



News to the Pews



JANUARY 2012

First United Methodist Church

P O Box 370

Fort Gibson, OK 74434

(918) 478-3811

email:

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www.fortgibsonumc.us

Pastor: Rev. Barry Collins

Children's & Youth Director:

Jennifer Parker

Music Director: Mellissa Agee

Secretary: Rhonda Ford

Worship Leader: Kyle Fisher

Worship Schedule

Sundays

9:00-9:55am Sunday School

(for those attending Contemporary
Worship)

10:00-11:00am Sunday School

(for those attending Traditional
Worship)

10:00-11:00am Contemporary
Worship

11:00-11:15am Fusion

11:15-12:15pm Traditional Wor-
ship

6pm Youth

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD:

Greetings in the Powerful Name of Jesus Christ,

"Leadership Training"

At the beginning of every January, in each local UMC, a new leadership team for each committee is given the reigns. In 2012, I would like to see leadership training become more of a priority for us at FGUMC. The first reason is the Bible mandates it. Ephesians 4: 11-13 is a case in point. *The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.* This scripture articulates the Christian leader's responsibility to equip the rest of the body to do the work of ministry. Increasingly, in the church, the one-man show is out, something I find refreshing and biblical.

I find that in our rush to equip lay people to study the Word, evangelize, teach, and counsel, we often have neglected to train them for one of the most vital areas of ministry: leadership. It's no accident that Jesus spent the bulk of his ministry training a small group of future leaders rather than an army of foot soldiers. No doubt, he knew the future of the church, humanly speaking, depended upon the quality of its leadership.

Second, training is essential because it draws people together. Most church committees are made up of folks from widely different backgrounds. Training can help us communicate easier with one another. Training is also essential because a church is different from a business organization. It is spiritually centered and run by volunteers. It has a radically different bottom line: relationships.

We live in an age of continuing education. Additional degrees and further study are not only encouraged; in many cases, they are required. Few churches would settle for a pastor or staff member who lacked formal train-

ing. With the increasing complexities of ministry, it necessitates more training for the "professionals." Doesn't it also mean the same for the rest of the leadership team? And if I, as pastor, fail to train leaders to lead, what right do I have to complain about the way committee members do their job, or the decisions they make?

The Oklahoma Annual Conference has worked hard to provide effective training for the leadership in each of our local churches. On January 22nd, 2012 we have an opportunity to participate in the Muskogee District Local Church Leader's Workshop at St. Paul's UMC in Muskogee. The theme for this year is "Re-Ignite" and our Bishop plans to be there as well. I would encourage each of you to mark your calendar and make this leadership training a priority as we seek to lead the Fort Gibson United Methodist Church in effective ministry for Jesus Christ in 2012!

Blessings,

Rev. Barry Collins

United Methodist Women



United Methodist Women

Our end of the year Unit meeting was December 8th. Many members from the Starlight and Sunshine Circles were present. Also present were Phyllis Kinney, Michelle Brown and our District President, Joan Wilkerson. After the regular opening of the meeting the Circle Chairmen gave reports on their accomplishments and activities for the past year. With the Program Resource report, members were encouraged to participate in the Reading Program. Many interesting true stories are recorded in the books. Everyone is welcome to check out a book and return to the library when finished. Michelle was chosen to receive a year's subscription to the Response magazine. Congratulations Michelle! The Arts & Craft Show was very successful, clearing over \$2200.00. The dishwasher and dishes have been placed in the kitchen of the C.L. Center. Two filled baskets were donated to the Silent Auction at the Boys Ranch Rodeo Festivities. The Unit Circles have taken food to Wesley Foundation at NSU. Members have donated their time to help wrap gifts for the Cookson Center Christmas Store. Don't forget! We are promoting "GO GREEN". Help us by collecting Best Choice Labels, Pull Tabs, Alum Cans, Clean Tin Cans, Newspapers, Plastic Containers, Clean Glass Jars/Bottles, and Plastic Grocery Bags. We sell Danny Duzits & Dish Clothes for \$1.25 each. Place money in designated box in the library. This year in clearing our treasury we sent donation to CJAM, Youth in transition at the Boys Ranch, and United Methodist Committee on Relief.

