

THE WITNESS



First United Methodist Church

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(pastoral care emergency number)

www.conwayfumc.org

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

Volume XXXXV

January 25, 2012

Number 4

Taize Prayer Service in Honor of Stella Mulhearn

The youth of Conway FUMC will host a Service of Prayer in honor of Stella Mulhearn at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, in the Great Hall.

This will be a service similar to Taize worship with periods of time for silent prayer and meditation.

All are welcome!

Blood Drive Planned Jan. 29 in Honor of Stella Mulhearn

A blood drive honoring Stella Mulhearn, daughter of Travis and Amanda Mulhearn, will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be available upon request. There are a few slots still available! To sign up for a time slot, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4EABA72A1-give> or contact Susan Mulhearn.



HOLISTIC STEWARDSHIP - January 29, 2012

The people of First United Methodist Church are engaged in renewing our disciplined lives in holistic stewardship. The holistic stewardship focus runs now through Feb. 19. Holistic Stewardship means “the discipline of the whole person in administration of resources God has entrusted to one’s care.”

On Jan. 29, the congregation is examining “our Presence.” If the Witness arrives at your home by the U. S. Postal Service, a letter arrived in your mail box on or around Jan. 19. The letter contained information about our stewardship emphasis and five cards for each of the Sundays. If the Witness arrives at your home by email, you will receive your second online letter this week, and you have the option of completing the stewardship card on your computer. This second letter contains the link to this week’s card on Presence as well as last week’s card on Prayers.

Prepare by studying the Bible verse, “[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught” (Mark 1:21). Extra cards for your response will be available in all worship services.

5th Sunday Series Presentation

Sara Bayles, a senior at the University of Central Arkansas, will be the presenter at this Sunday’s Fifth Sunday Series. The presentation, titled “...and so shall we...” will be held at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall. The presentation is open to all ages.

Last summer, Sara interned at the UMC General Board of Church and Society and Methodist Federation for Social Actions national offices in Washington, DC. She will share her theological commitments and experiences in social service and speaking the Gospel message as she worked and played in DC.

The presentation is hosted by the Church and Society Committee.

DivorceCare Support Group Forming for Spring/Summer

Separated? Divorced? Contact Kisha Bumpers, kbumpers@conwayfumc.org or 329.3801, if you are interested in joining our support group to be offered late Spring/early Summer. We’re interested in knowing the best day and time for you. We use the DivorceCare curriculum (www.divorcecare.org) for this group.

Congo Wells Update

A total of \$11,648.29 was given for the Water for the Congo collection during the Christmas season! This will fund completion of nearly 1.5 wells to provide fresh water to the area. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Youth Department News

2012 Missions

There are still spots available at Junior High C.A.M.P., Senior High Ozark Mission Project (OMP) to Siloam Springs, and CSM to Chicago. Check out details about each trip and getting registered at:

www.youth.conwayfumc.org/programs/trips-and-retreats.

Spring Events & Activities

Check out the youth web site:

www.youth.conwayfumc.org

for information on this semester's small groups and Bible studies, including Mean Girls Book Study, Young Man's Guide Book Study, Let There Be Stuff Small Group, Sr. High Real Talk Small Group, and Bible Study on the Book of Revelation

Weekly Schedule

Thursday, Jan. 26 -

Breakfast Club - 7-8 a.m. - Great Hall Lobby

Sunday, Jan. 29 -

Sunday School - 10 a.m. - Big Room for Announcements
Spring and Summer Kickoff Meeting - 3 p.m., Great Hall
UMYF - 4-7 p.m. - Great Hall

* Special worship at 6 p.m. -- Taize Prayer Service in honor of Stella Mulhearn.

Tuesday, Jan. 31 -

Mean Girls Book Study - 6 to 7 p.m. - Jazz Lounge.
Young Man's Guide book Study - 6 to 7 p.m. - Lodge Room

Wednesday, Feb. 1 -

Hang Time - 3:30-6 p.m. - Meet in Youth Café
Youth Praise Band practice - 5 to 6:30 p.m. - Great Hall

Presence Numbers

Wednesday, Jan. 18 -

Hang Time - 35 Youth

Thursday, Jan. 19 -

Breakfast Club - 32 Youth

Sunday, Jan. 22 -

Sunday School - 25 Youth
UMYF - 19 Youth

RIOT

6th Graders - We'll see you at RIOT Sunday at 4 p.m. following the youth meeting.

