



# THE WITNESS

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

## Wonderful Wednesdays Starting Aug. 31!

Plan now for Wonderful Wednesdays beginning Aug. 31 at First UMC!

There will be opportunities for fellowship, learning, worship and a meal for all ages. A catered meal and worship will anchor the wonder of gathering children, MidYouth, Youth, college students, and adults for music training, bible study, and community building for the whole congregation. Every part of our building will be utilized and we are planning for you and your guests.

This is what you can expect at Wonderful Wednesdays:

- 3:15 -- Youth gather in the Trinity Building for Hangtime
- 4:30 -- Music ensembles begin practices in the Music Suite
- 5:30 -- Dinner is served in Fellowship Hall followed by worship
- 6:30 -- Activities/Studies begin for Children, MidYouth, Youth & Adults
- 7:00 -- Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 -- Wesley Foundation Worship starts in the Chapel
- 7:30 -- Age Level programs end
- 8:30 -- Chancel Choir dismisses
- 9:00 -- Wesley Worship dismisses

Pre-registration is encouraged and a donation of \$6 per person is suggested for dinner.

Questions? Contact any member of the church staff for more information.

### Wonderful Wednesdays Dinner -- Aug. 31

Menu: Vincent's RoadHog BBQ. Pulled pork & chicken with chips & baked beans. Dessert TBA.

Host: Genesis Sunday School Class

Please let us know how many will be in your party. You may call the church office to sign up by end of the day Monday, or click the link on the home page of the church website at [www.conwayfumc.org](http://www.conwayfumc.org).

A donation of \$6 per person is suggested.

## One Service Sunday!

### Sunday, Sept. 4, in the Great Hall

10 a.m. worship will feature music from Sanctuary musicians and our Praise Band

Fellowship time in the Trinity Lobby at 9 a.m.

Worship will include a service of Holy Communion

We will not have a service project this year.

**Reminder: Only one worship service on Sept. 4. No Sunday school.**

# Activities for Adults at Wonderful Wednesdays

**Aug. 31 & Sept. 7:** Pastors Michael and Dede will give a UMC Update: Love Still Grows Here.

**Aug 31-Nov 16:** Knowing, Loving & Serving God.

Gather with a community of people looking to grow deeper as Christians. We will dig into how we can better know, love and serve God. We will explore the knowing and loving sections during the fall semester then delve into the serving section for six weeks in the spring semester. We will meet in Room 216. Leader: Kisha Bumpers

**Sept 14-Nov 16:** Pastors will offer studies. Info to come.

For those not ready to take a class or join a small group, there are other options for ways to spend your time while waiting for family to finish their activities.

\* For fellowship, join us in the Trinity Building Lobby. There will be places to sit and talk, play games, put together puzzles or do a little adult coloring.

\* Do you need a quiet space to catch up on some work? Bring your laptop to the Library or Room 107.

\* For those looking for even more quiet, the Sanctuary will be available for prayer and meditation.

## Be a Church Musician! Join Us On Wednesdays

On Wednesday, Aug. 31, the FUMC Music Department welcomes back children, youth, and teens to participate once again in our music programs, choirs, and ensembles.

These programs as well as the Chancel Choir meet on Wednesday evenings at the church — the evenings of the week when programing for all ages is offered, evenings so fantastic, we're calling them WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS.

It's a time when we as a parish community assemble to exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to work on polishing the gifts we know we have, to share them with each other, and to experience the blessing of discovering gifts we had no idea we had.

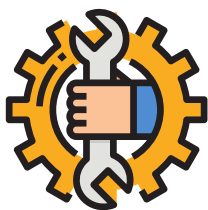
Wonderful Wednesdays are evenings of learning, creativity, prayer, worship, and community fellowship.

Register today for K-1 children's choir, Joyful Sound Choir, and MidYouth Choir as well as Joyful Ringers and MidYouth Bell Choir, the instrumental companion ensembles to our two upper choirs.

And don't think that music programs stop once you've reached MidYouth and beyond. You folks have a choice: you can stick with the MidYouth music groups, or you can make the exciting leap into Chancel Choir and/or Bells of Grace or Chancel Ringers. The musical life of the Church is not limited by age. The music just gets even more vibrant and amazing the older you get.

To sign up for any of these music programs held on Wednesday evening, email Jason Saugey, Director of Music ([jason@conwayfumc.org](mailto:jason@conwayfumc.org)) or Linda Ball, Associate Director for Children's Music ([lbball@conwayfumc.org](mailto:lbball@conwayfumc.org)).

## An Update from the Trustees



The Trustees met this week and have approved for the basement to undergo an \$80k remodel for both the children's ministry and MidYouth area. Updates include all new paint, new floors, new ceiling grid, and various carpentry items.

There are two HVAC units that have been out. Ed is working on getting three quotes to have them repaired.

Ed and his crew have installed all new lights in exit signs and security back up lights around the church.

We are monitoring the roof in all locations. General maintenance has been done over the past two months to hopefully help with roof leaks.

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If you would like to contact the Trustees with a "thumbs up" about the state of the church campus or if you see issues that need attention, please email

[fixit@conwayfumc.org](mailto:fixit@conwayfumc.org). The chairman of the Trustees is Emily Walter and Pastor Dede is the staff representative.

