



UMW Begins Circle Meetings in September

"I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you." - 2 Timothy 1:6

As United Methodist Women, we give our gift of God with others through mission. Our vision is to turn faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world. (unitedmethodistwomen.org)

Every woman of the church is encouraged to join us at one of our monthly circle meetings in September and learn what we do and how you can become a member! The Night circle meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00, and the Afternoon circle meets the third Monday of the month at 2:00. We will have the UMW general meeting on Sunday, September 23, at 2:00 to make plans for the fall.

United Methodist Women—we are women with a purpose!

**Administrative Board Meeting
Monday, September 10
6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary**



You are invited to **UMK's Annual Back to Wednesday Nights Bash!**



Bounce Houses, Games, and Lots of Fun!

**September 12
6:15-7:30**

**Pre-K through
5th grade**



We will meet in the music room at 6:15., and at 6:30 we will go to the playground and parking area where all the fun will be! Join us & bring a friend!

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In the First Place

*the monthly newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Sheridan, Arkansas
September 2018 Volume 2018/Issue 9*

All-New Soul Food Café Beginning September 12 at 5:30

Wednesday night activities return on September 12 starting at 5:30 with the opening of the all-new Soul Food Café! Our church has a week-to-week agreement with Chartwells for catered meals with volunteers taking care of setup and cleanup. There will be two choices of entrees every week served with drinks, sides, salad, bread, and dessert. The price is \$5 for 7th grade-Adult, \$3 for K-6th grade, and free for pre-K.

To be a more environmentally-conscious church, we ask you to bring a reusable cup each time you eat at the Soul Food Café to reduce the amount of Styrofoam used; however, we will provide cups if necessary. Also, we will use silverware instead of plasticware to cut down on waste.

Our new Soul Food Café is under the direction of the Family Life Committee, but will need all of the church volunteering to help for it to be successful! Here is an excellent way for the various groups in our church to serve, as well. We need three volunteers at 4:45 to help with the food once Chartwell's delivers it and five volunteers after dinner for cleanup. We also need volunteers for cashiers.

Everyone is asked to sign up on the sheets located in the Narthex, use Signup Genius online if you receive an email invitation (we must have your email address in order to send you the link), or speak to Dona Glaze, volunteer coordinator, for more information.

Growing Disciples Summit Report

The Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church hosted the Growing Disciples Summit on Saturday, August 25, at St. James UMC in Little Rock. Pastor Todd-Paul Taulbee, J.N. Schee, Joe Archer, and Zoe Hines attended. The summit was structured with morning worship with a keynote address and various workshops in the afternoon. The underlying theme of the day was that we must become "intentional" in making and growing disciples. Chris Folmsbee, the Director of Discipleship at The Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, delivered the morning keynote address. He shared the challenges with becoming intentional and that we have to recognize discipleship must be personal, must include Mission, and must be according to God's agenda. Workshops participated in included Reaching and Engaging Millennials and Generation Z, two case studies of churches that are structuring around intentional discipleship; Making Little Disciples, which focused on children; and the Age of Opportunity in Older Adult Ministry: Boomer Ministries. We are open to considering how a more intentional Discipleship focus might be incorporated into our church. *-Zoe Hines*

Confirmation Classes for 6th & 7th Graders



Class leaders Stephen Shirron, Mandy Schee, and Summer Scott display the curriculum they will use Sunday mornings in this year's Confirmation preparation classes

"The middle school years (6th-8th grades) are when young people begin to move from concrete thinking to abstract thinking and is when many people begin to make lifelong faith decisions. During these middle school years youth are seeking a sense of belonging. Belonging to the community of faith is an appropriate response to that developmental task." (umc.org)

Confirmation preparation classes begin soon with a new approach. Our church has two 6th grade and seven 7th grade students who will be in confirmation preparation classes during the Sunday school hour in the downstairs classroom. Three leaders will rotate teaching with two in class each week, and this year's leaders are Mandy Schee, Summer Scott, and Stephen Shirron. These classes will culminate with a confirmation service in the spring.

