methodist congregation goes through a process of electing officers to serve and to lead the ministries of the congregation. The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development\* nominates members within the local church.

This year, the members of the committee are asking each First United Methodist Church member to consider:

**What are my gifts?  
How am I called to serve?**

\* The new Book of Discipline re-named this committee. Formerly, it was the Committee on Lay Leadership.

**The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development will be nominating members of the congregation to serve as officers. Which of the following areas do you feel called to offer your gifts for service?**

**(Check all that apply.)**

Church Council (as officers and members)

Committees that develop personnel (both staff and laity)

Administration of the congregation's property and finances

Development of Age-related Ministries for:

- Pre-school
- Grades K through 6
- Grades 7 through 12
- College and Young Adult
- Middle Adults
- Older Adults

Leadership of Church Programming for:

- Radical Hospitality
- Passionate Worship
- Intentional Faith Development
- Risk-taking Mission and Service
- Extravagant Generosity

NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE:

\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return the information you have provided to Jackie Waite in the church office, OR you may also place your form in the baskets provided in the Lobby of the Trinity Building or in the Hospitality Area.  
*The baskets will be in place on Sunday, Aug. 15, 22, and 29.*

Please be in prayer for the members of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development and their work.

Currently, there are 51 officers whose terms will be completed on December 31, 2010. The nominations will be presented for election at the Charge Conference held November 15, at 6:30 p.m. The newly elected church officers begin serving on January 1, 2011.

## Youth Department News

### Presence Numbers

**Tuesday, Aug. 3 -**

YUM! Lunch - 10 Youth

**Wednesday, Aug. 4 -**

Hang Time - 23 Youth

**Thursday, Aug. 5 -**

Breakfast and a Movie - 8 Youth

**Sunday, Aug. 8 -**

Sunday School - 27 Youth

### This Week's Schedule

**Sunday, Aug. 15 -**

10 a.m. - Sunday School - Meet in the Big Room for Announcements

(Regular School Year Sunday School Begins, Come Meet Your Teachers for the Year)

5-7 p.m. - Youth Potluck Kick-Off - Great Hall

### SAVE THE DATE NOW - Aug. 15

Youth and Youth Parent Potluck Kickoff -  
5 to 7 p.m. in the Great Hall

You do not want to miss this evening! All dates and information that is available will be given at this meeting. Sign ups for fall and spring events and volunteer opportunities will be available also.

## Help Us Go Green!

### Receive Your Witness By E-mail

We are officially moving toward sending the Witness electronically to as many people as possible by Sept. 1. We understand some people do not have e-mail access, and we will continue to send a newsletter by postal mail to those who subscribe.

To sign up today, contact Colleen Holt at [cholt@conwayfumc.org](mailto:cholt@conwayfumc.org) or call the church office at 329-3801.

## Special Guest Sunday in Light Class

Jamie Newman, a student at the University of Central Arkansas, will be guest speaker Sunday, Aug. 15, in the Dorothy Robins Light Class. Jamie will share some of her experiences of two mission trips to Africa. Guests are invited.

## Children's and Youth Music - Opportunities to Participate

It is our intention this year to continue to have children's choirs and bell/chime choirs on Wednesday afternoons from 4-6. Days and times for our youth choir and handbells will be confirmed shortly. Watch for details!

## Don't Forget to Sign Up!



We need Sunday School Leaders and Shepherds for the Fall. 1st - 4th grade sign up board is in the hospitality area outside the Great Hall. The pre-school sign up board is in the Preschool Hospitality area. Don't forget!

