



THE WITNESS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1610 PRINCE ST., CONWAY, ARKANSAS, 72034



Photo courtesy of
Jeremy Walter

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OUR LENTEN JOURNEY
FOR 2021

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WOMEN'S BIBLE
STUDY UNDER WAY.
JOIN NOW!

In-Person Worship Returning in March

At this time, the numbers provided by the Arkansas Conference tracking the spread of Covid have shown Faulkner County to have been at safe levels to return to some limited in person events for the last month.

As long as that trend continues, we plan to return to offering an in-person worship option beginning March 7.

We will use the same schedule as we did in the fall:

9 a.m. - In Person in the Great Hall

9:30 a.m. - Online

11:15 a.m. - In Person in the Sanctuary

For those of you who do plan to return in person, please be aware that the same precautions will still be in place: maintain safe social distancing, wear masks, and services will remain 30 minutes or less. You will not need to make reservations to come, however. We look forward to worshipping with you however you are comfortable (in person or online) as we continue to be the connected Body of Christ.

Sunday Night 'Eat Chocolate' Events

As part of our celebration of Lent this year, we will take some time to have fun together as a community, and to learn more about each other and God's world, by gathering each Sunday at 6 p.m. online for live events. Each event will be centered around the word for the week. The events can be found on the church Facebook page at www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc. The videos will also be available on the church website at www.conwayfumc.org or YouTube.

Mark your calendar so you can join us for:

"Mindfulness" (Feb. 21) - area practitioners of mindful practices will join us to demonstrate mindful techniques and yoga

"Awe" (Feb. 28) - Some of our Conway FUMC staff and members will reflect on how to take a beautiful photo, sharing techniques and reflecting on how photography helps us connect to God.

"Glory" (March 7) - Join us as we watch different teams create on the spot recipes in our very own "Instant Chef" Challenge

"Rejoice" (March 14) - Celebrate artistic wonder as we share an online art gallery (do you paint, draw, or sculpt? Please send us a picture of your work with a few sentences about it to lent@conwayfumc.org)

"Delight" (March 21) - Encounter the beauty and wonder of God's creation as members of our community share footage and reflections from area hiking trails

"Extravagance" (March 28) - As we move into Holy Week, when Jesus himself spends time in the garden, some of our wonderful gardeners will share tips on how to plant and what to grow when.

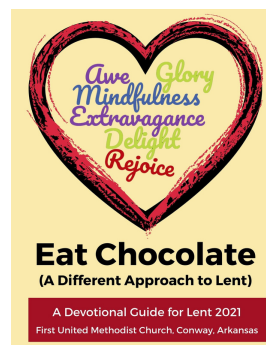
Don't miss these fun times to gather in community and see how God is with us in so many ways in our lives!

Calling all Conway Cooks!

Please send us your recipes, whether they include chocolate or not, to lent@conwayfumc.org by March 21. We will then publish an online downloadable cookbook for anyone to use. We will also encourage everyone to make one of the recipes for Easter and share on social media what you made and whose recipe it was! Let us share in the extension of the Lord's table together!

Check out our Lenten devotional guide, **"Eat Chocolate!"**

You can find it on the church website at www.conwayfumc.org. For a printed copy, please contact the church office at 329-3801



Women's Bible Study Under Way -- There's Still Time to Join!

Pastor Michelle will lead us through an in-depth look of the words we focus on each week as part of our Lenten study, Eat Chocolate.

If you would like to delve deeply into mindfulness, awe, glory, rejoice, delight, and extravagance, join us each Wednesday at 10 a.m. via Zoom. You may use the link below or contact Pastor Michelle for more information.

Link to the Class:

<https://zoom.us/j/91410577559>
Meeting ID: 914 1057 7559

Lenten-Themed Virtual Community Movie Night Set

What's Lent got to do with chocolate and calling? Come find out! Join us for a virtual community movie night, co-sponsored by FUMC Conway and the Hendrix College Center for Calling & Christian Leadership (a program that supports young people exploring ministry).

The 2000 movie "Chocolat", a story of unexpected hospitality and hope set in rural France, will be streamed on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 12. This way we can use the chat feature and be in community together.

You must register to attend: register at bit.ly/chocolatmovienight

Please note: "Chocolat" is rated PG-13 for some mild sexual content, so it may not be suitable for children under age 13.



Snowy Days at the Church



Photos courtesy of Jeremy Walter (top),
Kisha Bumpers (middle) and Ed Spears (bottom).

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Thank you to all who
helped bring some
happiness to our
homebound friends this
Valentine's Day! Just over
40 families received
Valentines lovingly
prepared and delivered by
members of our church.
Abbey, Lily and Sadie
Schrack (pictured) helped
package the Valentines
given by the C1Youth
members.



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

Contact staff by email at:
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@conwayfumc.org

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