



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

March 10, 2010

Number 10

Rev. Dede Roberts' New Appointment

*From Dottie Patterson,
Chairman, Staff Parish Relations Committee:*

The Staff Parish Relations has been notified by the District Superintendent that our Associate Pastor, Dede Roberts, will be appointed as the District Superintendent of the Central District at our Annual Conference meeting in June.

We are grateful for her time of ministry with us and appreciate that her skills and talents are being acknowledged at the Conference level.

The Bishop has requested that Dede begin attending some of the Cabinet meetings. In meeting this requirement, she may be away from our church for one to three days a week while the Cabinet is in session. Please be understanding if she is required to miss an obligation to your area of ministry during this time.



God's presence is always with us. He never leaves and is never far from our side



"Be still and know that I am God." -- Psalm 46:10.

Lenten Reflection By Eamonn Mayo:

All God asks of us is to be still in our worries and let Him take control. I experienced this personally when my great-grandmother died this past summer. When I got the news, after having left Texas the day before, I felt angry and sad. I wasn't sure what to do. It wasn't a moment where I broke down and cried, but it was a kind of emptiness. A hollow feeling. In all of this, I'm sure I felt angry toward God at least once. I wasn't sure who I felt mad at, I just felt mad.

But even in my anger, God didn't leave me. He was there the whole time saying, "I'm here. I'll help you through." And he did. He gave me true friends who were there for me and a solid church foundation. He built me up out of the tragedy and made me feel full again.

So, I guess what I'm trying to say here is that God will never leave us. If we will just be still and let Him take control, He will get us through any bump in life's road.

Scouting Ministries Sunday - March 14

First United Methodist Church is pleased to support Scouting programs in Conway. Our congregation hosts numerous troops and meetings of the scouts. On Sunday, we will recognize Scouting Ministries with emphasis on the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. All boys and girls in Scout programs are invited to wear their uniforms. In worship, scouts will serve and readers and ushers. If your son or daughter is interested in participating in Scout Sunday, please call Shannon deKunffy at 548-0197. Congratulations, Boy Scouts, on 100 years!

Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, March 28 — Palm Sunday.

Wednesday, March 31 — Seder Meal, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 1 — Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion, 7 p.m., Sanctuary.

Friday, April 2 — Good Friday worship, 7 p.m., Great Hall

Saturday, April 3 — Easter Egg Hunt, Laurel Park, 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 4 — Easter Day. Worship at 8:45 a.m., 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m., Clifton Street steps.



The Sunaura Trio — (from left) Lorraine Duso, Kelly Johnson and Carolyn Brown.

"Under the Dome" Recital

The Sunaura Trio — 3 p.m. Sunday

The next "Under the Dome" recital will be presented at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Sanctuary by The Sunaura Trio, the resident faculty woodwind trio at the University of Central Arkansas. The group includes Carolyn Brown, flute; Lorraine Duso, oboe; and Kelly Johnson, clarinet.

In existence for only nine years, the trio has established and maintained an active performing schedule, playing woodwind chamber music from early masters such as Mozart and Haydn to contemporary compositions. The group is proud to have had several works written especially for them.

The Sunaura Trio regularly performs in schools throughout the state, presenting concerts and clinics for hundreds of students each year.

The recital is free and open to the public!

Sunday, March 14

Time Change

It's Time to SPRING FORWARD one hour this weekend! Don't forget to move your clocks AHEAD.

