

# The First Connection

Leading People to an Active Faith in Jesus Christ

Blue Springs First United Methodist Church

April 14, 2010

Volume 4, Issue 7

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## Up Next:

- Photos for our Pictorial Directory begin April 21
- Confirmation Service, April 24
- Youth Mission Garage Sale, April 24
- Moms First, May 2
- Spring Cleanup Day, May 15
- Senior Recognition and Scholarship Sunday, May 23



## Open House, Thank You!

Sunday, April 11, was our second annual Open House. There are a lot of Thank You's to share because so

many groups and individuals helped bring it all together! So, thank you to Renee Schroeder who gathered a group to set up tables and chairs. Thank you



to the UMW who coordinated and decorated for the bountiful dinner! Thank you to Ray Holder who took care of trash. Thank you to Jenn Arth and her helpers who folded up tables and chairs. Thank you to Amber Mainard and Jason Watson and his groups for the Christian rock concert! Thank you to Dave Weigel who had a group of roving friendly people on hand. Thank you to Maggie Hannah of the Inviting Ministries Team. Thank you to Mindy Stokes who worked with Karen Taylor on the Ministry Fair. And of course thank you to staff members who also had a host of tasks to complete! It was a great day, and there were so many persons who helped make it possible! Steve Campbell also wants to say thank you for the birthday cake!

# Rev. Karen Taylor

Greetings,

I appreciate the chance to share the news about my upcoming appointment. The first of July I will be appointed as the pastor of Mexico United Methodist Church in Mexico, MO. I am very excited about the opportunity to serve in that community. As I learn about this congregation, it seems to be a great fit with the gifts I have for ministry. On a personal note, this move will get us closer to family which is becoming increasingly more important.

As we prepare for this move, there is a sense of sadness about leaving this church family. Jim, Jonathan and I have truly felt at home here and are grateful for the way you have received our ministry. We will leave with deep gratitude for the gift of our time at FUMC.



I have been privileged to work with two excellent senior pastors, Mark Williams my first three years, and Steve Campbell my second three years. They have been mentors and colleagues.

I cannot begin to say how grateful I am for both of them. The program staff and support staff have been invaluable team members. The lay leadership that I have worked with has been outstanding.

Working with missions has been a passion of mine and it has been thrilling to see that area grow. I have been honored to journey with so many of you through difficult times offering pastoral care. Watching the growth of Stephen Ministry and the start of new ministries like the Prayer Shawl Ministry has been rewarding. One of the highlights

of my time was the trip to Mozambique where we visited our sister church in Machava. Of course, worship with the great preaching and the great music has been inspirational.

As I write I realize there is so much more I could say. These past six years have been rich, meaningful and rewarding. I leave a stronger pastor than when I came, and for all these gifts I give thanks.

I pray for you as you receive a new pastoral team, that together you will live out God's calling for this place of ministry. I believe God has great things in store for the future.

*These past six years have been rich, meaningful, and rewarding. I leave a stronger pastor than when I came, and for all these gifts I give thanks.*

With a grateful heart,  
Karen

## Looking for Volunteers!!

There are several opportunities for volunteer service to your church right now. The Council on Ministries invites you to be part of a new **Special Events Group**. When we have a group together, they will make some decisions about the best way to go about the task; but this group will give leadership in events like "The Big Day," the Christmas Music Festival and the Open House. If you are interested, talk to Steve Campbell or Karen Taylor.

We still have hopes of developing a more comprehensive **ministry to college-age members** of the congregation. This ministry could take a variety of forms, and if you think this is an important task, your creative ideas can be implemented!

**Upwards Basketball** is a program which could be of great benefit to children and their families. There is a small group of persons who have had the Upwards training. However, we need more individuals to work on developing a program here. If you think this is an area in which you are called, or if you want to know more, contact Michelle Mueller.

