

Connecting  
People . . .

to Each  
Other

to the  
World's  
Needs

to God  
in  
Jesus Christ

# The First Connection

*Leading people to an active faith in Jesus Christ*

Volume 2 Issue 15

July 23, 2008

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## In the Life of the Church...

(Top—Clockwise) Senior High Mission Trip group gets ready to depart for Newberry, Michigan. One of the many projects completed on the mission trip. Our Men of Praise in concert for the benefit of our Disaster Relief Ministry. Our seniors on the Mission trip to Michigan contemplate their future overlooking Lake Superior.



## Rev. Steve Campbell



Dear Friends,

Last Christmas Season I composed a pastoral letter to be mailed to the congregation. I thought it was a good letter for a new pastor on the

occasion of my first Christmas here at Blue Springs. In the closing paragraph, I suggested how helpful it would be if you made a special year-end financial contribution. Within a few days I heard from an individual who was then a member of the congregation. The individual told me what a nice letter it was, but was very critical of my suggestion about a financial contribution. It raises an important question about pastoral leadership and fund-raising.

Before I go any further with this, I want to say that you can put me out of the fund-raising business very simply. The Biblical standard of giving

is that the first 10% of all we have is to be returned to the Lord. In fact, everything we have comes from God, but God calls us, as a sign of obedience, to set aside the first 10% as the tithe. If every household in our church followed that instruction, I would be out of the money-raising business very quickly! And wouldn't it be wonderful! My attention would turn immediately to new programs and new ministries. My letters to you would be filled with reports of the wonderful things we have been able to do as a result of this faithfulness.

As we begin the next Capital Campaign to continue paying on our building debt and build the Family Life Center, we will be involved in a major fund-raising effort. It isn't my favorite thing to do. But I will be involved. There are several reasons for this involvement. We have voted to build this building, and I think it is very important to our future ministry. I too have a vision for the future and ministry of this great church, and we cannot attain that vision without funding it. In a

church we cannot separate our vision for ministry, raising funds, and recruiting volunteers. It is a function of leadership to see the whole picture. Jesus himself was clear about the important relationship between our spirit and our wealth. Without a doubt there is a spiritual aspect to this question.

So, because I believe in our future, because we cannot achieve our dreams without the resources, because it is an appropriate task of leadership, and because it is faithful to God's call, I will be asking you to support this Capital Campaign. I may be visiting with you face to face. It may be in an announcement or a letter. It may be in a small group. But, I will be asking.

Unless, of course, you all put me out of the fund-raising business. In that case, I will get busy with some other pastoral tasks!

Sincerely,  
Steve Campbell

## Men of Praise Concert Huge Success!!!

Classic cars, huge fire truck, ambulance, police mobile command center all on display plus an hour of our men's chorus singing both religious and old-time favorites. It is both a gift and a blessing the Men of Praise provide. Judging by the standing ovation and the many smiling faces, it was a good thing. Compliments on the concert and words of encouragement for the Disaster Relief Ministry from Pastor Steve Campbell were heard at all weekend services following the concert. The applause had hardly settled down before it was heard "when are you going to do it again?" Good news—discussion about a Christmas concert and performing the same concert again at another church to benefit their Disaster Relief Ministry has already begun.

The Disaster Relief Ministry again wants to thank the Men of Praise for all their hard work for both preparing for and performing the concert. Thanks to Gary Harvey for preparing the slide show accompanying the concert; I hope the attendees recognized some familiar faces and scenes.

Thanks to your generosity, over \$1,400 was given during the concert. Others have asked if they could still give and the answer is, of course you can. Just make a check out to FUMC Blue Springs and write Disaster Relief Ministry in the memo line.

Next month some of the committee members will be attending a two-day train-the-trainer class entitled "Disaster Preparedness Workshop." We are excited about the endless possibilities of helping ourselves and others to be better prepared to function both before and after a disaster.

God Bless,  
Ron Gordanier  
Chair – Disaster Relief Ministry

See the examiner article about the concert and fund-raiser at:

<http://www.examiner.net/news/x1930237006/Songs-of-praise-benefit-disaster-response-effort>

## School Supplies for CSL



SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
NEEDED FOR 2008

Please bring supplies to the church and place them in the CSL drop-box in the coat-room.

Thank you for your help. This project provides an important service by outfitting Blue Springs' students with the school supplies they need to begin a new year.