## Adult Sunday School Studies this Week

<b>Believing, Becoming, Belonging (B3)</b>	214
20/30 Bible Study on Prayer	
<b>Conference</b>	220
"Romans," Leaders John Thompson and Jeff Standridge	
<b>Dorothy Robins-Light</b>	212
Jamie Newman, guest speaker, will talk of African mission trips	
<b>Faithbuilders</b>	Parlor
"Enough"	
<b>Faith in Action (FIA)</b>	230
"Advent Conspiracy"	
<b>Forum</b>	
Brueggemann: "The Prophetic Imagination," speaker Dr. Jay McDaniel	
<b>Genesis</b>	227
"1,2,3 John — How Should a Christian Live?"	
<b>George Hartje</b>	218
"Living Into the Future," Philippians 3:7-16; Leader Johnnye Hartje	
<b>Gussie Scales</b>	216
"Living Into the Future," Philippians 3:7-16; Leader John Collier	
<b>Koinonia</b>	
"Walking With Jesus," Leader John Williams	
<b>New Covenant</b>	221
"Living Into the Future," Philippians 3:7-16	
<b>Open Door</b>	113
"Living Into the Future," Philippians 3:7-16; Leader David Sutherland; (telephone participation available)	
<b>Round Table</b>	217
"The Gospel of Luke"	

## Adult Sunday School Leaders or Reps:

Drop by Room 224 on Sunday, Aug. 15, any time between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. You can browse through Sunday School literature, learn about our new membership tracking process & get a "heads-up" on upcoming sermon series and church projects! Contact [mpolk@conwayfumc.org](mailto:mpolk@conwayfumc.org) to let her know if you can swing by sometime that day.

## College Ministries Update:

It's not too late to be a Prayer Partner or a Faith Family to a college student. Contact [mpolk@conwayfumc.org](mailto:mpolk@conwayfumc.org) or [jones-family@conwaycorp.net](mailto:jones-family@conwaycorp.net) to find out more or sign up.

## Mount Eagle Workday Set Aug. 21

Join the Outdoor Ministries Committee on Saturday, Aug. 21, for a day of mission at Mount Eagle Campground near Clinton. The last week of April, the Mount Eagle Campground was struck by a tornado, resulting in extreme damage to the surrounding trees, bathhouse, sewer line and tent pads. The majority of the trees and stumps have been removed, but a lot of work remains.

We will have jobs for all ages and all skill levels. Transportation to the work site will be available, but spaces are on a first-come basis. Lunch and snacks will be provided courtesy of the FUMC Mission Committee.

If you are interested in helping, e-mail Kathleen Caruthers at [carutherskathleen@yahoo.com](mailto:carutherskathleen@yahoo.com) or call 501-944-9473.

**Church Council meeting**  
7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17  
Fellowship Hall

## Frank Jones Bible Lectures

10 a.m. Sundays in the Chapel. All invited!

*The Holy Spirit in the Church (as told in  
The Acts of the Apostles)*

- **Aug. 15** — They Have the Holy Spirit in Europe, Too!. Chapters 13-17
- **Aug. 22** — What? You Never Heard of the Holy Spirit? Chapters 18-28
- **Aug. 29** — Meanwhile, Over in Corinth. 1 & 2 Corinthians



## Sign Up Now for a Fall Small Group!

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| • Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study | • Financial Peace University                  | • While We Wait: Living the Questions of Advent |
| • The Bible From Scratch — Old Testament | • Dealing With Grief                          | • Dreamwork                                     |
| • Beth Moore Study                       | • Hayesod                                     | • Arkansas Law for Teens                        |
| • Women's Bible Study — Ephesians        | • A Quest for God                             | • Cooking for Fun                               |
| • Heart of Christianity                  | • Christian Believer                          | • Ballroom Dance                                |
|  | • Crazy Love: Overwhelmed By a Relentless God | • Knitting                                      |

Lots of great opportunities for Christian learning and fellowship! Look for sign-up boards in the Trinity Lobby and in the Hospitality area or contact [mpolk@conwayfumc.org](mailto:mpolk@conwayfumc.org) to get signed up!

