

The First Connection

Leading People to an Active Faith in Jesus Christ

Blue Springs First United Methodist Church

April 28, 2010

Volume 4, Issue 8

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CONFIRMATION CLASS—SPRING 2010

Carlie Lavon Allen

Delaney Paige Armstrong

Arielle Marie Best

Joshua James Casey

Taylor Marie Cook

Tyler Lane DeWitt

Jacob Lee Keefe

Mariah Danielle Peters

Kaitlyn Marie Stacy

Haley Madison Starks

Landon Scott Warmund

Josilyn Anne White

Grant Matzen Higgins

Karen Warmund—Confirmation Coordinator

Confirmation Mentors

Jack Marker

Susan Hunt

Paula Barry

Chris White

Shelly Anderson

Up Next:

- Moms First, May 2
- Job Club, May 4
- BRIDGES, May 5
- UMM Mother's Day Brunch, May 8
- Spring Cleanup Day, May 15
- Learning Ladder Graduations May 18 and 19 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary
- Senior Recognition and Scholarship Sunday, May 23

Rev. Steve Campbell



Dear Friends,

Last Saturday evening we received the students from our Spring 2010

Confirmation Class into Full Membership. I was feeling more than a little sentimental as I realized this will probably be the last time I preach, as the pastor, at such an event. It is such a significant moment in their lives and in the life of the Church. What an honor for Karen and me to preside over such an important worship service. They are an outstanding group of young people who already make a great contribution to the life of First United Methodist Church.

Each of our Confirmation Classes make a banner to be shared with the congregation at the time they affirm their vows of membership. The banner constructed by this group is beautiful, and has an important theme. The theme is spiritual gifts. Each of the newly con-

firmed members is aware God has given them gifts for the common good and for furthering the mission of Christ. Look at the banner up close when you have the opportunity. There are their gifts, written on the banner for everyone to see.

Of course, I am mentioning this to celebrate these new members. First, who can estimate the impact of 13 new members who recognize, claim, and use their spiritual gifts? It is cause for celebration! But, I am also making a larger point. For the past three years we have been offering numerous opportunities for you to participate in the Spiritual Gifts workshop, "Serving from the Heart." The topic of spiritual gifts has made its way into my sermons regularly.

I am confident that the key to the future of the Church, this congregation, and the larger church, is found in discovering, claiming, nurturing, and using our Spiritual gifts. Think, dream, a moment. What if the

I am confident that the key to the future of the Church, this congregation, and the larger church, is found in discovering, claiming, nurturing, and using our Spiritual gifts.

1,400 plus members of this congregation all believe they have been given spiritual gifts which are essential to the ministry of Christ, and begin to use those gifts immediately? I think you know it would mark a profound change in the life and mission of this congregation! And, what if it happened throughout the whole church? It would change the world!

So, we celebrate and welcome these new members. We joyfully and gratefully receive them and their gifts. And we also let it remind us of an essential truth. We all have gifts given to us to build up the church. When we do that, the church will lack nothing in fulfilling the ministry Christ has given us.

Grace and Peace to You,
Steve Campbell

COMMUNION OFFERING FOR MAY

Native American Ministries Sunday recognizes and supports the contributions of Native Americans to the church and society. The observance, approved by the 1988 General Conference, is one of six special churchwide Sunday offerings.

The funds collected will allow The United Methodist Church to partner with existing native ministries and create programs on behalf of Native Americans. Money collected also supports seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans.

50% of the offering **remains in the annual conference** to develop and strengthen local Native American ministries. Should no such ministries exist within the conference, the offering is remitted in full to the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA). The funds are then distributed equally between the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry to provide scholarships for American Indians attending the church's schools of theology and the Native American Urban Initiative of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Approximately 19,000 United Methodists identify themselves as Native American. There are about 225 United Methodist churches, fellowships, and ministries that relate to this population.

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.