The 411 for Youth

Presence Numbers

Monday, March 1 -
Youth Choir - 8 Youth
Wednesday, March 3 -
Hang Time - 40 Youth
Youth Praise Band - 12 Youth
1,2,3 JESUS - 14 Youth
Thursday, March 4 -
Breakfast Club - 22 Youth
Sunday, March 7 -
Sunday School - 37 Youth
UMYF - 24 Youth

Weekly Schedule

Thursday, March 11 -
Breakfast Club - 7 a.m. @ The Brewery on Prince Street
Sunday, March 14 -
Sunday School - 10 a.m. in the Big Room
11 a.m.-1p.m. - St. Patrick's Day Lunch
Recreation - 4 p.m.
UMYF - 5-7 p.m.
Monday, March 15 -
Youth Choir - 3:30-5 - Youth Cafe
Wednesday, March 17 -
Hang Time - 3 p.m. in the Youth Cafe
Jr. High Bells - 4:30 p.m. in the Music Room
Knitting Group - 5:15 p.m. in the Lodge Room
Praise Band Practice - 5:45 p.m. in the Big Room
123 JESUS - 6:45 in the Lodge Room

St. Patrick's Day Lunch & Silent Auction

The youth will host a St. Patrick's Day baked potato and salad bar lunch with a silent auction on Sunday, March 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Great Hall. All proceeds will go toward sending our youth to Jr. and Sr. High Assembly this summer! We hope you'll join us!

Wednesday Fellowship Dinners

March 17 - 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Menu: Meat loaf or cabbage balls, potatoes, corn, roll, desserts.

Hosts: Cub Scout Troop 71

Cost is \$6 for adults (age 13 and up), \$4 for children 6-12, kids 5 & under eat free, \$20 maximum per household. To RSVP, call the church office or sign up on the attendance pads during worship so we know how many to expect.



Adult Sunday School Studies this Week

Believing, Becoming, Belonging (B3)	214
"Five Practices," Leader Melissa Jenkins	
Conference	220
"Romans," Leaders John Thompson and Jeff Standridge	
Dorothy Robins-Light	212
"A Community to Redeem," Jonah 3:10-4:5	
Faithbuilders	Parlor
"24 Hours That Changed the World," Leader Mike Hutchison	
Faith in Action (FIA)	230
"Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus"	
Forum	222
Genesis	227
A study of Job	
George Hartje	218
"A Community to Redeem," Jonah 3:10-4:5; Leader Johnnye Hartje	
Gussie Scales	216
"A Community to Redeem," Jonah 3:10-4:5; Leader John Collier	
Koinonia	219
"Lessons From the Bible," Leader Frank Bartrow	
New Covenant	221
"A Community to Redeem," Jonah 3:10-4:5	
Open Door	113
"A Community to Redeem," Jonah 3:10-4:5; Leader David Sutherland; (telephone participation available)	
Round Table	217
"Troublesome Bible Passages"	

Worship on Sunday, March 14

Sanctuary Worship: 8:45/11:00 a.m.

Scriptures — Philippians 3:17-4:1, Psalm 27, and Luke 13:31-35

Sermon — "Follow the Savior in the Way of Compassion"

Preaching — Rev. Charles Murry

Jesus was known to be blunt in directing his words. In this Luke reading, he calls Herod a "fox." I do not believe Jesus was creating names for his adversaries; I do not think Jesus was one to roll his eyes in the middle of an unagreeable conversation. When Pharisees came warning Jesus of Herod's intent to kill him, the essence of the Lord's response is "I am going to Jerusalem. If Herod wants

to find me, he will not have far to look." The harshness of the Lord's feelings that are directed toward Herod do not prevent his deep emotional feelings for Jerusalem. Could Herod have been a recipient of a measure of the compassion reserved for the Holy City? We are called to "follow the Savior"; where does compassion stop?

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

Scriptures — Luke 13:31-35

Sermon — "Follow the Savior in the Way of Compassion"

Preaching — Rev. Dede Roberts

A few weeks ago we explored risk taking mission and service as a practice of fruitful congregations. Jesus embodied such commitment and compassion. With "No Fear" he faced his enemies and wept for those he came to save. Why do we resist his grace? What keeps us from yielding our whole selves into his care? Come Sunday we'll celebrate his fearless love and cruciform compassion which we know as salvation.