Cottage Meetings

The congregation has a tradition of holding cottage meetings with a new pastor to discuss our hope for the church's future with him and for us to get to know the pastor and each other better (and vice versa). Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex with dates, hosts, and locations of each meeting, so please register soon as each is limited to twelve people. Below are the dates and the hosts who are opening their homes for this time of fellowship. Each meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. For more information about the purpose of these cottage meetings, refer to Pastor Todd-Paul's column on page 2.

- Tuesday, Sept. 4** Peggy & JN Schee (full)
- Thursday, Sept. 6** Betty Cook
- Tuesday, Sept. 11** Pam & Corey Reed
- Thursday, Sept. 13** Charlene & David Holloway
- Tuesday, Sept. 18** Tamyra & Chris Cody
- Thursday, Sept. 20** Stephanie Smith
- Thursday Sept. 27** Cindy & Sparky Hedden
- Tuesday, Oct. 2** Grand Hall

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From the Pastor's Desk...



Albert Einstein was supposedly a late talker as a child. So late, in fact, that his parents were afraid he had some mental difficulties. Finally, one night at dinner, young Albert spoke up and said these words: "The soup is too hot." His parents were jubilant. They were in shock. He had broken the ice, his first words spoken. They asked him why he had never said anything before. Answered Albert: "Because up to now, everything was in order." Whether you think that everything is in order or not, I'd like to hear from you as well.

In the coming weeks there will be a series of "cottage meetings" to which all members of the church as well as recent visitors are invited. Each cottage meeting will be hosted by various (and gracious!) members of our church. We currently have ten different cottage meetings scheduled, with limited space in each one. Please contact the church office or sign up on the sheets in the narthex.

The purpose of the cottage meetings is three-fold. The first purpose is for us to discuss our church together. First United Methodist Church is a deeply important part of our lives and I believe that God intends for her to be deeply important to others as well. I'd like for us to share our hopes and dreams with one another.

With this in mind, our discussion(s) will be centered on four related questions. What are you involved in at First UMC? How did you first come to First UMC? What is First UMC doing now that you love? What do you believe God's plans are for our future? Please give these questions your prayerful consideration in preparation for our time together.

These are not meant to be incidental conversations to be brushed aside or forgotten. The host will be taking notes at each of the cottage meetings, and we will process your answers as we think about the future of our church. One of the great lessons that I have learned as a pastor is that not only does God speak to laypeople as well as to clergy, but that laypeople so often hear clearly what God is calling us to do. John Wesley suggested that Christians gather for what he called "Christian Conferencing" in order to discuss their faith-walks. This is what we will be doing at our cottage meetings!

The second purpose for the cottage meetings is for us to get to know one another better. You see me in the pulpit and I see you in the pew each Sunday and we worship together. However, we hardly have time to learn the stories from each other's past or our current hopes and dreams. In these small

group settings, I hope to share with you a little more about myself and pray that you will tell me a bit about you. In this way, our communications with one another will be more than the occasional complaint when the soup is too hot.

I encourage you to register for a cottage meeting and to bring your thoughts about God's hopes and dreams for our congregation. I look forward to sharing in Christian Conferencing with you as together we continue to discover all that God has in store for First United Methodist Church of Sheridan.

- Pastor Todd-Paul

Ways to Serve: Keeping the Faith

Do you have a special skill or hobby you can share with others? Do you like to cook or bake? Do you like to spend time with people who want company? Keeping the Faith Women's Shelter (Faith House) is asking for female volunteers to do arts and crafts, other activities, and/or cooking with the women at the shelter. According to Lacey Brake, director of the shelter, volunteers can come do anything they feel led to do - a visit is welcome, too! To learn more, call her at the shelter at 870-942-7778.

There is another way to serve, especially if you are unable to volunteer. Below is a wish list of items that are needed at the shelter. These can be left in the designated boxes in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall.