Cancer Survivor Recognition Sunday

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, June 6. We will celebrate National Cancer Survivor Recognition Sunday in our church during worship services. If you now have or ever have had cancer, this is a time to celebrate your survivorship. The Cancer Support Network will coordinate activities on June 6, but we would like all cancer survivors to participate. All survivors are asked to wear yellow on June 6 to symbolize our hope for the future. Please provide us with contact information so that we can contact you regarding this special occasion.

Joys and Concerns

HEALTH CONCERNS

Lucinda Armstrong
Alice Atkinson
Nancy Ballew
Mark Batulis
Bernie Dietrich
Virginia Evans
Alice Lenning
Dick Moore
Ed Norgren
Irene Ray
Chip Reach
Shari Sullivan
Boyce and Marcia Curts
Rev. Marvin and Harriet Fortel
Al Gregston, Cyndi Sloan's father
Ann Bales, Bryan Bales' mother
Bob Sherrill, Susie Shearer's father
Carl Schroer, Teri Allen's father
Charlie Braden, John Braden's father
Don Plaster, Brian Sloan's uncle
Edith, Bill Mooney's sister
John and Grace Whipple, Mary Derrington's parents
Joyce Kolsky, Nancy Dodge's mother
Scott Reynolds, Sue Reynolds' son
Valerie Dodge, Steve Dodge's mother
Wilma Compton, Farley Compton's mother

OTHER CONCERNS

Prayers for the Womens' Retreat April 30 and May 1.
Pastors Steve and Karen as they enter into new phases in their lives.
Stephen Ministers and the HEROES ministry.
Children in Africa who suffer from disease and lack of food and water.
Prayers for Rev. Sally and Andy Haynes as they prepare to move to FUMC.
Prayers for Rev. Choong-Ho Kwon and Bu-Sung Youn, Samuel and Stephen for their move to FUMC.
Prayers for all those dealing with job loss, financial concerns and health issues.

SYMPATHY

To R.C. Rhodes and family on the death of his wife, Doris, on April 17.
To the family and friends of Doris Garland who died on April 19.

JOYS

Congratulations to Michael and Mandi Forlow on the birth of a daughter, Alison Elizabeth, on April 15. Proud sister is Hanah. Proud grandmothers are Rhonda Rice and Bev Forlow. Proud great grandmother is Anne Barber. Proud aunts and uncle are Renee Schroeder and Dan and Rachele Bartlett.
Congratulations to Julie and Neal Smith on the birth of a daughter, Rachel Catherine, born on April 15. Proud brother is Richard. Proud grandmother is Jerry Oksoon.
Congratulations to Brandon Banks and Amanda Wilson who were married on April 16, here at FUMC. Brandon's mother is Carolyn Marsh and grandmother is Pearl Wilkinson.
Welcome to the 13 youth who were confirmed into the membership of First United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 24.
Zachary Stephen Marker was baptized Sunday, April 25. He is the infant son of Andrew and Stephanie Marker. Grandparents are Jack and Marty Marker and Steve and Linda Cox. Big sister is Kayla.

In the Life of the Church



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.

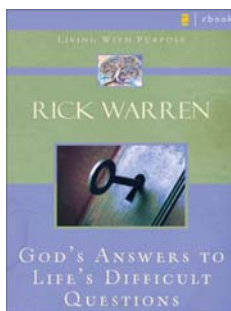


MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

The United Methodist Men are again hosting their annual Mother's Day Brunch to be held on Saturday, May 8, at 9:00am in room 117. All men of the church are invited and asked to bring their wife, daughter, mother, etc. to this catered breakfast for \$7.50 per person. The program this year will be a presentation provided by a representative of Newhouse. Newhouse is a shelter for women who are victims of domestic abuse. Come join us for a wonderful breakfast and program. In order to achieve an accurate count, reservations must be made by May 1 and no later. To reserve your spot contact Gary Meinershagen at 228-5908 or e-mail at shagen7577@sbcglobal.net.