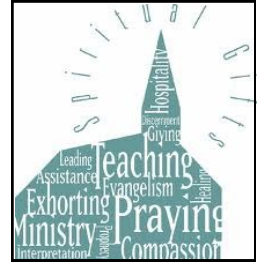
Jana Wilkerson installed our officers for 2012. President: Kathryn Hendrix, Vice– President: Johnnie Sue Hill, Secretary/ Treasurer: Jolene Kirkes, Program Resources: Ruth O'Dell, Nominating Chr: Jennifer Parker, Spiritual Growth: Sarah Dunlap, Ed. Interpretation: Jere Gibson, Social Action: Mellissa Agee, and Membership, Nurture & Outreach: Kara West. Sunshine Circle presented program on "Upside—Down Christmas" emphasizing the migration of Joseph & Mary during the events of the birth of Jesus.

Starlight Circle had the tables decorated for Christmas. Delicious Christmas food and desserts were served. Now the new officers will attend offers training on Jan. 14th to begin making preparations for 2012.

Happy New Year

Kathryn Hendrix

More about Spiritual Gifts



You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands (Job 14:15 NKJV).

Did you know that God had already pre-wired you for the work He created you to do?

We all have things inside of us that excite us when we think about it. God is the source of this passion.

However, our career path may require many stepping stones before we reach the work that we were ultimately created for. The psalmist says *“All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be”* (Ps 139:16).

When the Ark of the Covenant was to be designed to contain the sacred Ten Commandments, God prepared a man to perform the important work.

“Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts - to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship” (Ex. 31:1-6).

We do not know much about Bezalel, but you can be sure he had many jobs leading up to this most important assignment. He was also the first man mentioned in all of scripture to be “filled with the spirit of God.”

When your work is empowered by the Spirit of God you will be hand-picked for some of the most important assignments. He says the skilled worker will even serve before kings (Prov. 22:9). God will see to it that your skills will be used for His ultimate purposes. This is the call of God for each of us - to be fulfilled in our work and to use our work to fulfill His purposes on the earth.

He seals the hand of every man, that all men may know His work (Job 37:7 NKJV).

Is it not a wonderful thing to know that we have been given gifts by God to accomplish what He wants us to do while on this earth? It is up to us to be His willing vessel and He calls upon us. May God help us to be as passionate about using our gifts as we are about other areas in our lives. Let's ask God to help us to be “5-Star Christians”; to follow the example of Jesus in serving others with excellence.

Excerpts taken from “Prime Time With God” by Os Hillman.

Ruth O'Dell, Lay Leader

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Church Office Closed	5:30pm Cub Scouts				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2:30pm Nurs- ing Home Vis- it	6:30pm Boy Scouts	5:30pm Cub Scouts	Focus 5:30-6:30pm Din- ner 6:30-7:30pm Small Groups 6:30pm Youth			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am Com- bined Fire- man's Service 5pm Chil- dren's Com- mittee Mtg. 6pm Youth	6:30pm Boy Scouts	5:30pm Cub Scouts	Focus 5:30-6:30pm Dinner 6:30-7:30pm Small Groups 6:30-7:30pm Youth			8am-5pm Boy Scouts Leader Specific Clas- ses
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1:45pm-7pm Muskogee Lo- cal Church Workshop @ St. Paul	6:30pm Boy Scouts	5:30pm Cub Scouts	Focus 5:30-6:30pm Din- ner 6:30-7:30pm Small Groups 6:30pm Youth	6pm Mission Mtg.		
29	30	31				
6pm Youth	6:30pm Boys Scouts	5:30pm Cub Scouts				