TOILETRIES

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Baby Shampoo/Wash
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Hand Soap
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
- Shaving cream/Razors
- Fixodent
- Denture Cleaner
- Hairbrushes/Combs
- Hair ties
- Travel Size: Hairspray, Hair Gel, Mousse
- Nail polish/Polish Remover
- Over-the-counter meds
- Band-Aids

HOUSEHOLD

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Kleenex
- Fabuloso cleaner
- Lysol
- Clorox Wipes
- Baggies-sandwich, quart, gallon
- Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Dish Soap

CLOTHING

Women's socks & Women's underwear sizes 7, 8, 10

United Methodist Women

With the beginning of school, activities have gained momentum, and so it is with the United Methodist Women. Ladies, please mark your calendars now for Sunday, September 23, 2 p.m., for a general UMW meeting. This will be a most important meeting with planning for fall events such as the Annual Salad Luncheon, which will be Wednesday, October 17. We need input from all of you. If you have not been active in the United Methodist Women, please consider getting involved and attending a circle meeting. We have a night circle that meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month and a day circle that meets at 2 p.m. the third Monday of each month. If you can't attend a circle, please attend the general meetings; we have four of these a year.

A very big THANK YOU to all those who participated in United Methodist Women Sunday. Our speaker, Karon Mann, the Arkansas Conference Lay Leader, did an outstanding job. We are most appreciative of the special music provided by Julia Stinson and Bryanna Broadaway. All of the ladies did an outstanding job, and we were pleased to recognize David Puckett and Pastor Todd-Paul Taulbee with UMW Special Mission Recognition pins.

-Betty Cook, UMW President

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men (UMM) or "Man Church" will return with their monthly meetings beginning with a potluck meal on Monday, September 17, at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Pastor Todd-Paul. Sam Green is the president.

Birth Announcement

Gary and Lisa Treat announce the birth of their granddaughter, Ivy Jean Neeper, who was born on August 4. Ivy Jean is the daughter of Anna and Stephen Neeper and sister of Devyn and Marshall. Congratulations!



SPRC Meeting Notes

The SPRC met on Aug. 19, 2018, and discussed the following:

- SPRC heard a testimony from Seth Glaze
- SPRC shared in a discussion revolving around the book "In the Name of Jesus" by Henri Nouwen
- SPRC voted to recommend a cost of living raise for Pastoral Position for 2019 to the Finance Committee
- SPRC introduced the idea of adding one more cottage meeting that would be held in the early afternoon.

SPRC will meet again in October.

-Seth Glaze, SPRC Chair

Memorials and Honor Gifts Received

In memory of Sue Green (mother of Dana Chaney, Sam Green, and Denise Names): Backpacks by Steven & Sandra Turner; Lisa Treat; Joe & Shannon Archer; James & Agnes Gibbs; Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Childers; Lesley Black; J.N. & Peggy Schee; Charles Tadlock; Shelba Barranco; Chris & Lauren Goins; **Matthew 25:40** by Jeanie Camp; **Summer Feeding Program** by Bobby & Laura Daniel; Mike & Denise Carpenter; **UMY** by Cindy & Sparky Hedden; Sheridan Golf Club; Bo & Sheila Aaron; David & Charlene Holloway; Joen Bryant; Dee Ann Daniel; Sharon Skorcz; Louise M. Tower

In memory of Philip Barranco: Backpacks by J.N. & Peggy Schee; **Youth** by Gary & Zoe Hines

In memory of Donald Hedden, Sr. (father of Sparky Hedden): Backpacks by J.N. & Peggy Schee; **Summer Feeding Program** by Bobby & Laura Daniel; **UMY** by Norma Daniel; Sharon Skorcz

In memory of Margaret Hines Koon: Backpacks by Steven & Sandra Turner; J.N. & Peggy Schee; Shelba Barranco; Scott & Susan Schultz; JJ Camp Hunting Club; **Youth** by Jim & Betty Lancaster; Norma Daniel; Chris & Lauren Goins

In memory of Chad McLain (cousin of Dona Glaze): UMY by Gary & Zoe Hines

In memory of Sam Tyler (grandfather of Tyler & Wilson Puckett): UMY by Gary & Zoe Hines