United Methodist Women

The Mary Mitchell Circle will meet at 2 p.m. Monday, March 15, in Room 217. Kittie Aaron will give an update on the Conway Interfaith Clinic. Please bring toilet paper or paper towels for the clinic.

The Nell Dyer Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. on March 15 in Room 212. The program will be by Kittie Aaron of the Conway Interfaith Clinic.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter egg hunt will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 3, at Laurel Park. We are asking for donations of plastic Easter eggs and individually wrapped candy (please no nuts or peanuts). Look for the collection bins located in the lobbies! Thanks for supporting this fun activity for our children!

Chili for Chile

5 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Fellowship Hall

Help to raise funds for earthquake aide for Shana Harrison and her ministry at Crescendo, a sheltered workshop for developmentally disabled adults in Santiago, Chile.



Our Church Family

Sympathy

To Eva, Sam, Carla and Samantha Bentley on the death of Jarrell Bentley, who is Eva's brother, Sam's uncle and Samantha's great-uncle.

Music Calendar

Sunday, March 14 – Youth Choir (8:45)

Sunday, March 21-27 – Spring Break week. No children's/youth rehearsals

Sunday, March 28 – Sr. High Bells (both sanctuary services); Little Seekers' Choir (9:00); Joyful Sound/One Accord (11:00)

Sunday, April 4 – Chancel Ringers, Youth Choir, Chancel Choir (both sanctuary services).

Intentional Faith Development Part 2:

Jesus, himself, spent his days surrounded by a small group of 12.

“Learning in community replicates the way Jesus deliberately taught his disciples. His followers grew in their understanding of God ... while gathering together around dinner tables, on hillsides, and at the temple ... Jesus taught us to learn our faith this way.”

-- 5 Practices of a Fruitful Congregation

Small Groups: The Small Groups Ministry Committee is busy working on a plan that will outline upcoming small group offerings for the next year. How are they choosing the groups and studies that will be offered? By listening to all of YOU! Amazing ideas for topics and groups have come out of the brainstorming sessions of the 5 Practice groups that met this fall and winter. Possibilities for groups and studies include: Bible studies (for beginners and novices), Discipleship and Spiritual Growth studies, Special Interest Groups, Financial Courses, Men and Women Bible Studies, Family Learning, Parenting & Marriage, and Blended age-group studies for youth and adults.

Be in prayer as we work toward finding ways for our church to be intentional in our faith development. Whether you find a place in an Adult Sunday School class, in a Small Group or in both, you will find yourself changed.

Transformation comes through learning in community!

Hymn Festival Thank You!

A great number of people contributed in a great many ways to the success of last Sunday's hymn festival. We thank all of you: musicians – adults, youth, parents and children; readers, cookie-bakers, reception workers, ushers, and those who attended and participated. Every one of you worked above and beyond, and we can't express enough how much we appreciate you. It was a wonderful day in the life our congregation, and one that reached many in the community and surrounding areas. In an e-mail sent yesterday Dr. Ferguson wrote, “There are too many individuals to name and thank and I will miss a few as well, so please pass along my gratitude to all who gave so generously of time and talent (from fine singing and playing to conversation and feeding) to make things such a success.”

Vacation Bible School

June 14 - 16

Climb on board for a High Seas Expedition!

We are recruiting leaders for Crafts, Storytelling, Adventure Cinema, and Games.

We also need grade level “Crew Leaders.” Call Deb Hill (327-5438) or Alice Jones (329-2278) to learn more about how to be a part of this year's High Seas Crew.



HOLISTIC STEWARDSHIP

HOSPITAL

Conway Regional: Mary Mobley.

Dismissed: Cindy Schmidt (Cher Masters' mother).

PRAYERS

For Those Serving Overseas: Lin Williams (brother of John Williams); Ben Rand (nephew of Roy and Polly Martin); Michael Maeker (nephew of Shannon and Andreas deKunffy); Jeremy Hankins (son of Ray and Shirley Hankins); Rob Kielty (Jill Hankins' brother-in-law); Patrick Miller (Joyce Miller's son and Melanie Codermo's brother); Chad Gabbard (Cher Masters' brother).