Lay Nominations for 2012 - First UMC, Fort Gibson

Lay Leader—Ruth O’Dell	John West	CLASS OF 2012
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: Mike Baker	CLASS OF 2013 Mike Baker	Bill Hill John Moffitt
Alternate Delegate to annual Conference: Sherlene Baker	Whitney Gonzales	John West
<u>SPRC Committee</u>	Brad Holland	CLASS OF 2013
<i>Chairperson:</i> Jay Gregory	CLASS OF 2014 Ted Burks	Erika Skaggs Mike Kinney
CLASS OF 2012 Ruth McLemore	Nathan Parker	Jim Montgomery
Ed Henderson	Mike Floyd	CLASS OF 2014
Mellissa Agee	<u>Committee on Lay Leadership</u>	Harold O’Dell Chester Hendrix
CLASS OF 2013 Jeff Skaggs	<i>Chairperson:</i> Barry Collins	Lori Alred
Kara West	CLASS OF 2012 Jeff Skaggs	<u>Administrative Board</u> <i>Ad Board Chairperson:</i> Brian Keane
Jay Gregory	Jere Gibson	Lay Leader: Ruth O’Dell
CLASS OF 2014 Neal Boatright	Chance Alred	Lay Delegate: Mike Baker
Jim Peerson	CLASS OF 2013 Donetta Montgomery	Alternate Delegate: Sherlene Baker
Kerry Keane	Brian Keane	SPRC Chairperson: Jay Gregory
Lay Leader - Ruth O’Dell	Amanda Holland	Trustees Chairperson: Mike Baker
Lay Delegate -Mike Baker	CLASS OF 2014 Whitney Gonzales	Finance Chairperson: Harold O’Dell
Pastor—Rev. Barry Collins	Ruth McLemore	Treasurer: Sherlene Baker
<u>Trustees Committee</u>	Bill Caps	Mission Chairperson: Kathy Spears
Chairperson: Mike Baker	<u>Finance Committee</u> <i>Chairperson:</i> Harold O’Dell	
CLASS OF 2012 Erika Skaggs		
Mike Keane		

Youth Council Chairperson:

Jennifer Parker

Evangelism: Janet Freeling

Children's Chair: Jennifer Parker

Church Fellowship Chairperson: Nicole Hodge

Adult Ministries Chairperson: Jere Gibson

Dinners/Functions Chairperson: Ann Wasson

Education Chairperson: Cindy Peterson

United Methodist Women Chairperson:

Kathryn Hendrix

United Methodist Men Chairperson:

Mike Floyd

Mission Committee

Chairperson: Kathy Spears

Members at Large: Jay Gregory, Tobi Gregory, Kathy Spears, Mary Cargill, Cindy Peterson, Sherlene Baker, Ruth O'Dell, Katie Keane, Whitney Gonzales, Jennifer Parker, Chance Alred, Nicole Clark.

Worship Committee

Chairperson: Barry Collins

Members at Large: Sara Dunlap, Mellissa Agee, Ed Henderson, Brian Keane, Kyle Fisher, Amanda Holland, Whitney Gonzales.

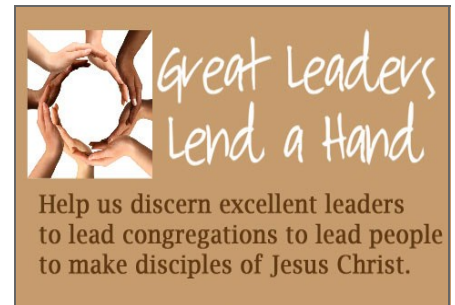
Evangelism Committee

Chairperson: Janet Freeling

Members at Large: Sarah Floyd, Chester Hendrix, Kathryn Hendrix, Johnnie Sue Hill, Jennifer Parker, Robin Peerson, Carol Harriman.

Youth Council

Chairperson: Jennifer Parker



Youth Rep to Ad Board: David Dunlap

Members at Large: Cassidy Agee, David Dunlap, Tyler Downing, Katie Keane, Alicia O'Connor, Zac Peterson, Jason Clark, Broc Peterson, Jessie Dunlap.

Ministerial Recruiter: Kathryn Hendrix

Children's Ministries Committee

Chairperson: Jennifer Parker

Members at Large: Sara Dunlap, Kerry Keane, Mellissa Agee, Kara West, Jennifer Spears, Nicole Hodge, Amanda Holland, Erika Skaggs, Lori Alred, Jeana Martin.

Church Fellowship Committee

Chairperson: Nicole Hodge

Members at Large: Neal Boatright, Lori Boatright, Jeremy Hodge Jim Montgomery, Donetta Montgomery, Kara West, John West, Whitney Gonzales, David Dunlap, Sherry Yaussy

Adult Ministries Committee

Chairperson: Jere Gibson

Members at Large: Leowanna Wasson, David Langston, Jim Greb, Bill Caps, Johnnie Sue Hill, Ed Henderson, Roberta Henderson, Randall Cargill, Margaret Rafter, Marcia Elliott, Ted Burks, Peggy Koch.

