



THE WITNESS

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

One Service Day to Be Held Sunday, Sept. 5

On Labor Day weekend, Sunday, Sept. 5, we will have one worship service at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall, with representatives from all services leading music and worship.

As has become our tradition, this is an opportunity for us to all come together as one for worship.

Due to pandemic concerns, we will not have our annual food packing event on this day as one of our big service projects.

We do invite you to find a personal way to "labor" in the work of God. To the right, we have included some ideas for how you can participate, or you can find a way that is unique to you.

We will also have "ministry opportunity cards" posted on the bulletin board outside the church Library in the Sanctuary building and in the worship area on Sept. 5. You may choose a ministry card for your family or group of friends to complete between now and Labor Day, or at your convenience.

We would love to share photos of your family and friends "laboring" together. Please email them to cholt@conwayfumc.org to be included on the church Facebook page and possibly a church slideshow.

Possibilities for 'laboring' in the work of the Lord

Donate a snack item for the children attending classes at our neighborhood school, Ida Burns Elementary. These items could include small cans of Sprite, PopTart Bites, individual packages of Cheese-its, Goldfish crackers, granola bars, animal crackers, Teddy Grahams, or graham crackers. Donations may be brought to the church.

Donate a food pantry bag for one family (or just a few items). One complete bag consists of peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, 3 canned veggies, 1 can of fruit, 2 cans of soup, package of ramen noodles, a box of corn muffin mix, a box of mac & cheese, package of spaghetti, package of dry beans, package of rice, box of saltines, box of oatmeal.

Make compassion bags to give to the homeless. Ideas for filling your Ziplock bag: peanut butter crackers, granola bar, water bottle, small canned meat, travel toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, etc.), pair of socks, \$5 food gift card. You may bring these to the church to share or make what you want and hand out the bags as you see a need.

Prayers: Send a card to a homebound church member or participate in a prayer walk of your neighborhood or the area around the church.



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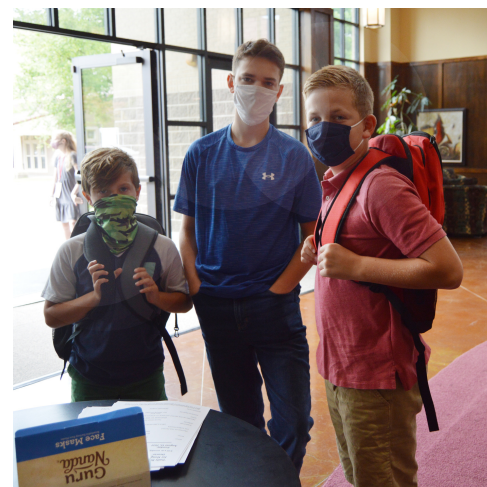
UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S
MUSIC FOR FALL -- PAGE 3

Sunday Worship

In-person worship:
8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
9:05 a.m. in the Great Hall
11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Online worship:
9:30 a.m. Sundays
www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc OR
www.conwayfumc.org

Back to School Blessings



**Sunday,
Aug. 15,
2021**



F.U.M.C.

New Worship Series
Sept. 12-Oct. 3

First – It is more than a title.

United – It is more than a word in our name; unity is a calling from God.

Methodist – (in 10 minutes)

Church – Our commitment to the larger Church (big C).

Piano, Organ, Voice Lessons

Our organist Jason Saugey is currently accepting students of all experience levels for piano, organ, and voice. He teaches here at First Methodist Mondays through Thursdays. If you are interested in music lessons for the fall, please contact Jason by email for details and to schedule: jason@conwayfumc.org.

1610 Plan for C1Youth

From Zach Schrick,
Director of Youth Ministries:

We know that things look a little bit different this year; we also know that last year's money could not all have been utilized due to the cancellation of trips.

We are asking this year if you are already investing monthly with us that you consider continuing that investment. If you are not, then we ask that you consider investing in our C1Youth ministry here at 1610 Prince St. by investing \$16.10 per month for one year beginning Oct. 15 for a total of \$193.20.