In memory of Peggy Allen: Backpacks by Jeanie Camp

In memory of Philisia Orr's mother: Youth by Sparky & Cindy Hedden

In memory of Debra Scott Scallion: Summer Feeding by Charles & Cymber Tadlock

In memory of Edith Taulbee: Youth by Sparky & Cindy Hedden

In honor of Café Cooks: Kitchen Fund by Joe & Shannon Archer

In honor of Ivy Jean Neeper (newborn granddaughter of Gary & Lisa Treat): Backpacks by Lisa Treat

In honor of J.N. & Peggy Schee: Youth by Jeanie Camp

In honor of Rita Stuckey & Liz Shannon: Summer Feeding Program by Jeanie Camp

In honor of United Methodist Women (funeral meal): Backpacks by Shelba Barranco

Our condolences and love to Pastor Todd-Paul and family in the death of his grandmother, Edith Taulbee, on August 18, 2018.

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Betty Lancaster, Church Secretary and Treasurer
Sandra Parham Turner, Newsletter Editor

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Sunday Services & Activities:

8:45 Early Service
 9:30 Coffee & Donuts
 9:45 Sunday School
 10:50 Worship Service
 5:30-7:00 UMY

Wednesday Night Activities:

5:30-6:15 Soul Food Café
 5:30-7:30 UMY
 6:15-7:30 UMK
 6:45-7:30 Choir practice

Soul Food Café Menu:

12 Baked Ziti & Cheeseburgers
 19 Tacos & Corndogs
 26 Chicken Chili & Pizza
 Comes with sides, salad, bread, dessert, & tea

\$5 7th grade-Adults \$3 K-6th grade Free Pre-K

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCSheridan>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
Worship Schedule September 2018 Greeters: Jeff and Paula Archer Counters: Betty Lancaster, Terri Bone, Brent Reichenbach Ushers: Mike Carpenter, John Robinette, Stephen Shirron, Jeff Archer, Bobby Daniel, Deric Wyatt, Cobey Wingfield			Children's Church 2 Amanda Roark 9 Shannon Archer 16 Audra Hines 23 Stephanie Wyatt 30 Johni Beth Teague		Kathy's Closet Food of the Month: Beanee Weenees	1	
2	3  Labor Day Church offices closed	4 Cottage Meeting 6:00	5	6 Cottage Meeting 6:00 Open Yoga Fellowship Hall 7:00-8:00	7	8	
9  UMK Volunteers Meeting 4:30	10 Administrative Board Meeting 6:30	11 Cottage Meeting 6:00 UMW Night Circle 7:00	12  Wednesday Night Activities Resume!	13 Cottage Meeting 6:00 Open Yoga Fellowship Hall 7:00-8:00	14	15 Class Reunion Grand Hall 2:00-6:30	
16 80th Birthday Reception for Jack Bush Grand Hall 2:00-4:00	17 UMW Afternoon Circle 2:00 UMM Potluck 6:30	18 Retired Teachers Meeting 1:00 Cottage Meeting 6:00	19	20 Newsletter deadline Cottage Meeting 6:00 Open Yoga Fellowship Hall 7:00-8:00	21	22	
23 UMW General Meeting 2:00	24	25 Cottage Meeting 6:00	26 Newsletter Folding 4:00	27 Cottage Meeting 6:00 Open Yoga Fellowship Hall 7:00-8:00	28	29	
30 Wedding of Stacey Swilling & Michael Skorcz Oak Hill Farm 4:00	 Health Screenings September 9 8:00-8:30 a.m. Sheila Aaron 9:45-10:30 a.m. Sheila Aaron		Coming in October: 2 Cottage Meeting, Grand Hall 14 SE District Charge Conference, Stuttgart 17 UMW Salad Luncheon 21 Chili Cookoff 28 Youth Carnival 31 No Wed. night activities				

Children's Ministries

At the UMK & UMY leader and parent meeting on August 26, we discussed the decision to move the 6th grade class from UMK to UMY. They will be in confirmation preparation classes along with the 7th graders on Sunday mornings throughout the school year and will be included in UMY activities on Sunday and Wednesday nights. Our youth will now be in two groups, 6-8 and 9-12 grades, and will meet together and separately in the evenings under the overall leadership of Robin Roark with leaders for both groups.