## In Honor & In Memory

**In memory of Sue Hines by:** Linda Tyler, Bill & Sue Higgs, Kevin Tierney, Jamie Bird, Ellis & Kim Arnold, Claudia Davis, Betty Crafton, Libba Tierney, Rick & Becky Rasnick, Jim & Nancy Solon, D.B. & A. Webb, Dena & Rich Dunlap, Pam Wren, Wayne & Janet Gregory, Doug & Cindy Rushing, Pamela Blankenship, Rex & Martha Ross, Gene & Meredith Wilbourn, Martha Bumpers, Mike & Lisa Moix, The Rupert M. "Buzz" Crafton Family, Nancy Williams, Carol Schedler

**In memory of Marion Baker by:** Martha Bumpers, Jay & Kathy McDaniel, Gordon & Penny Wilbourn

**In memory of Liz Workman by:** John & Kathy McDaniel

**In memory of Richard Riley by:** Jamie Bird

**In memory of Jane Conley by:** Pam Wren

**In memory of Anthony Rimkus by:** Pam Wren

**In memory of Richard Riley by:** Pam Wren

**In memory of Sue Epting by:** Bill & Sue Higgs, Jamie Bird

**In memory of Buddy Pugh by:** Jamie Bird

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



# 1610 Investment Plan: Invest in Our C1Youth

**What if every youth that entered our doors instantly felt like they were a part of the family? What if every youth that walked in through our doors had the freedom to participate in any trip without having to worry about the cost? What if the youth felt free to invite friends without the worry of the possible financial burden it may cause for them?**

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We have a way to take care of all these worries and more. We are simply asking for investments in the stories. The stories that can begin here at C1Youth. The stories that could transform every youth. The story of how Jesus changed a young person's life at a trip they took with us!

This would also allow us to focus on creating a space where God can do what God does, where youth can build meaningful relationships, where youth can learn what it means to serve others and youth can find their stories and see how they all fit into God's story.

We are asking that you consider investing in our C1Youth ministry 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 three conference events — Refuge, 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 this year. Last year the 1610 investment plan sent 29 youth and adults to Junior High Refuge, 46 youth and adults to Veritas, 55 youth and adults to ReConnect, 53 youth and adults on mission trips, and 35 youth and adults to Assembly.

The 1610 Investment Plan continues to be a success. Not only have stories been created from the trips that have had their costs covered by the investments made, but we have 11 youth in discernment of their calling into ministry — both lay and ordained — and 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. It's not just an investment in the youth ministry, it's an investment in the stories that are created in the youth ministry by creating space for God to do what God does.

More specifics about the program:

- This investment is for 8th - 12th graders only
- This is a commitment ABOVE AND BEYOND the pledges made to stewardship and Blessings to Blessings.
- The entire investment is tax deductible.
- We can easily add to an existing automatic draft if it's set up through the church already or set up a new draft.
- If you have been investing by direct draft over this last year then you are all set, unless you would like to make any changes.

\* You can make monthly payments or pay in one lump sum by check. The cost is \$193.20 for one, \$386.40 for two, or \$579.60 for three. You can write a check to Conway FUMC and attach it to the investment form or write in the memo line "1610 plan" and place it in the offering plate.

\* We will have tables in the Hospitality Area of the Sanctuary building and the Lobby of the Trinity Building with all the paperwork, and someone to answer questions.



**Sunday,  
Aug. 21,  
2022**

More photos can be found on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc](http://www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc)

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## UCA Wesley is Looking for Volunteers!

We have students who want to attend Wesley Worship who need a ride from the University of Central Arkansas campus to Conway First United Methodist Church. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to drive the Transit to campus and pick up students around 7:15, to have them back at the church for worship at 7:30 on Wednesday nights. We are hoping to have a few volunteers take turns, so it would only be a monthly commitment!

If you have any questions, or are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Amy Shores at [ashores@conwayfumc.org](mailto:ashores@conwayfumc.org) or 501-733-7870. Thanks!



## Sunday Worship

### In-person:

8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
9:05 a.m. in the Great Hall  
11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary

### Online:

1 p.m. Sundays

[www.facebook.com/  
conwayfirstumc](https://www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc) OR  
[www.conwayfumc.org](http://www.conwayfumc.org)

## First United Methodist Church Staff Directory

Senior Pastor — Michael Roberts  
Executive Pastor — Dede Roberts  
Dir., Music/Worship Ministries — Jason Saugey  
Co-Dir., Children's Ministries — Catherine Gatlin  
Co-Dir., Children's Ministries -- Jules Koen  
Director, Lay Ministries — Kisha Bumpers  
Director, Youth Ministries — Zach Schrick  
Director, MidYouth Ministries — Sandra King  
Campus Dir., Wesley Foundation -- Amy Shores

Assoc. Dir., Music (Praise Band) -- Stuart Holt  
Assoc. Dir., Music (Children) — Linda Ball  
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:  
first initial of first name plus  
last name  
[@conwayfumc.org](mailto:@conwayfumc.org)

Example: [mroberts@  
conwayfumc.org](mailto:mroberts@conwayfumc.org)