INDEPENDENTS SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES FOR MAY

May 2 to May 23: "God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions" by Rick Warren (author of *The Purpose Driven Life*). We live in a world where we all have to deal with the realities of stress, failure, crises, loneliness, and change. In this six-session DVD study, renowned pastor and bestselling author Rick Warren takes you inside the Bible to discover answers to six of life's toughest questions. Drawing from the examples of different biblical characters who faced the same issues, Warren offers concise, practical insights you can understand and apply in order to move past everyday struggles and experience a life of purpose, peace, and significance.



Session Titles:

1. How Can I Cope with Stress?
2. How Can I Rebound From Failure?
3. How Can I Be Confident in a Crisis?
4. How Can I Live Above Average?
5. How Can I Overcome Loneliness?
6. How Can I Ever Change?

May 30: Dianna and Anita will lead the group in a discussion of Don Davidson's book on *The Advantages and Disadvantages of Being Single*.

HILLCREST WALK FOR THE HOMELESS

Hillcrest Walk for the Homeless is an annual spring event that raises awareness and funds to support Hillcrest in its mission to transition homeless families to self-sufficiency. Participating in the Saturday morning, May 15, Walk for the Homeless is an excellent way to show your support for Hillcrest and the families served. A pledge of \$50 is encouraged, and participants who raise or contribute that sum will earn a Walk for the Homeless T-Shirt. Although we are not officially forming a team, Jane Rosendahl has volunteered to organize carpooling from the church to the walk that starts near Independence Square. Contact her at 224-5660. Go online to register at <http://www.hillcresttransitionalhousing.org/> click on Walk for the Homeless, then Eastern Jackson County Walk. Or pick up flyer registration forms at the Information Table in the narthex. If you have any questions about the walk itself, call Hillcrest at 461-0468.

Stephen Ministry Featured on PBS

The PBS "Religion and Ethics" news show recently aired an eight-minute feature on Stephen Ministry that vividly describes the life-changing ministry happening in thousands of congregations.

[View the Stephen Ministry feature on the PBS web site](#), where you'll also find several bonus features--including a nine-minute interview with Stephen Ministries' founder and executive director, Kenneth C. Haug.

In the Life of the Church

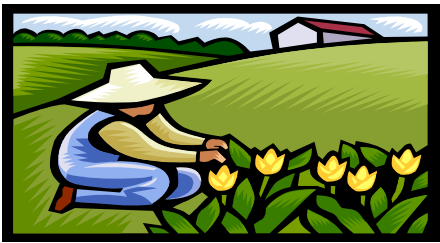
BRIDGES

Building Relationships In Doing God's
Everyday Service

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.

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. For more information, visit www.mocamps.org or see Michelle Mueller for camp descriptions and time.

SAVE THE DATE

Your Staff Parish Relations Committee would like you to save the date of two events for our pastors.

The retirement of Rev. Steve Campbell will be celebrated on Sunday, June 13. Friends will begin gathering at 2:30pm with a program at 3:00pm and a reception to follow.

A going-away party for Pastor Karen, Jim, and Jonathan Taylor will be held following the 5:30pm service on Saturday, June 19.

Watch the bulletin and the newsletter for information and for ways that you can contribute to a gift for our pastors.

Become a summer Sunday 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.



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



Moms First is a group created to provide support and inspiration to moms with

children at home. 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 noon in Room 117. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP so we can plan quantities for lunch and crafts. There is a \$15 charge for craft materials payable at the meeting. Childcare is available upon request; please notify the church office in advance if you need childcare. If you have questions, feel free to call the church office or Ronda Brewer at 228-4465. We look forward to seeing you.

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

May Youth Events

Mother's Day is May 9. No evening youth activities on Mother's Day. Celebrate the day with your family.

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!