PRESENCE

Total Attendance in worship: 505

March 7, 2010

{8:45-11:0; 9:00-20:6; 11:00-189}

Sunday School Attendance: 268.

Hymn Fest Attendance: 312

Hymn Fest Collection for Food Pantry: \$1,107.48

GIFTS

In honor of Ann Davis by: Mary R. Davis

In memory of Lauren Elaine Shaw by: Fonda & Alan Stone

In memory of Sue Alread by: Jim & Mary Flanagan

In memory of Carolyn Smith by: Jim & Mary Flanagan

In memory of Walter Ed Scales by: Jim & Mary Flanagan

In memory of Mary Harton Spatz by: Harton & Nona Jo Spatz

In memory of Paul Anthes by: Martha C. Bumpers

SERVICE

Thanks to the Chancel Ringers for playing at the Good News Celebration last Sunday. And a GREAT BIG thank you to Sam Bentley for installing casters on the bell tables. We are now “on a roll”!

Financial Stewardship Updates -- First Report

To all who have returned their pledge card, “Thank you”! Since Feb. 28, this congregation received 223 pledge cards totaling \$736,751 for May 1, 2010, to April 30, 2011 -- our church's financial year. Pledge cards have been mailed; additional cards are available at the church. Return your pledge card by mail to the church (Attention: Jackie Waite) or in the offering plate during worship services.

A Night of Dancing Planned March 12

It's Time to Dance! Daniel Felts, a professional dance instructor, will be with us once again from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 12, in the fellowship hall. He will teach the Cha Cha. The cost for the ballroom dance lesson will be \$6 a person. Our regular informal ballroom dance will be from 8 to 9 p.m.

Adult Sunday School Photos to Be Taken

Stuart Holt will be taking class photos for us in the coming weeks! The pictures will be taken during the Sunday School hour during the last three weeks of April. Please contact Melissa Polk to arrange a week for your class to have their picture taken – e-mail mpolk@conwayfumc.org or call her at the church. Many of the classes will be able to be photographed inside their Sunday School classrooms to avoid minimal class time interruption.

Sunday Transportation Drivers:

March 14 — Ed Anthes, 269-0542, and David Bruce

March 21 -- NO BUS. Cars driven by Chuck & Nancy Mulhearn (328-5033) and Sam Teague

March 28 -- Kathleen Caruthers and Carole Teague, 329-5357

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

Churchwide Float Trip Planned in April

Join the Outdoor Ministries Committee for three days of fun, food, fellowship and floating at this year's churchwide Spring Family Float Trip and Campout on April 23-25 at Tyler Bend Campground in the Buffalo River National Park.

Registration forms are available in the Hospitality area and the Lobby, or by asking any member of the committee. Please return all forms to Jackie Waite in the church office no later than April 5, or call Kathleen Caruthers at 501-944-9473 or Bruce Walls at 327-3556.

Lily Fund

Each year, the Worship Committee invites you to memorialize or honor someone special to you on Easter by contributing to the Lily Fund. If you wish to make a donation, please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church and include the form below. For donations to be included in the Easter bulletin they must be received by Tuesday, March 30. (Undesignated gifts will be used for outreach.)