### HEALTH CONCERNS

Marjorie Arrowsmith	Alice Atkinson
Virginia Barry	Rev. Jack Belton
June Burrus	Betty Crawford
Marylou Carpenter	Frances Ellingsworth
Art Frye	Diane Higgins
Linda Hinkle	Maxine Lawrence
Liz Marion	Darlene Mobley
Vi Manlove	Marilyn Snelling
Bob Swisher	Bernie Dietrich
Wilma Drigalla	Larry McMullin
Dick Moore	Bob Orndorff
Bob Turner	Grace Wright
Virginia Evans	Lucille Welden

Dee Dee Siebert, Alicia Barrows' stepmother  
Harold and Elaine Harvey, Gary Harvey's parents  
Etta Mae Mutti, former pastor/Bishop's wife  
Merrell Graves, Karen Taylor's father  
Jennifer Osborne, Jim and Linda Osborne's daughter-in-law  
Larry Philpott, Harold and Judy Witte's brother-in-law  
Sophie Maggard, Joyce Maggard's granddaughter  
Merdean Richardson, Willis Byram's mother  
John Miller, Teresa Eskew's stepfather  
Ruby Clayborn, Betty Gember's niece  
Bill Marshall, Jim Dietrich's brother-in-law

### OTHER CONCERNS

Janine, Jasmin and Genely Gordon, Richard and Barbara Orri-son's daughter and granddaughters.

### SYMPATHY

to Carol Jo Hansen and family on the death of her cousin, Sandy Olesen.

to Harold and Judy Witte on the death of Harold's uncle, August (Augie) Witte, on July 7.

to Jennifer Redman and family on the death of her uncle, Glen Jenkins, on July 11.

to Brian Seydlitz and family on the death of his wife, Charlene, on July 12.

to Chris and Jeannie Shumate and family on the death of Jeannie's grandmother, Mary Paul, on July 15.

to Dan and Dave Stamos and families on the death of their mother, Jan Martin, on July 18.

to Jerry See and family on the death of his mother on July 20.

*(Continued on page 7)*

Pencils (#2 lead)  
Ballpoint Pens (blue, black and red)  
2-3" 3-Ring Binder Notebooks – Zippered  
Black Sharpies  
Dry Erase Markers – Single and Sets  
Plastic Zipper Pencil Bags with 5 Holes  
Kleenex tissues – Rectangular boxes  
Solid-Colored Pocket Folders with 2 Pockets  
Colored Pencil Sets  
Glue Sticks  
4 oz. Bottles of Glue ( White preferred)  
Colored Markers – Crayola Classic  
Scissors – 5" pointed, Fiskars preferred  
Hi-Liters  
Crayola Crayons – 16, 24, 48 counts  
Wide-Lined Notebook Paper  
Spiral Notebooks – Wide Lined  
3x5" White Index Cards  
Ziploc Bags – Quarts and Gallons  
Prang Watercolors  
Backpacks (No wheels)  
Erasers – Colorific or Magic Rub preferred  
Calculators – TI 30xIIS Solar  
8 oz. Bottles of Hand Sanitizer  
Clorox Wipes  
Construction Paper – Assorted Color Packs  
Post-It Notes

COMMUNITY SERVICES LEAGUE – BLUE SPRINGS OFFICE  
**This year's school supply drive in honor of Judy Hatfield**  
200 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Blue Springs, MO 64015  
229-0033  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:00am - Noon and 1:00-4:00pm.

**Lucille Welden will celebrate her 91st birthday on July 31.** Please join her family and friends in a card shower in her honor. Mail cards to 1429 NW Birdseye Court, Blue Springs, MO 64015

918 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64106  
 (816) 472-5664 – FAX (816) 472-6127



## *August Needs List 2008*

### **Priority Needs:**

Diapers (Large sizes)

Towels

Pillows and Sheets (Twin preferred)

Toothpaste

Coffee and Sugar

Bar soap

Combs and Brushes

Male and Female Underwear

Shaving cream

Digital cameras

Pocket dictionaries

Shower curtains

Razors

Travel size soaps and shampoos

Deodorant (men's and women's)

Shampoo

Adult-size socks

Laundry soap

Feminine products

Shower shoes

Plastic cups/tumblers

50+ chairs for our dining room

Dishes (new or used)

**Please contact Gwen Green at 816.472.5664 x 244 or [ggreen@restartinc.org](mailto:ggreen@restartinc.org)  
 if you have questions or need more information.**

### **Priority Needs for Youth Shelter**

- Gift cards to movies, bowling, fast food, Target and Wal-Mart
- Teen-Friendly DVDs (PG-13)
  - Games, Playing Cards
- Twin sheets and Towels
  - Mini first-aid kits
  - Body wash
  - Men's deodorant

## **Charity Thrift Store**

Benefiting reStart Inc.