NO RIOT on Feb 5 (Super Bowl Sunday)

Adult Sunday School Studies

| | |
|--|-----|
| Dorothy Robins-Light | 212 |
| "Out of Egypt," Exodus 15:1-3, 19, 22-26 | |
| Faithbuilders | 220 |
| Faith in Action (FIA) | 214 |
| "The Bible From Scratch: The Old Testament" | |
| Forum | 222 |
| Fifth Sunday presentation. Meet us in the Great Hall! | |
| Genesis | 224 |
| George Hartje | 218 |
| "Out of Egypt," Exodus 15:1-3, 19, 22-26 | |
| Gussie Scales | 216 |
| "Out of Egypt," Exodus 15:1-3, 19, 22-26; Leader John Collier | |
| Koinonia | 219 |
| "Spiritual Disciplines"; Leader John Thompson | |
| New Covenant | 221 |
| Open Door | 113 |
| "Out of Egypt," Exodus 15:1-3, 19, 22-26; Leader David Sutherland | |
| Round Table | 217 |

It's Time to Register at ECC

The FUMC Early Childhood Center (ECC) will begin registration for the 2012-2013 school year:

* Monday, Feb. 6, at 8:30 a.m. for currently enrolled families.

* Monday, Feb. 13, at 8:30 a.m. for FUMC members.

* Monday, Feb. 27, at 8:30 a.m. for open enrollment.

ECC is a state-accredited, part-time preschool. ECC has been awarded 3 stars (the highest level available) by Better Beginnings. For more information about the program, or to schedule a tour, please contact Tricia Burris (329-1467; tburris@conwayfumc.org).

Beginning Bells Opportunity

A couple of people have recently expressed interest in a class for beginning handbell ringers. If you have interest in a day-time group for adult beginners, please contact Janet Gingerich so we can explore that possibility.

Music for Sanctuary Worship - Sunday, Jan. 29

"Let's Sing Unto the Lord!" What better way to celebrate our response to the stewardship practice of "presence," which will be our focus this Sunday? You may have heard our choirs sing hymn #149 in worship previously, but I believe it will be a "first" for the congregation. From the original title of "Cantemos al Señor" you will gather immediately that this is one of the several Hispanic hymns in our hymnal. We have a few of these in our "repertoire" and I think you'll enjoy starting to learn this modern (1983) lively Psalm paraphrase. In total contrast of style and time period, we will also be singing Isaac Watts' paraphrase of Psalm 146, "I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath" (1719). As stated in the preface to the 1933 British *Methodist Hymn Book*, this great hymn "has been in every Methodist hymn-book since 1737. It was on the lips of Wesley as he lay dying, and its message is one of the heirlooms of Methodism."

Our Church Family:

Welcome

To David and Mary Merritt, who joined this community of faith on Sunday, Jan. 22. They have a daughter, Balasia, 4.

Congratulations

To Jeff and Lisa Johnston on the birth of a daughter, Cordelia Grace Johnston, born Jan. 18, 2012. She was 7 pounds, 15 ounces and 20 in long. Cordelia Grace has two big sisters, Laila and Olivia Johnston.

Welcome Home

To Adam Albers, nephew of JR and Mary Wiese, who is back in the United States after serving overseas in the military.

Sunday Transportation Drivers:

Jan. 29 — Ed Anthes, 269-0542, John Bailey and Tom Courtway.

Feb. 5 -- Kathleen Caruthers (994-9473) & Carole Teague.

Please call Kisha Bumpers, 351-3143, to be added or dropped from the riding list.

Volunteer Driver Needed for Amazing Grace Café

The Amazing Grace Café is seeking a volunteer to drive the bus to pick up guests on the second Thursday of each month. If interested, please contact Caroline Winningham at caroline@conwaycorp.net or 454-9611.

Sunday Worship on Jan. 29

8:45 and 11:00 -- Sanctuary.

Scriptures -- Psalm 111, I Corinthians 8:1-13, & Mark 1:21-28

Sermon -- "Holistic Stewardship: Presence"

Rev. Charles Murry preaching

Rev. Murry's weekly introduction for each week of the Holistic Stewardship sermon series is on the web site of First United Methodist Church.

