



The Flame

First United Methodist Church, Paragould, Arkansas

January 13, 2010 Volume 35 No. 02

Dear Friends,

The advertisements are certainly still out there: that we can really lose weight this year if we follow a particular kind of plan; or that we can learn a new language in just a short time with a certain computer program.

There are no shortcuts to becoming the followers of Jesus Christ that we all want to be. But there is help.

On Sunday, January 17 at 5:30 I invite you to join me in the Welcome Center to explore the possibility of becoming a part of a small group called an ABCD group. ABCD represents Accountability, Bible Study, Caring, and Doing Discipleship.

In my own life, I know that spiritual growth happens when all of these ingredients are present. There is a pioneer ABCD group that has been meeting since Lent of 2009. We have laughed together, cried together, studied scripture together, prayed for one another, and done ministry together in the name of Jesus Christ. We want to share this life changing experience with as many people as possible.

I challenge you to check this out, with no obligation. If you decide to become a part of an ABCD group, try it for 10 weeks until Easter. My hunch is that once you bond with a small group of people who are also seeking to follow Christ together, you will want to continue on the journey.

Please join us Sunday evening, January 17 at 5:30 in the Welcome Center to determine whether this might actually be the life-changing opportunity you've been looking for.

In Christ,

Tom

'Fresh Start' Brunch

Mark your calendars to start the New Year right and join us for the "*Fresh Start*" brunch to be held during the Sunday School hour **February 14**. Everyone is invited—visitors, active members, and members who have perhaps gotten out of the habit of church attendance over the past year.

Mom's Day of Prayer

Saturday, January 16 - 9 am to 12 noon
Woodland Hills Church of the Nazarene
Hwy 135 N

A time for women of all faiths to unite in PRAYER!
For more information call Susan Holifield at 239-4875

Beth Moore - "To Live is Christ" is a study on the life and scripture of Paul. This study will begin on Wednesday, January 20 at 9:00 am. We will meet for four weeks then break until after Easter. We will return on April 7 and run until May 19. If you are interested in taking this study, please contact Tricia. Books will be \$16.50 each and need to be paid for before ordering. Deadline to register will be Sunday, January 17.

DVD's missing: We are missing two DVD's from "Jesus Christ the One & Only". Please check and if you have them, return to the church.

Wonderful Wednesdays—*Inclement Weather Policy*—

If school is cancelled or lets out early on a Wednesday because of bad weather, Wonderful Wednesdays will be cancelled that day.

Souper Bowl of Caring—Again this year, the Confirmation Class is collecting canned goods wrapped with a dollar to be given to the food pantries of Mission Outreach and Griffin Memorial UMC. Bring your donation now thru February 7 and place in the boxes located by fellowship hall and show your support of the 6th grade confirmation class mission project.

Hams for Sell—The youth are selling hams on Sunday morning in the Welcome Center. Cost is \$20 and they will be ready for pick-up on February 14.

College Parents—Be sure your college students name and address are on file in the office so we can personally contact them and remind them that our College Sunday School Class meets each week and we would love for them to visit us when they are home!

Mercy Refined (*youth praise band*) will lead worship at the 9:00 worship service on Sunday, January 31. They will be practicing 6:30 pm—8:00 pm on January 17 & 24 and 8:00 am on Jan. 31.

Lady Bells will perform at the 11:00 worship service on February 14 and for the female inmates at the jail that afternoon at 1:30 pm. Practices will be 5:00—5:30 pm the next 4 Sundays.

Calendar

Sunday, January 17

- 8:00 am Early Service
- *9:00 am Contemporary Service
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- *11:00 am Traditional Service
- 1:00 pm Hispanic Service
- 5:00 pm Lady Bells
- 5:00 pm UMYF
- 5:30 pm ABCD
- 6:30 pm Mercy Refined

Monday, January 18

Office Closed

- 5:30 pm Capital Funds Meeting

Tuesday, January 19

- 5:15 pm Trustees
- 6:00 pm Scouts
- 7:00 pm United Methodist Men—here

Wednesday, January 20

- 6:00 am Men's Study
- 9:00 am Beth Moore Study
- 3:30 pm Wonderful Wednesday
- 5:00 pm Family Dinner
- 5:15 pm Radical Ringers

Thursday, January 21

- *6:30 pm Chancel Choir
- *7:30 pm Praise Team
- 9:00 am Prayer Ministry
- Noon—Silver & Gold Potluck
- 7:00 pm Hispanic