## Training Opportunity—Saturday, April 17

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  
Mark Batulis  
Bernie Dietrich  
Virginia Evans  
Alice Lenning  
Dick Moore  
Jean Moore  
Ed Norgren  
Chip Reach  
Doris Rhodes  
Ron Stowell  
Shari Sullivan  
Bob Turner  
Boyce and Marcia Curts  
Jim and Jenny Floyd  
Rev. Marvin and Harriet Fortel  
Bill Potter, Shelly Anderson's step-grandfather  
Bob Milner, Shelly Anderson's father  
Bob Sherrill, Susie Shearer's father  
Charlie Braden, John Braden'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  
Jeannie Byram, Devon and Willis Byram's daughter  
John and Grace Whipple, Mary Derrington's parents  
Joyce Kolsky, Nancy Dodge's mother  
Kasi Copenhaver, Hazel and Jack Quinn's granddaughter  
Laurine Davis, Glen Davis' mother  
Nancy, Cindy Compton's sister  
Scott Reynolds, Sue Reynolds' son  
Sherry Fawkes, Carol Seguin's daughter  
Valerie Dodge, Steve Dodge's mother

### OTHER CONCERNS

Prayers for all Stephen Ministers.  
Prayers for Rev. Sally and Andy Haynes as they prepare to move to FUMC.  
Prayers for the Bishop and Cabinet as they make an Associate Pastor appointment for FUMC.  
Prayers for all those dealing with job loss, financial concerns and health issues.

### SYMPATHY

to Hazel and Jack Quinn and family on the death of Hazel's sister, Jean Green, on April 7.

to Rev. Linda Pagel and family on the death of her father, Ted Peterson, on April 3.

### JOYS

Congratulations to Murray and Sandy Whitehead on the birth of a grandson, Chase Gregory MacDonald, on April 12. Parents are Scott and Stacy (Whiteheads' daughter) MacDonald.

### THANK YOU

*I want to thank my church family and Rev. Steve and Rev. Karen for all the visits, calls and cards that I have received. They have meant so much to me. God Bless you each and every one.*

Alice Atkinson

# In the Life of the Church

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



It is not too late to sign up to be photographed for

our new pictorial directory. Olan Mills will be calling you to set an appointment. The scheduled dates for photography are April 21-24, 28-30 and May 1. Please participate — our directory won't be complete without you!

If you have already signed up, Olan Mills will be calling you to confirm your appointment.

If you have caller id, calls from Olan Mills will begin with a "423" area code and will read "church directory."

**If you need to set or change an appointment, call Olan Mills at 1-800-866-2263, Monday-Friday 9:00am-9:00pm Eastern Time.**

*Remember, to receive a free church directory, you have to be in it—please participate!*



## 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](mailto:randygws@att.net) or by phone at 229-9584 for additional information.

## TUESDAY GOLF LEAGUE

The Church Golf League has started its seventh season on Tuesday, mornings at 9:00am.

They play at 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.

Our goal is fun and fellowship. If you would like to join us and you have additional questions, contact Bob Cravens, 228-4298 or email at [arjaycee1928@att.net](mailto:arjaycee1928@att.net),

# In the Life of the Church

## BRIDGES

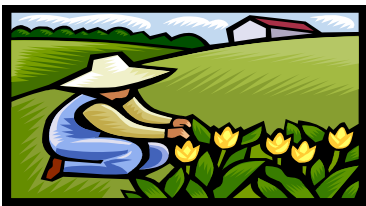
### **B**uilding **R**elationships **I**n **D**oing **G**od's **E**veryday **S**ervice

Wednesday, May 5, meet at the church at 11:00am to car-pool to Jack Stack BBQ (north of Union Station) for lunch, followed by a tour of the Money Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City. Our guided tour will begin at 1:30pm (security check at 1:15pm - photo ID required) and last for one hour; free admission and parking.

Reservations limited to 30 and must be received by April 26.

Call Dee Meek/Norm Runge at 373-2580.

BRIDGES' goal is to be INTERGENERATIONAL 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. 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 toward the cost of camp. Sign up before April 16 and receive \$25 as an early-bird registration. For more information, visit

[www.mocamps.org](http://www.mocamps.org) or see Michelle Mueller for camp descriptions and time.

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## 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.

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## Become a summer Sun- day School Volunteer!

Help give our school-year Sunday School teachers a chance to refresh and renew. We need volunteers to help with children (3 years - 5th grade) beginning June 6.

Curriculum, supplies and training provided. Contact Michelle Mueller at [mmueller@firstumcbs.org](mailto:mmueller@firstumcbs.org).



## Early Response Team Training

FUMC will host Early Response Training on June 18 and 19. This training is a

collaborative effort by United Methodist Committee on Relief and United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. Participants will be trained by authorized UMCOR trainers and will be given badges from the Missouri Conference. More information is available in a brochure at the information table.