Go to www.conwayfumc.org and click on the link with Pastor Charles' photo at the bottom of the home page to find "As Was His Custom".

9:00 -- Great Hall.

Scripture -- Psalm 111

Sermon -- "Holistic Stewardship: Presence"

Rev. Lynn Kilbourne preaching

(501) 733-3577 --
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HOLISTIC STEWARDSHIP

HOSPITAL

Out of Town: Stella Mulhearn (daughter of Travis and Amanda Mulhearn); Vickie Bailey; Carin Evans (Linda Koger's mother); Jessica Sutherland.

Dismissed: Edna Earle Pence; Jewel Woodard; Vicki Bailey.

PRAYERS

For Those Serving Overseas With the Military:

Patrick Miller (Joyce Miller's son and Melanie Codemo's brother); Caleb Euseppi (cousin of Vickie and Dani Bench); Jordan Mertes and Tim Wiese (nephews of JR and Mary Wiese); John Thomas Workman (grandson of Liz and John Workman); Brett Stuart.

PRESENCE

Total Attendance in worship: 530

Jan. 22, 2012

(8:45-97; 9:00-195; 11:00-238)

Sunday School attendance: 267

GIFTS

In memory of Frank Roland by: Greg & Pam Wren

In memory of Robert Cohen by: Martha Bumpers

In memory of Fritz Shock by: Jerry & Joyce Lancaster, Gene & Meredith Wilbourn

In honor of Riley Townsell by: Bob & Becky Townsell

In honor of Jerry & Cheryl Park by: Bob & Becky Townsell

Music Calendar

Sunday, Feb. 5 – Chancel Ringers, 9:00 and 11:00

Sunday, Feb. 12 – WOW choir, 9:00; Youth Bells, 3:45-4:30.

Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:30-5:00.

Sunday, Feb. 19 – Youth Bells, 3:45-4:30. Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:30-5:00

Wednesday, Feb. 22 – Youth Choir and Praise Band rehearsal, 4:30-5:30; Ash Wednesday service (6:30-pm) Youth Choir, Youth Bells and Youth Praise Band.

Sunday, Feb. 26 – Genesis Ringers and One Accord, 8:45 and 11:00

Attention 6th Graders!!

Come hear about all about moving up to the Youth Department this summer! We will go over the summer schedule, confirmation, and the Junior High mission trip called C.A.M.P.

Bring your parents on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 3 p.m. in the Great Hall.

Frank Jones Bible Lectures

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

"Matthew: A Gospel for the Church"

- **Jan. 29** -- Chapter 16-18: "Teachings About the Church (Only in Matthew)."

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012

- 6:45 A.M. Red Cross Blood Drive setup, Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 A.M. First Service Singers rehearsal, 202
- 8:00 A.M. Praise Band practice, Great Hall
- 8:00 A.M. Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- 8:45 A.M. Worship, Sanctuary*
- 9:00 A.M. Good News Celebration, Great Hall*
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School*
- 10:00 AM. Fifth Sunday presentation, Great Hall
- 10:00 A.M. New Member Class, 224
- 10:40 A.M. Chancel Choir warm-up, 202
- 11:00 A.M. Worship, Sanctuary*
- 3:00 P.M. Meeting for upcoming 7th graders, Great Hall
- 4:00 P.M. Youth Handbells, 202
- 4:00 P.M. RIOT, Youth rooms
- 4:00 P.M. UMYF, Youth Rooms
- 4:00 P.M. Fun in the Garden small group, 107
- 4:30 P.M. 2000 Years of Christian Thought, 213
- 5:00 P.M. Christian Believer, 216
- 6:00 P.M. Taize Service of Prayer in honor of Stella Mulhearn,

Great Hall

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Group, Prayer Room
- 11:00 A.M. Staff meeting, 216
- Noon OMP cooking setup, Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 P.M. Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development, 216
- 6:30 P.M. OMP Steering meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 P.M. Scout Troop 71, B13, B20, B27, B31, B16
- 6:45 P.M. Chancel Ringers rehearsal, 202*
- 7:00 P.M. Staff-Parish Relations committee, 216

Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2012

- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 10:00 A.M. Staff with Pastor Pam Estes, Hendrix

