



The Witness

First United Methodist Church, 1610 Prince St., Conway, AR, 72034

Volume LI

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SPECIAL SUNDAYS PLANNED IN OCTOBER

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday will be observed in all three worship services (8:45, 9 and 11 a.m.) on Sunday, Oct. 7.

World Communion Sunday is one of the six churchwide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. The collection given on World Communion Sunday is designed to provide scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students.

According to UMCOM.org, "World Communion Sunday calls the church to reach out to all people and model diversity among God's children. The offering benefits World Communion Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program. United Methodists relate to World Communion Sunday by informing qualified people, especially youth and young adults, to apply for scholarships and by giving generously to the special offering, which often enables first-generation students to attend college."

In our celebration of Holy Communion, we will use different kinds of breads representing our connection with people all over the world who are also celebrating World Communion Sunday.

LAITY SUNDAY

Sunday, Oct. 14, is Laity Sunday in all three worship services.

Tiffany Guynes, our Lay Leader, and a team of associate lay leaders and choirs will lead us in worship on this Sunday, as we remember God's call on our lives. The entire service will be conducted by laity, from the Welcome through to the Benediction and Peace.

Lay leaders have several jobs throughout the year, with the bulk of their work centered on planning for Laity Sunday. Duties also can include serving as lead worship host, and administering the vow of local membership to new members.

Our Laity Sunday Speakers are:

Morgan Graham will speak in the Good News Celebration Service at 9 a.m. in the Great Hall of the Trinity Building.

Anthony Boone will speak in the Sanctuary services at 8:45 and 11 a.m.

RENEWAL RANCH SUNDAY

On Sunday, Oct. 21, the men from Renewal Ranch will lead our worship services at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 9 a.m. in the Good News Celebration in the Great

Hall. At 8:45 worship, Renewal Ranch will provide a guest preacher.

Renewal Ranch is a ministry where men find freedom from the chains of addiction, forgiveness from their past, and hope for their future, all through developing a relationship with Jesus Christ. During worship, they will present testimonies and teach us more about what God is doing in this ministry.

Make plans to be here for this unique and inspiring worship experience.

SONGS OF PRAISE

"Songs of Praise" is the name of a program aired weekly on BBC television since 1961. The program celebrates the gift of hymnody and song as expressions of our faith. Communities gather together to sing hymns chosen by individuals who share a short reflection on why they made this selection. Sharing such faith stories can add depth to our understanding, and to our appreciation of this wonderful gift.

Join us on Sunday, Oct. 28, as representatives of our 8:45 and 11:00 congregations share their stories and invite us to sing "Songs of Praise."

COVENANT GROUPS TO BEGIN AT THE WELL

The Well continues on Wednesday evenings this fall! As a new offering, we will have Covenant Groups.

The Well is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather and grow, so we might go into the world equipped for faithful and fruitful living as the disciples of Jesus Christ. Come be refreshed and renewed in the middle of a busy week.

The night will look like this:

5:15-6:15 – Community Meal

6:15-7:00 – Covenant Groups

COVENANT GROUPS

How do we attend to our spiritual lives? One way is by opening our eyes and hearts to where God is at work in our lives and in the world. We will



explore this theme through conversation and prayer on Wednesday evenings in the Fall as a part of The Well.

We will meet together on Wednesday evenings from Oct. 10 through Nov. 7 in covenant groups from 6:15 to 7:30 pm. Covenant groups have a foundation in Methodism, as John Wesley often gathered with his friends and discussed the question, "How is it with your soul?"

If you are interested in being a part of a group where we will hold one another accountable to deepening our faith lives, plan to join us on Wednesdays. If you would like to sign-up for a covenant group, email Kisha Bumpers at kbumpers@conwayfumc.org. And, if you are in need of childcare, please let Kisha know.

Women's Retreat Planned Nov. 2-3

The annual FUMC Women's retreat will be held at Fencliff Camp in Little Rock from Friday evening, Nov. 2, through Saturday afternoon, Nov. 3. We will carpool from the church Friday evening and return by late afternoon on Saturday.

The theme of the retreat is "Trinity: Mirroring the Divine." We will spend a weekend reflecting on the Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Through discussion and spiritual practices we will discover how we can and do mirror the divine in our daily lives. We will eat meals together and have time for fellowship with one another, as well as time for personal reflection. This retreat will be led by Pastor Lauren, Sue Higgs, and Morgan Graham.

If you would like to attend, call Pastor Lauren at (501) 329-3801 or email her at ldelano@conwayfumc.org. The cost of the retreat is \$30, and this will cover dinner on Friday, as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and lodging for Friday night.

