

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)

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 1:30pm in the sanctuary.

Save the date. Invite your friends!!!

March 31, 2010

Volume 4, Issue 6

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Up Next:

- Easter Service times—Sunday 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am
- Open House—Invite a friend
- Tuesday Golf League is starting
- 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,

We call this "Holy Week." There are, of course, several ways for us to meditate on what we mean when we say "Holy Week." We all know it is a week on the calendar, but we know it is more than a chronological designation. It is a week for remembering how the holy has been revealed to us. As we recall each of these events, we are in touch with the true nature of the holy. It is also "Holy Week" in the sense of a week devoted to holy activities. No other week in the year offers the same frequency or variety of opportunities for devotion and corporate worship. But I like to ponder the meaning of "Holy Week" as a time in which we are aware of God touching our lives and making us more holy. I give thanks, believing by this time next week you



and I may be more holy.

It is certainly true that the worship events of this week touch us on the deepest level of our spirits.

Thursday we will come to the Lord's Supper in the beautiful setting of our sanctuary arranged with three tables. We will remember the many things Jesus told his disciples on the night of his betrayal and arrest. Friday afternoon you may come to the quiet of the sanctuary and follow the Stations of the Cross. On Friday evening we will hear again the story of his Passion as the sanctuary moves toward darkness. Saturday evening we will share in the traditional service of Easter Vigil which recalls God's mighty acts of salvation and

offers us the means of grace. All of these worship events prepare our hearts for the great celebration of Easter. Christ is victorious over death! He is the "first fruits" as Paul says. He offers us the assurance of life eternal! Indeed, all these touch the deepest places of our hearts.

Yes, of all the ways to interpret it, I believe it is a week to make us holy. As you go about your devotions this week and as you attend the special worship services, God will be acting to fill you with new life! It will be a time to grow in love, gratitude, trust, and hope! Have a Holy Week!

Yours in Christ,

Steve Campbell

It is certainly true that the worship events of this week touch us on the deepest level of our spirits.

The Costa Rica Reverse Mission Trip Task Force says

THANK YOU !

Because of your support and participation, the auction for the Costa Rica Reverse Mission Trip raised over \$14,000.

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
Nancy Ballew
Adam Bartlett
Mark Batulis
Bernie Dietrich
Virginia Evans
Alice Lenning
Myrna Mardis
Dick Moore
Ed Norgren
Chip Reach
Doris Rhodes
Ron Stowell
Shari Sullivan
Bob Turner
Jim and Jenny Floyd
Rev. Marvin and Harriet Fortel
Bill Potter, Shelly Anderson's step-grandfather
Bob Milner, Shelly Anderson's father
Don Plaster, Brian Sloan's uncle
Edith, Bill Mooney's sister
Floyd Ford, Chuck Ford's father
Grant Hess, Jean Moore's brother-in-law
Jean Green, Hazel Quinn's sister

Jeannie Byram, Devon and Willis Byram's daughter
Joan and Ed Lewis, Kris Allen's aunt and uncle
John and Grace Whipple, Mary Derrington's parents
Laurine Davis, Glen Davis' mother
Mary Weiss, Patty Mohn's mother
Nancy, Cindy Compton's sister
Scott Reynolds, Sue Reynolds' son
Wanda Rueppel, Linda Kelly's mother

OTHER CONCERNS

Jimmy Clark, son of Julie Clark, a Marine serving in Afghanistan.

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

SYMPATHY

to Heather Mangan and family on the death of her grandmother, Sylvia Brown.

to Cyndi Sloan and family on the death of her uncle, Jess Hicks, on March 17.

to Jim and Susie Shearer and family on the death of Jim's father, Jim Shearer, Sr., on March 27, in Louisville, KY.

to Chere Semple and family on the death of her mother, Virginia Semple, on March 29.

JOYS

Congratulations to Jim and Peggy Bloom on the birth of a new great-granddaughter, Lily Josephine Roberts, on March 16. Parents are Ryan and Megan Roberts.

Congratulations to Cindy Harves on the birth of a new granddaughter, Dakota Leigh-Anne, on March 18. Parents are Nick and Heather Harves.

Congratulations to Peter Johnson who has completed Air Force Basic Training and graduates on April 1 at Lackland Air Force Base.