## Sunday Transportation Drivers:

**Aug. 15** — Harold and Mary Henderson, 327-2934

**Aug. 22** — Terry and Janice James, 329-0489

**Aug. 29** — Bruce, Leigh and Luke Walls, 327-3556

Please call if you want to be picked up for Sunday school or worship and are not on our "regular" rider list.

## Fifth Sunday Activities on Aug. 29

Remember two occasions on the Fifth Sunday, Aug. 29, at FUMC:

- During the Sunday School hour, the Church & Society Committee presents our Conway School District Superintendent Greg Murry to speak about Conway schools. Come to hear him in the fellowship hall at 10 a.m.
- At 5 p.m. Aug. 29, in the Great Hall we will host the United Methodist Churches in Conway for a worship service and fellowship time to follow. Watch for details in future Witnesses.

## Mark Your Calendar!

Coffee With the Pastors, 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22,  
Lobby of the Trinity Building

This is a great time for guests and new members to meet the pastors and learn about the mission and ministries of Conway First United Methodist Church. Please RSVP to Jackie Waite in the church office.

## School Supply Collection Continuing



See the display in the Hospitality Area with lists of the school supplies being collected for CASA and for our own Food Pantry clients.

## HOLISTIC STEWARDSHIP

### HOSPITAL

**Out of Town:** Mike Smyers (Tricia O'Connor's father).  
**Moved:** Sue Lewis (moved to Heritage Living).

### PRAYERS

**For Those Serving Overseas:** Robert Courtway; Ben Rand (nephew of Roy and Polly Martin); Rob Kieilty (Jill Hankins' brother-in-law); Patrick Miller (Joyce Miller's son and Melanie Coderemo's brother); Dave McClanahan (Lowell and Marsha McClanahan's son).

### PRESENCE

Total Attendance in worship: 483

Aug. 8, 2010

{8:45-98; 9:00-206; 11:00-179}

Sunday School Attendance: 163

Chilly for Chile donations: \$700

### GIFTS

In honor of Gerri Crisp by: Nancy Williams & Family

In memory of George Alread by: Waddy & Gay Moore, Molsie Osborne, Martha Bumpers

In memory of Cabe Isom by: Jim & Doris Bell, Allison Holland

In memory of Mike French by: Jim & Doris Bell, Phillip Bumpers, Clay & Kisha Bumpers, Martha Bumpers

In memory of Louise Malpica by: Martha Bumpers, Nancy Williams

In memory of John T. Bumpers by: Chris & Thea Spatz

In memory of Robert W. Meriwether by: Chris & Thea Spatz

### SERVICE

Thanks to all who participated in the Chilly For Chile homemade ice cream supper on Sunday night. Donations for Crescendo amounted to \$700.

Thanks to UMC Volunteers In Mission to Tanzania, Eric and Liz Buchanan Soard, for their presentation on Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Their stories and pictures touched our hearts. Donations from the audience amounted to more than \$200 and the Mission Committee voted to give them \$1,000 from their Merry Mission Fair fund.

## Sympathy

To Jerry and Libby Cude on the death of his mother, Lora Cude.

## UMCOR Sager Brown Trip Planned

Wesley United Methodist Church has an upcoming trip to Baldwin, La., to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Depot, from Dec. 5-10. There are several places available for the trip. They leave on a Sunday morning, arriving around 5 p.m. They will stay in a dormitory-type facility. The total expenses are \$205 plus meals on the trip. Interested persons should go to the following web site to get detailed information on what the trip is about <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/work/sagerbrown/volunteer/>. For more information, contact Carole Teague at the FUMC.

## Alread Remembrance Service Planned

A service of remembrance for George Alread, son of Burvin Alread, will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, in the Chapel at First United Methodist Church. The family invites friends to attend.

