

The First Connection

Leading People to an Active Faith in Jesus Christ

Blue Springs First United Methodist Church

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 1, Maundy Thursday, Service and Holy Communion—7:00pm

April 2, Stations of the Cross—Noon to 6:00pm, sanctuary

April 2, Good Friday, Tenebrae Service—7:00pm

April 3, Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Service—5:30pm

April 4, Easter Sunday, Easter Celebration Service—

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00am

(Please note the change in service times for Easter Sunday)

March 17, 2010

Volume 4, Issue 5

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Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open Doors



And now First United Methodist Church
is having our

Second Annual

Open House

Sunday, April 11

Regular worship services at

8:00, 9:15 and 10:45am

Food and Ministry Fair begins at 11:30am

Concert with recording artist

Jason Watson at 1:45pm in the sanctuary.

Save the date. Invite your friends!!!

Up Next:

- Drs. Leanna Mosher and Terry Morris will be making a medical mission trip to Haiti.
- Ezra Project - Join in the reading of the Bible during Holy Week
- Support the West Virginia college-age mission trip
- Join the new "Morning Walk Group." They meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00am in the Family Life Center.

Rev. Steve Campbell

Dear Friends,

Most of you are aware I made an announcement a few weeks ago that I will be retiring at the end of June. I mentioned it again last weekend as I spoke about our new Pictorial Directory. Apparently there was a person or two who were surprised.

Well, I realize that sometimes things need to be repeated. Now that it has been said in the worship services on two different weekends, and printed here, I will begin to assume it is common knowledge.

What I really want to write about are some of the ways we will work together to prepare for a time of transition. In our denomination Pastors are appointed by the Bishop. So, there is not a "Search" committee. However, the Staff/Parish Relations Committee has a strong role in consultation with the Bishop and Cabinet. You are served by an excellent Staff/Parish Committee which has been working diligently doing their part in the consultation process. This began late in 2009 and continues to the present. It will not be long before a new pastor is named who will then be ap-



pointed at Annual Conference in early June.

A way for all of us to be involved is by our prayers. Pray for every person involved in this process. Pray for our congregation. When we learn who the new Senior Pastor will be, start immediately to support that person in your

prayers. Remember, this individual will be leaving a church they have loved and cared for. They will be changing residence, moving into a whole new experience. I know from experience; it is a challenge! Remember, too, the new pastor will be bringing experience, skills, gifts, hopes and eagerness to this new beginning. Nurture all of this in prayer!

Another way for all of us to be involved is participating in the new Directory. You can schedule a time for your photograph next weekend. Dates for photography are April 21, 22, 23, and 24. Then another opportunity will be April 29, 30, and May 1. A Pictorial Directory is a great tool for many purposes. One of the valuable

purposes it will serve is helping new staff get acquainted more quickly and easily. There are some wonderful additional features to this directory including an online directory which can be updated as membership changes occur! From that online directory we can print directories for groups, classes, and committees in the church.

I realize that a change in pastors raises some anxiety. However, I have confidence in our system. God works in and through this process! An able pastor will be appointed to serve you. That person will bring the gifts, talents, and skills needed to lead you to a new stage in the long and productive life of First United Methodist Church! Over the next several

weeks I intend to do all I can to help in this transition. Until June 30 you will have my best efforts. You will always have my love and prayers. Your new Senior Pastor will have my support and encouragement.

Sincerely,
Steve

A Pictorial Directory is a great tool for many purposes. One of the valuable purposes it will serve is helping new staff get acquainted more quickly and easily.

Training Opportunity

A wonderful opportunity is available to us to discover new possibilities in relating caringly to inactive members. A training course, called *Caring for Inactive Members: How to Make God's House a Home*, will be held Saturday, April 17, as a one-day retreat.

The content of the course gives clues to its importance as well as revealing its practical nature.

- Hopes and Expectations
- How to Handle Chance Encounters with Inactive Members
- How to Converse Comfortably
- How to Guarantee 100% Success
- How to Set Up Visits
- How to Invite Gently

The cost of the training manual is \$12 and a supplemental book is also available for \$12. We plan on sharing the

cost of pizza for lunch, or you are welcome to bring your lunch for the day. The event will begin at 8:00am and conclude no later than 4:00pm.

We look forward to your participation. If you are interested in this training or have questions, please contact Rev. Karen at the church office.