## MOMS FIRST

Come enjoy making a special gift for being a mom...Moms First has planned a May Bucket craft at our next meeting on Sunday, May 2, at 12:00pm. There will be a small fee for the bucket. A snack lunch will be served.

Hope to see you on Sunday, May 2nd!

# 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 18 - Hot dogs

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.**



**Hope you can help out this month! Questions? Contact Jack Marker.**

**April 10-11, 2010**

#### Giving

General Fund .....	\$16,123
(needed) .....	\$16,611
Giving to date .....	\$224,428
Budget to date .....	\$249,165
2010 Budget .....	\$863,789
% of Budget Received .....	26.0

#### Building Fund

Building Fund .....	\$6,688
(needed) .....	\$6,812
3-year Goal .....	\$1,062,703
% of Goal Received .....	40.5
% of Campaign Complete .....	42.9
Designated Giving .....	\$6,342

#### Worship Attendance

Worship .....	491
Sunday School	
Children .....	50
Youth .....	15
Adults .....	96
Totals .....	161
Sunday Evening Youth .....	12



## 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
<b>Sunday, April 18</b>		
Children's Puppets	10:45am	102
Independents Advisory Board	Noon	112
Youth Dinner	5:30pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
2010 Confirmation Class	7:00	012
<b>Monday, April 19</b>		
District PDL Meeting	10:00am	112
Mission Steering Committee Meeting	7:00pm	103
Finance Committee Meeting	7:00	Office
Grief Support Group	7:00	100
Gospel Singers Rehearsal	7:00	150
Praise Band Rehearsal	8:00	150
<b>Tuesday, April 20</b>		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Methodist Men's Lunch	Noon	112
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Job Club Meeting	7:00	103
<b>Wednesday, April 21</b>		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00	103
<b>Wednesday Fellowship Dinner</b>	<b>5:15pm</b>	<b>117</b>
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Spirit Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	6:30	154
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
<b>Thursday, April 22</b>		
<i>Rebuilding When Relationships End</i>	6:30pm	011
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
<b>Friday, April 23</b>		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Youth Garage Sale Setup	Noon	FLC
<b>Saturday, April 24</b>		
Youth Garage Sale	8:00am	FLC
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary
Confirmation	5:30	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, April 25</b>		
Children's Chime Choir	10:45am	154
Troop 332 Eagle Court of Honor	2:00pm	Sanctuary
Youth Dinner	5:30	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
<b>Monday, April 26</b>		
Susannah Circle Meeting	1:30pm	103
Costa Rica Mission Task Force Meeting	7:00	103
Trustees Committee Meeting	7:00	Office
Grief Support Group	7:00	100
<b>Tuesday, April 27</b>		
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Stephen Ministry Peer Group Meeting	7:00	Office
<b>Wednesday, April 28</b>		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
<b>Wednesday Fellowship Dinner</b>	<b>5:15pm</b>	<b>117</b>
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Spirit Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	6:30	154
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
<b>Thursday, April 29</b>		
Hearts and Hands Circle Meeting	6:30pm	112
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
<b>Friday, April 30</b>		
Women's Spring Retreat		Wilderness
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
<b>Saturday, May 1</b>		
Disaster Relief Ministry Meeting	9:30am	Office
Stone/Derrington Wedding	3:00pm	Sanctuary
Worship Service	5:30	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](mailto:office@firstumcbs.org)

Learning Ladder Preschool  
(816) 229-9949

Church Website -  
[www.firstumcbs.org](http://www.firstumcbs.org)

Blog—  
<http://fumcnews.blogspot.com>

*April 14, 2010*

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

**Non-Profit Organization**

**U.S. Postage**

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**Blue Springs, MO 64015**

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## ANNUAL YOUTH GARAGE SALE

The annual garage sale for the Youth Mission Trips Program will be Saturday, April 24, beginning at 8:00am in the Family Life Center (FLC). Clean out your closets, cabinets and basement. The Garage Sale is a great way to get rid of the “stuff” that you’ve been meaning to get rid of AND support the youth mission trips. Contributions can be brought to the FLC after noon on Friday, April 23.

The Garage Sale can take adults’ and kids’ clothes, books, housewares, tools, kids’ games, small furniture items, and small appliances. Christmas decorations, large furniture or appliances, computers, guns, or large exercise equipment cannot be accepted. Also this year the Sale cannot take toys. (Long story behind that).

If you have questions call Jack Marker, 229-9510.



2010 Easter Egg Hunt with a visit from the Easter Bunny.