Located in Independence just off 40 Highway on Noland Road  
 4541 S Noland Road. Independence, MO

Clothing, Furniture, Housewares and other miscellaneous items

**Donations Welcomed**

## Guide Book and Directory Advertising Opportunity

We have contracted with Guide Book Publishing to publish a Guide Book and Directory for our congregation that will be updated and delivered directly to your homes annually. This book will be the "Who, What, When, Where, Why and How" of our church. The book is being provided at no cost to our church. Local businesses are being solicited to advertise in the directory. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our directory, please call the church office at 229-8108 or send an email to [office@firstumcbs.org](mailto:office@firstumcbs.org).

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book and Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "will pay" to advertise in our new Guide Book and Directory.

## Update Membership Information

Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book and Directory (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?

If you have not already informed the church office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the new Guide Book and Directory will be correct. Contact the church office via phone (229-8108) or e-mail ([office@firstumcbs.org](mailto:office@firstumcbs.org)).

## Branson Trip Planned

A bus trip to Branson is planned by BRIDGES which is open to anyone in the church. The trip is to take place October 15-17. The cost is \$260 per person (double occupancy) and includes your round-trip bus ticket by Heartland Bus from the church parking lot, two nights' lodging at Hotel Grand Victorian (breakfast included), admission to "Noah, the Musical" at the new Sight and Sound Theater, and dinner and a show on the Showboat Branson Belle. Questions and reservations should be directed to Keith Sullivan, 228-2012, or email at [keithshari@sbcglobal.net](mailto:keithshari@sbcglobal.net). A deposit of \$50 and reservations should be made by August 15.

### Dear Friends at First United Methodist Church,

Via the Office of Creative Ministries, we have received your conference event donation of \$1,298.58. Your gift will help 5 more of our brothers and sisters around the world have a better life with mobility. I've included a new certificate to represent all the PETs provided since 1999. The total from the conference offering was \$146,298 from 50 individuals and 260 churches/groups. We appreciate your part in that grand gift. Those donations were shared equally with PET Southwest MO. We know that others have planned awareness events after the meeting in Springfield. The PET shops are always buzzing with volunteers and requests. With your gift, it all happens.

#### PET Update:

Over 100 PETs were loaded onto a tractor trailer between the two shops and was parked by the convention center. Later a blessing was said over its contents and sent on its way to its final destination of Guatemala through our partner, Hope Haven International Ministries, in IA.

Add #667, Indonesia, to your list of countries into which PETs have gone.

Two volunteers went on the road to bring back hundreds of welded rear frames from the Andrew brothers in OH. On the way they dropped off 36 PETs at Lapel, IN, to head to Sierra Leone.

June 24 email report from Janice Meyer, Washington (MO) Overseas Mission: The young boy's name is Fernando Ponce. He is 12 years old and from Pimienta, Cortes, Honduras. His mother abandoned him and his two younger siblings years ago when she left for the United States. She had never been in contact with the children she left behind. The father moves from place to place trying to find work, so the three children are being raised by their grandmother. Fernando has always been homebound until now. He has infantile paralysis and can only crawl. Now that he has his PET he goes everywhere and is attending school for the first time in his life. Truly this donation has changed his life and future! (This PET was sent in February from PET Southwest MO thru WOM.)

That is what your dollars do. We are proud to turn your donations into such wonderful gifts. Should you be in Columbia or Aurora, MO, come and see our shops in action.

Your sister in Christ,

Kathy Maynard

Business Administrator

# 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!

- 5:00-5:30pm Dinner
- 5:30-5:50pm Break into groups for fellowship
- 5:50-6:50pm Lessons and discussion
- 6:50pm Joys and concerns, offering, and benediction all together
- 7:00-7:30pm Games and recreation

## Wednesday Night

### Youth Bible Study Begins September 3

6:30-7:30pm Come for mid-week fellowship in a small group

**Vacation Bible School could use any help you would be willing to give. This counts towards Community Service hours for school. If you can help July 28-August 1, from 9:30-12:30, please let Michelle know.**

**FUMC Youth now 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**.

**July 27** - regular youth 5-7:30. Menu- Tacos. **ICE CREAM SUNDAY NIGHT-** bring your favorite topping to share!

**July 27th is also a mid-high mission trip meeting at 5:30.** This meeting is where all your paperwork is due. Jack will have a notary there to help process the papers. This is also when the trip money is due if you haven't paid already. Important for youth and parents to attend this meeting for last minute details!

**August 2** (Sat)-Mid-High Mission Trip leaves.

**August 3** (Sun)- No Mid-High Sunday school this morning. No Regular Youth Group.

**August 7** (Thurs) - Mid-High Mission Trip Returns!

**August 10** (Sun)- 5-7:30pm- Regular Youth Group. Menu- sub sandwiches.

**AUGUST 17** (Sun)— **BACK TO SCHOOL BLAST AT COOL CREST!** \$12—4:30- 8:30pm. Enjoy unlimited go-carts, mini golf and arcade games to kick off the new school year. The cost is \$12 per person. Friends are invited! Adult sponsors/drivers needed!