Joys and Concerns

HEALTH CONCERNS

Lucinda Armstrong
Alice Atkinson
Adam Bartlett
Mark Batulis
Bernie Dietrich
Virginia Evans
Rev. Marvin Fortel
Marion Kuhn
Myrna Mardis
Ed Norgren
Ron Stowell
Shari Sullivan
Bob Turner
Jim and Jenny Floyd
Ashley Shomin, Jan Shomin's daughter-in-law
Bill Zeider, Rebekah Davis' father
Don Plaster, Brian Sloan's uncle
Edith, Bill Mooney's sister
Floyd Ford, Chuck Ford's father
John and Grace Whipple, Mary Derrington's parents
Grant Hess, Jean Moore's brother-in-law
Jess Hicks, Cyndi Sloan's uncle

Mary Weiss, Patty Mohn's mother
Nancy, Cindy Compton's sister
Pam Markey, Jan Shomin's sister
Scott Reynolds, Sue Reynolds' son
Sylvia Brown, Heather Mangan's grandmother

OTHER CONCERNS

Prayers for those affected by the earthquake in Haiti and Chile.

The Bishop and Cabinet as they work on appointment changes.

Prayers for all those dealing with job loss, financial concerns and health issues.

Drs. Leanna Mosher and Terry Morris who will be making a medical mission trip to Haiti next week.

Prayers for the Ezra Project beginning March 21.

SYMPATHY

To Jackie Landes and family on the death of her aunt, Polly Regan, on Friday, March 12.

JOYS

Congratulations to Kathy Baylis and Wayne Abrams who were married on Saturday, March 13.

THANK YOU'S

Thank you from Susie Shearer for all the prayers and concerns for her father during his surgery and recovery. He is continuing his therapy at home.

Thank you from Edie Moore for everyone's prayers, meals and cards after her surgery.

Thank you for the 9:15am Praise Band. It's an added pleasure for worship.

In the Life of the Church

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Several opportunities for scholarships are available at First United Methodist Church.

FUMC offers two scholarships for students and a non-traditional student grant. The United Methodist Men sponsor the Paul Rand Scholarship, and The Independents singles ministry offers several scholarships for students. More information and an application form is available on the church web page at

<http://firstumcbs.org/scholar.asp>.

You will also find information there about other United Methodist-related scholarships and loans. **Application deadline—April 1.**

Sign up now to be included in our new Pictorial Directory!

Mark your calendars! The church will be publishing a new Pictorial Directory through Olan Mills. The photography dates are **April 21- 24 and April 29-May 1**, and **sign-ups for appointments begin this weekend**. Each participating household will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 Custom Portrait. More information will be provided later. Remember, our Pictorial Directory won't be complete without *you!*

WOMEN'S RETREAT

The next women's retreat will be Friday, April 30, to Saturday, May 1. We will once again be at the Wilderness Retreat Center at Lawson, MO. More information will be coming soon. Be sure to save the date.



FUMC Job Club offers leads to members in need

Do you know of any job openings where you work? Are you looking to hire someone with specific skill set? That individual could be a member of our Job Club. The FUMC Job Club maintains a book of local job openings that may not be listed on public websites. The book also contains the resumes of our club members. Contact Randy Williams at 229-9584 or by e-mail at randygws@att.net to add openings to the book or to see if there is a match for you or your employer. The club is open to anyone in the community who is looking for work and continues to meet at 7:00pm in room 103 on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

THE EZRA PROJECT

The United Methodist Men would, once again, like to invite the entire church family to be involved in a unique worship experience one week during Lent. The name for this undertaking comes from Ezra, the scribe, and the public reading of the Law during the rebuilding of Jerusalem in Nehemiah's time. Beginning at the end of the Sunday services on March 21 and ending on Saturday, March 27, at the beginning of the Saturday evening service, we will be sponsoring a public reading of the entire Bible in the sanctuary. We invite everyone to come join us as we prepare for Holy Week. We are asking people to sign up to read aloud for 30-minute time slots, which are available from 6:00am to 11:00pm. When you sign up, you will receive additional instructions for the actual reading. We realize that this might sound like a new or unusual idea; but even so, as Methodists, we believe that reading the Bible is one of the "means of grace" by which God makes his presence real in our lives. So let us join together during this time of preparation and lift up his Word together. Keep an eye out in the narthex between services for a sign-up table or call the church office at 229-8108 to reserve a time to read.

In the Life of the Church

Cancer Support Network

The next meeting of the Cancer Support Network will be on Wednesday, April 7, at 6:30pm in Room 100. Vanessa Findley, the executive director of Gilda's Club, will speak with us about the future plans and services that this organization provides to cancer patients, survivors and their families. Anyone who is or has been affected by cancer is encouraged to join us. We meet monthly with the goals of educating and supporting those who have experienced cancer within our community. Please call the church office if you have questions regarding our group.



