



The Witness

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

Volume LIII

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Number 8



Back to School Blessings for Sunday, August 23!

As we approach a unique kick off to school this year, we need to lift up all those who will be returning in all the ways that will happen this year. So join us for this very special Back to School Sunday!

9:30 a.m. -- Online Worship on Facebook (@conwayfirstumc), YouTube (conwayfumc), and our website (conwayfumc.org)

4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. -- Confirmation Worship livestreamed on Facebook*

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. -- Drive Thru Back-to-School Parade:
Greet the newly confirmed members of Conway FUMC
Receive communion and a special Back-to-School blessing
Pick up Children's Sunday school materials for September

**Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate how love still grows here at
Conway FUMC!**

*Due to the 50-person restriction in the number of people who can be gathered for worship, this year's confirmation class will be confirmed in two groups, and only immediate family may be present in the worship space. But please support them by watching on Facebook and driving through to show them love!



Food Pantry

During the current time of physical distancing, the Conway First United Methodist Church Food Pantry is operating as a drive-through distribution. It is open each Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Registration and photo identification are required. Church and community volunteers make the Food Pantry project possible. Contact Kisha Bumpers at kbumpers@conwayfumc.org or call the church office to become involved as a stocker, sacker, or pantry-day receptionist.

Amazing Grace Cafe

On alternating Thursday nights, First United Methodist Church (1610 Prince St.) and First Presbyterian Church (2400 Prince St.) are offering free meals. Conway FUMC is currently offering the Amazing Grace Café on the second and fourth Thursdays as a drive-through distribution from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Contact Kisha Bumpers at kbumpers@conwayfumc.org or call the church office to become involved in this important ministry of our church.

FUMC MUSIC MINISTRIES INVITE YOU TO:

ONLINE CONCERT

6:30 P.M. THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10

THE CONCERT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CONWAYFIRSTUMC
AND
WWW.CONWAYFUMC.ORG

Discussion Planned About Antiracism

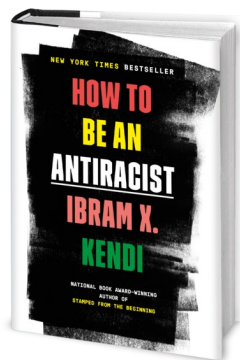
First United Methodist Church in Conway and St. Paul Maumelle United Methodist Church in Little Rock will host a three-session Zoom discussion of Ibram X Kendi's "How to Be an Antiracist". The discussion will be held from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 14, 21, and 28.

Leaders are:

- The Rev. Jeffrey Kelley, DMn. University of Chicago
- The Rev. Maxine Allen, Pastor (ret.), St. Paul Maumelle United Methodist Church, (MDiv. Gammon Seminary, Atlanta)
- Tab Townsell, Executive Director of Metroplan in Little Rock and former Mayor of Conway.

Participants are invited to join Ibram Kendi's experience as he relays his personal journey through the landscape of racism. We, too, will recall when we first became aware of racism in our shared appreciation of one another and the challenges we face to dismantle racism.

To register, visit this web page:
<https://zoom.us/join/register/tJlkcuuhqj4iHNMruUlj3kMNF0qWGN109dN>
You must register to participate!



In Memory and In Honor

In memory of Bill Ledbetter by: Linda Tyler, Dorothy Robins Light Sunday School Class, Jerry & Cherry White, Jamie Bird, Sam & Carole Teague, Paula & Robert Reynolds, Roger & Linda Mills, Chris & Kathy Cooper

In memory of Helen Weir by: Ronald Richardson, Fritzie Moore Vammen, James & Margaret Kelly, Sherry Owen, Jeff & Norma Kelley, Nancy Graddy

In memory of Rebecca Davis by: Nancy Williams & Bob Dornblaser, Jamie Bird, Pam Wren, Faye H. Freeman, Jim & Karen Foust

In memory of John Cooper by: Dave & Liz Parker, Pam Wren

In memory of Anna Horlick by: Helene & Bill Fabian, Skeet & Mary Jane Morse, Jamie Bird, Pam Wren, Sam & Carole Teague, Lorie March & Family

In memory of Betty Courtway by: John & Claudia Courtway

In memory of Frances Clark by: Larry & Hilda Malpica, Pam Wren, Nancy Graddy

In memory of Brad Graddy by: Pam Wren

In memory of Mary Williams by: Sam & Carole Teague

In memory of Vernagene Moore-Kelley by: Sam & Carole Teague, Bob Morrow & Family

In memory of Connie Mack Jackson by: Gay Moore

In memory of Rev. Dr. Guy Marvin Whitney Jr. by: Jim & Karen Foust, Sam & Carole Teague, Tom & Cathy Goodwin, Chris & Kathy Cooper

In memory of Norm Moyer by: Chris & Kathy Cooper

In honor of Kish Jones by: Charles Pittman

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Conway FUMC and Ida Burns Partnership



(Photo below): Children's Ministry Intern Olivia Cash helped coordinate the literacy efforts.



(Photo above): The Cole family was among the group of volunteers putting together sack lunches.



Conway FUMC's partnership with our neighborhood school, Ida Burns Elementary, was in full swing this summer, coordinating feeding and literacy ministries for several students.

For 11 weeks, the church's Children's Ministry fed approximately 57 children and some of their families through a sack lunch distribution program. Due to monetary donations, organizers were also able to include a literacy learning piece by providing age-level appropriate summer reading materials for each of the Ida Burns students receiving food. As part of WOW Camp 2020: Family at Home Edition, the Ida Burns students also received a WOW Camp box and a children's Bible. In addition, the students are currently receiving help with Back to School needs through this ministry.

Two Children's Ministry interns — Olivia Cash and Lexi Burleson — were instrumental in coordinating the ministry efforts.

“Generous donations from individuals, along with grants from the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Taylor Foundation, allowed us to do all these things in the summer,” said Pam Lentz, Children's Ministries director. “Thank you for making a difference through your gifts.”

More activities in connection with the Conway FUMC/Ida Burns partnership will be scheduled during the school year. Watch your email and printed publications for more information, or contact Pam Lentz at plentz@conwayfumc.org.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF DIRECTORY

Senior Pastor — Michael Roberts
Associate Pastor — Michelle Morris
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

Church Administrator — Jill Hankins
Business Assistant — Todd Burris
Supervisor, Hospitality Ministries — Ed Spears
Financial Assistant — Laura Bounds
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.