## Worship on Sunday, Aug. 15

**Sanctuary Worship: 8:45 & 11 a.m.**

**Scripture** — Psalm 148, Jeremiah 29:10-14, & Romans 8:18-27

**Sermon** — “Big Plans”

**Preaching** — Rev. Charles Murry

Everybody has plans. Some plans are detailed with intricate options. Some plans are mere sketches. Some plans are spoiled as soon as they are launched from the drawing board. Some plans are small but grow beyond anyone’s wildest dreams. Some plans are so vast that others say it is a “pipe dream.” The prophet speaks with the reminder of “the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” What happens when destruction, devastation, and despair grow during times the plan goes awry? In “Big Plans,” we will remember times when plans go well and when plans go wrong.

**Good News Celebration: 9 a.m., Great Hall**

**Scripture** - Genesis 50:15-21

**Sermon** - “Dealing with Difficult People: Choosing Forgiveness”

**Preaching** — Rev. Regina Gideon

As we conclude our journey with Joseph in the series “Dealing With Difficult People,” we turn to perhaps the most important topic of all -- forgiveness. Joseph forgave his brothers for selling him into slavery. Jesus forgave from the cross. This makes me look very petty for holding a grudge when my dear husband Stephen doesn’t do household chores on the precise original timetable agreed upon. We have to learn to forgive for both the big things and the small, don’t we? On Sunday, we will look at Joseph’s perspective on forgiveness as well as what Jesus teaches us.

## Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. First Service Singers warmup, 202
- 8:00 A.M. Praise Band practice, Great Hall
- 8:45 A.M. Worship, Sanctuary\*
- 9:00 A.M. Good News Celebration, Great Hall\*
- 9:30 A.M. Sunday School leaders drop-in, 224 (until 11)
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School\*
- 10:30 A.M. Chancel Choir warmup, 202\*
- 11:00 A.M. Worship, Sanctuary\*
- 1:00 P.M. Faith in Action, Great Hall kitchen (until 4)
- 4:00 P.M. Family Mission Weekend planning team, 216
- 5:00 P.M. Youth and Parent Kickoff Potluck, Great Hall

## Monday, Aug. 16, 2010

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Group, 1003
- 11:00 A.M. Staff meeting, 216
- 3:00 P.M. Prayer Misfits, 1003
- 6:00 P.M. 8:45 & 11:00 Laity Planning Team, 124
- 6:00 P.M. Finance Committee, 217
- 6:00 P.M. Practice in Chapel
- 6:30 P.M. Troop 71, B13
- 7:00 P.M. Stephen Ministry, 216, 218
- 7:00 P.M. Stewardship Committee, 214

## Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Food Pantry (until noon), Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Weekday Childcare, B12 (until 2 p.m.)
- 4:00 P.M. Alread remembrance service, Chapel
- 5:30 P.M. Centennial Bank employee mtg., Great Hall
- 7:00 P.M. Church Council, Fellowship Hall\*

## Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2010

- 7:00 A.M. Men’s Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 12:15 P.M. Witness Labelers, 107
- 5:00 P.M. Hunter/Henson wedding reception, Fell. Hall
- 6:00 P.M. Hunter/Henson wedding, Chapel

## Thursday, Aug. 19, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Food Pantry (until noon), Fellowship Hall
- 2:30 P.M. College Square gathering and communion
- 7:00 P.M. Praise Band practice, Great Hall

## Friday, Aug. 20, 2010

## Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. Mount Eagle Workday
- (\*) Child care provided. To request childcare for a calendared event, please call Pam at the church.

## United Methodist Women

The Executive Mission Team of UMW will meet on Monday, Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. in room 214. The Nominations Committee will report at that time.

## Wednesday Fellowship Dinner Hosts



Hosts are needed for the fall meals. Contact Hope Johnson at [hjohnson@conwayfumc.org](mailto:hjohnson@conwayfumc.org) to sign up! Perfect for small groups, committees, Sunday School classes.

**501-733-3577**

**Pastoral Care Emergency Number**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1610 Prince St., Conway, AR 72034  
(501) 329-3801

(USPS 625-840)

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