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 up for appointments in the narthex**. 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

Women's Spring Retreat – 2010

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. The theme of the Spring Retreat is "Sow Seeds of

Faith." A seed contains everything it needs to grow into a plant identical to the one that produced it. We will explore seeds and scripture passages that use the imagery of seeds/plants/fruit to help us understand that we are both seeds and gardeners in God's kingdom. What a wonderful location the Wilderness Retreat Center at Lawson, MO, will be for this particular theme. The cost will be \$45 this year which will include 2 meals provided by the camp's cook staff. Once again participants are asked to bring a snack to share Friday evening. More information will be coming. Be sure to save the date.



FUMC Job Club to discuss On-line Research

Tammy Kabell, a nationally known career coach and owner of Career Resume Consulting in Lee's Summit, will be the guest speaker for the FUMC Job Club on Tuesday, April 20. Tammy will be sharing information about the new ways to conduct on-line research to locate the jobs that may not be available through the traditional on-line job boards. She will also provide creative ways to use social media sites like LinkedIn to improve networking and job search methods.

The FUMC Job Club meets at 7:00pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Contact Randy Williams at randygws@att.net or by phone at 229-9584 for additional information.

TUESDAY GOLF LEAGUE



The Church Golf League will start its seventh season on Tuesday, April 13, at 9:00am.

We will return to the Pleasant Hill golf course. The owners have agreed to keep greens fees and carts the same prices as last year:

Green Fees = \$6;

Carts = \$6 for 1/2 cart.

DIRECTIONS:

Go south on 7 Hwy to Pleasant Hill. Look for the Sonic Drive-In on the east side of 7 Hwy. Turn left (east) on Country Club Drive. Go east approximately 1/2 mile to the course. Please arrive 30 minutes early the first day (April 13).

For several years some Blue Springs residents have met at St. Peter Methodist Church (at the corner of 7 Hwy and Liggett Rd.) to car-pool. We have 6 women who play regularly with us; in addition, we enjoy the 3 or 4 members of the Pleasant Hill Methodist Church who join us most weeks.

Our goal is fun and fellowship. If you would like to join us and you have additional questions, contact Bob Cravens.

arjaycee1928@att.net

228-4298

EZRA PROJECT

The United Methodist Men would like to thank everyone for their support of and participation in the Ezra Project this year. We did read the entire Bible as planned and hope everyone found it to be a meaningful worship experience. Once again, thank you.

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.

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.

Help the Costa Rica Reverse Mission Trip

Plan to buy your Easter candy at the Russell Stover Candies store on North 7 Highway on Good Friday, April 2. A portion of each candy sale at Stover's that day will be donated to the Costa Rica Reverse Mission Trip fund. When you pay for your load of candy, ask the clerk to please credit the purchase to First United Methodist Church. Ask your friends and family to do the same thing. Enjoy your candy!

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.

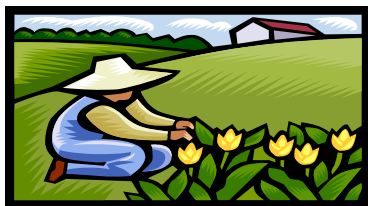
Menu: Taco Salad and Oreo Delight dessert

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.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Attention all you Green-Thumbed Gardeners out there! It's time to start planning this year's FUMC Community Garden. You are welcome to join the fun by growing whatever you like for your family and friends or to give to a local charity such as Community Services League or Hillcrest Ministries. The plots will be located behind the church on the northwest corner of our property. We are also planning to get the youth involved by planting a Pumpkin Patch in late June for harvest in October. Our first meeting will be April 6 at 6:30pm in room 117. Please feel free to contact Ray Holder at 509-7570 with any questions.

BE A HERO LIKE JESUS—

SUMMER CAMP 2010

Time to sign up for summer camp in all 4 Methodist-sponsored camps in Missouri. Every camper who signs up from First receives \$25 towards the cost of camp. Sign up before April 16 and receive \$25 as an early-bird registration. For more information, visit www.mocamps.org or see Michelle Mueller for camp descriptions and time.

Hillcrest of Eastern Jackson County

Annual

Walk for the Homeless Saturday, May 15

Historic Independence Square

Corner of Spring and White Oak

Independence, Missouri

Registration begins at

9:00am.

Walk begins at 10:00am.

EASTER BREAKFAST

The Youth Mission Trips Program will be serving an Easter Breakfast again this year. Breakfast will be served in room 117 from 8:00 to 11:00am.

The cost will be \$6.50 for everyone over eight years old and \$3 for children under eight. Breakfast casserole, chunks of fresh fruit, homemade coffeecake and other great breakfast items will be available.

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.

Youth Dinner Menu \$3 per person for dinner

April 4 - Easter - No Youth	April 18 - Hot dogs
April 11 - Sub Sandwiches	April 25 - Pizza

April is Youth Missions Month!