The Men O' Praise performed at the Disaster Relief Ministry fundraiser this past Friday. Good music, food, and fellowship was had by all who attended.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW will be meeting in room 112 at 10:30am on Friday, April 2 (that's Good Friday). Program will be Prayer and Self-Denial. Lunch follows the program. \$2 donation suggested. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

RIB CRIB UPDATE

The church has recently received a check from Rib Crib for almost \$290, showing our net proceeds from the Explorers Class fundraiser held throughout the month of December. With additional contributions, the amount of \$300 will be given to help meet our apportionment obligations for 2010. A big thanks to everyone who joined in to raise this amount and had a good meal at the same time.

BRIDGES

Building Relationships In Doing God's Everyday Service

Wednesday, April 7, lunch at 12:00 noon - Room 112

The Outreach Liaison at Centerpoint Medical Center will join us to provide information about the facility and health-related issues. Menu: Taco Salad and Oreo Delight dessert

Cost: \$6 per person

Reservations by April 4

Call Dee Meek/Norm Runge at 373-2580.

BRIDGES' goal is to be INTER-GENERATIONAL WITH PERSONS OF ALL AGES WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE CHURCH AND THE SUPPORT OF EACH OTHER.



YOUTH EVENTS

You must be signed up for all activities ahead of time. This is to ensure we have enough transportation. Friends are always welcome, but everyone must have a consent form on file or filled out to participate.

Sunday Night Youth!

5:30-5:45pm	Dinner
5:45-6:15pm	Team meetings
6:15-7:00pm	Mid-high and Senior high groups meet
7:00-7:30pm	Games and fellowship

FUMC Youth has a group on Facebook. If you want to be connected via Facebook regarding youth activities, events, photos, etc., please join the group called FUMC YOUTH GROUP.

February Youth Dinner Menu

March 21 - Mexican

March 28 - PIZZA

Mission Trip Fundraising Opportunities in April!

Stock Sales will take place every weekend in April except Easter weekend. There will be a table set up in the narthex to stop by and sell stock to help with the cost of your mission trip!

Easter Breakfast- Jack will have news at the next mission meeting regarding a possible Easter breakfast to help fund our summer mission trips.

Garage Sale- set for April 24 - more news from Jack soon! Much help is needed to get this ready and run it!

ANNUAL YOUTH FLOAT TRIP SCHEDULED!

June 9-11 — Wednesday-Friday

River Ranch Resort Noel, Missouri

Five meals, a mini-float trip and a 4-mile float trip in either canoe or raft, two nights' lodging, swimming, mini golf, transportation and A GREAT TIME for \$145.

Check your calendars now and sign up!

Adults needed!

March 13-14, 2010

Giving

General Fund	\$9,605
(needed)	\$16,611
Giving to date	\$160,377
Budget to date	\$182,721
2010 Budget	\$863,789
% of Budget Received	18.6

Building Fund

Building Fund	\$3,023
(needed)	\$6,812
3-year Goal	\$1,062,703
% of Goal Received	38.6
% of Campaign Complete	40.4
Designated Giving	\$1,472

Worship Attendance

Worship	420
Sunday School	
Children	45
Youth	17
Adults	92
Totals	154
Sunday Evening Youth	18



CALLING ALL YOUTH



Easter Candy Needed!

Once again the youth will be helping with the annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children's Sunday School classes. We need donations of bagged, wrapped candy to help with this fun event! Please bring candy during the month of March to church, Sunday school or Youth Group.

Date	Time	Place
Sunday, March 21		
Children's Puppets	10:45am	102
Youth Dinner	5:30pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
2010 Confirmation Class	7:00	012
Monday, March 22		
District PLD Meeting	10:00am	112
Susannah Circle Meeting	1:30pm	103
Trustees Committee Meeting	7:00	Office
Grief Support Group	7:00	100
Tuesday, March 23		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Stephen Ministry Peer Group	7:00	Office
Wednesday, March 24		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00	103
Wednesday Fellowship Dinner	5:15pm	117
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Spirit Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	6:30	154
Invitation to Psalms with Rev. Steve	6:30	112
<u>3 Simple Rules, a Lenten</u>		
Study w/ Rev. Karen	6:30	117
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
Thursday, March 25		
Hearts and Hands Circle Meeting	6:30pm	112
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
Friday, March 26		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Saturday, March 27		
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary
Sunday, March 28		
Children's Easter Egg Hunt	10:00am	FLC
Children's Chime Choir	10:45	154
Youth Dinner	5:30pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
2010 Confirmation Class	7:00	012
Monday, March 29		
Grief Support Group	7:00pm	100
Tuesday, March 30		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Wednesday, March 31		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00	103
Wednesday Fellowship Dinner	5:15pm	117
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Spirit Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	6:30	154
Invitation to Psalms with Rev. Steve	6:30	112
<u>3 Simple Rules, a Lenten</u>		
Study w/ Rev. Karen	6:30	117
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
Thursday, April 1		
Maundy Thursday Service	7:00pm	Sanctuary
Friday, April 2		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
UMW Board Meeting	9:00	103
UMW Monthly Meeting	10:30	112
Stations of the Cross	Noon—6:00	Sanctuary
Good Friday, Tenebrae Service	7:00pm	Sanctuary
Saturday, April 3		
Methodist Men's Breakfast	8:00am	112
Easter Vigil Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary

April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

Noon	Men Of Praise Choir Rehearsal	150
3:00pm	Crossover Rehearsal	Sanctuary
5:30	Youth Dinner	117
5:45	Youth Team Meetings	015/016
6:15	Youth Breakout Meetings	015/016
7:00	Youth Games and Fellowship	FLC

MONDAY

TUESDAY

8:00am	Morning Prayer Group	100
8:00	Morning Walk Group	FLC
7:00pm	Single Adult Volleyball	FLC

WEDNESDAY

8:00am	Pastors Lectionary Group	103
8:00	Morning Walk Group	FLC
5:15pm	Wednesday Fellowship Dinner	117
5:30	Glory Ringers	154
6:30	Spirit Ringers	154
6:30	Invitation to Psalms—Rev. Steve	112
6:30	3 Simple Rules—Rev. Karen	117
7:00	Creative Crafts - Prayer Shawls	103
7:30	Rhapsody Ringers	154
7:30	Chancel Choir	150

THURSDAY

9:30am	Back Fence Bible Study	100
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FRIDAY

8:00am	Morning Walk Group	FLC
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Ministers

All members who have pledged to uphold First UMC with their prayers, presence, service, gifts, and witness.



Pastors

Rev. Steve Campbell
Rev. Karen Taylor

Worship

Saturday, 5:30pm
Sunday, 8:00, 9:15, and 10:45am

Office Hours

8:00am—4:30pm Monday-Friday

Church Office: (816) 229-8108

Church fax: (816) 229-6705

E-mail: office@firstumcbs.org

Learning Ladder Preschool
(816) 229-9949

Church Website -
www.firstumcbs.org

Blog—
<http://fumcnews.blogspot.com>

March 17, 2010

First United Methodist Church
of Blue Springs
301 SW Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs MO 64015

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Blue Springs, MO 64015

Address Service Requested

Grief Support

Grief Group will begin March 22, Monday evenings, at 7:00pm for six weeks. We will meet in Room 100 at FUMC. Our group activity will be based on the book, "*Praying Our Goodbyes*," by Joyce Rupp. It is not a requirement to purchase the book. We will keep our sessions to 1 to 1-1/2 hours in length. All people who are in the midst of change in their lives are welcome.

Grief is not only for those who have lost a loved one through death. Grief happens with separation from a loved one, moving from one place to another, loss of job, changing jobs, losing a friend, receiving a health diagnosis, hearing a friend's diagnosis, etc. The group will be facilitated by Jo Perrin (228-7703) and Deb Babbitt.

West Virginia College-Age Mission Trip Fundraiser

Receive 12 medium pizzas for just \$10

A group of college-age students and adults will travel to Oak Hill, WV, July 10-18 to work with a VIM ministry called Oak Hill UMC Housing Repair Ministry. The ministry has been in operation for 8 years and has 100 families applying for help in 2010.



All materials and supplies are provided for visiting mission teams at a cost of \$25 per day per person. Total estimated cost (material/supply fee, gas, food and travel expenses) of the mission trip is \$225 per person.

The West Virginia Mission Trip team from FUMC of Blue Springs will be selling Pizza Hut cards during the month of March for \$10 each. Each card is good for a FREE medium, one-topping pizza with the purchase of a large pizza at regular price, and the card can be used 12 times and is valid through February 23, 2011. Since a medium pizza is approximately \$10, cardholders come close to breaking even with just one use.

The cards are accepted at 1149 locations in 28 states. Other than the 3 local Blue Springs locations, a list of cities where the cards are accepted will be available at the tables in the narthex or on the following website

www.npcinternational.com/customers/finder as not all Pizza Hut locations accept the card. 42 cities in Missouri and 15 in Kansas are listed.

Cards will be available in the narthex each weekend during March or contact Ray Harris (224-2904).