We will use all the investments to send each youth to two conference events: Veritas, and Assembly. Our own spring retreat, ReConnect, and one summer mission trip for FREE!!

We are praying we reach the 250 investments that it will take to accomplish that goal each year.

It's not just an investment in the youth ministry, it's an investment in the stories created in the space created in our ministry for God to do what God does. This investment is for 8th - 12th graders only.

It's a commitment ABOVE AND BEYOND the pledges made to stewardship and Blessings to Blessings campaigns. The entire investment is tax-deductible. You can pay it all in one lump sum of \$193.20 for one, or \$386.40 for two, or \$579.60 for three.

We can easily add to an existing automatic draft or set up a new draft - find our draft authorization form on the church website youth page and attach a voided check to it.



Children's Music Opportunities at FUMC

From the FUMC Music Staff:

We have considered many options concerning church music opportunities for children, and have settled on a way we can offer enjoyable and educational music experiences for children in grades K through 7. In place of our usual singing choir and chimes/bells, we will offer sessions with a variety of age-appropriate music experiences such as playing instruments (chimes included,) listening, learning and games, and a storytime with Mrs. Pam for the K-1 age group.

We will do this through two independent 5-week hour-long programs on Wednesday afternoons, 4:30 to 5:30. **They will be held Sept. 15-Oct. 13 and Oct. 20-Nov. 17.**

Due to this new approach, we will need everyone who wants to be involved to be registered before we begin on Sept 15. Once we have our numbers, we will announce exact details and locations. Our overall vision is that each masked musician will have their own "music work station" in their own bubble, 3 to 6 feet away from others.

Please register for the first session by email by Friday, Sept. 3 to: lball@conwayfumc.org. Include your child(ren)'s name, age, and grade in school.

Shores Named Campus Pastor at UCA Wesley Foundation

We are pleased to announce that Amy Shores is the new Campus Pastor and Director of the Wesley Foundation at the University of Central Arkansas.

This ministry is now under the care of the Conway First United Methodist Church in connection to the Arkansas Conference.

Amy has a B.A. from Louisiana College and an M.Div. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. She is currently enrolled in the certification process for spiritual direction at Perkins School of Theology, SMU.

Amy has held positions in Campus Ministry, Youth Ministry, and as the Director of Pastoral Care at Methodist Family Health.



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In Honor & In Memory

In memory of Vickie Bench by: Rick & Sandra Millsap, Pam Wren, Martha Bumpers, Ronnie & Carolyn Gillespie, Elaine Reid

In memory of Gay Moore by: Pam Wren, William Mcneely, Martha Bumpers, Roger & Linda Mills

In memory of Ron Dickson by: Pamela Woodard George, Martha Bumpers, Stan & Marilyn Ott, Claudia Davis, Jeff & Norma Kelley, Jamie Bird, Nancy Graddy

In memory of Tommy Taylor by: Roger & Linda Mills, Matthew & Heidi Crane

In memory of Tabor Andrews by: Roger & Linda Mills

In memory of Brenda Collier by: Robert & Nancy Zenanko

In memory of Andrew Stratton Poindexter by: Fred & Valera Tate, Nancy Graddy

In memory of Sylvia Smykla by: Jacqueline Downs & Diane Newton

In memory of Mary Pat Cullum by: Ben & Sandra Thompson

In memory of Eloise Raymond by: Nancy Graddy

In honor of Kish Jones by: Charles Pittman

Back to School Brunch for College Students

All college students/18-24 year-old young adults are invited to our annual Back-to-School Brunch at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a delicious meal (following all CDC recommended guidelines), spend some time getting to know one another, and highlight some ministry plans we have for the Fall! We would love to see you there -- and feel free to bring a friend!

First United Methodist Church Staff Directory

Senior Pastor — Michael Roberts
Executive Pastor — Dede Roberts
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

Organist -- Jason Saugey
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
Children's Ministry Assistant -- Catherine Gatlin

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

Example: mroberts@
conwayfumc.org