- 4:00 P.M. Brownies, B27
- 6:30 P.M. Scouts Venturing Crew 71, 1106, 1107, 1108
- 7:00 P.M. Cub Scout Pack 71 Pack meeting, B13
- 7:00 P.M. Old Men's Basketball, Great Hall
- 7:00 P.M. Sanctuary Worship Planning, 216

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012

- 7:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 A.M. Dreamwork Small Group, 213
- Noon Witness Labelers, 107
- 2:30 P.M. Carl Stuart Shuttle (bus)
- 3:30 P.M. Youth Hang Time, Youth Rooms
- 4:00 P.M. Joyful Ringers, 202
- 4:00 P.M. Wonders of Worship Choir, 212
- 4:00 P.M. Youth Gym Time, Great Hall
- 4:30 P.M. One Accord Choir, 212
- 5:00 P.M. History Committee, Library (124)
- 5:15 P.M. Genesis Ringers, 202
- 5:15 P.M. Joyful Sound Choir, 212
- 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Night Picnic, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 P.M. Knitting, 124
- 6:30 P.M. Making Love Last a Lifetime, 217
- 6:30 P.M. Mission Committee, 107
- 6:30 P.M. Scouts -- Venturing, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108
- 6:30 P.M. Understanding Social Media, 216
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir rehearsal, 202

Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012

- 7:00 A.M. Breakfast Club, Lobby
- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 P.M. Cavaliers Basketball practice, Great Hall
- 6:30 P.M. Stephen Ministry, 214
- 7:00 P.M. GNC Band Practice, Great Hall
- 7:00 P.M. The Odyssey small group, 217

Friday, Feb. 3, 2012

- 8:30 A.M. ECC Pre-K Field Trip (van and bus)

Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012

- 1:00 P.M. Interfaith Clinic cooking class, Fellowship Hall
- (* Child care provided. To request childcare for a calendared event, call Pam at the church.

Children's Area in Basement Getting a Makeover

When you have time, please take a look at the Elementary Kitchen Room with the new appliances and counter top in the basement. The church Smart Team helped to install all the new equipment. Our hallway murals have also gotten a much-needed facelift with the help of Linda and Jerrel Fielder. Now it's time to give the Music & Games Room a makeover and go from a backyard scene to an ocean theme. If you like to paint, we have a job for you. Willing volunteers can set their own hours, so call or email Pam at the church to sign up <http://plentz@conwayfumc.org>. The first round of paint is all blue and no art experience is required. We will add the "fishy" details in the spring.

Funding for the children's area projects has been granted by the Taylor Foundation. We have also received Taylor funds to put new carpet in all the basement classrooms and hallways in late spring. Be sure to come see the progress and you can always volunteer to help do more.

Why Must I Sign In at Church?

You may have noticed that our hospitality staff is asking you to sign in when you enter the church building for activities. This is so that, in the event of an emergency, we will have some idea of who is in the building and can then effect a complete evacuation, when appropriate. If we don't know you are here, we can't account for you in an emergency.

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(501) 329-3801

(USPS 625-840)

The Witness is published weekly except the weeks of July 4 and the last two weeks of December by the First United Methodist Church, 1610 Prince Street, Conway, AR 72034, Colleen Holt, Editor.

Periodicals postage paid at Conway, AR, 72032-9988. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "The Witness," c/o First United Methodist Church, 1610 Prince St., Conway, AR 72034.

First United Methodist Church -- Staff Directory

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|---|---|
| Senior Pastor -- Charles Murry | Associate Pastor -- Lynn Kilbourne |
| Assistant Pastor -- Keith Coker | Dir.: Music/Worship Ministries -- Janet Gingerich |
| Director, Children's Ministries -- Pam Lentz | Director, Youth Ministries -- Michelle Moore |
| Director, Lay Ministries -- Kisha Bumpers | Director, Evangelism Ministries -- Melissa Polk |
| Assoc. Dir.: Music (Praise Band) -- Danny Moore | Administrative Assistant -- Jackie Waite |
| Assoc. Dir.: Music (Children) -- Annette Parker | Business Assistant -- Margaret Tavener |
| Organist -- Betty Cohen | Communications Assistant -- Colleen Holt |
| Supervisor, Hospitality Ministries -- Ed Spears | Financial Assistant -- Laura Bounds |