



THE WITNESS

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

Board of Trustees Update

Here are some updates from the Board of Trustees:

- New stage lights have been installed in the Great Hall
- Remodeling in the Pastoral Office Suite is under way. Painting has been completed and flooring will be installed over the next week.

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.

The chairman of the Trustees is Emily Walter and Pastor Dede is the staff representative.



Please forgive the mess around the Church while we undergo these changes.

fixit@conwayfumc.org

Trustees Work Day 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3

We are focusing on getting our campus ready for the holiday season and ready for the arrival of our new pastor! Bring a sack lunch and join us.

Focus areas will be the Sanctuary and Trinity Building.

If you have questions, reach out to Debbie Bartrow, 501-514-0381.



'Missing Jesus'

Advent -- which includes the four Sundays before Christmas -- is a time when Christians prepare for and anticipate the coming of Christ. This year, you are invited to join the church family at Conway First United Methodist Church for a closer look at the book of Isaiah. On this journey through the scriptures, we will be looking for the different ways we might be missing Jesus coming into our midst. Is Jesus missing from Christmas? Are we just looking in the wrong place? Join us as we seek to identify the one we call Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counsellor, Creator, Beloved Son and King of Kings!



Advent 2022

Regular Sunday Worship Times

In-Person Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. -- Sanctuary
9:05 a.m. -- Great Hall

Live-Streaming Worship

www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc
9:05 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship

Christmas Eve Worship

Carols, Candles and
Communion

11 a.m. in the Sanctuary
4 p.m. in the Great Hall
7 p.m. in the Sanctuary



Christmas Day

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Worship for the whole family!

Christmas Coffeehouse 2022



Thank you to the Mission Committee for hosting this annual event that not only allows us to do some holiday shopping, but to learn about non-profits doing good works in our community.

'A Service of Light in Our Darkness'

Wednesday, Nov. 30

Noon in person in the Sanctuary

5 p.m. on Facebook

Some of us are wondering where the “happy” and “merry” went this holiday season. There has been too much illness, loss, and change. We are learning to accept the empty chairs around the table. We are calculating the risks of being with loved ones over the costs of loneliness. It is almost as if we are dragging the weight of the world to the manger where Jesus is sleeping.

You are invited to a time of worship at noon Wednesday, Nov. 30, in the Sanctuary. We will sing. We will pray. We will share the scripture together, and we will sit in the light

together and be reminded that “the light shines in the darkness and the darkness HAS NOT overcome it.” Join with others to face the darkness and lessen the load in the light of Christ.

During the service each person will receive a candle as a symbol of Christ's light and love. We will gather again on Facebook at 5 p.m. to light these candles as the sun sets to celebrate Christ's presence in our homes. If you did not attend the service at noon to receive a candle, you are invited to find a candle wherever you are at 5 p.m. and join in the service.



Poinsettia Fund Form

The Worship Committee invites you to memorialize or honor someone special to you this Christmas season by contributing to the Poinsettia Fund. All those in whose name a gift is given and the donors will be listed in the bulletin on Sunday, Dec. 18. Any donation amount is appreciated.

Donations must be received by Wednesday, Dec. 14, for names to be printed in the bulletin.

When making a donation, please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church and include this form. Copies of the form are available at the church office or by email from cholt@conwayfumc.org. You may also donate online at www.conwayfumc.org under the "Give Online" button. Choose the "poinsettia fund" option; please include in the note section the names of those you are honoring or memorializing, and the correct way you want your name listed.

This gift is made in memory of:

_____	_____
_____	_____

This gift is made in honor of:

_____	_____
_____	_____

Enclosed \$ _____

_____	_____
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Your name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

_____	_____
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Please use this gift for:

- _____ Assistance for families participating in the City of Hope (CoHo) Christmas Store
- _____ Food for students at local colleges (for instance, the University of Central Arkansas Food Pantry)
- _____ Other (please list) _____

UCA Wesley Advent Opportunities; All Are Invited!

The University of Central Arkansas Wesley College Group would like to invite everyone to the following Advent worship opportunities:

Wednesday, Nov. 30 -- All music service (with communion) led by Wesley Foundation; Trinity Chapel at Conway FUMC; 7:30-8:30

Wednesday, Dec. 7 -- Lessons and Carols led by Wesley Foundation; Trinity Chapel at Conway FUMC, 7:30-8:30

Advent Study Continues

6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
"Incarnation" by Adam Hamilton. All are welcome!

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1610 PRINCE ST.
CONWAY, ARKANSAS 72034
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In Honor & In Memory

In memory of **Peggy Crowell** by: Joe & Melanie Codemo
In memory of **Sue Jones** by: Dr. & Mrs. David Nixon, Betty Diehl, Richard & Jackie Bishop,
Deana Grant, Conway Regional Medical Center, Craig Shirley & Rhonda Holland
In memory of **Richard Riley** by: Bill & Cecilia Patterson
In memory of **Pat Crowell** by: Dotty Robins Light Sunday School Class
In memory of **Billy White** by: Stan & Marilyn Ott
In memory of **Bill Jacob** by: Cliff & Maribeth Garrison

In honor of **Pastors Michael & Dede Roberts** by: Ellis & Kim Arnold
In honor of **Michael Roberts** by: Rebecca Mills, Becky Hammett, Richard & Carol Clark,
Butch & Sue Siria, Cliff & Maribeth Garrison, Claudia Davis
In honor of **FUMC Music Ministry** by: Bill & Cecilia Patterson
In honor of **Rev. Nathan Kilbourne** by: Skeet & Mary Jane Morse
In honor of **Karen Foust** by: Stan & Marilyn Ott
In honor of **Jim & Karen Foust** by: Cliff & Maribeth Garrison
In honor of **Kish Jones** by: Charles Pittman
In honor of **John Pickett** by: Betty Gene & Richard Mann

Sunday Worship

In-person:

8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
9:05 a.m. in the Great Hall
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

9:05 and 11 a.m.
services are
livestreamed.

[www.facebook.com/
conwayfirstumc](https://www.facebook.com/conwayfirstumc)

First United Methodist Church Staff Directory

Interim Senior 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

Example: droberts@
conwayfumc.org