Once expenses for plants have been paid, please use this gift for:

- Updated audio-visual needs for Small Group Ministries.
 Chili earthquake relief efforts
 Other (please specify)

This gift is made in memory of/in honor of:

Enclosed \$ _____ Phone: _____

Your name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

Sunday, March 14, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. First Service Singers & Youth Choir, 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. Equal Exchange Coffee Sale, Lobby, Hospitality Area
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School*
- 10:40 A.M. Chancel Choir, 202
- 11:00 A.M. Youth Potato Bar/Silent Auction, Great Hall
- 11:00 A.M. Worship, Sanctuary*
- 2:00 P.M. DCYM, 1109
- 2:00 P.M. Scout Day Camp meeting, 216
- 3:00 P.M. "Under the Dome," The Sunaura Trio, Sanctuary
- 3:00 P.M. Youth Council, 1103
- 4:00 P.M. High School Handbells, 202
- 4:00 P.M. UMYF, Youth Rooms, Great Hall
- 4:30 P.M. Confirmation Class, 1110

Monday, March 15, 2010

- 8:30 A.M. Moms in Touch, 113
- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Group, 1003
- 9:30 A.M. Nell Dyer Circle, UMW, 212
- 11:00 A.M. Staff meeting, 216
- Noon Staff Birthday Potluck, Café
- 2:00 P.M. Mary Mitchell Circle, UMW, 217
- 3:00 P.M. Prayer Misfits, 1003
- 3:30 P.M. Youth Choir hang time, Café
- 4:30 P.M. Youth Choir, 1105
- 6:30 P.M. Scout Troop 71 meeting, B13
- 6:45 P.M. Chancel Ringers, 202*
- 6:45 P.M. Stephen Ministry, 216, 218
- 7:00 P.M. GNC Planning meeting, 107
- 7:00 P.M. Pack 71 Committee meeting, 217

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Companions in Christ, 216
- 9:00 A.M. Food Pantry (until noon), Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 A.M. ECC, 1106
- 7:00 P.M. Finance Committee, 216
- 7:00 P.M. Old Men's basketball, Great Hall
- 7:00 P.M. Pack 71 Den meeting, 219, 221, 223, 224

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

- 7:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 A.M. Morning Prayer, Chapel
- 11:00 A.M. ASU QRIS Training, B13
- Noon Midday Prayer, Chapel
- 12:30 P.M. "24 Hours That Changed the World" group (Davis), 224
- 12:30 P.M. Witness Labelers, 107
- 3:00 P.M. Youth Hang Time, Youth Café
- 4:00 P.M. Elementary Chimes, 202
- 4:30 P.M. Middle School Bells, 202
- 4:30 P.M. One Accord Choir, 212
- 5:15 P.M. Intermediate Bells, 202
- 5:15 P.M. Joyful Sound Choir, 212
- 5:30 P.M. Evening Prayer, Chapel
- 5:45 P.M. Youth Knitting, 1112
- 5:45 P.M. Youth Praise Band, 1105
- 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Fellowship Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:45 P.M. 1.2.3. J.E.S.U.S., 1109, 1110, 1112
- 6:45 P.M. "24 Hours That Changed the World" (Howell/Roberts), 212
- 7:30 P.M. Disciple I, 216*
- 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir, 202*
- 8:45 P.M. Night Prayer, Chapel

Thursday, March 18, 2010

- 7:00 A.M. Youth Breakfast, The Brewery
- 8:00 A.M. Open Walking Time, Great Hall
- 9:00 A.M. Food Pantry (until noon), Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 A.M. ECC, 1106
- Noon Carole Circle, Café*
- Noon Lenten Lunch, First Presbyterian Church
- 1:45 P.M. Soul Sisters, Parlor
- 2:00 P.M. College Square Circle, UMW
- 3:00 P.M. College Square Communion
- 3:00 P.M. Conway Interfaith Clinic Executive Board, 124
- 5:15 P.M. Conway Interfaith Clinic Board, 216
- 6:00 P.M. ECC Art Show, Parlor, 1103, Lobby, Trinity building hallways
- 7:00 P.M. Praise Band, Great Hall

Friday, March 19, 2010

- 8:00 A.M. Youth Spring Break Retreat, Reconnect at Shepherd of the Ozarks

(*) Child care provided

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 1610 Prince St. ~ Conway, AR 72034
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(USPS 625-840)

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Pastoral Care Emergency Number