Sunday, January 24

- 8:00 am Early Service
- *9:00 am Contemporary Service
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- *11:00 am Traditional Service
- 1:00 pm Hispanic Service
- 5:00 pm Lady Bells
- 5:00 pm UMYF
- 6:30 pm Mercy Refined

*Nursery Provided

Memorials

In Memory of

Daveda Misenhimer by Robert & Lece Miller, Debbie DeVault & Family, home-maker's Sunday School Class, Virginia Biggs, Larry & Nikki Lawson, June Joseph, St Bernards Village

Inez Nolan (*grandmother of Tori Thompson*) by Bob Branch

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

404 West Main Street

Ministers—Every Church Member

- Bishop—Charles N Crutchfield
- District Superintendent—Kurt Boggan
- Pastor—Tom Letchworth
- Director of Fine Arts Ministries—Celeste Letchworth
- Minister of Music—Danny Davis
- Children's Music Director—Leigh Jackson
- Pastor to Youth and their families—Jeff Weaver
- Children/Christian Education Director—Tricia Weaver
- Church Administrator—Denise Chipman
- Custodian—Iona Stone
- Custodian—Jerry & Carla Young
- Organist—Bernard Raley

Office Hours—8:00 am—4:30 pm

Phone—(870) 239-8541

Fax—(870) 239-6009

www.fumcparagould.org

www.arumc.org (Arkansas Conference)

Volunteers

NURSERY

- January 17: Debbie Brown (9-10)
Donna Jones (10-12)
- January 24: Julie Rowe (9-10)
Robert & Tori Thompson (10-12)
- January 31: Elizabeth Sheldon (9-10)
Jamie McIlvoy (9-10)
Susan Blossom (11-12)

ACOLYTES

- January 17: Will Jackson
John Brengard
Jenna Rawls
- January 24: Lauren Garrison
Alyssa Reece
Kyleigh Horner
- January 31: Lily McDaniel
Abby Rogers
Sara Giguere

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- January 17: Luke & Jame' Cook
- January 24: Youth Council
- January 31: Tricia Weaver

BLUE JEAN USHERS

- Jan 17: Susan Nanke,
Shay Nanke & Jeremy Willis,
Melissa Tarry
- Jan 24: Erik, Kerry & Jakob Eliason,
Melissa Tarry
- Jan 31: Shane & Liz May,
Tom & Jamie Carter

Mugging Ministry

- Jan 17: Bob & Sharon Reynolds
- Jan 24: Carl & Sara Schexnaydre
- Jan 31: Nathan & Angela Newby

Prayers / Presence / Gifts

2010

Weekly Budget Needs	13,460.56
Weekly Contributions	11,595.00
YTD Contributions	22,002.38
2010 Budget	699,494.00

Attendance

	Jan 10	Last Year
8:00	23	36
9:00	232	200
11:00	135	149
Total	390	385

NOTE: Due to privacy laws, our pastors are unable to access hospital admission records as they have in the past. For our pastors to know you are in the hospital, please inform the Church Office. It is our goal to do everything in our power to minister to your spiritual needs and care for you in times of crisis.

Prayer Requests

SPC Andrew Goodwin	
Spc Jeremiah MacDonald	875th
Johnny Townsley	Bette Brewer
Randy Boyd	Cara Kelber
Jerry Yates	Sara MacDonald
Jim O'Neal	Kristi Millard
Bill Burnett	Jackson Shepherd
Jorden Davidson	Berneice Howard
Don Hudson	Janese Hyde
Tommy Shirley	Candi Crosno
Wayne Tarry	Nichole Babcock
Keith Bean	Keith Willis
Ronnie Reeves	Joan Ratton
Joyce Vallentine	Martha Crump
Gretta Jernigan	Gayle Eden
Mary Stark	Lori Thompson
Jane McKenzie	Brian Noland
April Smith	Claude Martin
Noah Crowe	Koy Garmath
Keith Griffith	Yuba Williams
Chris Weidman	Ryan Hobson
Kenyon Huggins	Melissa Becton
Mary Carr	Tyler Smith
Roella Williams	Chelsea Batton

Please inform the church office if a name can be removed from this list. Thank you

HEART GALLERY



LOVED Project advocates for children by raising awareness of, Adoption Coalition, Mentoring Programs, Private Adoption, Needs of our foster children. A display has been placed in the Welcome Center of children needing homes (temporary and permanent). For more information, you can go to www.lovedproject.com or contact Amy Harris at amy@lovedproject.com.