Children ages pre-K through 5th grade will have Sunday school classes and Wednesday evening UMK. There are three Sunday school classes: Pre-K & K, 1-3 grade, and 4-5 grade. Wednesday evening will have four groups: Pre-K & K, 1st & 2nd grade, 3rd & 4th grade, and 5th grade.

Because of Safe Sanctuary policies, there must be at least two adults present in any group or class. To that end, a list of leadership and helper positions available was presented at the meeting and at that time, many in attendance volunteered for various roles. However, there are still MANY slots available, most notably on Sunday mornings. The more who volunteer, the more often teachers can rotate and still attend their own Sunday school classes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (CHILDREN)

Pre-K Leader - Zoe Hines

Pre-K Helper -

1-3 Teacher - Nicole Cacciatori

1-3 Teacher -

1-3 Teacher -

4-5 Teacher -

4-5 Teacher -

4-5 Teacher -

WEDNESDAY EVENING (UMK)

Overall Leader - Nicole Cacciatori

PreK - K Leader - Elizabeth Taulbee

PreK - K Helper - Audra Hines

1-2 Leader - Helen Shirron

1-2 Leader - Pam Reed

1-2 Helper - Jason & Jennifer Kelley

1-2 Helper - Chris & Lauren Goins

3-4 Leader - Sandra Turner

3-4 Leader - Johni Beth Teague

3-4 Helper - Jeremy Teague

3-4 Helper - Tamyra Cody

5 Leader -

5 Helper - John Robinette

5 Helper - Karen Rutherford

According to Pastor Todd-Paul, when you are learning, teaching, and serving, you are growing closer to God. It is spiritually fulfilling to help others grow in relationship with God; in this case, the children and youth of our congregation, so this is your opportunity to participate in growing the kingdom of God! All congregation members should prayerfully consider what is available. If you are led to fill one of these positions, or perhaps serve in a different capacity, please contact the church to volunteer, or speak to Pastor Todd-Paul, UMY Pastor, Robin Roark, or UMK Director, Nicole Cacciatori.

Youth Ministries

Hello, and greetings from the Basement! With summer behind us and the excitement of a new school year in front of us, I hope we can all embrace the promise of new adventures and spiritual growth through the life of our church!

I am excited to talk about a new curriculum plan I have in mind for our youth over the coming months. As Pastor Todd-Paul and I have met and discussed the youth ministry at Sheridan FUMC, as well as discussion with many parents and other church members, I feel confident in working together in community, we can plant the spiritual seed in our youth that will carry them beyond the walls of our church while encouraging them to be the disciples that transform of the world. Claim the Life is a six-year, comprehensive spiritual formation plan for youth and revolves around annual themes: Journey, Word, and Faith for younger youth; Promise, Story, and Call for older youth. Each year is divided into two 16-week semesters. These lessons will give the volunteer leaders and me a starting point each week to introduce, teach, and reflect on different topics while leading our youth to develop into young adults with a solid spiritual foundation. I am really looking forward to working with our volunteer leaders and being a part of the transformation and spiritual education of our youth!

As a reminder, with school starting, UMY is every Sunday and Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00!

Snack Supper Volunteers for September:

9 Johnny and Lezleigh Robinette

16 Joe and Shannon Archer

23 Lang and Anne Wells

30 Chris and Becky Baker

Thank you all for all you do and all your support! May the Lord bless you and keep you!

-Robin Roark, UMY Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL (YOUTH)

Confirmation Leader - Summer Scott

Confirmation Leader - Mandy Schee

Confirmation Leader - Stephen Shirron

Youth breakfast -

Youth Teacher - Shannon Archer

Youth Teacher - Gregg Scott

Youth Teacher -

SUNDAY EVENING YOUTH GROUPS

Overall Leader - Robin Roark

6-8 Leader - Karen Appleget

6-8 Helper - Lauren Goins

9-12 Leader -

9-12 Helper -

Snack Supper Coordinator - Sandra Turner

WEDNESDAY EVENING (UMY)

Overall Leader - Robin Roark

6-8 Leader - Amanda Roark

6-8 Helper - Jeff Appleget

9-12 Leader -

9-12 Helper