### The Stats:

(7/19-20/2008)

#### Giving

General Fund.....\$10,261  
(needed) .....\$16,695  
2008 Budget .....\$868,115

Building Fund.....\$2,875  
(needed to reach goal).....\$11,551

Designated Gifts .....\$2,910

General Fund given for year  
.....\$401,378

Building Fund Campaign '06-'08  
3-year Goal .....\$1,320,000  
% of Goal Received .....66.4  
% of Campaign Completed ....85.3

#### Attendance

Worship.....441  
Sunday School  
Children .....44  
Youth .....11  
Adults.....107  
Totals.....162  
Youth Events .....16  
Mission Trip .....22

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, July 27

Youth Evening Activities	5:00pm	Narthex
Mid-High Mission Trip Meeting	5:30	112

### Monday, July 28

Vacation Bible School	9:30-12:30	Narthex
Inviting Ministries Committee Meeting	7:00pm	103
Trustees Committee Meeting	7:00	Office

### Tuesday, July 29

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group	8:00am	100
Vacation Bible School	9:30-12:30	Narthex

### Wednesday, July 30

Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
Vacation Bible School	9:30-12:30	Narthex
Creative Crafts/Prayer Shawl	7:00pm	103

### Thursday, July 31

Vacation Bible School	9:30-12:30	Narthex
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### Friday, August 1

Vacation Bible School	9:30-12:30	Narthex
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### Saturday, August 2

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary

### Sunday, August 3

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
Disaster Relief Ministry Meeting	Noon	103
Youth to T-Bones Game	3:30pm	Off Site

### Monday, August 4

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
Vesper Voices Rehearsal	7:00pm	150

### Tuesday, August 5

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
Tuesday Morning Prayer Group	8:00am	100

### Wednesday, August 6

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
Creative Crafts/Prayer Shawl	7:00pm	103

### Thursday, August 7

Mid-High Mission Trip to Viburnum, MO		
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### Friday, August 8

### Saturday, August 9

Worship Service	5:30pm	Sanctuary
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## August 2008

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 Summer Activities

### Sunday

8:00, 9:15, 10:45am	Worship Services	Sanctuary
12:00 noon	Men of Praise	150
1:00pm	Psalm 150	150
5:00	Youth Dinner	Narthex
5:30	Youth Activities	Education

### Monday

7:00pm	Antithesis	011
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 332	112
7:00	Cub Scout Pack 332	102

### Tuesday

8:00am	Morning Prayer Group	100
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### Wednesday

7:00pm	Creative Crafts/Prayer Shawl	103
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### Thursday

9:30am	Back Fence Bible Study	100
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### Friday

9:30am	Joy Ringers Handbell Practice	154
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### Saturday

5:30pm	Worship Service	Sanctuary
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### JOYS

Devon and Dayle Mixer attended the "Change of Command" ceremony for their daughter, Lieutenant Colonel Debra Rose, at Minot AFB, ND. She is commander of the 741st Missile Squadron at Minot AFB, ND.

Congratulations to Ivan and Carol Rapp on the birth of a granddaughter, Ava Dora Rapp, on July 8. Parents are Mike and Ruby Rapp.

Congratulations to Nikol Harves and Brandon Anderson on their marriage on July 12.

July 23, 2008

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>

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

PERMIT No. 21

Return Service Requested

Deadline  
for next  
newsletter  
August 1



Our next 13-week session starts August 21 on Thursday nights. Class times run from 6:30-8:00pm. The sessions are led by a member of our church that has gone through the FPU program. Your "FPU Facilitator" will guide you through the program during the 13-week session via workbook and DVDs featuring Dave Ramsey. If you would like to learn how to control your money, instead of your money controlling you, contact Reed Alberg or Jo Perrin at [FPU@firstumcbs.org](mailto:FPU@firstumcbs.org) to let them know you are interested in the next session! Orientation/Free Preview Sessions will be held on Wednesday, August 13, at 6:30pm and on Sunday, August 17, at noon. Contact Reed or Jo for more details.



Claudia Krueger at work in Michigan.

**GET ON THE ROAD TO**  
**FINANCIAL PEACE**

Financial Peace University is a biblically-based, video-driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before!

Dave Ramsey's  
**Financial Peace**  
UNIVERSITY

**THIS PROGRAM IS FOR YOU IF ...**

- Your credit cards ARE your emergency fund.
- Your dog responds to the name "Ebay".
- You have to sell your house to put your kids through college.
- You're intrigued by the word "placetomy."
- You want to know what God says about money.
- Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds are friends you haven't met yet.