As we get ready to go on our summer youth mission trips, there are several opportunities to help earn the money to pay for your trip.

Stock sales will be set up at a table in the narthex every weekend in April (except Easter). Stand at the table and sell your stock!

Youth Garage Sale is April 24 - Setup will be April 23

Lots of help is needed in this big moneymaker. More detail to come at the April 11 Mission Trip meeting at 6:00pm in room 117.

Hope you can help out this month!

Questions???? Contact Jack Marker



Special Church Services

- April 1** Maundy Thursday 7:00pm
- April 2** Good Friday 7:00pm
- April 3** Easter Vigil 5:30pm
- April 4** Easter Sunday!
Easter Breakfast!
- April 11** All-Church Open House
and Potluck. Concert at 1:30!

March 27-28, 2010

Giving

General Fund	\$22,581
(needed)	\$16,611
Giving to date	\$190,748
Budget to date	\$214,942
2010 Budget	\$863,789
% of Budget Received	22.1

Building Fund

Building Fund	\$5,151
(needed)	\$6,812
3-year Goal	\$1,062,703
% of Goal Received	39.3
% of Campaign Complete	40.4
Designated Giving	\$1,233

Worship Attendance

Worship	585
Sunday School	
Children	57
Youth	24
Adults	107
Totals	188
Sunday Evening Youth	17



CALLING ALL YOUTH

Upcoming May Events

May Youth Mission Trip meeting is May 16 at 6:00pm.

Senior Recognition and Scholarship Sunday will be May 23 at the 10:45am service.

Senior Send-off Night May 23 during Regular Youth Cookout and games!

Date	Time	Place
Sunday, April 4	Easter Sunday	
Monday, April 5	Easter Holiday—Office Closed	
Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting	7:00pm	103
Grief Support Group	7:00	100
Gospel Singers Rehearsal	7:00	150
Praise Band Rehearsal	8:00	150
Tuesday, April 6		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Community Garden Planning Meeting	6:30pm	117
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00	FLC
Job Club Meeting	7:00	103
Wednesday, April 7		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00	103
BRIDGES Monthly Meeting	Noon	112
Wednesday Fellowship Dinner	5:15pm	117
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Spirit Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	6:30	154
Cancer Support Group	6:30	100
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
Thursday, April 8		
Altar Guild Meeting	2:00pm	Office
<i>Rebuilding When Relationships End</i>	6:30	011
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
Friday, April 9		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Saturday, April 10		
Disaster Relief Ministry Meeting	9:30am	Office
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary
Sunday, April 11		
Rev. Steve Campbell's Birthday		
OPEN HOUSE DAY—INVITE A FRIEND		
Children's Chime Choir	10:45am	154
All-Church Potluck	11:30	FLC
Jason Watson Concert	1:30pm	Sanctuary
Youth Dinner	5:30	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
2010 Confirmation Class	7:00	012
Monday, April 12		
Council on Ministries	7:00pm	103
Grief Support Group	7:00	100
Tuesday, April 13		
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Stephen Ministry Peer Group Meeting	7:00	Office
Wednesday, April 14		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	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
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
Thursday, April 15		
<i>Rebuilding When Relationships End</i>	6:30pm	011
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
Friday, April 16		
Wilson/Banks Wedding	4:00pm	Sanctuary
Adult Volleyball	7:00	FLC
Saturday, April 17		
<i>Caring for Inactive Members</i> Workshop	8:00am	117
Worship 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
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 31, 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 began March 22 and will meet on Monday evenings, at 7:00pm, for five weeks. We meet in Room 100 at FUMC. Our group activity is 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.



HILLCREST
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING



Lenten Offering for Hillcrest Transitional Housing

During Lent many people find a discipline of sacrifice a meaningful way to prepare for the coming Easter Celebration. This year you are invited to remember someone who has sacrificed for you, someone who has given you a hand up, enabling you to get to a better place in life.

As you give thanks for that person you are invited to give others a hand up through your Lenten Offering that will go to Hillcrest Transitional Housing. Their mission is to move people from homelessness to self-sufficiency through their 90-day residential program. This offering will enable Hillcrest to continue their work of giving a hand up rather than a hand out.

During Lent you can give a specific donation for this ministry; or, if you give up something for Lent, you can contribute that amount of money for this cause.

- Return your envelope during Holy Week with your offering.
- Include the name and a picture of the person you would like to honor for the difference they have made in your life. (Please use a picture that **does not** need to be returned)
- We will post those pictures as a powerful reminder of how we are paying forward those gifts.