In Memory & in Honor

In memory of **Madge Christison** by: Waddy & Gay Moore, Martha Bumpers

In memory of **Noreen Price** by: Genesis Sunday School Class, David & Jackie Daugherty, Martha Bumpers

In memory of **Greg Day** by: Wilson & Jenny Christie

In memory of **Milton Davis** by: Norbert & Carol Schedler, Aaron & Iva Purtee

In memory of **Helen Ruth Isom** by: Larry & Hilda Malpica, Greg & Pam Wren, Martha Bumpers, Jeff & Norma Kelley, Ann Davis

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

In honor of **Kim Barton** by: Rebecca Davis

In honor of **Sue Higgs** by: Rebecca Davis

In honor of **Janet Gregory** by: Rebecca Davis

go **HOG** WILD!

First United Methodist Church Blood Drive

Sunday, October 7

8 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

To schedule your appointment, visit arkbi.org
and enter sponsor keyword: L594 or contact
Ms. Susan Mulhearn at 501-551-6974.



All donors get a
HOG WILD T-shirt!



Donations will
be used to help
feed local
families in need
at Christmas.

Pancake Breakfast

8:15 to 11 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 14

Fellowship Hall



Hosts: Faith in
Action Sunday
School class

THIRD GRADE BIBLES



1610 Investment Campaign Begins for 2019

Thank you from all of us here at C1Youth for your support during 2018 and your investment in the youth ministry. Because of your investments in the 1610 investment plan, we sent 29 youth and adults to Junior High Refuge, 43 youth and adults to Veritas, 58 youth and adults to ReConnect, 63 youth and adults on mission trips, and 48 youth and adults to Assembly.

Because the 1610 Investment Plan continues to be a success, we are beginning our new investment campaign for 2019.

In 2018, we received 223 pledges out of the 255 full investments that were needed for a total of \$42,882.91. When all

was said and done, this left us about \$4,000 short of our goal. **But as God always does, God worked through these investments.**

Not only did we have stories created from the trips that were covered by the investments made, but we also had seven youth express an interest in ministry and are now in the discernment process of what that looks like for each of them. Each and every youth in discernment has expressed that these trips were instrumental in their decisions to seek out their calling.

In 2019, we hope to receive 255 full investments. A full investment is a monthly pledge of \$16.10 for one year. You

can have the pledge taken directly from your bank account each month, send us a check in the mail each month, or make a lump sum one-time payment of \$193.20.

We hope you will prayerfully consider continuing to support us with a new 1610 investment for the upcoming year. We cherish your prayers and support for us all.

Payments will start Oct. 15. Look for us in the Trinity Lobby and Hospitality Area to find the paperwork and information you may need to invest in the stories being created with each investment. For more information, contact Zach Schrick, C1 youth director, at zschrack@conwayfumc.org.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(USPS 625-840)

1610 PRINCE ST.
CONWAY, ARKANSAS 72034
501-329-3801

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WWW.CONWAYFUMC.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/CONWAYFIRSTUMC



C1Youth has new T-shirts and sweatshirts. Come by Zach's office in the Trinity Building and buy a T-shirt for \$15 or get your order in for a sweat-shirt for \$25. All proceeds from will go towards our 1610 Investment plan.

Christmas Coffeehouse To Be Held Sunday, Nov. 11

The Missions Committee is inviting everyone to attend the annual Christmas Coffeehouse from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11, in the Trinity Building.

Mark your calendars for this mission event that will set off the holidays! There will be local non-profit organizations, musical entertainment, door prizes, a silent auction, and free coffee bar and refreshments. To enjoy all the music, join us at 3 p.m., with the Conway High School Jazz Band opening the musical program.

The Missions Committee would greatly appreciate donations for the silent auction. This event is made possible by your generosity and we thank you! Look for sign-up sheets in Sunday School classrooms, on the table outside Kisha's office in the Sanctuary building, or contact Debbie Bartrow at fddcbartrow@conwaycorp.net.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF DIRECTORY

Senior Pastor — Michael Roberts
Associate Pastor — Lauren DeLano
Dir., Music/Worship Ministries — Janet Gingerich
Director, Children's Ministries — Pam Lentz
Director, Lay Ministries — Kisha Bumpers
Director, Youth Ministries — Zach Schrick
Director, MidYouth Ministries — Sandra King
Assoc. Dir., Music (Children) — Linda Ball
Praise Band Leader — Stuart Holt

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Supervisor, Hospitality Ministries — Ed Spears
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Communications Assistant — Colleen Holt
Kitchen Coordinator — Kathleen Caruthers
Elementary Assistant — Catherine Gatlin
Nursery Assistant — Paula Bruner

Contact staff by email at:
first initial of first name plus last name
@conwayfumc.org

Example: mroberts@conwayfumc.org

Our Core Purpose:

To cultivate faithful and fruitful disciples
of Jesus Christ.