**CALLING ALL
YOUTH**

April 24-25, 2010

Giving

General Fund	\$15,623
(needed).....	\$16,611
Giving to date.....	\$248,706
Budget to date	\$282,738
2010 Budget	\$863,789
% of Budget Received	28.8

Building Fund

Building Fund	\$6,517
(needed).....	\$6,812
3-year Goal.....	\$1,062,703
% of Goal Received.....	41.7
% of Campaign Complete.....	44.2
Designated Giving.....	\$3,587

Worship Attendance

Worship.....	614
Sunday School	
Children	42
Youth	21
Adults	110
Totals.....	173
Sunday Evening Youth.....	14

Dear Friends: We recently had a Scout food drive and are doing pretty well on food items at this time. We could use personal-care items like:

Toilet paper, Powdered Laundry Soap, and bath-size bar soap. We always need **brown paper grocery sacks.**

Thanks for your continued support!

Debbie Benner
Site Manager

Community Services League -
Blue Springs Office
200 SW 10th
Blue Springs, MO. 64015

816.229-0033 (Phone)
816.229-2381 (Fax)

Date	Time	Place
Sunday, May 2		
Children's Puppets	10:45am	102
Moms First Meeting	Noon	117
Youth Dinner	5:30pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
Monday, May 3		
Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting	7:00pm	103
Gospel Singers Rehearsal	7:00	150
Praise Band Rehearsal	8:00	150
Tuesday, May 4		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Job Club Meeting	7:00	103
Wednesday, May 5		
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
Pastor Steve's Lecture Series	6:30	112
Crafts/Prayer Shawls	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	7:30	154
Thursday, May 6		
<i>Rebuilding When Relationships End</i>	6:30pm	011
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
Friday, May 7		
Morning Walk Group	8:00am	FLC
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Saturday, May 8		
Mother's Day Brunch—UMM	9:00am	117
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary
Sunday, May 9		
Children's Chime Choir	10:45am	154
Independents Advisory Board Meeting	Noon	112
Youth Dinner	5:30pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:45	013
Monday, May 10		
District PLD Meeting	10:00am	112
Administrative Board Meeting	7:00pm	103
Tuesday, May 11		
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Stephen Ministry Peer Group Meeting	7:00	Office
Wednesday, May 12		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
Wednesday Fellowship Dinner	5:15pm	117
Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	5:30	154
Pastor Steve's Lecture Series	6:30	112
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
Thursday, May 13		
Michelle Mueller's Birthday		
Altar Guild Meeting	2:00pm	Office
<i>Rebuilding When Relationships End</i>	6:30	011
Open Gym	7:00	FLC
Friday, May 14		
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	FLC
Saturday, May 15		
Trustees' Spring Cleanup Day	9:00am	Everywhere
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary

May 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	31					

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

Noon	Men Of Praise (Off until June 6)	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	Last Lecture Series—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>



April 28, 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



We celebrated the baptism of Zachary Stephen Marker on Sunday, April 25. He is the infant son of Andrew and Stephanie Marker. Grandparents are Jack and Marty Marker and Rev. Steve and Linda Cox. Big sister is Kayla.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming the news that Rev. Steve Cox will be our new District Superintendent.

YOUTH MISSION TRIPS – 2010

Once again this year the youth at First UMC have three excellent mission trips.

HIGH SCHOOL—June 20–27

The high school youth mission trip will travel to Ridgely, TN. Ridgely is in the northwest corner of Tennessee, about 12 miles east of Hayti, MO. Hayti is in the Missouri Bootheel. The youth will be working with the Reelfoot Rural Ministries building wheelchair ramps, steps and decks for elderly people in rural northwest Tennessee.

MID-HIGH—July 11–15

The mid-high youth are headed to Hannibal, MO. They will work with the Douglas Community Services doing minor projects such as sorting clothes for a thrift store, stocking food in a local food pantry and any other task that needs to be done.

COLLEGE—July 10–18

College-age students and adults will travel to Oak Hill, WV, to work with Oak Hill UMC Housing Repair Ministry. The ministry has been in operation for 8 years and has 100 families applying for help in 2010.