Dinners and Functions Committee

Chairperson: Ann Wasson

Members at Large: Janet Freeling, Ann Wasson, Tobi Gregory, Peggy Koch, Bruce Ragsdale, Bill Hill, Johnnie Sue Hill, Cindy Peterson, Roberta Henderson, Ed Henderson, Mike Kinney, Phyllis Kinney, Sandy Floyd, Erv. Floyd, Leowanna Wasson

Education Committee:

Chairperson: Cindy Peterson

Members at Large: All Sunday School Teachers, FOCUS Leaders, Substitute Teachers

Circle of Care Ambassador: Ruth McLemore

LAY NOMINATIONS FOR 2012

Strategic Planning Committee

Chairperson: Brian Keane

Members at Large: Ruth O'Dell, Ruth McLemore, Bill Caps, Chance Alred, Nicole Hodge, Donetta Montgomery, ALL COUNCIL CHAIRS.

YOUTH

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13



The youth had a great time at the OU Methodist Day at the OU Wesley Foundation. We had a chance to tour the campus with our tour guides, Forrest Kinney and Blake Whisenhut. The youth enjoyed the time of fellowship at the Wesley and had a great time watching the OU basketball game. We have had a great time this year at all the special events and functions and are looking forward to planning for next year. Please be in prayer for our youth and their spiritual journey.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped throughout the year. I would not be able to have any of the functions of special events without the help of volunteers. We have many people who prepare Sunday night dinners for our youth and always go the extra mile to bring desserts and delicious dinners. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to go to events with our group as adult sponsors or drivers. I am so thankful that you took the time out of your schedule to help with our events; sometimes taking time away from work or other obligations to help our youth. We really appreciate all of you!

God Bless,

Jennifer Parker

Upcoming Events:

Youth will continue to meet every Wednesday after focus until 7:30pm and Sunday night 6:00-8:00pm, dinner provided.

January 22nd-Youth Local Church Leaders Workshop

@ 1:45-7:00pm

Youth Parent Meeting -January 29th, 2012 @ 5 :00pm

Youth Valentine's Banquet—February 12th@7:00pm

Youth Rock and Worship Road Show- February 17th—\$10.00 at Mabee Center, Tulsa

Youth Winter Jam Concert—February 25th- \$10.00 at the BOK, Tulsa

OCU Star Youth Service Day—March 3rd



Children's Ministries



The children have had a wonderful year full of events and continuous studies to help them learn and grow in their spiritual journeys. I am happy to look back on the past year and see all the good times they have had and very thankful for everyone that has helped with the children's program. I am also excited to plan the next year's events and ask God to help lead us in a direction that leads our children closer to Him. We will be having a meeting January 15, 2012 to start planning for 2012. Please be thinking of new ideas and praying about our ministry for the children.

The children had a wonderful time at the Children's Christmas Program. They learned songs that told the story from the bible and studying about that special night. I hope everyone was blessed who was able to see the program. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the program.

God Bless,

Jennifer Parker

Upcoming Events: Children's Committee Meeting:

January 15th at 5:00pm

Please plan on attending to help schedule events and plan for Seeds and Sprouts.





First United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 370

Fort Gibson, OK 74434

Coming in the next Issue...

...Youth -Valentine Banqueta look ahead.

Feb. Newsletter Articles needs to be in turn in by the last week of January.



New members and visitors are always, welcome.

If you would like to be baptized or to make FUMC your church home, simply mark your attendance sheet or speak to Rev. Barry Collins.



- 1-5 Betty Davis
- 1-8 Ruth McLemore
- 1-11 Addison Jean Alred
- 1-13 Mike Ogle
- 1-18 Allie Ogle
- 1-21 Roberta Henderson
- 1-23 Ranell Curry
- 1-24 Linda Ryan
- 1-26 Eric Floyd

At the end of every month the recycling wagon is here. You can drop off all your paper products and help benefit our church, the environment and save the natural resources God has given us. Recycle your unused eyeglasses and front covers of greeting cards.

January - Anniversary

1-28 Ed & Roberta Henderson

